On Thursday, October 6, Bike Walk Knoxville was thrilled to host a casual bike ride along the North Knoxville greenways for community members and local elected officials. We were joined by the Chairwoman of the Knox County Commission, Courtney Durrett, and the Knox County Board of Education representative for District 4, Katherine Bike. Representatives from UTK, City of Knoxville Sustainability, City of Knoxville Greenways Commission, and the Jeff Roth Cycling Foundation also rode with us. We are grateful to everyone who attended!

The ride began at the Cansler Family YMCA along Caswell Greenway, and highlighted several nearby community resources including Caswell Park, Ashley Nicole Dream Playground, Ridley Helton Park, and the John T. O’Connor Senior Center. We rode over to the First Creek Greenway and discussed the importance of connecting the greenway network so that it is useful not only for recreation but for transportation purposes as well. As we passed Coker Avenue, we reviewed the recent traffic calming efforts that have taken place there, and then we continued past Fulton High School to discuss how the greenway can help students get around safely outside of a vehicle.

Our route continued to Edgewood Park, where Dr. Eugene Fitzhugh discussed the recent park study conducted by UTK and the Knox County Health Department and the improvements that have been made as a result of those findings. We also highlighted community resources in the Edgewood Park neighborhood, including the Larry Cox Senior Center and the North Knoxville Branch Library.

The group made our way back along the greenways and explored some of the Parkridge neighborhood before returning to the Cansler Family YMCA. Folks then gathered at Last Days of Autumn Brewing for drinks and casual conversation. We are thankful to Last Days of Autumn for making the event a Pint Night fundraiser benefiting Bike Walk Knoxville!