Agriculture and Forestry Advisory Panel – Monday, November 2, 2020

At its fourth meeting on Monday November 2, the Agriculture and Forestry Panel focused on forestry. They received presentations on the role of and policies that support the carbon sequestration potential of forests. DEC’s Peter Innis also outlined recommendations for the forest sector, which proposed regulations, programs and funding/incentives for conservation/avoid conversion, improving public and private forest management as well as increasing NYS grown harvested products, afforestation/reforestation efforts, wood utilization in urban areas. There was support for the certification of foresters and encouraging manufacturing in NYS. Some members suggested that the Panel should look at incentives for utilizing wood waste and displaced forest biomass, training and assistance for small forest holders, negative emission technologies such as biochar, energy crops and the general unintended consequences from proposed recommendations. The next Panel meeting will be on November 18, 2020. Presentations and notes from past Advisory Panels and Working Groups meetings can be found here.