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# East Alabama Region MPO & RPO Transportation Monthly Newsletter

*November 2019 Issue*

## Calhoun Area MPO Updates

- **September MPO Project Changes**
  - #44 CN (100064897) NEW SIGNAL AND LANE INSTALLATION IMPROVEMENTS AT BYNUM LEATHERWOOD (CR-109) AND OLD GADSDEN ROAD
    - Old Target Start Date: February 28, 2020
    - New Target Start Date: April 3, 2020
    - New start date in the same FY. No change needed.
  - #40 CN (100064886) RESURFACING CHURCH AVENUE FROM 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO SR-21
    - Old Target Start Date: January 31, 2020
    - New Target Start Date: April 24, 2020
    - New start date in the same FY. No change needed.
- #45 CN (100064899) RESURFACE RUSSELL DRIVE FROM ALEXANDRIA ROAD TO PEACEBURG ROAD CITY OF WEAVER
  - Old Target Start Date: January 31, 2020
  - New Target Start Date: September 25, 2020
  - New start date in the same FY. No change needed.

## East Alabama RPO Updates

### ▪ **FY 2020 RPO Meetings**



January:

Northern Counties (Etowah and Cherokee): January 9<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30

Central Counties (Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, and Talladega): January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 11

Southern Counties (Chambers, Coosa, Randolph, and Tallapoosa): January 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10:00



April:

Northern Counties (Etowah and Cherokee): April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30

Central Counties (Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, and Talladega): April 16<sup>th</sup> @ 11

Southern Counties (Chambers, Coosa, Randolph, and Tallapoosa): April 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10:00



July:

Northern Counties (Etowah and Cherokee): July 9<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30

Central Counties (Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, and Talladega): July 16<sup>th</sup> @ 11

Southern Counties (Chambers, Coosa, Randolph, and Tallapoosa): July 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10:00

All meeting minutes and materials can be found at <http://www.earpdc.org/pages/?pageID=29>.

### ■ **Meeting Coordination Interest**

If you have any suggestions on where to house future RPO meetings in your area, please contact Lattisha Royal at [lattisha.royal@earpdc.org](mailto:lattisha.royal@earpdc.org) or 256-237-6741. We would love to have these meetings be both beneficial and enjoyable for all involved.

### ■ **Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan**

- We are in the process of updating the Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan. Surveys will be sent soon. If you do not receive one by November 15, please contact Libby Messick at 256-237-6741 or [elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org](mailto:elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org) for a survey.
- We are requesting all surveys be returned no later than December 30, 2020.
- Public meetings will be held in concurrence with the RPO meetings in January.
  - January 9<sup>th</sup> for Cherokee and Etowah Counties
  - January 16<sup>th</sup> for Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, and Talladega Counties
  - January 23<sup>rd</sup> for Chambers, Coosa, Randolph, and Tallapoosa Counties.
- If you are unable to make any of the above meetings but would like to meet regarding the survey or any other potential issues with the transportation plan, please contact Libby Messick to set up a meeting.

### ■ **Projects Proposed to Let November 8, 2019**

- **Calhoun County**
  - none
- **Chambers County**
  - none
- **Cherokee County**
  - none
- **Clay County**
  - none
- **Cleburne County**
  - none
- **Coosa County**
  - none

- **Etowah County**
  - STPAA-HSIP-FMGR-0211(500) for constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, Guardrail Safety Improvements, and Traffic Strip on SR-211 from the junction of SR-1 (US-431) in Gadsden to the junction of SR-7 (US-11) in Reece City. Length 4.609 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$1,554,958 to \$1,900,505.
- **Randolph County**
  - STPAA-HSIP-0077 (524) for constructing the Safety Widening, Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-77 from the junction of SR-22 in Wadley to the Clay County Line. Length 6.237 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$1,918,168 to \$2,344,427.
- **Talladega County**
  - none
- **Tallapoosa County**
  - none

## ■ Upcoming Funding Opportunities & Deadlines

It's not too early to be thinking ahead!

- **America Walks** and its partners have announced another round of the **Community Change Grant** program. This program will award grantees **\$1,500** in community stipends for projects focused on creating healthy, active, and engaged places to live, work, and play. Funded projects must demonstrate that they will increase physical activity and active transportation in a specific community, work to engage people and organizations new to the efforts of walking and walkability, and demonstrate a culture of inclusive health. Projects will create healthy, active, and engaged communities that support walking as transportation, health, and recreation. Applications are due **November 8** at <https://americawalks.org/america-walks-opens-2019-community-change-grant-applications/>.
- The **Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT)** is accepting applications for their **Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant Program**. Any municipal and county governments are eligible to apply for funding under the RAA Grant Program. Project applications may be submitted for improvements to any road or bridge owned and maintained by the applicant that is open to public traffic. The final eligibility of applications and proposed project activities will be determined by ALDOT upon evaluation of the application submitted. **The maximum funding provided to any project in FY2020 will be \$250,000.** RAA Annual Grant program funding is only available for construction activities. Applications must be received or postmarked prior to **November 30, 2019**. More information as well as the application can be found at <https://www.dot.state.al.us/RAAgrantprogram/>.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development is accepting applications for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (**REDLG**) Program. Through the REDLG Program, USDA provides zero-interest loans and some grant funds to rural utilities, which they in turn pass through to local businesses for projects that will retain or create employment opportunities in rural communities. The funding may be used to assist with business start-up and expansion costs; business incubators; feasibility studies; advanced telecommunications and computer networks for medical, educational, and job training services; and community facilities that spur economic development. Rural Development anticipates **a maximum loan amount of \$2 million and a**

**maximum grant amount of \$300,000.** Awards are made on a competitive basis to utilities that will relend the funds for local economic development efforts. Applications must be received no later than **4:30 p.m. Pacific time** on the following dates:

**September 30, 2019 (first quarter)**

**December 31, 2019 (second quarter)**

**March 31, 2020 (third quarter)**

**June 30, 2020 (fourth quarter)**

- The Economic Development Administration (**EDA**) has made available \$587 million to eligible grantees in communities effected by natural disasters in 2018 and floods and tornadoes in 2019. Applications should provide long-term, regionally oriented, and collaborative development strategies designed to generate economic growth and resilience. No application deadlines apply, and the EDA will continue to accept applications on a rolling basis. For more information, go [here](#).
- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**) is accepting requests for Technical Assistance (TA) under the **Distressed Cities Technical Assistance (DCTA)** Program. The TA program is specifically designed to assist communities with populations under 40,000 that are struggling to recover from natural disaster and economic decline. DCTA may be used to build capacity around: financial management, economic revitalization; affordable housing development; disaster recovery and resiliency planning; cross-sector partnership building; and utilizing federal development programs. To learn more visit the [Distressed Cities Technical Assistance](#) page on the HUD Exchange.

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.**

# November 2019

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

# *December 2019*

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