



Livable Streets Update (FIVE IN FIVE)



DowntownRaleigh

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ARTSPACE PAINTS FAYETTEVILLE STREET THIS SATURDAY

Come outside and get inspired! On Saturday, April 21 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. come downtown and experience the creative energy of Artspace on Fayetteville Street.

Artspace paints the town with over 30 artists working outside and displaying their finest new work. Catch a glimpse of local celebrities as they have their portraits painted. Enjoy an art-filled afternoon with live music, wine tasting, art activities for children, and some great local art and food. Bring the family and immerse yourself in an exciting afternoon filled with creativity!

Artspace Paints Fayetteville Street will take place on Fayetteville Street between Davie and Hargett Streets. For more information, visit www.artspacenc.org or call Artspace at 821.2787.

CITY MANAGER SEEKS YOUR INPUT ON POLICE CHIEF

What does Raleigh need the most in its next police chief? This is the question City Manager J. Russell Allen is asking all Raleigh residents as he begins the selection process for the next police chief.

The City Manager has posted a four-question survey on the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov. He also is placing the survey as a display advertisement in local newspapers.

The survey asks for responses to:

- What are the most important challenges and objectives facing the Raleigh Police Department now and in the years ahead?
 - What skills and qualities will a chief of police need most to lead the department in meeting its challenges and objectives?
 - If you could ask the chief of police candidates two questions, what would they be?
 - Do you have other thoughts you would like to share?
-

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Wake County
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NEUSE RIVER FESTIVAL SET FOR APRIL 21

Celebrate the arrival of Spring at the Neuse River Festival on April 21.

Friends, families, and paddlers of all sorts will converge at Anderson Point Park to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities.

The event will kick off with a 3.5-mile canoe and kayak race or pleasure paddle, which will pass Anderson Point midway along the route. Centered on enjoying the outdoors and environmental stewardship, the Neuse River Festival will have field games, disk golf, and paddler games. Conservation groups, outdoor organizations, and select sponsors among others will be onsite to promote the outdoors. Anchored in the afternoon by a live concert, the large field is perfect to lounge and listen to the bands providing a variety of musical entertainment. Bring a game to play, a kite to fly, or even a bike to explore the 200-plus acre park. Food and beer vendors will be onsite. The river race and pleasure paddle is held 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and festival activities will run from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Only the river race requires a registration fee that includes the race, shuttle, event t-shirt, and entrance into prize giveaway. Pre-register by April 18 to receive Early Bird fee. Pleasure paddlers can register the day of the event and may participate free of charge. A limited number of canoes are available at no charge to paddlers. Minimum age for paddlers is 8 years old. More info at the event website www.raleighnc.gov/neuseriverfestival or call 919-831-6855.

DOWNTOWN HOME TOUR SET FOR MAY 19

Downtown is "the" place for the hippest, hottest haute housing. Take a self-guided tour of historic properties, single-family homes, affordable rental units and luxury condominiums on May 19. Information on residential projects that are planned or are under construction also will be available.

The Third Annual Downtown Raleigh Home Tour will be offered 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The tour adds to the Artslosure weekend that offers a downtown crammed packed with top-drawer entertainment and art.

The tour is being hosted by the City of Raleigh Planning Department. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased in advance by cash or

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Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
800 S. Salisbury Street
(919) 664-7000
Harvey Schmitt,
President & CEO
hschmitt@the-chamber.org

Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau
421 Fayetteville Street Mall,
Suite 1505
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 834-5900 or
(800) 849-8499

Web links
City of Raleigh
www.raleighnc.gov

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

check in the City of Raleigh Urban Design Center at 133 Fayetteville St. Children, age 12 and younger are admitted free.

Proceeds from ticket sales benefit the City of Raleigh Planning Department's "Designing a 21st Century City" lecture series. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Support Circles Program of the Plan to End Homelessness, the joint City of Raleigh, Wake County, Triangle United Way and Wake Continuum of Care program to end homelessness in Raleigh and Wake County.

For more information on the May 19 Downtown Raleigh Home tour, call 807-8479, email hometour@ci.raleigh.nc.us or visit www.raleighdowntownliving.com

TWO WELL-KNOWN TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS TO APPEAR AT DESIGNING A 21ST CENTURY CITY LECTURE ON MAY 10

Dr. Robert Cervero and Dr. Reid Ewing, two highly acclaimed experts in the field of transit-oriented development, will deliver lectures on May 10 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. The presentations by Dr. Cervero and Dr. Ewing are part of the *Designing A 21st Century City Lecture Series* presented by the City of Raleigh Planning Department and the City's Urban Design Center.

"Transit-Oriented Development: How Do We Get There From Here?" will be the theme of the lectures by Dr. Cervero and Dr. Ewing. The lecture is free to the public. To register to attend, visit the City of Raleigh's website at www.raleighnc.gov/lectureseries.

Dr. Cervero is the internationally renowned author of *Transit Metropolis, A Global Inquiry*. He is a scholar in the area of sustainable transportation policy and planning, and currently serves as chair of the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of California at Berkeley. For more information about Dr. Cervero and his works, visit www.dcrp.ced.berkeley.edu/Cervero/robertcv.htm#BK.

Dr. Ewing is a research professor at the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland. He has consulted on traffic

management and community design with dozens of states, cities and private developers. For more on Dr. Ewing's work, visit www.smartgrowth.umd.edu/research/researchpapers-transportationandpublichealth.htm.

The May 10 lectures are about creating a transit vision for Raleigh and the region by exploring a variety of transit modes, and looking at how other cities have succeeded in addressing transit-related issues. Dr. Cervero and Dr. Ewing will highlight connections between community design, transit choices and health.

This will be the third lecture event in the *Designing A 21st Century City Lecture Series*. Other lectures are scheduled for:

- 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.

For more information about the May 10 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 Urban Design Center, 807-8480, or email trisha.hasch@ci.raleigh.nc.us.

COUNCIL AMENDS DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR RBC PLAZA PARKING DECK

The Raleigh City Council voted 7-1 April 17 to amend a development agreement for a parking deck that will support the 33-story RBC Plaza, a mixed-used tower that is being constructed downtown at the corner of Fayetteville, Martin and Wilmington streets.

The development agreement, originally approved by the council on Dec. 6, formally outlines a partnership between the City of Raleigh, Highwoods Properties and Progress Energy for developing the parking deck. Highwoods Properties is the developer and owner of RBC Plaza, which will include RBC Centura Bank's corporate offices. Progress Energy currently owns the land for the parking deck but will turn the property over to the City. The parking deck will be located mid-block along East Martin Street between South Wilmington and South Blount streets, just north of Progress Energy's corporate headquarters.

The City Council approved the following amendments to the development agreement:

- The eight-story parking deck will have 1,242 spaces facing South Wilmington and South Blount streets. The original development agreement called for 1,050 parking spaces in the deck, which has since been reoriented to accommodate more spaces;
- The parking deck will be built to accommodate future abutting development. A “green” roof, ventilation system and sprinkler system will be added at a later time by the developer of future abutting development;
- The total cost estimate of the parking deck will increase from \$14.17 million to \$20.93 million. Highwoods Properties will own 528 of the 1,242 parking spaces and contribute \$7.1 million to the project. The City will own the remaining parking spaces at an imbedded capital cost of \$19,383 per space. The cost had been \$13,504 per space in the original development agreement. The new imbedded capital cost per space moves the monthly lease rate to approximately \$125-\$130 per month which is competitive with current private sector pricing; and,
- The City will own two shelled retail spaces rather than one as was agreed upon in the original development agreement. The shelled retail spaces will face South Wilmington and South Blount streets.

Highwoods Properties and Progress Energy have also approved the amended development agreement.

RALEIGH HALL OF FAME 2007 HONOREES ANNOUNCED

The 2007 inductees into the Raleigh Hall of Fame were announced April 17 during the Raleigh City Council meeting. The honorees were announced by Parker Call, who chairs the Raleigh Hall of Fame selection process. The mission of the Raleigh Hall of Fame is to honor individuals and non-profit organizations that have made lasting contributions to Raleigh’s proud history.

Third Annual Inductees

In making the announcement, Ms. Call said that the Raleigh Hall of Fame reviewed 54 nominations which were carefully considered on the basis of their contributions to the city, effectiveness, leadership, and length of service.

The following 16 individuals and organizations have been selected to

be honored in the Hall of Fame's third year:

- John Baker Sr. and John Baker Jr. for their combined 60 years of law enforcement and community service to Raleigh and Wake County;
- Dr. Frederick Burroughs, the first African-American pediatrician in Raleigh, for mentoring three generations of medical students and serving as a role model for young African-American men;
- Fred Fletcher Sr. for 50 years of dedicated service to the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation system;
- Seby Jones for his leadership in business, public service, and philanthropy that helped to move Raleigh into the nationally recognized economic powerhouse that it is today;
- LeRoy Martin Sr. for his role in shaping both Raleigh's and North Carolina's public school systems;
- Nancy Olson for her advocacy of locally owned businesses, her commitment to literacy programs and for putting Raleigh on the nation's literary map;
- George and Beth Paschal for his groundbreaking work in integrating the hospital system and her work in establishing the North Carolina Museum of Art;
- Susie Perry for an outstanding lifetime of volunteerism and her exemplary career as a teacher, mentor and role model;
- Sarah Williamson for almost 50 years of working to preserve Raleigh's history and its historic sites;
- John Winters, the first African-American elected to the Raleigh City Council, for his trailblazing efforts to build affordable homes in east Raleigh and for being one of the best bridge-builders between the races;
- Smedes York for his visionary leadership in business, public service, and charitable fundraising, and for his continued dedication to improving the quality of life for everyone in Raleigh;
- Kay Yow, a pioneer in the sport of women's basketball, for her outstanding accomplishments both locally and internationally, and for being a vital beacon for those suffering from cancer;
- The Raleigh Little Theater, one of the oldest community theaters in the country, for providing a thriving cultural environment for over 80 years and;
- The Wake County Medical Alliance for over 80 years of dedicated health education, most notably the establishment of the Alice Aycock Poe Center which offers quality health education programs to students and teachers from all over the state.

Inductees for the Centennial Hall of Fame are as follows:

- Lawrence Cheek, founder of Raleigh's first African-American newspaper, known today as *The Carolinian* and;
- Dr. Manassa Pope, an African-American physician who courageously challenged the Jim Crow system by running for mayor of Raleigh.

These inductees will be honored on Thursday, Sept. 13 at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. For more information about the Raleigh Hall of Fame and the 2007 induction ceremony, contact L. Merritt Jones at lmj301@bellsouth.net or visit the organization's website at www.raleighhalloffame.org

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR SAFELIGHT PROGRAM

The Raleigh City Council has approved a contract extension with Affiliated Computer Services (ACS) for the operation of the City's Safelight program.

The City of Raleigh began the Safelight program in 2003. The program places cameras at several intersections around the city that record pictures of vehicles that run traffic lights after the signal has turned to red. The City has operated with a month to month agreement with ACS for the last year. The City Council will decide when the contract expires whether to issue a request for proposal to operate the Safelight program.

The Safelight program has issued approximately 60,000 citations since the inception of the program in August 2003. The Institute of Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) produced a report in 2004 on Raleigh's SafeLight program indicating reductions in four major categories of crashes. There was a total reduction of 17%, red light running related saw a reduction of 22%, angle vehicular accidents at the intersections were reduced 42%, and rear end accidents were reduced 25%.

CONSULTANT SELECTED FOR RBC PLAZA PARKING DECK

The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously April 17 to select Stewart Engineering to be the City's technical engineering representative for a 1,242-space parking deck that will support the 33-story RBC Plaza, a mixed-used tower that is being constructed downtown at the corner of Fayetteville, Martin and Wilmington streets.

The City administration will negotiate a contract with Stewart Engineering. If the two sides are unable to successfully work out a contract, the City would then attempt to negotiate a contract with Kimley-Horn & Associates to be the City's technical engineering representative for the parking deck project. Stewart Engineering and Kimley-Horn were two of the three consultants that responded to the City's request for qualifications for a technical engineering representative. A City selection committee reviewed the proposals and ranked the firms, with Stewart Engineering rated first and Kimley-Horn rated second.

The City's technical engineering representative for the RBC Plaza parking deck will be responsible for reviewing the design and construction of the parking deck for conformance with the City's design requirements in accordance with terms of a development agreement for the project, City building and zoning codes, and City policies and directives.

The parking deck will be a joint effort of the City of Raleigh, Highwoods Properties and Progress Energy. It will be located mid-block along East Martin Street between South Wilmington and South Blount streets, just north of Progress Energy's corporate headquarters. In addition to the RBC Plaza, the parking deck will support future development near the plaza.

APPROVAL GIVEN TO SUPPLEMENTAL DESIGN AGREEMENT FOR HILLSBOROUGH STREET ROUNDABOUTS

The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously April 17 to approve a supplemental agreement with Kimley-Horn & Associates to complete design work for the Hillsborough Street roundabout project. The fee in the agreement is \$609,205. Designs for the project are currently 25 percent complete.

Under a plan approved by the City Council on Feb. 20, Hillsborough Street will be converted to a new three-lane section with at-grade median between Oberlin Road and Gardner Street. There will be two roundabouts, or traffic circles, with raised pedestrian median. One of the roundabouts will be located at the intersection of Hillsborough Street and Pullen Road and a smaller roundabout will be just north of Hillsborough Street on Oberlin Road at Groveland Avenue.

The project will create more than 200 on-street parking spaces on both sides of Hillsborough Street to support local businesses. There also will be underground utilities and streetscape improvements.

The Hillsborough Street 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.

The \$609,205 supplemental design fee will be temporarily funded by a construction contingency fund until \$2.6 million allocated for the project in the City's 2006-07 Capital Improvement Program is in place. Council members will consider a funding plan for the Hillsborough Street roundabout project in the fall when design of the project is expected to be 75 percent complete. The project is estimated to cost \$6.3 million, which is \$3.7 million more than had been budgeted. The funding shortfall amounts to \$4.1 million if a standard 10 percent additional contingency is included. In 2005, Raleigh voters approved roundabouts, or traffic circles, for Hillsborough Street as part of a \$60 million bond referendum for road improvements.

CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS TO MEET APRIL 23

The interlocal funding agreement of the hotel and prepared food tax will be the focus of a joint meeting of the Raleigh City Council and the Wake County Board of Commissioners. The meeting will be held at 8 a.m., April 23 in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium.

VOLUNTEER FOR WORLD BEER FESTIVAL RALEIGH

If you love beer and Downtown Raleigh - we want you to be a volunteer at the 2nd annual World Beer Festival Raleigh on Saturday, April 28.

Experience volunteering at its best! World Beer Festival volunteers get to enjoy a Saturday filled with live music, festive beer lovers and perks like a FREE Volunteer t-shirt, a subscription to "All About Beer", and an invitation to the post-event staff party where you will be offered sample beers and food from the festival and be entered in a raffle with great prizes.

Not only will you have fun, but you'll also be helping a great cause - Downtown Raleigh!

The World Beer Festival Raleigh is helping to raise money for the Downtown Raleigh Alliance, which is dedicated to revitalizing downtown.

Sign up today for the coolest volunteer job ever! Volunteers can register for one session or both sessions on Saturday, April 28th.

The event takes place in Moore Square on the corner of Blount and Martin streets. Applicants must be 21 years of age to volunteer.

Volunteer Referral Program: Win the Big Prize!-

This year the Downtown Raleigh Alliance is introducing a volunteer referral program. The volunteer with the most referrals to show up for either session will receive a \$50 gift certificate to a local restaurant and a mixed case of special beers to enjoy. Invite your friends to join you and volunteer for this fun and exciting event. Remind your friends to enter your first and last name on the volunteer form at "How did you find out about this volunteer opportunity?"

For more information contact: Ellen Fragola, Downtown Raleigh Alliance email: ellenfragola@downtownraleigh.org phone: 919 832-1231

DOWNTOWN EVENTS CALENDER

4-19 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet - Swan Lake..	Memorial Auditorium
4-20 07:00 PM	Saint Mary's School Concert.	Fletcher Opera Theater
4-20 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet - Swan Lake	Memorial Auditorium
4-21 07:00 PM	St. Mary's School Concert	Fletcher Opera Theater
4-21 07:00 PM	NC Symphony Contributors ...	Meymandi Concert Hall
4-21 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet - Swan Lake...	Memorial Auditorium
4-22 02:00 PM	Carolina Ballet - Swan Lake...	Memorial Auditorium
4-22 08:00 PM	NC Master Chorale – Mozart...	Meymandi Concert Hall
4-25 07:00 PM	Elementary Choral Society	Meymandi Concert Hall
4-25 08:00 PM	High School - The Musical	Memorial Auditorium
4-26 07:00 PM	Elementary Choral Celebration...	Meymandi Concert Hall
4-26 08:00 PM	High School - The Musical...	Memorial Auditorium
4-27 08:00 PM	High School - The Musical	Memorial Auditorium
4-28 01:00 PM	World Beer Festival	Moore Square
4-28 03:00 PM	High School - The Musical	Memorial Auditorium
4-19 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet - Swan Lake..	Memorial Auditorium
4-20 07:00 PM	Saint Mary's School Concert.	Fletcher Opera Theater
4-20 08:00 PM	Carolina Ballet - Swan Lake	Memorial Auditorium
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