

No Plans To Make Save NY Donor List Public

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As [we reported earlier](#) ^[1], the Committee to Save New York is beginning its statewide media push this week with a television commercial aimed at building popular support for expected budget cuts and property tax cap being proposed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

“The committee supports my basic budget position, which is no new taxes,” Cuomo said at a news conference on storm management. “I’m sure there are other positions of mine that they wouldn’t support. So on the issue of the budget they are supportive of my position.”

As to whether the committee should reveal its list of donors, Cuomo said, “That’s up to them.”

The Committee to Save New York is listed as a non-profit entity and, under state law, does not have to reveal its donor roll.

But Susan Lerner, the executive director of Common Cause New York, said the group should list who is contributing to its operations.

“This is a direct grassroots lobbying effort and I think it is appropriate to ask who’s funding it,” she said. “One of the problems we have with our lobbying laws and campaign finance laws, they cloak who is contributing to these groups.”

Bill Cunningham, the managing director of DKC, a public relations firm hired by the committee, said the group’s website, [letsfixalbany.org](#) ^[2], will post a list of directors soon. The group has no plans to make its donor list public, however, he said.

Some of the people involved in the group include state Business Council President Kenneth Adams; Steve Spinola, the president of the Real Estate Board of New York; [Sandy Parker, president of the Rochester Business Alliance](#) and Kathryn Wilde, the president of the Partnership for New York City.
