

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

BUNTING PARK *Revisited*



Allie Brown, 5, and Sarah May, 4, enjoy the new amenities at Bunting Park. In accordance with the city's Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the neighborhood park recently received a substantial renovation and face-lift that included drainage improvements, new playground equipment, a picnic shelter and landscaping.

2005 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT *Projects*

The city will implement a number of major improvement projects in 2005. Some are already under construction. Others will be started in 2005.

WALNUT LANE GREENEWAY EXTENSION

A contract was recently awarded to construct a mile long Greenway Extension along Walnut Lane. To be constructed this spring, the 10 foot wide trail will provide pedestrian and bicycle access between the Butler's Mill and Walnut Grove subdivisions. It will intersect with the boardwalk connection to Walnut Lane Neighborhood Park that currently terminates on Walnut Lane across from Cherry Laurel Drive, the entrance to Arbor Place. The

North Augusta Bikeway System plan calls for the eventual connection of the Walnut Lane Greenway extension with a new section of the Greenway from Pisgah Road to Walnut Lane.

RIVERFRONT GREENEWAY EXTENSION

Construction continues on a 1.5 mile extension of the Greenway Trail into the North Augusta riverfront. The existing Greenway corridor will be linked with the Savannah River, the riverfront park in the Hammond's Ferry community, and loop back to the Greenway at Riverside Boulevard. Funding for the extension was provided by the Aiken

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2005 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS *continued*

County Capital Projects Sales Tax and grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund through the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. Work should be complete so the new Greenway segment can be opened to traffic in April.



Donated by TTX Hamburg Division, this 90-foot flatbed railcar will soon serve another useful purpose as a bridge over Crystal Creek as part of the Greenway Riverfront Extension.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Reconstruction work is underway on 0.85 miles of older city streets. The \$960,000 sales tax funded project includes the installation of curb, gutter and storm drains, resurfacing and, in some cases, the construction of sidewalks. The anticipated completion date is July 2005. Streets to be reconstructed are:

Street	From	To
Lake Avenue	Woodlawn Avenue	Highview Avenue
Woodlawn Avenue	Crestview Drive	East Avenue
West Summit Avenue	West Avenue	Carolina Avenue

SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION

A \$753,000 portion of the first round of the Capital Projects Sales Tax was earmarked to construct new city sidewalks to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility. Approximately 3.25 miles of sidewalks will be installed by July. The new sidewalks will be located adjacent to schools, parks and other public facilities, and along major roads where needed to connect existing sidewalks. Additional sidewalk construction over the next few years is scheduled for funding with proceeds from the second round of the Capital Projects Sales Tax. Sidewalks will be added to the following streets in 2005:

Street	From	To
Pisgah Road	Bolin Road	Greenway
Wells Road	Pisgah Road	End
Woodlawn Avenue	Riverview Drive	Amherst Drive
Woodlawn Avenue	Stanton Drive	Alta Vista Avenue
Fairview Avenue	Woodlawn Avenue	Riverview Park
Bunting Drive	Lowe Street	End
Brookside Drive	East Buena Vista Avenue	Spring Grove Avenue

HAMMOND'S FERRY SOCCER COMPLEX

Construction of the Hammond's Ferry Soccer Complex will begin soon. The complex will be located across Hammond's Ferry Road from the city's water treatment plant and an existing soccer field. In accordance with the city's Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan, it will include one championship size and two smaller soccer fields, parking, restrooms and a covered picnic pavilion. Major improvements to Hammond's Ferry Road from Georgetown Drive to the city's boat ramp will also be completed as part of the project. The \$1.2 million project is being funded by a combination of Capital Projects Sales Tax receipts and a grant from the National Parks Service Land and Water Conservation Fund through the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.




Over 1,000 youth participated in the North Augusta Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services soccer program in 2004.

DOWNTOWN STREETScape, PHASE 2

Construction will begin in August on the second phase of the downtown streetscape. Improvements to Georgia Avenue several years ago constituted Phase 1. The second phase includes the reconstruction of West Avenue between Jackson and Clifton Avenues, and Jackson, Spring Grove, Pine Grove and Buena Vista Avenues between West and Georgia Avenues.

Improvements will include wider sidewalks and a wider landscape strip between the sidewalk and the curb. Additionally, stamped crosswalks, street trees and decorative streetlights will be installed. Overhead utility lines will be removed. The design will also narrow the roadway to calm traffic. On-street parking will remain on both sides of the street. Construction is expected to be complete in early 2006.

The \$1.8 million project is being funded in part by Capital Project Sales Tax receipts. Other funding is being provided through the city's Capital Projects Fund, the city's franchise agreement with South Carolina Electric & Gas and by the South Carolina Department of Transportation through the Transportation Enhancement program. 

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO BE


Updated

The city is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. State law requires local governments to maintain an up to date plan for the growth and development of the community. The plan must be reviewed at least every five years and updated every 10 years. The city's current plan was adopted in 1995 and partially updated in late 1999. City staff has been drafting the new plan based on information produced by the 2000 census and policies developed by the City Council and Planning Commission over the last six years. The plan serves as the basis for the city's zoning and development regulations.

The state law also requires that the plan address at least seven areas – population, housing, economic development, community facilities and services, cultural resources, natural resources and land use. The North Augusta plan also addresses transportation as a separate element. The plan must include an inventory and assessment of current conditions, conclusions, goals, objectives and implementation strategies for long range improvement projects.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION


Planning Underway

April 11, 2006, will mark the 100 year anniversary of the incorporation of North Augusta. On December 6, 2004, the City Council appointed a Centennial Celebration Steering Committee to plan for and oversee the implementation of a grand centennial celebration next year. Jack Alexander, Angela Burkhalter, Pat Carpenter, Harley Drew, Tom Greene, Victoria Hann, John Hexamer, Shirley Holgate, Henry Jones, Lark Jones, Rev. David Thompson, Mim Woodring and Kelly Zier make up the committee. The committee held its first meeting last month at the North Augusta Community Center and established the theme for the year-long celebration, "Celebrating a Century of Excellence." 

CENTENNIAL PUBLIC MEETING PLANNED – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A public meeting to solicit input and support for the 2006 Centennial Celebration will be held Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the North Augusta Community Center. Those interested in volunteering, sponsoring or assisting in any capacity are encouraged to attend the meeting or call 441-4224. Centennial celebration plans will be posted on the city website, www.northaugusta.net, as soon as they are available.

The Planning Commission has reviewed portions of the proposed plan in several study sessions. It is anticipated that the 2005 Comprehensive Plan will be considered in its final form by the Planning Commission in February and by the City Council in March.

Anyone with an interest in reviewing the draft of the 2005 Comprehensive Plan may do so by contacting the Department of Economic and Community Development at 441-4221. 


GROWTH CONCLUSIONS

- The city's population growth rate has been relatively steady at approximately 1.4 to 1.5 percent per year between 1990 and 2000; however, indications are that it is increasing.
- Residential development activity has varied between 90 and 100 lots per year through 2000 but is now averaging 150 to 160 lots per year.
- Since 1980 North Augusta's population has grown by 36.9%.
- Since 1980 North Augusta's land area has grown by 138.4%.

TOGETHER

Aiken County

Together Aiken County is a project to create a long-term vision and plan for the entire community of Aiken County through input from residents. A series of public meetings are currently being held to collect ideas about the future of the county. Future meetings will be held to develop shared goals for the future and ways to turn those goals into reality. Finally, open house sessions will be offered to allow Aiken County residents the opportunity to review the progress of the strategic planning efforts, identify priority goals and volunteer to help in getting things started to reach the goals.

For more information, go to www.TogetherAikenCounty.com, call the Aiken County Helpline at 211 or call Assistant County Administrator Joan Donnelly at 642-2012. 



North Augustans pose in John C. Calhoun Park for photographer Todd Lista. The group was gathered as part of a televised public service announcement airing to solicit citizen input on the future of Aiken County.

2005 CALENDAR OF *Events*

Mark your calendars now for a variety of fun and exciting events this year. Dates and times are subject to change. Please call the contact number listed with each event to confirm dates and times or request additional information. Information about upcoming community events, as well as official holiday closings and a complete holiday sanitation schedule, is also available online at www.northaugusta.net.

EASTER EGG HUNT – Saturday, March 26, 10:00 a.m., Lions Memorial Field, 441-4300

KIDS EARTH DAY – Saturday, April 16, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Lions Memorial Field, 441-4224

OLDE TOWNE ARTISANS' FAIR – Saturday, April 16, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and **Sunday, April 17**, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Living History Park. Sponsored by the Olde Towne Preservation Association, 279-2323 or 279-7560, www.colonialtimes.org.

MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST – Thursday, May 5, 6:45 a.m., North Augusta Community Center, 441-4290

MUSIC IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES – Thursdays: May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16, June 30 and July 14, 7:00 p.m., Creighton Living History Park, Presented by the North Augusta Cultural Arts Council, 442-7588

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY – Saturday, May 21, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Crossroads Market Shopping Center (Kroger), West Martintown Road, Sponsored by the North Augusta Stormwater Management Department, 441-4295

NIKE AAU PEACHJAM BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT – July 12-15, Riverview Park Activities Center, 441-4311

NIKE WOMENS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT – July 27-30, Riverview Park Activities Center, 441-4311

MUSIC IN THE PARK – Thursday, July 28, 8:00 p.m., Creighton Living History Park, Presented by the North Augusta Cultural Arts Council, 442-7588

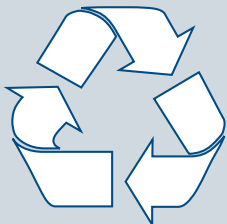
REST FEST – Monday, September 5, 3:00 – 9:30 p.m., Riverview Park, 441-4300

A DAY TO REMEMBER – October 15 and 16, 10:00 a.m., Living History Park, Presented by the Olde Towne Preservation Association, 279-2323 or 279-7560, www.colonialtimes.org

JACK-O-LANTERN JUBILEE – Saturday, October 29, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Downtown, 441-4300

TREE LIGHTING & CAROLS IN THE PARK – Monday, November 28, 6:00 p.m., John C. Calhoun Park, 441-4300

CHRISTMAS PARADE & FESTIVAL – Sunday, December 4, 2:00 p.m., Downtown North Augusta, Presented by the North Augusta Lions Club, 278-7288



**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
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	441-4295
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



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.