

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

December 2013

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City of Auburn



City Receives State Road Improvement Grants

Lee County recently held a joint press conference with the Cities of Auburn and Opelika to announce the final round of projects funded through the Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIP). Governor Bentley established ATRIP in 2012 to help local governments fund necessary road and bridge improvements. Funding was announced for three projects in Auburn in addition to four projects that have already received ATRIP funding. The final list of ATRIP funded projects in Auburn includes:



Moores Mill Road after initial resurfacing in October 2013.

- Lighting and landscaping improvements at two interstate interchanges:
 - Exit 50 (Technology Parkway/Cox Road)
 - Exit 57 (Bent Creek Road)
- Resurfacing Moores Mill Road from Dean Road to Samford Avenue (nearing completion)
- Widening of Moores Mill Road from East University Drive to Grove Hill Road, including the bridge over I-85 (expected to bid in Spring 2014)
- Intersection improvements:
 - College Street and Longleaf Drive
 - Opelika Road and East University Drive
 - Samford Avenue and College Street

In addition to these seven projects for Auburn, ATRIP also funded 23 Lee County projects and 3 Opelika projects, and represents a \$30,000,000 investment in Lee County by the State of Alabama.

Auburn Automotive Supplier to Build Second Facility

Seohan Auto USA Corporation has announced plans to build a second manufacturing facility in Auburn, Alabama. The facility will be located in Auburn Technology Park West. Construction of the 110,000 square-foot facility started in October 2013 with a completion date set for 2014.

In the initial phase of the project, Seohan will create approximately 50 additional jobs in Auburn. Seohan's expansion will inject an estimated \$24 million in capital investment into Auburn's economy. Seohan located to Auburn in 2008 and is currently employing 240 people.



Business License Renewal Reminder

2014 City of Auburn business licenses must be renewed by Monday, February 17, 2014 to avoid assessment of penalties and interest. The business license renewal forms will be mailed the last week of December 2013. For additional information on renewing a business license, contact the Revenue Office at 501-7239 or visit the City's web page at www.auburnalabama.org/fi.



A Holiday with the Arts

Dec. 2 - 14...Holiday Art Sale Preview Exhibition - Catch a sneak peek of items that will be available at the 7th Annual Holiday Art Sale during the Holiday Art Sale Preview Exhibition at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Dec. 2 - 14. The exhibit will be on display weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is FREE and open to the public. Group tours are welcome!

Dec. 7...Polar Express Holiday Celebration - All aboard the Polar Express! Children ages 12 and under are invited to hop aboard the Polar Express on Saturday, Dec. 7 at Kiesel Park. The "train" will depart at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Activities include arts & crafts, sweets & treats, a visit with some special friends from the North Pole, story time, and much more. Children are encouraged to bundle up and wear their favorite holiday pajamas while they participate in indoor and outdoor activities. Children under seven must be accompanied by an adult ticket holder. Children under the age of 2 are FREE with an adult ticket holder. **Tickets for the event will be on sale Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 6 and 7, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center.** The cost is \$10/person. A limited number of tickets are available, so be sure to purchase tickets in advance!

Dec. 14...Holiday Art Sale - Auburn Parks and Recreation and the Auburn Arts Association will host the 7th Annual Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center and Harris Center. This event features 40 or more artists with handmade items for purchase, including scarves, ornaments, paintings, ceramics, jewelry, stained glass, candles, holiday décor, and photography. Enjoy shopping for unique gifts in a festive atmosphere! Admission is FREE and a portion of the proceeds from sales support the Auburn Arts Association's programs at the Arts Center. **Vendor applications are available and are due by Friday, Dec. 6.**

For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/arts or contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

Board Vacancies

Three vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** will be announced at the December 3, 2013 meeting and will be filled at the January 7, 2014 City Council meeting.

One vacancy on the **Water Works Board** will be announced at the December 3, 2013 meeting and will be filled at the January 7, 2014 City Council meeting.

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



Auburn Public Safety Kicks off Toys for Tots

The Auburn Public Safety Department kicked off the 2013 Auburn Toy Drive on October 1, 2013. The program is designed to assist families in the Auburn community by providing Christmas gifts to needy children, ages 3-8.

Anyone wishing to register a child for a gift can complete a registration form at the Auburn Police Division at 141 North Ross Street. Registration days are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. with the last day to register being November 20. To be eligible, a parent or legal guardian must provide a picture ID, the child's social security card and birth certificate and two of the following three items; current light bill, water bill or lease/rental agreement.

Donations to the Auburn Toy Drive may be dropped off at the Auburn Police Division building at 141 North Ross Street, at any fire station or at Uncle Bob's Self Storage at 1231 Gatewood Drive and 2020 South College Street. Special thanks to Uncle Bob's for providing these additional drop-off points.

Donated toys should not be gift wrapped, so that donations can be placed into age-appropriate categories before being delivered the week before Christmas. Monetary donations are also accepted, but purchased gifts are especially appreciated.

Questions regarding the Auburn Toy Drive can be directed to the Auburn Police Division at 334-501-3129.

Auburn Christmas Parade

Join the Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the Auburn Downtown Merchants for the annual Christmas Parade on Friday, Dec. 6 at 5:30 p.m. The parade will start on Thach Ave on the Auburn campus and proceed north on College St, through downtown. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the holiday while enjoying the parade, shopping, and dining downtown.



ShopAuburn for the Holidays

The busiest shopping season of the year is upon us! Don't forget to ShopAuburn to help keep sales tax dollars local! Revenue from Auburn's sales tax fund Auburn City Schools; the paving and maintenance of our roads; and public services such as police and fire protection.

Downtown shoppers will always find meter-free parking available on weekday evenings after 5 and on weekends. This winter, downtown parking will also be meter-free on weekdays beginning Monday, December 16 through Tuesday, January 7, and the new Gay Street parking lot will provide an additional 93 parking spaces just in time for holiday shopping.

25th Anniversary Daddy-Daughter Date Night Winter Wonderland

Come dance the night away at the 25th Anniversary Daddy-Daughter Date Night February 6 - 8 at the Clarion Inn & Suites on S College St. Dads and daughters enjoy an evening of dancing, refreshments, pictures, and door prizes! Save your best moves for our dance contest and be prepared for some special guests joining us throughout the evening! Last year this event SOLD OUT, so be sure to purchase tickets early. Girls ages 12 and under and their dads, grandfathers, or guardians are invited to 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, December 9 at 8 a.m. at the Harris Center, 425 Perry St. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

2014 Daddy-Daughter Date Night

Thursday, Feb. 6	5:30 – 8 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	6:30 – 9 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 8	6:30 – 9 p.m.

Christmas and New Year's Holiday Schedules

City Hall will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, and Wednesday, January 1 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications will remain on their regular schedules. The collection schedule for garbage, trash, and recycling pickup will change as follows:

Week of December 23-27 Collection Schedule

Normal Collection Day	Holiday Pick-Up Schedule
Monday	Monday, December 23
Tuesday	Tuesday, December 24
Wednesday	Thursday, December 26
Thursday	Friday, December 27

Week of December 30 – January 3 Collection Schedule

Normal Collection Day	Holiday Pick-Up Schedule
Monday	Monday, December 30
Tuesday	Tuesday, December 31
Wednesday	Thursday, January 2
Thursday	Friday, January 3

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. For more information on garbage, trash, and recycling pick-up, please contact the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department at 501-3080, or visit www.auburnalabama.org/ed/holiday.asp

Library to Host "Digital Petting Zoo"

Thinking about purchasing an e-reader, tablet, or MP3 player for the holidays? The Auburn Public Library will host a "Digital Petting Zoo" on Thursday, December 12 at 2:30 p.m. Participants will get demonstrations and hands-on experience to help them choose the best reader or player for others, or for themselves. It's also a chance to learn how to use a library card to access e-books and other media. Devices are made available through the generosity of the Friends of the Auburn Public Library.



MEETING SCHEDULE DECEMBER

- Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue
- Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Library Board Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 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.

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Public Works Department
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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 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.

There will not be any Library Youth Services programs during the week of December 22, 2013 – January 4, 2014 in observance of the Holidays.

Baby Time - Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. for ages birth – 18 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.



Legomania – Join us every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for “free play” with Legos®.

Special Programs

Letters to Santa! – Monday, December 2 at 4:00 p.m. for children ages 5-10. The Community Writing Center offers to help children write letters and address envelopes to Santa for Christmas.

Teen Café – Thursday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. for students in grades 8-12. Teens are invited to celebrate the holiday season by making crafts and enjoying refreshments.

Children's Holiday Party – Thursday, December 12 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Children are invited to make crafts and participate in fun holiday activities.

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.

Dec. 14...Fitness Open House - Auburn Parks and Recreation will host a FREE Fitness Open House at the Frank Brown Recreation Center on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. - noon. Come tour our newly-expanded facility, meet the instructors, learn more about classes offered, and take part in fitness demonstrations. Get a jump start on your New Year's resolutions and enjoy a guilt-free holiday season by signing up for a fresh, fun, fitness class to start the New Year off right! This is the perfect chance to sample the latest fitness classes and programs you've heard all about but aren't sure you can handle. Open to all ages; however, children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Dec. 14...Holiday Outdoor Movie - Join Auburn Parks and Recreation Saturday, Dec. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Creek Park for a FREE outdoor movie featuring the animated feature of the children's classic, "The Polar Express." Snuggle up and enjoy this new holiday tradition with friends and family!

Dec. 27...Holiday Field Trip to the Montgomery Zoo - Kids in grades 3 - 6, grab your friends and join Auburn Parks and Recreation for a trip to the zoo on Friday, Dec. 27 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. We will meet at the Dean Road Recreation Center and travel to the Montgomery Zoo. Explore natural, barrier free habitats housing more than 700 animals from five different continents. Bring a brown bag lunch and we will picnic with the giraffes. The cost of the trip is \$20, payable in CASH on the day of the trip. **All participants must be pre-registered by Monday, Dec. 16.**

Dec. 30...Holiday Field Trip Bowling and a Movie - Got the winter blues? Youth in grades 3 - 6 are invited to get out of the house and join us for a morning of bowling at Auburn Lanes, followed by a brown bag lunch, and an afternoon at the movies. All the fun takes place Monday, Dec. 30 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Participants will meet at the Dean Road Recreation Center and must provide their own lunch. Tennis shoes and socks are required. The cost is \$20, payable in CASH on the day of the trip. **All participants must be pre-registered by Monday, Dec. 23.**