



# CONNECTIONS

A newsletter from the  
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

May 2012

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### [Program Budget Committee](#)

May 9, 2012  
RPCGB Offices  
9:00 a.m., 1st Floor Conf Rm

### [MPO Committee](#)

May 9, 2012  
CANCELED

### [Bike from Work Day](#)

May 10, 2012  
Young & Vann Bldg Parking Lot  
5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

### [Board of Directors Meeting](#)

May 16, 2012  
RPCGB Offices  
10:30 a.m., 1st Floor Conf Rm

### [Transportation Citizens Committee](#)

May 16, 2012  
RPCGB Offices  
Noon, 1st Floor Conf Rm

### [Transportation Technical Committee](#)

May 23, 2012  
RPCGB Offices

## West Homewood Sidewalk Project Success

The RPCGB is working with the City of Homewood to update its current Transportation Master Plan to include a Pedestrian Plan.

The City set aside \$900,000 from this year's budget to build 11,377 feet of new sidewalks. "Our sidewalks are some of the oldest in the city," Councilman Peter Wright said, a representative of Ward 5 in the



Hollywood section of Homewood. The RPCGB created a list of potential new sidewalks based on information from citizens requests as well as input from City staff and local officials. Council President Allyn Holladay said the Council hopes to leverage federal Safe Routes to School funds to build sidewalks closest to its elementary schools. "We used that as our guide in what to pick as a priority," Holladay said. Field reviews were performed at the locations and a draft list including cost estimates was presented to the City Council including a map of the potential new sidewalks. The Council reviewed the list of 45 recommended areas and selected 12 different locations to be constructed with the funds appropriated. "Everybody pretty much knew what their constituents wanted. I think everyone is pleased," Holladay said concerning Council Members' selection of new sidewalks within their wards.

## Ozone Season in Effect

May reminds us that summer is quickly approaching, which means it's officially ozone season. Birmingham is known for having relatively high rankings in particle and ozone pollution.

The highest ozone levels occur from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. from May to September. Data provided by JCDH states that Birmingham's air quality is steadily improving. Air quality affects everyone and everything. Help us keep Birmingham's sky blue!



10 a.m., 1st Floor Conf Rm

[MPO Subcommittee](#)

May 24, 2012

RPCGB Offices

1:30 p.m., 1st Floor Conf Rm

For meeting information, please visit the [RPCGB website](#).

### Clean Energy Conference



[Click here](#) to view presentations from the Clean Energy Conference hosted by RPCGB on April 26th.

To receive email updates on air quality alert days, sign up for [EnviroFlash](#) and visit [Alabama Partners for Clean Air](#) to learn how you can improve our air quality.

### Elderly & Disabled Medicaid Waiver Program

On a state-level, the Elderly and Disabled Medicaid Waiver Program was previously managed by both the Alabama Department of Senior Services (ADSS) and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). However, earlier this year the transition started for ADSS to become the sole manager of this program for the state. As of May 1, 2012, the RPCGB became the sole administrator of the program for Jefferson County. The RPCGB hired five new case managers to serve the nearly 200 clients that transferred from ADPH. These clients will continue to receive waiver program services.



For more information on the Medicaid Program, visit our [website](#) or call (205) 623-3551.

### Revolving Loan Fund Highlight -- Adit4Less



[Adit4Less](#) is a new digital advertising service specializing in producing portable and stationary digital advertising displays and are one of the newest participants in the RPCGB's account receivables lending program. Working out of the UAB Innovation Depot, Adit4Less has been serving the Birmingham Metropolitan area for seven months and has placed its digital displays throughout Birmingham in restaurants, hotels, retail stores, doctors offices, and other various

businesses. Adit4Less focuses on promoting brand awareness by bridging social media and interaction through use of its digital and interactive display screens. Breaking through the clutter of everyday advertising strategies is no trouble for Adit4Less because of their eye-catching displays. "Adit4Less can bring awareness to any company seeking to educate the community about their products, services, or causes," said owner Julie Fritz. "We want our digital displays to be the bridge that connects these businesses with the people they serve."



Julie Fritz, owner of Adit4Less

For more information about the RPCGB's Revolving Loan Fund, visit the RPCGB [website](#).

## Mayor Profile: Gary Ivey - City of Hoover



Gary Ivey, Mayor of Hoover

- Appointed Mayor of Hoover by a unanimous vote from the Hoover City Council
- Former President of the Hoover City Council for seven years - Trustee of the Church of the Highlands
- Has been a resident of Hoover for nearly 30 years

**Mayor Ivey on improvements in the City of Hoover:** *To help improve traffic congestion, the City of Hoover has been working with ALDOT to pave Highway 31 and add an additional lane to each side of the road. Also, we recently added an additional turn lane on the I-459 overpass. We are working on the redevelopment of the Galleria, as well.*

**Hoover's Quality of Life:** *Adding more green space has been a major project for the City of Hoover during the past eight years, which is reflected in Veteran's Park, Moss Rock Preserve, and several other projects. The city of Hoover recently donated 99 acres to Moss Rock Preserve. More parks are being added and we recently built Loch Haven Dog Park, which has become very popular with our residents. Also, the establishment of the Senior Center gives the senior citizens of Hoover opportunity to have a place where they can come and enjoy one another. All of these projects add so much value to the quality of life in Hoover.*

**Mayor Ivey on future plans:** *We plan to add a new sports complex. Parks and recreation are very important to Hoover and its residents, and we have many young people that want to participate. We aim to continue to make Hoover the place where people want to raise their family.*



CONNECTIONS is brought to you by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Find out more at [www.rpcgb.org](http://www.rpcgb.org)

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