

## **Wednesday: Forum on greenway**

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Mount Holly's proposed 11-mile greenway along the Catawba River has been taking shape for six years.

The project is still in the planning stages, but people interested about what it will mean to the community can ask questions at a free public forum on Wednesday at the Mount Holly Citizens Training Room, 400 E. Central Ave.

This will be the first time that most of the key partners in the greenway project have been available at such an event.

Sponsored by the Mount Holly Community Development Foundation and billed as "Mount Holly Riverwalk - the Big Picture," the forum will include representatives from Clariant Corp., American & Efird Inc. - industrial land owners along the river - the city of Mount Holly, the Carolina Thread Trial, Greenways Inc. and others.

Displays and maps will detail the greenway route, which will eventually run from the Mountain Island Dam south to near Interstate 85.

"This is a chance for anybody to ask questions," said Karen Heroy, the foundation's executive director. "We really want people to bring their ideas and concerns."

She said people along the route have expressed concerns about security near their homes. They're worried about increased pedestrian traffic, lighting on the trail and the potential for crime.

Mount Holly Police Chief David Belk will address those issues. "He will try to allay some of these concerns," Heroy said. "There is a way to do this (greenway) safely."

At Wednesday's forum, experts will talk about the project cost, recreational aspects and how it can positively affect the community's economy.

Displays will be available for public view beginning at 6:30 p.m., and the presentation will start at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Karen Heroy at 704-827-5262, e-mail [karen@mounthollyfoundation.org](mailto:karen@mounthollyfoundation.org) or go to [www.mounthollyfoundation.org](http://www.mounthollyfoundation.org).