



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Gene McGee

Phone: 601-856-7113

RIDGELAND ENHANCES BICYCLING WITH NEW LANES

(Ridgeland, MS - February 22, 2010) The City of Ridgeland has recently added bicycle lanes to several streets in Ridgeland. According to David Williams, City of Ridgeland Engineer, bicycle lanes give cyclists a safer way to travel, riding in their own lane instead of in the same lane as vehicles. The existence of bicycle lanes also encourages those who might normally drive to their destination to ride a bike.

There are many reasons to ride a bike instead of drive a vehicle including that bicycles save gas and power, save money compared to driving a vehicle, and provide a form of exercise.

The roadways that have recently received bike lanes include William Boulevard, Woodlands Parkway and Centre Street. It was part of the City's Street Overlay Plan to restripe and add bike lanes to these roads.

A ½-mile lane was added to William Boulevard to both sides of the street. William Boulevard is located off of Old Canton Road. New bike lanes were added to Woodlands Parkway along both sides of the street. Woodlands Parkway runs between County Line Road and Northpark Drive.

Centre Street from County Line Road to Ridgewood Road also has a new bike lane. Centre Street's bike lane does not currently connect to other bike lanes or sidewalks. But this new bike lane is an example of the City planning ahead. According to David Williams, City Engineer, "Ridgewood Road will get widened and improved since it is a high priority in the City's Transportation Plan. At that time, a bike lane or a bike path will be added that will connect with the lane on Centre Street."

City officials want to encourage residents to find their own bike route around Ridgeland for an alternative mode of transportation, to save money and gasoline, and to enhance health and fitness.

###

mailing address: p.o. box 217 • ridgeland, ms 39158
street address: 304 highway 51 • ridgeland, ms 39157
ph: 601.856.7113 • www.ridgelandms.org

Gene F. McGee, cmo - mayor • David W. Overby, cpa - director of finance & administration, city clerk

board of aldermen: Gerald Steen - at - large • Ken Heard, cmo - ward 1 • Chuck Gautier - ward 2 • Kevin Holder - ward 3
Brian P. Ramsey - ward 4 • Scott Jones, mayor pro tempore - ward 5 • Wesley Hamlin - ward 6