

## **Davidson ride will promote bicycle safety**

By Joe Marusak

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DAVIDSON -- After at least two bicycle-motor vehicle collisions this summer that seriously injured cyclists, town staff and residents will promote bicycle safety with a one-hour awareness ride at 10 a.m. Sept. 25.

The ride, which will begin at Kincaid Trail at the end of South Street and follow a three-mile course, will also help promote the official marking of the South Prong Greenway as part of the Carolina Thread Trail system.

The ride is particularly important given increased numbers of cyclists in the region and the recent crashes that seriously injured cyclists, Davidson Planning Manager Lauren Blackburn said.

On Aug. 19, a 42-year-old cyclist from Huntersville was seriously injured after colliding with a delivery truck on East Rocky River Road.

Both were traveling east when the truck turned into a private driveway to turn around and the collision happened, police said.

In July, the N.C. Highway Patrol charged a Davidson driver with careless and reckless driving in a collision just north of town, on Faith Road in Mount Mourne. The wreck seriously injured a 41-year-old Davidson bicyclist who was struck from behind.

On Aug. 31, concerned residents discussed various strategies for increasing awareness of cycling, promoting safer riding habits and educating the public about the rules of the road, Blackburn said.

Other ideas besides the awareness ride included a series of discussion forums, mentoring programs and better on-road signage, she said.

The town also encourages cyclists on Sept. 25 to organize early morning rides on area roads and greenways to demonstrate responsible cycling behavior, Blackburn said.

Residents should check with regional cycling stores, recreational clubs and other experienced cyclists to find a pre-event ride.

All early morning cyclists should meet at the South Street trailhead no later than 10 a.m. to participate in the general awareness ride.

After the ride, participants can discuss with local leaders and staff what they observed during the ride.

More details: [www.ci.davidson.nc.us](http://www.ci.davidson.nc.us).

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2010/09/14/1692084/davidson-ride-will-promote-bicycle.html#ixzz0zng9Msh9>