



Meeting Notes

Albany Bicycle Coalition Monthly Meeting

9/26/19 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 - 9-26-19.doc

Reports –

- **Treasurer Report** (David P.) – Report rendered. Need to confirm which PayPal transactions were from Underground RR Ride. John V. and David to reconcile all ride funds. Need to host a membership drive for the coming membership year (begins 1/1/20).
- **Transport Troy** (Pam) – Collar City Ramble on track for Saturday.

Old Business –

- **Underground Railroad Bike Tour - 9/22** (Ed, All) – Ride went well. Paul Stewart talks were good. Some minor rider issues. All participants enjoyed the ride and the subject matter. Funds to be reconciled.
- **Schenectady Update** (John G.) – Cycle Schenectady continuing to develop its organization. Meeting 3rd Wednesday of the month with a varied attendance.
- **Slow Roll Albany** (Mark) – Still attempting to contact the Slow Roll Buffalo event manager.
- **11/16 – Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair** (Ed, *et al.*) – Sat, 11/16, 10 AM – 4 PM. – Have new table drape, business cards, BikeAlbanyMap flyer, bicycle resources flyer, and fender stickers. Will use brief survey as a tool for engaging visitors (Ed and Lorenz to finalize). Staffing firming up.
- **11/3 - Patroon Greenway Project** (Rob, All) – Rob hosting 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!” The Patroon Greenway is included in the Capital District Transportation Committee Trails Plan (https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/bike_ped/TrailsPlan/CDTC_TrailsPlan_F3_reduced.pdf). Follow these links to learn more: [Existing Conditions](#) [Regional Impact Analysis](#) [Cost and Funding Options](#)
- **MHBHT Roots** (David P.) – Having received no help from any *elected or appointed* officials and no response from Albany County, David sent letter to the *Times Union* and is awaiting a response from it. We noted with great frustration the apparent indifference of county officials to a real need in the community and one that is county is responsible for filling.
- **Town of Colonie Comprehensive Plan** (John G.) –
 - **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Development meeting** (w/ Nate of Bethlehem) (John Mark, Lorenz, others welcome) – Set for 9/30, 5:00 PM.
 - **Locust Park Resident Survey** – 58 out of 146 residents were surveyed. Many favorable reactions to a multiuse path and many concerns about safety of the road. RESULTS: Locust Park Safety Survey (included Colt Rd., Cottonwood Pl. Cottonwood Pl. South, and Winston Pl.) (8-8-19). 58 out of 146 potential respondents (40%): Q#1. Do you use the corridor? Yes: 74%, No: 26%. Q#2. Do you feel safe? Yes: 36%, No: 64%. Q#3. Construct multi-use path? Yes: 82%, No: 18%. Q#4. Do you want to participate in further discussions? Yes: 52%, No: 48%.
 - **Village of Colonie Complete Streets** – Village installing “25 MPH” pavement markings in some locations (the Village speed limit is 25 mph). Also installing pavement lane narrowing markings. This is good payoff for Albany County Health and Albany Bicycle Coalition efforts – a municipality that is actually DOING SOMETHING instead of “planning.”

- **Amazon Distribution Center** – Not surprisingly, traffic studies concluded that this Jupiter Lane/Clark Industrial Park proposal would be a disaster for the area. Disapproved by the village.
- **Western Ave. Traffic Calming** (Lorenz) – *Times Union* published letter 9/23.
- **Noodle Experiment** (Mark) – Delayed due to technical issues.

New Business –

- **Guilderland – Carmen-Lydious Traffic Circle** (John G.) – About 140 people attended in addition to many DOT and Town staff. This was a demonstration “show and tell” without a presentation and Q&A session. We noted that the proposal is for a one-lane traffic circle but that it will need active signage (e.g., pedestrian and bicycle detection and signaling devices). Attendees were invited to submit comments to Corey Barringer, PE, NYSDOT Region 1, 50 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY 12232, (518) 485-5435, corey.barringer@dot.ny.gov . Please include gillivanjohn@gmail.com in your submitted comments.
- **BikeAlbanyMap Press Release and New Flyer** (Glenn) – Flyer distributed. Working on press release.
- **New Scotland/Whitehall/Buckingham Hospital Area Traffic Study Public Information Meeting #3** – Mon, 10/7, 6-7 PM (open house 5:30), 310 S. Manning Blvd.
- **Membership** (Ed, All) – Open discussion with two foci: attracting younger advocates to ABC’s mission and activities and (2) finding ways to represent those who need and use their bicycles for transportation (work, errands, health care, etc.) Discussed ideas – out reach events (such as the South End “field day” and Honest Weight Food Co-op “farm day”), rides (especially Earth Day and Albany Public Library rides), and direct outreach to community groups that serve or have knowledge of underrepresented people on bicycles. In this regard, we entertained the idea of a joint meeting with Albany Bike Rescue. We will continue this discussion.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Notes** – (John G., Lorenz)
 - **Presentation on Craig St./Main Ave.** in Schenectady, a mile-long, low-traffic-volume street with low motor vehicle ownership (and, thus, low parking demand). Proposed treatment is a 2-way cycle track on one side of the street. See - <https://www.craig-main-connection.com/>.
 - **Central Park Trail Connector in Schenectady** – Jen solicited ideas on how to treat this connector as it LOOKS like a sidewalk, not a trail/multiuse path. The challenge is how the trail should be signed or otherwise marked to make it clear that it is for people on foot and on bicycles.
 - **CDPHP Cycle! BikeShare** bicycles will be withdrawn for the season on 11/30.
 - **CDTC hoisted a webinar “Building Support for Controversial Projects”** on 9/18 that described how a suburb of Portland, OR addressed a problem street. The main thrust of the procedure was great emphasis on reaching out and listening to the neighbors, road users, pedestrians, and potential people on bicycles who might use an improved road. This include “kitchen table meetings,” meeting with those who were opposed to the project (e.g., Delaware Avenue Traffic Calming being a local case), and even closing the road off on two different days so people could walk, talk, and study alternatives treatments. One “slide” stated their mantra: “What did we do? – We listened!” It is hard not to contrast this with the local practice of an obligatory public meeting “show and tell” with most of the people in the room being officials, politicians, and project staff.
- **Future Meeting Dates** – ABC meets the last Thr [not necessarily the 4th Thr] of each month unless there is a conflicting holiday (as noted in parentheses). 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, John G., Ed, David P., Pam, and Lorenz.

Upcoming – Rides/events/issues? (See below and go here for more events - <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/resources/events/>)

- **10/8 – Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting** – Capital District Transportation Committee – Tue, 9:00 AM, 1 Park Place, Wolf Rd. Contact: jceponis@cdtcmpo.org
- **10/7 – New Scotland/Whitehall/Buckingham Hospital Area Traffic Study Public Information Meeting #3** – Mon, 10/7, 6:00 to 7:00 PM (open house at 5:30 p.m.), 310 S. Manning Blvd., St. Peter's Hospital, Mercy Auditorium.

+++++

