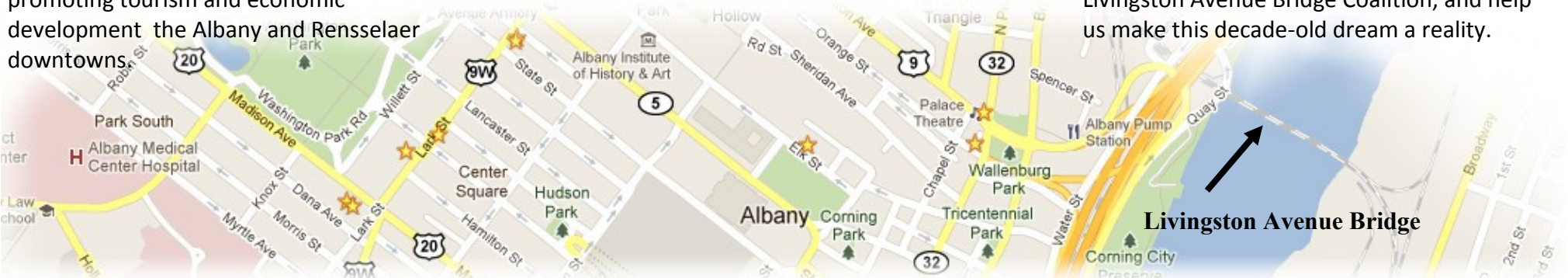


History

For nearly a century a walkway on the south side of the Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge made it possible for pedestrians and cyclists to conveniently and safely cross the Hudson River between Albany and Rensselaer. The walkway was closed due to a dire need of repair in the late 1990s and has been inaccessible ever since.

Between Troy and Catskill, there is only one option for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross the Hudson: the Dunn Memorial Bridge. Unfortunately, the pedestrian walkway on this bridge was constructed as an afterthought. It is difficult to access, the steep grade makes the walkway out of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and it is an intimidating venture to utilize this walkway to cross the Hudson.

The Livingston Avenue Bridge is slated to be replaced in 2017 as part of New York State's High Speed Rail initiative. Bicycle and pedestrian advocates believe that a restored walkway will benefit Capital Region residents by enhancing access to the waterfront, adding to a growing network of multi-use trails, and promoting tourism and economic development the Albany and Rensselaer downtowns.



The Livingston Avenue Bridge walkway could be a cornerstone in the Capital Region's effort to reconnect with the Hudson River.

Benefits

Research has shown pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure benefits communities. It encourages healthy physical activity, encourages longer stays and increased spending by tourists, provides new gateways to locally owned and operated businesses, connects employers to employees, is a benefit to our environment, and reduces our dependence on foreign oil.

It is likely that there will only be **one opportunity** to ensure that the walkway is installed while the funding, political will, and public support are aligned. If the walkway is not replaced, Albany and Rensselaer will have world-class trail networks and beautiful, vibrant waterfronts that beckon visitors and residents alike - yet, people won't be able to easily and safely cross the river.



We believe that reconnecting our communities to the waterfront will significantly improve our residents' quality of life, and encourage visitors to see the Capital Region as an attractive destination.

A Strong Foundation

The idea of rehabilitating the walkway is nothing new. It's been in the Capital Region's Transportation Improvement Plan for nearly a decade. Reconstruction of the walkway is mentioned in several community plans:

- Albany 2030 Comprehensive Plan
- City of Rensselaer LWRP Plan
- Albany Master Bike Plan
- Hudson River Crossing Study
- Tech Valley Trails Regional Trails Plan
- Patroon Creek Greenway Plan
- Rensselaer County Trail Plan



Take Action

The foundation has been laid. The bridge will be rebuilt. The need and desire for a restored walkway is overwhelming. We must take advantage of this opportunity to re-establish this bike and pedestrian connection. Join the Livingston Avenue Bridge Coalition, and help us make this decade-old dream a reality.

The Coalition

The Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge Coalition is a broad-based network of organizations, community leaders, advocates, and stakeholders of the Capital Region, working to ensure that when the Livingston Avenue Bridge is rebuilt, rehabilitation of the existing walkway is not left out of the bridge's reconstruction.

Contact us:

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Join us!

Twitter: @LARBC

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LARBC

Web: www.ptny.org/advocacy/LivingstonAve

Supporting organizations include:



Parks & Trails
NEW YORK



NYBC
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TRI-STATE TRANSPORTATION CAMPAIGN



Mobilizing the Region

Capital Region Transit Advocates

Cover photo courtesy of Sebastian Barre

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The Livingston Avenue Railroad Bridge Coalition

Working to restore bike and
pedestrian access across the
Hudson River



Connecting the communities of
Albany and Rensselaer