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Pickens warms to idea of summer event

City considers music festival, cruise-in, to draw visitors downtown

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PICKENS — Pickens is working on a new downtown attraction this summer as part of an ongoing effort to attract more visitors and businesses.

"We just want to get people downtown and try to keep them here instead of losing them to surrounding cities," said Pickens City Administrator Katherine Brackett.

Brackett said the city is considering a classic car cruise-in on Main Street with live music that could take place over a four- or five-week period, possibly held each weekend throughout the month of June and part of July.

Last year the city held a four-week summer music series downtown.

Pickens Mayor David Owens said that event was at Legacy Square and this year the new event would likely be in the West Main area, where the city has purchased land for a new park and amphitheater.

Brackett said the events would probably be held on Saturday nights.

A steering committee that includes residents, business owners and planning commission members that was created to further efforts to improve the city and attract people and businesses is looking at the potential event and working on details to bring back before City Council, according to Brackett.

Owens said he expects to have more details and recommendations in about a month.

Meanwhile, the council has approved on final reading the expansion of city trash collection to areas immediately outside the city.

Brackett said that currently the city provides trash and curbside recycling collection once a week for city residents at a cost of $7.50 a month.

That same service will be expanded to some homes outside city limits at a cost of $15 a month.

The expansion is part of an effort by the city to generate revenue during a tight budget year.

Brackett said the street supervisor will make contact with interested parties.

If people are interested they can get more information by calling City Hall at 878-6421.