



Livable Streets Update (FIVE IN FIVE)



DowntownRaleigh

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MAYOR MEEKER KEYS ON GREENWAY, DOWNTOWN PARKING IN STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

The objectives put forth by Mayor Charles Meeker on Jan. 22 in the state-of-the-city address will be put before Raleigh residents to consider throughout the remainder of January and the month of February on RTN 11. (Please see schedule further in this article

On-street parking reform and building the greenway along the Neuse River were the focus of Mayor Meeker's remarks, which he delivered at noon in the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts.

The Mayor put forth that, while emerging parking concerns in the center city are yet another sign of downtown's renaissance, they must be addressed promptly and properly. He stated that a friendly, affordable and efficient parking system must be offered.

To address this need, Mayor Meeker said he will ask the City Council to form a citizens' group to work with the City administration's consultant to take a fresh and comprehensive look at on-street parking. Part of the consultant's duties and the citizen group's objectives will be to determine what policies should be implemented and who should oversee on-street parking. The Mayor added that he wants oversight by an authority to be among the considerations.

Mayor Meeker also put forth the protection of our watershed and the environment while preserving precious open space, as major City objectives. He requested that the Wake County Board of Commissioners and the City Council work together to build a greenway from Falls Lake to Johnston County. He said this task will involve working to secure State and Federal grants to help with the significant funding this project will require.

Following his address, Mayor Meeker and Tony Gurley, chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners unveiled a map of the proposed greenway.

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The Mayor also called for a parks bond referendum this autumn to fund the City's share of the Neuse River greenway and to fund projects that voters approved in the 2003 referendum but are unfunded. Mayor Meeker also cited the need for more active recreational facilities in northeast Raleigh.

Article V of the Raleigh City Charter directs the Mayor to report from time to time to Raleigh's citizens "concerning the condition of City affairs."

Address to be rebroadcast on RTN

The following are the times the address will be televised on RTN11 during the coming week:

Saturday, Jan. 27	9:30 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 28	11 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 29	10 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 30	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 31	9 a.m.
Thursday, Feb. 1	10 a.m.
Friday, Feb. 2	10 a.m.
Saturday, Feb. 3	9 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 4	9:30 p.m.

CITY TO REQUIRE VALET PARKING PRIVILEGE LICENSE

Businesses in Raleigh offering valet parking services will have to obtain a new privilege license as well as a one-time permit, effective March 1. The new ordinance was approved by the Raleigh City Council at its meeting on January 23.

Under the new law, businesses are allowed to operate valet services only within a designated valet parking zone. A separate annual privilege license must be acquired at the cost of \$50.

Also, a one-time permit must be acquired from the City of Raleigh Public Works Department at a cost of \$250. The permit would include the names of the business owners, the experience of the applicant in the provision of valet services and whether any similar permit has been revoked, uniforms and insignias to be used to designate the valet employees, the street and sidewalk locations and times of operation of the valet service, and criminal records of the valet employees.

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Web links
City of Raleigh
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Wake County
www.wakegov.com

Downtown Raleigh Alliance
www.downtownraleigh.org

Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
www.raleighchamber.org

Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.visitraleigh.com

CITY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS PROPOSED HILLSBOROUGH STREET ROUNDABOUTS AT FEB. 6 MEETING

The Raleigh City Council on Jan. 23 deferred taking action on completing the design of roundabouts, or traffic circles, proposed for Hillsborough Street. Council members want to review an economic development report regarding the project before taking action. The report by City staff is expected to be complete in time for the council's Feb. 6 meeting.

Designs for the proposed roundabouts are currently 25 percent complete. The scope of the project would involve the planning and design of the street construction and streetscape and pedestrian facilities for two areas along Hillsborough Street from Gardner Street to Oberlin Road. The project is intended to enhance vehicular and pedestrian safety, improve the appearance of the street, promote economic development, improve pedestrian access and create a sense of place.

CITY TO SEEK GRANTS FROM N.C. PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND

The City of Raleigh is applying for grants from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) to acquire land for a neighborhood park in north Raleigh and construct a carousel building at Pullen Park. The City Council voted unanimously Jan. 23 to authorize the City to seek the grants, which would require local matching funds.

The City wants to acquire a 6.38-acre parcel in north Raleigh for a new neighborhood park. The land is currently appraised at approximately \$550,000. The PARTF grant would total half that amount, or \$275,000, with the remaining funds for the land acquisition coming from the City.

The second PARTF grant, totaling approximately \$500,000, would help finance construction of an estimated \$1.3 million carousel building at Pullen Park. Conceptual design of the 5,400-square-foot facility is complete and the City hopes to solicit bids for the new building and other Pullen Park improvements in December. Local matching funds for the project could come from a park bond issue approved by voters in 2003.

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION VICE PRESIDENT TO GIVE "DESIGNING A 21ST CENTURY CITY LECTURE"

Bruce Katz, vice president at the Brookings Institution and founding director of the Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program, will deliver a lecture on Feb. 8 beginning at 6 p.m. in the Carolina Room at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. Mr. Katz's presentation is part of the *Designing A 21st Century City Lecture Series* presented by the City of Raleigh Planning Department.

Mr. Katz's lecture will be entitled "Urban Trends and the Urban Age: How Do We Design A 21st Century City?" The lecture is free to the public.

The Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program that Mr. Katz founded redefines the challenges facing cities and metropolitan areas. Mr. Katz regularly advises leaders and policy makers on the competitiveness of metro areas. His recent publications include *Redefining Urban and Suburban America, Volumes 1-3* with Robert E. Lang. To access Mr. Katz's publications and presentations, visit the following websites:

www.brookings.edu/views/speeches/katz/20061110_berlin.htm,
www.brookings.edu/views/speeches/katz/20050225_urbanage.htm,
or www.brookings.edu/metro.

At the Feb. 8 lecture, Paul Farmer, executive director and chief executive officer of the American Planning Association, will deliver the opening remarks.

This lecture will build on the success of the first lecture in the *Designing A 21st Century City Lecture Series*. The first lecture was held Nov. 2 and featured Dr. Donald Shoup, who presented "What are the Hidden Costs of Free Parking?"

For more information about Mr. Katz's lecture and to get on the lecture series' mailing list for news about future *Designing A 21st Century City* events, contact Trisha Hasch at the City of Raleigh Urban Design Center at 807-8480 or email trisha.hasch@ci.raleigh.nc.us. Other lectures this year are scheduled for:

- May 10. Transit-Oriented Development: How Do We Get There From Here?;
- Sept. 20. Public Realm: How Do We Create A Pedestrian-Friendly City?; and,
- Nov. 8. A Model For Urban Form: Traditional Codes Versus Form-Based Codes.

ARTISTS SET TO SHARE IDEAS FOR THEATER IN 21ST CENTURY

On Feb. 2, from 11 a.m. to noon at Meredith College Studio Theatre, three famous artists will share their ideas and vision for theatre in the 21st Century. The lecture will feature American director Anne Bogart, British author David Edgar, and actor, director, and playwright Eddie Levi Lee in an hour-long symposium, open to the public. The production will be presented by Meredith College, Peace College, and Burning Coal Theatre in conjunction with the City of Raleigh Arts Commission.

David Edgar's works include the Tony Award-winning adaptation of Charles Dickens' *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Entertaining Strangers*, and a recent two-part epic *Continental Divide*. Mr. Edgar is currently the "House Writer" for the Royal Shakespeare Company and London's National Theatre. He is also a regular contributor to BBC television whose screenplays include the film *Lady Jane*, starring Helena Bonham-Carter and Patrick Stewart.

Anne Bogart, co-founder and artistic director of Saratoga International Theatre Institute, is a recipient of two Obie Awards, a Bessie Award, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her productions include *War of the Worlds*, Strindberg's *Miss Julie*, and *Seven Deadly Sins* for the New York City Opera. She is the author of books on theatre, including, *And Then, You Act*, which is scheduled to be released this winter.

Eddie Levi Lee, former artistic director of Atlanta's Theatrical Outfit and Seattle's Empty Space Theatre, has acted and directed more than 120 plays. Additionally, Lee has written more than 40 plays, many in collaboration with playwrights Larry Larson and Rebecca Wackler. *The Salvation of Iggy Scrooge* and *Isle of Dogs* are published by Samuel French, and *Some Things You Need to Know*, *A Final Evening with the Illuminati*, and *Tent Meeting* are published by Dramatists Play Service.

"This is an amazing opportunity for our area to have these three wonderful artists in the same place, at the same time," said June Guralnick, executive director of the City of Raleigh Arts Commission.

For further information on the upcoming "Three Great Theatre Artists Talk Back" symposium, contact Meredith College Dance and the Theatre Program, 760-8586. Admission is free and seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

SURREAL LIFE ART EXHIBIT TO BEGIN FEB. 2

The Miriam Block Gallery will feature *Surreal Life*, the first exhibition of the 2007 season from Feb. 2 through March 22. The 2007 series, in honor of the City of Raleigh Arts Commission's 30th Anniversary, will include interdisciplinary components throughout the year during the gallery's opening receptions. At the Feb. 2 kick-off reception, North Carolina State University Dance Program will perform "An Outspoken Dinner Party" featuring choreography by Robin Harris.

Surreal Life will showcase the works of artists Gabriella Corter, Paul Gentille, and Rachel Nicholson. The artists share the use of fantastic images in incongruent juxtapositions to explore subconscious dreams, thoughts, and characters. Paintings, gicleé prints on canvas, and felt sculptures will be on view.

Gabriella Corter graduated from Ontario College of Art & Design in Toronto, Ont., Canada. She has received awards for her work including honorable mention from the 2006 Raleigh Fine Arts Society exhibition. Paul Gentille has exhibited in several local galleries and is frequently commissioned to create site specific art for his clients. Rachel Nicholson is a graduate of Meredith College and has been exhibiting in Raleigh and abroad since 1987. Rachel is represented by Artspace, Visual Art Exchange, Greensboro Artists' League and Sizer galleries.

The opening reception for *Surreal Life* will be on Feb. 2 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the dance performance starting at 6 p.m. For further information, please contact the Arts Commission office at 890-3610.

The public is invited to attend the Feb. 2 reception at the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex at 222 W. Hargett Street.

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission holds the distinction of being the first municipal arts commission created in North Carolina. The Arts Commission serves as the official advisory body and advocate for the arts to the Raleigh City Council.

CITY OFFERS QUARTERLY LOOK AT RALEIGH'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The City of Raleigh is making it much easier for residents to keep current on the progress of capital improvement projects.

“Under Construction: Capital Improvements” is a quarterly look at capital projects being undertaken by the City. The 30-minute program airs on the City’s RTN11, which is cable channel 11 and will be updated every 90 days.

The program is being produced by the City’s Public Affairs Department. The following are times “Under Construction: Capital Improvements” will be shown on RTN11:

Saturday, Jan. 27	10 a.m. and 9 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 28	4 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 29	9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 30	11 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 31	12:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 1	12:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 2	9:30 a.m.
Saturday, Feb. 3	10 a.m.
Sunday, Feb. 4	4:30 p.m.

DOWNTOWN EVENTS CALENDER

01-25-02-11 7:30 PM	Pentecost - Burning Coal Theater	Kennedy Theatre
01-30 08:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
01-31 08:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-01 08:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-02 08:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-03 02:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-03 08:00 PM	Ricky Scaggs and Kentucky...	Meymandi Concert Hall
02-04 02:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-04 07:00 PM	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-07 09:30 AM	Freedom Train	Memorial Auditorium
02-07 12:00 PM	Freedom Train	Memorial Auditorium
02-09 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony: ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
02-09 08:00 PM	Our Town	Fletcher Opera Theater
02-10	HK on J – NC Justice	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-10 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony: ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
02-11	Jazzical Enloe	Meymandi Concert Hall
02-11 02:00 PM	Our Town	Fletcher Opera Theater
02-13 08:00 PM	Light In The Plaza	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-14 08:00 PM	Light In The Plaza	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-15 08:00 PM	Light In The Plaza	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-15 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents ...	Fletcher Opera Theater
02-16 08:00 PM	Light In The Plaza	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-16 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents ...	Fletcher Opera Theater
02-16 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony -...	Meymandi Concert Hall
02-17 02:00 PM	Light In The Plaza	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-17 02:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents ...	Fletcher Opera Theater
02-17 08:00 PM	Light In The Plaza	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-17 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents ...	Fletcher Opera Theater

Neuse River Greenway Trail



