

At the same time, Senate President Steve Sweeney is widely presumed to be charting a path toward the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 2017 and his help will be critical in dealing with the governor's agenda.

Lastly, the scandal that has erupted over the administration's involvement in ordering the closure of access lanes to the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee shows no signs of abating. It holds the potential for crowding out all else as the year progresses.

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