

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

December 2012

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City of Auburn



## 2012 Road Construction Progress Report

Every three years, the City of Auburn's Public Works Department evaluates all of the 275 miles of roadways in Auburn. The rating received for each stretch of road is used as a factor in prioritizing projects for the City's five-year resurfacing plan. In addition to annual resurfacing projects, Public Works targets special road projects with the goal of improving traffic safety and traffic flow on Auburn's roads.

### Completed Projects

**I-85 Interchange** - As of this writing, the Alabama Department of Transportation has indicated that Auburn's third interchange with Interstate 85 is scheduled to be completed in early December, 2012. The new interchange will provide improved access to Auburn Technology Park West and will provide a new route for football traffic in the Fall, potentially alleviating congestion throughout the City.

**West Glenn Avenue Road Widening Project** - The City of Auburn completed construction on West Glenn Avenue, widening the road from two lanes to three lanes by adding a center turn lane from Donahue Drive to Wright Street. The project included wider sidewalks and newly striped crosswalks along West Glenn Avenue. The completed project was designed to improve pedestrian safety and help alleviate traffic congestion downtown.

**Hamilton Road Resurfacing and Bike Lanes Project** - The Hamilton Road Resurfacing Project included widening and resurfacing Hamilton Road from just north of Moores Mill Road to the Auburn City limits. The street now includes bicycle lanes and a left turn lane servicing Bent Creek Road and Hamilton Hills Drive.

**2012 Streets Resurfacing and Restriping Project** - The 2012 Streets Resurfacing Project included resurfacing the following streets: Country Club Drive, Florence Drive, Hillcrest Drive, Martin Avenue, McKinley Avenue, North Ryan Street, South Ryan Street, South Heritage Court, and Moore Alley. The 2012 Streets Restriping Project consisted of restriping markings and lane lines at various locations throughout the City.

**Safe Routes To School Sidewalk Project** - The City of Auburn added approximately 3,000 linear feet of sidewalk to the existing sidewalk that connects to Cary Woods Elementary School. The sidewalks will connect to Cary Woods Elementary School along Sanders Street, North Cary Drive, Petrie Road and Lunsford Drive. The recent sidewalk addition was made possible by a \$150,000 grant provided by the Alabama Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program which invests in infrastructure that enables children in Grades K-8 to safely walk and bike to school.

**Samford Avenue Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project** - The City of Auburn replaced the pedestrian bridge on Samford Avenue over Chewacla Creek. The new bridge was constructed using 3 recycled concrete bleacher sections that were removed from Duck Samford Stadium renovations in 2004. Also, a new handrail was installed and the sidewalk on either side of the bridge was repaired.

### Ongoing and Miscellaneous

In 2012, The Public Works Department engaged in a number of ongoing projects to maintain our streets and improve traffic flow and navigation in the City:

- Public Works replaced 468 of the old concrete street signs with new, more visible street signs.
- New, lighted streets signs were placed throughout downtown
- Messaging boards to improve awareness and safety near campus were installed on Magnolia Avenue
- Traffic light cabinets were rewired at several intersections to improve traffic light efficiency and performance
- Public Works "crack-sealed" 20.84 miles of roadway to extend the useful life of roads not ready to be resurfaced



Pictured: West Glenn Avenue

## Road Construction (Continued)

### Looking Ahead – 2013 Projects

**Moore's Mill Road Resurfacing and Bridge Replacement Project** - The City of Auburn will resurface Moore's Mill Road between Dean Road and Samford Avenue thanks to a state grant through the Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIP). The Alabama Department of Transportation will provide 80 percent of the funding for the project. As part of the resurfacing project, left turn lanes will be added on Moore's Mill Road at the intersection of Dean Road to improve traffic flow.

In another project, the Moore's Mill Bridge will be widened to remove a bottleneck during peak traffic hours. Construction could begin in late 2013.

**South College/ East University/Shug Jordan Intersection Improvements** - The City of Auburn will widen all approaches to the intersection of South College Street with East University Drive/Shug Jordan Parkway, including the addition of dual left turn lanes and right turn lanes. The project will help improve traffic flow at one of Auburn's most congested intersections.

**South College Street and Longleaf Drive Intersection Improvements Project- Phase 2** - City of Auburn will widen the west side of College Street at this intersection and West Longleaf Drive to accommodate dual left-turn lanes onto College Street and onto East Longleaf Drive. The project will also consist of overlaying the entire intersection with new asphalt. The project will help traffic flow in the area.

**North College Street Sidewalk** - This project will complete a missing segment of sidewalk along North College Street. The project will include the construction of a 5' wide sidewalk on North College Street from Drake Avenue to North Cedarbrook Drive. This project will create a continuous sidewalk for students traveling to the new elementary school.

**Tech Park West Lane Extension** - The City of Auburn will construct a new roadway from Auburn Technology Park West to Cox Road. This project will tie into Auburn's new interchange (Exit 50) and will provide enhanced interstate access to industries locating in Auburn's Technology Park West.

**Shelton Mill Road** - The City of Auburn will resurface Shelton Mill Road from College Street to just south of the entrance to Copper Beach Townhomes.

#### Ongoing and Miscellaneous 2013

In addition to the projects completed in 2012, the Public Works Department will continue in 2013 to resurface roads by priority, to maintain roads through crack-sealing and other measures, to improve signage throughout the City and to work in response to the priorities of citizens and elected officials to alleviate traffic congestion and increase traffic safety for all of Auburn's residents and visitors.



*Pictured: Moore's Mill Road*

## MEETING SCHEDULE DECEMBER

- 3 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- 4 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 5 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 7 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue
- 11 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 North Ross Street
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- 13 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 18 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 20 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue

**Meeting times and places are subject to change.**

**For more information, including a map of City meeting locations, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/boards](http://www.auburnalabama.org/boards).**

### Board Vacancies

One vacancy on the **Public Park and Recreation Board** was announced at the November 6, 2012 City Council meeting and will be filled at the December 4, 2012 City Council meeting.

One vacancy on the **Water Works Board** was announced at the November 6, 2012 City Council meeting and will be filled at the December 4, 2012 City Council meeting.

Two vacancies on the **Auburn Cemeteries Advisory Board** were announced at the November 20, 2012 City Council meeting and will be filled at the December 18, 2012 City Council meeting.

Two vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** will be announced at the December 4, 2012 City Council meeting and will be filled at the January 8, 2013 City Council meeting.

*Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office.*



## City of Auburn Awarded Harvard-Kennedy Bright Ideas Designation

The City of Auburn has received a "Bright Ideas" designation from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University for its multi-phased information technology system that integrates internal and external data into a map-based system. The Bright Ideas initiative highlights noteworthy and promising government programs and practices from across the nation to serve as a catalyst in the adoption of innovative ideas by government entities.

The City of Auburn's Information Technology Department was recognized for its work in consolidating data into a visual web-based tool that provides a more accurate picture of daily and emergency operations and improves safety and performance among first responders. The solution leverages multiple real time data systems within an interactive geographical information systems (GIS) map at minimal cost and without changing the data providers' business practices.

Jim Buston, Assistant City Manager and Chief Information Officer, said "the recognition is a true honor coming from such a prestigious organization" and that the Information Technology Department will continue to be at the forefront of helping deliver innovative and cost effective services to the citizens of Auburn.

City of Auburn public safety professionals use the system to analyze response times, crime areas, fire events, and traffic incidents easily categorized by location, type or severity. Sex offender data is accessible to police through the system, greatly simplifying the analysis and notifications needed to locate a registered sex offender in a particular area. In addition, the application is integrated with Auburn University's facility management software, providing first responders access to campus floor plans and associated information. Future work will include integration of live camera feeds, emergency equipment locations, room capacities, and other relevant campus information.

The Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation is the branch of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University that fosters creative and effective government problem solving and has developed a marketplace of ideas and examples of government innovation. The City of Auburn's Bright Idea will be highlighted on the Ash Center's Government Innovator's Network, advancing the opportunity for it to be adopted by other municipalities in addition to being considered for the Innovations in American Government Award.

## Grease Recycling

If your holiday plans include frying a turkey, don't pour the leftover grease down the drain. Recycle it through the City of Auburn's Cooking Oil/Grease Recycling Program. To participate, simply pour any used cooking oil (after it has cooled) into its original container, secure the lid making sure it is leak free, and drop off the container at the RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. While you're there, pick up a new, empty container for future use, courtesy of the City of Auburn. Properly disposing of used cooking oil/grease is good for the environment and helps prevent costly sewer blockages and potential sewer spills. For more information, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/wrm-sewer](http://www.auburnalabama.org/wrm-sewer) and click on the FOG Recycling tab or contact the Water Resource Management Department at 501-3060.

## ShopAuburn for the Holidays

The holidays are here and citizens are reminded to ShopAuburn and keep sales tax dollars local. Revenue from Auburn's sales taxes fund: Auburn City Schools; the paving and maintenance of our roads; public services such as police and fire protection; and provide for community events. Free metered parking will be available December 8 through January 8.

## Daddy-Daughter Date Night 2013 Tickets on Sale Dec. 10

Come dance the night away at the 24th Annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night Feb. 7 - 9 at the Lexington Hotel and University Convention Center on S. College St. Dads and daughters are invited to enjoy an evening of dancing, refreshments, pictures, and surprises! Put your best foot forward in our dance contest and don't miss your chance to take home one of several door prizes! Last year this event SOLD OUT, so be sure to purchase tickets early. Join us for one of three nights of music, memories, and fun! Tickets are \$30/couple and \$5/additional child. Tickets go on sale Monday, Dec. 10 at 8 a.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks) or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

### 2013 Daddy-Daughter Date Night

**Thursday, Feb. 7 5:30 - 8 p.m.**

**Friday, Feb. 8 6:30 - 9 p.m.**

**Saturday, Feb. 9 6:30 - 9 p.m.**



## December Holiday Schedule

City Hall will be closed on Monday, December 24, Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1 for the Christmas and New Years holidays. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications will remain on their regular schedules. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling for each week will change as follows:

### Week of December 24-28 Collection Schedule

#### Normal Collection Day Holiday Pickup Schedule

Monday	Monday, December 24
Tuesday	Wednesday, December 26
Wednesday	Thursday, December 27
Thursday	Friday, December 28

### Week of December 31 - January 4 Collection Schedule

#### Normal Collection Day Holiday Pickup Schedule

Monday	Monday, December 31
Tuesday	Wednesday, January 2
Wednesday	Thursday, January 3
Thursday	Friday, January 4

Carts and recycled materials must be placed at the curb for collection by 6 a.m. on your scheduled collection day. All carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the following day. The holiday collection schedule is available online at [www.auburnalabama.org/es/holiday.asp](http://www.auburnalabama.org/es/holiday.asp). For more information on garbage, trash, and recycling pick-up, please contact the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department at 501-3080.

# City Management

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## Open Line Feedback

Do you have any suggestions, feedback, or story ideas that you would like to share? If so, please contact us at [openline@auburnalabama.org](mailto:openline@auburnalabama.org) or call 501-7255.

# up COMING EVENTS

Due to space considerations, we are unable to publicize any events that are not directly affiliated with a City department.

## Auburn Public Library

For more information, contact Auburn Public Library's Youth Services at 501-3196.

**Note: There are no regular programs the weeks of Christmas and New Years, December 22 through January 4.**



**Baby Lapsit** - Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. for ages birth – 12 months and their caregivers.

**Baby First Steps Storytime** - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for ages 12 - 24 months and their caregivers.

**Toddler Time** - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. for ages 18 months - 3 years and their caregivers.

**Preschool Time** - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. for preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years and their caregivers.

**Lego Mania** - Every Saturday in December from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. for students in grades 4-12.

**Diary of a Library Kid** - Wednesday, December 5 at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K-5.

**Puppet Show** - Tuesday, December 11 at 3:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11.

**American Girl's Club** - Thursday, December 20 at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K-5.

### Special Programs:

**Medieval Christmas: A Teen Café** - Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. for students in grades 8-12.

**Annual Children's Christmas Party** - Thursday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. for ages 3-11.

**Holiday Musicale** - Thursday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. for all ages.



## Parks and Recreation

For more information on any of the events listed, or to pre-register for a program, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930 or visit [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks).



**Now Showing...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition** - Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition. The exhibit is free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/arts](http://www.auburnalabama.org/arts) or contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

• **Cotton Boll Quilt Guild**, Nov. 29 - Dec. 22. Selected small quilts by guild members.

**Through Nov. 30...High School Basketball Registration** - Auburn Parks and Recreation is currently holding high school basketball registration for participants in grades 8 - 12 through Friday, Nov. 30. Players must register to play as a team. Registration is \$45/player. School team players are not eligible to participate. All games will be played at the Frank Brown Recreation Center from January - March. Sign up at the Dean Road Recreation Center Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Dec. 7...First Friday Night Tennis Mixer** - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA) for the First Friday Night Tennis Mixer on Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Auburn/Auburn University Yarbrough Tennis Center. Citizens ages 19 and up are encouraged to play. All levels of play are welcome. No partner is necessary. The event will be held rain or shine. Yarbrough Tennis Center non-member court fees apply.

**Dec. 10, 11, & 13...AACT Children's Theatre Auditions** - The Auburn Area Community Theatre (AACT) Children's Theatre will present, "Into the Woods Jr.," a Broadway-style production of all your favorite fairytale characters, March 6 - 11. Auditions will be held Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 10 and 11, at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center from 4 - 6 p.m. Participants should come prepared with 30 seconds of a song, preferably from a musical, and be dressed appropriately to learn a short dance to perform. Callbacks will be held Thursday, Dec. 13 from 4 - 7 p.m. If selected, rehearsals will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - noon, beginning Jan. 7. Contact the Arts Center at 501-2963 for more information.

**Register by Dec. 21...Holiday Field Trip to the Montgomery Zoo** - Hey kids, beat those winter blues! Grab your friends and join Auburn Parks and Recreation for a holiday field trip to the Montgomery Zoo on Friday, Dec. 28 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring a brown bag lunch and we'll picnic with the giraffes. This trip is open to youth in grades 3 - 6. The cost is \$15, payable in cash on the day of the trip. Don't delay - you must be registered by Dec. 21. Contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930 to register.



## 6th Annual Holiday Art Sale

The Auburn Arts Association and Auburn Parks & Recreation will host the 6th Annual Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Admission is FREE! Local artists will be selling paintings, pottery, stained glass, photography, cards, jewelry, hats, scarves, and much more! For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963 or visit [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks).

Please note, due to construction of the new Senior Center, the Dean Road Recreation Center will serve as a back-up location for the Holiday Art Sale. In the event the sale must be relocated, please visit our website [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org) for updates.

