



## ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL MAY 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

May 5, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
May 12, 5:30 PM	Human Resources and Human Rights Committee
May 14, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
May 14, 6:00 PM	Ethics and Workforce Culture Ad-Hoc Committee
May 19, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
May 28, 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 3: What's in a name?

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

Every idea that makes it through the legislative drafting process as a local law, ordinance or resolution needs a good name. City staff members title the Council's legislation with two details in mind: the type of legislation and the order of its introduction.

A local law receives a letter (A-Z) followed by the year of its introduction. The first local law introduced in 2025, for example, will be Local Law A of 2025. The second will be Local Law B of 2025, and so on. It's important to include the year of introduction when discussing local laws, as a law sharing the same letter as a law in any other year is an entirely different piece of legislation.

The titles of ordinances and resolutions involve some coding and decoding, but they allow for names that are more unique and descriptive than those of local laws. Both types of legislation receive sets of numbers that signify the order, meeting, and year of their introduction. The first set of numbers starts at 1 each January and increases with each new ordinance or resolution introduced. The second set of numbers begins with the month—May is 5, for example—and ends with a number that specifies the meeting in which the legislation was introduced within this month. If you see 5.52 in the first two sets of numbers, you know that you're looking at the fifth ordinance or resolution of a given year and that it was introduced during the second meeting in May. The third set of numbers signifies the year, and if an "R" attached to the end of the title, you know that you're looking at a resolution rather than an ordinance. So if you see 5.52.25, think of it as the fifth ordinance of 2025, introduced during the second meeting in May. Likewise, 13.61.25R signifies the thirteenth resolution of 2025, introduced during the first meeting in June.

The full title of every piece of legislation includes a brief description of what the legislation does: the section of the [City Code](#) it modifies, the goal it expresses, the appointment it confirms, and so on. You can find these titles on the legislation itself or on current or past agendas, depending on whether the legislation is still before the Council. All of these documents are available in the [Agenda Center](#).

*\*Previously published in the September 2023 newsletter, with minor changes.*

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## **Committee Reports**

### **Parks, Recreation and Family Services Committee**

The committee met on April 22 to discuss the Summer Youth Employment Program, with Commissioner of Recreation Johnathan Jones and his staff. The meeting recording can be found [here](#).

### **General Services, Health and Environment Committee**

The committee met on April 23 to discuss Ordinance 26.91.24 and Resolution 16.32.25R, which were all passed out of committee with positive recommendation. 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 J of 2024 Sponsored by Keegan**

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE III (EXECUTIVE BRANCH) OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ALBANY AND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND POSITION OF COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING, AND PRESCRIBING THE DUTIES THEREOF

### **Local Law L of 2024 Sponsored by Anane**

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE I (EMPLOYEE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT) OF CHAPTER 62 (LABOR) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO BROADENING THE EMPLOYEE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

### **Ordinance 24.81.24 Sponsored by Farrell**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 359 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) AND CHAPTER 251 (PARKS AND RECREATION) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE OPERATION OF ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

### **Resolution 20.41.25R Sponsored by Balarin**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL ENDORSING THE EXPANSION OF ACCESS TO RENT STABILIZATION THROUGH THE RENT EMERGENCY STABILIZATION FOR TENANTS (REST) ACT (SENATE BILL 4659-A/ASSEMBLY BILL 4877-A)

### **Resolution 22.41.25R Sponsored by Love**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING APRIL 2025 TO BE MINORITY CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

### **Resolution 23.41.25R Sponsored by Clarke**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE'S "HEALTHY HOMES RIGHT TO KNOW ACT", WHICH REQUIRES THE DISPLAY OF CERTAIN LABELS AND WARNINGS ON GAS STOVES

**Resolution 24.41.25R Sponsored by Balarin**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING APRIL 2025 AS ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

**Resolution 25.41.25R Sponsored by Keegan**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL COMMEMORATING APRIL OF 2025 AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

**Resolution 26.41.25R Sponsored by Kimbrough**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REMEMBERING AND HONORING WILLIAM HENRY JOHNSON'S LEGACY

**Resolution 27.41.25R Sponsored by Kimbrough**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGING THE WEEK OF APRIL 6TH THROUGH 12TH AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

**Resolution 28.42.25R Sponsored by Zamer**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL IN HONOR OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

**Resolution 29.42.25R Sponsored by Anane**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING APRIL 22, 2025 TO BE EARTH DAY IN THE CITY OF ALBANY AND COMMEMORATING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

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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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