

East Alabama Region MPO & RPO Transportation Monthly Newsletter

March 2019 Issue

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Calhoun Area MPO Updates

○ Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan Update



A public meeting for the draft was held Thursday, February 21st, from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm in the EARPDC 3rd floor conference room. There was a total of 9 attendees not counting EARPDC staff.

Maps of proposed projects and a comment form can be found on the MPO website ([Calhoun Area MPO](#)). Please email completed comment forms to CalhounBikePed@gmail.com, elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org, mail to PO Box 2186, Anniston, AL 36202, or fax to 256-237-6763. **The 14-day public comment period began February 21st and ends March 7th.**

○ Public Participation Plan Update

A public meeting for the Draft Public Participation Plan was held January 16, 2019 and the 45-day public comment for the draft plan will ended February 19. The final Public Participation Plan document was adopted by the Calhoun Area MPO policy committee February 21, 2019.

Copies of the final plan can be found on the EARPDC website at: <http://www.earpdc.org/pages/?pageID=109>.

○ FY 20-23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The MPO is responsible for adopting a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which presents a 4-year program for improvements in the various transportation systems located within the Calhoun Area

Transportation Study.

There is room and available funding for projects to be added to the FY 20-23 TIP. Please contact Libby Messick at elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org or 256-237-6741 to discuss adding projects to the upcoming TIP.

○ February MPO Project Changes

- #5 CN (PI#100047016) TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INTERSECTION OF LENLOCK LANE AND SR-21 IN THE CITY OF ANNISTON
Old Engineers Estimate: \$179,892.00
New Engineers Estimate: \$212,354.77
-Change in estimate equals an increase of \$32,462.77 which is less than 20% of the old estimate (\$35,978.40). No resolution needed for change.
- #35 UT (PI#100065454) INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT NOBLE STREET AND 4TH STREET
Old Delete Indicator: none
New Delete Indicator: D
-UT portion of this project has been deleted. UT apportionment (\$8,243) has been deleted and will add to the remaining funding on the spreadsheet.
- #5 CN (PI#100047016) TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INTERSECTION OF LENLOCK LANE AND SR-21 IN THE CITY OF ANNISTON
Old Target Start Date: February 22, 2019
New Target Start Date: March 29, 2019
-Change is within the same FY. No modification needed to the TIP spreadsheet.
- #35 CN (PI#100063208) INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT NOBLE STREET AND 4TH STREET
Old Target Start Date: April 26, 2019
New Target Start Date: May 31, 2019
-Change is within the same FY. No modification needed to the TIP spreadsheet.

RPO Updates

- FY19 Meetings



April:

Northern Counties: April 11th @ Cherokee County Commission, 11 am***

Central Counties: April 18th @ EARPDC, 11 am, after MPO meeting

Southern Counties: April 25th @ ALDOT Alexander City office, Section 1, 10:00 am



July:

Northern Counties: July 11th @ Gadsden Chamber, 11:30 am, after MPO meeting

Central Counties: July 18th @ EARPDC, 11 am, after MPO meeting

Southern Counties: July 25th @ ALDOT Alexander City office, Section 1, 10:00 am

Meeting minutes from January can be found at

<http://www.earpdc.org/pages/?pageID=29>

Northern Counties: Cherokee and Etowah

Central Counties: Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Talladega

Southern Counties: Chambers, Coosa, Randolph, Tallapoosa

- **Meeting Coordination Interest**

If you have any suggestions on where to house future RPO meetings or suggestions on places for food items during an RPO meeting in your area, please contact Libby Messick at elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org or 256-237-6741. We would love to have these meetings be both beneficial and enjoyable for all involved.

- **Projects Proposed to Let February 22, 2019**

- **Calhoun County**

- none

- **Chambers County**

- IM-1085(360) & IM-1083(363) for constructing the Pavement Rehabilitation, Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on I-85 from the Lee County Line to the Georgia State Line. Length 10.838 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$7,978,406 to \$9,751,385.

- **Cherokee County**

- none

- **Clay County**

- STPNU-1418(250) for constructing the Resurfacing and Traffic Stripe on CR-130 (Idaho Road) from the Talladega County Line to the junction of SR-77. Length 6.707 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$866,397 to \$1,058,929.

- **Cleburne County**

- none

- **Coosa County**

- NH-0038(544) for constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-38 (US-280) from the Talladega County Line to 0.563 mile east of the intersection of CR-49. Length 6.505 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$2,097,004 to \$2,563,004.

- **Etowah County**

- none

- **Randolph County**

- none

- **Talladega County**

- none

- **Tallapoosa County**

- none

○ Upcoming Funding Opportunities & Deadlines

It's not too early to be thinking ahead!

- The National Park Service is now accepting applications for \$5 million in grants to support the preservation of historic buildings in rural communities across the country that are listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places through the Historic Revitalization Program (HRSP). **Applications are NOW being accepted in Grants.gov through April 1, 2019.**
- The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is now accepting applications for the 2019 Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) Program which offers funding through 2 competitions.
 - **FY19 i6 Challenge** – awards up to \$750,000 for projects that increase regional capacity to accelerate the translation of innovations, ideas, intellectual property, and research into products, services, companies, and jobs.
 - **FY19 Seed Fund Support (SFS) Grant Competition** – provides up to \$300,000 for projects that create, launch, or expand equity-based seed funds or that create networks and tools that enable capital to flow into high-growth startups in all parts of the U.S.
Deadline to apply is April 4, 2019.
- The ARC will begin accepting applications for the 2019 round of the **Partnership for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER)** initiative on February 1 and are due no later than **April 10, 2019**. Approximately \$45 million will be awarded through this competitive grant process. The POWER initiative will continue focusing on regional investments that maximize economic revitalization in the Appalachian region's coal-impacted communities.
- The USDA Rural Development, **Community Connect Program**, is accepting applications for grants to establish broadband infrastructure in unserved rural communities. Awardees must also use their USDA funding to offer free broadband service to all critical community facilities and a community center in their proposed service area for two years. The minimum grant amount is \$100,000; the maximum is \$3 million. Applicants must be able to prove a 15% match on the desired grant amount. **Deadline to apply is April 5, 2019.**
- The USDA **ReConnect** program will offer up to \$600 million nationwide in loans and grants to help build broadband infrastructure in rural areas. Projects funded through this initiative must serve communities with fewer than 20,000 people that have no broadband service or where existing service is slower than 10 megabits per second (mbps) download and 1 mbps upload. To qualify, projects must increase access speeds to at least 25 mbps upload and 3 mbps download. Priority will be given to projects that propose to deliver higher-capacity connections to rural homes, businesses, and farms. Applications for grant funding are due by **April 29, 2019**, for loan and grant funding by **May 29, 2019**, and for loan funding by **June 28, 2019**.

More information on deadlines will be distributed as it becomes available.

Please don't hesitate to contact Tyler Ferrell, EARPDC Director of Planning and Development at 256-237-6741 for more information.

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Transit Advisory Board @ 9	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Citizen's Advisory Committee @ 10 Technical Advisory Committee @ 11	21 MPO Policy Committee @ 10	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Transit Advisory Board @ 9	10 Technical Advisory Committee @ 10	11 Northern RPO meeting @ Cherokee County Commission @ 11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 MPO Policy Meeting @ EARPDC @ 10 Central RPO meeting @ EARPDC @ 11:00	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Southern RPO meeting @ Alex City @ 10:00	26	27
28	29	30				