

CITY COUNCIL

- Lark Jones, Mayor
- Jimmy Adams
- Carolyn Baggott
- Pat Carpenter
- Phil Mottel
- Ken McDowell
- Arthur Shealy

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

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North Augusta

FORWARD

A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta, South Carolina

CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX

Update

The last issue of *North Augusta Forward* summarized major park improvements and street reconstruction work being completed with the first round of the Aiken County Capital Projects Sales Tax. Operational improvements to the city's material recovery facility were also described. In this issue projects that are planned or will soon be under construction are explained.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

One of the largest projects funded by the Capital Projects Sales Tax is the installation of a regional drainage system on East Buena Vista Avenue and Riverside Boulevard to relieve periodic flooding. The flooding problem was especially bad in 2003 because of the large amounts of rainfall. City crews reconstructed the shoulders on East Buena Vista Avenue several times after heavy rains. The project is currently under design and will include the widening of East Buena Vista Avenue between Brookside Drive and Atomic Road. A landscaped median and turn lanes will be installed at the intersections. New curb and gutter will also be installed. A related project to be funded by the South Carolina Department of Transportation in 2006 will widen and beautify Buena Vista Avenue from Atomic Road to East Martintown Road. The drainage improvements will carry storm water collected from Martintown Road and East Buena Vista Avenue to the creek adjacent to Riverside Boulevard.

The Riverside Boulevard creek runs through Waterworks Park between East Buena Vista Avenue and the River Club Golf Course. Waterworks Park is the location of the Sertoma funded picnic pavilion. The creek

collects runoff from several areas. In addition to storm water that originates on East Martintown Road, water from natural springs behind the Community Center is collected in an open channel that flows through Edenfield Park and is then piped under East Buena Vista Avenue to the creek. Edenfield Park has also flooded on several occasions. Improvements to the creek in Waterworks Park will create a series of ponds and natural waterfalls to reduce erosion, trap silt, and improve water quality while providing a park amenity.

Construction on the East Buena Vista Avenue drainage improvements and widening project is planned to begin in the third quarter of 2004. \$1.5 million of the project cost is funded with proceeds from the Capital Projects Sales Tax.

STREET RESURFACING

In approving the Capital Projects Sales Tax referendum three years ago, city voters also approved resurfacing 17 miles of city streets. Many neighborhoods in the city have already seen the results of the resurfacing program. Approximately 6.5 miles of streets were resurfaced in 2002 and 2003. In 2004 approximately 10.5 miles of streets are scheduled for resurfacing.

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CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX UPDATE *continued*

The streets to be resurfaced this year are:

Street	From – To
Siskin Circle	Bunting Drive – Siskin Circle
Arch Drive	Bunting Drive – Bunting Drive
Bobolink Road	Bunting Drive – Tanager Road
Towhee Avenue	Wren Drive – Bunting Drive
Gordon Street	Bunting Drive – The end
Linnett Loop	Bunting Drive – Bunting Drive
Oriole Avenue	Robin Road – Robin Road
Robin Road	Bunting Drive – The end
Georgetown Drive	Buena Vista Avenue – The end
Lake Avenue	Fairfield Avenue – Highview Avenue
Park Avenue	Jackson Avenue – Pine Grove Avenue
Edgewood Avenue	Jackson Avenue – Pine Grove Avenue
Grant Avenue	Columbus Avenue – Crystal Lake
Lake Avenue	Buena Vista Avenue – Clifton Avenue
West Woodlawn Avenue	Crestview Drive – Amhurst Drive
Rockwood Drive	Medie Avenue – Arrowwood Drive
Arrowwood Drive	Indian Mound – The end
Alpine Avenue	Georgia Avenue – Summer Hill Drive
Argyle Avenue	Georgia Avenue – Summer Hill Drive
Bluff Avenue	West Avenue – Alta Vista Avenue
Concord Avenue	Observatory – Sidereal Avenue
Curtis Drive	Martintown Road – Knobcone Avenue
Elizabeth Street	Alpine Avenue – Argyle Avenue
Flint Street	Argyle Avenue – Alpine Avenue
Knobcone Avenue	Coulter Drive – Coulter Drive
Knobcone Avenue	Curtis Drive – Coulter Drive
LeCompte Avenue	Georgia Avenue – Summer Hill Drive
Metz Drive	Buena Vista Avenue – Martintown Road
Old Edgefield Road	Atomic Road – Knox Avenue
Ridgecrest Avenue	Martintown Road – Summer Hill Drive
Rosemary Lane	Georgia Avenue – Caretta Street
Skyview Drive	Royalette Avenue – Weston Street
Waccamaw Drive	Martintown Road – Socastee Drive
Yardley Drive	Skyview Drive – Weston Street

SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION

Most of the neighborhoods developed in North Augusta over the last fifty years did not include sidewalks. To improve pedestrian safety and to make the city's neighborhoods more walkable, the City Council included a sidewalk construction program for funding with the Capital Projects Sales Tax. A total of approximately 7.5 miles of sidewalks will be constructed in priority areas – adjacent to schools, parks and public facilities and on neighborhood streets with high traffic volumes.

Five miles of sidewalks on neighborhood streets will be constructed in 2004. Additionally, the sidewalk system in Riverview Park will be expanded and a sidewalk on Five Notch Road will be constructed to provide access to the new Mossy Creek


Elementary School. The Five Notch Road sidewalk will be installed at the time the school is built. The following local streets are scheduled to receive sidewalks in 2004:

Street	From – To
Pisgah Road	Bolin Road – Greenway
Wells Road	Pisgah Road – The end
Knobcone Avenue	Pisgah Road – Hammond Park
Bolin Road	Martintown Road – Pisgah Road
Woodlawn Avenue	Riverview Drive – Amherst Drive
Hammond Avenue	Martintown Road – Woodlawn Avenue
Old Edgefield Road	North Augusta Middle School – Weston Street
Woodlawn Avenue	Stanton Drive – Alta Vista Avenue
Bunting Drive	Lowe Street – The end
Highview Avenue	Lake Avenue – Martintown Road
Lake Avenue	Buena Vista Avenue – Woodlawn Avenue
Alta Vista Avenue	Woodlawn Avenue – Mokateen Avenue
Mokateen Avenue	Alta Vista Avenue – Jackson Avenue
Alta Vista Avenue	Jackson Avenue – Pershing Drive
Brookside Drive	East Buena Vista Avenue – Spring Grove Avenue

DOWNTOWN STREETScape, PHASE 2

Several years ago the city completed substantial improvements to Georgia Avenue, the first phase of the Downtown Streetscape project. Later this year Phase 2 will commence. The section of West Avenue between Jackson and Clifton Avenues will be improved with wider sidewalks, pavement treatment at the crosswalks, street trees, and relocated utility lines. Spring Grove, Pine Grove, and Buena Vista Avenues between Georgia and West Avenues will be improved in the project. An additional half block segment of Spring Grove Avenue west of West Avenue will also be streetscaped.

The project, estimated at a total cost of \$1.8 million, has been planned by the city since 1998. Implementing a streetscape design that would improve pedestrian safety and provide additional on-street parking required that the downtown street segments planned for improvement be removed from the state highway system. After a series of discussions and with the cooperation of SCDOT personnel, the city and SCDOT “swapped” the downtown streets for the city-owned portion of Bergen Road.

Funding for the second phase of streetscape work will be provided in part by the Capital Projects Sales Tax (\$600,000). SCE&G, through its Non Standard Service Fund agreement with the city, will provide \$138,000. Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds distributed through SCDOT will contribute \$620,000. And city funds, appropriated in the Riverfront/Central Core Redevelopment Fund, will make up the \$442,000 balance. 

CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX

Second Round

When initially enacted in November 2000, the total amount of countywide sales tax revenues projected to be collected was expected to take seven years. Actual revenues, however, exceeded the estimates. The county now projects that the \$54.7 million total will be collected in just over five years. Because the first round of sales tax funded projects have been so well received by citizens, Aiken County, and the cities within the county including North Augusta, are proposing that the one-cent tax be continued. Aiken County citizens will have the opportunity to vote on the continuation of the one-cent tax for another seven years. A referendum on the extension is scheduled for the 2004 general election on November 9.

If approved the continuation of the sales tax will generate an estimated \$18.3 million for additional improvement projects in North Augusta. The City Council has identified a list of projects to recommend for inclusion on the referendum ballot and has appointed Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr. to represent North Augusta on the Aiken County Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission, the body that recommends the final list of projects to the County Council. The projects approved by the City Council for submission to the Sales Tax Commission are:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Public Safety Fire / Police Substation III	\$ 750,000	Riverview Park Renovations – Upgrade Baseball and Softball Field, Replace Towers I and III	\$1,550,000
Public Safety Fire Truck	925,000	Riverview Park Improvements – Traffic Circulation, Maintenance Facilities and Entrance Ways	690,000
Public Safety Communications System Upgrade	550,000	Parks, Greenways and Open Space Land Purchase / Development	2,100,000
Street Resurfacing Program (14 miles)	1,120,000	Community Center Renovation	500,000
Sidewalk Construction Program (14 miles)	480,000	Municipal Complex	5,000,000
Intersection Improvements – Five Notch Road at Pisgah Road, Celeste, Heil and Georgia Avenues	1,500,000	Cultural Arts and Historical Display Facility	500,000
Intersection Improvement – Walnut Lane at US 25	75,000		
Riverview Park Additions – Sprayground, Playground with Canopy, Scoring Tower II, Restrooms, Party Rooms, Dressing Rooms and Main Concession Stand	2,570,000		

Future editions of *North Augusta Forward* will discuss each of the projects proposed for funding under the second round of the Aiken County Capital Projects Sales Tax in more detail. 

EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED




In February, the city's Employee Recognition Committee recognized Bobby Mays, Heavy Equipment Operator for the Material Recovery Facility, as Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2003.

Bobby has worked for the city since July 2000 and was recognized for his strong work ethic, discipline and dedication to quality. With two material recovery workers on military leave, Bobby has assumed much of the responsibility of operating the facility.

North Augusta's Employee Recognition Program was established in 1996 to honor employees who distinguish themselves through unique accomplishments, cost-saving efforts, customer service and consistent performance above normal expectations. A committee of city employees accepts nominations from city employees and citizens and selects an outstanding employee each quarter.

For more information or to nominate an employee, please call 441-4301.

Every year one of the four employees of the quarter is selected as the Employee of the Year. Community Center Crew Leader Frank Williams, Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2003, was named the 2003 Employee of the Year at the city's annual Employee Luncheon in December. The 2004 Employee of the Year will be selected from the employee selected for the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first three quarters of 2004. 



KIDS EARTH DAY 2004

Make plans to attend Kids Earth Day 2004. This great family event will take place Saturday, April 24, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Lions Memorial Field. The event features dozens of earth-friendly exhibitors sharing fun and educational activities and information. Admission is free.

Kids Earth Day 2004 includes exhibits and activities by:

- EdVenture Children's Museum
 - SCE&G
 - Silver Bluff Audobon Society
 - North American Blue Bird Society
 - Aiken Dog Sports
 - Savannah River Ecology Lab
 - WAGT TV26 Meteorologists
 - US Forest Service
 - SRS – Zoom into Engineering
 - SC Department of Transportation
 - North Augusta Stormwater Management
 - SRS – Archeological Group
 - Aiken Young Farmers
 - SCDHEC – Air, Water & Recycling Divisions
 - Fort Discovery
 - Publix – Brown Bag Coloring
 - Aiken Camelia Society
 - Aiken Bloodhound Tracking Team
 - Carolina Dog Association
 - SC Department of Natural Resources
 - US Postal Service
 - North Augusta Recycling
- ...and much, much more!!!!

Kids Earth Day 2004 is brought to you by the City of North Augusta, the SRS Pollution Prevention Team and SCDHEC. Event sponsorship is provided by BNFL, GlaxoSmithKline, Kimberly Clark, SCE&G, Communigraphics and The Family Center.

In case of rain, the event will be held at the Riverview Park Activities Center. Call 803-441-4224 for more information. 



TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY	911
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Non Emergency	279-2121
Administration	441-4251
Records/Court Services	441-4271
Investigations	441-4274
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
Stormwater Management	441-4246
PUBLIC UTILITIES	
After-Hours Emergencies	279-2121
Utility - New Service/Disconnects	441-4219
Utility Billing	441-4212
Water and Sewer Repairs	441-4240
Streets and Drains Repairs	441-4240
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Economic Development	441-4221
Planning	441-4221
Zoning	441-4221
Code Compliance	441-4258
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	278-3621
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



**NORTH
AUGUSTA**
Recycles

North Augusta 
South Carolina's Riverfront

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 quarterly to every city water customer. If you 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.