

UPDATE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 3, 2010

Smart Trips Month

May is Smart Trips Month. This month will be filled with fun events and chances to win prizes while making sustainable transportation choices a part of your life. Highlights of the month include:

The **First Friday Art Bus** will be parked at Market Street and Union Avenue on May 7.

"**How Many Can You Fit in a Fit?**" will be held on May 14 in Market Square.

More than 10 **bike rides** are scheduled during May such as the Poker Ride on May 8 in Bearden.

A lunchtime **greenway walk**, UT/Fort Sanders walk with historian and columnist Jack Neely, after-work greenway walk and a walk around New Harvest Park.

The **Commuter Challenge** kicks off May 1 and runs through September 30. Find out more and get splatted at www.knoxspat.com.

For a complete list of events and Smart Trips Awards, go to www.knoxsmartrips.org.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

Staff continue working with the joint city and county Hillside and Ridgeline task force and its subcommittees to review the draft **Hillside and Ridgetop Protection Plan**. More public meetings are expected before the plan goes before MPC.

Staff have begun drafting the **North Central Street form code** as part of the MPC commitment to the City's PNI initiatives within the Empowerment Zone.

KAT

On April 22, the Knoxville Transportation Authority (KTA) **approved route changes** which will take effect on August 16 with KAT's move to the Knoxville Station Transit Center. Maps and schedules for the August 2010 route changes can be viewed on their website, <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/kat/default.asp>.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The **2010 Industrial Market Analysis** is now available. The complete report can be purchased for \$75 and a PDF version is available for \$50.

The **Spring 2010 Quarterly** has been distributed and is available on the MPC website, www.knoxmpc.org.

NEW CONTRACT

Knox County Health Department has contracted with MPC to complete several tasks related to their **Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities initiatives**. MPC staff will conduct an audit of current regulations and policies to identify potential barriers to more active living and healthier eating. In addition, a review of best practices and current status of connectivity to recreation and other public facilities and accessibility to food stores will be conducted.

RUMOR HAS IT

Rumor has it that the Knox County Commission is about to issue a challenge once again to the City of Knoxville, Knox County Schools and MPC to meet them in a softball tournament tentatively scheduled for May 14 at around 5:30 p.m. at the Caswell Park ball fields. It is just enough time for the (small in numbers) MPC commissioners and staff to loosen up their throwing arms and sharpen their batting eyes in hopes of competing with these three leviathans.