

CONNECTIONS

A newsletter from the
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

May, 2010

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

[RPCGB Finance Committee Meeting](#)

May 5, 2010
RPCGB Office
9:00 am, 1st Floor Conf. Room

[RPCGB Program Budget Committee Meeting](#)

May 12, 2010
RPCGB Office
9:00 am, 1st Floor Conf. Room

[Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting](#)

May 12, 2010
RPCGB Office
1:30 pm, 1st Floor Conf. Room

[APCA Steering Committee Meeting](#)

May 13, 2010
RPCGB Office
1:30 pm, 1st Floor Conf. Room

[RPCGB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

May 19, 2010
RPCGB Office
10:30 am, 1st Floor Conf.

Letter from the Executive Director

It should come as no surprise to you that the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham is heavily involved in transportation and community planning initiatives throughout our six-county region. Rarely does a week pass when our name is not mentioned in some form of media in connection to corridor studies, land use plans, or air quality improvements, just to name a few. What isn't so commonly recognized as an RPCGB initiative, yet is fundamental to the advancement of this region, is our business loan program.



The RPCGB serves as the U.S. Department of Commerce's designated Economic Development District as well as the Local Development District for the Appalachian Regional Commission. In this capacity, the RPCGB provides multiple services focusing on financial tools for businesses in the region. Some of the services provided include a revolving loan fund, micro loan programs and grant writing assistance. Loans through the RPCGB benefit the small business just getting on its feet, the established company looking for a financial boost, and even the business looking to be more energy efficient, as is mentioned later in this issue of Connections.

An example of our success in the lending area is the RPCGB Receivables Lending Program, a short-term micro lending program. This program has been a great addition to the agency's revolving loan fund portfolio. Here are some key points about the fund:

- Since January, nearly \$200,000 has been loaned out, retaining approximately 90 jobs. That is a per job cost of about \$2,200.
- For every dollar loaned, the fund has leveraged at least \$3.00 in receivables.
- The average loan size is \$15,115, and is paid back in full in an average of 24 days.

The Receivables Lending Program is available to incubator

Room

[Transportation Citizens
Committee Meeting](#)

May 19, 2010
RPCGB Office
Noon, 1st Floor Conf. Room

[Transportation Technical
Committee Meeting](#)

May 26, 2010
RPCGB Office
10:00am, 1st Floor Conf. Room

[Metropolitan Planning
Organization Subcommittee
Meeting](#)

May 27, 2010
RPCGB Office
1:30pm, 1st Floor Conf. Room

For meeting information,
including postings of any
meeting notices and
cancellations please visit the
[RPCGB website](#).

tenants only and we are currently working with two great partners on this program, the Innovation Depot and the Bessemer Business Incubation System.

The greatest benefit we receive from providing these loan programs is seeing a business succeed with our assistance. Two examples of this success are Vaxin, Inc., and Advance Skin Technology. Vaxin is a firm that is currently researching and producing experimental vaccines, most notably one for the H1N1 virus. Vaxin recently received \$3 million in venture capital from a South Korean firm, AnC Bio Group, for a joint research venture and were recently honored by the Birmingham Business Journal as one of the Pacesetters, or high-growth firms, in the region. Advanced Skin Technology is a firm that evacuated New Orleans because of Hurricane Katrina and moved into the Innovation Depot. In addition to being a recent loan recipient, they were also highlighted in the Birmingham News for their Green Cream product, a wrinkle-reducing, collagen-boosting product.

Seeing businesses in our region grow, succeed and bring recognition to the area are just a few of the many benefits the RPCGB gains from these loan programs. It's the continued economic development of our area that is vital to our future and the RPCGB is proud to be a part of the process.



RPCGB Announces Consulting Team for U.S. 11 Study

On May 3, 2010, the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (RPCGB) announced that it had selected the consulting team led by **Post, Buckley, Schuh, & Jernigan (PBS&J), Inc.** to conduct the U.S. 11 Southwest Corridor Transit Alternatives Analysis study. The team's selection culminates a procurement process that officially began in January, but has been highly anticipated for nearly 2 1/2 years. The PBS&J team is made up of the following firms:

Wallace, Robert & Todd
Dovetail Consulting
Contente Consulting
Wilbron Institute
Criterion Planners
Real Estate Research Associates

The U.S. 11 planning process will focus on identifying high-capacity public transit services for the U.S. 11 West (Bessemer Super Highway) transportation corridor that can be successfully positioned to receive federal fund. The study will be conducted as an alternatives analysis, and will look at the feasibility of different transit technologies such as commuter rail, light rail, and bus rapid transit. It will consider a number of different routing alternatives to include, but not be limited to active and abandoned rail corridors, arterial roadways, and the I-59/20 interstate. The study will also focus on land use, urban design, economic development, and social components. In doing so, a "complete"

plan for the entire corridor will be developed. This multifaceted approach also leverages potential transportation system investments in order to spur economic development and community revitalization.

The U.S. 11 study corridor generally follows U.S. 11 between downtown Birmingham and McCalla, and includes the communities between I-59/20 and Red Mountain. Eastern Valley Road, Tuscaloosa, Jefferson, and Claredon Avenues either border or are within the study area as well. Cities located within the corridor include: Birmingham, Bessemer, Fairfield, Midfield, Lipscomb, and Brighton. The McCalla community of unincorporated Jefferson County is also located in the study corridor. Finally, the City of Hueytown is located in close proximity to the study corridor.

Over the next several months, the RPCGB and its consultant team will be soliciting input from community residents, elected leaders, school officials, bureaucrats, and civic and business leaders in order to develop a unified vision for the corridor. A number of other activities are also planned. These include, but are not limited to, detailed planning for potential station areas, economic development workshops, community summits, etc.

RPCGB Holds Public Involvement Meeting on Regional Transportation Plan



A public involvement meeting was held on April 21, 2010, at the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, to discuss and document comments and questions on the Draft 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Re-balanced FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Air Quality Conformity Determination.

The public involvement meeting was conducted in an open house format with a short formal presentation that provided an overview of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. Displays were arranged around the room representing importation aspects of the RTP, the TIP and the Air Quality

Conformity. Each display included a blank board and attendees were provided post-it notes and encouraged to post their questions/comments on the blank boards to ensure an accurate recording. Each display was manned by RPCGB staff.

Attendees were provided a copy of the Draft 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Summary, a comment form, a meeting evaluation form and a postcard with details for online viewing of all documents and submitting questions/comments.

Results of the public involvement meeting are used by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in the adoption of plans, programs, and projects. The final written report is made available to the public.

To review documents and comment visit the MPO [website](#).

Timeline for Adoption

May 11, 2010 - End of 21 day comment period.

May 19, 2010 - Transportation Citizens Committee meeting - Public Involvement meeting documentation presented.

May 26, 2010 - Transportation Technical Committee meeting - Public Involvement meeting documentation presented.

May 27, 2010 - MPO Subcommittee - present Public Involvement meeting documentation and determination made to send Public Involvement documentation, 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, Re-balanced FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Report to MPO for adoption.

June 9, 2010 - MPO meeting to adopt Public Involvement documentation, 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, Re-balanced FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Report.

More Images from the Public Involvement Meeting



Get Ready to Bike to Work!



May is National Bike Month! The League of American Bicyclists is promoting Bike-to-Work Week from May 17-21 and **Bike-to-Work Day is on Friday, May 21 at 7:00 a.m.** A bicycle commuter convoy will depart from the fountain at Five Points South (Birmingham's Southside). The group will ride throughout Birmingham's City Center to tour ongoing and future downtown revitalization projects and to raise cycling awareness.

Citizens throughout America participate in this annual initiative by conducting group rides to highlight the benefits of cycling as a viable mode of transportation and means of regular exercise for

better health. Taking your bike to work instead of a car improves regional air quality by reducing vehicular emissions and can result in weight loss, stress reduction and improved cardio-vascular function. Biking to work makes for good use of commute time and reduces costly fuel consumption for many Americans. For metro Birmingham it makes more sense than ever! The League has set up an event website providing information on events all across the nation: www.bikemonth.com

For more information on Bike-to-Work Day, please contact Tom Maxwell at tmaxwell@rpcgb.org.

Employee Profile -- Scott Tillman, Director of Operations, RPCGB



Each month, we look at the profile of an RPCGB employee. This month's profile is Scott Tillman, Director of Operations.

Hometown: Birmingham

Education: B.S. in Aviation Management from Auburn University and a Masters of Business Administration from Oklahoma City University.

How long have you been with the RPCGB?: 2.5 years

Give a short overview of your job: I oversee the management of the Coordinated Human Service Program, CommuteSmart Program, and the Alabama Partners for Clean Air Program.

What is your favorite aspect of your job?: Seeing the positive impacts of our programs on people and the environment.

Tell us one thing we don't know about you: As an Air Force Reservist, I have over 3,000 hours on the E-3 AWACS as an Electronic Combat Officer.

Finish this sentence: "Ten years from now, I hope to be..."retired from the Air Force Reserves but still having a great time at RPCGB!

CommuteSmart Spotlight



CommuteSmart would like to highlight one of our Gold Partners, Infinity Insurance, for the great efforts of their employees who participate in our program. In the past four months, Infinity Insurance employees have taken 798 carpool trips, decreased Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by 30,486 miles, saved \$7,403.30 in gas costs and reduced more than 12 tons of greenhouse gasses.

Thank you to Infinity for participating in CommuteSmart! You are making a wonderful contribution to our mission of taking single-occupancy vehicles off the road, improving air quality and decreasing

traffic congestion!

For more information on how you or your company can get involved, check out the CommuteSmart [website](#).

Get Your Daily Air Quality Update!

RECEIVE BIRMINGHAM AREA AIR QUALITY FORECASTS



EnviroFlash is a **FREE** service that provides:

- **Daily air quality forecasts via automated e-mail.**
- **'Air Quality Alert! Day' notifications so residents can take action to reduce pollution and protect health.**

The Air Quality Index (AQI) forecast provides information so people can adjust their daily activities to match expected air quality conditions. Those enrolled get only the information they select. Air quality messages are sent at a level you select and when an 'Air Quality Alert! Day' is declared.

Ideal for:

- **parents**
- **the elderly**
- **teachers**
- **outdoor workers**
- **sports coaches**
- **outdoor enthusiasts**
- **people with heart problems**
- **people with asthma or other lung problems**

All you need to participate is an e-mail address and zip code!

Sign up at: <http://birmingham.enviroflash.info>

Forecasts are issued by the Jefferson County Department of Health and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

Transportation Updates

Application to Qualify Transportation Providers Posted

The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, on behalf of the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority, has posted an Application to Qualify Transportation Providers. Those who are approved will be put on a list of eligible providers who are able to render service to agencies receiving grants from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Approval does not guarantee service; however, not being approved specifically prohibits service using FTA grant monies. An application can be downloaded from the Metropolitan Planning Organization [website](#). *For questions or information contact Laurel Land at lland@rpcgb.org.*

Three New Projects Adopted to TIP

The MPO formally adopted three new projects into the Fiscal Year 2008 to 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in April. All three projects were requested by ALDOT to be added to the TIP. Two of the projects were stimulus funds allocated to support public transportation services in the rural areas of Jefferson and Shelby Counties. The third project will construct sidewalks near Shades Cahaba Elementary and Hall Kent Elementary schools in Homewood.

Mobility Matters Newsletter

A newsletter summarizing the work recently completed and future tasks for the I-65/US 31 Mobility Matters project is available on the project [website](#). A Teir 1 analysis has been completed and a more detailed Teir 2 alternatives analysis is underway.

U.S. 280 Transit Study Kickoff

The April issue of Connections presented a summary of the project scope for the U.S. 280 Transit Corridor Study. In light of the discussions surrounding the elevated toll road project presented by Governor Riley and ALDOT, the RPCGB would like to point out that in addition to transit alternatives, highway alternatives for U.S. 280 will also be evaluated as part of this study. The elevated toll road will be evaluated as one of at least three different highway alternatives analyzed in this project. *For questions or information on the study, contact Mike Kaczorowski at kaz@rpcgb.org.*

Recovery Act Funds Obligated

The RPCGB is pleased to report that all of the Recovery Act funding allocated to our area was obligated before deadline. Each of the Recovery Act projects has been let for bidding and several of the projects are under construction. The next task for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee is to re-balance funds for Fiscal Year 2011. This task will be completed in June along with continuing efforts to ensure all projects in the current TIP are progressing as quickly as feasible.

APCA Releases Annual Report

The Alabama Partners for Clean Air (APCA) announced the release of their 2009 annual report. The report is available on the APCA [website](#).

Economic Development and Loans

Loan Funding Available for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Projects

Local governments and businesses in Bibb, Blount, Chilton, St. Clair, and Walker Counties are now

eligible to apply for low-cost loans to fund energy efficiency and conservation projects. Projects may be retrofits, equipment acquisition, or new construction. Rates and terms vary. *For more information, please contact Yvonne Murray at YMurray@rpcgb.org.*

Loan Funding Available for Small Businesses

Expanding and new businesses in Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, St. Clair, and Walker Counties are eligible to apply for low-cost loans to fund expansion and start-up projects, including but not limited to machinery and equipment, building and real estate, or working capital. Rates and terms vary. *For additional information and application requirements, please visit the RPCGB [website](http://www.rpcgb.org), or contact Yvonne Murray at YMurray@rpcgb.org.*

Save the Date!

The RPCGB Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee will host the *Toolbox for Successful Grants* workshop from 8:30 - 12:30 on Tuesday, June 15th. *For more information, please contact Yvonne Murray at YMurray@rpcgb.org.*

HARPO Meetings Focus on "Big Ideas"

Representatives from the RPCGB continued the discussion of "big ideas" at this quarter's Heart of Alabama Rural Planning Organization (HARPO) meetings. Participants from all four counties cited the need for improved funding for maintenance and improvements for rural roads. The need for funding for rural road improvements is a consistent message in these counties. Identifying funding sources at the federal, state and local levels is a common topic of discussion.

St. Clair County participants cited U.S. 411 capacity improvements as being a big need for improving transportation in the county, and the RPCGB is forming a study group to look at this issue in greater depth. Also in St. Clair County, Pat Hall said that the Historic Stagecoach Route through Leeds is ready to expand to cover more of the additional route. This historic road linked Ashville to Montevallo, which provides partnership opportunities throughout our region.

Walker County participants recognize the need to explore ways to keep I-22 scenic. County residents are continuing to work on building the rail-trail system and identified several potential lines for this program. Walker County has abundant resources to attract visitors, both as a destination and as a diversion. Improvements for helping visitors find their way to the attractions are seen as another need for the county.

In Blount County, improvements to Highway 160 are proceeding, subject to FHWA approval. A long term idea for the benefit of the county and the state is to create four lanes on Alabama Highway 79 from Jefferson County to U.S. 231. This strategic improvement would open an alternative route from Birmingham to Huntsville and allow companies that serve both of those markets to position themselves in Blount County.

Chilton County residents are looking at ways to improve railroad grade crossings. Funding for these projects is limited and the RPCGB is looking at ways to leverage available funds to increase overall effectiveness. Residents are also interested in the carpool / vanpool system (CommuteSmart), and cited the need to market the guaranteed ride home aspect of the vanpool.

More information on these counties and HARPO can be found on the HARPO [website](http://www.rpcgb.org).

2010 Census Update

The 2010 Census mail forms are complete and the participation rates stand as follows:

National - 72% (same as 2000 Census)

Alabama - 70%
Blount County - 78%
Chilton County - 70%
Jefferson County - 72%
Shelby County - 77%
St. Clair County - 69%
Walker County - 69%

Now that the mailing phase is complete, the census takers (enumerators) will be going door-to-door, beginning May 1st, to roughly 1/3 of households that did not mail back their forms. Please encourage everyone to make sure they are counted. By filling out a census form, you are impacting future decisions concerning what resources your community needs and what funding is available to you. Accurate data reflecting changes in your community are important in apportioning seats in the US House of Representatives and deciding how more than \$400 billion per year is allocated for projects like hospitals, schools, roads, and bridges.

If you would like to see how your community has done, local level participation rates are also available and can be accessed at the 2010 Census Update website.

Community Updates

16th Street Corridor Study and Conceptual Streetscape Plan

The Fountain Heights Neighborhood Association adopted the 16th Street Corridor Study and Conceptual Streetscape Plan during a public meeting conducted by the RPCGB on April 8, 2010. The residents of Fountain Heights are excited about the Corridor Plan and look forward to implementing the recommendations brought forth in the plan. The RPCGB will be presenting the plan to the City of Birmingham Planning Commission on May 5, 2010. The Fountain Heights Neighborhood Association and the City of Birmingham have requested assistance from the Regional Planning Commission through the Building Communities Program to complete this study. *For additional information please contact Richard Amore, Senior Planner with the RPCGB at ramore@rpcgb.org*



Conceptual vision of the northern gateway for 16th Street North

City of Leeds Master Plan

The RPCGB conducted a stakeholder involvement meeting with the Leeds business community during the Leeds Area Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon on April 15. The RPCGB gave an overview of the City of Leeds Master Plan and conducted a Visual Preference Survey to assist in forming the vision for the Master Plan. The RPCGB is moving forward with the stakeholder involvement process during the month of May in guiding the future direction of the Master Plan. The RPCGB looks forward to kicking off the public involvement meetings in the coming months once the existing conditions analysis is completed. The City of Leeds has requested assistance from the RPCGB through the Building Communities Program to complete the master plan for the city. *For additional information please contact Richard Amore, Senior Planner with the RPCGB at ramore@rpcgb.org*

City of Vestavia Hills Development Regulations

The City of Vestavia Hills Planning Commission adopted Subdivision Regulations and the Public Works Manual on April 8, 2010. The City of Vestavia Hills worked with the KPS Group in developing their land development regulations. The city has requested assistance from the Regional Planning Commission through the Building Communities Program to complete their plans and regulations. *For additional information please contact Richard Amore, RPC Senior Planner, ramore@rpcgb.org or Jason Fondren with the KPS Group, jfondren@kpsgroup.com.*

City of Irondale Commercial and Transportation Analysis

The City of Irondale contracted with the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Business to provide an analysis and assessment of the city's primary commercial centers and transportation corridors. The city was specifically interested in examining issues of land use and transportation influences within three important commerce areas of the city. Through a comprehensive analysis of the community's economic and market demographics, input from community and business leaders, suggestions from area developers, and an inventory of existing businesses, the RPCGB identified the most promising prospects for retail recruitment, developed a transportation plan for the city, and provided recommendations with which the city may implement the steps necessary to recondition and revitalize the commercial areas. The study provides the City of Irondale with recommendations towards improving selected commercial sites and corridors in terms of transportation, access management and general maintenance in order to better position themselves to compete for retail development and redevelopment. Additionally, the study provides a retail commercial assessment to give the city a recruitment strategy for attracting particular retailers.

Some highlights of the study include the following:

- Minor access management changes along Highway 78 and 16th Street, particularly with vehicle access into the former Goldbro shopping center.
- General site improvements along Highway 78 and enhancing the "gateway".
- Recommendations for the creation of a retail destination center or mixed-use lifestyle center for Grants Mill Station.
- Establishing a position within the city for a dedicated recruiter to serve as a single point of contact to retailers and developers. This position would function as a business information manager working with existing businesses as well as prospective businesses to promote

the City of Irondale.

- The recommendation that the city reinvest newly generated sales tax revenue into site improvement efforts. The continued improvement will increase appeal and generate interest for prospective businesses while retaining existing businesses.

The study was funded through the RPCGB's Building Communities Program Grant which is a planning assistance grant that provides funding to local governments in order to assist them in developing and implementing planning projects. These projects could include master plans, area plans (neighborhoods, corridors, or station plans), regulatory plans (subdivision regulations, zoning ordinances, access management, traffic, or resource plans), capital improvement plans, or other eligible project plans. *For additional information please contact Brett Isom, GIS Administrator with the RPCGB at bisom@rpcgb.org*

To see a complete list of community planning projects completed over the last year, visit the Community Planning section of the [RPCGB website](#).

SmartCode Corner

Last month we began a discussion of Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFOs). An Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) is an ordinance adopted by the local government that allows it to defer the approval of developments based upon a finding by the governing body that public facilities would not be adequate to support the proposed development when completed.

How It Works:

1. The Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance is linked to the locality's Capital Improvement Program, which establishes a schedule of public facility construction over a five or six year period and details how they should be financed.
2. The ordinance identifies the types and levels of service that are needed to permit new development and establishes a policy about when the infrastructure and public services must be in place relative to the impact of development.
3. The development must demonstrate that the required levels of public facilities and services are, or will be, available to the proposed project.
4. Most Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances deal with only one or two types of facilities, such as roads or sewers that have caused critical problems in the community, while others apply such provisions to the full range of public facilities including water supply, schools, and fire protection.

What are the components of an effective APFO?

1. Identifies the types of public facilities to be considered.
2. Limits the period of time during which the deferral on development imposed by an APFO can be in force.
3. Requires the locality to have in place a capital facilities plan to remedy the infrastructure inadequacy that has been the basis for the development deferral.

What does granting APFO authority do?

1. APFOs allow localities to time development to coincide with the taxpayers' ability to pay for the schools, roads, public safety and other necessities upon which development is dependent.
2. APFOs help to ensure that development does not proceed at the expense of decent schools, public safety and good neighborhoods.
3. APFOs help to ensure that the huge backlog of approved development in high growth localities does not bankrupt localities or taxpayers.
4. APFOs ensure that localities that wish to have a voice in their growth adopt capital budgets that support the intended growth.

If you have SmartCode questions, please contact Steve Ostaseski, Richard Amore or Philip Amthor at the RPCGB. Steve may be reached by phone at 205.264.8422 or by email at smo@rpcgb.org. Richard may be reached by phone at 205.264.8447 or by email at ramore@rpcgb.org. Philip may be reached by phone at 205.264.8421 or by email at pamthor@rpcgb.org

Trails Commission Bill Signed Into Law

On Thursday, April 22, Governor Riley approved HB376, and thereby created Act 2010-585. The Alabama Trails Commission has been born! A link to the Act is below.

This is an incredible accomplishment for all who have contributed their time, talents, and support to make this day possible. Many, many people made an effort in pushing this bill to final passage. It is not possible to list them all, but we would like to acknowledge the members of the legislature, the heads of relevant state agencies, the Trails Commission Committee, and the Alabama Recreational Trails Advisory Board (ARTAB) for their tireless efforts and support:

Senator "Walking" Wendell Mitchell, sponsor of SB258

Senator Trip Pittman, co-sponsor of SB258

Representative Cam Ward, sponsor of HB376

Senator Tom Butler, who spoke on behalf of HB376 in the Senate prior to final passage

Ms. Doni M. Ingram, Director, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

Mr. Joe McInnes, Director, Alabama Department of Transportation

Mr. Barnett Lawley, Commissioner, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Mr. Lee Sentell, Director, Alabama Tourism Department

Mr. Josh Blades, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor's Office

The Alabama Association of Regional Councils

Ms. Debbie "The Mighty" Quinn, Chairperson, Trails Commission Committee, ARTAB member

Ms. Jody Waites, committee member and State Trails Coordinator for Alabama

Ms. Francesca Gross, committee member

Ms. Tracy Delaney, committee member

Mr. Tedson Meyers, committee member

Mr. Glenn Myers, committee and ARTAB member

Mr. Bobby Whaley, committee and ARTAB member

Mr. Mark Rubino, committee member

Mr. Robert Fuller, committee and ARTAB member

Mr. Tom Maxwell, committee and ARTAB member

Mr. Jerry Bynum, committee and ARTAB member

Mr. Rob Grant, committee member

And the rest of the Alabama Recreational Trails Advisory Board:

Mr. Patrick Denney, Mr. Jimmy Lanier, Mr. Bill Matthews, Mr. Bill St. John, and Mr. Richard Martin

A very special thank you to **Ms. Joanne Schrantz**, Legislative Assistant to Sen. Mitchell and the **Honorable Bob Riley, Governor, State of Alabama**

Now that the "easy" part has been accomplished, the work to make the Trails Commission operational begins. We again look to all of you for your assistance in this process. We will keep you informed of the progress being made and ask that you contact one of us listed below if we can answer any questions.

Debbie Quinn

debbiewq@gmail.com

Jody Waites

State Trails Coordinator, ADECA

Jody.waites@adeca.alabama.gov

(334) 353-4384

Rob Grant

Recreation Programs Manager, ADECA

Rob.grant@adeca.alabama.gov

(334) 242-5483

[LINK TO ACT 2010-585](#)

CONNECTIONS is brought to you by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Find out more at www.rpcgb.org

