



ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL APRIL 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

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

April 2, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
April 7, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
April 16, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
April 21, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
April 22, 5:30 PM	Parks, Recreation & Family Planning
April 30, 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](#).

A Constituent's Guide to the Albany Common Council: How Does an Idea Become a Law?*

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

Whether it's a problem that needs solving, a standard that needs setting or a wrong needs that righting, the work of a legislature comes back to the will of its constituents. When community members speak up, it's a [Council Member](#)'s job to listen hard and help think up ideas that address constituent concerns.

If those ideas can be turned into legislation—if they can become a local law, ordinance or resolution that can be carried out here in Albany—then it's time to start writing. Councilmembers, City staff and constituents are all involved in the initial drafting process. They might start from scratch, look to other municipalities for inspiration or consider whether a particular part of [the City's laws](#) needs changing. Each of these options involves figuring out how the Common Council can legally take action on an issue here in Albany.

The type of action, in turn, helps determine whether legislation is drafted as a local law, ordinance or resolution. If the Council needs to declare its position on an issue or complete a routine task like confirming an official appointment, councilmembers will write a resolution. If the Council needs to change the [City Code](#)—its collected laws—ordinances are the go-to option. If the Council needs to amend a previously passed local law, make certain state-specified changes or adopt a change to its Code that needs extra public input, councilmembers will write a local law.

Once a piece of legislation is written, it's time to introduce it. The councilmembers involved in drafting or presenting a law to the entire Common Council are called its sponsors. One of the sponsors' tasks is to submit legislation to City staff so that it can be reviewed and included in a packet of newly introduced laws before each Regular Meeting. This packet is called the Supporting Legislation, and you can always find it in the Council's [Agenda Center](#).

During a Regular Meeting, sponsors ask the Council President to introduce their legislation. At this point, the Clerk of the Common Council reads the legislation's title, and the law is considered to be in possession of the entire body

*Previously published in the August 2023 newsletter.

Committee Reports

General Services, Health and Environment Committee

The committee met on March 11 to discuss Local Law J of 2024, Ordinance 28.62.23, and Ordinance 29.102.24, which were all passed out of committee with positive recommendation (pending amendments). The full text of the legislation can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

Law, Buildings and Code Enforcement Committee

The committee met on March 20 to discuss Local Law L of 2024, Ordinance 21.71.24, and Ordinance 24.81.24. Local Law L of 2024 and Ordinance 24.81.24 both passed out of committee with positive recommendations pending amendments; Ordinance 21.71.24 was held for further discussion. The full text of the legislation can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Committee

The committee met on March 25 to discuss Ordinance 17.53.24 and Ordinance 68.121.24 which were both held for further discussion. The full text of the legislation can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

Legislation passed

Ordinance 28.62.23 Sponsored by Keegan

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 313 (SOLID WASTE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY BY ADDING A PERMITTING SYSTEM FOR COMMERCIAL HAULERS OF SOLID WASTE

Ordinance 29.102.24 Sponsored by Flynn

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IV (UTILITY POLE REGULATIONS) OF CHAPTER 171 (ELECTRICITY) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO ENSURING THE QUICK AND EFFECTIVE REMOVAL OF DOUBLE POLES

Ordinance 65.111.24 Sponsored by Balarin

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 375 (UNIFIED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGNS

Resolution 13.31.25R Sponsored by Love

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE MARCH OF 2025 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN TO THE CITY OF ALBANY

Resolution 14.31.25R(MC) Sponsored by Kimbrough

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT STAFFING DEFICIENCIES AT ALBANY MEDICAL CENTER

Resolution 17.32.25R Sponsored by Conti

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL RECOGNIZING TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY AND AFFIRMING ITS SUPPORT OF THE TRANS COMMUNITY

Resolution 18.32.25R Sponsored by Anane

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL URGING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO PASS, AND THE GOVERNOR TO SIGN, THE BIGGER BETTER BOTTLE BILL (SENATE BILL 5684/ASSEMBLY BILL 6543) AND THE PACKAGING REDUCTION AND RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE ACT (SENATE BILL 1464/ASSEMBLY BILL 1749)

Resolution 19.32.25 Sponsored by Anane

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS OF THE PINE HILLS LAND AUTHORITY IN THEIR REDEVELOPMENT AND SALE OF THE FORMER COLLEGE OF SAINT ROSE CAMPUS

Resolution 21.32.25R (MC) Sponsored by Balarin

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL COMMEMORATING THE MONTH OF RAMADAN AND CELEBRATION OF EID AL-FITR

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