



## Bicycling and Greenways E-Newsletter

5th Edition - August 26, 2010

The City of Greenville has been designated a Bronze "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists and is actively pursuing several bicycling and greenway trail projects. Our E-Newsletter provides updates and information about our ongoing efforts to encourage bicycling and walking for recreation and transportation. You've received this e-newsletter because you've either signed up on the City's Website, requested information in the past regarding bicycling or greenway projects or signed-up at one of our recent [Bikeville](#) events. [Brian Graham](#) and [Andrew Meeker](#) use this format to provide periodic updates from the City about various bicycle infrastructure and greenway projects and events. You can expect to receive at least one update every month, perhaps more, but we won't bombard you. We look forward to sharing a lot of exciting news with you as we work to make the City of Greenville a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly community!

### **Bicycle Master Plan**

The City of Greenville is excited to announce that it has contracted with [Alta Planning + Design](#) on the development of a city-wide Bicycle Master Plan. Alta is a multi-disciplinary international firm that specializes in bicycle and pedestrian research, planning, and design. A 15-member Planning Advisory Committee of local advocates, community leaders, and stakeholders has been created to guide the project. A comprehensive bicycle master plan is a key component of the City's Bicycle Friendly Community initiative and will serve as a roadmap for future bicycle facility and program improvements. There will be multiple opportunities for public involvement and input via public meetings and on-line surveys, so stay-tuned for more information and the launch of a project website.

### **Complete Streets and Bike Network Expanding**

The City of Greenville and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) recently collaborated on two roadway improvement projects when SCDOT resurfaced and restriped Park Avenue/East North Street from Atwood Street to Pleasantburg Drive (2.5 miles) and Washington Street from the Amtrak station to Laurens Rd. (2.25 miles). Both roads are owned by SCDOT, which provided funding for construction. The City funded the development of restriping plans and on-street bicycle facility markings.

These complete street projects are referred to as road diets, which typically involve removing

one or more vehicular travel lanes and reallocating the extra space for turn lanes, transit, bicyclists, pedestrians and landscaping. The result is that the safety of all street users improves due to wider vehicular travel lanes, dedicated left-turn lanes, on-street bicycle facilities and increased buffers between sidewalks and vehicular travel lanes.

The City's complete streets policy ensures that all transportation improvement projects provide appropriate accommodation for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and persons of all abilities. Expanding bicycle and pedestrian facilities increase transportation connectivity and economic development opportunities while providing integrated mobility options for residents and visitors.



### **Critical Cruise**

Friday, August 27 @ 5:30 p.m.

Bikeville hosts a monthly Critical Cruise Bike Ride on the last Friday of every month. This month's ride departs from in-front of the [West Washington Street Deck](#) next to Barley's. The rides are very casual, respectful, and lawful. We celebrate bicycling and bicyclists' right to the road. This community bike ride is open to all riders, bikes, and skill levels. The ride is typically 1-hour long and features several of Greenville's bicycle friendly streets. We will be riding with and in traffic, so come prepared to follow the rules of the road, have fun, and learn about Greenville's expanding bicycle infrastructure and culture. \*\*\*If raining, the ride is cancelled.



### **Bicycle Friendly Business**

Check out the City of Greenville's new Bicycle Friendly Business [webpage](#) to learn which Greenville businesses are making cycling a priority for their employees and why you should apply to become a BFB!

### **Baltimore Blog**

Greenville's bicycle network and efforts were recently recognized by a visitor from Baltimore. Check out their Blog post [here](#).

### **Visit our new Google Map**

Earlier this month [Bikeville](#) launched a new interactive/collaborative Google Map to identify where all the bicycle racks are in the Greenville community. This is a tool for bicyclists to use on a daily basis, but will also help us identify where the needs are/ where we ought to consider installing new bicycle racks. This is a community map, with user generated content - that means we need your help mapping bike rack locations. So, go [check it out](#), share it with a friend and help place markers on the map at locations that you know there is a bike rack.

### **Share the Road Vests**

Bikeville created a custom high visibility "Share the Road" vest and TTR Bikes is selling them for \$20. A portion of the proceeds go to support the Bikeville initiative. Contact Andrew Meeker if you are interested in carrying vests in your store. Check them out [here](#).



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## Greenway Update

### Cleveland Park Trail Rehabilitation

The past few weeks have seen some additional resurfacing, clean-up after some very heavy rains and flooding and some real progress on the new bridge. The bridge contractors are on-site, preparing for the most exciting phase of this project, the McDaniel Avenue Bypass Bridge (photo below). As of now, we are expecting to set a 118-foot bridge during the first half of September. However, with all the additional work required, like surfacing the bridge, placing ramps, retaining walls and hand rail it will likely be into October before we are able to open the bridge to bicyclists and pedestrians. We will, of course, keep you updated!

### Upcoming Trail Projects

In addition to the ongoing work in Cleveland Park, we have some exciting projects that are on the horizon. We are in the process of finalizing the design of the Sliding Rock Creek Trail, which is a trail spur to the Hincapie Path section of the Swamp Rabbit Trail (SRT). It will connect the SRT at Alameda Street to the new Heritage Hills community, in the Nicholtown Neighborhood. We also expect to issue an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the construction of the next two phases of the Swamp Rabbit Trail in September. These projects include the installation of a 170-foot bridge over the Reedy River near E. Faris Road and Greenville Technical College and an extension of the trail along Cleveland Street to S. Pleasantburg Avenue. We are also in the process of developing additional way-finding signage, rain gardens, and will be installing one-half mile distance markers soon.



## Upcoming Events

### Free Bicycle Maintenance Class

September 15 @ 6:30 p.m.

The Great Escape Greenville has begun offering Free Bike Maintenance classes. The next class is scheduled for September 15th. Sign-up now, these classes fill-up! Classes are from 6:30pm -8:00pm. All classes take place at the Great Escape Bike Shop on Laurens Road. Maintenance issues covered include basic flat repair, Pre-Ride bike checks, how to keep your bike in good running condition, and other bike maintenance fundamentals. They ask that you bring your bike and they will supply the tools, equipment, knowledge, and refreshments. Call 864-235-8320 to reserve a spot or [Click here](#) to visit their website for more details.

### Lunchtime Greenway Bicycle Ride

Friday, September 17 @ 12:00 p.m.

Our next ride will meet at the Caine Halter YMCA on Cleveland Street. [Click here](#) for more details and directions. This ride is a great opportunity to get out of the office, enjoy some fresh air and get some exercise on a Friday afternoon. All levels of bicyclists are encouraged to attend-- the pace is easy and no rider will be left behind. Families welcome. Helmets encouraged.

### USA Cycling Pro Championships - Save the Date

September 18 & 19, 2010

The USA Professional Cycling Championships returns to Greenville for a fifth consecutive year on September 18-19th. The Championship weekend features the USA Cycling Professional Time Trial Championship on Saturday at CU-ICAR and the USA Cycling Professional Road Race Championship on Sunday, which starts and finishes in downtown Greenville. Bikeville will once again offer free bike valet parking at the event on Sunday. Stay-tuned for more details.

### Traffic Skills 101 Course - Save the Date

Sept. 30, Oct. 7 & Oct. 9

Traffic Skills 101 is part of the League of American Bicyclists **Smart Cycling** curriculum and offers participants both classroom and on-the-bike knowledge. It provides new and experienced bicyclists the confidence they need to ride safely and legally in traffic or on the trail. The course covers bicycle safety checks, fixing a flat, on-bike skills, and crash avoidance techniques. Four, nationally certified, League Cycling Instructors will host this 9-hour course, in 3 convenience three-hour sessions on the evenings of September 30th, October 7th and the morning of October 9th. Save the date and stay-tuned for more details and registration information!

Visit [www.bikeville.org](http://www.bikeville.org) or [www.greenvillesc.gov/ParksRec/Trails](http://www.greenvillesc.gov/ParksRec/Trails) for additional resources and information

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