



**COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
LAW, BUILDINGS, AND CODE ENFORCEMENT
Ginnie Farrell, Chair**

DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022

TIME: 5:30 PM

LOCATION: Council Chambers-2nd Floor. City Hall

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- **Ordinance 9.41.22**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II (SKATEBOARDS) OF
CHAPTER 255 (PEACE AND GOOD ORDER) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF
ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE REGULATION OF SKATEBOARDING IN
THE CITY OF ALBANY**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: YES

Council Member Romero introduced the following:

ORDINANCE 9.41.22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II (SKATEBOARDS) OF CHAPTER 255 (PEACE AND GOOD ORDER) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE REGULATION OF SKATEBOARDING IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Article II (Skateboards) of Chapter 255 (Peace and Good Order) of Part II (General Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby amended to read as follows

§ 255-8 Definitions Skateboard defined.

~~For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:~~

SKATEBOARD

A single platform which is mounted on wheels, designed or used in fact for riding underfoot, having no mechanism or other device with which to steer or control the direction of movement thereof while being used.

§ 255-9 ~~Restricted use areas~~ Regulation.

~~Areas in the City of Albany in which skateboard riding is prohibited are as follows:~~

~~A. All public and private sidewalks, roadways (including the entire paved and improved surface thereof including curbs), parking lots, driveways and courtyards within the boundaries set forth below:~~

~~(1) All that area bounded by and including Lark Street south of Madison Avenue on the west, Clinton Avenue on the north, Broadway on the east and Myrtle Avenue on the south.~~

~~B. Also, all basketball courts, tennis courts and handball courts within the City of Albany~~

~~C. In No person shall use or ride a skateboard in, on, or upon any publicly owned monument, sculpture, or other statutory.~~

§ 255-10 ~~Regulations.~~

~~A. No person shall use or ride on a skateboard in or upon any of the areas and locations listed in § 255-9.~~

~~B. In all other areas within the City of Albany, skateboard use is permitted so long as it is not effected in a manner that creates a risk of danger to any person or property or impedes or interferes with pedestrian or vehicular traffic.~~

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS
24TH DAY OF MARCH, 2022**

Corporation Counsel

To: Danielle Gillespie, City Clerk
From: Gabriella Romero, Council Member, 6th Ward
Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum
Date: March 24, 2022
Sponsor: Council Member Romero

ORDINANCE 9.41.22

TITLE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II (SKATEBOARDS) OF CHAPTER 255 (PEACE AND GOOD ORDER) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE REGULATION OF SKATEBOARDING IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION

As Albany begins to move away from vehicular-only modes of transportation, we must identify and uplift all other modes of transit. The proposed changes remove the jurisdictional component of the previous legislation, allowing for skateboards to move freely around our City. It further removes the specifically punitive effects of skateboarding; however, skateboards must still abide by the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law, which would be enforced by public safety officials.

The only remaining restriction, under this ordinance, bans skateboarding on public monuments, sculptures, and statues.

To note, there are no restrictions on in-line skaters, bicyclists, or pedestrians. Any unruly behavior by this movants is enforced through existing law by public safety officials.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND ANY CHANGE TO EXISTING LAW

These changes provide parity with bicyclists and pedestrians. Skateboarding is more than a mode of recreation; it is also a means for transportation and should not be criminalized or subject to specifically punitive effects.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.