



## Meeting Notes

Albany Bicycle Coalition Monthly Meeting

11/21/19 7:00 PM

LaSalle School – George E. Hanner Center

391 Western Ave., Albany, 12203

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### Reports –

- **Treasurer Report** (David P.) – No report.
- **Transport Troy** (Pam via email) – Transport Troy staff attended a 5-year comprehensive plan forum where we heard about the City departments which have plans for infrastructure, quality of life, and community improvements as well as the NGOs they partner with to achieve results. Fourth St. from Jackson to Canal is scheduled for repaving and striping in 2020 that should include a cycle lane.

### Old Business –

- **South End Bikeway Connector** (Lorenz) – Advised by city that work would be completed in 2020. Many views to ABC's project posts.
- **Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair** (Ed, Glenn, Mark, Rob.) – Event went well. Good facility (but noisy). Good attendance at ABC's table. Thirty survey forms and one membership form submitted. Next year's event may be in October. Discussed possibility of a "green fair" bicycle ride in 2020 but with concerns about spreading ourselves too thin.
- **Exploratory Ride of Patroon Greenway Project** (Rob, Ed, Mark, Shelly, John G.) – Ride went well but with many concerns about gaps, proximity to RR tracks, and connections to city streets and bicycle lanes. Send photos and comments to Ed for report.
- **MHBHT Roots** (David) – No progress by Albany County.
- **Membership** (Ed) – To broaden the quantity and diversity of ABC membership, we discussed potential tabling events (Alive at 5, Tulip and Jazz festivals) and staff the booth with appropriate staff.
- **Membership Drive** (David, Lorenz) – To develop plan after 11/24 for December action.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee** – (Lorenz) Major item was review of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan – Oct 2019 DRAFT. – Comments due BEFORE 12/10 to: [jceponis@cdtcmpo.org](mailto:jceponis@cdtcmpo.org). See especially "Goals" on pgs. 50-52 white paper - [https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/advisorycommittees/bikeped/DraftNV2050BP\\_10-29.pdf](https://www.cdtcmpo.org/images/advisorycommittees/bikeped/DraftNV2050BP_10-29.pdf)
- **New Scotland Ave. Traffic Study** (Ed, all) – We were all very disappointed in the trajectory of this project – looking at only one isolated portion of New Scotland Ave., favoring motor vehicle considerations above those of people walking and on bicycles, emphasizing parking, ignoring Strava and CDPHP Cycle! BikeShare ridership, not recognizing that New Scotland Ave. is the singular entrance to the city from the south and west, and not revealing the mysterious role of SPH's funding the Creighton Manning study. ABC submitted two letters to the mayor, the first of which below was sent off to Albany Police Department's Traffic Engineering which has these duties: "responsible for the design, maintenance, and construction of *all traffic control devices within the City of Albany.*" It's a lift to say that this covers roadway design which is clearly the case with New Scotland Ave. Letters: <https://albanybicyclecoalition.files.wordpress.com/2019/11/new-scotland-letter-mayor-10-29-19.pdf> and <https://albanybicyclecoalition.files.wordpress.com/2019/05/new-scotland-m-sargent-letter-response-to-plan-4-8-19.pdf>

## New Business –

- **Town of Colonie** – The Village of Colonie is pushing Complete Streets and leveraging John’s survey for Locust Park. The Deputy Mayor, Ed Sim, seems engaged to make the right decisions and changes. The Traffic Committee wants to reach out to NYSDOT and CDTA to discuss what can be done to make Central Avenue safer for motor vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The Sand Creek speed limit west of the Village of Colonie line to Watervliet-Shaker Rd. will be reduced from 40 to 30 mph. New signs will be up soon. Ed Sim made this happen. We need to resurrect the Albany-Colonie Connector, as Paula Mahan is the town supervisor for another two years. I will set-up a meeting with Joe LaCivita in January 2020 to discuss future considerations for the creation of the BPAC committee in the Town of Colonie.
- **Meeting with Cycle Schenectady – 10/30** (Glenn, Lorenz) – Enhanced BAM demo went well. The organization is developing. We reviewed 501(c)3 procedures and benefits and discussed future collaboration including the possibility of a joint Earth Day Ride 2020. Art hopes to direct some of the \$10 million in “downtown improvement money” to bicycle features.
- **Lark Street Improvements Public Meeting** (Glenn) – We were generally pleased with this project proposal. Lark St. cannot have both motor vehicle parking and bicycle lanes. See study and submit comments ASAP here – <https://larkstreetbid.org/lark-street-improvement-study>.
- **Meeting Dates** – 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: 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** – Art, Ed, Rob, Mark, Glenn, Hugh, and Lorenz.

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

