

NEWS

RENSSELAER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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Legislators Zweig and Fasoldt Attend Trails Forum

Rensselaer County Legislators Brian Zweig (East Greenbush, North Greenbush, Poestenkill) and Flora Fasoldt (Sand Lake, Schodack, Nassau) attended a public forum on a rail trail planned for the Town of Kinderhook in Columbia County. The forum was held on May 19th at Ichabod Crane Middle School in Valatie.

The Legislators were interested to learn more about the Kinderhook trail because it would take advantage of the former trolley line that connected Hudson and Albany. Zweig and Fasoldt worked with the Town of East Greenbush to secure a \$10,000 grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway to conduct a feasibility study of a proposed Albany-Hudson Electric Trail that would also be located along the old trolley line. The proposed Albany-Hudson Electric Trail would go from Nassau through Schodack to East Greenbush. Fasoldt and Zweig have been working cooperatively with leaders from these towns and they will next look to evaluate options for conducting the feasibility study.

“Speakers at the public forum supported the benefits that this kind of trail can provide, including recreational opportunities and the economic activity stimulated by trail users,” noted Legislator Zweig. “The concerns of nearby landowners were also addressed, and this will be an important aspect of our feasibility study to make sure that uses are compatible with the interests of neighbors,” added Legislator Fasoldt.

The proposed Albany-Hudson Electric Trail was identified in the Rensselaer County Trail Vision Plan that was developed by the Rensselaer Alliance for Trails. This plan envisions a network of trails throughout the county providing recreational opportunities for residents and generating economic activity from visitors using these trails. Efforts of Legislators Zweig and Fasoldt helped create the Rensselaer Alliance for Trails and secure funding for development of the Vision Plan.