

CITY COUNCIL

- Lark Jones, Mayor
- Carolyn Baggott
- Pat Carpenter
- Phil Mottel
- Ken McDowell
- Arthur Shealy
- Kent Sullivan

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

are held every first & third Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building, 400 East Buena Vista Avenue. Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings.



North Augusta
South Carolina's Riverfront

CONTENTS

- Riverfront Planning Proceeds 1
- I-520 Extension into Aiken County Bobby Jones Expressway 2
- Protecting Land and Water Stormwater Management 3
- Public Hearing 3
- North Augusta Forward Schedule and Format Changed 4

North Augusta

FORWARD

A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta, South Carolina

RIVERFRONT PLANNING

Proceeds



The August 2001 issue of *North Augusta Forward* reported that the City Council would purchase the 196 acres that comprise the Central Riverfront Area. The City's investment was needed to provide public access to the River, construct the riverfront Greenway extension and facilitate private redevelopment. The Central Riverfront is the area bounded by the Savannah River on the south, the North Augusta Greenway on the north, James U. Jackson Memorial (13th Street) Bridge on the east and the Campbell Town Landing subdivision on the west. Property acquisition in the Central Riverfront Area is now essentially complete.

In January the City Council approved a development agreement for the Central Riverfront property with a development team made up of Charleston based Civitas and the Tuxedo, New York firm, Leyland Development. The agreement provides for the sale of approximately 161 acres to Civitas/Leyland to develop a traditional neighborhood as an extension of the downtown and older North Augusta neighborhoods. The new neighborhood will include a mix of several hundred residential units (single-family homes, townhouses, condominiums, and apartments), neighborhood businesses including retail shops, restaurants, offices, and a hotel/conference center. The City will construct the 1½ mile Greenway Extension along the riverbank and a riverfront park. Commercial and multi-family residential buildings will frame the riverfront park.

The first step in a very detailed development planning process took place at the North Augusta Community Center during the week of January 28. The objective of the development plan, and the responsibility of the developers, as articulated by David Agnew of Civitas, is to create beauty in the riverfront neighborhood addition to the community and to fully integrate the riverfront area with North Augusta. Approximately thirty planners, engineers, architects, and representatives of the City and the developers worked long days and nights crafting the plan.

I-520 EXTENSION INTO AIKEN COUNTY

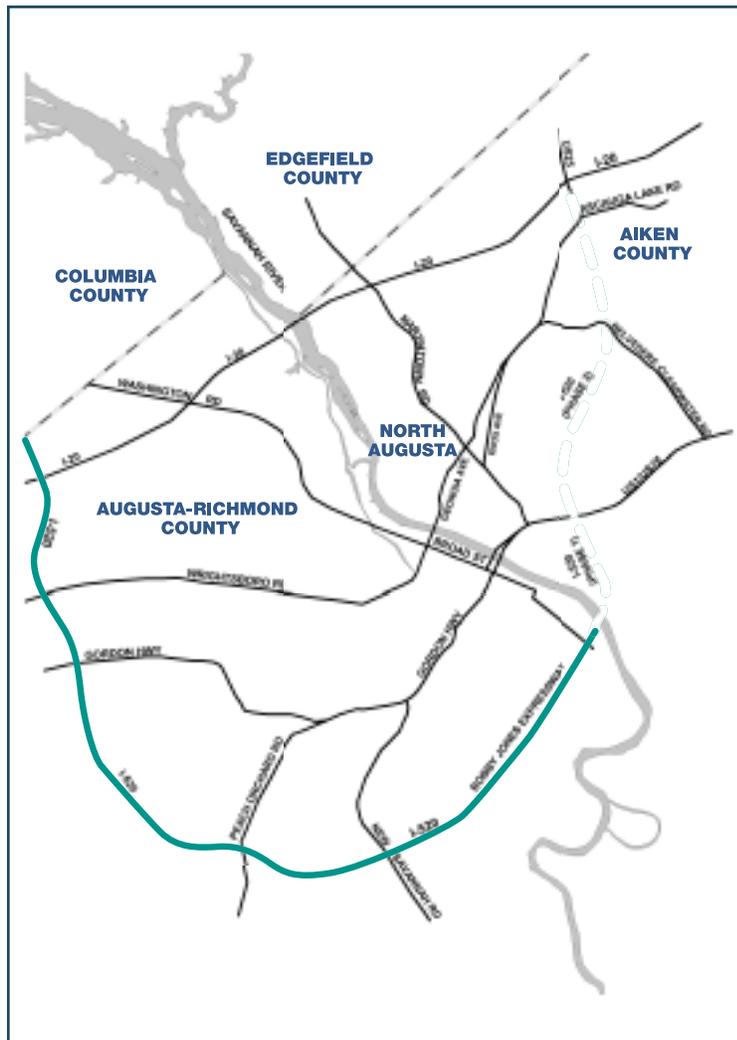
Bobby Jones Expressway

On December 12, 2001 the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Transportation Infrastructure Bank (SCTIB) voted unanimously to fund the completion of Interstate 520, the Bobby Jones Expressway, in Aiken county. The vote by the SCTIB Board culminated a multi-year campaign by the Aiken County Legislative Delegation and officials from Aiken County, the City of North Augusta and the City of Aiken. Local business and community leaders also contributed significantly to the effort.

I-520, the designated interstate highway loop around the Aiken-Augusta Metropolitan Area, is essentially complete in Georgia. The Expressway currently extends 15.5 miles from I-20 in southwest Augusta to Sand Bar Ferry Road in east Augusta. The extension of I-520 in Aiken County will be completed in two phases. Phase 1, 2½ miles, will extend from Sand Bar Ferry Road across the Savannah River to US 1 in North Augusta. Phase 2 consists of the five miles from US 1 to I-20 at Exit 5, US 25.

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is moving quickly on the project. All of the right-of-way and necessary permits for Phase 1 have been acquired. Construction will commence in August and completion is scheduled for early 2005. Half the cost of the Savannah River Bridge will be paid by the State of Georgia. While Phase 1 is under construction SCDOT will purchase the right-of-way and obtain permits for Phase 2. Phase 2 will include interchanges at Belvedere-Clearwater Road and Ascauga Lake Road. The schedule for the completion of Phase 2 has not yet been determined and is partially dependent on the timing of SCTIB revenues.

To assist in funding the project, Aiken County, in cooperation with North Augusta and Aiken, referred a "Capital Projects Sales Tax" to the voters at the November 7, 2000 general election. The referendum passed and the one-cent countywide sales tax will contribute \$15 million to I-520. 



RIVERFRONT

continued from page 1

Victor Dover of the South Miami planning and urban design firm, Dover, Kohl and Partners, led the planning 'charrette'. Intensive work sessions with the City Council, Planning Commission and members of the public resulted in specific policies for connecting the area to the rest of the community, dealing with power line easements, and maintaining the ponds on the property. A special public participation session determined the size, location and amenities to be included in the Riverfront Park and Greenway Extension.

A presentation of the finished plan will be presented to the North Augusta community in March. The date, time and location will be publicized. During the balance of 2002 the property will be rezoned, the detailed development plan will be adopted by the Planning Commission and City Council and the first phase subdivision will be approved. Civitas/Leyland will complete the planning and permitting for the development over the next twelve months and begin construction in early 2003. By this time next year homes in the new riverfront neighborhood will be under construction. 



PROTECTING LAND AND WATER

Stormwater Management

As land is developed into subdivisions, shopping centers and other urban uses the natural infiltration of rainfall into the ground is stopped. Impervious surfaces (streets, parking lots, buildings) replace natural groundcover and prevent the natural infiltration and drainage of stormwater into streams, lakes and rivers. The increased surface runoff caused by development can carry grease and oil from cars, chemicals from yards and other pollutants into the man-made storm sewer system and then into lakes and rivers. When increased stormwater flows into streams that cannot carry the additional runoff they will erode and add mud and silt to lakes and rivers.

To address the environmental problems associated with stormwater runoff, Congress passed the Clean Water Act. The law now requires states and local governments to manage stormwater to prevent pollution. In accordance with the Federal Law and to protect the environment, North Augusta is developing a Stormwater Management Program to reduce the discharge of pollutants into the Savannah River and meet the water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. North Augusta residents and business owners should be aware of the

causes of stormwater pollution and do what they can to help reduce its harmful effects on the environment.

The amount of stormwater pollution entering lakes and streams is affected by a number of factors including how often and how hard it rains, the amount of pervious and impervious ground cover, the cleanliness of streets parking areas, and how well citizens control pets and manage yard maintenance (fertilization, watering, etc.). The most effective way to reduce stormwater pollution is to reduce the amount of pollutants that enter the storm sewer. There are three primary types of stormwater pollution.

- Litter – Cigarette butts, cans, paper and plastic bags.
- Chemicals – Detergents, oil, fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides.
- 'Natural' pollution – Leaves, garden clippings and pet droppings.

We all have an impact on the quality of our environment and we can all take steps to make a difference. There are a number of simple things that everyone can do to reduce the amount of stormwater pollution discharged into local waterways. 

DO	DON'T
✓ Sweep sidewalks, gutters and driveways regularly and put the sweepings into the garden or compost bin.	✗ Hose dirt off roads, sidewalks, and driveways into the gutter.
✓ Prevent soil and mulch from being washed or blown out of the yard and garden.	✗ Put sand or soil in areas where it can wash into the street or stormwater system.
✓ Rake up leaves and lawn clippings and use them as mulch, put them into the compost bin or bag them for collection.	✗ Pile leaves or grass clippings un-bagged in the gutter.
✓ Grass or re-plant areas of disturbed soil.	✗ Use too much fertilizer.
✓ Consider natural alternatives to pest control chemicals.	✗ Overuse chemical pesticides and herbicides.
✓ Pick up litter in parking lots and streets.	✗ Drop paper and plastic packaging or cigarette butts on the ground.
✓ Clean up pet droppings and dispose of them in the garbage can or the toilet.	✗ Leave piles of sand or gravel uncovered where it could wash or blow into the gutter.
✓ Maintain the car and keep it tuned.	✗ Service your car (especially oil changes) in a place where oil and grease may wash into gutters.
✓ Use the minimum amount of detergent for car washing and wash the car on the grass or on gravel or take it to a car wash where the water is recycled.	✗ Wash the car in the street using detergent.
✓ Wash paintbrushes and rollers over a sand filter on the lawn.	✗ Wash out cement mixers or buckets so that the waste flows into street drains.
✓ Keep paint and solvents clear of gutters and drains.	✗ Hose sand, gravel or cement into the gutter.
✓ Reuse solvents.	
✓ Allow unused paint to dry out before putting it in the garbage.	

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing to discuss the proposed stormwater utility fee to fund the City's Stormwater Management Program will be held by the City Council on Monday, March 18, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building, 400 East Buena Vista Avenue. The proposed fee will only affect residents of the City of North Augusta. A separate Public Notice of the Public Hearing was also enclosed in all utility statements.

NORTH AUGUSTA FORWARD

Schedule and Format Changed

For the past four years *North Augusta Forward* has been published three times a year and mailed directly to each home and business in the community. Those six and eight page issues contained comprehensive information about City projects, recreation programs, sanitation schedules, utility and business license billing and other City news. However, because the newsletter was published only three times each year, the information was not always as timely or current as many readers desired. Last fall members of the City staff began investigating ways to provide important information more often without increasing the cost.

A major change in the distribution of utility bills offered just the right opportunity for a more frequent mailing of *North Augusta Forward* and other specialized notices of City activities. The change in utility billing was designed to make utility payments easier to submit. All utility statements, beginning with the January 2002 billing, will be mailed in an envelope with a return envelope included. *North Augusta Forward* and special notice inserts will now be distributed with monthly utility bills.

As a result, *North Augusta Forward* has undergone a subtle shift in format. Beginning with this issue all issues of the newsletter will be four pages in length and will emphasize recent accomplishments, future plans and issues affecting North Augustans. It will be published four times a year. Utility customers will also receive frequent up-to-date information from City departments on separate sheets. An insert in the January bill described the Finance Department's new online utility payment option. A February notice from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services outlined the schedule and registration procedures for Spring Recreation Programs. Inserts planned for the balance of the year include holiday sanitation schedules, the annual water quality report, a sports camp schedule, fall sports registration information and more.



WWW.NORTHAUGUSTA.NET

Copies of *North Augusta Forward*, periodic notices distributed with utility statements and lots of other information about the community is available on the City of North Augusta website,

www.northaugusta.net

Please visit it soon.

We would like to know what you think of the City's publications. You can e-mail your comments, questions or suggestions by clicking on *Contact Information* on the northaugusta.net home page and filling out the simple form.

Let us hear from you.



NORTH AUGUSTA

Recycles

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY	911
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Non Emergency	279-2121
Administration	441-4251
Records/Court Services	441-4271
Investigations	441-4274
Codes Enforcement	441-4258
PARKS, RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES	
Riverview Park Activities Center	441-4300
Activities Coordinator	441-4311
Community Center	441-4290
GENERAL SERVICES & FINANCE	
Taxes	441-4215
Utility - New Service/Disconnects	441-4219
Utility Billing Services	441-4212
Business Licenses (Non-Contractor)	441-4214
Human Resources	441-4205
ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS	
After-Hours Emergencies	279-2121
Engineering	441-4223
Building Standards	441-4227
Permits	441-4227
Business Licenses (Contractors)	441-4227
Animal Control	441-4227
Sanitation Services	441-4223
Sanitation - New Service	441-4219
Streets & Drains Repairs	441-4223
PUBLIC UTILITIES	
After-Hours Emergencies	279-2121
Utility - New Service/Disconnects	441-4219
Utility Billing	441-4212
Water and Sewer Repairs	441-4240
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Economic Development	441-4221
Planning	441-4221
Zoning	441-4221
ADMINISTRATION	
Mayor	441-4202
City Administrator	441-4202
OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS	
North Augusta Chamber of Commerce	279-2323
Nancy Carson Library	279-5767
North Augusta Health Center	278-0880
ComCast (cable)	706-733-7712
S. C. Electric & Gas	442-2000
BellSouth	780-2355
S. C. Department of Transportation	1-800-442-1368
Magistrate	202-3580



CITY of NORTH AUGUSTA
400 East Buena Vista Avenue
PO Box 6400
North Augusta, SC 29861-6400

www.northaugusta.net

North Augusta Forward is mailed three times a year to every City water customer. If your address is incorrect or if you're not receiving a copy of this publication and would like to be added to the mailing list, please write to:

North Augusta Forward,
P. O. Box 6400, North Augusta, SC 29861-6400
or call 803-441-4221.