



## Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

ERIK KULLESEID  
Commissioner

August 7, 2019

Ms. Lisa Ramundo  
Albany County Department of Public Works  
449 New Salem Road  
Voorheesville, NY 12186

Re: SEQRA  
Albany County Rail Trail over New Scotland Road (NY Route 85)  
New Scotland Road (NY Route 85) at Albany County Rail Trail, Albany, NY  
19PR04688

Dear Ms. Ramundo:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Division for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) as part of your SEQRA process. These comments are those of the Division for Historic Preservation and relate only to Historic/ Cultural resources. They do not include potential environmental impacts to New York State Parkland that may be involved in or near your project. Such impact must be considered as part of the environmental review of the project pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8) and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617).

We have reviewed your submission for the Albany County Rail Trail over New Scotland Road (NY Route 85) project. We note that the CP rail bridge over Rt 85 is listed in the State and National Registers of historic Places as a contributing resource to the Slingerlands Historic District. We understand that the bridge is currently functioning as a pedestrian crossing for the Albany County Rail Trail and that the County is contemplating options for the repair or replacement of the bridge.

Our office strongly encourages the preservation and reuse of the historic bridge. If additional road clearance is an issue, we recommend that options be considered to slightly elevate the bridge or/ and lower the road grade. In addition, bridge features, such as historic railings or walkways, should be retained where possible. We recommend that multiple repair options be considered, ranging from basic repairs for continued safe pedestrian use to a full rehabilitation.

If this project will involve state or federal permitting, funding or licensing, it may require continued review for potential impacts to architectural and archaeological resources, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act or Section 14.09 of NYS Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation Law.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at (518) 268-2164.  
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Weston Davey".

Weston Davey  
Historic Site Restoration Coordinator  
weston.davey@parks.ny.gov

via e-mail only