UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
for the
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

FY 2013
October 1, 2012 - September 30, 2013

Prepared By The
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

July 11, 2012
This document was a cooperative effort of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Alabama Department of Transportation, and prepared by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, as staff to the MPO, in partial fulfillment of Task 3.0 of the FY2011 UPWP and requirements set forth in amended Title 23 USC 134. The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of the USDOT.
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Membership

Fiscal Year 2013

Metropolitan Planning Organization
Chair: Mayor Thomas Henderson, City of Center Point
Vice Chair: Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Director, Jefferson County Roads and Transportation
Secretary: Councilor Maxine Herring Parker, City of Birmingham

Transportation Citizens Committee
Chair: Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Vice Chair: Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham

Transportation Technical Committee
Chair: Mr. Greg Dawkins, Birmingham Traffic Engineer
Vice Chair: Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover, Engineer

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Staff to the MPO
Mr. Charles Ball, Executive Director
Mr. Scott Tillman, Director of Planning and Operations
Mr. Darrell Howard, Deputy Director of Planning
Ms. Lindsay Gray, Deputy Director of Operations
TRANSPORTATION CITIZENS COMMITTEE (TCC)

May 2012

Chair: Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Vice Chair: Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham

Joanne Adcock, East/Northeast Jefferson County
Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Lawrence Clark, Shelby County
Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Peggy Cochran, South/Southeast Jefferson County
Butch Ferrell, West/Southwest Jefferson County
Ouida Fritschi, South/Southeast Jefferson County
Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham
Judy Gordon, South/Southeast Jefferson County
Jim Gunnin, East/Northeast Jefferson County
Pat Hall, East/Northeast Jefferson County
Jeff Havercroft, Shelby County
Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Bruce Ludwig, South/Southeast Jefferson County
Barbara McKenna, East/Northeast Jefferson County
Courtney Newton, West/Southwest Jefferson County
Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Johnny Peebles, Ill, South/Southeast Jefferson County
T. H. Robertson, East/Northeast Jefferson County
Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham
Calvin Rumph, Shelby County
David Russell, City of Birmingham
Nichalaus Sims, West/Southwest Jefferson County
Robert Smith, City of Birmingham
John Springer, City of Birmingham
Phillip Wiedmeyer, South/Southeast Jefferson County
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TTC)

May 2012

Chair: Greg Dawkins, City of Birmingham Traffic Engineer
Vice-Chair: Rod Long, City of Hoover Representative

Alfredo Acoff, ALDOT Environmental Coordinator - Montgomery
Ken Boozer, Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative
Richard Caudle, At-Large
Sheila Chaffin, UAB Executive Director Campus Planning
Fenn Church, Trucking Representative
Matthew Cobb, City of Homewood Representative
Scott Cothren, At-Large
Richard Darden, At-Large
Al Folcher, At-Large
Doug Hale, Bicycle/Pedestrian Representative
Chris Hatcher, Operation New Birmingham Representative
Fred Hawkins, At-Large
George Henry, At-Large
Scott Holladay, Shelby County Highway Department Representative
Denise Hornbuckle, Traffic Safety Representative
Jason Howanitz, Jefferson County Department of Health Representative
David Hunke, At-Large
Randy Kemp, At-Large
Chris Leffert, BJCTA Representative
Tom Magee, City of Birmingham Chief Planner
Charles Malone, ALDOT Maintenance Representative, Birmingham
Wallace McCord, At-Large
Emmanuel Oranika, PhD, ALDOT Metropolitan Transportation Planning Administrator
Blair Perry, At-Large
Bob Portera, At-Large
Chris Reeves, At-Large
Alicia Rudolph, At-Large
Keith Strickland, At-Large
Andrew Sullivan, At-Large
John Tally, CLASTRAN Transportation Mobility Manager
Lance Taylor, ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer - Birmingham
Virginia Williams, At-Large
Eric Womack, Shelby County Development Services Representative
Holly Peterson, Federal Transit Administration Representative (Non-Voting Member)
Nan Baldwin, Birmingham Business Alliance Representative (Non-Voting Member)
Ron Gore, ADEM Air Division Chief (Non-Voting Member)
Dave Harris, Federal Highway Administration Representative (Non-Voting Member)

(All persons are voting members, except as otherwise noted)
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

May 2012

Chair: Thomas Henderson, Mayor of Center Point, Jefferson County Municipalities
Vice Chair: *Wayne Sullivan, Director, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Secretary: Maxine Herring Parker, Councilor, City of Birmingham

Valerie Abbott, Councilor, City of Birmingham
Tracey Adams, City of Birmingham
*Tommy Alexander, Mayor of Irondale, Jefferson County Municipalities
Linda Allen, Unincorporated Jefferson County
*Delor Baumann, Mayor of Hueytown, Jefferson County Municipalities
*William Bell, Mayor, City of Birmingham
*Andre Bittas, Director, City of Birmingham
Slade Blackwell, State Senator, Remaining Voting Representative
George Bowman, Commissioner, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Jerry Brasseale, Mayor of Pleasant Grover, Jefferson County Municipalities
Doug Brewer, Mayor of Graysville, Jefferson County Municipalities
*Sandra Little Brown, Commissioner, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Robert Caliento, Town of Helena, Shelby County
*Randy Cole, Engineer, Shelby County
*Brian Davis, 3rd Division Engineer, Alabama Department of Transportation
Greg Dawkins, Traffic Engineer, City of Birmingham
Larry Dillard, Commissioner, Shelby County
David Frings, Mayor of Alabaster, Shelby County
*Ray Hamilton, Manager, Shelby County
Harvey Henley, Unincorporated Jefferson County
*David Hunke, Shelby County (Serves on MPO Subcommittee only)
*Walter Jackson, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Jesse Jowers, Engineer, City of Pelham, Shelby County
Randall Kemp, Engineer, City of Birmingham
Renee Kemp-Rotan, Assistant, City of Birmingham
Joe Knight, Commissioner, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Rod Long, City of Hoover, Shelby County
Jim Lowery, Mayor of Fultondale, Jefferson County Municipalities
Tom Magee, Chief Planner, City of Birmingham
Roger McCondichie, Mayor of Brookside, Jefferson County Municipalities
Gene Melton, Mayor of Trussville, Jefferson County Municipalities
Lawrence Oden, Mayor of Mountain Brook, Jefferson County Municipalities
Steve Parsons, Mayor of Sylvan Springs, Jefferson County Municipalities
*Othell Phillips, Mayor of Gardendale, Jefferson County Municipalities
*Kimberly Rafferty, Councilor, City of Birmingham
Gary Richardson, Mayor of Midfield, Jefferson County Municipalities
Jay Roberson, Councilor, City of Birmingham
*Patrick Sellers, Board Member, BJCTA
Loxcil Tuck, Mayor of Tarrant, Jefferson County Municipalities
Kurt Wallace, State Representative, Remaining Voting Representative
Virginia Williams, Executive Administrative Assistant, City of Birmingham
Alberto Zaragoza, Mayor of Vestavia Hills, Jefferson County Municipalities
*Mark Bartlett, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (Non-Voting Member)
*Robert Jilla, Bureau Chief, Transportation Planning & Modal Programs, ALDOT (Non-Voting Member)
*Stan Batemon, Commission Chairman, St. Clair County (MPO Subcommittee Ex-Officio Only)
*Bruce Hamrick, Commission Chairman, Walker County (MPO Subcommittee Ex-Officio Only)
*Tim Mims, Commission Chairman, Chilton County (MPO Subcommittee Ex-Officio Only)
*David Standridge, Commission Chairman, Blount County (MPO Subcommittee Ex-Officio Only)

*Serves on MPO Subcommittee
RESOLUTION 2012-7-11

Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Adopting the FY2013 Unified Planning Work Program
As prepared by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

WHEREAS, the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the organization designated by the Governor of the State of Alabama as being responsible, together with the State of Alabama, for implementing the applicable provisions of amended 23 USC 134 and 135 (SAFETEA-LU Sec. 6001, August 2005); 23 CFR 450 and 500; 42 USC 7401 et al.; 40 CFR 51 and 93; and,

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Transportation requires all urbanized areas, as established by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, doing area-wide urban transportation planning that involves more than one Department of Transportation operating administration, to submit a Unified Planning Work Program as a condition for meeting the provisions of Title 23, U. S. Code, Section 134; and,

WHEREAS, consistent with the declaration of these provisions, the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, in cooperation with the Alabama Department of Transportation, has prepared a Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2013; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to its duties, functions, and responsibilities, the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization, in session this 11th day of July, 2012, did review and evaluate the aforementioned Unified Planning Work Program, summarized on the attached pages; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that the same does hereby adopt said Unified Planning Work Program for FY2013.

ADOPTED, this the 11th day of July, 2012

Mayor Tom Henderson, Chairman
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTEST:

Charles Ball, Executive Director
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
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THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS
For the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area

Overview
As a condition to the receipt of federal highway and transit capital or operating assistance, each metropolitan planning area (MPA) is required to have a transportation planning process. This process includes the development of a long-range transportation plan, a short-range transportation improvement program, a plan to promote attainment of air quality standards, a human services coordinated transportation plan, and a planning work program, which includes planning and project development activities to address other transportation issues.

Certification of the transportation planning process is conducted every four years by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) under the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and is necessary to receive surface transportation program, air quality, national highway system, interstate maintenance, state bridge replacement, and transit capital and operating funds. A decertified process would result in the loss of approximately $50,000,000 per year. The Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) membership is geographically representative of the metropolitan planning area, the entire boundaries of Jefferson and Shelby Counties, based upon the final decennial Census and is responsible for the development of the required products.

The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (RPCGB) is the designated recipient of U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) planning funds used to assist the MPO in the performance of its responsibilities. These funds are designated by the State in agreement with local governments. The MPO’s multi-jurisdictional responsibility is provided by the RPCGB. Two additional committees provide information and recommendations to the MPO—the Transportation Citizens Committee and Transportation Technical Committee.

Work tasks described in this report are conducted on a continual basis. An agreement among the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA), RPCGB, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), and the MPO outline the responsibility of each organization in the transportation planning process.

Purpose
The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the document that guides the MPO in fulfilling its planning responsibilities for the upcoming year. The primary objective of the UPWP is the development of an integrated planning program that considers the planning activities of each modal group and coordinates these activities to produce a total transportation plan serving all segments of the population. The UPWP presents the budget and work tasks necessary to accomplish and maintain the transportation planning process within the Birmingham metropolitan planning area for FY 2013.

Status
The planning tasks for FY 2013 reflect the eight planning factors under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) regulations under Federal Highway Administration 23 CFR 450.316 adopted February 14, 2007 which requires the metropolitan planning process to be continuous, cooperative, comprehensive, and provide for consideration and implementation of projects, strategies, and services that will address the following factors:
1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity and efficiency;  
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;  
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;  
4. Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight;  
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve quality of life and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;  
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes for people and freight;  
7. Promote efficient system management and operation; and  
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.  

The committee process is the basis for conducting UPWP tasks. Meetings of the Transportation Citizens Committee, Transportation Technical Committee, MPO Subcommittee, and the MPO are held monthly. In addition to the three transportation committees, subcommittees and joint committees are regularly used for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), congestion management activities, and major transit projects.  

Most traditional tasks are funded with planning funds (PL). Specialized tasks related to ridesharing, air quality, and local land use/transportation utilize supplemental funds from the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Program (STP). Large-scale transit planning projects are funded through the FTA and congressional earmark.  

**Livability Principles**  
Increasingly, federal and state agencies are using Performance Measures as a way of ensuring greater accountability for the expenditure of public funds in an ever growing number of programs and activities across a variety of disciplines. Within the transportation sector and the planning processes associated with transportation infrastructure development, ALDOT has adopted the Livability Principles and Indicators as a sustainability measurement against future actions.  

All planning tasks will be measured against these Livability Principles:  

1. Provide more transportation choices.  
2. Promote equitable, affordable housing.  
3. Enhance economic competitiveness.  
4. Support existing communities.  
5. Coordinate policies and leverage investment.  

As a measure of sustainability of these principles, the MPO has developed a candidate list of Livability Indicators:  

1. Mode Share – percent of travelers using different travel modes.  
2. Jobs/Housing Balance – total number of jobs/total housing by area.  
3. Travel Time Index – congested vs. free-flow travel time.  
4. Number of crashes/incidents by travel mode (community safety emphasis).
5. Project Funding Diversity – percent of transportation projects utilizing multiple funding sources (federal, state, local).

6. Partnerships and Public Involvement – number of partnerships and documentation of PI Activities.

The Indicators will be used in the development and presentation of data for the following plan documents: Long Range or Regional Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, Public Participation Plan, Congestion Management Plan (TMAs only), and the Air Quality Conformity Report (as applicable).

**Vision**

Following is the vision statement for the Birmingham metropolitan area:

*Transportation has become the connective tissue of the region. By foot, by bike, by car, or by public transportation, residents experience reduced congestion and higher mobility, both of which are the result of four important decisions:*

1. *Preserving and improving the existing local and interstate highways;*
2. *Developing a responsive, efficient, and highly effective public transportation system;*
3. *Supporting the use of alternative transportation modes; and*

The UPWP, as outlined in this document, contains work tasks necessary for the RPCGB, BJCTA, and the ALDOT to conduct transportation planning activities for the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). The Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is a Transportation Management Area (TMA) according to 49 USC 5305.
TASK 1.0: ADMINISTRATION

1.1 MPO Administration

Objectives
To provide transportation committees, agencies, governments, and the general public with transportation-related information, education, and training, to support emergency transportation operations, and to promote federal, state, and local transportation initiatives.

Previous Work
- Prepared for and attended monthly committee meetings; participated in meetings with various local, regional, and state organizations.
- Attended RPCGB Board meetings and Annual Meeting
- Prepared and submitted invoices to ALDOT and reviewed RPCGB financial statements
- Provided information to the RPCGB auditors and reviewed audit report
- All agreements were reviewed for consistency with bylaws
- Provided information and assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations and committees
- Participated in cooperative efforts with agencies and organizations.

Proposed Work
- MPO meetings, including monthly transportation citizens, technical, MPO Subcommittee, and MPO meetings, and periodic TIP Subcommittee meetings.
- Attend RPCGB Board Meetings and attend RPCGB Annual Meeting.
- Prepare and submit monthly invoices to ALDOT and review the RPCGB monthly financial statement.
- Provide information to the RPCGB auditors and review the draft and final audit report.
- Review agreements for consistency with bylaws.
- Provide information and assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations, and committees.
- Participate in cooperative efforts with agencies and organizations. Some activities for FY 2013 include meetings and committee participation with various local, regional, and state organizations.

Products
- Committee agendas, notices, resolutions, and minutes
- Invoices to ALDOT
- Staff services necessary to ensure certification of the transportation planning process

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
None

Financial Responsibility
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1.2 Unified Planning Work Program

Objectives
To produce a document that outlines work and identifies the planning priorities and activities to be carried out within the Birmingham MPA.

Previous Work
- A UPWP, which identifies tasks and funding sources, was adopted by the Transportation Citizens Committee, Transportation Technical Committee, MPO Subcommittee, and MPO.
- Two Semi-Annual reports were produced for ALDOT review, noting the status of tasks and the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation.

Proposed Work
- Task Development - The UPWP activities are identified by using the planning emphasis areas for expenditure of planning (PL) funds and tasks programmed in the TIP. Priorities for funding are determined from the SAFETEA-LU Planning Goals, the interests of the transportation committees, and the RPCGB Strategic Plan.
- Two semi-annual reports will be drafted, April 2013 and October 2013, noting the status of tasks and the DBE participation. Staff will complete the reports and submit to ALDOT for review.

Products
- UPWP for FY 2014
- Semi-annual reports, with DBE participation

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
- FY 2014 UPWP - June 2013
- FY 2014 Semi-annual reports, with DBE participation - April and October 2014

Financial Responsibility
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1.3 Capital and Operating Purchases

Objectives
To maintain, upgrade, and purchase software and hardware for the purpose of gathering information, simplifying tasks, and articulating data to support transportation planning functions.

Previous Work
Replaced computers for three staff members. Purchased demographic information. Purchased Sketch-Up.

Proposed Work
Software purchases, including license/maintenance fees and upgrades, are regularly made for geographic information systems, surveys, databases and spreadsheets, graphics, and operating systems. Capital purchases to include servers, personal computers and peripherals, and hardware/software for field data collection.

As outlined in the “Agreement for Administering U.S. Department of Transportation Financial Assistance for Financial Assistance for Transportation Planning between the State of Alabama and the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham,” Article 21 states, in part, “All purchases over $1,500 must be approved by the State, in advance, in writing, to be eligible for reimbursement.” Further, ALDOT requires anticipated purchases in excess of $5,000 to have a line item entry in the UPWP.

The following capital and operating equipment is programmed:

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<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
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<th>Purpose</th>
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<td>$7,000</td>
<td>COOP Backup Storage HW &amp;SW (Task 1.5)</td>
<td>• For backup of GIS data</td>
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<td>$4,500</td>
<td>Purchase computer for staff (3)</td>
<td>• Replacement of aging machines</td>
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<td>$2,400</td>
<td>Upgrade Adobe CS5.5 (2 ea.)</td>
<td>• For document development and publication</td>
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<td>Purchase of demographic information (Task 2.1 and 2.2)</td>
<td>• To support travel demand modeling, Livability Indicators and other planning performance measures</td>
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<td>Purchase of transportation statistics (Task 2.1)</td>
<td>• To support travel demand modeling, Livability Indicators and other planning performance measures</td>
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<td>Purchase of economic/construction information (Task 2.2)</td>
<td>• To support travel demand modeling, Livability Indicators, and other planning performance measures</td>
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<td>Origin Destination Data (Task 2.1)</td>
<td>• To support travel demand modeling, Livability Indicators and other planning performance measures</td>
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<td>GIS licenses and maintenance with ESRI (Task 2.4)</td>
<td>• To support travel demand modeling, Livability Indicators and other planning performance measures</td>
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<td>$5,650</td>
<td>Trail Counters (Task 2.1)</td>
<td>• To determine utilization of MPO funded trail facilities, support travel demand modeling, and Livability Indicators and other planning performance measures</td>
</tr>
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<td>$1,700</td>
<td>Site To Do Business (STDB Online) (Task 2.2)</td>
<td>• To provide local socioeconomic data in support of community based</td>
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</table>
$4,900  ResponseWare Enterprise
    100 seat licenses (Task 3.0)

- To augment and support existing public involvement efforts

**Products**
- Software and upgrades
- Hardware and servers
- License and maintenance fees

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
None

**Financial Responsibility**

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1.4 Education and Training

Objectives
To develop and maintain technical proficiency of staff in order to enable proper guidance and development of the planning process.

Previous Work
Staff members attended, made presentations at, hosted, and assisted with organization of workshops, conferences, and trainings. Subscribed to and read relevant professional publications.

Proposed Work
Attend, make presentations, host, and/or assist with organization of workshops, conferences, and trainings. Subscribe to and read relevant professional publications.

Products
- Knowledgeable staff
- Workshops, conferences, and trainings

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
None

Financial Responsibility
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<td>$ 6,250</td>
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1.5 Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)

Objectives
To maintain and update the COOP for the Birmingham MPA, which will allow for rapid recovery from a disaster to resume the transportation planning process.

Previous Work
Tested data implementation of COOP and found issues in activation. Proposed changes for system to be enacted in latter half of FY2012 and 1st quarter of FY2013.

Proposed Work
• Implement COOP activities, including procedures, activation, alternate operations, reconstitution and termination, and information technology.
• Upgrade software and data capacity of the COOP system in final quarter of FY2013.

Products
• COOP implementation activities
• COOP training and exercises
• Upgrade software and data capacity of the COOP system

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
None

Financial Responsibility
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TASK 2.0: PLANNING INFORMATION

2.1 Data Collection

Objective
To collect, create, and maintain data in support of local and regional transportation and community planning projects.

Previous Work
The RPCGB has maintained its subscription of demographic and socioeconomic datasets from Nielsen Claritas and Woods and Poole Economics. Staff completed participation in Census-related programs and workshops including those related to PUMA, TAZ, and TAD boundary delineations. Development trends have continued to be monitored, and additional/updated datasets have been collected or created for use in planning objectives.

Proposed Work
Demographic and socioeconomic information concerning existing and projected year demographics for income, population, households and other variables will be purchased from vendors such as ESRI, Claritas, InfoUSA, GeoLytics, Woods and Poole Economics and other supplemental data sources. The types of reports include demographic, comparison, and socioeconomic profiles. Additional data to be collected includes, but is not limited to, hardware for the collection of trail statistics.

Other necessary or desired datasets including, but not limited to, traffic counts, bicycle and trail features, freight features, land use, environmental features, natural hazard/weather features and others will be collected, created, and maintained within catalogued spatial datasets.

Data will be used in establishing and monitoring the FHWA-mandated Livability Principles and Indicators (May 2012), which are performance measures based on the SAFETEA-LU Planning Factors. Data will also be used to develop additional performance measures which inform the Birmingham MPO’s goals and objectives for the MPO’s overall administration of the metropolitan planning process.

Products
- The production of demographic, socioeconomic, and other planning-related data files.
- The production of a Regional Report that compares the selected characteristics of the region.
- The collection of specific transportation statistics.
- The creation and maintenance of a digital map library to make selected thematic maps readily available for public download through the RPCGB website.
- The creation and maintenance of downloadable spatial datasets through a GIS data portal on the RPCGB website.

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
None
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2.2 Data Analysis/Forecasting

**Objectives**
To collect, create, and maintain demographic and socioeconomic data that is used for the transportation demand model and other planning activities.

**Previous Work**
The RPCGB has continued to collect a variety of data such as Census, Economic, Natural Resources, Transportation, Transit, and related demographic and socioeconomic data for use within the overall local and regional planning environment.

The RPCGB developed and maintained a regional transportation demand model for the Birmingham MPA, which is a primary screening tool used to identify deficiencies in the future transportation system. The Cube Voyager (Avenue) modeling software was used for travel demand modeling and all other applicable processes, up to and including air quality conformity analysis in support of budget based estimate preparation using the MOVES2010a software. This protocol was used for all future regional and project-specific conformity analyses, to include annual updates and amendments of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and existing TIP required through development of the annual Air Quality Conformity Report, and draft and final 2040 Regional Transportation Plan documentation.

**Proposed Work**
Proposed work includes the development of performance measures. Performance measures will be used to evaluate the progress the Birmingham MPO is making towards achieving its goals. The MPO’s goals are based on the federal planning factors and the federal Livability Principles.

Proposed work also includes the development of a 2010 base year dataset and an input/output econometric model that will inform year 2040 employment projections around economic multipliers. This will result in a spatially distributed dataset (TAZ) for use in the transportation demand model and other planning activities. Such projections will also be compiled and reported for Census Tract, Planning District, and County level geographies. The dataset will also include any necessary intermediate year datasets needed for the transportation modeling process. Compiled information will be collected and made available as a projections report. Some data may be purchased from selected vendors for use in the production of the forecasts such as InfoUSA, Woods and Poole, Southern Exposure or appropriate economic and/or employment forecasting models.

Additional projected demographic and/or socioeconomic variables for use in special projects such as corridor plans, transportation impact studies, development impact studies, building communities projects, or other planning related studies will be developed as required.

**Products**
- Development of 2010 base year dataset and 2040 projected year dataset by TAZ, as well as any necessary intermediate year datasets.
- A Regional Projections and Growth Trends report.
- Support of other agency reports and studies.

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Timeline for Proposed Work
None

Financial Responsibility
Total $43,750
PL (FHWA) $35,000
Local $ 8,750
2.3 Geographic Information Systems

Objectives
To provide detailed information to local, state, and federal agencies, as well as the public, regarding transportation facilities, transportation systems, and operational and asset condition data that supports agency project needs.

Previous Work
RPCGB has been successful in the creation and maintenance of a SDE data model as well as the continued collection, creation, and maintenance of catalogued raster and vector datasets. Enhanced data include various cloud-based image servers, transportation roadways, and the compilation of 2010 census data as published. Limited brownfield and greyfield data has been acquired. RPCGB upgraded to ArcMap 10 and has remained current on maintenance.

Proposed Work
- The RPCGB will endeavor to expand its GIS capabilities to include a cloud-based platform and to continue to build its library of GIS datasets.
- A component of the GIS data expansion will include the acquisition, development, and maintenance of GIS related data for use in the spatial analysis and visual display components of transportation and community planning projects. This data include both raster and vector datasets.
- The RPCGB will begin development of an online “dashboard” which enables maps and other performance measures that illustrate the Birmingham MPO’s progress towards achieving the metropolitan planning area’s goals to be presented interactively to visitors on the RPCGB website. The MPO’s goals are based on the federal Planning Factors and the federal Livability Principles.
- Additional training and/or GIS-related software or hardware, applications, extensions, or licenses may be acquired once evaluated and determined to be necessary and appropriate to fulfill project or staff expectations.

Products
- Maps, data analysis, and models
- Implementation of the INDEX model in transportation and community planning projects
- The continuation of data collection, development, and maintenance
- The expansion of the GIS system to include a cloud-based platform environment
- The expansion of GIS capabilities through training, workshops, and product evaluations
- Local government planning assistance
- ESRI maintenance of the GIS system

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
None
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2.4 Travel Demand Modeling

Objectives
To develop and maintain traffic models and air quality emission models for the transportation planning process.

Previous Work
Cube Voyager software was purchased and is in use as the primary development software for Birmingham MPA network travel demand modeling and in support of air quality conformity estimate preparation using the Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES2010b) software. Analysis using both software packages has been specific to precursors for ground-level ozone (O₃) and particulate matter (PM₂.₅) within the Birmingham MPA. Cube Avenue was purchased and has been successfully tested for subarea traffic simulation.

Proposed Work
- Continue the development and maintenance of the regional travel demand model for the Birmingham metropolitan planning area as needed for 2035 RTP/TIP updates.
- Continue training of staff to utilize the best modeling practices.
- Utilization of the model in support of existing projects and scenario planning.
- Modify the modeling network and prepare dataset for travel demand model based on Census 2010 and new Traffic Analysis Zones for the 2040 RTP.
- The Cube Avenue will be applied to subarea based on Cube Voyager run result. This will include additional refinements to the modeling system to further develop its capabilities to perform macroscopic and mesoscopic (subarea) analysis comparing alternatives and forecasting of future traffic conditions. Refinements will also include development of capabilities to evaluate alternatives for subareas and corridors for transportation infrastructure needs.
- Visualization with 2-D and 3-D modeling capabilities also will continue to be developed to model the operational impacts of changes to the built environment and to operating policy.
- Continue the development and maintenance of MOVES. Update speed distributions, road type distribution, and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) from the travel demand model and local observations. Emissions factors will be developed in accordance with MOVES2010b to meet the requirements set forth in 40 CFR 51 and 93.
- Form a modeling technical working group to oversee the data collections, methodologies of data development, documentations and modeling practices.

Products
- Transportation models
- Air quality models
- Area/System Performance Indicators

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
None
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TASK 3.0: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Objectives
To maintain a process for providing citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, elderly and other interested parties, and any other interested parties with sufficient opportunities to be involved in the transportation planning process.

Previous Work
The MPO website continues to be updated with links to specific projects. Several public involvement meetings were conducted. The Public Participation Plan continues to be implemented, including an updated, reprinted Transportation Public Contact List. Visualization and interactive exercises are used extensively with outreach activities.

The MPO facilitated, participated, and/or hosted several training opportunities, including the RPCGB Annual Conference, the Building Communities conference, CommuteSmart workshops, APCA workshops, and opportunities for education regarding bicycles and pedestrians.

The Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and DBE policy continues to be posted on the MPO website. Regular reports were submitted to the ALDOT.

Proposed Work
A. Public Participation Activities
1. MPO website with links provided to project specific websites.
2. MPO database.
3. Meetings and meeting announcements, including monthly committee meetings, public involvement meetings, project meetings, and community outreach, as needed.
4. Newsletters published monthly by the RPCGB and project specific newsletters.
5. Direct mailings, e-mail announcements, press releases, flyers, notices, and fact sheets.
6. Set up and facilitate the annual Building Communities Conference. Determine an appropriate thematic focus. Cost for workshop: $10,000
7. Setup and facilitate technical workshops. Costs to include but not limited to speakers, logistics, handouts: $10,000
8. Comment forms and surveys.
9. Public involvement activities associated with the FHWA Livability Principles and Indicators requirement (see p.2) will be added to the Public Participation Plan when it is next updated following the passage of new transportation legislation.

B. Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and DBE
1. Documentation of minority representation.
2. Documentation of third-party DBE activities conducted for FHWA and FTA funded projects.
**Products**
- Documentation of public participation activities
- Project specific public involvement outreach activities and collateral materials
- Project specific public involvement documentation and reporting
- Title VI Report (provided with UPWP semi-annual report)
- DBE Report
- Transportation planning/project specific webpages
- MPO member training and education events/courses

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Title VI Report – November 2012
- DBE Report – November 2012 and May 2013

**Financial Responsibility**

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TASK 4.0: ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS PLANNING

4.1 Air Quality Planning

Objectives
To achieve and maintain compliance with national air quality standards in the Birmingham nonattainment area of Jefferson and Shelby Counties, to protect and improve public health, to minimize the economic impacts on existing businesses, and to support economic growth consistent with clean air goals.

Previous Work
Twelve outreach events were conducted for dissemination and input regarding air quality conformity. CommuteSmart and Alabama Partners for Clean Air (APCA) have consolidated many outreach efforts, particularly in the business community. APCA continues to promote idle-free zones in school pick-up lines. A report documenting the program and funding activities of APCA for the period October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011 was completed.

Proposed Work
The following activities will be conducted by the APCA, with assistance provided by the RPCGB:

- Public Outreach and Marketing educates the general public about air quality issues and the consequences that individual choices have on air quality.
- Employer and Employee Outreach gets major employers involved in air quality issues and encourages employees to travel to work by modes other than single-occupant vehicles.
- Science and Environmental Education teaches children about air pollution, its health impacts, and how it can be prevented.
- Clean Cities and Alternative Fuels program is to reduce emissions from fleet vehicles through the use of hybrid technology and alternative fuels. The Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition is lead partner.
- Voluntary Emissions Testing and Vehicle Repair provides a free emissions check for vehicle owners and encourages owners of high emitters to have their vehicles serviced.
- Program Administration includes managing all air quality contracts, processing invoices, monitoring performance and execution of contracts, and providing support to the APCA.

Products
Annual Report documenting contract performance of organizations, including emissions reductions for the previous fiscal year.

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
Annual Report – March 2013
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4.2 Environmental Consultation Process

Objectives
- To link the transportation planning and environmental assessment processes early in the project development phase.
- To inform the project development and NEPA processes with the results of the environmental consultation process.
- To establish inter-agency, cross-disciplinary communication and education.
- To identify and pursue collaborative, cross-disciplinary environmental mitigation strategies.

Previous Work
- “Red Flag” environmental maps.
- Solicitation of federal and state resource agency comments on Birmingham 2035 RTP.

Proposed Work
- Environmental Mapping - continuous updates and refinements to the environmental “red flag” maps.
- Project Development Consultation - early coordination of planning and project development considerations, to include identification of “red flags” that could potentially affect a project’s feasibility.
- Environmental Consultation Roundtable - periodic meetings hosted with federal and state resource agencies intended to solicit ideas within a collaborative environment about pooling limited mitigation resources in order to accomplish implementation of “meaningful mitigation” solutions that will result in greater net environmental benefits.
- Outreach and Education Activities - Provide educational opportunities and training to state and municipal governments, transportation planning agencies/departments, landowners/developers, environmental interest groups, and non-traditional planning partners about environmental evaluation methodologies, advanced mitigation strategies, and other transportation-related environmental planning topics.

Products
- Environmental Maps
- Environmental Consultation Roundtable
- Outreach and Education Activities

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
Environmental Maps – Winter 2012
Environmental Roundtable – Quarterly, beginning Winter 2012
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4.3 Advanced Planning, Programming and Logical Engineering (APPLE)

Objectives
To improve the quality and timelines of the overall project development process by:

- Assisting local governments in determining project feasibility specific to both non-motorized and multimodal travel corridors in advance of entering into an expensive and extended project development process.
- Assisting project sponsors in better articulating project scope and understanding both the planning considerations and potential costs.
- Assisting the project development process by educating local governments about the ALDOT project development process.
- Providing information to the Birmingham MPO in order to better manage uncertainties in program funding.

Previous Work
- Building Communities (formerly Livable Communities) Corridor Plans
- APPLE Report Content and Structure

Proposed Work
The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham will assist local governments and small project sponsors in assessing a project’s feasibility. The feasibility assessment will better inform the local governments and small project sponsors’ decision-making process, and aid them in determining their level of commitment for advancing the project. The goals of the APPLE program will be accomplished in several ways, including:

- Funding consultant/contractor work activities that directly develop of APPLE reports
- Managing the feasibility assessment process for small municipalities/local governments
- Support consultant/contractor activities as related to the development APPLE reports
- Educating project sponsors and contractors about the ALDOT project development process, to include education of the NEPA process

Note:
1. The Alabama Department of Transportation – Environmental Technical Services (ALDOT ETS) shall remain the sole arbiter of environmental issues on state and federal projects in Alabama, and must be consulted in all instances. ALDOT may seek consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on certain matters and will seek federal approval on a project only when all issues have been addressed.
2. With the exception of certain duties and responsibilities extended to the Birmingham MPO in writing and specific to a particular project and/or a consultant representing an MPO for a specific project, all other actions are the province of ALDOT ETS.
3. Early or initial environmental coordination relating to a specific project with state and federal resource agencies shall only be carried out by the ALDOT ETS.

Products
- Project Specific Advanced Planning Reports, to include Corridor Feasibility Assessments
- Project Specific Owner’s Manuals and Agreement/Decision History Summaries
- Project status Reports and/or Matrices
- Project Development Educational Workshops and Seminars
**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, ALDOT, direct contract labor, and/or 3rd party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
None

**Financial Responsibility**

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4.4 Climate Change

Objectives
- To develop Climate Change evaluation metrics.
- To evaluate the Regional Transportation Plan’s impact on climate change.
- To evaluate planned and programmed transportation projects’ impact on climate change.
- To provide guidance about regional strategies that address climate change through air quality and congestion mitigation, as well as energy efficiency in order to reduce the Birmingham MPA’s carbon footprint.

Previous Work
- A report titled “Climate Change Considerations and On-Road Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area” was completed in FY 2011.
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Inventory.

Proposed Work
The following describes how the MPO will assess and incorporate climate change into the metropolitan planning process. This includes strategies to inventory and monitor GHG emissions and mobile source energy consumption.
- Develop Climate Change Performance Measures - Establish GHG emission and mobile source energy consumption baseline measures.
- Integrate Performance Measures - Incorporate GHG and mobile source energy consumption measures into the MPO’s transportation system performance metrics.
- Monitor Progress and Report Results - Monitor GHG emissions and mobile source energy consumption.
- Develop GHG and Energy Consumption Targets - Develop a recommended GHG emissions and mobile source energy consumption targets.

Products
Baseline climate change performance measures

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
None

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5.1 Regional Transportation Plan

Objectives
To ensure that the MPO maintains a long range transportation plan for the Birmingham MPA that is:
- Technically based on the latest available data for land use, demographics, and travel patterns.
- Comprehensive in nature and supports the development of a multimodal transportation system.
- Philosophically based on regional goals and values, and are informed by the Federal Planning Factors and Livability Principles.
- Financially based on predictable, reliable funding sources.

Previous Work
- Metropolitan Planning Area Geography (Traffic Analysis Zones) updated to 2010 Census. This expanded the MPO boundaries to include a portion of St. Clair County.
- An FHWA scenario planning workshop was conducted for use with the 2040 RTP.
- Started data collection, analysis, and table/map production for use in reports and other analytical projects.
- Consultant procurement process conducted to obtain assistance with scenario planning process and other analytical tasks.

Proposed Work
- Data Preparation and Analysis - Continuation of data collection and assembly activities for use in Regional Transportation Plan reports and analysis of proposed project and policy recommendations.
- Infrastructure Cost Evaluation - Regional and local data will be collected to inform the calibration of an infrastructure cost calculator, so that project implementation and ongoing operations and maintenance costs might be accurately developed for use in fiscal planning activities.
- Continued development of functional components and policies - Continued development of plan functional elements will be continued to inform the 2040 plan’s project and program recommendations.
- Stakeholder and public outreach - Key plan stakeholders and the public will be engaged in order to define plan scenarios and provide input on recommended strategies and projects.
- Scenario Planning - Plan scenarios will be developed and analyzed against a set of performance indicators, to include measures that assess how well each scenario achieves the Federal Livability Principles. A preferred development scenario will be identified that will inform the regional transportation plan’s proposed modal projects and programs, as well as MPO investment activities.
- Project Evaluation and Prioritization - Automation of the Birmingham MPO’s project evaluation and prioritization methodology will provide faster and more accurate outputs in order to inform MPO project/program investments and future TIP development.
- Develop decision support tools to assist with project prioritization and selection.
- Livability Indicators – Data will be prepared and presented in the RTP in accordance with the Livability Principles and Indicators guidelines that are identified on pages 2-3. The Indicators will be monitored and reported in future years against the baseline data presented in the RTP.
Products
A. Functional Plans
   1. Regional Logistics Strategy (see Task 5.6 for details)
   2. Infrastructure Development and Ongoing Operations and Maintenance Cost Evaluations
   3. Project Evaluation, Prioritization, Implementation Monitoring Tool(s)

B. Regional Transportation Plan
   1. Regional Transportation Plan Development Process Documentation
   2. Data Assembly, Collection, and Development
   3. Data Analysis
   4. Transportation Scenarios Development
   5. Regional Transportation Plan Component Reports
   6. Air Quality Conformity Report
   7. Stakeholder and Public Outreach and Education i.e. speakers, workshops and conferences
   8. Public Involvement Activities and Collateral Materials

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor, and partner organizations for activities identified under Proposed Work; third-party contractors to support scenario planning, analytical tool development, and other supporting activities identified under the Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
Functional Plans - Continuous throughout FY2013
• Regional Logistics Strategy – Fall 2013
• Infrastructure Calculator/Cost Evaluations – Summer 2013
• Regional Transportation Plan – 2040 draft Spring 2014, final Fall 2014
• Regional Transportation Plan Stakeholder and Public Outreach and Education – Fall/Winter 2012 and Spring/Summer 2013

Financial Responsibility
Total $277,770
PL (FHWA) $222,216
Local $ 55,554
5.1.1 Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Reporting (RTP)

**Objectives**
To demonstrate that the Regional Transportation Plan and the funded projects and programs contained within it i.e. the Transportation Improvement Program conform to the approved regional air quality standards as determined by the State Implementation Plan which is prescribed by the Clean Air Act of 1990.

**Previous Work:**
- The RPCGB is heavily involved in working with the IAC to review proposals related to air quality and to recommend means to reduce emissions and congestion.
- Air quality model runs via MOVES2010a were conducted for the ground level ozone, annual PM$_{2.5}$, and 24-hour PM$_{2.5}$ standards.
- A public involvement meeting for modifications to air quality conformity report was held in July 2011. Results were documented.
- The Air Quality Conformity Determination Report for the amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Jefferson and Shelby Counties and a portion of Walker County in Alabama, was adopted by the Birmingham MPO September 2011.

**Proposed Work**
- Continue the involvement and cooperation with IAC to monitoring the air quality for the Birmingham MPA.
- Continue the air quality conformity analysis and the air quality conformity determination reporting due to changes in the regulations governing air quality and transportation planning.
- Update input files of MOVES with local data collections when they become available.
- A quantitative demonstration will be conducted for the geographic area designated as nonattainment to determine if motor vehicle emissions exceed the established budget. Also supports Climate Change (see Task 4.4 for details). Project schedule changes for existing highway capacity projects can result in adjusted air quality conformity years (open to traffic). Such adjustments require modifications to the transportation network and an air quality conformity determination. Proposed new highway capacity projects constituting a Plan amendment are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination.

**Products**
- An Air Quality Conformity Report that demonstrate that total projected emissions are within the allowable limits - annually and as needed based on modifications to the RTP
- Hot Spot Analysis Comments and/or Documentation

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Air Quality Conformity Report for Amended 2035 RTP- September 2013
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5.1.2 Amend Regional Transportation Plan Project Listings for Air Quality Conformity

Objectives
To amend the Regional Transportation Plan as necessitated by additions and deletions to the Regional Transportation Plan project and program listings, and modifications to existing project scopes of work and budgets.

Previous Work
Plan modifications and updates

Proposed Work
- Continue monitoring the project changes in the 2035 RTP. There are occasions when new highway capacity projects are requested to be added to the 2035 RTP/TIP or existing highway capacity project schedule changes crossing the conformity analysis years. These changes necessitate modifying the Regional Transportation Plan and are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination.
- In addition, project schedule changes for existing highway capacity projects within the Transportation Improvement Program also result in adjusted air quality conformity years (open to traffic). Such adjustments require modifications to the transportation network and an air quality conformity determination to ensure that emissions from transportation sources do not exceed established emissions budget for each conformity attainment year.
- In addition, proposed new highway capacity projects constituting a Plan amendment are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination.

Products
- Project listing tables
- Project maps
- Revised financial tables

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham.

Timeline for Proposed Work
- Project listing tables - September 2013
- Project maps – September 2013
- Revised financial tables – September 2013

Financial Responsibility
Total $12,500
PL (FHWA) $10,000
Local $2,500
5.2 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**Objectives**
To develop a list of federally funded transportation projects to be completed by the ALDOT, the BJCTA, local government(s), and other project sponsors. Monitor the program balance, the status of projects programmed (to include advancement) under the STPBH and the CMAQ and achievement of the Federal Livability Principles. Administer TIP amendment requests.

**Previous Work**
- Maintained a Status Checklist for STPBH and CMAQ projects by meeting with ALDOT staff on a monthly basis.
- Monitored projects in the FY 2012-2015 TIP and worked with project sponsors to assist in the advancement of projects.
- Produced a draft Project Status Report.
- Held meetings with the TIP Subcommittee as needed to balance STPBH and CMAQ funds and receive reports from local sponsors and ALDOT on project progress.
- Researched proposed TIP amendments and presented the amendments to the Transportation Committees and the MPO.
- Coordinated TIP amendments with ALDOT.

**Proposed Work**
- Hold TIP Subcommittee meetings to monitor program balance and project advancement.
- Process TIP amendments as needed.
- Coordinate and produce 2013 Update of the 2012-15 TIP.
- Produce Project Status Report to document status of CMAQ and STPBH projects including Status Checklist.
- Balance funds pursuant to SAFETEA-LU requirements using TELUS Software.
- Communicate with ALDOT and MPO staff on TIP and programs.
- List Regionally Significant Projects that are non-federally funded.
- Evaluate the progress of TIP project advancement
- Evaluate the TIP projects and programs against achievement of the Federal Livability Principles
- Produce and post Annual Obligations list of projects for the previous fiscal year.
- Livability Indicators – Data will be prepared and presented in the TIP in accordance with the Livability Principles and Indicators guidelines that are identified on pages 2-3. The Indicators will be monitored and reported in future years against the baseline data presented in the TIP.

**Products**
- Amendments to TIP
- Re-Balanced and Updated TIP
- TIP Project Status Report and Status Checklist
- Annual Listing of Obligated Projects

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Timeline for Proposed Work
2013 Update of the 2012-15 TIP – October 2012
Annual Listing of Obligated Projects – October 2012

Financial Responsibility

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5.2.1 Amend TIP Project Listings for Air Quality Conformity

**Objectives**
To amend the Transportation Improvement Plan both annually and as necessitated by additions and deletions to the Regional Transportation Plan project and program listings and modifications to existing project scopes of work and budgets.

**Previous Work**
Plan modifications and updates.

**Proposed Work**
- Continue annual summary reporting of emissions reductions to document reductions achieved through projects obligated with CMAQ funding.
- The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham rebalances the Transportation Improvement Program annually. In addition, there are occasions when new highway capacity projects are requested to be added to the Transportation Improvement Program. These additions necessitate modifying the Regional Transportation Plan and are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination. In short, the amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program constitutes a Plan Amendment.
- In addition, project schedule changes for existing highway capacity projects within the Transportation Improvement Program also result in adjusted air quality conformity years (open to traffic). Such adjustments require modifications to the transportation network and an air quality conformity determination to ensure that emissions from transportation sources do not exceed established emissions budget for each conformity attainment year.

**Products**
- Project listing tables
- Project location maps
- Annual obligated project emissions report for FHWA that documents total emissions achieved for projects funded with CMAQ program

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham.

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Project listing tables - September 2013
- Project maps – September 2013
- Annual CMAQ obligated project emissions report – February 2013

**Financial Responsibility**
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5.3 Thoroughfare/Corridor Planning

Objectives
- To refine and maintain the regional functionally classified roadway system
- To develop and maintain a prioritized regional roadway classification system that:
  - Addresses functionally classified roadway capacity needs.
  - Identifies future roadway network needs and connections.
  - Addresses issues of transportation system preservation and sustainability.
  - Proposes a redundant transportation network to address transportation system security deficiencies.
  - Addresses the federal Livability Principles.
- To develop and maintain guidelines for roadway facility management and design in relation to local development context and multimodal travel needs.
- To create a Linear Reference System (LRS) to provide a framework for future transportation system data collection efforts.

Previous Work
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan document
- Local Thoroughfare Plan Development Guide
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan Map
- Green Streets Development Guide
- Functional Classification Map (updated)

Proposed Work
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan.
- U.S. Highway 280 Consolidated Corridor Plan - Consolidation of recommendations from the many U.S. 280 corridor transportation plans that have been conducted over many years.
- U.S. Highway 78 West Corridor Plan - Reevaluation of recommendations to expand capacity along U.S. Highway 78 west in light of the opening of Corridor X (I-22), a new interstate that parallels the U.S. Highway 78 corridor.
- Regional truck route development.
- Local Thoroughfare Plan Development Guide - Establishing local truck routes.
- Linear Reference System development.
- Green Streets Development Guide and Best Practices.

Products
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan
- U.S. Highway 280 Consolidated Corridor Plan document
- U.S. Highway 78 West Corridor Plan document
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan Map
- Regional Truck Route Map
- Roadway Design Guidebook
- Linear Reference System Geo-Referenced Data Set
- Green Streets Development Guide and Best Practices
**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Regional Thoroughfare Plan – Winter 2012
Green Streets Development Guide and Best Practices – Spring 2013

**Financial Responsibility**

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5.4 Public Transportation Planning

Objectives
- Plan for a seamless regional public transportation system that provides services for different customer markets.
- Assist with continued development of public transportation services by aiding providers with planning, service delivery, and long term financing strategies by:
  - Identifying strategies that sustain, maintain, and improve public transit services
  - Reviewing and revising existing public transportation and paratransit services and policies
  - Acquiring, analyzing, and maintaining data
  - Proposing and new services and/or routes, including identification of funding sources
  - Providing training
  - Coordinating services and/or resources
  - Addresses the Federal Livability Principles

Previous Work
- Developed reports.
- Developed maps and other analytical tools.
- Assisted consultants with development of the Transit Development Plan and various transit corridor studies.
- Assisted BJCTA with analyzing route performance.
- Performed transit corridor studies.
- Worked with BJCTA to assess current and future conditions.

Proposed Work
A. Regional Transit System Plan Update
   1. Refine maps, evaluate transit routes, and identify both passenger and system-wide needs.
   2. Develop an Integrated Regional Transit Service Concept Plan to incorporate transit corridor plan results, regional, local, and specialized/paratransit services, and rideshare program.
   4. Develop customer service standards and procedures.
   5. Develop transit marketing strategy/plan.

B. Regional Express Bus Service Plan
   1. Identify routes, operating hours, headways, and service standards.
   2. Develop long-term financial plan.
   3. Develop capital purchasing plan.
   4. Update regional Park and Ride Plan.

C. Regional Paratransit Coordination/Transition Plan.
   1. Develop regional paratransit service concept.
   2. Develop paratransit service coordination agreements.
   3. Develop framework for Coordinated Regional Call Center.
   4. Develop Coordinated Regional Call Center Implementation Plan.
D. Data Collection and Analysis
   2. Passenger and stakeholder surveys to assist in determining passenger needs.

Products
- Updated Regional Transit System Plan
- Regional Express Bus Service Plan
- Paratransit Coordination Plan
- Transit Data Collection Plan
- Route and System Maps
- Marketing Plan
- Call Center Implementation Plan

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, other transit providers, contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities.

Timeline for Proposed Work
- Updated Regional Transit Service Plan – Summer 2013
- Regional Express Bus Service Plan – Spring 2013
- Paratransit Coordination Plan – Spring 2013
- Transit Data Collection Plan – Winter 2012
- Route and System Maps – Summer 2013
- Marketing Plan – Summer 2013
- Call Center Implementation Plan – summer 2013

Financial Responsibility
Total $62,500
PL (FHWA) $50,000
Local $12,500
5.5 Active Transportation Planning

Objectives
To support regional connectivity and active transportation networks utilizing multimodal streets, greenways, parks, and other public greenspace by establishing short-term and long-term implementation strategies that address the federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work
- Produced draft Active Transportation Plan.
- Hosted Complete Streets technical training event.
- Facilitated or helped to facilitate several workshops/conferences, such as Building Communities, Complete Streets, Safe Routes To School (SRTS), and local projects.

Proposed Work
- Finalize Active Transportation Plan – finalize and promote the Active Transportation Plan to include incorporation of the federal Livability Principles.
- Support Five Mile Creek partnership – continue to support and assist with the Five Mile Creek partnership efforts.
- Support Jefferson County Greenways Master Plan entitled Our One Mile; continue to support and assist with the development and implementation of this Master Plan.
- Local Planning Assistance - Coordinate with non-profit and advocacy bicycle, hiking, pedestrian and public transit groups in order to provide assistance with planning and development of greenways and/or trails, on-street bike and sidewalk facilities and transit facilities.
- Safe Routes to School Assistance – support and assist local efforts associated with the Safe Routes to School Program.
- Education and Outreach Activities - Assist local governments and other stakeholders with planning, funding, and implementing bikeways, walkways, and other non-motorized transportation projects. Ongoing programmatic activities associated with improving non-motorized transportation on a regional level are important.

Products
- Active Transportation Plan
- Education events and workshops
- Stakeholder/public outreach activities

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
Active Transportation Plan – December 2012

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5.6 Logistics Systems Planning

Objectives
To develop a regional multimodal goods movement transportation strategy that will identify improvement for freight movements and address the federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work
- Freight stakeholder meetings
- Summary analysis of FAF2 and FAF3 data
- Freight Roadway Chokepoint Analysis
- Freight system data collection
- Attended Freight Academy

Proposed Work
- Stakeholder Outreach - Stakeholders will be engaged in order to assess needs and continue established dialogue.
- Data Collection - Continue freight system data collection efforts utilizing both publicly available and privately held data.
- Freight Flows - Using the data that is collected regarding freight resources, traffic volumes, and congested conditions, staff will identify and illustrate regional freight flows by mode and travel facility. Third party involvement is necessary to accomplish this task.
- Freight System Performance Measures - Establish freight system performance measures to include performance baselines and achievement of federal Livability Principles.
- Project Evaluation - Using the data collected, staff will continue to develop a set of project evaluation criteria to rank projects and assist in getting them into the appropriate documents.
- Training - Staff will attend appropriate training, including the National Highway Institute’s two day course, No. 139003 – Advanced Freight Planning and Workshop for Engaging the Private Sector in Freight Planning, is the preferred course. Other courses may be identified throughout the year.
- Freight Outlook Plan - Staff will continue developing a freight outlook plan for the MPA, in accordance with federal and state legislation, and regional economic needs. A major feature of this plan will be the identification of routes used by the logistics industry as a means for highlighting projects with impacts on the freight roadway system. Additionally, economic development officials will be brought into this team for broader consideration of the needs of freight users.

Products
- Freight stakeholder group management
- Freight flows database
- Identification of truck travel patterns
- Identification of major manufacturing/distribution/warehousing areas
- Freight Outlook Plan

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.
**Timeline for Proposed Work**

- Freight Flows Database – Spring 2013
- Phase 2 Regional Freight Outlook Plan – September 2013
- Freight Considerations for Project Evaluation – September 2013

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5.7 Congestion Management Process

Objectives
- To comply with federal regulations for transportation management areas having populations of 250,000 or more
- To develop and maintain a congestion management process for the purpose of monitoring, managing and mitigating congestion across the region’s transportation system
- To address the federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work
- Ongoing data collection to include traffic counts and monitoring system.
- Annual congestion report.
- Transportation Data Center (Information Clearinghouse) web page (maintained on the RPCGB website).
- Ongoing coordination for incident management.
- Traffic counts continue to be gathered, analyzed and posted to the RPCGB website. Travel time information has been collected in a variety of formats.

Proposed Work
A. Congestion Management Process Administration
   1. Congestion Management Committee Administration.
   2. Transportation System Data Collection (see Tasks 2.1 and 2.2).
   3. Transportation System Data Center website.
   4. Performance Reporting. An annual congestion report will be developed for the Birmingham MPA. Staff will participate in and contribute to annual meetings of the Congestion Management Committee.
B. Incident Management Implementation Plan - The Birmingham Regional Incident Management Function will continue its work to improve communications between first responders, the ALDOT, and the traveling public, and serve as the steering committee for the development of a regional incident management plan.
D. Livability Indicators – Data will be prepared and presented in the Congestion Management Plan in accordance with the Livability Principles and Indicators guidelines that are identified on pages 2-3. The Indicators will be monitored and reported in future years against the baseline data presented in the CMP.

Products
- Congestion Management Process
- Incident Management Plan
- Transportation Management and Operations Plan
- Congestion Management Annual Report

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.
**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Incident Management Plan – Fall 2013
- Transportation Management and Operations Plan – Fall 2013
- Congestion Management Annual Report - Spring 2013
- Transportation System Operations Plan – Fall 2013

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5.8 Transportation Safety Planning

Objectives
To incorporate transportation safety into the planning process and improve transportation safety in the community.

Previous Work
Used CARE database to identify potential corridors for crash data analysis.

Proposed Work
- Prepare an update to the Transportation Safety Plan.
- Continue to use the CARE database to identify trends to inform the planning process.
- Produce Corridor Specific Crash Profile Reports to identify roadway segments for potential safety improvements.
- Continue to support the Jefferson State College transportation safety education program by providing material aid for seminars, lectures, and experiential driving and crash demonstrations.
- Support Public Service Announcements to promote safety education and inform the Public about driver behaviors that impact traveler safety.

Products
- Corridor specific crash profile reports
- Public Service Announcements

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
- Corridor specific Crash Profile Reports – September 2013
- Transportation Safety Plan – Fall 2013

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6.1 CommuteSmart Program (Rideshare)

**Objectives**
To reduce reliance on the single-occupant automobile through programs that result in air emissions reductions and continue to address the federal Livability Principles.

**Previous Work**
Ongoing activities have been conducted for employer-based outreach programs, vanpool operations services, and park-and-ride lot development. An annual report documenting accomplishments was prepared and printed.

**Proposed Work**
- Outreach and Marketing Activities - Designed to increase the number of employers who encourage use of commuting alternatives and the number of participants in the program.
- Turn-Key Vanpool Operations Services
- Park and Ride - Increase number of locations for park and ride, install directional signs on roadways, and increase marketing efforts.

**Products**
- Document emissions reduction estimates – January 2013
- Outreach and marketing of vanpool and rideshare programs – Ongoing
- Outreach and marketing of park and ride program – Ongoing
- Annual Report – January 2013

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work (VPSI $400,000 and marketing/media $200,000).

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Document emissions reduction estimates – January 2013
- Annual Report – January 2013

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6.2 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Planning

Objectives
To develop and maintain the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan (HSCTP) that continues to meet the federal Livability Principles for the purpose of directing and coordinating mobility for transportation disadvantaged individuals and to administer the Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom grant programs.

Previous Work
- A competitive process for JARC/New Freedom projects was conducted and programmed in the TIP
- Conducted bids for acquiring project vehicles
- Assisted local organizations with projects funded under JARC/New Freedom
- Participated in monthly meetings of the statewide Alabama Transit Coalition
- Participated in monthly meetings with the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA)

Proposed Work
- Review and revise the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan
- Conduct a competitive selection process for JARC/New Freedom funding and ensure compliance with the HSCTP.
- Ensure JARC/New Freedom dollars are programmed into the local and statewide TIP
- Develop coordination with social service agencies, veterans, and transportation providers for the purpose of a future one call-one click operation.
- Continue participation with Alabama Transit Coalition
- Continue meetings with the BJCTA

Products
- Update HSCTP as needed
- Maintain ad hoc Human Services Transportation Committee as needed
- Assist local organizations in implementation of projects funded under JARC/New Freedom
- Coordination with social service agencies, veterans, and transportation providers
- Lay groundwork for future one call-one click operation

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work
- Conduct competitive selection process for JARC/New Freedom grant funding – May 2013
- Meet with Human Services Transportation Committee to review grant applications – June 2013
- Present applications and recommendations to MPO committees – July-August 2013
- Conduct bids for vehicles awarded under JARC/New Freedom – August-September 2013

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6.3 Building Communities Program

Objectives
To provide grants to local communities within the Birmingham MPA for projects, strategies, and services that support the SAFETEA-LU Planning Factors and meet the federal Livability Principles, including transportation and land use integration, economic vitality, safety and security, accessibility and mobility, environmental/air quality, and system preservation.

Previous Work
- Highland Park Neighborhood Assessment and Zoning Code Review.
- City of Vestavia Hills Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations Update.
- City of Vestavia Hills Cahaba Heights Neighborhood Plan.
- City of Graysville Form Based Codes.
- City of Calera Comprehensive Plan Update.
- City Center One-Way Street Conversion Study.
- City of Bessemer Transportation/Transit Plan, Master Plan Update, Form Based Code Overlay.
- Birmingham/Fountain Heights 16th Street Corridor Design Plan.
- City of Irondale U.S. 78 Corridor Study.
- City of Birmingham Collegeville Plan and Access Study.
- City of Bessemer Transportation/Transit Plan, Master Plan Update, Form Based Code Overlay.
- City of Fairfield Comprehensive Plan.
- City of Chelsea Major Street Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations Update.
- City of Leeds Update Master Plan and Major Street Plan.
- Strategic Plan for Implementation of the Five Mile Creek Trail Location Study.

Proposed Work
A negotiated process between the RPCGB and MPO governments is used to develop Building Communities projects consistent with eligible transportation and land use activities. Land use and transportation needs are identified, a determination is made for consistency with Building Communities’ goals, a project scope of work and budget are developed, and a cost sharing agreement is made. The MPO will document projects in the semi-annual report.

Projects currently in progress in FY 2012 and scheduled to be completed in FY 2013 include:
- I-20/59 Lowering Project.
- Montevallo streetscape and code update (Shelby County).
- Shelby County rails-to-trails conversion study
- Titusville neighborhood transportation plan (City of Birmingham).
- Vestavia Hills benchmark plan
- Homewood transportation master plan update

Projects currently being negotiated to begin in FY 2012 and be completed in FY 2013 include:
- Gardendale Benchmark Plan
- Center Point Benchmark Plan
- East Thomas Neighborhood Plan
- Montevallo Active Transportation Plan
- An additional $285,550 has been programmed for potential projects.
- **Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)** - This will serve as the blueprint to improve and maintain the transportation system and is multi-modal in nature, consisting of four elements: roadways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit and land use.

- **Corridor Transportation Plan** - For the purposes of this program, a corridor is defined as being 1/4-1/2 mile wide and should be functionally classified as major collectors or higher.

- **Sub-Area Transportation Plan** – This is similar to the CTP, but breaks out a smaller geographic area. It may provide a narrower focus, concentrating on specific transportation system elements, development, and/or services. The relationship between transportation and land use must be clearly articulated, considering the impacts to “regionally significant” roadways and may include:
  1. Neighborhood Transportation Plan.
  2. Station Area Plan for Public Transportation.
  3. Activity Center Transportation Plan.

- **Non-Motorized Transportation Plan** - Identifies the means to establish a physical and cultural environment that supports and encourages safe, comfortable, and convenient ways for pedestrians and bicyclists to travel throughout their community. This would include walking, bicycling, small-wheeled transport (skates, skateboards, push scooters, and hand carts), and wheelchair travel.

- **Administrative and Regulatory Tools** – Implements and/or enforces all or part of an adopted plan document.

**Products**
Plans and programs suitable for implementation

**Staffing**
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
None

**Financial Responsibility**

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7.1 U.S. 11 Southwest Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Objectives
Provide public transportation alternatives to improve travel in the U.S. 11 Southwest corridor. This would include alternatives that augment, support, and complement previous recommendations to improve non-motorized travel, expand roadway capacity, and manage access to U.S. 11 Southwest and address Federal Livability Principles.

Provide land development/redevelopment scenarios along the U.S. 11 Southwest corridor that are supportive of the potential alternatives for transportation system improvements, influencing the character of the transportation system where appropriate, and responding to needs.

Previous Work
- Onboard transit survey and analysis
- Establish project study area
- Public engagement and stakeholder outreach
- Data collection and analysis
- Existing Conditions Report
- Travel Demand Model Modifications
- Public Involvement Report
- Definition of alternatives
- Comprehensive Corridor-Wide Vision for Development
- Transit Modal and Alignment Alternatives
- Corridor-wide land use and transportation system development scenario
- Detailed transit station area plans

Proposed Work
Completion and Reproduction of Final Report to include:
- Detailed development pro formas
- Area specific implementation strategies
- Implementation and funding strategy for land use and transportation system improvements

Products
- Final Report with Locally Preferred Alternative
- Area Specific/Detailed Station Area Plans
- Project visualization
- Implementation and financing strategy
- Mitigation and/or action agreements
- Environmental documentation

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.
Timeline for Proposed Work

- Area Specific/Detailed Station Area Plans – Fall 2011
- Mitigation and/or Action Agreements – Winter 2012/Spring 2013
- Final Report with Locally Preferred Alternative – Spring 2013
- Project Visualization – Spring 2013

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7.2 U.S. 11 East/U.S. 78 East Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Objectives
Provide transportation alternatives to improve travel in the U.S. 11/U.S. 78 East corridor and addresses federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work
- Transit Alternatives Analysis and Transit Service Plans
- Building Communities Project - City of Leeds Master Plan

Proposed Work
Work activities will consider alternatives that augment, support, and complement existing transit services, non-motorized travel, and roadway operations and management. The study will also provide land development/redevelopment scenarios for the corridor. Specific activities include:
- Public Engagement and Stakeholder Outreach using innovative strategies to receive input regarding scenario development, potential alignment/routing, and technology.
- Data Collection and Analysis using a variety of technical tools.
- Corridor-Wide Vision for Development will guide detailed station planning activities.
- Identification of Transit Modal and Alignment Alternatives based on a preferred corridor vision.
- Corridor-Wide Land Use and Transportation System Scenarios developed and assessed as to their contribution to the corridor’s accessibility, mobility, and connectivity.
- Detailed Plans to guide land use, urban design, economic opportunities, social services, community and civic infrastructure/services, and other quality of life issues.
- Implementation and Funding Strategies will be identified for appropriateness and execution.

Products
- Public and stakeholder outreach events
- Data collection and documentation
- Map products
- Corridor concept alternatives

Staffing
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work
- Alternatives for Corridor – Summer 2013
- Detailed Plans – Fall 2013

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<td>Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users</td>
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<td>State Implementation Plan</td>
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FY 2013
(Organizational Responsibility)
Federal Dollars ($) Only

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<td>6.1 CommuteSmart Program (Rideshare)</td>
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<td>6.2 Coordinated Human Services/Transportation Planning</td>
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<th>7.0 SPECIAL PROJECTS AND CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLANNING</th>
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<td>7.1 U.S. 11 Southwest Corridor Alternatives Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.2 U.S. 11 East-U.S. 78 East Corridor Alternatives Analysis</td>
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State Planning and Research Funding (SPR) | $200,000 | | | $200,000 |

Total | $1,023,939 | $2,381,789 | $200,000 | $3,918,647 | $6,500,436 |
### TABLE 2

**UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

**FY 2013**

(Funding Sources)

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**PL = $822,539 (annual FY 2013 mark) + $200,000 projected carryover from FY 2012 = $1,022,539**

**Building Communities = $450,000 projected carryover from FY2012**