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Protecting the Environment, Conserving Wildlife

ZBGA Funding

In a major victory for New York's living museums, the Zoos, Botanical Gardens and Aquaria program (ZBGA) funding has been increased by 12.5% to \$9 million within an expanded Environmental Protection Fund. Weingarten, Reid & McNally, along with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), worked with the Senate, Assembly and the Governor to provide this significant increase.

Established in 1978, New York's ZBGA program provides critical funding for the unique needs of cultural institutions with living collections such as zoos, botanical gardens, aquariums, arboreta and nature centers. Since Weingarten, Reid & McNally began advocating on behalf of the ZBGA, the program has truly become a bi-partisan success story with support for living institutions from Buffalo to Long Island. Our client, the Wildlife Conservation Society, has a combined collection of more than 17,000 animals at the Bronx Zoo and New York Aquarium. Through the support provided by ZBGA, WCS is able to educate approximately four million visitors every year to the importance of preserving and protecting our natural world.