

2016 Transportation Subcommittee Priorities:

1) Increase the number of bike lanes, including protected bike lanes, on major and neighborhood streets throughout the City. Moving beyond shared use lanes should be our goal.

Building upon previous planning work, including the City of Albany Bicycle Master Plan, the top Transportation Subcommittee priority was to support the implementation of dedicated bike lanes to encourage more bicycle use. The City has nearly completed the installation of a protected bike lane along Quay Street along the Corning Preserve. The City also implemented Phase 1 of a multi-phase project on Madison Avenue which included the installation of bicycle lanes on both sides of the street from North Allen Street to Partridge Avenue. These new bike lanes complemented other installations of bike lanes on Northern Boulevard and the expanded bike lanes on a repaved Clinton Avenue. Additional bicycle lanes are planned for implementation in other sections of the City in 2017 including on Madison Avenue to Lark Street.

In addition to bike infrastructure projects, the City is nearing completion of three major planning initiatives which further support the installation of bike lanes. The first is the proposed new city wide zoning initiative known as ReZone Albany, the second is a draft Complete Streets Policy Design Manual and the third is a feasibility study for the South End Multi-Use Path intended to connect the Albany County Rail Trail with the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Path.

The Transportation Subcommittee has provided comments on these projects, attended public meetings and promoted the activities being undertaken at Neighborhood meetings and other events.

2) Increase Bike Parking throughout the City.

Members of the Transportation Subcommittee provided comments on the ReZone Albany initiative within which bicycle parking standards are being established. The Bicycle Standard section of the zoning code can be found in Section 375-4, E, 6 and the requirements can be found in Table 375-4-6: Minimum Required Off-Street Parking. The new requirements, once adopted, will support implementation of bike parking throughout the City.

3) Promote the work being done in the City currently to support transportation sustainability initiatives.

Members of the Transportation Subcommittee have been heavily involved in transportation related planning efforts including the South End Multi-Use Path, the Complete Streets Policy Design Manual, ReZone Albany, the implementation of the Washington/Western Avenue and River Corridor Bus Rapid Transit systems, the implementation of dedicated bicycle infrastructure along Madison Avenue and Quay Street and many other initiatives. Due to the large amount of activity on these projects led by the City, CDTA and other project sponsors, the Subcommittee has attended the many public meetings and workshops related to these tasks to offer comments and provide input. The subcommittee participated in a few events including neighborhood association meetings, lecturing to students at the University at Albany on sustainable transportation planning initiatives and attending the City movie series at the Madison Theater at which sustainable transportation initiatives were promoted.