



## ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL JANUARY 2025 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

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### 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](mailto:commoncouncil@albanyny.gov)



## Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

January 6, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
January 6, 6:00 PM	PEGAOB Ad-Hoc Committee
January 8, 5:30 PM	Human Resources and Human Rights Committee
January 9, 6:00 PM	Community Police Review Board Monthly Meeting
January 15, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
January 23, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
January 29, 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 supporting legislation and more in the Common Council's [Agenda Center](#).

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## A Constituent's Guide to the Albany Common Council, Part 14: The Community Police Review Board Transition!

*Each month, we'll discuss all things Common Council.*

The [Community Police Review Board \(CPRB\)](#) is a police oversight body that reviews the conduct of the Albany Police Department. The CPRB was formally established after the Common Council passed Local Law 2 of 2000, which formalized the Community Police Review Board as an official body within the City of Albany ([Section 33 of Chapter 42](#) of the City Code). Since then, the City of Albany has contracted with Albany Law School's Government Law Center (GLC) to assist them in performing their functions—until this year.

The need to transition the CPRB from their original operational model stemmed from the GLC sharing that they would not be reapplying for a contract to continue providing support for the board for 2025. This presented a substantial issue for the CPRB's sustainability as the GLC provided fundamental support for their daily operations. As there were no other interested parties to replace the services provided by the GLC, [Local Law D of 2024](#) arose to end the CPRB's reliance on a contracted organization and transition operational support for the Board's activities to the Common Council.

The incorporation of the Community Police Review Board, as outlined in Local Law D of 2024, will have the CPRB act as a separate agency under the oversight of the Common Council with independent daily operations under the direction of the CPRB. This structure was created due to the board's request to not be under the influence or supervision of the Mayor, which required the development of an administrative structure that complied with the Charter of Albany.

At this point in the transition, the City has adopted all the tasks of the GLC, including providing space for offices and meetings, posting hiring notices for the Program Director, and centralizing the CPRB's website alongside other city entities. The Board was fully integrated under the Common Council on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 as their contract

with the Center for Law and Government ceased and Local Law D of 2024 went into effect.

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## **Committee Reports**

### **Ad-Hoc Committee(s)**

The Ethics and Workforce Culture Ad-Hoc Committee met on December 4 to discuss the committee's report. The meeting recording can be found [here](#).

### **Council Operations and Ethics Committee**

The committee met on December 10 to discuss Local Law F of 2024, which was passed out of committee with amendments. The full text of the legislation can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

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## **Legislation passed**

### **Local Law M of 2024 Sponsored by Farrell**

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 24 (CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE OF AN ALLEGED DEFECT

### **Ordinance 66.111.24 Sponsored by Johnson**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 375 (UNIFIED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PARCEL KNOWN AS 31 TRINITY PLACE FROM RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSE (R-T) TO MIXED-USE NEIGHBORHOOD EDGE (MU-NE) AND AMENDING THE ZONING MAP ACCORDINGLY

### **Resolution 69.122.24R Sponsored by Frederick**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PURCHASES BY THE CITY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$1,623,250 AND AUTHORIZING THE LEASE FINANCING OR THE ISSUANCE OF \$840,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO PAY THE COST THEREOF (RECREATION – WASHINGTON PARK IMPROVEMENTS)

### **Resolution 72.71.24R Sponsored by Adams**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING ITSELF LEAD AGENCY FOR THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW OF THE LINCOLN PARK POOL PROJECT AND ISSUING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

### **Resolution 131.121.24R Sponsored By Farrell**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT MAGEE AS CORPORATION COUNSEL

### **Resolution 132.121.24R Sponsored by Frederick**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE LEVY UPON PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF ALBANY FOR UNPAID WATER AND SEWER CHARGES

### **Resolution 133.121.24R Sponsored by Frederick**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE LEVY UPON PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF ALBANY FOR UNPAID CHARGES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

**Resolution 134.121.24R Sponsored by Frederick**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF 2025 BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID) CHARGES AND AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO PLACE SUCH CHARGES ON 2025 CITY TAX BILLS

**Resolution 135.121.24 Sponsored by Robinson**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING THE ALBANY WEST RECREATION CENTER PROJECT TO BE AN UNLISTED ACTION AND ISSUING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**Resolution 136.121.24R Sponsored by Frederick**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING THE HOFFMAN RECREATION CENTER PROJECT TO BE AN UNLISTED ACTION AND ISSUING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**Resolution 137.122.24R Sponsored by Johnson**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES ("PILOT") AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF ALBANY, AND CAPITOL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND COMPANY, INC. AND SOUTH MALL TOWERS, LLC

**Resolution 139.122.24R 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 68.121.24 AND DECLARING IT A TYPE I ACTION

**Resolution 140.122.24R Sponsored by Adams**

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL CELEBRATING THE UALBANY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM RETAINING THE ALBANY CUP

**Resolution 141.122.24R (MC) Sponsored by Hoey**

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF BRENDAN COX AS THE CHIEF OF POLICE

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

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