Albany-Hudson Electric Trail
Summer 2019 Update
May 31, 2019

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is creating the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail (AHET), which will be a 36-mile bicycle and pedestrian route in Rensselaer County (Towns of East Greenbush, Schodack, and Nassau; Village of Nassau; City of Rensselaer) and Columbia County (Towns of Chatham, Kinderhook, Stuyvesant, Stockport, and Greenport; Villages of Valatie and Kinderhook). The majority of the AHET Trail will be built on an abandoned “electric trolley” rail corridor, now owned by National Grid. The remainder of the AHET route will be designated along public roadways.

Comprehensive information is available on the project website: [www.AHETtrail.org](http://www.AHETtrail.org). Specific questions about the project can be sent to the Greenway using the “Submit Comment” section on the website. In addition, the Hudson River Valley Greenway and its consultant (Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.) are happy to conduct site visits with individual landowners seeking additional information about the AHET Trail design adjacent to their property.

**Construction of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail Has Started!**

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is pleased to announce construction has started on the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail. Given the project’s 36-mile length, two construction seasons will be needed to develop the trail, with all work completed by November 2020.

**Rensselaer County**

The Greenway has selected Carver Construction, Inc. to construct the 17-mile AHET Trail section in Rensselaer County. The current project schedule, subject to change, is:

- Carver Construction is starting in the Town and Village of Nassau, with trail construction generally proceeding “south to north.” Construction will begin in the Town of Schodack later this summer, eventually progressing to the Town of East Greenbush this fall or in the spring of 2020.

- Carver Construction is also starting installation of three bridges over the Valatie Kill in Nassau, plus a fourth bridge over the Moordener Kill in Schodack.

- Construction activities will shut down in late fall for the winter. The remaining trail work will restart in the spring of 2020.
Columbia County

The Greenway has selected A. Colarusso and Son, Inc. to construct the AHET Trail in Columbia County. Currently, the Greenway has authorized construction of a 12-mile section of the AHET Trail in the Towns of Stuyvesant, Kinderhook, and Chatham, including the Villages of Valatie and Kinderhook. The current project schedule, subject to change, is:

- Colarusso is starting at Stuyvesant Falls in the Town of Stuyvesant, with trail construction generally proceeding “south to north”. Construction will begin in the Town of Kinderhook later this summer. The current plan is the trail will progress through the Village of Kinderhook this fall.

- Carver Construction is starting construction of two bridges over the Valatie Kill located in the Towns of Kinderhook and Chatham.

- Construction activities will shut down in late fall for the winter. The remaining trail work in the Towns of Kinderhook and Chatham will restart in the spring of 2020, with all work completed by November 2020.

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is still developing its approach to constructing the remaining 7 miles of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail route in the Towns of Stockport and Greenport. The Greenway anticipates construction of these segments will occur in 2020.

**There is NO public access to the AHET Trail at this time.**

*For everyone’s safety, the public is prohibited from entering construction areas.*
Activities that will occur along the AHET Trail route over the next two years include:

1. **Engineering and Planning Staff (May 2019 through December 2020).** A variety of personnel will be present on the AHET Trail route over the next two years. All personnel will carry identification and generally will wear high visibility vests.

2. **National Grid Refurbishment Project (May 2019 through November 2019).** National Grid has engaged a construction contractor to replace and relocate utility poles and guy wires at selected locations along its corridor as part of its normal maintenance program and to accommodate construction of the AHET trail in certain locations. The refurbishment of these assets will help reliability within the service area.

3. **Signage/Vegetation Clearing/Temporary Fencing (May 2019 through December 2020).** Signage will be installed at active construction locations, emphasizing the trail corridor is closed to the public. The Greenway’s construction contractors will be brush-hogging and clearing the trail corridor. Temporary fencing will be installed during construction, including orange mesh safety fencing and erosion control measures.

4. **AHET Trail Construction (May 2019 through November 2020).** The Greenway’s construction contractors – Carver Construction in Rensselaer County; and A. Colarusso and Son in Columbia County – have started construction work. Construction activity will not be continuous along the entire trail route. Rather, work will occur intermittently at specific locations as the contractors focus on trail segments along the 36-mile route. The contractors will utilize large construction equipment including bulldozers, excavators, dump trucks, paving equipment, and other vehicles to develop the trail.
Individuals having questions or comments regarding the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail, including adjacent landowners that would like to schedule a field visit with Greenway staff, can contact the Greenway at any time by using the “Submit Comment” section of the project website: www.AHETtrail.org. The Greenway’s planning team monitors the AHET email site on a daily basis.

Creating the AHET Trail will require use of large construction vehicles. The Trail is closed to the public until construction is complete, slated for the fall of 2020. The Greenway will provide periodic updates on trail construction progress.