



## ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL FEBRUARY 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)



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### Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

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February 3, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
February 6, 5:30 PM	Law, Buildings and Code Enforcement Committee
February 12, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
February 13, 6:00 PM	Community Police Review Board Monthly Meeting
February 20, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
February 26, 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: Hop on Board!\*

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

Have you ever wondered how you could be more engaged in Albany? Look no further—join a City of Albany board or commission! The City is made up of several boards, commissions, and task forces that allow Albany residents to have an influence on the issues and projects most important to them.

Once the Common Council creates a commission or board, the Mayor or the Common Council—whichever is responsible for appointing members—searches for interested individuals to get involved. Members across all the boards and commissions must be City of Albany residents, possess a reputation of fairness and integrity, and reflect the diversity of city.

Each board has different powers and responsibilities. For instance, the Planning Board reviews site plans submitted by those wishing to develop land in the City, while the Sustainability Commission focuses on advancing sustainable practices and uniting action on climate change within Albany. Click [here](#) to see a full list of Albany's boards and commissions.

The Common Council is currently looking for applicants to serve on the [Active Transportation Planning Commission](#) and the [Task Force on the Municipal Flag](#). Members of the Active Transportation Planning Commission will review the conditions around Albany for pedestrians and cyclists to make safety recommendations. Members of the Task Force on the Municipal Flag will be responsible for creating a contest where the public can submit proposals for a new City of Albany flag. The task force will review submissions, choose finalists, and create a forum for members of the public to vote and select the new flag!

Interested in getting involved? The Albany Common Council is continuously accepting resumes and letters of intents for all the city boards, commissions and task forces on our [Call for Applications](#) page! Applications for all boards are accepted on a rolling basis and will be retained by the Office of the Common Council for one year.

Be sure to check out our [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#) for updates on openings on boards or commissions that have piqued your interest!

*[\\*Previously published in the August 2024 newsletter, with minor changes.](#)*

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## **Committee Reports**

### **Ad-Hoc Committee**

The Public, Education and Government Oversight Board Ad Hoc Committee met on January 6 to discuss the appointments to the Public, Education and Government Access Oversight Board.

*The meeting recording can be found [here](#) and [here](#).*

### **Human Resources and Human Rights Committee**

The Human Resources and Human Rights Committee met on January 8 to discuss Resolution 89.82.24R and Resolution 95.91.24R which both passed out of committee with positive recommendations.

*The full texts of Resolution 89.82.24R and Resolution 95.91.24R can be found [here](#).*

*The meeting recording can be found [here](#).*

### **Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Committee**

The Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Committee met on January 16 to discuss Ordinance 65.111.24, which was held in committee for further discussion.

*The full text of the Ordinance 65.111.24 can be found [here](#).*

*The meeting recording can be found [here](#).*

The Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Committee also met on January 27 to discuss Ordinance 65.111.24, which passed out of committee with a positive recommendation.

*The full texts of the Ordinance 65.11.24 can be found [here](#).*

*The meeting recording can be found [here](#).*

### **Public Safety Committee**

The Public Safety Committee met on January 28 to discuss Resolution 119.102.24R and Ordinance 22.72.24. Resolution 119.102.24R passed out of committee with a positive recommendation. Ordinance 22.72.24 was held for further discussion.

*The full texts of both Resolution 119.102.24R and Ordinance 22.72.24 can be found [here](#).*

*The meeting recording can be found [here](#).*

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## **Legislation passed**

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

A LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 50 (ETHICS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY BY ESTABLISHING A CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE CITY OF ALBANY AND A BOARD OF ETHICS

### **Ordinance 19.62.24 Sponsored by Keegan**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII (PUBLIC NUISANCE ABATEMENT) OF CHAPTER 255 (PEACE AND GOOD ORDER) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO CORRECTING DEFINITIONS TO MATCH STATE LAW

**Ordinance 27.91.24R Sponsored by Anane<sup>1</sup>**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 375 (CITY OF ALBANY UNIFIED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO INCENTIVIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AFFORDABLE AND INCLUSIONARY HOUSING

**Resolution 89.82.24R Sponsored By Robinson**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REAPPOINTING THOMAS MUELLER AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**Resolution 95.91.24R Sponsored by Robinson**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REAPPOINTING NATISHA M. ALEXANDER AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**Resolution 138.122.24R Sponsored by Kimbrough**

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

**Resolution 1.11.25R Sponsored by Kimbrough**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL APPOINTING RICHARD CONTI AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE LARK STREET AREA BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

**Resolution 2.12.25R Sponsored by Kimbrough**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING THE CITY'S APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING FROM THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY CONSERVANCY TRAIL GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE TIVOLI PRESERVE

**Resolution 3.12.25R Sponsored by Balarin**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL APPOINTING DEBORA Y. BROWN TO THE PUBLIC, EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENT ACCESS OVERSIGHT BOARD

**Resolution 5.12.25R Sponsored by Kimbrough**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

**Resolution 6.12.25R (MC) Sponsored by Johnson**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REQUESTING THAT THE SOUTH END CONNECTOR BE DESIGNATED A HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY TRAIL

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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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<sup>1</sup> Ordinance 27.91.24R was vetoed by Mayor Sheehan on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.