



Assemblymember
PATRICIA A. FAHY



Winter Legislative Report to the 109th Assembly District
Winter 2016

Dear Neighbors,

Greetings to all with best wishes to you and your family for the utmost warmth and joy of the holiday season and for a more peaceful New Year! Below are some brief end-of-year highlights.

As of this writing, rumors abound on the possible return of the legislature this year (2016) to address what could be a host of unfinished business, including: additional ethics reform, pay raises and outside income caps, as well as supportive housing agreements, ride sharing (Uber/Lyft) legislation, procurement reform, and increased hate crimes investigations and protections. We are also advocating for criminal justice reform and an agreement to sign the Indigent Legal Services bill I sponsored with Senator DeFrancisco.

As we move forward through session, including the budget process and beyond, I will maintain my strong backing of issues important in the 109th District including: jobs, education, economic development, the environment, and public transportation.

For more timely emailed updates on legislative issues, I encourage you to email me at fahyp@nyassembly.gov to sign up for our e-blasts which are sent regularly.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia A. Fahy".

PATRICIA A. FAHY
Member of Assembly, 109th District



Assemblymember Fahy with her staff from left to right: Catherine Fahey, Dawn Reddy-Dugan, Ginnie Farrell, Joe Bonilla and Elissa Kane.

Bike Albany Map

I helped announce the launch of the new interactive BikeAlbanyMap, of bike routes through Albany funded with a special project grant I secured through the Assembly.

The map app, developed by the Albany Bicycle Coalition in collaboration with Mohawk Valley GIS and Parks & Trails New York, shows cycle routes throughout Albany on mainly bike-friendly streets. The map concentrates on secondary roads, side streets, and bike-pedestrian paths. Major arteries are used only where necessary to make connections. Traffic density is indicated by color coding. Traffic advisories, where needed, are indicated by “caution” triangles.

Thanks to the partners for their work on the map, as well as Mayor Kathy M. Sheehan and Albany Common Councilmember Leah Golby for lending their support.



Assemblymember Fahy helped secure \$8,000 toward the development of the BikeAlbanyMap app that launched at the Downtube Bicycle Works in Albany.

Oil Train Vapor Pressure letter to U.S. DOT update

Thank you to the 22 Assemblymembers who joined me earlier this month in a letter of support of Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman’s petition to urge the US Department of Transportation to establish a more stringent vapor pressure standard for crude oil shipped by intercity rail. This measure would significantly increase safety standards in the operation of high-hazard flammable oil trains. Senator Chuck Schumer, who has helped push for stronger safety measures, announced earlier this week the Obama administration will initiate steps to study stricter flammability standards in crude oil transportation.

REDC

Governor Cuomo announced winners of the sixth round of the Regional Economic Development Council awards and I’m proud to commend the work of the Capital Region REDC who won big this year, being named as a “Top Performer” with \$83.1 million in funding.

A few highlights of these Capital Region REDC projects include:

- \$5 million for the Port of Albany;
- \$2 million for UAlbany’s bioscience expansion;
- \$650,000 to connect the Hudson-Helderberg Bike Trail with the Hudson-Mohawk Bike-Hike Trail (and provide critical linkage to the Albany waterfront);
- \$375,000 for a feasibility study for the Albany Skyway Project;
- \$1.1 million to the Albany Water Board for the Tivoli Lakes Project.

Visit regionalcouncils.ny.gov for more awardee information.

Bipartisan legislative coalition sends letter to Momentive to urge Resolution

Senator Breslin, Senator Marchione, Assemblymember McDonald and I sent a letter Momentive Performance Material urging resolution of the ongoing strike. We expressed our serious concern about families and workers who are presently on strike, and the long-term impact the impasse could have on the community, as well as the Waterford facility’s short and long-term viability. We urged all parties to return to the negotiating table and to work toward a timely solution to the outstanding unresolved issues.

Albany High students named as U.S. Presidential Scholars nominees

I could not be more proud to have nominated and to see Albany High School students Jacob Citone and Santos Otero recognized as Presidential Scholars nominees. Jacob is an exceptionally well-rounded student who participates on the Varsity Tennis and Cross Country teams, in addition to being a percussionist. Santos, a third-year career and technical education student, has been diligent in the craft of carpentry and is focused on improving his community. I commend both of these students and wish them every success in their future endeavors.



I was proud to help nominate Albany High students, Jacob Citone and Santos Otero to be designated Presidential Scholars. Both young men, seen here with myself and Principal Dale Getto, have excelled in school and in their communities.

Capital Region Smart Cities Forum

Last month, I helped sponsor a Smart Cities Forum at the Capitol with a capacity crowd in the Assembly Parlor – and a cross cutting discussion panel to promote the use of smart technologies to create cost savings and efficiencies, including LED streetlight conversions, high-speed connectivity, and measures to increase public safety, improve public service delivery, and increase economic development through public-private collaboration.

Many thanks to those who participated-including the Public Service Commission Chair, Audrey Zibelman, Assemblymembers John McDonald and Carrie Woerner, Mayors Kathy Sheehan and Gary McCarthy, and County Executive Dan McCoy. In coordination with the New York Conference of Mayors, and chaired by Mark Eagan of the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce, the event featured municipal leaders, business executives, and state officials. Cutting-edge technologies such as smart street lights and next generation high-speed connectivity are the wave of the future. Municipalities across New York State are discovering how these can be used to improve quality-of-life for residents while producing needed savings and increasing safety.



Assemblymember Fahy and NYCOM host the Smart Cities legislative forum in the Assembly parlor, bringing together municipal, business, and technology leaders.

Elm Avenue Park playground

This past summer, the Town of Bethlehem announced plans to construct a new playground for Elm Avenue Park with capital funds I was able to designate to replace the old playground.

I joined town officials, families and Supervisor John Clarkson in the formal opening of the new playground (pictured right.) State capital funds were combined with additional funding by the town's Parkland Set Aside Fund. Just as important, this state of the art playground was also made possible through the tremendous efforts of dozens of enthusiastic volunteers and the Bethlehem Recreation Department.



Assemblymember Fahy helped secure over \$150,000 in capital funds for the new Elm Avenue Playground in the Town of Bethlehem.



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Chair, Subcommittee on Oversight of the Department of Environmental Conservation

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