

CONNECTIONS

A newsletter from the
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

November 2011

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

[RPCGB Program Budget](#)

November 9, 2011

RPCGB Office

Canceled

[Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting](#)

November 9, 2011

RPCGB Office

1:30pm, 1st Floor Conf. Rm

[Transportation Citizens Committee Meeting](#)

November 15, 2011

RPCGB Office

Noon, 1st Floor Conf. Rm

[RPCGB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

November 16, 2011

RPCGB Office

Canceled

[Transportation Technical Committee Meeting](#)

November 16, 2011

RPCGB Office

10:00am, 1st Floor Conf. Rm

[MPO Subcommittee Meeting](#)

RPCGB Adds Medicaid Waiver Program



As of the beginning of October, the RPCGB is the new administrator of the Medicaid Waiver program in Jefferson County. This program is a home and community-based care (HCBC) program designed to provide services to the elderly and disabled to prevent premature institutionalization. Medicaid Waiver is a statewide program of the Alabama Department of Senior Services (ADSS) and the Alabama Medicaid Agency.

"All eleven other Regional Councils in the State of Alabama administer this program, so adding it to the RPCGB is a natural fit," said Charles Ball, Executive Director.

Individuals work with Medicaid Waiver program case managers to select services that best suit their needs, including:

Homemaker Services which provide assistance with general household activities such as meal preparation and routine housecleaning and tasks.

Personal Care Services which provide assistance with eating, bathing, dressing, caring for personal hygiene, toileting, transferring from bed to chair, ambulation, maintaining continence and other activities of daily living.

Adult Day Health a service that provides clients with a variety of health, social, recreational, and support activities in a supervised group setting.

Respite Care (Skilled and Unskilled) which provides to individuals unable to care for themselves and is furnished on a short-term basis.

Skilled Respite which provides skilled medical or nursing observation and services.

Unskilled Respite which provides and/or assists with activities of daily living and observations.

Adult Companion Services providing non-medical assistance,

November 17, 2011
RPCGB Office
1:30pm, 1st Floor Conf. Rm

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

observation, supervision and socialization to a functionally impaired adult.

Home Delivered Meals which are provided to eligible individual age 21 or older that are unable to meet nutritional needs.

There is not an age requirement for the program, however a recipient must be financially eligible for Medicaid and meet the program's level-of-care criteria. To be eligible, a client's income must be less than 300% of the Federal Benefit rate and the client cannot have resources in excess of \$2,000. Clients must exhibit the same disabilities and frailty for admission to a nursing home in Alabama as determined by their physician.

"Once the change was announced, the RPCGB welcomed the program with open arms and has provided so much support during the move. The move is a good thing for the program and our clients," said Bridget Phillips, Lead Case Manager.

For more information about the Medicaid Waiver program, please visit the [RPCGB website](#).

RPCGB Launches New Quarterly Video Digest



On October 26, the RPCGB announced the launch of **RPC-TV**. This quarterly video digest highlights the many initiatives and activities of the RPCGB. The inaugural episode features stories on the RPCGB's involvement in tornado recovery, Blueprint Birmingham and the U.S. 11 Corridor Study.

"RPC-TV is a great opportunity for the citizens of this region to get a good overview of the many different projects that involve the RPCGB. Those that are interested can now spend a few minutes watching an episode and gain a better understanding of how the

RPCGB is working to better all of our communities," said Greg Wingo, Public Affairs Officer.

To watch the first episode of RPC-TV, click on the image below.



RPC-TV Episode 1

RPCGB To Conduct a Corridor Workshop



Connecting Communities, Charting a New Course

The RPCGB will conduct a day-long workshop on land use planning around potential premium transit stations in the Southwest Corridor along U.S. 11 on Wednesday, December 7. The location is being confirmed and will be announced shortly.

The purpose of the workshop is to interact with the public, community leaders, property owners, developers and members of the study working groups and get their inputs, insights and ideas about potential land use and development around five target station areas that would be served by new high-quality transit service being proposed for the study corridor. The five target areas are Five Points West, the Princeton Baptist Medical Center area, the Legion Field Area, Aronov Drive at US 11 (Western Hills Mall), and downtown Bessemer.

This station area planning workshop is part of a multi-faceted effort by the RPCGB and its study team to develop land use plans and strategies that will consider the transit station areas, neighborhoods, cargo-oriented development, and other plans that are being developed for the corridor cities and the unincorporated Jefferson County district at the south end of the corridor. By taking a comprehensive look at these different land use components, the goal is to formulate strategies to encourage corridor revitalization that covers the entire corridor. These land use strategies will be complemented by groups of strategies focused on transit improvements and economic development initiatives.

The study is charged with examining premium transit alternatives along a 22-mile long corridor that extends from downtown Birmingham to the Jefferson/Tuscaloosa County Line. While the study is focused on identifying the most practical transit service and alignment, it is also charged with exploring ways to leverage the corridor's land use and economic development potential - through transit investment and through other coordinated strategies. The study will devote significant effort in order to assess opportunities for reshaping communities and identifying retail, industrial, and residential reinvestment strategies.

For additional information, please visit the [project website](#) or contact Darrell L. Howard, project manager, at dhoward@rpcgb.org.

SAVE THE DATE: RPCGB Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

2012 RPCGB Annual Meeting

January 25, 2012

The Club

1 Robert Smith Drive, Birmingham, AL 35209

Training Sessions 9am - 11:15am

Luncheon 11:30am - 1:00pm

Keynote Speaker: Mr. Mitchell Silver, AICP, PP

President, American Planning Association

Chief Planning & Economic Development Officer and Director, Department of City Planning for the

Brochures and information on the RPCGB website coming soon!

Revolving Loan Fund Highlight

BioGX

Each month, we will highlight a recipient of our Revolving Loan Fund Program. This month's highlight is BioGX, Inc.

BioGX, Inc. is a biotechnology company located in downtown Birmingham. They provide custom molecular assay design and development services and are currently developing and selling tests for real-time PCR based detection across numerous applications. They have recently developed a test for use on salmonella in egg and poultry, and two new multiplex panels for specific e. coli detection. BioGX is located in the Innovation Depot.

BioGx is a part of the RPCGB's Accounts Receivable Program within the Revolving Loan Fund Program. This program is for incubator tenants of the Innovation Depot and the Bessemer Business Incubation System. The program provides quick, low-cost working capital loans to small business using their receivables as collateral over a 30-day term. The maximum loan amount is \$25,000 and rates vary depending on the project.

To learn more about the Revolving Loan Fund Program and how your business might benefit, please visit the [Loan Program](#) page in the RPCGB website.

Mayor Profile



Each month, we will profile a mayor within the six county region. This month's profile is Mayor Sonny Posey of Jasper.

Sonny Posey, Mayor of Jasper

- A Jasper native who graduated from the Jasper City School System and also attended Walker College
- Worked from 1962 to 2004 in the radio and broadcast related industries
- Elected to the City Council to represent District III in 1992 and served two terms as Council President
- Elected as Mayor in 2004 to serve the first of two terms in office
- Family: Wife, Peggy Hayes Posey from Cordova, also a graduate of Walker High School and attended Walker College. They have two sons, Lee and Jamie and two grandsons, John and Sam.
- Hobbies include fishing, Alabama football, gardening, and spending time with his grandsons

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Find out more at www.rpcgb.org



