



Livable Streets Update (FIVE IN FIVE)



DowntownRaleigh

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CONVENTION CENTER CONSTRUCTION TO CLOSE PORTION OF LENOIR STREET

Construction of the downtown convention center will require Lenoir Street to be closed between South Wilmington and South McDowell streets beginning on Saturday, July 28 at 6 a.m. This section of Lenoir Street will reopen to motorists on Sunday, July 29, at 6 p.m.

The road closure is necessary for the construction team to complete utility work at Lenoir and Salisbury streets. The temporary detour for the Lenoir Street closure will take motorists north on Wilmington Street, west on Davie Street and then south on Dawson Street. Drivers are urged to obey the posted speed limit and be alert when approaching and leaving the construction center work zone.

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES ISSUANCE OF COPS FOR THREE MAJOR PROJECTS; PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR AUG. 7

The Raleigh City Council voted July 24 to issue up to \$30 million in certificates of participation (COPS) for three major City projects.

COPS funding will be used to finance a new City-owned and operated solid waste transfer station and the Phase 2 extension of Fayetteville Street to Lenoir Street. The certificates also will cover the remaining cost of an underground parking garage currently under construction on the south end of downtown.

Under the proposed issuance, \$14.7 million in COPS would go toward the underground parking garage, \$8 million to the transfer station and the remaining \$6.3 million toward the extension of Fayetteville Street.

The State Local Government Commission must approve the City's plan to issue the COPS. Also, citizens will get a chance to comment on the funding plan at a public hearing scheduled for Aug. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Raleigh City Council chamber on the second floor of the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, 222 W. Hargett St.

Contacts

City of Raleigh
Planning Department
Mitchell Silver, Director
Mitchell.silver@ci.raleigh.nc.us
(919) 516-2626

Raleigh Convention and
Performing Arts Center
(919) 831-6011
Roger Krupa, Director
roger@raleighconvention.com

City of Raleigh
Public Works Department
Carl Dawson, Director
(919) 890-3030
carl.dawson@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Regulatory Reform
City Of Raleigh
City Attorney
Thomas McCormick, Jr.
(919) 831-6560
Tom.McCormick@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Newsletter &
Communications
City of Raleigh
Public Affairs Department
Jayne Kirkpatrick, Director
(919) 890-3100
jayne.kirkpatrick@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Ending Homelessness

Ken Maness
(919) 460-8687 ext:273
KManess@unitedwaytriangle.org

HOLDER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR CITY PLAZA

The City of Raleigh will negotiate a contract amendment with Holder Construction Company to provide pre-construction and construction management services for the City Plaza project. The City Council voted 7-1, July 24, to authorize the negotiations. The negotiated contract amendment will be brought back to the City Council for its consideration.

In 2005, the City selected Holder Construction to be the construction manager at risk for the underground parking garage that is currently under construction on the south end of downtown. As construction manager at risk for the parking garage project, Holder Construction also was to provide similar services for other related public improvements, including creation of the City Plaza in the 500 block of Fayetteville Street and the Phase 2 extension of Fayetteville Street to Lenoir Street. A contract amendment has already been executed for Holder Construction to begin work on the Fayetteville Street extension.

Under a preliminary timetable, the City expects to begin construction of the City Plaza this fall. Completion of the plaza will coincide with the opening of the new 500,000-square-foot downtown convention center in the fall of 2008.

In May, the City Council approved a design and a \$16 million budget for the creation of the City Plaza and the Fayetteville Street extension to Lenoir Street. The plaza will be a public gathering place designed to reinforce Raleigh's image as being one of the most livable cities in the country. The City Plaza will be configured to accommodate a number of public events, including parades, markets and shows, while preserving the view along Fayetteville Street between the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts and the Capitol.

Design elements of the plaza include flexible seating, water features, trees and shade structures, high-quality paving and dramatic lighting. The design includes four light towers and bollards with underside lighting that will be placed on both sides of the Fayetteville Street rights-of-way. The light towers will be designed to allow for projection equipment that can provide varying levels of light for a variety of events.

Wake County
David Cooke, County Manager
(919) 856-6160
dcooke@co.wake.nc.us

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance
120 S. Wilmington St.,
Suite 103
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 832-1231
David Diaz
President and CEO
Daviddiaz
@downtownraleigh.org

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
Denny Edwards,
President & CEO
dedwards@visitraleigh.com

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

collaboration with North Carolina artist Jim Gallucci, a member of the design team for the City Plaza.

The City Plaza also will have four glass retail pavilions to be designed, constructed and leased by TSO Fayetteville, the owner of the Bank of America building in the plaza area. Once completed, the design of the retail pavilions will be presented to the City Council for its consideration.

The design of the City Plaza was developed with considerable input from the public and from City boards and commissions at design workshops last fall. In addition to Mr. Gallucci and representatives from Kimley-Horn & Associates (the City's project consultant), design team members included City staff, representatives from Project for Public Spaces, a nationally known consultant on urban design and public spaces; DesignBox, a local creative design consultant; Cole, Jenest and Stone, a landscape architect; Colorlume Inc., a lighting consultant; and Crystal Fountains, a water fountain consulting firm.

THIRD ANNUAL INDUCTION CEREMONY FOR RALEIGH HALL OF FAME SET FOR SEPTEMBER 13

On Sept. 13, the Raleigh Hall of Fame will hold its third annual induction ceremonies in Meymandi Concert Hall at the Progress Center for Performing Arts. A reception for the induction ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the inductions at 7:30 p.m.

"We are pleased to recognize these outstanding individuals and organizations at our third induction celebration for the Raleigh Hall of Fame," said L. Merritt Jones, chair of the 2007 Raleigh Hall of Fame. "Their efforts on behalf of the people of Raleigh have had a tremendously positive impact on the quality of life that all of us here continue to enjoy July 24."

This year's Hall of Fame inductees are:

- **John H. Baker Sr. and John H. Baker Jr.** for their combined 60 years of law enforcement and community service to Raleigh and Wake County;
- **Dr. Frederick D. Burroughs**, the first African-American physician to devote his practice completely to the specialty of pediatrics 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 B. 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 B. 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 W. Paschal and Beth C. Paschal** for his groundbreaking work in integrating the hospital system and her work in establishing the North Carolina Museum of Art;
- **Susie Vick Perry** for an outstanding lifetime of volunteerism and her exemplary career as a teacher, mentor and role model;
- **Sarah D. 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 Theatre**, one of the oldest community theaters in the country, for providing a thriving cultural environment for more than 80 years, and;
- **The Wake County Medical Society Alliance** for more than 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.

The 2007 inductees for the Centennial Hall of Fame are:

- **Lawrence M. Cheek**, founder of the Raleigh Independent newspaper, known today as The Carolinian, was a champion of African-American rights in the early 1900s and ran for a seat on the Raleigh City Council in 1919; and,
- **Dr. Manassa Pope**, an African-American physician who courageously challenged the Jim Crow system by running for mayor of Raleigh.

Tickets can be purchased for \$45 at the Progress Energy Center for

the Performing Arts box office, Quail Ridge Books & Music, located in the Ridgewood Shopping Center (828-1588), and the Raleigh City Museum located at 220 Fayetteville Street (832-3085). Tickets can also be purchased online through Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.

For more information on the Raleigh Hall of Fame, visit www.raleighhalloffame.org, email info@raleighhalloffame.org, or call 787-9617.

Established in 2005, the Raleigh Hall of Fame's mission is to recognize and induct past and present individuals and non-profit organizations responsible for significant contributions to the City of Raleigh into the Hall of Fame. In its first year, the Hall of Fame inducted 13 individuals and one organization into the Hall of Fame as well as 10 individuals into the Centennial Hall of Fame. In 2006, the Raleigh Hall of Fame inducted 12 individuals and two organizations into the Hall of Fame, as well as 15 individuals into the Centennial Hall of Fame.

COUNCIL AUTHORIZES FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR FLETCHER OPERA THEATER

On July 24, the Raleigh City Council approved a contract with PBC&L to conduct a study to determine the cost and feasibility of expanding the orchestra pit of the Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. PBC&L were the original architects of the expansion of the center.

The proposed expansion would enlarge the pit to accommodate a 40-piece orchestra. It would also deepen the pit to give access to the basement level of the building.

The study, expected to cost \$35,000, will be funded by the A.J. Fletcher Foundation. The foundation has also agreed to fund the expansion construction costs. The study will be completed within 60 days and would be presented to the A.J. Fletcher Foundation and the Raleigh Convention Center Commission for their review before going before the Raleigh City Council.

PARKING DECK ON BLOUNT STREET APPROVED

On July 24, the Raleigh City Council approved an eight-level, public-private parking deck containing more than 1,200 parking spaces and more than 5,700 square feet of retail space. The structure will be located on a 3.59 acre site bounded by Blount, Davie, Wilmington, and Martin streets. The tallest portion of the structure is 108 feet high. Buildings taller than 80 feet and structures in the Downtown Overlay District greater than 10,000 square feet require council approval.

Under the terms of the approval, construction on the buildings wrapping the northern and/or southern side of the parking deck must be completed within two years after a certification of occupancy is issued for the parking deck. If they are not completed, the facades on the northern and southern sides must be painted to match the finished facades on the western and eastern portions of the deck. Also, protective yard plantings must be installed along the site's street frontage.

POPE HOUSE DISCUSSION TO BE EXAMINED SEPTEMBER 4

On Sept. 4, the Raleigh City Council will continue its discussion on the future of the Pope House, currently located at 511 S. Wilmington Street. A non-profit group has recently acquired the Pope House and is expected to be raising money for its share of a feasibility study outlining the building's future.

The Pope House is the last standing home from a middle and professional class African-American neighborhood. The home was built by Dr. M.T. Pope, a Shaw University graduate who was the first African-American to be licensed as a physician in the state of North Carolina. The house is a rare example of a front-gable structure and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Pope House Museum Foundation has plans to open the house to the public as a museum.

The Council has been debating moving the house in order to include it in an African-American cultural consortium that would include the Martin Luther King Resource Center and the African-American Cultural Complex. Each currently operates separately in Raleigh but all three have agreed that a common location would be mutually beneficial.

CONSULTANT TO ASSIST IN UPDATE OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

As part of its update to the Raleigh Comprehensive Plan, the City of Raleigh Planning Department will be working with a consultant team led by HNTB Corporation.

The consultants will be in Raleigh from Aug. 1-3 for an initial information-gathering visit. The consulting team has invited the Raleigh City Council, the Raleigh Planning Commission, the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission and the Raleigh Appearance Commissions to a breakfast meeting set for Aug. 2, from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the City of Raleigh Urban Design Center at 133 Fayetteville Street. HNTB consultants will be meeting with the general public this the fall to gather input for the update.

DOWNTOWN EVENTS CALENDER

07-28-2007 02:00 PM	Bud Light Downtown Live	Moore Square
08-03- 08:00 PM	Arnez J	Memorial Auditorium
08-04- 08:30 PM	Movies in the Park	Moore Square
08-08- 08:00 PM	Merle Haggard	Meymandi Concert Hall
08-11- 02:00 PM	Bud Light downtown live	Moore Square