

Allison Weber  
102 Manning Blvd.  
Albany, NY 12203

August 28, 2023

Mr. Frank Zeoli  
DGS Deputy Commissioner  
One Richard J. Conners Blvd.  
Albany, New York 12204

Re: Manning Blvd. Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Zeoli,

On behalf of the residents of Historic Manning Boulevard, I am writing to request a second public meeting prior to the adoption of an improvement plan. Following the presentation and public meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>, many residents have voiced concerns that the proposed concepts do not devote adequate effort to:

- Curb commonplace speeding and aggressive driving
- Improve pedestrian and bike safety

Conversely, it is believed that the proposed plans will:

- Severely alter the historical streetscape aesthetic and ecological landscape that make this street unique and desirable to live on
- Impose safety challenges for residents when entering or exiting their properties from the proposed altered bridle path plan

We are not wholly opposed to the proposed concepts. However, given the timeframe in which this project was introduced to us and the City's targeted date for final proposal, we don't believe adequate input has been collected and considered to address the most pressing concerns identified, thus resulting in a re-design that residents had no input on. We also believe it is imperative that the following groups and agencies be involved to assist in answering questions and lend their expertise on topics that neighbors care most about: Albany Traffic Engineering, Historic Albany Foundation, and city historian/preservation advocate Tony Opalka.

Historic Manning Blvd. is comprised of deeply caring neighbors who are dedicated to preserving the history and purpose of our street. We also see a tremendous opportunity to ensure the safety of our most vulnerable road users. I look forward to hearing back from you and continuing a dialogue in which our most pressing concerns are addressed.

Sincerely,

Allison Weber  
Historic Manning Blvd. Interim Neighborhood Association President  
(518) 944-7057 | bandos8@gmail.com

Cc: Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan, Common Council Representative Ginnie Farrell, Assemblymember Patricia Fahy, Tony Opalka, Pamela Howard