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Event tonight offers 'big picture' on rails to trails

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Learn more about the rail-trail linking Greenville, Furman University and Travelers Rest at a 5 p.m. session today at the university.

Carlton Owen, a Greenville resident who has helped lead the local effort to convert the former Greenville & Northern Railroad line into a linear park is free and open to the public. It takes place in the University Center's Watkins Room.

Owen's presentation is part of Furman's effort to explore how current and future trails on campus could best fit into a broader community context.

The paved trail planned for the old rail corridor would provide an uninterrupted path between downtown Greenville through the Furman campus to Travelers Rest. The project could also involve a commuter tram system that could, at least initially, operate on weekends and for special events at Furman.

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Owen is president and CEO of the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, a not-for-profit organization created to manage \$200 million that came from a softwood lumber settlement between Canada and the United States.

Owen was a charter member of the Board of Directors of Upstate Forever and served two years as chairman.

For more information, contact Furman professor Julian Reed at: (864) 294-2328.

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