



Meeting Notes

Albany Bicycle Coalition Monthly Meeting

10/25/18 7:00 PM

LaSalle School – George E. Hanner Center
391 Western Ave., Albany, 12203.

C:\Users\Lorenz M. Worden\Documents\Bicycle\Meetings\1a- 2018ABC - Meeting Notes - 10-25-18.doc

Reports –

Treasurer's Report (David P.) – Report rendered - \$2,121 on hand. PayPal donations impressive. David will develop a “your-donation-is-100%-tax-deductible” invoice in anticipation of possible year-end tax requests.

Albany-Colonie Connector* – Actions:

- Letter to Mayor **Sheehan** 10/2.
- Letter to Assemblymember **Fahy** 10/11.
- **Flyover** letter to **NYSDOT** 9/4 with follow-up calls.
(<https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/2018/09/03/washington-ave-flyover-a-call-for-change/>)
- **Rapp Rd.** – Printed book and sent with letters. Right-of-way issues/questions.
- **Albany-Shaker Rd.** – E-Letter to Creighton Manning 10/1.
- **Colonie Village Connector** – Letter to **Mayor Leak** 9/13
(<https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/2018/09/14/colonie-village-connector/>). Response from Village Attorney 9/19. Response to attorney letter 10/15.
- **Six-Mile Trail Signage** – Two map signs ready for gate at pump station and waiting on the directional signs.
- Met with **SAVE Colonie** 10/15. Determining how to comment on Town of Colonie Master Plan (which calls for bicycle accommodations on main roads). Proposed letter to Supervisor Mahan on Albany-Colonie Connector and its Mohawk R. terminus. Exploring joint action on Albany-Shaker Rd.
- **Connection to Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail** – We need a “bicycle-friendly route” as a fall back if the Town of Colonie chooses not to take advantage of either the Keeler-Hewitt's-Ronald Rd. or the Cumberland Farms options. Riding on Rt. 7 remains a major barrier and forces even highly skilled people on bicycles to resort to sidewalk riding. Concerned over the Rosendale Rd. option, as it is narrow, high speed, and steep. An option is Old Niskayuna Rd. to Rt 7 to Burmaster Rd.

New Scotland Ave. Traffic Calming (Ed) – Letter and contact with Mayor Sheehan with response promised along with dates for public meeting. This relates to the St. Peter's Hospital traffic count proposal and the 4-lane, bumpy, high-speed portion of New Scotland Ave. from Manning to the I-90 bridge. Traffic calming and intersection redesign needed.

Bicycle Count (Report from count volunteers – Scott, Ed, Ray, Hugh, Lorenz) – Concern over intersections chosen, the advent of BikeShare and e-bikes, and April-October (vs. May-September -> better weather) timing of counts. Lorenz to report concerns to city and ask for changes. Related concern about not counting bicycle traffic going onto or coming of the Helderberg Hudson Rail Trail. Lorenz to contact Capital District Transportation Authority on bike rake data.

MHBHT Roots – David P. again following up with county DPW commissioner and legal office. County flummoxed about what agency has responsibility for trail maintenance (other than grass cutting, tree trimming and trash pickup).

Annual Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair – (Ed, Glenn, and Hugh) All agreed that the fair went well and that ABC was well received by attendees. Many questions on bicycle opportunities and trails. Much interest in the BikeAlbanyMap. Agreed to continue to support the fair by our continued participation. (<https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/2018/10/20/abc-at-the-renewable-energy-and-sustainable-living-fair/>)

Bethlehem-Albany Connector – (Mark) Working on getting some timeline advice from Bethlehem and on getting some routing advice. We noted the un-ride-ability of the portion of Delaware Ave. north of the I-90 Bridge (due to parking-clogged, narrow, high-speed route design). This is a major gateway to the city and to the bicycle lanes on Clinton and Madison Aves. Shared Lanes “just don’t do it.” City of Albany missing an opportunity to facilitate bicycle commuter traffic.

Capital Region Complete Streets and the Complete Streets Coordinator – Rebecca, Ed, David, and Hugh volunteered to join the “Complete Streets Coordinator speakers’ bureau” to present their thoughts on the proposal as their schedules may permit and opportunities arise.

Attending Ed, John V., Glenn, Hugh, David P., Rebecca, Scott, and Lorenz.

+++++

Upcoming – Rides/events/issues? (Go here - <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/resources/events/>)

- **11/13 - Capital District Transportation Committee-Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting** – Tue, 9:00 AM, 1 Park Place, Wolf Rd. Contact: jceponis@cdtcspo.org, (518) 458-216. <http://www.cdtcmo.org/>, all welcome.
- **11/17 – Gravel Gobbler** – Sat, 11/17, Nassau, NY, check in – 12:00 PM, \$25. Online Registration Deadline: Thr, 11/15, 5:00 PM ET at – <https://www.bikereg.com/gravel-gobbler> . Start line address: 174 Middle Rd., Nassau. Join the [Mohawk Hudson Cycling Club's](#) Gravel Gobbler ride to benefit the [Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York](#). Gravel rides of 22 and 38 miles and road ride of 31 miles. Start and finish your ride at [S&S Farm Brewery](#) in Nassau. After you finish, enjoy craft beer and great food from [Gourmeli's Taste](#) food truck. Info – <https://www.bikereg.com/gravel-gobbler>
- **11/29 – ABC Meeting** – Thr, 7:00 PM, LaSalle School, George E. Hanner Center, 391 Western Ave., Albany <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/>
- **Attending** Ed, Rebecca, Ray, John V., Hugh, Scott, Glenn, David P., and Lorenz.

NOTES

*The Albany-Colonie Connector (<https://wp.me/PmNrn-nDn>) is an Albany Bicycle Coalition initiative to establish an 11-mile bicycle route from (generally) the University at Albany to the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail's Lions Park. This primarily on-road route identifies – where possible – multiuse paths and lower traffic volume roadways. The route involves these municipalities and organizations: Colonie Village, City of Albany, Town of Colonie, Albany County, New York State Department of Transportation, the Pine Bush Preserve Commission, and the Town of Guilderland.

#####