FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 4, 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY

Ronnie Baldwin Appointed Chief Engineer of ALDOT

MONTGOMERY – Transportation Director John Cooper has appointed longtime Department of Transportation employee Ronnie Baldwin as chief engineer, effective Monday, Jan. 7, replacing Don Vaughn who retired in 2012.

The position of chief engineer is appointed by the transportation director, with duties that include the planning, design, construction, maintenance and repair of Alabama’s state, U.S. and interstate highway network.

“I have the utmost respect and admiration for Ronnie Baldwin, and tremendous confidence in his skills and abilities,” Cooper said. “Ronnie is one of the most capable people I have ever worked with, and he is a tremendous asset to the Department.”

Baldwin has served as the Office Engineer Bureau Chief since 2005. He began work at ALDOT in 1972, initially serving as an engineering assistance and a graduate civil engineer. His career advancement has included the positions of project engineer, district engineer, state utility engineer and assistant division engineer for pre-construction. He is a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in civil engineering.

He and his wife, Debbie, reside in Ozark. They have two children, Craig Baldwin, who resides in Hartselle, and Corey Baldwin, who resides in Ozark. They also have two grandchildren.

# # #

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Feb. 6, 2013

More Lives Could Be Saved IF People Buckle Up  

ALDOT and DPS Begin New Year Publicizing Monthly Fatalities NOT Restrained

MONTGOMERY – Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths, state officials announced today.

For 2012, 514 people died in crashes investigated by troopers on Alabama’s rural, state, U.S. and interstate highways. Of those, 424 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 251 were not wearing seat belts. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year, so the total number of fatalities, including the percentage not wearing seat belts is expected to climb even higher.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 36 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in January of 2013. Of that number, 29 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 17 victims were not wearing seat belts, state officials announced today.

A year-end review of 2012 crash data shows that 59 percent of people killed in vehicle crashes were not restrained, and the annual average of fatality victims not wearing seat belts during the past five years is an alarming 60 percent.

Transportation Director John Cooper said those percentages pose a serious concern to the traffic safety community, and that’s one reason the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) have made a commitment to create more public awareness about the importance of seat belt use.

“Too many people continue to die in crashes because they are not wearing seat belts,” said Cooper. “It’s a proven fact that buckling up every time we get behind the wheel or ride as a passenger helps save lives. Buckling up in the front seat as well as the back seat can help improve your chances of surviving a crash.”

Col. Hugh B. McCall, Public Safety’s director and the state’s highest-ranking trooper, said, “In Alabama, the use of seat belts and child restraints is the law – not a suggestion. To reduce the risk of injury or death in a traffic crash, we encourage motorists to buckle up no matter how short the trip.”

- more -
Alabama law requires front seat passengers and children between the ages of 6 and 15 to wear seat belts, McCall said. Additionally, children younger than age 6 must be properly restrained in a federal motor vehicle safety standards-approved child safety seat.

DPS and ALDOT will jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit [www.dot.state.al.us](http://www.dot.state.al.us).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 26, 2013

ALDOT Awards Safe Routes to School Project in Headland

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation awarded a contract in the amount of $115,307 to Geisler Contracting, Inc., of Headland, as part of Alabama’s Safe Routes to School program.

The award will fund the construction of sidewalk, pedestrian bridge and traffic control markings near the Headland Middle School in Headland in Henry County.

The SRTS program encourages and enables more children in Grades K-8 to safely walk and bicycle to school in their community. SRTS helps communities promote the health benefits associated with walking, biking and exercising by providing funding to improve pedestrian conditions around schools.

Alabama’s SRTS program is supported by the Alabama Departments of Transportation, Education, and Public Health. For more information on Safe Routes to Schools, visit www.adph.org/srts.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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Feb. 28, 2013

John Lorentson Appointed ALDOT Deputy Director for Operations

MONTGOMERY – John Lorentson, a career employee with more than 40 years of service at the Alabama Department of Transportation, has been appointed deputy director for operations effective March 1, Transportation Director John Cooper announced today.

Lorentson began his ALDOT career as an hourly laborer. He earned continual promotions through 2008 when he was appointed division engineer for ALDOT’s Montgomery-based Sixth Division. He also served as state maintenance engineer.

Lorentson, a registered professional engineer in Alabama, replaces retiring Deputy Director of Operations G.M. (Mike) Harper. With Lorentson’s latest promotion to statewide responsibility as deputy director for operations, assistant division engineer David Bohannon will serve as acting division engineer for the Sixth Division.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2013

More Lives Could Be Saved IF People Would Buckle Up
ALDOT and DPS Continue Publicizing Monthly Fatalities NOT Restrained

MONTGOMERY – Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths.

For 2012, 513 people died in crashes investigated by troopers on Alabama’s rural, state, U.S. and interstate highways. Of those, 424 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 251 were not wearing seat belts. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 29 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in February 2013. Of that number, 26 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 16 victims were not wearing seat belts, state officials announced today. The latest information from the Alabama Department of Public Safety shows 40 people were killed in January, and 33 of those were in vehicles where seat belts were available and 20 victims were not restrained.

A year-end review of 2012 crash data shows that 59 percent of people killed in vehicle crashes were not restrained, and the annual average of fatality victims not wearing seat belts during the past five years is an alarming 60 percent. So far in 2013, 61 percent of fatalities were not wearing seat belts.

Alabama law requires front seat passengers and children between the ages of 6 and 15 to wear seat belts. Additionally, children younger than age 6 must be properly restrained in a federal motor vehicle safety standards-approved child safety seat.

DPS and ALDOT will jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 1, 2013

More Lives Could Be Saved IF People Would Buckle Up
ALDOT and DPS Continue Publicizing Monthly Fatalities NOT Restrained

MONTGOMERY – Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths.

For 2012, 513 people died in crashes investigated by troopers on Alabama’s rural, state, U.S. and interstate highways. Of those, 424 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 251 were not wearing seat belts. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 41 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in March 2013. Of that number, 36 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 20 victims were not wearing seat belts, state officials announced today. The latest information from the Alabama Department of Public Safety shows 111 people were killed thus far in 2013. Of that number, 95 were in vehicles where seat belts were available and 56 victims were not restrained.

A year-end review of 2012 crash data shows that 59 percent of people killed in vehicle crashes were not restrained, and the annual average of fatality victims not wearing seat belts during the past five years is an alarming 60 percent. So far in 2013, 61 percent of fatalities were not wearing seat belts.

Alabama law requires front seat passengers and children between the ages of 6 and 15 to wear seat belts. Additionally, children younger than age 6 must be properly restrained in a federal motor vehicle safety standards-approved child safety seat.

DPS and ALDOT will jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways. Buckle Up Alabama!

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2013

Join Alabama’s “Safety Stand Down” for Work Zone Safety
“We’re All In This Together”

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation is urging drivers to slow down, pay attention, limit distractions and be aware of workers along roadways during National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 15-19, 2013. This year’s national theme is “We’re All In This Together”.

Alabama is also promoting a statewide “Safety Stand Down” to heighten awareness about driving safely in work zones. Federal and state agencies, road builders, contractors and local officials are joining in the effort by participating in the “Safety Stand Down” on Wednesday, April 17.

Preliminary 2012 data shows within the 2,182 crashes in highway work zones in Alabama, there were approximately 21 fatalities and over 690 injuries.

In recognition of this year’s Work Zone Safety Awareness Week, Gov. Robert J. Bentley issued a proclamation marking Work Zone Awareness Week in Alabama. Additionally, the exterior of the ALDOT Central Office in Montgomery will reflect orange lighting and billboards will be displayed across the state promoting awareness of safe work zones.

National Work Zone Awareness Week was established Dec. 15, 1999.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For further information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 1, 2013

The Number of Unrestrained Fatalities Continues to Rise in Alabama
More Lives Could Be Saved IF People Would Buckle Up

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety show the number of people who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts increased from last month.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 45 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in April 2013 compared to 42 in March. Of that number, 37 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 26 victims were not wearing seat belts up from 20 in March. That’s six more deaths.

“Too many people continue to die in crashes because they are not wearing seat belts,” said Transportation Director John Cooper. “It’s a proven fact that buckling up every time we get behind the wheel or ride as a passenger helps save lives. Buckling up in the front seat as well as the back seat can help improve your chances of surviving a crash.”

The latest information from the Alabama Department of Public Safety shows 157 people were killed thus far in 2013. Of that number, 132 were in vehicles where seat belts were available and 82 victims were not restrained.

Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths. For 2012, 513 people died in crashes investigated by troopers on Alabama’s rural, state, U.S. and interstate highways. Of those, 424 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 251 were not wearing seat belts. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year. The annual average of fatality victims not wearing seat belts during the past five years is an alarming 60 percent.

DPS and ALDOT are jointly releasing to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 1, 2013

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month-Drive Safe Alabama!
*Motorcycle Safety is a Shared Responsibility for Riders and Drivers*

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation along with state agencies, motorcycle clubs, businesses, safety groups and state and local law enforcement are reminding drivers and riders that motorcycle safety is a shared responsibility.

To heighten awareness about the importance of “sharing the road” with motorcycles during National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in May, ALDOT is encouraging all motorists to drive with caution to make Alabama’s highways safer.

Transportation Director John Cooper stresses motorcycle riders and motorists must share the road to remain safe. “As a matter of safety, it is necessary for motorcycle riders and drivers of other types of vehicles to use safe driving habits,” Cooper said. “To prevent injuries and deaths on Alabama’s roadways, motorcyclists and motorists must be vigilant in their efforts to share the road and ensure everyone’s safety.”

The leading causes of motorcycle crashes include speeding, misjudging stopping distance, following too closely and failure to yield right-of-way by all drivers. In 2012, preliminary data show there were 81 fatalities and 1,428 injuries from 1,830 crashes involving motorcycles in Alabama.

Motorcycle riders and motorists share many common safety rules such as paying special attention at intersections, staying out of blind spots, obeying all traffic laws, avoiding distractions and riding unimpaired. Motorists are also encouraged to follow at a safe distance and watch for motorcycles.

Through an advertising campaign promoting motorcycle safety on television, radio, billboards, movie screens, and other printed material, ALDOT is focusing on what drivers and riders can do to develop appropriate driving habits so lives can be saved. Additionally, a proclamation declaring May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in Alabama was signed by Gov. Robert Bentley.

To further promote public awareness, ALDOT is inviting the public to a Motorcycle Safety Rally, Saturday, May 11 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Harley Davidson Motorcycle dealership in Montgomery.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit [www.dot.state.al.us](http://www.dot.state.al.us)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 17, 2013

ALDOT I-65 Hurricane Evacuation Exercise is Wednesday, May 22

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation will conduct its annual rehearsal of the plan that helped safely evacuate the Gulf Coast during Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and Hurricane Dennis in 2005.

On Wednesday, May 22, around 200 ALDOT workers and a contingency of state troopers and Alabama National Guard personnel will be positioned along I-65 between Baldwin County and Montgomery to simulate the activity associated with reversing I-65 traffic during an emergency.

Since 2000, ALDOT annually conducts rehearsals of its plan to reverse southbound traffic on Interstate 65 to allow four northward flowing lanes to evacuate the Gulf Coast. The term “contraflow” describes the condition when an interstate highway’s lanes carry traffic in the opposite direction for an evacuation (for instance, when I-65’s southbound lanes carry northbound traffic).

Alabama developed a hurricane evacuation plan to reverse traffic on I-65’s southbound lanes after Hurricane Floyd hit the East Coast in 1999. Planning and annual rehearsals since spring 2000 made Alabama’s lane reversals during Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis a success, helping to evacuate the Gulf Coast without any hurricane-related loss of life.

The plan for reversing I-65 traffic consists of 115 steps and requires 200 Department of Transportation employees, about 100 state troopers, and additional personnel from state and local emergency management and local law enforcement agencies.

The rehearsal simulates lane reversal activities that may occur during a real hurricane evacuation and provides an opportunity to practice the dozens of steps required, and to fine tune the process. Personnel will pre-position themselves and their equipment at 24 assigned checkpoints, including 21 interchanges, along I-65 between the initial crossover point south of State Road 225 in Mobile County and the north terminus points in Montgomery.

Traffic will not be reversed or detoured anywhere along I-65 during the reverse lane training exercise, but every portion of the plan will be simulated.

Media must contact ALDOT’s Media and Communications Bureau to coordinate coverage of the exercise.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 23, 2013

ALDOT Urges Motorists to Drive Safely This Holiday
Limited Road Construction and Lane Closures Memorial Day Weekend

MONTGOMERY – Travel on Alabama highways during the 2013 Memorial Day holiday weekend is expected to be higher than normal as the summer season begins. The Alabama Department of Transportation urges motorists to drive safely in their travels.

As an added precaution during the heavily traveled holiday, ALDOT announced today there would be no temporary lane closures on Alabama interstates after 12 noon, Friday, May 24, through midnight, Monday, May 27.

For the safety of the traveling public, construction industry workers and maintenance crews, roadwork will be limited during this busy holiday period. Throughout the year, ALDOT limits road construction during major holiday weekends. Emergency lane closures may be possible dependant on specific circumstances on interstates and other state roadways. Motorists are urged to always obey posted work zone speed limits.

Additionally, Alabama State Troopers will be participating in the nationwide Click It Or Ticket campaign to increase awareness on the importance of wearing safety belts. Patrols will be added thanks to support from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and ALDOT.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For further information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 30, 2013

ALDOT Halts Demolition to Secure Stormwater Management Permit

TUSCALOOSA – The Alabama Department of Transportation today announced it has temporarily halted demolition on homes in the Holt community that were damaged by the 2011 tornado until a stormwater management permit is issued by the Department of Environmental Management.

The work was halted Tuesday, May 28, after it was determined a permit is needed.

“Previously we believed no permit was necessary,” said ALDOT spokesman Tony Harris. “However, after examination by ALDOT personnel in Tuscaloosa and Montgomery, a permit is needed and work was placed on hold until that permit is issued.”

Demolition began on May 22. Workers had demolished 11 of approximately 30 homes when work was temporarily stopped. Environmental safeguards have been in use since work began, and best management practices will remain in place for the duration of the demolition. The vacant lots will be seeded for grass, and ALDOT will provide mowing and maintenance.

The properties slated for demolition were damaged in the April 2011 storms that struck the Holt area. ALDOT in 2012 acquired approximately 30 tornado-damaged homes to allow homeowners to relocate outside of the path of the proposed Tuscaloosa Eastern Bypass.

The proposed bypass is still in the planning stages, and no dates have been set for when the project will advance to additional right-of-way acquisition.

ALDOT earlier this month awarded a contract for $193,000 to Cahaba Disaster Recovery of Mobile to remove the homes. ALDOT expects the permitting process to delay work for up to three weeks, with demolition and clean-up expected to be complete by the end of September.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 4, 2013

The Number of Alabama Unrestrained Fatalities Decreases in May
Even More Lives Could Be Saved IF People Would Buckle Up

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety show the number of people who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts decreased from last month.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 29 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in May 2013 compared to 46 in April. Of that number, 24 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 12 victims were not wearing seat belts down from 27 in April. That’s 15 less deaths.

“Lowering the number of unrestrained traffic crash deaths is welcome news, especially during the month that has the Memorial Day holiday which kicks off the summer driving season,” said Transportation Director John Cooper. “Drivers and passengers should always be properly restrained whether they are traveling locally or taking a longer trip. Using seat belts helps save lives.”

The latest information from the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) shows 187 people were killed thus far in 2013. Of that number, 155 were in vehicles where seat belts were available and 95 victims were not restrained.

Sgt. Steve Jarrett with the Alabama Department of Public Safety sees too many crashes where seat belts are not in use. “Troopers continue to see lives needlessly lost because the choice was made to not wear a seat belt,” said Jarrett.

Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year.

DPS and ALDOT jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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# # #
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY

ALDOT Public Auction Affords Great Deals on All Types of Equipment
Bid on Vehicles, Tractors, Construction Equipment and More – On-site or Online

MONTGOMERY – People in the market for used vehicles at a low price should not miss the Alabama Department of Transportation’s Absolute Public Auction on Saturday, June 29, beginning at 9 a.m. The auction site is located at 537 Traffic Operations Drive in Montgomery.

A variety of vehicles including trucks, vans, SUVs, farm tractors, lawn and heavy construction equipment are on the auction block. Special truck and equipment financing will be available to qualified buyers through J.M. Wood Auction Company.

Additionally, surplus items including computers, electronics, office equipment, riding lawn mowers, chain saws, tires, utility trailers, and more will be auctioned Friday, June 28, beginning at 8 a.m.

Potential buyers can view auction inventory at the ALDOT facility beginning Thursday, June 27 at 9 a.m. Buyers may also preview items and sign up to bid on the Internet at www.jmwood.com. Online bidding begins Friday morning.

Auctions held in FY 2012, brought in nearly $10 million, generating funding for ALDOT's fleet renewal program.

Media should contact Rebecca Leigh White in the ALDOT Media Relations Bureau at 334-353-6534 or whitere@dot.state.al.us, to schedule on-site interviews prior to and during the auction.

ALDOT's mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For further information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 28, 2013

ALDOT Urges Motorists to Drive Safely Over the Fourth of July Holiday  
*Limited Road Construction and Lane Closures Wednesday-Sunday*

MONTGOMERY – Travel on Alabama highways during the Independence Day holiday is expected to be higher than normal as the summer travel season continues. The Alabama Department of Transportation urges motorists to drive safely during the busy holiday period.

As an added precaution during the heavily traveled holiday, ALDOT announced today there would be no temporary lane closures on Alabama interstates after 1 p.m., Wednesday, July 3, through midnight, Sunday, July 7.

For the safety of the traveling public, construction industry workers and maintenance crews, roadwork will be limited during this busy holiday period. Throughout the year, ALDOT limits road construction during major holiday weekends. Emergency lane closures may be possible dependant on specific circumstances on interstates and other state roadways. Motorists are urged to always obey posted work zone speed limits.

On July 3, each of the state’s Highway Patrol Posts will step up enforcement in “hot spots,” areas that have been identified through crash/activity data. During the official holiday travel period from 12:01 a.m. July 4 to midnight July 7, all available state troopers (and officers from other law enforcement agencies across the state) will enforce traffic laws and be available to assist motorists along Alabama roadways. There will be LIDAR details, driver license checkpoints and roving patrols concentrating on enforcing seat belt/child restraint laws and motorists who are impaired, following too closely and speeding.

ADECA and ALDOT provide grant funding to cover these additional shifts.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For further information, visit [www.dot.state.al.us](http://www.dot.state.al.us).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 1, 2013

Unrestrained Fatalities on Alabama Highways Rise in June
More Lives Could Be Saved IF People Would Buckle Up

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) show the number of people who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts increased from last month.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 57 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in June 2013 compared to 33 in May. Of that number, 51 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 26 victims were not wearing seat belts, up from 15 in May. That’s 10 more deaths.

“As we move into this Fourth of July travel period, people need to be reminded that using seat belts and proper child restraints are key factors that help save lives on our highways,” said Transportation Director John Cooper. “Drivers and passengers should always be properly restrained whether they are traveling locally or taking a longer trip, especially during this peak summer travel time.”

The latest information from the DPS shows 248 people have been killed thus far in 2013, a decrease of seven from the same time period in 2012. However, of the 248 crash victims this year, 210 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, but 124 victims were not restrained. That’s almost half.

Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year.

DPS and ALDOT jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2013

Fleet Ranked 22nd in the 2013 “100 Best Fleets in North America”

ALDOT Fleet is Also First in “State” DOT Fleets out of 39,000 Fleets.

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation’s vehicle fleet took top honors in this year’s “100 Best Fleets in North America” program. Ranking 22nd overall, ALDOT’s fleet was also recognized for being the first “state” fleet on the list during the Government Fleet Conference held June 12, in San Antonio, Texas. The majority of winners are county, city and other smaller fleets.

The 100 Best Fleets in North America program recognizes and rewards peak performing fleet operations in North America. Currently in its 10th year, the innovative program identifies outstanding fleet operations, promoting pride within the industry for increased productivity levels and effective operation. The program ranks fleets based on accountability, use of technology and information, collaboration and creativity, productivity, performance, efficiency, good environmental and financial stewardship, and other measures.

“It is an honor to receive recognition for all of the hard work and dedication the Equipment Bureau and Division Equipment Managers put into making this the top state fleet in North America,” said ALDOT Equipment Bureau Chief Ronald Pruitt. “This accomplishment would not have been achieved without the ALDOT Administration’s confidence and support in us and our decision making. It is important to operate a fleet that is cost effective and beneficial to the taxpayers of the State of Alabama. I believe this accomplishment shows our dedication to that goal and would like to thank everyone who has had a part in helping us achieve this recognition.”

One of the ways ALDOT practices good financial stewardship is by holding semi-annual equipment auctions where the public can purchase low-mileage, refurbished equipment. ALDOT then utilizes the money made from the auctions to replenish its fleet, saving millions of dollars and generating tax revenue. In the current fiscal year ALDOT auctions brought in almost $10 million.

In the environmental arena, ALDOT’s fleet received the 2011 Southeast Diesel Collaborative Community Leadership Award for projects best exemplifying extraordinary leadership in promoting and improving air quality through superior practices and policies of environmental stewardship.

To view the 2013 listing of 100 Best Fleets in North America, visit http://the100bestfleets.com/.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 1, 2013

Unrestrained Fatalities on Alabama Highways Fall Slightly in July
Three Fatalities Were Riding in the Bed of Pickups

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) show the number of people who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts decreased slightly from last month. However, the number of victims not restrained has risen in the summer months of June and July.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 47 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in July 2013 compared to 58 in June. Of that number, 37 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 24 victims were not wearing seat belts, down from 27 in June.

Three of the victims were riding in the back of pickups involved in two separate crashes. The three victims were between the ages of 13 and 21 and are not included in the unrestrained data because restraints are not available in the bed of a pickup. However, being unrestrained in the back of a pickup or most motor vehicles is illegal in Alabama if under the age of 15.

“In Alabama, buckling up is not merely a suggestion – it is the law,” said Col. Hugh B. McCall, director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety and the state’s highest-ranking state trooper. “Drivers must ensure all occupants of motor vehicles who are younger than 15 use seat belts and/or child-restraint systems that meet applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards.”

The term “motor vehicle” as used in Alabama law includes a passenger car, pickup, van (with seating capacity of 10 or less), minivan or sports utility vehicle.

The latest information from the DPS shows 296 people have been killed thus far in 2013, a decrease of five from the same time period in 2012. However, of the 296 crash victims this year, 248 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, but 149 victims were not restrained.

- more -
Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year.

DPS and ALDOT jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Brewton

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $106,340 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for downtown sidewalk improvements in Brewton.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

Alabama’s TE program is administered by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Cherokee

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $104,411 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for the sidewalk ADA accessibility project along Main Street in Cherokee.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 9, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Excel

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $99,920 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds to make sidewalk improvements along South Main Street in Excel.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Florala

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $231,748 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for sidewalk improvements on Fifth Street in Florala.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Geneva

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $130,080 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for State Route 27, East Town Avenue, streetscape improvements in Geneva.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

Alabama’s TE program is administered by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Aug. 8, 2013  

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Gulf Shores  

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $155,544 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for the ADA Compliance Project, in Gulf Shores.  

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.  

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Hartford

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $272,700 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for downtown streetscape improvements along State Route 123, East Main Street, in Hartford.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Muscle Shoals

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $62,480 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for ADA sidewalk ramp improvements in Muscle Shoals.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

ALDOT Approves Transportation Enhancement Funding in Samson

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $182,013 in Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for downtown sidewalk improvements, in Samson.

The TE Program offers opportunities to help communities expand and enhance transportation projects for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructures and safety, scenic and historic highways, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 8, 2013

Bridge Foundation Research Project Begins Next Week in Mobile

MOBILE – The Alabama Department of Transportation is funding a research project with the University of South Alabama (USA) Department of Civil Engineering to test the capacity of bridge foundations.

USA will conduct pile capacity research beginning Aug. 12, weather permitting at 257 South Royal Street in Mobile, adjacent to the City of Mobile Cruise Terminal.

The $789,855 grant will enable USA to conduct extensive testing on pile capacity by installing pilings, adding weight and monitoring and recording strength results. Once collected, the data will be helpful in planning future bridge projects that may lead to new design methods and decreased construction costs. The research being conducted in Mobile is just a portion of a two-year study on driven pile improvement methods throughout the state.

The project will include pile driving during the week of Aug. 12 and testing the bridge pilings over the next three months. During the project, USA will also perform vibration monitoring. There will be no impact to traffic.

For further information, contact the ALDOT Southwest Region Office at 251-470-8200.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 14, 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY
Traffic Signals to be Changed at the Intersection of US Highway 280, in Jefferson County

JEFFERSON/SHELBY COUNTIES – Work continues on U.S. Highway 280 as part of the Alabama Department of Transportation’s project to improve approximately 27 intersections along 8.93 miles of the highway in Jefferson and Shelby counties. This $15.8 million project includes adding turn lanes and changes in traffic signals to reduce congestion and improve efficiency along one of Alabama’s most travelled roadways.

Weather permitting; beginning Friday, August 16 at 8 p.m. the Alabama Department of Transportation announces the following changes on US Highway 280:

- The signal at the intersection of US Highway 280 at Grandview Parkway/Perimeter Park (Kobe Japanese Steak House Restaurant) just east of the I-459 Bridge is scheduled to be removed.
- The signal at Perimeter Park South (Surin 280 LLC/Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery) will be activated.

This work is part of the traffic reconfiguration which includes a new intersection at Perimeter Park South. The signal reconfiguration is expected to last approximately one night and will allow the second part of the Grandview phase of the 280 Project to begin. More details will be forth coming.

An incentive/disincentive is included in the contract with the bonus to the contractor calculated upon completion of the project. Incentives and disincentives are included in certain contracts as a way to accelerate project completion and minimize traffic impacts.

The entire project is expected to be completed by late November.

Motorists are urged to consider adjusting arrival/departure times, observe work zone speed limits and other work zone signs, and use extreme caution in this area.

For additional road closure information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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# # #
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 4, 2013

Unrestrained Fatalities on Alabama Highways Lower in August

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) show the number of people who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts decreased for the second straight month.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 29 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by state troopers in Alabama in August 2013 compared to 47 in July and 58 in June. Of the August number, 21 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 15 victims were not wearing seat belts, down from 24 in July.

The latest information from the DPS shows 325 people have been killed thus far in 2013, a decrease of 14 from the same time period in 2012. However, of the 325 crash victims this year, 269 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, but 164 victims were not restrained.

Preliminary data from crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers indicates 59 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won’t be compiled until later this year.

Alabama law requires front seat passengers and children between the ages of 6 and 15 to wear seat belts. Additionally, children younger than age 6 must be properly restrained in a federal motor vehicle safety standards-approved child safety seat.

DPS and ALDOT jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 6, 2013

Third Round of ATRIP Funding Announced Today for Madison County

HUNTSVILLE – State and local officials on Friday announced the Madison County projects included in the third round of funding under the Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIP).

The six local projects include two in Huntsville, two in Madison and two in Madison County. With local matching funds added to the approximate $50 million from ATRIP, estimated construction costs will reach at least $74 million.

Established by Gov. Robert Bentley in 2012, ATRIP provides federal funding to local governments for necessary road and bridge improvements. Administered by the Alabama Department of Transportation, nearly $1 billion is being made available through ATRIP to municipalities. Madison County has received more than $82.7 million through ATRIP.

Funding for ATRIP projects comes primarily from the use of GARVEE bonds which provide Alabama access to future federal dollars to pay for road and bridge projects needed immediately.

“ATRIP is making a positive difference in communities across the state,” Governor Bentley said. “This is the largest road and bridge improvement program in Alabama’s history, and we’re able to make all of these improvements without raising taxes. The projects announced today will benefit people throughout Madison County. I am pleased that local leaders were able to work together with ALDOT to identify road improvements that can benefit both public safety and economic development.”

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** The list of projects and map are attached outlining today’s ATRIP announcements.

# # #

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MADISON COUNTY ATRIP ANNOUNCEMENTS – SEPT. 6, 2013

- Huntsville, $17.5 million – Additional lanes on Zierdt Road from Martin Road to Madison Boulevard
- Huntsville, $15.5 million – Additional lanes on Winchester Road from Dominion Circle to Naugher Road
- Madison, $6.57 million – Additional lanes on U.S. Highway 72 from Balch Road to Hughes Road
- Madison, $12 million – Kellner Road to Zierdt Road Corridor
- County, $9.35 million – Additional lanes on Winchester Road from Naugher Road to Riverton Road
- County, $13.5 million – Additional lanes on Jeff Road (CR19) from CR-28 to Douglas Road

Dollar amounts reflect estimated total construction costs.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Andalusia

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $382,606 in funding for the sidewalks along Prestwood Bridge Road, U.S. Highway 29, Church Street and Snowden Drive in Andalusia, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Baldwin Co.

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $308,324 in funding for the Eastern Shore Trail Completion in Baldwin County, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Berry

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $356,960 in funding for the State Route 18 sidewalk expansion project in Berry, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Brewton

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $166,934 in funding for the Tiger Drive Sidewalk Project in Brewton, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Bridgeport

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $138,000 in funding for the sidewalks along Dr. Lee Avenue and 8th Street in Bridgeport, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Brundidge

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $344,678 in funding for sidewalks along S.A. Graham Boulevard and Galloway Road in Brundidge, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Camden

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $109,880 in funding for the sidewalks on State Routes 41 and 28 in Camden, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Sept. 24, 2013  

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Chickasaw  

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $251,687 in funding for the Thompson Boulevard sidewalk in Chickasaw, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).  

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.  

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program. 

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Cowarts

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the sidewalks and lighting along Jordan Avenue, North Broad Street and Jesters Street in Cowarts, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Crossville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the sidewalks along State Route 68 in Crossville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Sept. 24, 2013  

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Daleville  

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $261,819 in funding for sidewalks along Daleville Avenue, Donnell Boulevard and Warhawk Drive in Daleville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Daphne

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $320,075 in funding for the Gator Alley – Turnout/Overlook/Drainage/Scenic improvements in Daphne, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Dothan

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $283,814 in funding for the Downtown Streetscape in Dothan, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Eutaw

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $257,950 in funding for the Old Courthouse Square Streetscape project in Eutaw, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Fayette

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the Temple Avenue Streetscape improvements in Fayette, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Flomaton

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $137,822 in funding for the sidewalks along U.S. Highway 29, Palafox Street, Church Street, Houston Street and Poplar Street in Flomaton, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Foley

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $334,920 in funding for a bicycles facilities project along the Foley Beach Express and County Road 12 in Foley, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Geneva

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $265,168 in funding for the Downtown Streetscape Improvements along State Route 27 and Commerce Street in Geneva, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Geraldine

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $195,409 in funding for the School to Liberty Pedestrian Pathway along State Route 227 in Geraldine, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Gordo

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $212,800 in funding for the Main Street Streetscape Project – Phase I in Gordo, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Grove Hill

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $194,520 in funding for the sidewalks along 4th Avenue, Carter Drive and Sandy Circle in Grove Hill, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Gulf Shores

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the State Route 59 sidewalk project in Gulf Shores, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Hanceville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $106,922 in funding for the sidewalks to schools along N.E. College Drive, N.E. Blountsville Street, Dean Avenue N.E. and Stadium Street in Hanceville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Hayneville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $39,840 in funding for the Main Street Sidewalks in Mosses, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Leeds

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $395,358 in funding for the sidewalk upgrade connecting Leeds Elementary School, Leeds Municipal Complex, Leeds Chamber of Commerce and various businesses in Leeds, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Limestone Co.

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $376,010 in funding for the Limestone County Archives Depot Restoration/Sprinkler in Limestone County, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Madison

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $298,485 in funding for the Downtown Streetscape Improvements – Phase II project in Madison, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Magnolia Springs

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $337,493 in funding for the sidewalks on County Road 49 in Magnolia Springs, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Mobile

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $399,980 in funding for upgrading sidewalks and ramps to ADA compliance in the Area 2 Central Business District West in Mobile, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Mobile Co.

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $268,503 in funding for the extension of sidewalk along U.S. Highway 98 (Moffett Road) in Mobile County, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Monroeville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $191,262 in funding for the sidewalks along State Route 21, Alabama Avenue, Rumbley Road and Vanity Fair Drive in Monroeville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Moulton

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $308,752 in funding for the Court Street West sidewalks in Moulton, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Muscle Shoals

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $202,140 in funding for the Sheffield Avenue sidewalks in Muscle Shoals, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Opp  

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the Opp Depot Rehabilitation in Opp, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Ozark

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $319,260 in funding for the Downtown Streetscape Improvements – Phase II in Ozark, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Pike Road

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the Marler Road Multi-Purpose Nature Trail in Pike Road, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Prattville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $184,092 in funding for the Prattville Elementary and Intermediate Schools sidewalks in Prattville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Samson

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $110,792 in funding for the sidewalks and lighting along State Route 52 in Samson, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Saraland

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $366,580 in funding for the Access Management Plan and bicycle path along U.S. Highway 43 in Saraland, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Selma

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the Water Avenue Redevelopment – Phase II project in Selma, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Spanish Fort

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $320,000 in funding for the Blakely Way sidewalk in Spanish Fort, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

ALDOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally sound transportation network across Alabama. For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us

###

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Tuscaloosa

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the Patriot Multi-Use Path in Tuscaloosa, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Wetumpka

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $377,200 in funding for the Commercial Business District Revitalization Area Pedestrian Connector in Wetumpka, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Wilsonville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $400,000 in funding for the sidewalks along Hebb Road and McGowin Road in Wilsonville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 24, 2013

Transportation Alternative Program Funding Approved for Woodville

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation has approved $18,562 in funding for the Woodville Pathway to Safety and Walkability project in Woodville, as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration’s Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), TAP provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation.

TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 7, 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY

ALDOT Announces Mobile Bay Ferries Back in Service Tuesday

MOBILE – Weather permitting, ferry service aboard the Marissa Mae and Ft. Morgan ferries will resume Tuesday, Oct. 8, the Alabama Department of Transportation announced today.

In preparation for Tropical Storm Karen, the Marissa Mae and Ft. Morgan were moved to the Alabama State Docks on the Mobile River in Mobile on Friday, Oct. 4.

For additional information, visit http://mobilebayferry.com.

###

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 7, 2013

Small Business Procurement Conference Oct. 28-30 in Mobile
Event will Provide Information on Increasing Small Business Contract Opportunities

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation will present “Creating Pathways to Small Business Growth” during the Small Business Procurement Conference, Oct. 28-30, at the Renaissance Riverview Hotel in Mobile.

The event will provide small business firms with the information needed exposure to leading construction and manufacturing industry representatives. Attendees can also learn how to develop a strategy for obtaining access to federal, state, and city contracts and network with procurement officers and other small business owners.

“This conference provides an opportunity for members of Alabama’s small business sector to receive important information that can help their businesses grow,” said Transportation Director John Cooper who will be one of the speakers at the conference.

Other speakers include Alabama State Port Authority Director James K. Lyons and federal, state and local procurement officers who will share valuable information on how small business firms can obtain more transportation industry-related contract opportunities.

For registration information, visit http://tinyurl.com/aldotprocurementconference or contact Kim Vincent at Alabama A&M University at kim.vincent@aamu.edu.

The conference is sponsored by the Alabama Department of Transportation in conjunction with the Alabama State Port Authority, Wave Transit System-City of Mobile, and Birmingham and Huntsville Airport Authorities.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 7, 2013

Alabama Schools to Celebrate International Walk to School Day

MONTGOMERY – Many schools in Alabama will join schools from around the world to celebrate International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Kids in grades K-8, parents, teachers and community leaders walk and bike to and from school to promote pedestrian and bicycle safety and the health benefits of exercising. Statewide participation at individual schools will occur from 7-9 a.m. Oct. 9 and throughout the month.

Events include organized walks, Walking School Buses, special bike rides, interactive simulated computer games, parades and other local projects. A list of participating schools and locations, as of press time, is attached. Additional schools may be added to the list.

Walk to School events demonstrate the need to make walking and biking to school safer and raise awareness of the benefits of participation. Benefits include increasing the physical activity of children, fighting childhood obesity, reducing traffic congestion and fuel consumption, and making communities more pedestrian friendly.

In the U.S., International Walk to School Day is expected to be celebrated at more than 3,500 events at participating schools. Walkers from the U.S. will join children and adults in 40 countries around the world.

In Alabama, Walk to School Day/Month is supported by the Alabama Departments of Transportation, Education, and Public Health. Please visit www.walktoschool.org for further information.

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2013 Alabama Safe Routes to School Walk 2 School Day Participants

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 9, 2013

Alabama Schools Celebrate International Walk to School Day
Annual Day Celebrated at more than 3,500 U.S. Events and in 40 Countries Worldwide

MONTGOMERY – More than 30 schools in Alabama joined schools from around the world today to celebrate International Walk to School Day.

Kids in grades K-8, parents, teachers and community leaders walk and bike to and from school to promote pedestrian and bicycle safety and the health benefits of exercising. Statewide participation at individual schools occurred from 7-9 a.m. today and will continue throughout the month of October.

The Alabama State Board of Education will recognize the program with a resolution during their meeting Thursday, Oct. 10.

Today’s events included organized walks, Walking School Buses, special bike rides, interactive simulated computer games, parades and other local projects. A list of Alabama’s participating schools who registered on the national Walk Bike to School Web site is attached.

Walk to School events demonstrate the need to make walking and biking to school safer and raise awareness of the benefits of participation. Benefits include increasing the physical activity of children, fighting childhood obesity, reducing traffic congestion and fuel consumption, and making communities more pedestrian friendly.

In Alabama, Walk to School Day/Month is supported by the Alabama Departments of Transportation, Education, and Public Health. Please visit www.walkbiketoschool.org for further information.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 18, 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY

Save Big on Vehicles during ALDOT Public Auction Next Week
Bid In Person or Online on Trucks, SUVs, Vans, Tractors, Construction Equipment and More

MONTGOMERY – There will be more vehicles on the auction block than ever before at the Alabama Department of Transportation’s Absolute Public Auction Friday, Oct. 25. People in the market for high quality, used vehicles at a low price should not miss the chance to scoop up great deals during the semi-annual auction. The auction, located at 537 Traffic Operations Drive in Montgomery, begins at 9 a.m.

Vehicles of all makes and models are up for bid including trucks, vans, SUVs, farm tractors, and heavy construction equipment. Special truck and equipment financing will be available to qualified buyers through J.M. Wood Auction Company.

Potential buyers can view auction inventory at the ALDOT facility Thursday, Oct. 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Buyers may also preview items and register to bid on the Internet at www.jmwood.com. Online bidding begins Friday morning.

Auctions held in FY 2012, brought in over $10 million, generating funding for ALDOT's fleet renewal program.

“Our auctions not only provide the public the chance to buy well-maintained vehicles at below retail prices but also allows us to save the state money through our Fleet Renewal Program,” said Transportation Director John Cooper.

Media should contact Rebecca Leigh White in the ALDOT Media Relations Bureau at 334-353-6534 or whitere@dot.state.al.us to schedule on-site or recorded interviews prior to and during the auction or acquire hi-res photos and B-roll of auction activities.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Oct. 18, 2013

Gates Added to Belleville Street Rail Crossing in Evergreen

MONTGOMERY – The Belleville Street railroad crossing in Evergreen is fully operational following installation of signalized gates the Alabama Department of Transportation announced today.

The Belleville Street crossing is one of nine crossings the Alabama Department of Transportation has upgraded in the last 12 months. The crossing, just off U.S. Highway 31, has been signalized with flashing lights for several years. The crossing now has signalized gates, plus a traffic signal at Belleville Street’s intersection with U.S. 31.

Warning devices at crossings are only effective if drivers obey the signals.

“Although this particular crossing has had a number of serious crashes within the last five years, the majority of those crashes occurred due to drivers driving across the train tracks even when the warning lights were flashing,” said ALDOT spokesperson Tony Harris.

Alabama receives about $4.5 million in federal funding annually for rail safety projects. ALDOT plans to upgrade 20 more identified crossings in 2014.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 1, 2013

Unrestrained Fatalities on Alabama Highways Rise in October

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) show the number of victims who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts increased from September.

According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 53 victims killed in vehicle crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers in October 2013, up from 42 in September. Of the October number, 44 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 28 victims were not wearing seat belts, up from 15 in September.

The latest information from DPS shows 421 victims have been killed thus far in 2013, a decrease of six from the same time period in 2012. However, of the 421 crash victims this year, 347 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, but 206 victims were not restrained. October fatalities include a 2-year-old child who was not properly restrained in an approved child safety seat. To date, four children ages 3 and under have been killed in crashes where they were not properly restrained in an approved child safety seat.

Alabama law requires children younger than age 6 to be properly restrained in a federal motor vehicle safety standards-approved child safety seat. The law also requires front-seat passengers and children between the ages of 6 and 15 to wear seat belts.

Data from traffic crashes investigated by state troopers indicates 59 percent of all victims killed in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths.

DPS and ALDOT jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.

For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us or www.dps.alabama.gov.

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DPS MEDIA CONTACT
Sgt. Steve Jarrett
Public Information/Education Unit
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steve.jarrett@dps.alabama.gov
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 20, 2013

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Lane/Ramp Closures on I-85 North Thursday Night in Montgomery

MONTGOMERY – Weather permitting, the following closures will be in place on I-85 North near downtown, between mile markers 0.8 and 1.5 (between the Court Street Exit Ramp and the Arba Street Entrance Ramp), for pavement repair:

- Thursday, Nov. 21 at 9 p.m. until Friday, Nov. 22 at 5 a.m. – the two outside lanes of I-85 North and the entrance ramp from Arba Street to I-85 North will be closed.

A work zone speed limit of 40 mph will be strictly enforced.

Motorists are requested to consider using alternate routes, adjust arrival/departure times, observe work zone speed limits and other work zone signs, and use extreme caution in this area. ALDOT thanks motorists for their patience during this construction to improve Alabama’s roadways.

ALDOT's mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For further information, visit ALDOT’s Road Conditions page at www.dot.state.al.us.

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# # #
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 22, 2013

ALDOT Urges Motorists to Drive Safely This Holiday
Limited Road Construction and Lane Closures Thanksgiving Weekend

MONTGOMERY – Highway travel during the 2013 Thanksgiving holiday is expected to be heavy in Alabama as people take the opportunity to visit family and friends and head to college football games. The Alabama Department of Transportation urges motorists to drive safely in all their travels.

As an added precaution during the heavily traveled holiday, ALDOT announced today there would be no temporary lane closures on Alabama interstates after 12 noon, Wednesday, Nov. 27, through midnight, Sunday, Dec. 1.

For the safety of the traveling public, construction industry workers and maintenance crews, roadwork will be limited during this busy holiday period. Throughout the year, ALDOT limits road construction during major holiday weekends. However, emergency lane closures may be possible dependant on specific circumstances on interstates and other state roadways.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 26, 2013

TRAVEL ADVISORY

ALDOT Monitoring Roadways and Bridges in North Alabama
Winter Storm Expected to Cause Icy Conditions Especially in Areas of Higher Elevation

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation is monitoring road conditions across northern portions of Alabama, particularly along interstates where traffic is expected to be heavier than normal due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

ALDOT officials expect some icy conditions to develop on bridges and overpasses and some roadways, especially in areas of higher elevation.

ALDOT crews are mobilized and will take necessary steps ahead of the potential icing conditions to help keep roadways passable. Officials strongly caution that driving should be avoided until conditions have improved enough for safe travel.

Motorists are urged to use extreme caution, allow extra travel time, adjust their speed to existing weather and roadway conditions, allow extra distance between other vehicles and ensure their vehicles are in good operating order.

For Road Conditions information, please refer to the ALDOT Web site at www.dot.state.al.us.

# # #

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FOR IMEDIATE RELEASE  
Dec. 3, 2013  

Construction Begins on New I-565 Interchange at County Line Road  

MADISON, Ala. – A groundbreaking ceremony was held today to officially mark the beginning of a project to construct a new interchange on Interstate 565 at County Road 3 (County Line Road) in Madison. 

During today’s groundbreaking, Gov. Robert Bentley was joined by state and local officials for the groundbreaking held at the project’s construction site. 

“The construction of the Interchange at I-565 and County Line Road will enhance the transportation infrastructure in the Madison area and help keep travel flowing smoothly,” Governor Robert Bentley said. “Our transportation dollars are scarce, but this project is a wise investment in the future growth of the City of Madison.” 

Under a $9.4 million contract awarded by the Alabama Department of Transportation, Huntsville-based Reed Contracting Services will construct the new Interchange on I-565 at County Line Road, build additional ramps to the existing underpass and relocate a portion of State Route 20 (Madison Boulevard). The project is 90 percent federally funded with the City of Madison providing the additional 10 percent. The project is scheduled for completion in May 2015. 

The project provide will provide motorists full access to/from I-565 to Madison Boulevard and County Line Road. Additionally, drivers in the vicinity of the City of Madison and Limestone and Madison counties will be afforded another access point in addition to the Wall Triana Highway which currently experiences very heavy traffic. 

During construction, motorists can expect reduced speed limits, periodic ramp/lane/shoulder closures, and service road closures. For Road Conditions information, visit www.dot.state.al.us. 

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