

City Administration

Mayor
Lark Jones

City Council
Carolyn Baggott
Pat Carpenter
Phil Mottle
Ken McDowell
Don Smith
Kent Sullivan

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

SANITATION COLLECTION SCHEDULE FOR 1998 HOLIDAYS

North Augusta provides once-a-week curbside collection of garbage, yard waste, trash, and recyclables for all residential properties in the City. Collection days are Monday through Thursday. Collection days are adjusted during weeks that contain a holiday. Holidays for the balance of the year and the adjusted collection days are:

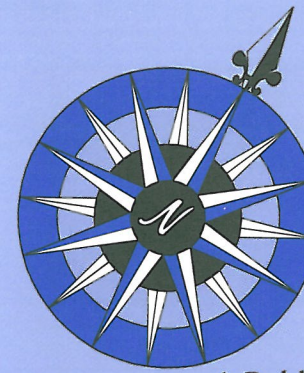
LABOR DAY
Monday, September 7
One day later than normal all week.

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 26
Thursday collection will be picked up Wednesday, November 25. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday collections are unchanged.

CHRISTMAS EVE
Thursday, December 24
Thursday collection will be picked up Wednesday, December 23. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday collections are unchanged.

CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Fire Emergency	911
Police Emergency	911
Public Safety	
Non Emergency	279-2121
Administration	441-4251
Records/Court Services	441-4271
Investigations	441-4274
Codes Enforcement	441-4258
<i>Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services</i>	
Riverview Park Activities Center	441-4311
Activities Coordinator	441-4311
Community Center	441-4290
<i>Finance</i>	
Taxes	441-4215
Utility Billing Services	441-4212
Business Licenses	441-4214
<i>Public Works / Public Utilities</i>	
After-Hours Emergencies	279-2121
Engineering	441-4223
Building Standards	441-4226
Animal Control	441-4237
Sanitation Services	441-4236
Streets & Drains Repairs	441-4235
Water and Sewer Repairs	441-4223
<i>Economic and Community Development</i>	
Planning	441-4221
Zoning	441-4221
<i>Administration</i>	
Mayor	441-4202
City Administrator	441-4202
Human Resources	441-4205
<i>Other Frequently Called Numbers</i>	
North Augusta Chamber of Commerce	279-2323
Nancy Carson Library	279-5767
North Augusta Health Center	278-0880
Jones Intercable	733-7712
S. C. Electric & Gas	442-2000
Bell South	780-2335
S. C. Transportation Dept.	1-800-442-1368
Magistrate - Judge	202-3580



North Augusta Forward

A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta, South Carolina
Volume V, Number 1
August, 1998

CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS NEW REVENUE SOURCES

The North Augusta City Council has identified two new sources of revenue available for downtown and riverfront redevelopment. These are the Local Hospitality Tax and the Local Accommodations Tax.

Hospitality Tax: 2% tax on the sales of prepared meals and beverages within the City.

Accommodations Tax: 3% tax on the gross proceeds derived from the rental or charges for overnight stays at motels and bed and breakfast inns.

Council has scheduled public hearings to review with citizens the details of these taxes and the projects for which they will be used.

Public hearings are scheduled for August 17 and September 21 prior to the scheduled first consideration of the ordinance that would adopt the taxes. Public comment periods are also scheduled prior to each of the second and third considerations of the ordinance on October 5 and 19 respectively. The public hearings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Lark Jones

Greetings! We are pleased to publish this, our first newsletter in eight years. The City's staff has spent many hours in preparation to provide you with important and timely information.

We, the elected officials and employees of the City of North Augusta, have a commitment to strive to improve our City. This newsletter has been prepared so that you, the citizens of North Augusta, may be better informed about the exciting things that are happening and being planned for our City.

We plan to publish the newsletter on a regular basis so that you will be aware of upcoming events, activities, and schedules, have a better understanding of how your City operates, and keep up to date about the state of your City. We are hopeful that, by being better informed, the citizens of North Augusta will become more interested in their City.

We hope you will enjoy this and future issues of "North Augusta Forward." We welcome your comments, your interest, and your participation.

Lark W. Jones Mayor

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North Augusta Forward

City of North Augusta, South Carolina
400 East Buena Vista Avenue
PO Box 6400
North Augusta, SC 29861

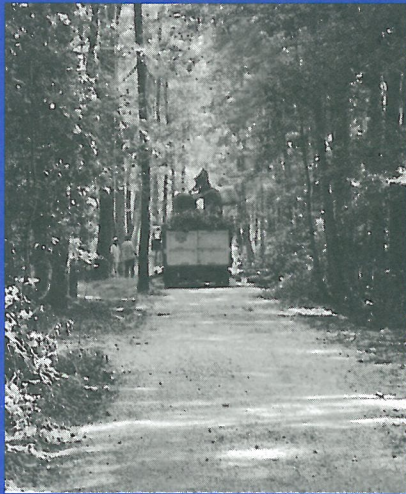
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT NO. 26
North Augusta, SC

NEW HOME FOR PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

In March, City Council approved a contract for the construction of a new operations center to house the City's Public Works and Utility Departments. The operations center is being built on eight acres of City-owned land adjacent to the City's Recycling Center on Clay Pit Road. The Departments of Water and Sewer Operations, Streets and Drains, and Sanitation will be housed in the new center. The center includes office space, vehicle and equipment storage, warehouse space, and a modern maintenance garage. The \$2.2 million center is being jointly funded by the City's General Fund, Sanitation Services Fund and Street Improvements Fund.

With completion of the operations center scheduled for this fall, the old facilities located on East Buena Vista Avenue will be torn down and landscaped to complement the Riverside Boulevard entrance to North Augusta's riverfront. (See #12 on the Project Map on page 7.)

GREENEWAY PHASE II OPENS THIS FALL



Phase II of the North Augusta Greenway is now under construction and will be completed in the fall. This second phase of the popular biking, hiking, jogging, and walking trail from West Martintown Road to Pisgah Road will be 1.5 miles in length. The cost of this section of the trail is \$458,700. Grants have been received from the South Carolina Department of Transportation for \$108,000 and from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for \$145,000. The balance of funds is being covered by City-supplied materials, equipment, and labor. When completed, phases I and II of the Greenway will total 4.8 miles and will be separated only by the roadway of West Martintown Road. The City is currently pursuing funding for a Greenway trail bridge over West Martintown Road (please see Project Map on page 7).

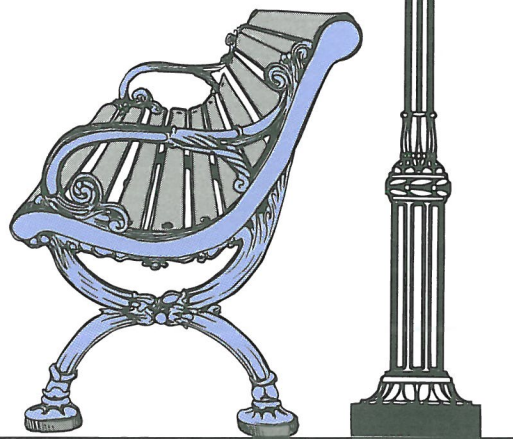
GEORGIA AVENUE STREETSCAPE DESIGN

On July 6, the North August City Council authorized the City's engineering consultant for downtown and riverfront redevelopment, Cranston, Robertson & Whitehurst, P.C., to complete the design for phase I of the downtown streetscape. The downtown streetscape was the first priority of the City Council for the Downtown/Riverfront Redevelopment Program and includes significant improvements in the downtown district. The concept design for the downtown streetscape was completed earlier this year and is available for viewing by the public in the Municipal Building.

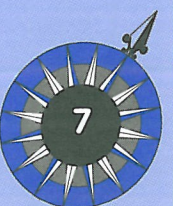
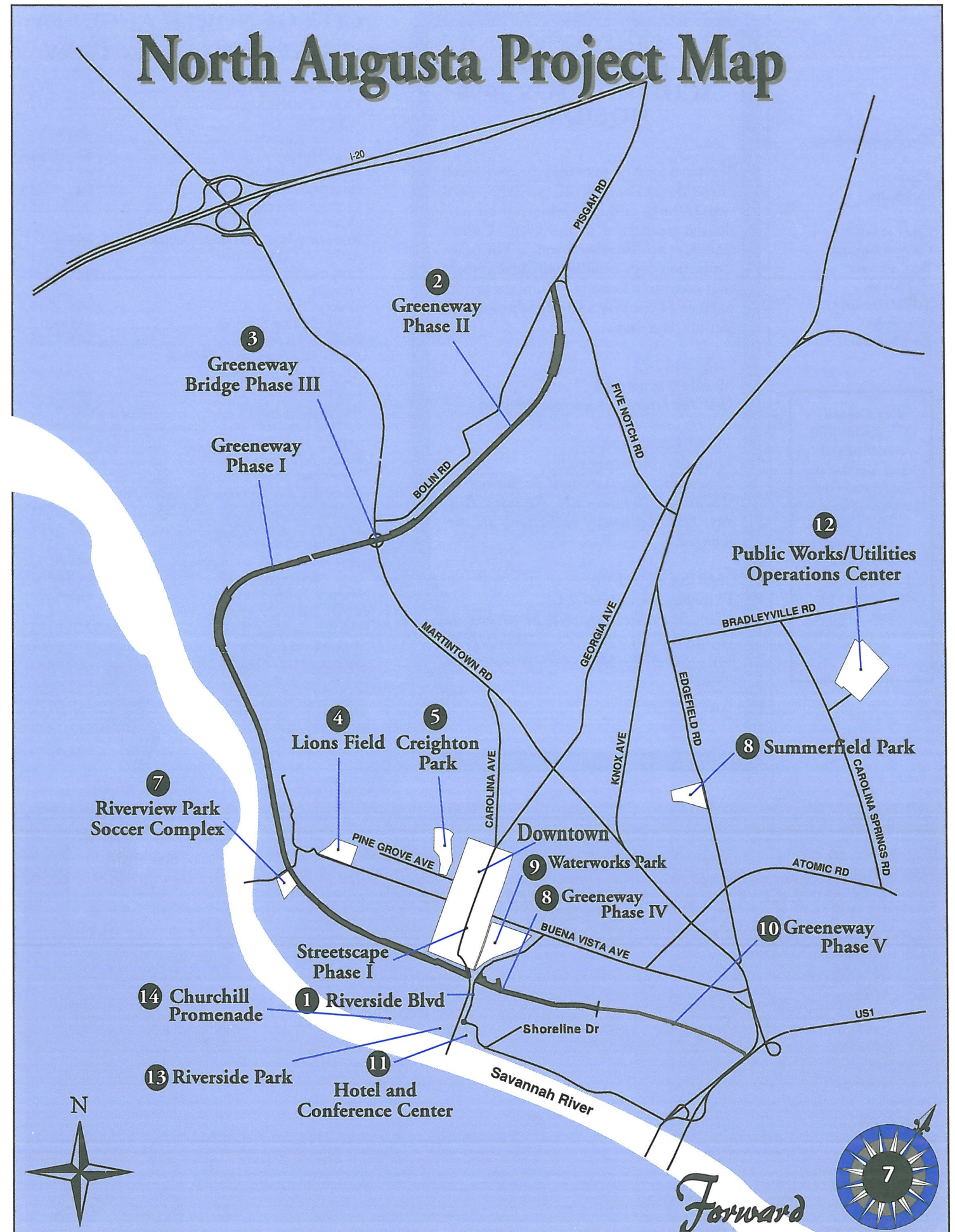
Phase I includes all of Georgia Avenue between Jackson Avenue and the Georgia Avenue bridge. Anticipated improvements include new sidewalks, curb and gutter, street pavement, crosswalks, traffic signals, streetlights, landscaping, and street furniture.

Surveyors have already started work on Georgia Avenue. The design will be completed by December, and the construction is anticipated to begin in April, 1999.

Drawing of streetlight and street furniture chosen for Georgia Avenue



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**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 31**

Starts at 10:00 a.m.
Georgia Avenue
North Augusta

**ENTERTAINMENT
ALL DAY!**

- Music •
- Pretty-Legs Contest •
- Costume Contest •
 - Fashion Show •
 - Games •
- Amusement for Kids •
 - Fair Foods •
 - Crafts •

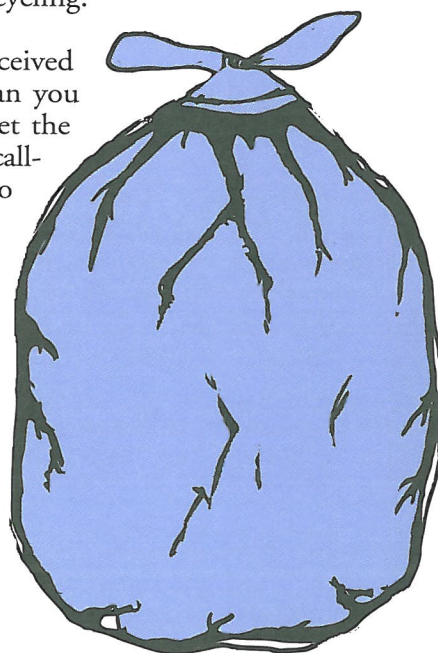
Contact the North Augusta
Parks, Recreation and
Leisure Services Department
for more information at
803-441-4300.

BLUE BAGS CHANGED

Following a successful trial period and in an effort to maintain the best recycling program in the state at the lowest possible costs, the City has introduced a new style of blue bags. These new, bigger bags are made from a lighter and stronger material and use "ears" for tying. Each roll delivered to the customers contains 20 bags, an increase from 13 on the older yellow-tie blue-bag rolls. The City's cost of purchasing these new bags is 25% less. Each bag is identified as property of the City of North Augusta and is to be used only for recycling.

Too Many Blue Bags? If you have received too many blue bags—more bags than you expect to use for recycling—please let the City Sanitation Department know by calling 441-4227. They will be happy to pick up the extras. Remember these bags are not to be used for any other purpose than recycling in the North Augusta recycling program.

Too Few Blue Bags? If you need more blue bags for purposes of recycling, please let the City Sanitation Department know by calling 441-4227 or pick up a roll at the Municipal Building utility payment drive-up window.



**RECYCLING
PROGRAM UPDATE**

Citizen commitment to recycling has made North Augusta one of the few communities in South Carolina to reach the goal of 30% recycling. In the past year, the City's Material Recovery Facility removed for recycling 31% of the solid waste collected. Thanks to the participation and support of its citizens, North Augusta's blue-bag program is recognized as

one of the best recycling programs in the State.

The City currently recycles the following material: newspapers, magazines, cardboard, steel cans, scrap metal, aluminum cans, glass bottles and jars, plastic milk jugs, plastic soda bottles, plastic detergent bottles, used motor oil, and batteries.

**RECREATION CLASSES OFFERED
AT RIVERVIEW PARK**

A wide variety of classes are offered regularly at the Riverview Park Activities Center. Classes include Jazzercise, gymnastics, shag, line dancing, and many others. Prices vary from \$5 to \$50 depending on the class. Call 441-4311 for more information.



Construction of Riverside Boulevard

**RIVERSIDE
BOULEVARD
NEARING
COMPLETION**

Construction of Riverside Boulevard, the first major public improvement authorized in the Riverfront Redevelopment Program, will be completed in October. The \$1.4 million, six-tenths of a mile boulevard begins at East Buena Vista Avenue near the Municipal Building and ends at a "roundabout" traffic circle near the Savannah River. Riverside Boulevard provides the primary access to riverfront redevelopment projects including the River Club Golf Course, North Augusta Greenway, River Club single-family subdivision, a future Savannah River hotel site, and more than 150 acres of land available for residential, commercial, and recreational uses.

The Riverside Boulevard alignment combines and widens portions of the old Ponce de Leon Avenue and Detour Road. The new roadway features a center landscaped median, bicycle lanes, and a wide sidewalk that leaves the boulevard and meanders through Waterworks Park. The roundabout termination of Riverside Boulevard provides the intersection with Shoreline Drive that will extend east into the River Club subdivision and west under the Georgia Avenue bridge into the area of the proposed Riverside Park and Churchill Promenade (see #1 on Project Map on page 7).

**FALL RECREATION
PROGRAM
REGISTRATION**

Registration for fall recreation programs is now underway at the Riverview Park Activities Center. The cost of program participation for soccer, football, and cheerleading is:

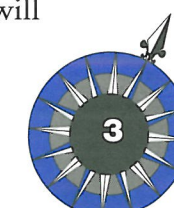
- In-City Activities Center member \$35
- In-City Non Activities Center member \$40
- Out-of-City Activities Center member \$50
- Out-of-City Non Activities Center member \$55

Soccer registration is open the month of August for children ages 5 to 16 as of September 1, 1998.

Cheerleading and *football* registration is open the month of August for children ages 7 to 12 as of September 1, 1998. Birth certificates are required for all registrations.



The City of North Augusta will celebrate Labor Day this year with its first Rest Fest, Monday, September 7. The Un-Labor Day Rest Fest '98, formerly known as the Labor Day Celebration, is a day of fun, food, music, and relaxation. The festivities begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Riverview Park Activities Center and will include games and amusements for kids of all ages. The North Augusta Public Safety Department will be on hand to "save festival goers" from the heat with a cool Splash Down—cool water sprayed from a fire truck. There will be plenty of food available. Musical entertainment will be provided by established local talent and by up-and-coming artists. Rest Fest '98 will close with a spectacular fireworks display.



CITY COUNCIL SETS PRIORITIES

Every two years, North Augusta's City Council formally reviews proposed capital construction projects, evaluates new or expanded programs, and establishes priorities for the expenditure of City funds. The Council initiated its 1998 review on March 9 and completed the process on June 1. The City Council priorities guide the City Administration as the annual budgets are developed, departmental programs and projects are prepared, and grants or other outside funding sources are pursued.

The 1998 priorities were separated into two groups for the first time. The first group, Citywide Projects and Programs, will be funded with traditional sources of revenues. The second group, Downtown and Riverfront Redevelopment Projects, will be funded with several special revenue sources. The projects and programs in order of priority are listed in Groups I and II:



CITY WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Currently under construction, www.northaugusta.net, is scheduled to be on line in September. The North Augusta site will include pages devoted to current issues being considered by the City Council, information on the City's history, officials, and budget, and agendas and minutes of City Council, Planning Commission, and other board meetings. Other pages will provide information on parks and recreation activities and schedules and the e-mail addresses of selected City personnel. Also included will be notices of public works and utilities activities that might affect roads and traffic conditions and sanitation schedule updates. In the future, the site will include e-mail links to submit utility and solid waste service requests. The City's website will also contain economic development and public safety information and provide links to a number of related sites. Plan to surf the net to www.northaugusta.net and learn more about your City.

GROUP I: City-Wide Projects & Programs

1. **Greenway - Phase III** A pedestrian and bicycle bridge over West Martintown Road to connect phases I and II. (See Project Map # 3).
2. **First Responder Program** A program to equip and train Public Safety officers to respond to medical emergencies and render assistance until an ambulance arrives.
3. **Lions Field** Reconstruction of Lions Field to provide two full-size playing fields, modern rest rooms, concession stands, and adequate handicap access (See Project Map #4).
4. **Storm Drainage Improvements** A program to provide expanded maintenance of the City's stormwater drainage system.
5. **Public Safety Computer Upgrade** Improvements to the Department's computer system including software that will improve operations, prevent a year 2000 problem, and permit integration with national and state crime information centers.
6. **Creighton Living History Park Improvements** A master plan and program of improvements to the park (See Project Map #5).
7. **Mobile Data Terminals** Use of lap-top computers in Public Safety patrol cars providing officers with direct data links to state and national crime information centers. Will enable officers to submit reports directly from the field.
8. **Summerfield Skateboard Park** Design and construction of a skateboarding facility in Summerfield Park (See Project Map #6).
9. **Downtown Development Assistance Program** A program to encourage downtown businesses and property owners to make property improvements, increase business activity, and revitalize the downtown area.
10. **Riverview Park Soccer Complex** Design and construction of new soccer fields across from the City's water treatment plant. (See Project Map #7).
11. **Greenway - Phase IV** Construction of the Greenway from Georgia Avenue to a point midway between the Georgia Avenue bridge and the bridge at Fifth Street (See Project Map #3).
12. **Waterworks Park Improvements** Improvements to the park located behind the Municipal Building between Riverside Boulevard and Georgia Avenue (See Project Map #9).
13. **Greenway - Phase V** Extension of the Greenway from the point where Phase IV ends to the bridge at Fifth Street (See Project Map #10).
14. **Christmas in the Park** An annual festival of Christmas light displays and holiday activities in Riverview Park.

KEEP NORTH AUGUSTA BEAUTIFUL

Please help to keep the City beautiful and safe by following a few suggestions:

Yard maintenance. Spring rain and summer heat always bring grass that grows too fast. Lawns should be mowed regularly, and trees and bushes should be pruned when necessary. The City will remove all yard waste on regular trash pickup days if it is placed at the curb.

Inoperable vehicles. Inoperable vehicles parked in the street sometime interfere with emergency vehicles and can become a traffic hazard. Inoperable vehicles should never be parked on the shoulder of a road or in front of a residence. There are several businesses listed in the yellow pages that will purchase and tow inoperable vehicles.

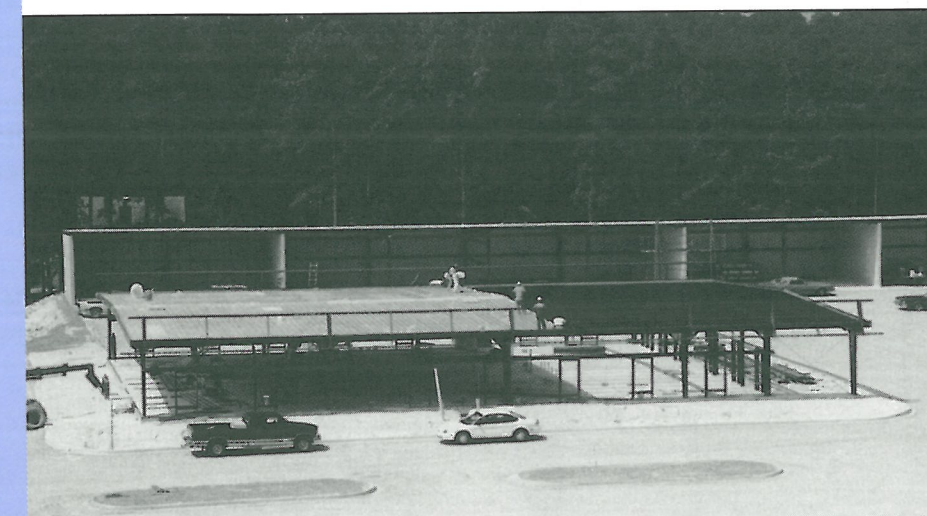
Yard sales. Summer is the season for yard sales. Yard sale signs should be placed in the yard where the sale is taking place. Additionally, directional signs pointing the way to a yard sale may be placed inside the curb at one or two intersections in the vicinity. No sign should be attached to an existing sign post, fence, or utility pole. Signs should not be set up before the morning of the sale and should be taken down as soon as possible after the sale is over.

Banners and Balloons. For safety reasons banners, fluttering signs, and balloons are not allowed as signs or for advertising. They can break loose, no matter how well installed, and possibly injure a pedestrian or cause a vehicle accident.

Your cooperation will make our City shine, and we will all appreciate North Augusta for the beautiful place it is. If you have any questions please call the North Augusta Code Enforcement Office at 441-4258.

GROUP II: Downtown & Riverfront Redevelopment Projects

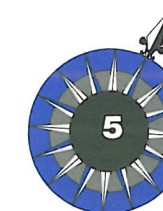
1. **Downtown Streetscape - Phase I Design** Final construction designs for the first phase of downtown street improvements on Georgia Avenue from Jackson Avenue south to the Georgia Avenue bridge.
2. **Downtown Streetscape - Phase I Construction** Construction of downtown street improvements on Georgia Avenue from Jackson Avenue to the Georgia Avenue bridge.
3. **Downtown Streetscape - Phase II Design** Establish the area for the second phase of downtown street improvements and complete the construction design.
4. **Riverside Park & Churchill Promenade Concept Plan** Determine the scope of the proposed Riverside Park and Churchill Promenade on the Savannah River and the related private redevelopment west of the Georgia Avenue bridge.
5. **Downtown Streetscape - Phase II Construction** Construction of Phase II of downtown street improvements.
6. **Riverside Park & Churchill Promenade Design** Design of the proposed Riverside Park and Churchill Promenade on the Savannah River west of the Georgia Avenue bridge.
7. **Hotel & Conference Center Development Incentive** Construction of public improvements associated with a hotel and conference center to locate on the Savannah River. (See Project Map #11).
8. **Downtown Streetscape - Phase III Design** Establish the area for the third phase of downtown street improvements and complete the design.
9. **Riverside Park Construction** Construction of the Riverside Park on the Savannah River west of the Georgia Avenue bridge. (See Project Map #13).
10. **Churchill Promenade Construction** Construction of the Churchill Promenade adjoining the Riverside Park and running west along the Savannah River. (See Project Map #14).
11. **Downtown Streetscape - Phase III Construction** Construction of the third and final phase of downtown street improvements.



Construction of new city operations center.



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