

CONNECTIONS

...remembers the anniversary of the devastation of April 27, 2011

Cordova, AL

During a span of 12 hours on April 27th, two tornadoes affected the City of Cordova. These tornadoes devastated the Central Business District and residential areas of Cordova. In August 2011, RPCGB and the Auburn University Urban Studio led a design workshop at Cordova High School. Design professionals and community members provided feedback on the ideas and design concepts for Cordova. RPCGB continues to aid Cordova with technical assistance efforts and HUD grant opportunities listed in the [Cordova Long Term Community Recovery \(LTCR\) Plan](#).



Pleasant Grove, AL

The tornado cut a path three-and-a-half miles long and one-half-mile wide through Pleasant Grove, which devastated thousands of residents and businesses. Shortly after the tornadoes, the city council appointed a steering committee to focus on long-term community recovery planning. The FEMA Long-Term Community Recovery (LTCR) Team and the



Introduction

In recognition of the April 27th tornadoes, RPCGB reflects on the progress and rebuilding efforts of several communities in the region that were affected by the disaster last year.



Thank You

These community rebuilding efforts would not have been possible without support from:

Local governments
Police & fire departments
Community volunteers
Community residents
FEMA
ADECA
Auburn University Urban Studio
United Way of Central

RPCGB facilitated weekly meetings with the eight-member committee to determine how Pleasant Grove should rebuild. This group created the [LTCR Action Strategy for Pleasant Grove](#). RPCGB is still involved with the city and this committee to proceed with actions identified in the plan.

Pratt City, AL

Pratt City was struck by an EF-4 tornado that leveled much of the Pratt community and damaged or destroyed more than 1,500 structures citywide. Mayor William Bell of Birmingham swiftly requested assistance from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) to aid in the rebuilding of Pratt City. AIA accepted the request and formed the Regional and Urban Design Assistance Team (R/UDAT). RPCGB was involved in the R/UDAT project by providing expertise for the plan and actively participating in the community workshop. The plan created by AIA is called [Rebuilding the Pratt Community](#).



Alabama
U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Greater
Birmingham Association of
Home Builders
Habitat for Humanity
American Institute of
Architecture - Birmingham
Chapter
Community Foundation of
Greater Birmingham
Walker Area Community
Foundation
Restore Sipsey
And so many more!



Sipsey, AL

Following the April 27th tornadoes, FEMA reported that 16 homes were destroyed and 68 home were rendered unsafe in Sipsey, AL. With assistance from RPCGB, FEMA Long Term Community Recovery (LTCR) teams and the Auburn Urban Studio, Sipsey held a workshop



to determine how the community should move forward. The Town Council approved and adopted the LTCR Action Strategy for Sipsey [LTCR Action Strategy for Sipsey](#) in

November 2011. The RPCGB has been working with Sipsey to finalize and pursue strategies identified in the plan. RPCGB is working with ADECA on pursuing HUD funding as well as other grant opportunities.





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OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM



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