



# Transportation Friday

An electronic newsletter concerning regional transportation issues

Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Volume 29, Number 4

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There was some confusion but **THERE IS A MOBILE MPO MEETING WEDNESDAY January 30<sup>th</sup>**, including a new project to Install Two Way Left Turn Lane and Bike/Ped Friendly Shoulders on US 90 East End of Cochrane Bridge to West of Bankhead Tunnel, please see *Mobile MPO Updates*. Check out the history of the gas tax to fund roads in *Legislative Updates*. *In the News* there is a lot going on in the City of Mobile and a possible new park in Mobile County on the Blueway. *This week's Just For Fun* might make Uber, uber mad. New in *Transportation Research* is an interactive map of the pedestrian fatalities in a new program called Dangerous by Design from [SmartGrowth America](#).

Have a great weekend! Check out [ALGO Traffic](#) before you travel!

[www.mobilempo.org](http://www.mobilempo.org)  Check us out on FACEBOOK

**SARPC Transportation Video, this is what we do [HERE](#)**

Want to know what other SARPC departments do?

[Planning and Community Development](#)

[Area Agency on Aging](#)

[Employment and Economic Development](#)

Anthony Johnson, Monica Williamson, Tom Piper, and Kevin Harrison, PTP

## Mobile MPO Updates

### Mobile MPO meetings

There is a MPO meeting scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup>. The agenda items are a variety of changes to the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the upcoming 2020-2023 TIP. The Preliminary Engineering (PE) for Celeste Rd from I65 to Forest Ave will be added to this TIP, with the other phases in the outer years of the TIP. We have a lot of projects this year; about \$35 million worth of projects to do in FY 2019.

#### FY 2019 Urban FTA 5310

Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities Funding		Total Funding
100069505	Mobile Association of Retarded Citizens Capital for Vehicle; FY 2019	\$48,000
100069506	Mobile Association of Retarded Citizens Capital for Paving; FY 2019	\$12,500
100069507	Independent Living Center Operating; FY 2019	\$100,000
100069508	City of Creola Capital for Small Bus; FY 2019	\$57,000
100069509	Alta Pointe Capital for Vehicles; FY 2019	\$114,000
100069510	Learning Tree Capital for Vehicle; FY 2019	\$48,000
100069511	SARPC Program Administration; FY 2019	\$31,371

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAY FUNDS

- 100069441 (PE) INSTALLATION OF NEW GENERATOR TO REPLACE EXISTING GENERATOR FOR BANKHEAD TUNNEL AND ITS DEVICES; 1/1/2019; \$75,000.00
- 100069442 (CN) INSTALLATION OF NEW GENERATOR TO REPLACE EXISTING GENERATOR FOR BANKHEAD TUNNEL AND ITS DEVICES; 6/28/2019; \$750,000.00
- 100054972 (CN) EXTEND EASTBOUND BRIDGE ON SR-42 (US-98) OVER BIG CREEK EAST 1440' New Delete Indicator : D

#### STP ATTRIB

- 100055880 (PE) ADDITIONAL LANES ON CR-656 (ZEIGLER BLVD) FROM CR-70 (TANNER WILLIAMS RD) TO CR-31 (SCHILLINGER RD) Current Funding : \$30,000.00 Requested Funding : \$420,000.00
- 100052450 ( CN ) MCDONALD ROAD (CR-39) ADDITIONAL LANES FROM NORTH OF I-10 TO OLD PASCAGOULA ROAD. Old Target start date: June 28, 2019 New Target start date: June 26, 2020
- 100066704 (PE) DAUPHIN ST SAGE TO SPRINGHILL HOSP CMP; FY 2018; \$62,500; DELETE
- 100066706 (PE) AIRPORT BLVD UNIV TO HILLCREST CMP CORRIDOR: FY 2019; \$62,500; DELETE
- 1000xxxxx (PE) CELESTE ROAD FROM I-65 TO FOREST AVE; FY 2109; \$1,363,500

#### BRIDGE FUNDS

- 100068521 (PE) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (BIN 003691) ON SR-16 (US-90) OVER HALLS MILL CREEK; 11/1/2018; \$900,000.00
- 100068523 (UT) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (BIN 003691) ON SR-16 (US-90) OVER HALLS MILL CREEK; 11/1/2021; \$25,757.00
- 100068522 (CN) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (BIN 003691) ON SR-16 (US-90) OVER HALLS MILL CREEK; 1/28/2022; \$8,860,588.00

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- 100068528 (CN) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (BIN 005712 AND BIN 005856) ON SR-13 (US-43) OVER COLD CREEK; 6/25/2021; \$5,100,500.00
- 100068526 (PE) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (BIN 005712 AND BIN 005856) ON SR-13 (US-43) OVER COLD CREEK; 1/1/2019; \$500,000.00
- 100069460 (PE) BRIDGE PAINT ON VARIOUS BRIDGES ALONG I-65. GULF COAST RR, US 43, NORFOLK SOUTHERN RR, GUNNISON CREEK; 1/7/2019, \$100,000
- 100069478 (CN) BRIDGE PAINT ON VARIOUS BRIDGES ALONG I-65. GULF COAST RR, US 43, NORFOLK SOUTHERN RR, GUNNISON CREEK; 1/7/2019; 9/25/2020; \$2,778,588
- 100049566 (CN) REPLACE BRIDGE, BIN 008714, SR-16 (US-90) WESTBOUND OVER TENSAW-SPANISH RIVER. Old Target start date : July 26, 2019 New Target start date : November 08, 2019

#### TAP FUNDS

- 100069054 (CN) SIDEWALKS ALONG EASTERLING STREET FROM W CLARK AVENUE TO GARRISON AVENUE, ON GARRISON AVENUE FROM EASTERLING STREET TO MAGEE STREET, AND ON MAGEE STREET FROM GARRISON AVENUE TO W CLARK AVENUE; 12/15/2019; \$252,426.00 (\$200,000 fed)
- 100069055 (CN) ADA COMPLIANT CURB RAMPS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF MOBILE COUNTY TO INCLUDE KINGS BRANCH ESTATES, WOODBRIDGE PLACE AND CUMBERLAND SUBDIVISION; 9/18/2019; \$250,178 (\$200,000 fed)

#### HSIP

- 100069517 (PE) Install Two Way Left Turn Lane and Bike/Ped Friendly Shoulders on US 90 East End of Cochrane Bridge to West of Bankhead Tunnel; 1/10/2019; \$540,000

Please see our web page for further details [www.mobilempo.org](http://www.mobilempo.org)

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## FREIGHT DATA

APM Terminals has provided us with their second quarterly survey report. Just as last quarter, for one day APM Terminals had on-board tablets for drivers to answer a series of questions in terms of where they came from and where they are going. APM Terminals will continue to gather this information quarterly for our benefit of validating truck data for the travel demand forecasting model. This second survey report had a significant increase in truckers answering the survey, which helps refine our understanding of container truck trip patterns in the area. See more [HERE](#)

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## TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) NOW ONLINE

The TIP represents a four year program (2016-2019) for improvements in the various transportation systems located within the Mobile study area as identified in the Mobile MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the twenty-five year plan for the Mobile Urban area [Destination 2040](#). The LRTP establishes the transportation programs that are needed to meet travel demand by the study year and study area. LRTP projects that become funded are moved into the TIP and submitted to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), where they are programmed into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). For MPO projects, TIP project selection is based on priorities established by MPO member governments and the availability of funds through the Surface Transportation Attributable program. For other projects, ALDOT has discretion of project funding based on availability of funds from various types of funding categories. Most often, projects in the TIP are derived from the LRTP. The TIP guides ALDOT in its annual allocation of funds for transportation improvements and becomes a part of the STIP.

ArcGIS Online is now being utilized by MPO staff to map all federally funded surface transportation projects within our area. Check it out.

2016-2019 E-TIP [HERE](#)

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## Stay Up To Date on the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project:

<http://mobileriverbridge.com/>



ALDOT is doing some preliminary building demolition for the archaeology work associated with the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway project. More details are in the release below.

The schedule is in flux, so please contact Allison Gregg (251-604-9790) to coordinate site visits.

### ALDOT to Begin Building Demolition

*Building demolition is preliminary work ahead of the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project*

The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) will demolish nine buildings at the intersections of S. Emanuel Street/Canal Street and Canal St./S. Royal in preparation for construction for the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway project.

The demolition of the existing structures will allow for the archaeology work to begin ahead of construction of the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway project.

**The demolition is on-going in the 300 block of Conception Street in Mobile.**

Traffic will not be impacted during the demolition, however drivers should obey posted speed limits and be aware of crews in the area. Passersby and observers should remain a safe distance away from the sites during the demolition.

**About the project:**

The Mobile River Bridge and Bayway project will reduce congestion on I-10 in South Alabama through the addition of additional capacity: a new six-lane bridge over the Mobile River, full replacement of the existing Bayway with an eight-lane structure, and redevelopment of seven interchanges. The project runs from Virginia Street in Mobile to the US 90/98 interchange in Baldwin County. Information in the project is available at [www.MobileRiverBridge.com](http://www.MobileRiverBridge.com).

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## Recent Scheduling Changes This Week for Mobile

The target start date, plan status, or project engineers estimated amount has changed for the following:

None at this time, that are not on the MPO agenda posted above.

## Projects in Region Let January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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### ESCAMBIA COUNTY

- For constructing the Interchange Lighting Rehabilitation on I-65 at SR-21 (Exit 57) in Martinville. Length 0.927 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$763,849 to \$933,594 .

### MOBILE COUNTY

- For constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, Sidewalk Installation, and Traffic Stripe on I-165 (Service Roads) from 0.040 mile south of the junction of Bay Bridge Road to 0.080 mile north of the intersection of Whistler Street in Mobile. Length 1.630 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$1,603,050 to \$1,959,283 .

### BALDWIN COUNTY

- For constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on I-10 from the SR-59 Interchange in Loxley to 0.300 mile east of the CR-64 (Wilcox Road) Interchange. Length 9.460 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$2,413,888 to \$2,950,308

### [What's Under Construction? Project Status](#)

## Legislative Updates

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### A history of Alabama's gas tax

By Mike [Cason/mcason@al.com](mailto:Cason/mcason@al.com) | Posted January 23, 2019 at 06:00 AM

The Alabama Legislature is expected to consider a bill to raise the state gasoline tax as part of a plan to improve, expand and maintain roads and bridges. Gov. Kay Ivey and the Republican leaders of the Legislature say they are working on a plan for the legislative session, which starts March 5. The Legislature has not raised the gas tax since 1992. The federal gas tax has not increased since 1993. Some cities and counties in Alabama have local gas taxes. Overall, gasoline taxes are lower in Alabama than in most states and below the national average. Much of the information that follows is from "A Legislator's Guide to Alabama Taxes," published by the Legislative Services Agency, and the American Petroleum Institute.

This is a pictorial history as well, see [HERE](#)

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## 24 New Faces on House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

*There are 16 new Democrats on the committee and eight new Republican members in the 116th Congress.*

Jan 21, 2019

The chairman and ranking member of the U.S. House of Representatives [Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure](#) announced the committee's members on Jan. 16. There are 16 new Democrats on the committee and eight new Republican members.

Chairman Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., [announced the Democratic members](#). "The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has a long history of working in a bipartisan way to get things done for the American people," he said. "Today we are adding to that history by selecting Democratic members who are diverse, dedicated, innovative, and ready to roll up their sleeves. There is no shortage of work to be done, but I have no doubt our new and returning members are up to the challenge to meet the needs of the American people."

The new Democrats on the committee are Rep. Stephen Lynch of Massachusetts; Rep. Salud Carbajal of California; Rep. Anthony Brown of Maryland; Rep. Adriano Espaillat of New York; Rep. Tom Malinowski of New Jersey; Rep. Greg Stanton of Arizona; Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell of Florida; Rep. Lizzie Fletcher and Rep. Colin Allred, both of Texas; Rep. Sharice Davids of Kansas; Rep. Abby Finkenauer of Iowa; Rep. Jesús García of Illinois; Rep. Antonio Delgado of New York; Rep. Chris Pappas of New Hampshire; Rep. Angie Craig of Minnesota; and Rep. Harley Rouda of California.

Twenty other Democrats are returning to the committee.

Ranking Member Sam Graves, R-Mo., [announced the Republican committee members](#). "Infrastructure is a major national priority for the president and the Congress, and I believe this is an issue on which we can find common ground," Graves said. "I am excited to welcome our new and returning Republican members to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. I know they come ready to work and want to get something done for our country's infrastructure."

The new Republican committee members are Rep. Jenniffer González-Colón of Puerto Rico; Rep. Ross Spano of Florida; Rep. Pete Stauber of Minnesota; Rep. Carol Miller of West Virginia; Rep. Troy Balderson of Ohio; Rep. Gary Palmer of Alabama; Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania; and Rep. Greg Pence of Indiana. There are 21 Republicans returning to the committee.

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## USDOT: Surface Transportation Agencies Continue as Normal During Shutdown



*President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with conservative leaders in the Cabinet Room of the White House on Jan. 23. (Al Drago/Bloomberg)*

More than a month into a partial government shutdown, the U.S. Department of Transportation indicates that it's business as usual for trucking regulators and officials responsible for the country's surface transportation network.

None of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration staff of 1,158 nor the Federal Highway Administration's 2,682, have been furloughed amid the interruption of funding to DOT's operating accounts, caused by the stalemate between President Donald Trump and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) over paying for a wall along the Mexican border.



*Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. (J. Scott Applewhite/AP)*

The shutdown began Dec. 22.

FMCSA "has sufficient balances of liquidating cash to operate for a limited period during a lapse of annual appropriations," according to the department's "Plan for Appropriation Lapse" [guidance](#), revised as of Jan. 11. DOT's plan also noted that FHWA has sufficient funding to continue operations during a lapse in congressionally appropriated funding. Reached by Transport Topics, a DOT spokesperson did not expound on the department's guidance.

The situation is far different for staff at other agencies within DOT. For instance, the Federal Aviation Administration furloughed 13,944 positions out of 44,687. During the shutdown, FAA suspended law enforcement assistance and air traffic performance analysis, among other functions. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration furloughed 330 out of 587 staffers. Certain rulemakings and investigations of defects have been suspended, among other activities. And, the Federal Railroad Administration furloughed 420 out of 935 positions. Suspended activities at FRA include grants, and financial and technical assistance for Amtrak.

Both FMCSA and FHWA are backed significantly by the Highway Trust Fund account, which operates through revenue generated nationwide from the 24.4-cents-per-gallon diesel tax, and 18.4-cents-per-gallon gas tax. The trust fund's authority expires next year.

The leadership at the U.S. Coast Guard and groups representing air traffic controllers and personnel at transportation security checkpoints have warned about possible disruptions amid low morale, as staff are working without being paid.



U.S. Coast Guardsmen and women walk between 45-foot response boats during their shift at Sector Puget Sound base on Jan. 16 in Seattle. (Elaine Thompson/AP)

About 800,000 employees have missed paychecks during what now ranks as the longest shutdown in the country's history. Continue [HERE](#)

## Funding Opportunities

### Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program

A Notice by the [Federal Railroad Administration](#) deadline **5:00 p.m. EDT, on March 18, 2019**

FRA recently issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the **Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program** (Partnership Program). The NOFO makes **\$272,250,000 million** in grant funding available. Here's the link to FRA's Partnership Program website which includes a link to the NOFO: <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P1107>

The Partnership Program is intended to benefit both the Northeast Corridor ("NEC") and the large number of publicly-owned or Amtrak-owned infrastructure, equipment, and facilities located in other areas of the country, including strengthening transportation options for rural American communities. The NOFO will assist in funding capital projects to repair, replace, or rehabilitate publicly-owned railroad assets, and to improve intercity passenger rail performance. Eligible projects include those that replace existing assets in-kind; replace existing assets with those that increase capacity or provide a higher level of service; and those that ensure existing assets maintain service while being brought into a state of good repair.

Selection preference will be given to projects where Amtrak is not the sole applicant; multiple applicants submit applications jointly; the proposed federal share of total project costs does not exceed 50 percent; non-federal shares consist of funding from multiple sources, including private sources; and applications indicate strong project readiness. Applications for capital projects funding under this solicitation must be submitted via [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov) and are **due no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on Monday, March 18, 2019**. Prior to the application deadline, FRA plans to provide Web-based training and technical assistance to answer questions from applicants.

- **WEBINAR: Wednesday, December 12 at 1:00 PM and Tuesday, January 8 at 1:00 PM - How to Apply for Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program Grants – Register now for either the [December 12 session](#) or the [January 8 session](#)**

The Federal-State Partnership Program is authorized by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and this [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) makes available funding from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, and Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018. During the webinar, FRA will provide information about the new grant opportunity and how to apply for grant funding. For additional information about this grant opportunity, please see FRA's Competitive Discretionary Grant Programs website at <https://www.fra.dot.gov/grants>

### [Section 5307, 5310, and 5311: Using Non-DOT Funds for Local Match](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [Administration for Community Living](#) (ACL) has worked with the [National Aging and Disability Transportation Center](#) to clarify the ability of grantees to use Older Americans Act Title IIIB Supportive Services Funds to match Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs. These FTA programs include Urbanized Area Formula Grants (Section 5307), Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and People with Disabilities (Section 5310), and Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Section 5311). This information has been publicized [HERE](#)

### FHWA Offers New Funding for Innovative Demonstration Projects

New funding is available from the Federal Highway Administration's Accelerated Innovation Deployment Demonstration program to encourage the transportation community to adopt proven innovations. [Funding](#) or the AID Demonstration program, launched in 2014 as part of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, was continued by the 2015 [Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act](#). Since AID Demonstration was introduced, FHWA has provided more than \$43 million for 61 awards.

Under the program, funding of up to \$1 million may be awarded for projects that use proven innovations in any project phase, including planning, financing, operation, structures, materials, pavements, environment and construction. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through Grants.gov, the federal government's website for information on funding opportunities. For more information on the AID Demonstration program, contact [Ewa Flom](#) of the FHWA Center for Accelerating Innovation.

The FHWA continues the Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration authorized within the Technology and Innovation Deployment Program (TIDP) under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The AID Demonstration provides incentive funding for any project activities eligible for assistance under title 23, U.S.C. in any phase of a highway transportation project between project planning and project delivery including planning, financing, operation, structures, materials, pavements, environment, and construction that address the TIDP goals. The Notice of

Funding Opportunity (NOFO) published on September 1, 2016 (<https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-21063>) requests grant applications and provides selection criteria, application requirements, and technical assistance with Grants.gov during the grant solicitation period.

Link to Additional Information: [FHWA Center for Accelerating Innovation Grants page](#)

### Industrial Access Road and Bridge

Industrial access funds are intended to provide adequate public access to new or expanding distribution, manufacturing and industrial firms. The industry must be committed to new investment and the creation of new jobs. The new access must be on public right of way for public use (state, city or county) and the project sponsor (city or county) must maintain the completed facility unless the facility consists of turn lanes, crossovers, etc., that are located on state highways. Industrial access funds are limited to construction, construction engineering and inspection costs. The project sponsor is responsible for all preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation costs.

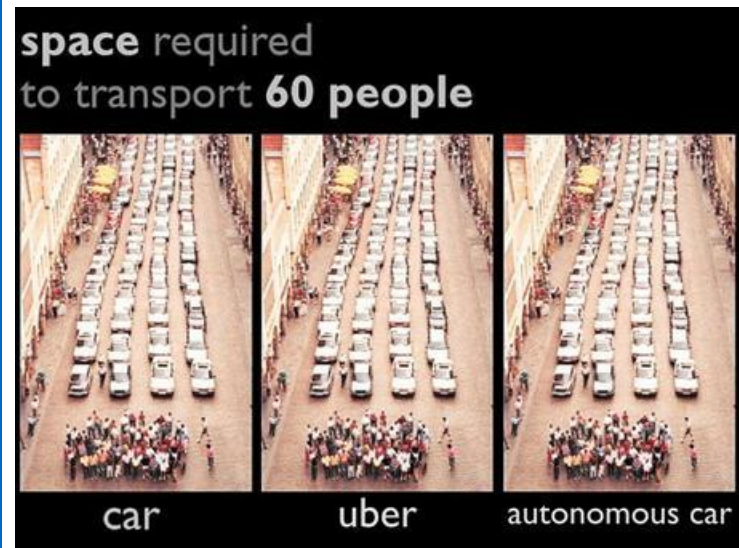
Prior to the date the qualifying (new or expanding) project is "placed in service," the sponsoring entity or its local development agency must notify the Alabama Department of Commerce of its intent to claim the incentives under Section 41-9-202.1, Code of Alabama 1975. Effective October 9, 2008, the Industrial Access Road and Bridge Corporation application submittal should include the notification acknowledgment letter from the Secretary of Commerce. For more info, see [HERE](#)

To stay up to date on all of the many grants that are available visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

## Just For Fun

Last week, I attended the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Conference in Washington D.C. It is always astonishing the amount of research, mathematical formulas and statistical analysis that goes into some of these presentations that are presented by bright, smart and passionate college students. This year, like in years past, was the topic of autonomous vehicles (AV), or driverless cars. For example, what are AV's going to do to parking lots? Some speculation and debate is that parking lots will be a thing of the past; however, the [\\$100 billion market](#) may be poised to grow. Either way, it makes for some good AV meme's, *Just For Fun*.

With the rise of self driving vehicles, it's only a matter of time before there's a Country song where the guy's truck leaves him.



## In the News

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## Mayor Stimpson Presents Draft Development Code for Citizen Feedback

January 24, 2019

*"When we embarked on the Map for Mobile planning process, we promised to implement it as a 'living document' with action plans developed and reviewed on an annual basis. This draft development code will foster growth and be a catalyst for economic development."* – **Mayor Stimpson**

Mayoral Action: Mayor Stimpson is presenting the draft Unified Development Code (UDC) for public comment. Citizens can offer feedback on the new code at [mapformobile.org](http://mapformobile.org) through March 8. This new code sets standards and procedures to guide new development and redevelopment in the City of Mobile. Following the public comment period, City staff will incorporate changes into the draft document. The code will then be presented to both the Planning Commission and the City Council for approval.

### **Background:**

In 2016, Mayor Stimpson launched the effort to create a new zoning code, something that had not been done in almost 50 years. The Administration initiated this project to translate the broad vision of Map for Mobile into specific land use policies. Adoption of this document will represent a significant step supporting the vision statements described within the comprehensive plan.

### **Highlights:**

- Creates a sense of place
- Builds neighborhood character
- Improves walkability through sidewalks and public spaces
- Protects our natural resources

### **For Neighborhoods:**

- Protects investments, property values, and quality of life
- Includes more design standards for residential areas
- Supports development that reflects the character of each neighborhood
- Implements streetscape standards to promote and preserve neighborhood character
- Requires civic and open spaces in new developments

### **For Businesses:**

- Streamlines the development approval process
- Reflects modern practices in land use planning to support economic development
- Establishes a maritime zoning district to embrace our working waterfront
- Creates a new commercial warehouse zoning category to support warehousing and distribution activities

### **For Development:**

- Provides a modern and flexible approach to regulating development
- Establishes a streamlined approval process
- Simplifies regulations into one document

### **For Natural Resources:**

- Includes riparian buffers to protect water quality, reduce runoff and erosion and support wildlife habitats
- Preserves land areas near major waterways and flood prone areas
- Establishes guidelines for environmentally sensitive areas

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## *Digital license plates now available as option for Arizona motorists*

ADOT and DPS collaborate to ensure technology is safe

January 24, 2019

PHOENIX – Technology buffs have a new Arizona license plate option available to them with the introduction of electronic digital plates.

For over a year, the Arizona Department of Transportation has tested this technology on a limited number of its fleet vehicles throughout the state to determine operational capabilities and endurance under multiple weather conditions.



ADOT also collaborated with the Arizona Department of Public Safety to ensure that the look of the plate and its messaging capabilities conform to legal requirements and law enforcement best practices.

The plates, called Rplate Digital License Plates, are LTE wireless connected devices similar to a tablet. The license plate number is constantly displayed, and the technology allows for added messages such as “invalid,” “stolen” and other notifications if needed.

While use of the Rplate is authorized by the ADOT Motor Vehicle Division and the Arizona Department of Public Safety, it's not available at MVD or Authorized Third Party offices. Motorists who wish to buy the plate must do so through participating resellers, including vehicle dealerships and professional auto service providers or the plate manufacturer, [Reviver Auto](#). The plate's cost is determined by the manufacturer, and MVD does not receive any proceeds from sales.

For more information: [reviverauto.com](http://reviverauto.com).

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## Mayor Stimpson Announces Three Mile Creek Greenway Community Listening Sessions

*January 24, 2019*

Mobile, Ala. -- The City of Mobile is pleased to announce plans for the development and construction of the ongoing Three Mile Creek Greenway project. Citizens throughout Mobile are invited to experience the Greenway through citywide Community Listening Sessions, slated for Tuesday, January 29 – Thursday, January 31 at various locations from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Phase one of the construction is slated to begin in 2019.

The Three Mile Creek Community Listening Sessions will introduce the current progress of the Greenway Trail design and offer community members an opportunity to actively engage and voice opinions on the design components of the Three Mile Creek Greenway. Attendees will meet the design team who were selected to create and implement the next two phases of the Greenway.

"This is a continuation of the significant work that has been ongoing for Three Mile Creek," said Mayor Sandy Stimpson. "We are excited to showcase the conceptual drawings and learn from the community on their dreams and aspirations for the Greenway development. I urge everyone with an interest in Three Mile Creek to join us and help us capture the heart of Mobile by sharing their unique ideas.

The Three Mile Creek Community Listening Sessions will kick off on Tuesday, January 29 at the Dumas Wesley Community Center. The second session will be held on Wednesday, January 30 at the Mobile Museum of Art. The last session will be held on Thursday, January 31 at Ashland Place United Methodist Church. All Community Listening Sessions will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Greenway will be a linear park system that spans a seven-mile portion of Three Mile Creek, extending eastward from Langan Park to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Avenue. The development of the Greenway will include a system of trails, trailheads, sidewalks, and bike paths to provide non-motorized transportation options to Mobile's residents. The Greenway trail will be accessible to everyone, regardless of age or ability, and provide opportunities to socialize, walk, run, play, learn, and enjoy the outdoors.

Three Mile Creek stretches approximately fourteen miles from west of the University of South Alabama, eastward through Langan Park into the Mobile River, passing through many of Mobile's historic neighborhoods throughout the trail.

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## Mobile County could get new park on Escatawpa River

Updated Jan 24, 5:08 PM; Posted Jan 24, 3:06 PM





At the Escatawpa Hollow Campground near Mobile, the Escatawpa River is a narrow, meandering waterway lined by trees and sandy beaches. (*Bill Starling/Press-Register File*)

By [Lawrence Specker | lspecker@al.com](mailto:lspecker@al.com)

A private campground on the Mississippi line may soon become a county-owned site with potential to join Chickasabogue Park as a crown jewel of the county's recreational and environmental assets.

At its discussion meeting on Thursday, the Mobile County Commission considered a measure to spend \$715,000 to buy 45 acres of land in the Wilmer area northwest of Mobile. "I just want to say I'm very excited about this purchase," said Commission President Connie Hudson, explaining that the land involved is the privately owned Escatawpa Hollow Campground.

"I really think this is going to be a great project for the county," Hudson said. "It's going to be a sister project to our other campground, at Chickasabogue. We're really going to enhance what is already there, add camping facilities, add walking trails, I'm just really excited about it."

"It's a great project," agreed Councilwoman Merceria Ludgood. "We've been trying to get them to sell for almost as long as I've been on the commission."

"We just came together at a meeting of the minds," Hudson said.

According to the council agenda, the land would be purchased from Larry D. Godfrey and Janice W. Godfrey. Hudson praised the Godfreys for their stewardship of the property.

"He's really had a vision for this property for a long time, and I think the county, the way I look at it, we will help realize his vision," she said. "Because Larry and Janice have really worked hard to make this a very nice family campground, and that's what we want it to be."

Hudson said he envisioned adding amenities such as walking trails and expanding the site's camping facilities, possibly even adding a lodge.

Where Chickasabogue is located just off I-65 within easy reach of Mobile, Prichard and Saraland, Escatawpa Hollow is in a considerably more rural setting: It's the last piece of land on the south side of U.S. 98 before it crosses the Escatawpa River into Mississippi.

From that point, the Escawapa winds generally southward into Mississippi, crossing I-10 and entering the Escatawpa River Marsh Coastal Preserve near Moss Point. Hudson and Eddie Kerr, head of Mobile County's Environmental Services Department, said that water access will complement the county's plans to develop a "Blueway Trail" for paddling.

The Blueway plan has been targeted for funding by the RESTORE program, money related to the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster. But the money to buy Escatawpa, and likely to develop it in the future, comes from a different source: The county's share of GOMESA funding, which comes from federal oil and gas leases under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act.

Continue [HERE](#)

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(Kevin's note: granted that the Mobile's Urban Area Population is about 7% of Atlanta's, the Atlanta Regional Commission is doing some innovative public involvement techniques)

**These 50 Potential Projects Offer Vision for Region's Transit Future (Atlanta)**

POSTED ON JANUARY 23, 2019

PAUL DONSKY

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Here's an intriguing blank slate, sky's-the-limit question: what should metro Atlanta's transit network look like in the future? The kicker: You don't have to factor in cost.

Every few years, transportation planners and local officials come together to provide an answer, creating a detailed project list that serves as a long-range vision for transit in the Atlanta region.

The latest iteration is hot off the presses, having recently been OK'd by the Atlanta Regional Commission.

Before we get into the details, remember that this is a vision, not a plan. Given funding challenges, many projects are decades away from being built, and some may never get off the drawing board.

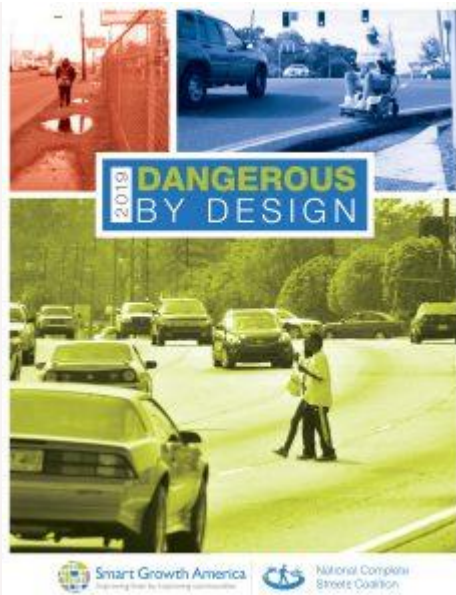
OK, with that caveat out of the way, here's the lowdown on "[Concept 3](#)," as it's known in bureaucratic circles (more on the name later).

Let's cut to the chase: What projects are included?

In all, 50 potential transit projects from across the region are in the latest Concept 3 vision. The list includes everything from heavy rail (like a MARTA train) to bus rapid transit lines that offer improved, rail-like service on buses. Projects are [HERE](#)

## Transportation Research

# Dangerous By Design 2019 [HERE](#)



[Download the full report](#)

Between 2008 and 2017, **drivers struck and killed 49,340 people** who were walking on streets all across the United States. That's more than **13 people per day**, or **one person every hour and 46 minutes**. It's the equivalent of a jumbo jet full of people crashing—with no survivors—every single month.

[Dangerous by Design 2019](#) takes a closer look at this alarming epidemic.

We can and must do more to reduce the number of people who die while walking every day on our roadways. For too long we have disregarded this problem by prioritizing moving cars at high speeds over safety for everyone. It's past time for that to change. Protecting the safety of all people who use the street—especially the people most vulnerable to being struck and killed—needs to be a higher priority for policymakers, and this priority must be reflected in the decisions we make about how to fund, design, operate, maintain, and measure the success of our roads.

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## [The Data Collected by Dockless Bikes is Helping Cities Map Your Movement](#)

Dockless bikes use a combination of GPS, 3G wireless connections, and solar power to transmit their location to providers and consumers. Providers, and the cities they partner with, have unparalleled access to rider behavior and are leveraging this knowledge to meet the needs of their consumers. In South Bend, IN, Lime is providing aggregate statistics on travel and heat maps showing where most riders occur in the city. South Bend used this data to paint drop-off areas for the bikes and is now hoping to use this information to plan for new bike paths and lanes. Lime is also working with cities to identify a format that makes it easy for them to pull data from multiple operators into their databases to analyze with their own tools.

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## **Transportation Safety Planning and the Zero Deaths Vision: A Guide for Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Local Communities**

FHWA has released this new [guidebook](#) geared towards MPOs and local stakeholders to reduce fatalities and serious injuries across transportation systems. To address this, USDOT seeks to foster collaboration across all stakeholders to improve the behaviors and conditions that impact these safety outcomes. The Guide seeks to assist MPOs, communities, and other transportation agencies to utilize, implement, and evaluate their safety planning processes to further the zero deaths vision.

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## **Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO): Transportation Partnerships for the 21st Century**

This work will deliver a historical review and contemporary analysis of the institutional structures and performance of MPOs, producing conclusions and lessons learned that are relevant to current challenges. This research will address ways in which MPOs can respond more nimbly and effectively to rapidly changing transportation demands, conditions, and technologies. It will provide a range of strategies and tools drawn from cases and practice in order to better equip MPOs and MPO-state partnerships in planning, maintaining, and improving transportation systems for U.S. metropolitan areas and the economies reliant on those systems.

Staff Contact: Harlan Miller, 202-366-0847


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## **Transportation Dictionary**

The USDOT released a searchable online dictionary that includes over 9,000 transportation terms and acronyms. The terms were collected from a variety of public and private transportation publications and databases. This dictionary presents over 9,000 terms and acronyms related to transportation. The terms and acronyms were obtained from various transportation publications and databases which exist within the federal government, private organizations, Canada and Mexico.

### **Search Tips**

- Sources are listed in parenthesis after the definition.
- None of the searches are case sensitive. Searching for PEDESTRIAN will produce the same results as searching for pedestrian.



· The Dictionary searches for the word, phrase or acronym as it is entered and returns all records that match or contain that word, phrase or acronym. For example, searching for pedestrian will return records for pedestrian and pedestrian walkway.

Click [HERE](#) for the search engine.