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# East Alabama Region MPO & RPO Transportation Monthly Newsletter

*February 2020 Issue*

## Calhoun Area MPO Updates

- **January MPO Project Changes**
  - #6 RW (100054924) GRADE, DRAIN, BASE, AND PAVE CR-192 (MCINTOSH ROAD) FROM CR-589 TO LEON SMITH PARKWAY CCP 08-82-07
    - Current Funding: \$539,742.00
    - Current Funding on TIP spreadsheet: \$364,742
    - Requested Funding: \$326,331.00
    - Funds were to be redistributed to increase CN with Resolution 736 in July 2017. No change was made with ALDOT CPMS. TIP spreadsheet adjusted for RW but not for CN.
  - #6 CN (100054926) GRADE, DRAIN, BASE, AND PAVE CR-192 (MCINTOSH ROAD) FROM CR-589 TO LEON SMITH PARKWAY CCP 08-82-07
    - Current Funding: \$1,144,685.00
    - Current Funding on TIP spreadsheet: \$1,114,686
    - Requested Funding: \$1,358,096.00
    - Funds were to be redistributed to increase CN with Resolution 736 in July 2017. No change was made with ALDOT CPMS. TIP spreadsheet adjusted for RW but not for CN.
- #51 CN (100070224) RESURFACING ON ALEXANDRIA-JACKSONVILLE HIGHWAY FROM CEDAR SPRINGS ROAD TO THE JACKSONVILLE CITY LIMITS – CCP 08-107-19
  - Old Target Start Date: May 29, 2020
  - New Target Start Date: February 28, 2020
  - New start date is in the same FY as previous start date.
- #4 CN (100047014) SIGNAL UPGRADE SR-21 AT BALTZELL GATE ROAD
  - Old Target Start Date: April 3, 2020
  - New Target Start Date: April 24, 2020
  - New start date is in the same FY as previous start date.

- #40 CN (100064886) RESURFACING CHURCH AVENUE FROM 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO SR-21  
Old Target Start Date: April 24, 2020  
New Target Start Date: May 29, 2020  
-New start date is in the same FY as previous start date.
- #41 RW (100064888) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON AIRPORT ROAD AT COLDWATER CREEK BIN# 11215 CITY OF OXFORD  
Old Target Start Date: April 1, 2020  
New Target Start Date: May 1, 2020  
-New start date is in the same FY as previous start date.

## East Alabama RPO Updates

### ▪ FY 2020 RPO Meetings



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>.

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 were sent in October and December. If you do not receive one, please contact Libby Messick at 256-237-6741 or [elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org](mailto:elizabeth.messick@earpdc.org) for a survey.
- Surveys were requested to be returned no later than January 9, 2020.
- Public meetings were held in concurrence with the RPO meetings in January.
- Final draft should be available online at <http://www.earpdc.org/pages/?pageID=109> and <http://www.earpdc.org/pages/?pageID=29>.

## Projects Proposed to Let January 31, 2019

- **Calhoun County**
  - none
- **Chambers County**
  - none
- **Cherokee County**
  - BR-0068(505) for constructing the Bridge Replacement (Grading, Drainage, Pavement, and Bridge) on SR-68 over the abandoned TAG Railroad 0.5 mile north of the junction of SR-273 in Leesburg. Length 0.359 miles. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$3,0139,911 to \$3,691,002.
- **Clay County**
  - none
- **Cleburne County**
  - none
- **Coosa County**
  - none
- **Etowah County**
  - none
- **Randolph County**
  - none
- **Talladega County**
  - NH-0021(568) for constructing the Micro-Milling, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-21 from 0.370 miles south of the junction of SR-76 to 0.190 miles south of the junction of CR-238 southwest of Talladega. Length 4.486 miles. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$2,314,083 to \$2,828,324.
- **Tallapoosa County**
  - STPAA-HSIP-0014(546) for constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-14 from the Tallapoosa County Line to the Lee County Line. Length 9.305 miles. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$2,325,445 to \$2,842,211.
  - STPAA-HSIP-0050(506) for constructing the Safety Widening, Micro-Milling, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-50 from the junction of SR-38 (US-280) in Camp Hill to the Chambers County Line. Length 5.412 miles. The Bracket Estimate for this project is from \$1,397,179 to \$1,707,663.

## Upcoming Funding Opportunities & Deadlines

It's not too early to be thinking ahead!

- 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 Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) has announced the FY 2020 round of the **Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program**. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has been posted on the Build America Bureau website and will be published in the Federal Register later this week. Additional information on how to apply, frequently asked questions, and the Department's Benefit Cost Analysis Guidance for Discretionary Grant programs can be found on the following website at <https://www.transportation.gov/INFRA>. **The deadline for applications is February 25, 2020 at 11:59pm EST**. The Department expects to make selections in June 2020.

The Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program provides Federal financial assistance to highway and freight projects of national or regional significance. The Department is soliciting applications for awards under the program's fiscal year (FY) 2020 funding. The Department estimates that **\$906 million will be available for award**.

The FY 2020 INFRA competition focuses on the same four themes advanced in earlier INFRA rounds: Supporting Economic Vitality at the national and regional level; leveraging Federal Funding to attract non-federal sources of infrastructure investment; deploying innovative technology, encouraging innovative approaches to project delivery, and incentivizing the use of innovative financing; holding grant recipients accountable for their performance. **New this year:** The Department added, as a factor in the economic vitality evaluation, whether the project primarily serves freight and goods movement. **Also New:** Consistent with the ROUTES Initiative, the Department will consider how projects address transportation challenges in rural areas.

- The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture has announced the availability of a second round of \$550 million in **USDA ReConnect Pilot Program** funding. The application window will open on January 31, 2020. USDA will make up to \$200 million available in grants; up to \$200 million available in low-interest loans; and up to \$200 million in 50/50 grant/loan combination funds. Through the ReConnect Program, the federal government will partner with the private sector and rural communities to build modern broadband infrastructure in areas with insufficient coverage. **Applications are due no later than 6 pm Eastern, March 16, 2020**. More information can be found here: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-12-12/pdf/2019-26522.pdf>.

- The **U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)** has published the **FY 2020 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs Notice of Funding Opportunity (PWEAA NOFO)**. Under this NOFO (formerly known as the Economic Development Assistance Program NOFO), the EDA solicits applications for construction, non-construction, planning, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA's Public Works program and Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program, which includes Assistance to Coal Communities. EDA awards made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities, including those negatively impacted by changes to the coal economy. Projects funded by these programs will support work in Opportunity Zones and will support the mission of the Department by, among other things: leading to the creation and retention of jobs and increased private investment, advancing innovation, enhancing the manufacturing capacities of regions, providing workforce development opportunities, and growing ecosystems that attract foreign direct investment. Access this funding opportunity [here](#).

- 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, EARPCD Director of Planning and Development at 256-237-6741 for more information.**

# February 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 9 AM Transit Advisory Board	12 10 AM MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Presidents' Day	18	19	20 10 AM MPO Policy Committee	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

# March 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 9 AM Transit Advisory Board	11 10 AM MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 10 AM MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)	19 10 AM MPO Policy Committee	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				