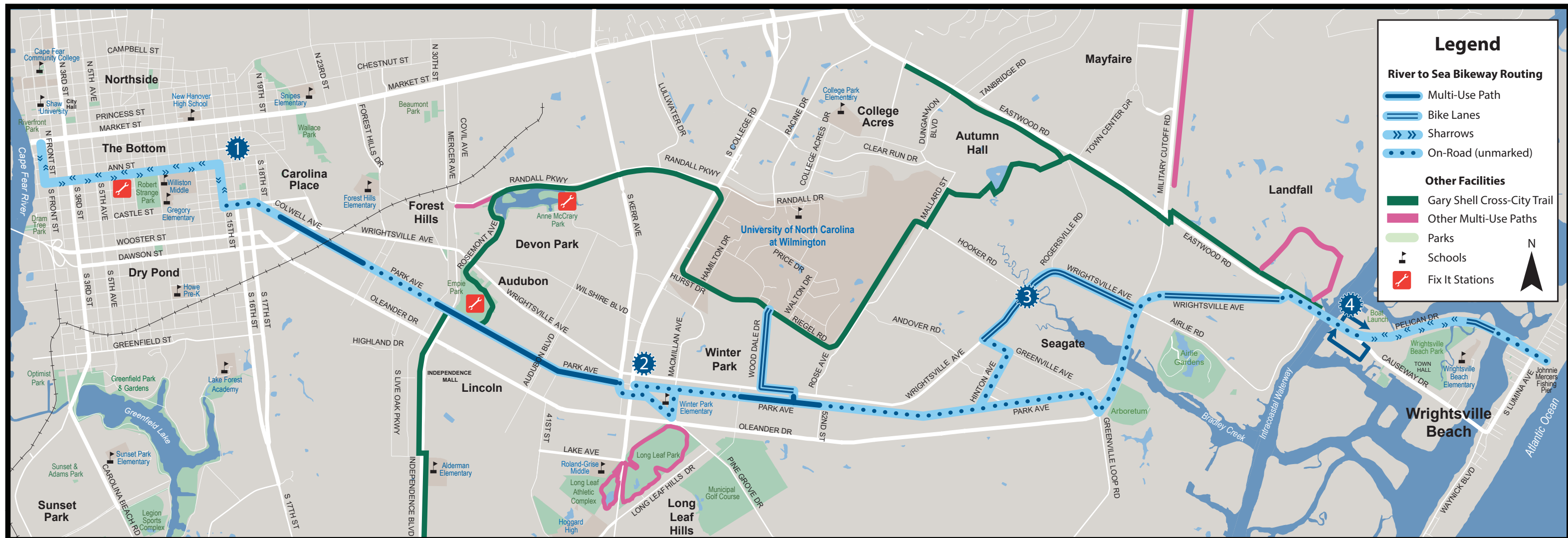
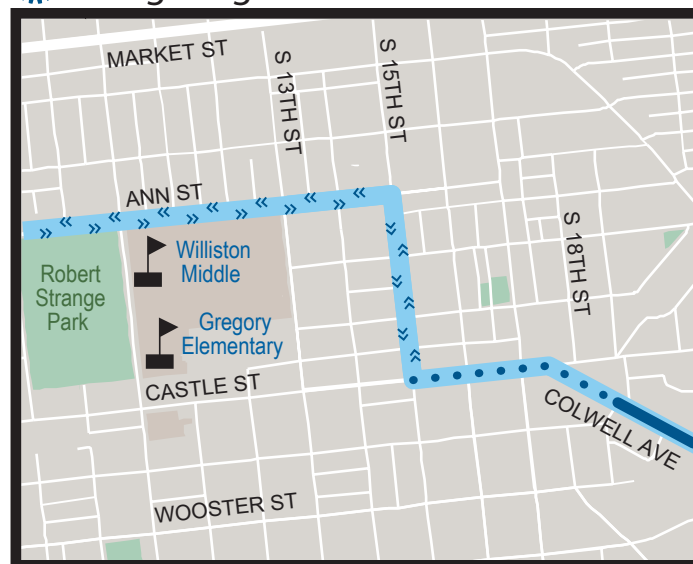


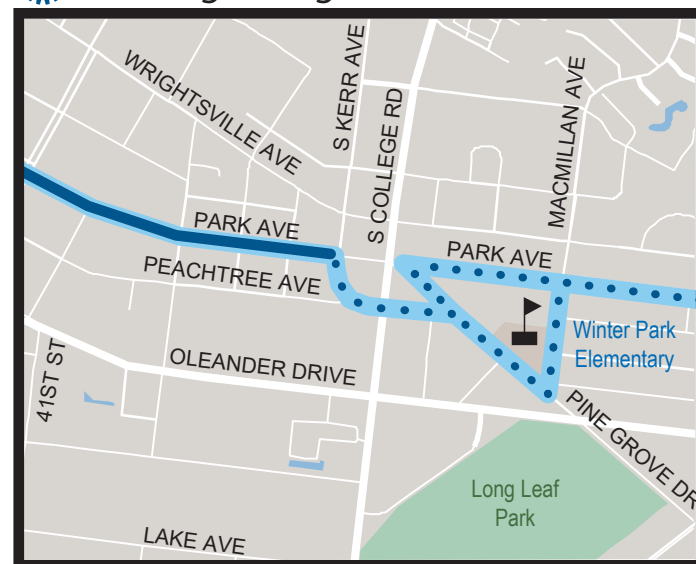
# River To Sea Bikeway



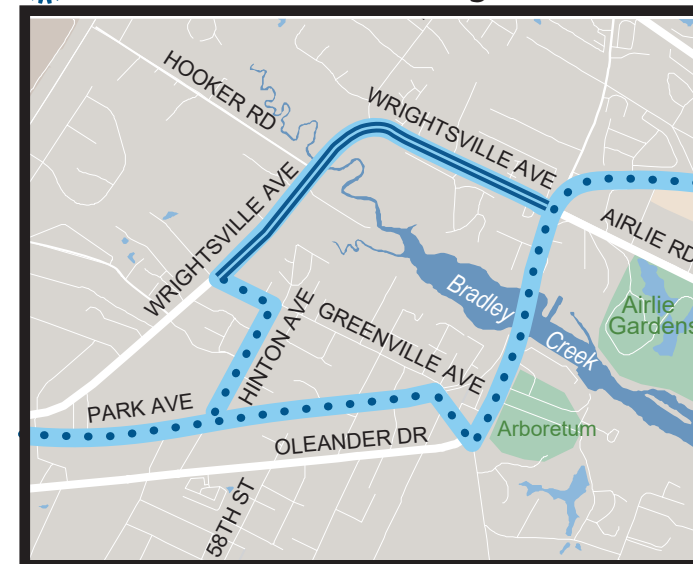
**1** Navigating Ann St. and Castle St.



**2** Crossing College Road



**3** Additional Route to Wrightsville Ave.



**4** Entrance to Wrightsville Beach



The River to Sea Bikeway is an 11-mile, on- and off-road bicycle route that traverses the City of Wilmington from the Cape Fear River all the way to Wrightsville Beach. The routing of the bikeway follows the Historic Beach Car Line, which carried vacationers from downtown Wilmington to Wrightsville Beach by trolley. The bikeway is composed of neighborhood residential streets, off-road multi-use paths, and a few busy arterial roadways.

# River to Sea Bikeway

Printed June 2023



## About the River to Sea Bikeway

### ROUTING

The bikeway begins at the foot of Market Street at downtown Wilmington's Riverwalk. The bikeway then traverses several neighborhoods before crossing Independence Boulevard and passing by Empie Park, then following Park Ave.

After merging with Peachtree Ave. and crossing South College Rd., the bikeway briefly hops onto Pine Grove Dr. before joining up with Park Ave. again. Between Wallace Ave. and 52nd St., the bikeway utilizes an off-road path, with a spur to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) via Wood Dale Dr. Between 52nd St. and Hinton Ave., the bikeway follows Park Ave.

The routing splits into two alternatives towards Wrightsville Ave., either using unmarked on-road routing along Oleander Dr. or bike lanes along Wrightsville Ave. After crossing the C. Heide Trask bridge into Wrightsville Beach, cyclists can follow sharrows on Pelican Dr. or bike lanes on Salisbury St. to the end of the bikeway at Johnnie Mercers Fishing Pier.

### FACILITIES

There are several types of bicycle facilities along the routing of the River to Sea Bikeway. These include:

#### Multi-Use Paths

Multi-Use Paths (MUPs) are paved off-road paths for shared use by bicyclists and pedestrians. Please be sure to be respectful of other path users by watching speed, keeping to the right and passing on the left, and announcing when passing others.

#### Bike Lanes

Bike lanes are on-road facilities marked with signage, lane striping, and pavement markings. These lanes are on the right side of vehicular traffic in most situations and are intended for use by bicyclists only.

#### Sharrows

Sharrows are pavement markings within a travel lane which remind drivers that cyclists may use the lane, and indicate to cyclists where to ride within the lane.

#### On-Road (unmarked)

Bicyclists must follow the same rules of the road as motor vehicle drivers, including stopping at stop signs.

## Annual River to Sea Ride

Come along for the annual River to Sea Bike Ride, a local tradition for 30+ years!

This casual-paced ride occurs annually on the first Saturday in May. The ride includes the entire River to Sea Bikeway, starting off in downtown Wilmington, continuing to Wrightsville Beach Park, and back again.

In recent years, over 400 people participated. All riders are welcome to join, and helmets are required to ride. The ride is police-supported to assist with road crossings and other needs. There is a break at Wrightsville Beach Park with water and restroom facilities available.

For more information, visit [wmpo.org](http://wmpo.org).



# BE A LOOKER

Watch for bikes and pedestrians

GO COAST



WHEN DRIVING



WHEN BIKING

- Don't drive distracted.
- Give bicyclists and pedestrians at least 4 feet of space when passing.
- Slow down!
- Look right before you turn right.
- Don't block the crosswalk while stopped at an intersection.

- Be predictable. Use hand signals and make eye contact with drivers.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Wear a helmet and use bicycle lights.
- Don't bike with headphones.
- Obey the rules of the road. Stop at red lights and yield to pedestrians.

## Wear a helmet!

If you don't already have one, get a bicycle helmet\* today! Wear one every time you ride. Today's helmets look good, are very light, and let in those cooling breezes... all while protecting your head and brain!

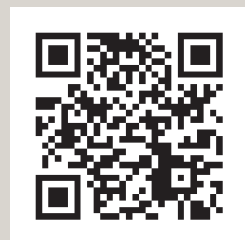
### Why? In a word: protection.

A good bike helmet can protect your brain. The Helmet Safety Institute says wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of severe brain injuries by up to 88 percent.

\*According to North Carolina state law (§ 20-171.9) children under age 16 are required to wear a bicycle helmet.

## For more information...

Visit [wmpo.org](http://wmpo.org) for more information about bicycle facilities in the Cape Fear region. The Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, or WMPO, provides regional transportation planning in the Wilmington area.



Go Coast is the WMPO's program for promoting and supporting alternative transportation. Find bike maps and learn about your transportation options at [gocoastnc.org](http://gocoastnc.org).

# River to Sea Bikeway



For more information on safe biking, walking, and driving, visit:

[gocoastnc.org/BeALooker](http://gocoastnc.org/BeALooker)