



ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL JULY 2024 UPDATES

Dear neighbors,

Welcome to the Common Council's official newsletter. Here you'll find resources to help you get involved with legislating in the City of Albany. You'll also find updates on legislation that the Council has recently passed and details on where to view the legislation that it's considering now.

We hope that these resources empower you to become an active part of the Council's work. Whether it's approaching [your councilmember](#) with an idea or commenting on pending legislation at a meeting, your participation makes the difference.

Please take a few moments to read through this newsletter, and please feel free to reach out to us.

Respectfully yours,

The Albany Common Council

Join the Conversation

The Albany Common Council relies on public participation in every step of its legislative process. If you're looking to speak or write on an item on the Council's agenda, head to our website to submit a public comment. Please note that any information that you provide will be shared with all Common Council members and/or read for the Record at our meeting. All public comment is memorialized on our website and our social media platforms.

In-Person: 24 Eagle Street, Room 202

Online: <https://www.albanyny.gov/2187/Albany-Common-Council>

By Phone: (518) 434-5087

By Email: commoncouncil@albanyny.gov



Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

July 1, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
July 9, 5:30 PM	Public Safety Committee
July 10, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
July 15, 6:00 PM	General Services, Health and Environment Committee
July 15, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
July 31, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session

All meetings are livestreamed and recorded on the Common Council's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages. You can find meeting agendas, the active calendar, supporting legislation and more in the Common Council's [Agenda Center](#).

A Constituent's Guide to the Albany Common Council, Part 12: Not Hard of Hearings

Each month, we'll go back to basics on all things Common Council.

Communication is a two-way street and that is readily apparent when the Common Council holds a public hearing. As opposed to the Public Comment period, Public Hearings open the floor up for councilmembers and constituents to engage in a back and forth discussion on specific legislation. This helps councilmembers engage with members of the public while keeping the discussion on the merits of the legislation being discussed.

While the Common Council may call a public hearing for any legislation before it, public hearings are also required in a number of circumstances. For instance, the Unified Sustainable Development Ordinance (USDO), which outlines how the City of Albany zones its neighborhoods, requires that the Common Council hold a public hearing on any changes to the zoning map and text before passage. Grant programs may also require the Common Council to conduct a public hearing before accepting an application to ensure that the community's voice is heard. Additionally, come October and November, the Council will hold public hearings to hear from constituents about their budget priorities.

It is imperative that public hearings are publicly noticed. The public needs to know when they will occur and how to participate. You can expect to find a copy of the printed legal notice or notices in the agenda for the meeting at which the hearing will be held, but if you subscribe to the newspaper of record, the Times Union, or frequent their legal notices page, you can also find them printed or posted there. Finally, the Common Council ensures that there is a posted notice on the bulletin board outside of the Council Chambers in City Hall as well as on the [City website](#).

With all that being said, we invite you to take a peek at the upcoming [July 1, 2024 meeting agenda](#) (PDF), scroll down to page 2, and see what we have on the docket!

Committee Reports

Law, Buildings and Code Enforcement Committee

The committee met on June 3 to discuss Local Law E of 2024, which can be found [here](#). Local Law E of 2024 moved forward with a favorable recommendation.

Public Safety

The committee met on June 6 to discuss Local Law M of 2022, which can be found [here](#). Local Law M of 2022 moved forward with a favorable recommendation pending amendments.

Planning, Economic Development and Land Use

The committee met on June 10 to discuss Ordinance 10.42.24, Ordinance 12.51.24, and Ordinance 13.51.24. Ordinance 12.51.24 moved forward with a favorable recommendation. Ordinance 10.42.24 and Ordinance 13.51.24 moved forward with a favorable recommendation pending amendments.

The committee also met on June 17 to discuss Ordinance 3.21.24, which can be found [here](#). Ordinance 3.21.24 moved forward with a favorable recommendation pending amendments.

Legislation Passed

Local Law A of 2024 Sponsored by Balarin

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING PART 8 (SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE) OF CHAPTER 42 (DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO RENAMING AND INCREASING THE SIZE OF THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Local Law E of 2024 Sponsored by Balarin

A LOCAL LAW REPEALING ARTICLE XXIII (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) OF CHAPTER 30 (CITY COURT ACT) AND ADDING A NEW PART 6 (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) TO CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION PROHIBITING EVICTIONS WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE

Ordinance 1.12.24 Sponsored by Flynn

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 353-63 ("MAXIMUM CHARGES") OF CHAPTER 353 ("VEHICLES FOR HIRE") OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO INCREASING THE MAXIMUM FEE TOW TRUCK OPERATORS MAY CHARGE FOR TOWS NOT REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE TO BE TOWED

Resolution 39.42.24R Sponsored by Johnson

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANNE M. POPE TO THE CITY OF ALBANY AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND AVENUE AND GRANDVIEW TERRACE IN HER HONOR

Resolution 46.51.24R Sponsored by Robinson

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELEANOR BAIRD AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND STREET IN HER HONOR

Resolution 60.61.24R Sponsored by Adams

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING ITS INTENT TO ACT AS LEAD AGENCY FOR THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LINCOLN PARK POOL PROJECT

Resolution 61.61.24R Sponsored by Romero

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING JUNE AS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

Resolution 62.61.24R Sponsored by Romero

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL RECOGNIZING JUNE 2024 AS CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

Resolution 63.61.24R Sponsored by Anane

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING JUNE 7, 2024 TO BE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY AND PROCLAIMING JUNE 2024 AS NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

Resolution 65.62.24R Sponsored by Hoey

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND CITY OF ALBANY REGARDING ALLOCATION OF 2023 BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS

Resolution 66.62.24R Sponsored by Anane

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING ITS INTENT TO ACT AS LEAD AGENCY FOR THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW OF ORDINANCE 3.21.24 AND DECLARING IT A TYPE I ACTION

Resolution 67.62.24R Sponsored by Anane

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL RECOGNIZING JUNE 19, 2024 AS "JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY" IN RECOGNITION OF JUNE 19, 1865, THE DATE ON WHICH NEWS OF THE END OF SLAVERY REACHED THOSE ENSLAVED IN THE SOUTHWESTERN STATES

Resolution 68.62.24R Sponsored by Adams

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF ALBANY, NEW YORK DECLARING THE WEEK OF JUNE 17, 2024 TO BE BLACK RESTAURANT WEEK

Resolution 71.62.24R (MC) Sponsored by Adams

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CELEBRATING THE ALBANY ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 57TH ANNIVERSARY

For the latest information on introduced and held legislation, please visit the Common Council's [Agenda Center](#).
