

PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE
RESTORATION OF THE WALKWAY ON THE
HISTORIC LIVINGSTON AVENUE BRIDGE

Introduced: 9/10/12

By Mr. Simpson:

WHEREAS, Since the Civil War period, Rensselaer and Albany Counties have been joined by the Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge over the Hudson River between the cities of Rensselaer and Albany, with much of the bridge rebuilt in 1901 following a fire, and

WHEREAS, The bridge also includes a walkway across the length of the bridge, which, if repaired, would allow for pedestrian and cycle traffic between Albany and Rensselaer Counties, and is seen as a more feasible place for such traffic than the Dunn Memorial Bridge located to the south, and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes that enabling pedestrian and cyclist traffic at another location would benefit residents, integrate two waterfronts in neighboring cities across the Hudson River, and also help encourage tourism in the area, and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body supports the City of Albany's "Albany 2030 Comprehensive Plan" which would ensure that Albany's neighborhoods and centers are connected to each other and to the rest of the region by an extensive, efficient, and safe network of complete streets, mass transit, bikeways, trails, and sidewalks, and

WHEREAS, Studies have shown that multi-use trails are economically beneficial, and

WHEREAS, Trails tap into growing tourism markets, support vibrant communities, promote healthy physical activity, reduce pollution, and help address global climate change, and

WHEREAS, The Livingston Avenue Bridge could serve as a connection to a growing network of statewide multi-use trails, including the Erie Canalway Trail, the Albany County Rail Trail, and the proposed Rensselaer County Trail, and

WHEREAS, The State of New York and Albany County have shown, through various initiatives, support for Trails both in principle and financially, and

WHEREAS, Trail activities are enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities, and are an important part of the County of Albany's outdoor recreation resources, and

WHEREAS, It is very likely that there will only be one opportunity to ensure that the walkway is installed while design and construction are ongoing

and the funding, political will, and public sentiment are aligned; and, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Albany County Legislature urges the re-establishment of the Livingston Avenue Bridge walkway at such time that the bridge is replaced, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this document to US Senator Charles E. Schumer, Governor Andrew Cuomo, State Senator Neil Breslin, and Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari.

Signed

Signed

Signed

Merton D. Ampson
Donald W. Kahn
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