



Livable Streets Update (FIVE IN FIVE)



DowntownRaleigh

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THIRD ANNUAL CAPITAL CITY BIKE FEST TO CLOSE DOWNTOWN STREETS

Due to the success of last year's Capital City Bike Fest, including a large turnout of vendors, the 2007 Bike Fest will spread from Fayetteville Street to City Market in downtown Raleigh.

Fayetteville Street and sections of four other major downtown streets will be closed to motorists to accommodate the third annual Capital City Bike Fest on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 28-29. The free motorcycle lifestyle event will be held on Fayetteville Street and in the nearby City Market area.



Streets that will be closed from 6 p.m. Thursday to noon Sunday are:

- The 100 to 400 blocks of Fayetteville Street;
- The 00 blocks of Hargett and Davie streets;
- The 200 block of South Blount Street; and,
- The 00 to 200 blocks of East Martin Street.

In addition, the inner streets of the City Market --- Parham, Blake and Wolfe streets --- will be closed for Bike Fest beginning at 3 p.m. Friday. The streets will reopen at 7 a.m. Sunday.

Capital City Bike Fest will be roaring down Fayetteville Street on Friday from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Bike Fest is a family friendly event featuring live music, food, motorcycle gear manufacturers and vendors, custom bike builders and more. This year's Bike Fest will expand to two stages.

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The Moore Square main stage, presented by Nationwide, featuring rock legends Great White, country music star Steve Azar, and Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band Second Helping. The Fayetteville Street stage will feature North Carolina artists.

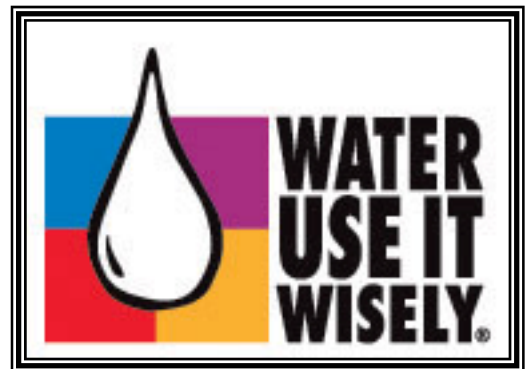
Bike Fest will kick off on Friday with the Patriot Ride, a police-escorted charity ride to benefit Support Our Troops. The charity ride will leave Ray Price Harley-Davidson on South Saunders Street at 1:30 p.m. and travel to Bike Fest sponsor locations. Charity ride participants will parade down Fayetteville Street to begin Bike Fest festivities.

For more information about Capital City Bike Fest, visit www.rayprice.com.

DEMAND IS DOWN BUT DROUGHT DRAGS ON

Raleigh officials report there is good news and there is bad. The good news - water demand is down. The bad - the outlook for substantial rain is dismal.

While customer demand on Raleigh's water supply has lessened, the continued lack of rain has depleted Falls Lake's supply pool storage to 46 percent, which would meet customers' current demand for 122 days or to Jan. 25 on the calendar. (This assumes the worst case scenario of no rain and use sustained at the current 30-day pumping average.)



Current daily pumpage is 55.4 million gallons per day (MGD), a decrease of 3.6 MGD from last week's 30-day average. The current 30-day average shows the Stage 1 mandatory water restrictions have resulted in a 16 percent reduction in daily use. The mandatory restrictions went into effect Aug. 28.

The U.S. Drought Monitor classifies almost all of North Carolina in an extreme drought. The Triangle's year-to-date rainfall is 6.98 inches below normal. Falls Lake, Raleigh's water source measures 244.93 feet, which is 6.57 feet less than full. The lake reached an all-time low of 242.73 on Nov. 27, 1993.

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www.wakegov.com

Downtown Raleigh Alliance
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Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau
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The National Weather Service (NWS) is forecasting no significant rainfall through the coming week and projects no “drought busters” for the foreseeable future. The NWS indicates an equal chance for normal rainfall for the autumn and below normal chance of rainfall for the winter.

Citations Given

A total of 235 citations, which carry a \$200 penalty and four citations that come with a \$1,000 penalty have been issued under the first 28 days of the stage 1 water use restrictions. A third citation would result in interruption of the customer’s water service.

The restrictions apply to all City of Raleigh water customers, including those in nearby towns that have merged water and sewer systems with Raleigh. Those towns are Garner, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Knightdale, Wendell and Zebulon.

Stage 1 mandatory water use restrictions allow irrigation one day per week from midnight to 10 a.m. Odd property addresses are permitted to irrigate on Tuesdays and even property addresses on Wednesdays. Irrigation on those days by automatic irrigation systems will be permitted from 12 a.m. to 10 a.m. Those who use Raleigh supplied water in a garden hose attached lawn irrigation sprinklers to water lawns may irrigate only from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the Stage 1 assigned days for their property. Raleigh water customers who physically hold a garden hose for watering may continue to do so for odd addresses Tuesday and Saturday, and even addresses Wednesday and Sunday, but are limited to the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Stage 1 mandatory water use restrictions also limit use of City of Raleigh supplied water for other uses such as washing vehicles at home, power washing driveways, sidewalks, homes and filling swimming and decorative pools. The entire Stage 1 water use restrictions are listed on the City’s web page at www.raleighnc.gov or by contacting the City of Raleigh Public Utilities Department at 857-4540 or the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 890-3100.

WATER USE		STAGE 1 RULES
Automatic/non-automatic irrigation systems		ODD = Tuesday EVEN = Wednesday 12 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Hose-end sprinklers		ODD = Tuesday EVEN = Wednesday 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Hand-held hose		ODD = Tue./Sat EVEN = Wed./Sun. 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Vehicle washing		Saturday and Sunday
Pressure washing		Saturday and Sunday

DOWNTOWN STARTS THE COUNTDOWN TO CONVENTION CENTER'S OPENING

Raleigh is just a year away from the grand opening of its new convention center and the project is going great! That was the message delivered Sept. 25 by Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker and other Raleigh leaders from within the 500,000-square-foot, under-construction facility.

Dubbed the Downtown Countdown, the event highlighted:

- Bookings that exceed the business plan;
- A hospitality training program;
- Updates on the status of key construction projects; and
- Some hints of what's in store for the grand opening celebration.



"Our downtown countdown is bringing us closer to a bright new day for Raleigh and our region," Mayor Meeker said. "People know it's all going on and coming down in Downtown Raleigh. Our center city is enjoying an injection of investment such as it has never seen

before." More than \$2.5 in private and public investments are ongoing in downtown Raleigh.

Mayor Meeker shared new sales figures that show the convention center is surpassing its goals, at points more than doubling projected goals. In a recent analysis of the center's sales program, Thomas Hazinski, managing director of HVS International (the company that developed the convention center's business plan prior to construction) noted, "Room night bookings are 2.5 times higher than projected in the first year of operation. Year two is already at 93 percent of projections and the booking window on that year remains open. Clearly you have ramped up your marketing and sales faster than anticipated."

The sales update noted that the convention center has:

- Accomplished 164 percent of its first year event booking goals, including 23 conventions;
- Exceeded its first year pace with its second year bookings - hitting 232 percent of its event booking goals for the second year - amounting to 58 events;
- More than doublings room night goals for the first year, meeting 237 percent of the bookings originally projected. That translates into 63,655 room nights generated by the convention center; and,
- Hitting 93 percent of its second year goals and continuing to book business.

On the construction front, Mayor Meeker noted that convention center crews were celebrating 1 million work hours without injury. Several key center city projects are posting milestones, he said, such as:

- The convention center is 75 percent complete;
- The convention center parking garage is 85 percent complete; and
- The Marriott City Center Hotel is 50 percent complete.

The Mayor said that the mid-September 2008 celebration of the opening of the convention center will be a week-long party.

The Raleigh Convention Center will have 19 individual meeting rooms, an exhibit hall of more than 150,000 square feet and a 32,000-square-foot ballroom. An attached four-star Marriott hotel will offer 15,000 square feet of additional meeting space. To take a virtual tour of the facility set to open in September 2008, visit www.raleighconvention.com/tour.



PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED TUESDAY FOR PROPOSED ROUNDABOUTS ON HILLSBOROUGH STREET

The Raleigh City Council will hold public hearings on two road improvement projects for Hillsborough Streets that would add roundabouts. The public hearings will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 2 beginning at 7 p.m. in the council chamber on the second floor of the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, 222 W. Hargett St.

One of the public hearings will be on a planned improvement project that will convert Hillsborough Street to a three-lane section with a raised median between Oberlin Road and Gardner Street. There will be two roundabouts with raised pedestrian medians. 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. There also will 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.

The other public hearing will be on proposed intersection improvements at Hillsborough and Morgan streets, including the addition of a roundabout. The improvements will be part of the planned conversion of Morgan Street to two-way traffic.

CITY ADOPTS NEW PARKING RATES

Effective Oct. 1, the City of Raleigh will implement the following parking rates:

Special Events - \$5

Parking meter rate - \$0.50

Hourly/daily rates for parking decks:

- First 15 minutes: Complimentary;
- \$1 for each additional half-hour; and,
- Lost Ticket fee: \$10.

Monthly Parking Deck Rates:

- Cabarrus Street parking deck - \$90 and \$110;
- Convention Center Deck - \$60, \$90 & \$120;
- Moore Square Deck - \$50, \$90 & \$110;
- Municipal Building Deck - \$90 & \$110;
- Wilmington Street Station Deck - \$50, \$90 & \$110; and,
- City Market Lot - \$50.

Monthly Surface Lot Rates:

- City Market Lot: \$50;
- Dillon Lot A: \$50; and,
- Dillon Lot B: \$50.

For more information, contact Parking Administrator Gordon Dash at 890-3033.

DOWNTOWN EVENTS CALENDER

09-28 10:30 AM	Les Miserables, Student Edition	Memorial Auditorium
09-28 07:30 PM	Les Miserables, Student Edition	Memorial Auditorium
09-29 02:00 PM	Les Miserables, Student Edition	Memorial Auditorium
09-29 07:30 PM	Les Miserables, Student Edition	Memorial Auditorium
10-04 07:30 PM	Comedy of Errors	Fletcher Opera Theater
10-05 07:00 PM	Man of La Mancha	Memorial Auditorium
10-05 08:00 PM	The Crucible	Fletcher Opera Theater
10-04- 07:30 PM	Comedy of Errors	Fletcher Opera Theater
10-05- 07:00 PM	Man of La Mancha	Memorial Auditorium
10-05- 08:00 PM	The Crucible	Fletcher Opera Theater
10-12- 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony -...	Meymandi Concert Hall
10-13- 08:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony -...	Meymandi Concert Hall
10-14- 03:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony -...	Meymandi Concert Hall
10-14- 03:00 PM	North Carolina Symphony -...	Meymandi Concert Hall
10-14- 03:00 PM	Orion Quartet- Raleigh Ch...	Fletcher Opera Theater
10-20- 08:00 PM	Solid Gold Soul	Memorial Auditorium
10-21- 08:00 PM	REGIS PHILBIN & SUSAN LUC...	Memorial Auditorium
10-30- 08:00 PM	Mamma Mia	Memorial Auditorium
10-31- 08:00 PM	Mamma Mia	Memorial Auditorium
11-01- 08:00 PM	Mamma Mia	Memorial Auditorium
11-02- 08:00 PM	Mamma Mia	Memorial Auditorium
11-03- 02:00 PM	Mamma Mia	Memorial Auditorium



3rd Annual
Ray Price Capital City
Bike Fest
presented by Nationwide
Insurance

Fayetteville Street & Moore Square
Downtown Raleigh

Friday September 28th
Saturday September 29th

FREE MOTORCYCLE LIFESTYLE EVENT FOR BIKERS

& NON-BIKERS

<http://rayprice.com/>