



## Meeting Notes

Albany Bicycle Coalition Monthly Meeting

10/24/19 7:00 PM

LaSalle School – George E. Hanner Center

391 Western Ave., Albany, 12203

C:\Users\Lorenz M. Worden\Documents\Bicycle\Meetings\1-2019\ABC Meeting Notes ~ 10-24-19.doc

### Reports –

- **Treasurer Report** (David P.) – Report rendered. The amounts due to other organizations to be resolved by David and Lorenz. Still need to confirm Underground RR Ride funds – John V. and David to reconcile.
  - **Membership Drive** – David and Lorenz to develop for December kick off (membership year begins 1/1/20). Ed again brought up the idea of our “tabling” at appropriate events and will continue to explore this option.
- **Transport Troy** (Pam) – Collar City Ramble was successful starting with great weather and nice turnouts for the various events. ADK kayak team augmented the 12 free kayaks so many people were “on the water.” Organizers and coordinators were happy with the results. Hard date forthcoming. See - <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/2019/10/13/explore-the-wonders-of-troy/>

### Old Business –

- **South End Bikeway Connector** (Lorenz) – Resident issues related to loss of parking reported. Construction is underway (Ed and Mark had photographic and ride-by “proof.”)
- **Bethlehem Meeting Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting – 10-22** (John, Mark, Lorenz) – Observations: we were impressed with the meeting, its conduct, and the apparent broad representation for the community and the gender and age representation. The town “Development Process” overview was helpful giving a snapshot of how development and bicycle-pedestrian issues interact and on how important it is for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to be aware of its options. We noted that the Town of Colonie recently approved Comprehensive Plan calls for a BPAC but that the City of Albany disbanded its BPAC a number of years ago. (There is a Transportation Subcommittee within the Mayor’s Office of Energy Sustainability but it is not clear what power it has to articulate bicycle concerns.)
- **11/16 – Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair** (Ed, *et al.*) – Sat, 11/16, 10 AM – 4 PM. We will demo the BikeAlbanyMap and have a slide show of cycling scenes in the area. Some concern about table size and Wifi access. Survey needs to be completed and reproduced.
- **Exploratory Ride of Patroon Greenway Project** (Rob, All) – Ride on Sun, 11/3, 2:00 PM, Six-Mile Trail Park. (Rain Date – 11/10.) Wear “bushwhacking clothing” and have recommended 32 mm or wider tires. *Goal – get this project “off the ground!”* We noted what a tremendous asset this could be for the area – especially in contrast to the “skyway” and gondola ideas. The Patroon Greenway is included in the Capital District Transportation Committee Trails Plan – see ([https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike\\_ped/TrailsPlan/CDTC\\_TrailsPlan\\_F3\\_reduced.pdf](https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike_ped/TrailsPlan/CDTC_TrailsPlan_F3_reduced.pdf)). Riders should review these reports to prepare for the ride: Existing Conditions Regional Impact Analysis Cost and Funding Options

- **MHBHT Roots** (David) – We recalled the Albany County and State Agency “run around” on this issue that ABC initiated in 2017. Abysmal response from Albany County. David meeting with Times Union staff on 10/25 to explore approaches to this issue.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Notes 10-8-19** – (Lorenz)
  - **CDPHP Cycle! BikeShare Update** (Lindsey Garney):
    - 350 bicycles in system
    - 11,000 + members.
    - 34,000 + rides in the 2019 season.
    - No fee for leaving bicycle at other than a hub (lock to any fixed object inside the system boundaries that does not block a public right of way).
    - “Cycle Access” contracts with organizations and schools to extend use to employees and students (e.g., RPI, Albany Medical Center, and City of Albany).
    - BikeShare now in Scotia and Waterford (great for canal boaters’ use).
    - Ongoing conversations with multiple areas for potential expansion.
    - BikeShare tours (e.g., the four Albany Center Gallery’s wall mural rides. Clean Tech/FLIP Program in Saratoga)
  - **Mini Grants** – Reports due for 2019 programs. New cycle coming for 2020.
  - **Capital Roots Update** (Calvin MacDowell):
    - Capital Roots “Healthy Streets” program goal is access to food.
    - Worked with and on various trails, municipalities, streets, and rides to further this program. Examples: bicycle Repair Stands and racks, decorated crosswalks, bump outs, tree planting (Watervliet), trashcan installation, distribution of safety literature, and evaluating all programs.
    - Plans include developing a “walking college,” promoting local laws that enhance access, cultivating local advisory groups, and working and communicating with NYSDOT.
  - **Albany County Health** (Trish Bulatao) – Lending library for events (e.g., “pop up demos”) is up and running.
  - **City of Albany** (Zach Powell):
    - Planning assessment on Lark St. re-design. It was noted that a “pop up” was done at the State/Lark intersection presumably by the city and presumably to test narrowing State St. to one lane. [ED: Also see - A594 1761.64 Lark Street – Madison Avenue to Washington Avenue: Mill & Fill <http://www.cdtcmpo.org/factsh19/A594.pdf> Project Fact Sheet - <https://www.cdtcmpo.org/factsh19/A594.pdf> ]
    - Soliciting vendor bids for Albany Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan project. [ED: the 2009 Albany Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan was prepared by a consulting firm, IBI Group.]
  - **Education at CDTC** –
    - Webinars – See [https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike\\_ped/capcoexist/2019Webinars.pdf](https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike_ped/capcoexist/2019Webinars.pdf)
    - Video Library – <https://www.cdtcmpo.org/learn>
  - **Bicycling Guide** – [https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike\\_ped/biketowork/PDF/BikeGuide2019website.pdf](https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike_ped/biketowork/PDF/BikeGuide2019website.pdf)
  - **Next meeting** – 12/10, Tue, 9:00 AM, 1 Park Place, Wolf Rd. Contact: [jceponis@cdtcmpo.org](mailto:jceponis@cdtcmpo.org)
- **New Scotland Ave. Traffic Study** (Ed, all) – Status. ABC letter. Comments deadline is 11/8/19 – see <https://hospitalareastudy.weebly.com/contact.html> .
- **Guilderland – Carmen-Lydious Traffic Circle** (John G.) – No updates per John G.

**New Business** –

- **BikeAlbanyMap** (Glenn)
  - **Cycle Schenectady** – BAM possible expansion. Meeting with Cycle Schenectady on 10/30. ABC is in a good position to expand the BikeAlbanyMap into Schenectady as it has done already in Cohoes, Green Island, Troy, Colonie, and Bethlehem.
  - **Press Release**– Lorenz to review.
  - **Bethlehem Draft Map** (Lorenz) - Bethlehem provided a map of routes that people on bicycles use in the town. This is a draft for reference only and NOT a proposed route map.
- **Meeting Dates** (CORRECTED) – ABC meets the last [not the 4<sup>th</sup>] Thr of each month unless there is a conflicting holiday. Upcoming dates are as follows: 10/24 (not 31), 11/21 (not 28), 12/19 (not 26), 1/30/20, 2/27, 3/26, 4/30, 5/28, 6/25, 7/30, 8/27, 9/24, 10/29, 11/19 (not 26), and 12/17 (not 24).

**Attending** – Mark, Chris, Ed, David P., Rob, Glenn, Hugh, Pam, and Lorenz.

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

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