

CONNECTIONS

News from the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

August 2013

Gardendale Council to Update Master Plan

RPCGB and KPS Group of Birmingham will be working to create a new Master Land Use Plan that "will become the roadmap of how the city will be developed for the next 10 years...", according to Jack Fields, President of the Gardendale Planning and Zoning Commission of the Greater Gardendale Chamber of Commerce. The last Master Land Use Plan was created in the 1990's, and according to Mayor Othell Phillips, it's time to be updated. The creation of a future land use plan will ensure that Gardendale is prepared for future growth while also enhancing the city's legal standing when dealing with zonings that are contrary to the land use plan. [To learn more about what the plan will entail, click here.](#)

CITY OF
GARDENDALE



Board of Directors

August 21, 2013
10:30 a.m.
Juster Conference Room

MPO Transportation Citizens Committee

August 21, 2013
12:00 p.m.
CANCELED

MPO Transportation Technical Committee

August 28, 2013
10:00 a.m.
CANCELED

Think Forward Brown Bag Series: Health Impacts of Healthy Communities

August 28, 2013
11:30 a.m.
Juster Conference Room

MPO Transportation Advisory

Brown Bag, August 28, Healthy Impacts of Healthy Communities

Barbara Newman, Jefferson County Department of Health, is scheduled to speak on "Health Impacts of Healthy Communities" on August 28, 2013 at 11:30 a.m. in the Robert Juster Conference Room at RPCGB. Health Impact Assessments are designed to help policymakers craft health conscience public policy. The Jefferson County Department of Health Western Health Center will be located in the heart of the Southwest Corridor Transit Study. The Health Impact Assessment (HIA) deals with access to health care, transportation, and healthy food in a region of Jefferson County called the Southwest Corridor. [To learn more about the brown bag and to RSVP, click here.](#)



REVIVE Birmingham Teams Up with RPCGB for Future Pop-Up Shops

REVIVE Birmingham is now accepting proposals from artists, entrepreneurs and existing businesses to create unique, temporary retail establishments and art installations throughout five target commercial districts during the month of October. The goal of the project is to give life to areas in Birmingham that have been forgotten or neglected. By offering local entrepreneurs temporary spaces throughout the 5 targeted commercial districts, The Street Life Project aims to build local economy through small business growth by activating vacant storefronts with retail shops. The project also calls for local artists who want to create visual impact in the heart of downtown and our urban villages. The goal of creating of street-level installations can inspire community engagement, which in turn will bring these areas back to life. The 5 targeted areas include: Downtown, Eastlake, Ensley, Five Points South and Woodlawn. The deadline to submit your proposal is August 23. [To submit a proposal or to learn more about The Street Life Project click here.](#)



Ozge Cavusoglu, Ph.D., featured in special issue of ASCE journal for Role of Transit in Car-less Evacuation Planning

Two years ago, RPCGB's Ozge Cavusoglu, Ph.D. and her academic peers submitted an abstract for a special issue of the highly-regarded *American Society of Civil Engineers Journal*, the *Natural Hazards Review*. The abstract would evolve into the case-study for modeling of evacuation of individuals without vehicles using transit options due to a flooding emergency in Birmingham, Alabama. This August, the study is featured in Volume 14 of the *Journal*; a special issue entitled *Interdisciplinary and Multimodal Nature of Evacuations: Nexus of Research and Practice*. [To learn more about the study, click here](#)



Committee

August 29, 2013
1:30 p.m.
CANCELED

MPO Policy Committee

September 11, 2013
1:30 p.m.
CANCELED

If you plan to attend a meeting, please use the entrance on Morris Avenue. For additional meeting information, please visit the [RPCGB website](#).

RPCGB Success Corner

RPCGB Planner, Renato Ghizoni, successfully completed the requirements to obtain the **Competent Communicator** award through Toastmaster's International communication program. **Congratulations, Renato!**

Alabama Partners for Clean Air will continue free emissions testing through September! Get your vehicle tested today!
[Check the APCA calendar for dates and locations.](#)



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