

Charlotte Unites with Open Streets 704 this Fall

On October 8, 15, and 22, Open Streets 704 invited residents to walk, bike, dance, and engage with their community to promote active lifestyle in Charlotte.

This bi-annual event, which began in 2016, promotes active lifestyles and fosters inclusivity among Charlotte's diverse population. Thousands of participants gather to celebrate local culture and community spirit.

The event spans key neighborhoods such as NoDa, Plaza Midwood, and South End. Popular gathering spots include Freedom Park and First Ward Park, where larger cultural performances and activities take place. Open Streets 704 offers a unique opportunity for residents to experience their city in a new way.

“Open Streets 704 is all about connecting with our community,” says Laura Simmons, a city planner with Charlotte City Planning Department. “It’s a chance for residents to experience their city from a different perspective—one that prioritizes people over vehicles.” Simmons expresses excitement about the creativity and energy that come alive during the event.

Attendees look forward to an array of activities, including fitness workshops, guided bike rides, and interactive art installations. Local artists showcase their talents through pop-up performances, enriching the cultural vibrancy of the day. Health and wellness advocates emphasize the event's focus on promoting active living.

“Events like Open Streets 704 encourage people to move, engage, and connect, which are vital for physical and mental well-being,” says Michael Reed, a local health educator at the event.

“It’s a celebration of health in our community.” The event inspires participants to adopt more active lifestyles.

Open Streets 704 supports local businesses, with many restaurants and shops setting up booths along the route. This creates a lively marketplace that showcases Charlotte’s diverse entrepreneurial spirit. By encouraging residents to shop local, the event strengthens community ties and boosts the local economy.

Urban planners view Open Streets 704 as a model for sustainable city development. It sparks conversations about reimagining public spaces to enhance community and promote healthier lifestyles.

As Charlotte grows, the importance of events like Open Streets 704 becomes increasingly evident. They serve as a reminder of the value of community connections and shared public spaces. By transforming streets into pedestrian-friendly areas, the event showcases the potential for sustainable urban planning.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the festivities, embracing the chance to discover local art and engage in physical activity. Whether it’s a family bike ride, a morning yoga session, or enjoying a live performance, Open Streets 704 offers something for everyone. This event promises to be a vibrant celebration of community, health, and creativity.