



Livable Streets Update (FIVE IN FIVE)



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CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZES DESIGN OF HILLSBOROUGH STREET ROUNDABOUTS

The Raleigh City Council voted 6-2 on Feb. 20 to move ahead with completing the design of a plan to improve Hillsborough Street.

Under the plan, which the Planning Department presented to council members at their Feb. 6 meeting, Hillsborough Street would be converted to a new three-lane section with at-grade median between Oberlin Road and Gardner Street. There would be two roundabouts or traffic circles with raised pedestrian medians: one of the roundabouts would be at the intersection of Hillsborough Street and Pullen Road and a smaller roundabout would be just north of Hillsborough Street at the intersection of Oberlin Road and Pullen Road. The plan would create more than 200 on-street parking spaces on both sides of Hillsborough Street to support local businesses. There also would be underground utilities and streetscape improvements.

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.

Upon completion by Kimley-Horn and Associates, the design of the proposed Hillsborough Street improvement plan will be brought to the City Council for its review and consideration.

Council members also directed City administration to present some funding options to them within the next four weeks.



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APPROVAL GIVEN TO REVISED STANDARDS FOR PRIVATE USE OF DOWNTOWN PUBLIC SPACES

The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously Feb. 20 to approve updated uniform standards for private use of downtown public spaces. The new rules take effect April 1 and cover news racks, outdoor dining, street vendors, street performers and minor encroachments in the Downtown Overlay District and in the nearby North Person, Peace Street and Glenwood South business districts.

Under the revised standards, citizens will be required to obtain a permit for the listed uses in the affected areas. The permits will be issued through a newly created Downtown Permits Office in the City's Inspections Department.

The purpose of the revised standards is:

- To enhance the appearance of streets, sidewalks and other public spaces;
- To provide fair and equitable regulation;
- To assure a safe and comfortable street-level environment;
- To promote economic activity in Downtown; and,
- To establish maintenance standards and responsibilities when public space is used for private purposes.

Information about the updated standards and applications for the new permit can be found by clicking on Standards For Private Use Of Public Spaces.

The City Council directed the City administration to review the effectiveness of the updated standards in January 2008.

FUNDS AUTHORIZED TO RENOVATE OLD MURPHEY SCHOOL

The Raleigh City Council Feb. 20 by a vote of five to two authorized a matching grant of \$180,000 to the Burning Coal Theater for the renovation of the auditorium of the Murphey School located at 443 N. Person Street. The grant will be part of the existing streetscape reserve fund for the Blount Street area redevelopment.

The 1.3 acres of the Murphey School property are currently owned by the City of Raleigh and are being leased to the Downtown Housing Improvement Corporation (DHIC) for residential housing for the elderly. The Burning Coal Theater Company has made arrangements to renovate the school's auditorium for a 200-seat black box theater.

The Burning Coal Theater Company is a local, non-profit dramatic company focusing on overlooked classics, modern and contemporary plays.

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Web links
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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

SOLID WASTE SERVICES ONLINE SERVICE REQUESTS OPERATIONAL

Raleigh residents who need to contact the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department can now submit an online request through the City's Web site. Residents who need a recycling bin, garbage cart or to report missed service no longer must telephone and risk remaining on hold and waiting to speak with an operator.

From the City's home page at <http://www.raleighnc.gov>, look for a drop-down menu on the left side of the page titled, "How Do I..." Click the down-arrow and choose "Request Solid Waste Services." Fill out the form and click "submit."

The request will be emailed to Solid Waste Services' customer service personnel who can dispatch the request to workers in the field.

CITY OF RALEIGH RECYCLING OPENS MINI DROP-OFF CENTER

The City of Solid Waste Services Department has opened a mini recycling drop-off center at the Sam's Club, 2537 S. Saunders. Street.

The business manager for Sam's Club, Danny Sandlin contacted Solid Waste Services to express the desire to have a recycling center located at the store. According to Mr. Sandlin, "Sam's Club is concerned about the environment and plans to involve its employees in its recycling efforts and we're happy to be a part of the recycling program in our community."

The City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department recently changed the sorting method for recyclables to only two waste streams, fiber (paper products) and containers. Two roll-off boxes have been set up at this recycling drop-off center. The following materials will be collected in each of the recycling containers:

- **Fiber** - The fiber recycling drop-off box accepts: white paper, including opened junk mail, newspaper and all inserts, magazines and catalogs and flattened paperboard.

- **Containers**-The container recycling drop-off box accepts food and beverage cans, aluminum foil and trays, plastic bottles and plastic beverage rings, glass food and beverage containers, gable top cartons and aseptic drink boxes.

Unlike the other recycling drop-off centers, the mini drop-off site does not accept corrugated cardboard, printer cartridges or cell phones at this time. For more information contact the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services at 831-6890.

DOWNTOWN EVENTS CALENDER

02-25 02:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
02-25 02:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents Firebird	Fletcher Opera Theater
02-25 03:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony - ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
02-28 08:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
03-01 08:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
03-02 08:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
03-02 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony: ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
03-03 02:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
03-03 08:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
03-03 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony: ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
03-04 02:00 PM	Jesus Christ Superstar	Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
03-10 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony	Meymandi Concert Hall
03-13 08:00 PM	Redneck Tenors	Fletcher Opera Theater
03-15 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents Firebird	Memorial Auditorium
03-16 10:00 AM	Pathwork: The Prairie Quilts	Fletcher Opera Theater
03-16 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents ...	Memorial Auditorium
03-16 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony: ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
03-17 02:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents Firebird	Memorial Auditorium
03-17 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents Firebird	Memorial Auditorium
03-17 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony: ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
03-18 02:00 PM	Carolina Ballet Presents Firebird	Memorial Auditorium
03-20 08:00 PM	All Shook Up	Memorial Auditorium
03-21 08:00 PM	All Shook Up	Memorial Auditorium
03-22 08:00 PM	All Shook Up	Memorial Auditorium
03-24 02:00 PM	All Shook Up	Memorial Auditorium