



ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 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

September 8, 5:30 PM	General Services, Health & Environment Committee
September 9, 5:30 PM	Planning, Economic Development & Land Use Committee
September 10, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
September 15, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
September 15, 5:30 PM	Planning, Economic Development & Land Use Committee
September 22, 5:30 PM	Human Resources & Human Rights Committee

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, Part 8: Voting Rules

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

If your idea becomes a law, earns a spot on the agenda, and makes it through the committee process, you might be ready to bring it to a vote. But a vote is not a vote is not a vote: The Council’s votes are subject to different rules depending on the legislation in question. New York’s [Municipal Home Rule Law](#), the [City Charter](#), and Article 5 of the Common Council’s [Rules of Procedure](#) outline what it takes to pass different types of legislation.

The general rule is this: To pass a local law, ordinance, or resolution, a majority of the entire Council—eight members—must vote in favor of it. But the rules are different for legislation that authorizes the City to take on bond debt. These bills—usually bond ordinances that come out of the City’s end-of-year budget process—require the support of two-thirds of the entire Council; 10 members must vote “yes” for bonding legislation to pass.

The same is true when it comes to overriding mayoral vetoes. At least 10 councilmembers must vote to override vetoed legislation to move it past the Council again. That number increases to 11 for vetoed bonding legislation.

A separate set of rules come into play when the Council is considering legislation that has yet to age properly (more on aging next month). If a newly introduced or amended local law is pressing enough to include a message of necessity from the Mayor, a 10-member majority of the Council can vote to pass the law. If an ordinance is being considered at the meeting of its introduction, every councilmember in attendance must vote in favor of its passage.

For final vote tallies and more detailed recaps of the Council’s business, you can read meeting minutes in the [Agenda Center](#). (Please note that Regular Meeting minutes are located within each meeting’s [agenda page](#), which can be found by clicking the linked information under the meeting date.)

**Previously published in the February 2024 newsletter, with minor changes.*

Committee Reports

Ad-Hoc Committees

The Public, Education & Government Access Oversight Board Ad Hoc Committee met on August 19 to discuss Ordinance 2.41.25 and interview a prospective new member of the Public, Education & Government Access Oversight Board. The legislation moved out of committee with positive recommendation. The full text of the legislation can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

Parks, Recreation & Family Services Committee

The committee met on August 7 to interview prospective applicants for appointment to the Task Force on the Municipal Flag. The Call for Applications for the Task Force on the Municipal Flag can be found [here](#); the meeting agenda can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

Planning, Economic Development & Land Use Committee

The committee met on August 11 to discuss Resolution 88.72.25R and Resolution 89.72.25R, which was 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](#).

The committee met on August 19 to discuss Local Law G of 2022, which was held for further discussion. The full text of the legislation can be found [here](#) and the meeting recording can be found [here](#).

Legislation passed

Ordinances

ORDINANCE 4.41.25 (MC) (FREDERICK)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GRANT OF AN EASEMENT OVER A PORTION OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 5 MILL ROAD (TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 75.00-2-8) TO EASTERN GAS TRANSMISSION AND STORAGE, INC. FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF AN EXISTING PIPELINE AT THE PROPERTY

ORDINANCE 6.61.25 (JOHNSON)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE ASH GROVE PLACE COMMON ALLEY (TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 76.49-3-57) TO THE COMMUNITY BUILDERS, INC.

ORDINANCE 7.61.25 (FREDERICK)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PURCHASES BY THE CITY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$9,468,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE LEASE FINANCING OR THE ISSUANCE OF \$9,468,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO PAY THE COST THEREOF (CITY-WIDE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS)

ORDINANCE 9.71.25 (JOHNSON)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF 34 CHERRY STREET (TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 76.66-2-5) TO THE ALBANY HOUSING AUTHORITY

ORDINANCE 10.71.25 (FREDERICK)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF VARIOUS CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES TO THE ALBANY COUNTY LAND BANK

ORDINANCE 11.72.25 (LOVE)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GRANT OF AN AERIAL EASEMENT TO CIDC ALBANY CENTER, LLC OVER CERTAIN RIGHTS-OF-WAY ON HOWARD AND WENDELL STREETS

ORDINANCE 12.72.25 (KIMBROUGH)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GRANT OF AN EASEMENT TO CENTER SQUARE LLC OVER A PORTION OF THE CITY RIGHT OF WAY ADJACENT TO 1233 BROADWAY (ALSO KNOWN AS 33 CENTER STREET) (TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 66.29-2-59)

ORDINANCE 15.81.25 (MC) (ROBINSON)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GRANT OF AN EASEMENT OVER A PORTION OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 520 LIVINGSTON AVENUE (TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 65.39-1-19) TO NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POWER SUPPLY TO THE ALBANY WEST COMMUNITY CENTER

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 94.81.25R (MC) (CONTI)

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL DECLARING ITS INTENT TO ACT AS LEAD AGENCY FOR THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW OF ORDINANCE 3.41.25 AND DECLARING IT AN UNLISTED ACTION

RESOLUTION 95.82.25R (BALARIN)

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL IN HONOR OF ALBANY LATINVEST 2025

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