

## Bicycle Safety Training at Camp Summit Summer Camp

In August, Officer Robert Hurt with the Lees Summit Police Department met with camp kids ages 5-11 and covered bike safety, bike signals, helmet safety, and showed his bike and the equipment on his bike required for an officer. Each camper also was sent home with a "Bicycle Tips & Laws" pamphlet from the Lee's Summit Police Department. Over 400 camp kids received instruction from Officer Hurt.



Eric Bunch, with BikeWalkKC, is a certified instructor through the League of American Bicyclists. Eric spent two sessions with camp kids for one hour each working with 5-6 year olds on pedestrian safety on sidewalks and roadways and working with 7-8 year olds on bike safety on sidewalks and roadways. Eric provided verbal and visual instruction to all age groups. This allowed for campers to actually get walk through safety instruction and interaction. Over 250 camp kids received instruction from Eric.

Both training programs were initiated by the Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department and Lee's Summit Police Department in partnership with the Livable Streets Advisory Council to improve bicycle safety and awareness education among youth in the community

**Greenway News**  
 Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation  
 220 SE Green Street  
 Lee's Summit, MO 64063  
 816.969.1500

**Lee's Summit  
 PARKS  
 & RECREATION**  
 "Every Age. Every Season"

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 Put "GW News" in the subject line.



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## Tales from the trail

Your connection to Lee's Summit's Trail & Greenway Development

**Fall Fling Fun  
 Run & 5K  
 Sunday,  
 October 23**  
 at Legacy Park in Lee's Summit



**5K Run/Walk: 7:30am  
 Family Fun Run/Walk: 9am**

**Entry Fees:**  
 5K, by Oct. 10: \$25 (\$20 for  
 5K, after Oct. 10: \$30 (\$25 for  
 Family Fun Run: \$10 / per

**REGISTER TODAY!**

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**metrogreen**  
 MID AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL  
 900 BROADWAY, SUITE 200  
 KANSAS CITY, MO 64105

**JOIN THE CELEBRATION!  
 METROGREEN'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY**

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011  
 Legacy Park Community Center  
 901 NE Bluemem Drive / Lee's Summit, MO 64086

Program and networking 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
 Refreshments provided. Guests are invited to walk or bike the Lake Trail Loop (1.69 mi.). First 100 participants will receive a MetroGreen t-shirt.

Since the vision of a metro-wide greenway system was created in 1991, MetroGreen has been connecting communities, protecting natural resources, preserving open space, providing recreation and transportation opportunities, and more.

Come celebrate MetroGreen's 20th anniversary: learn how the plan began, where we are today, and what the future holds. Following a brief presentation, visit with others and enjoy scenic Legacy Park.

RSVP to Kassie Shelton 816/701-8233 / [kshelton@marc.org](mailto:kshelton@marc.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Lee's Summit  
**PARKS  
 & RECREATION**  
 "Every Age. Every Season"

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## DID YOU KNOW...

...The Katy Trail generates over \$6 million in economic development annually recovering its initial cost in the first year. LSPR staff and city staff along with other local municipalities are negotiating with the Union Pacific RR to extend the Katy to Kansas City.

## Lee's Summit & Livable Streets

### What is a "Livable Street"?

A Livable Street accommodates and promotes all modes of travel; car, truck, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian, for people of all abilities, whether for commute or recreation. While not all elements are expected on every street, all modes and abilities should be considered on each street within the context of its environment resulting in a network of functional facilities that are efficient and safe.



Livable Street elements often include turn lanes, landscaping, trees, sidewalks, ADA compliance, access management, bicycle lanes/paved shoulders or wide curb lanes, shared-use paths (i.e. Greenways), roundabouts, traffic calming (i.e. speed humps), and street lighting. The surrounding environment should also encourage active living, such as mixed-use development, attractive architecture and building materials, arts, destination places, parks, street connectivity, safe routes to school, community policing, etc.

### How does this impact Lee's Summit?

Lee's Summit has created many Livable Streets that incorporate a variety of Livable Street Elements within and beyond a supported environment throughout the community, some of which have been nationally recognized including the Downtown Area, but there remains a great opportunity for improvement. The City has applied for Bicycle Friendly Community designation, previously awarded Honorable Mention in 2010, and Walk Friendly Community designation by the nationally recognized League of American Bicyclists. These applications and feedback received are used to identify improvement opportunities and recognize achievements.

### How did Livable Streets Come About in LS?

Livable Streets was supported by citizens through the LS360 strategic planning process. The City's Strategic Plan, LS360, includes a Livable Streets goal within the Transportation Key Performance Area. City Council approved the Strategic Plan and subsequently passed a Livable Streets Resolution, that was crafted by



citizens, staff and professionals representing all modes of transportation and people of all abilities. The resolution was also supported by many organizations throughout the community including the Parks and Recreation Board. The City Council then appointed a citizen based, eleven member advisory board (Livable Streets Advisory Board) to carry out the Livable Streets Resolution and advance the Livable Streets initiative throughout the community.

### How does this benefit the LSPR Greenways?

The Livable Streets initiative supports and integrates the LS Greenway System as a key element of transportation and recreation. Most people prefer to use the LS Greenway System when on bike or foot to avoid vehicular traffic, especially along busy arterial roads. The Greenways accommodate people of all abilities and offer direct access to parks and other destination places.

*(written by Michael Park, City of Lee's Summit Traffic Engineer, and Dr. Ed Kraemer, Chair, Livable Streets Advisory Board)*

## 10th Annual Tour de Lakes

The 10th Annual Tour de Lakes was held in June with over 600 riders enjoying some beautiful and safe biking trails in the area. The ride started at Longview Recreation Center at MCC Longview College. From there participants chose 12, 32 or 63 mile routes that peddled them around area lakes like Longview, Jacomo, Raintree and Blue Springs. The ride benefits the Longview Foundation and the Legacy for Parks Foundation.

Mark your calendars for the 11th Annual TDL set for June 23rd.



## Greenway Projects Update

### Rock Island Update

City officials from several local jurisdictions, including Lee's Summit, met on Tuesday, August 2nd at Raytown City Hall to discuss progress on negotiations with Union Pacific Railroad to acquire the 17 mile inactive rail corridor from Lee's Summit north to near the Truman Sports Complex in Kansas City, Missouri. Officials reviewed progress on the contract to acquire and discussed railbanking options versus outright abandonment of the corridor.

Railbanking is a voluntary agreement between a railroad company and a trail agency to use an out-of-service rail corridor as a trail until some railroad might need the corridor again for rail service in national emergency situations. Because a railbanked corridor is not considered abandoned, it can be sold, leased or donated to a trail manager without reverting to adjacent landowners. The railbanking provisions of the National Trails System Act as adopted by Congress in 1983 have preserved 4,431 miles of rail corridors in 33 states that would otherwise have been abandoned.

Officials have been reviewing financing options including alternative federal transportation grants for the 17 mile corridor plus an additional 13 miles to continue to Pleasant Hill, thus connecting into the existing Katy Trail extension currently under construction. The intent is for the corridor to be developed for multi-modal transportation including bicycle and pedestrian use, along with light rail transit.



*The city of Denton, TX recently opened their new light rail transit that travels between Denton, Dallas and Fort Worth.*

The anticipated timeline for the project would be to finalize negotiations with Union Pacific Railroad by late 2011, conduct due diligence requirements, survey, and environmental assessments during the first half of 2012, complete design for the first phase of multi-use trail with trailheads during the second half of 2012, and be in construction during 2013-14 with completion scheduled for of the 30 mile route by the end of 2014.