

PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS OF ALABAMA

# COUNTY COMMISSION

Volume 62, Number 5  
December 2018

## FUNDING COUNTY ROADS AND BRIDGES



# Budget Shortfall?



## Avenu specializes in delivering unanticipated revenue

New and emerging industries. Tax and license compliance. Avenu Insights & Analytics has the experience and the technology to find unclaimed revenue in your community today.

Recently combined with RDS, our company brings together local and national leaders in revenue enhancement to help governments identify and close funding gaps. And we work directly with local businesses, giving them the information and tools they need to understand and meet their compliance requirements.



**Administration**



**Compliance Auditing**



**Discovery & Recovery**



**Data & Analytics**

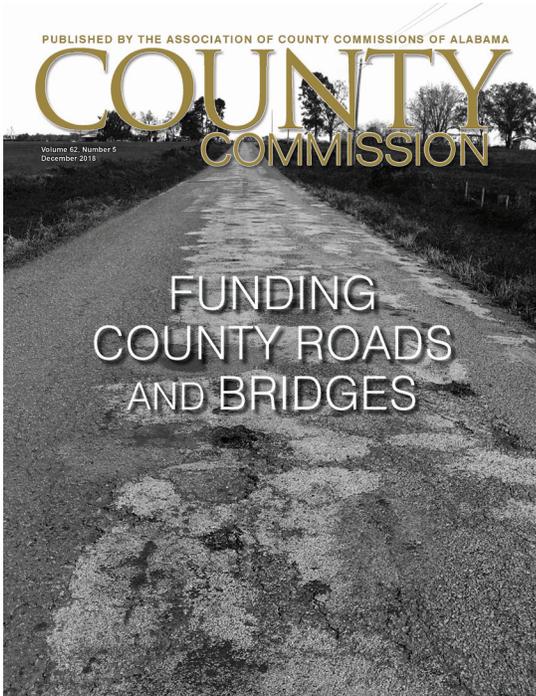
**RDS**  
revenue discovery systems

AN  
**AVENU**  
INSIGHTS & ANALYTICS  
COMPANY

Learn how Avenu is supporting local governments like yours — visit us at [AvenuInsights.com](https://AvenuInsights.com)

# in this **issue**

VOLUME 62, NUMBER 5



***Inadequate funding for county roads and bridges is holding back progress in Alabama, costing time, lives, jobs and money.***



COUNTY COMMISSION is published quarterly by the Association of County Commissions of Alabama, Inc.; P.O. Box 5040; Montgomery, AL 36103. Subscription rates are \$20 per year, which is included in the dues of members. Additional copies, when available, are \$2 each to non-members. Periodicals postage paid at Montgomery, Alabama. Postmaster: Send address changes to COUNTY COMMISSION; P.O. Box 5040; Montgomery, AL 36103. USPS 985-380

## **from the cover...**

Inadequate Road and Bridge Funding: Costly Consequences Keep Adding Up .....	9
Outlook is Bleak for County Roads .....	12
ACCA Road and Bridge Data Collection Survey.....	15
Bridge Funding Falls Short.....	17
A Funding Problem Requires a Funding Solution.....	23
Get to Know: County Road and Bridge Departments in Alabama.....	27

## **news you can use...**

Getting Ready for Goat Hill.....	31
ACCA 2019 Calender of Events .....	33

## **point of view...**

<b>President's Perspective</b> .....	4
<i>High Price to Pay if County Family Does Nothing</i>	
<b>The County Line</b> .....	6
<i>The Last Time Alabama Moved Forward on Infrastructure, I Was a New Dad</i>	

## **in every issue...**

<b>Voices from the County Family</b> .....	35
--	----

## **who we are...**

2018-19 ACCA Board of Directors .....	38
ACCA Staff.....	38



Hon. Tony Cherry  
President

*Tony L. Cherry*

## High Price to Pay if County Family Does Nothing

### Additional Funding for County Roads and Bridges Only Possible with All Hands on Deck

In early December, nearly 400 county officials and employees from all over our state gathered for an orientation class for our newly-elected county commissioners and our annual Legislative Conference. It was an amazing three days, and it was my honor to continue my service as your president by presiding over this most successful kickoff to the 2019 year.

The major takeaway from the gathering was the importance of our “County Family,” including the more than 60 new commissioners and probate judges, speaking with ONE Voice over the next three months and throughout the entire 2019 session of the Alabama Legislature. It is important that all of us carry our weight and fulfill the responsibility to speak for the people who depend on a strong and responsive county government.

Since I took my place as President in August, I have consistently encouraged my fellow County Family members to also find their individual place in our steadfast organization, and I want to encourage our newcomers to do the same, as we are in the midst of a critical time for county government.

For far too long, we have done little to expand our road and bridge resources without recognizing that the price tag of staying stagnant is much more damaging than the “cost” of investing in our future.

In our personal lives, sometimes unpleasant outcomes can be sidestepped by simply choosing to do nothing. Avoiding unnecessary personal expenditures, unwanted consequences and unexpected accidents is often preferred to the outcomes of rash decisions at home. But in our “public lives” as elected officials, protecting the status quo almost always means losing ground and failing your community.

That’s about where we are with our roads and bridges. The cost of doing nothing is high — 1,100 lives

are lost on our roads annually. Look at that number, and then think about all of the heartbroken families. And 60 percent of those deaths happen in rural areas.

The price tag for doing nothing increases with missed opportunities in economic development, hours spent on school buses detouring our failing bridges, and unnecessary expenditures on automobile repairs for you and me, as well as the transportation costs for our farmers and timber owners.

Maybe your county has all the good jobs it needs. Maybe the school children in your district have an extra hour a day to sit on a bus. Maybe the farmers and loggers and other industries are happy with the conditions of the roads and bridges. And maybe the people who vote for you have, honestly, decided that they will just have to live with a sub-standard transportation system.

But in my county — and I trust in yours — the people deserve better.

If we do nothing, no one will fix the problem for us. As time marches on, more paved roads will crumble; they’ll crumble so badly that we have no choice but to grind them into gravel, while more and more bridges will pass their 50th birthdays.

All of us, including those who have just joined our County Family, will be asked to take an active role this year. On the next page, I’ve outlined three specific things each and every one of us can do today to help ensure additional funding for county roads and bridges.

The price of doing nothing has been staggering. If we are to stop waiting and, finally, start attacking our transportation needs, then everyone in county government must be a part of the solution.

The #OneVoice of county government has a place for you. Let’s get to work!

Menu



67 Counties, *One Voice*

## Proactive Steps You Can Take Today

### ■ **Get the ACCA67 mobile app**

For great advocacy tools at your fingertips, search the Apple App Store or Google Play Store for ACCA67– all caps, with no spaces. The app is an exclusive, members-only benefit for the County Family, and you can contact Abby Fitzpatrick (334-263-7594 | [afitzpatrick@alabamacounties.org](mailto:afitzpatrick@alabamacounties.org)) for help creating your account or resetting your password.

### ■ **Register for an ACCA District Meeting**

In the weeks leading up to the Legislative Session, the Association has scheduled six District Meetings in locations throughout the state. Choose the meeting that is convenient for you. Turn to page 31 for details.

### ■ **Know your facts**

This magazine issue is chock-full of facts and figures to help you make the case for investing in county roads and bridges. Commit some key points to memory, and share them with your legislators, local media and constituents.



# MORELL ENGINEERING

711 East Hobbs Street • Athens, Alabama 35611  
[www.morellengineering.com](http://www.morellengineering.com)



Transportation Engineering  
Geotechnical Engineering  
Construction Materials Testing  
Aviation, Civil, and Municipal Engineering  
Surveying and Land Development  
Facilities Management and Operations





**Sonny Brasfield**  
*Executive Director*

*Sonny Brasfield*

## The Last Time Alabama Moved Forward on Infrastructure, I Was a New Dad

---

### Firstborn Now Eyeing His 28th Birthday

It was early June of 1991 and the Alabama Legislature was focused on a bill that would provide funding for the improvement of roads and bridges in Alabama. But my attention was, to say the least, a little distracted.

You see, early in the morning of Sunday, June 2, Kathy and I raced to the hospital for the birth of our first child. For a short time that morning, even Sonny Brasfield didn't think about counting votes and conference committees. Those things were thousands of miles away as our lives were altered by the blessing we received.

But a couple of days later, I resumed my normal position to witness the Alabama House of Representatives actually pass a bill creating a new road and bridge program for our state. The journey to final passage of that legislation was a twisted — and challenging — road. But eventually, we were successful, and when the law took effect the following year, Alabama counties and the state began work on improving Alabama's transportation system.

When it was over, a younger Sonny Brasfield used his column in this very magazine to record how the passage of that legislation was intertwined with a new family's journey to bring home their new son. Now, almost three decades later, that birth is still linked (at least in my mind) with the last time Alabama took a step forward for its infrastructure.

I guess it's not surprising that I am one of the few folks working in public policy today who was actually around during the early 1990s. I remember every little detail of that effort to raise revenue for

infrastructure — even though it's been almost 28 years since that Sunday morning when Perry Robert Brasfield joined us.

Now, on the personal side, since the summer of 1991 we've seen Perry grow into a wonderful, kind and insightful man. And, to the surprise of no one who knows me, in between family activities and milestones, we've also spent countless hours at the Alabama Statehouse promoting and protecting county government.

In that role, we've traveled this state — over and over and over again — promoting, organizing and assisting those in county government. We've designed plan after plan after plan for our roads and bridges. But each time we've been told, in one way or another, that the plans would have to wait for another year. And then another.

Away from county government, it's been an incredible journey, as well.

We've watched as Perry learned to walk and as he's broken an ankle — twice. We've eaten watermelon and homemade ice cream. We've slept in our car seat, and we've stayed up all night after the Homecoming dance.

But all the while, we've not been able to convince the public to support needed repairs to our infrastructure.

We've laughed and we've cried — over and over again. We've built sand castles at the beach and a big swing set in the backyard. We've ridden tricycles and trains. We've gotten our hands and pants dirty playing baseball all over the state, and we've worn our Sunday best to worship our Lord.

But all the while, we've let our roads and bridges age without proper attention. We've let the rising price of road construction and petroleum-

based products rob our counties of any real opportunity to make meaningful improvements in the roads and bridges that support agriculture and the timber industry.

In the meantime, we've welcomed a new sister into our lives and we've had to say "goodbye" to Granny and Granddaddy. We've played the role of President Roosevelt on the stage, and we've gotten sweaty — and very tired — on the wrestling mat. We've played the drums and the guitar, and we've wrecked our new car — twice — without getting hurt!

But all the while, we've searched for innovative solutions to our problems. And even when we found a couple — convincing the public to support a \$250 million bond issue for bridges in 2000 and the innovative ATRIP program earlier this decade

---

***We've let the rising price of road construction and petroleum-based products rob our counties of any real opportunity to make meaningful improvements in the roads and bridges that support agriculture and the timber industry.***

---

— those projects have only helped us keep our heads afloat.

In the meantime, we've been to Boston and to Miami. We've watched the Tide capture a bunch of championships and give a couple away. We've sat in bleachers at Wrigley Field and on the ground at Amen Corner. We've worn a crimson cap and gown, and we've watched our sister do the same.

We've gotten our first job, and we've cried at the funeral of our friend. We've bought our first house, and we've left our lunch money at home by mistake. We've ridden our go-cart with our Papa, laughed at the fair with our best girl and remained the apple of our mother's eye.

We've done all of those things — and more.

But despite all of our focused efforts and energy, we've still not found a way to enact new revenue to make our roads and bridges safer for the little boys who will be born to new parents in the summer of 2019.

We've waited and we've waited and we've waited.

We've waited so long that the little boy who came into our lives in 1991 is now about to be 28 years old. And maybe, just maybe, in 2019, we will have finally waited long enough. ■

**Call Truman Now! 405-880-2805**



**1/2 Tank Car  
Culverts**



**Easy Rolloff Delivery**

**Tank Car  
Culverts**



**New & Used  
Steel Pipe**

- Largest Tank Car Supplier In The USA!
- Custom Length? No Problem!
- Company Owned Trucks
- Professional Drivers



[www.RailroadYard.com](http://www.RailroadYard.com)

# 2018

## Alabama County Joint Bid Program



# WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.

Controlling daily owning and operating costs shouldn't stretch your resources. Warrior Tractor has everything you're looking for.

With knowledgeable and experienced management and sales force, you can count on Warrior Tractor and Equipment's exceptional customer service. Each member of the management sales force averages over 30 years of equipment sales experience and each continues to be trained and certified by John Deere to provide customers with optimal information regarding equipment.



WarriorTractor.com



**JOHN DEERE**



**FUCHS**  
A TEREX BRAND

*Leica*  
Geosystems

**HITACHI**

For all your sales, service and parts, stop by and see us.



Athens  
1911 Highway 31 South  
256-233-1914

Montgomery  
3540 Wetumpka Highway  
334-277-7260

Monroeville  
66 Industrial Park Drive  
251-575-7111

Northport  
6801 McFarland Blvd. West  
205-339-0300

Oxford  
2255 Highway 21 South  
256-831-0921

Pelham  
2149 Highway 31 South  
205-988-4472



## Inadequate Road and Bridge Funding: Costly Consequences Keep Adding Up

**B**ad roads and bridges are running up an expensive tab in this state.

“Alabama’s transportation infrastructure has not kept pace with our population or our economy,” said the Alabama Transportation Institute’s Justice Smyth. “As a result, it is costing us time, lives, jobs, opportunity and money.”

While some consequences are

easier to see and put a number on than others, taken together they diminish quality of life, hinder business activity and threaten Alabama’s attractiveness to future economic development prospects.

“The consensus from everyone is that we cannot continue to maintain our road and bridge system in a safe condition, to promote economic development, to provide safe

transportation for school buses, log trucks, farmers and first responders unless we have additional revenue,” said Sonny Brasfield, Executive Director of the Association of County Commissions of Alabama.

The solution is additional funding, which is easy to measure in dollars and cents. However, “the cost of ‘doing nothing’ is not zero,” Smyth said.

## Road Fatalities: Too Many Lost Lives

**1,100 Annual Traffic Fatalities on Alabama Roads**

The most recent figures available show that there were 1,100 traffic fatalities on Alabama roads in 2016, a sharp increase from the year before, according to ATI.



**60% Fatalities in Rural Areas**

The majority of these traffic deaths occurred in rural rather than urban areas. Travel time to trauma centers is a big factor. Ambulances and other large emergency vehicles may not be able to travel the most direct route due to weight-limited bridges.

**1/3 Infrastructure Itself Partly to Blame**

In a third of fatal crashes, roadway features are likely a contributing factor to the crash itself, according to TRIP, a national transportation research group. Features that impact safety include lane widths and markings, intersection design and shoulder conditions.



## Infrastructure: Weak Link for Economic Development

In the economic development game, Alabama's string of signature wins started 25 years ago with Mercedes and has continued through the years, most recently with announcements from Google and Mazda Toyota.

Three "must haves" are always atop a site selector's list: favorable business climate, quality workforce and solid transportation infrastructure.

"In two of those three, Alabama does really pretty well. Business Facilities magazine recently ranked Alabama No. 1 for having the best business climate in the country. AIDT, the community college workforce development training program and the universities all do a really good job of preparing a workforce," said Justice Smyth of the Alabama Transportation Institute. "Where we fall short and are continuing to lag behind is in our transportation infrastructure."



Annually, \$436 billion in goods are shipped to and from sites in Alabama, mostly by truck, according to TRIP.



## Annual Costs to Alabama Motorists

**\$1.5 billion**

Additional Vehicle Operating Costs: faster vehicle depreciation, extra repairs, higher fuel consumption, increased wear on tires

**+ \$1.5 billion**

Crashes: lost productivity at work and home, property damage, medical expenses, legal and court costs, increased traffic congestion, emergency services

**+ \$1.2 billion**

Congestion: lost time and wasted fuel

**\$4.2 billion**

DEFICIENT ROADS COST ALABAMA MOTORISTS ANNUALLY

## Traffic Congestion Takes Heavy Toll in Alabama

Increasing levels of **traffic congestion** cause **significant delays** in Alabama, particularly in its larger urban areas, **choking commuting and commerce**. Traffic congestion robs commuters of time and money and *imposes increased costs on businesses, shippers and manufacturers*, which are often passed along to the consumer.

("Alabama Transportation by the Numbers," TRIP)



## New ACCA Research Shines Light on Crumbling County Roads and Bridges

Findings from the ACCA Road and Bridge Data Collection Survey were released in early December, giving county leaders up-to-date statistics heading into the 2019 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature.

“Counties truly owe a debt of gratitude to each other for investing the staff time to provide this invaluable data,” said ACCA Executive Director Sonny Brasfield. “Taken together, the information paints a vivid and alarming picture of county roads and bridges today and in the next five years.”

The survey is a sequel to “A Silent Crisis,” a publication from the Association of County Engineers of Alabama that used 2010 data to sound the alarm about inadequate funding for local roads and bridges. The 2018 update, called “The Silence is Broken: Continuing the Conversation,” details the substantial shortfall of available funding compared to the needed infrastructure maintenance and improvements.



Find data on roads and bridges, reported on a county-by-county basis, on page 15-16. Five-year projections with current funding are included.

## Statewide Task Force to Release Findings

A wealth of new data and analysis is forthcoming from the Alabama Transportation Institute, which has provided technical support to the infrastructure task force commissioned this year by Senate President Pro Tempore Del Marsh and House Speaker Mac McCutcheon.

The full-length report, “Alabama 2040: Transportation Infrastructure System Needs and Challenges,” is scheduled for release to the public before March 5, the start date for the 2019 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature.

In the meantime, the Institute will publish a series of short, single-issue reports. In two pages or less, each one will provide an examination of an important topic, such as “Historical and Projected Vehicle Miles Traveled in Alabama,” “Characteristics of Freight Movement on the State Roadway Network” and “What Does It Cost to Maintain a Road?”

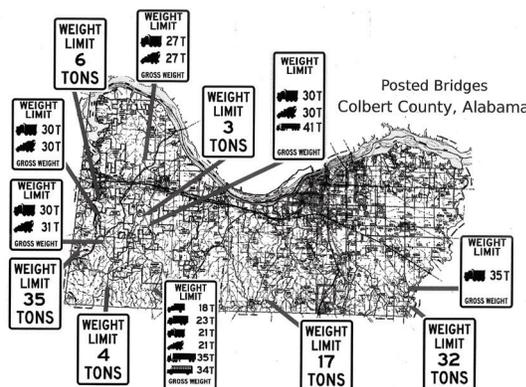
The infrastructure task force, which has served to convene a broad and growing list of interested stakeholders, is organized into five working groups focused on physical infrastructure, revenue, ports and waterways, technology, and policy recommendations.

County leaders have been actively engaged in the task force, with participation from ACCA and affiliate groups for county engineers and emergency managers.



## Weight-Limited Bridges Cause Costly Detours

- Some 45% of county bridges are 50 or more years old, making them overdue for rehabilitation or replacement.
- Older bridges are more likely to have posted weight limits, which interfere with the flow of regular traffic.
- Drivers must take detour routes that can add miles to their trips, extending the school day for students and delaying emergency responders.
- Affected vehicles often include school buses, log trucks, delivery vehicles, ambulances and fire trucks.



Here's an example showing how weight-limited bridges impede travel in one Alabama county.

### The Halcyon Group at Morgan Stanley

is a proud supporter of the

### Association of County Commissions of Alabama

**Paul Winn, CFP**  
Senior Portfolio Manager  
Senior Vice President  
Financial Advisor

**Lewis Gayden**  
Financial Planning Specialist  
Financial Advisor

**Travis Winn**  
Financial Planning Specialist  
Financial Advisor

**Pam Kimble**  
Registered Associate

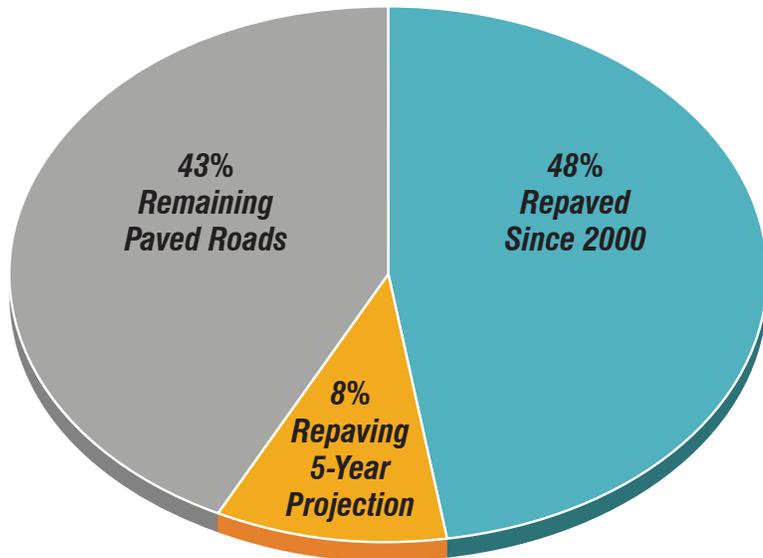
**Morgan Stanley**  
7515 Halcyon Summit Drive | Suite 300  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
334-270-2634 | paul.winn@morganstanley.com

© 2018 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. Member SIPC. CRC1954547  
12/17 Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and federally registered CFP (with flame design) in the U.S.

# Outlook is Bleak for County Roads

## Alabama County Road System

Total Roads 60,491 Miles  
Paved Roads 44,790 Miles



Note: Percentages may not total 100 because of rounding.



## Sophisticated Auto Manufacturing Depends on County Roads

Alabama's auto manufacturers and suppliers are like a growing string of pearls linking the state.

Each facility is closely tied to others up and down the supply chain in a system of just-in-time, just-in-sequence delivery.

Road and bridge infrastructure can make or break those precision logistics, and county roads play an integral role. For example, a pair of tier-1 Hyundai suppliers in Butler County rely on Honoraville Road — part of the county system — to bring in deliveries from a trio of tier-2 suppliers in neighboring Crenshaw County.

“For Hyundai, every minute that assembly line is shut down is a \$10,000 impact,” said Justice Smyth of the Alabama Transportation Institute. “It’s a loss in productivity, and Hyundai is going to pass that penalty down to the tier-1 and tier-2 suppliers, and that eventually hits the consumers.”

## Keeping the Pace

Paved roads generally have an expected lifespan of 15 years.

Since 2000, Alabama counties have resurfaced about half their paved roads, making the other half overdue for resurfacing.

To stay on track with a 15-year resurfacing cycle, a county would need to redo a third of its roads every five years. With current funding, projections show only one of Alabama's 67 counties could get close to that benchmark.



## Multiplier Effect

INVESTING  
**\$1.00**  
 IN ROADS & BRIDGES

RESULTS IN  
**\$5.20**  
 IN BENEFITS  
*(e.g., lower vehicle maintenance costs, better gas mileage, etc.)*

Source: Federal Highway Administration

## ‘Getting by’ with Lower Standards

While stop-gap measures are better than no maintenance at all, they are another result of inadequate funding for county roads and bridges, a result that brings further consequences for Alabamians in the form of lower property values and increased vehicle repairs.

Citizens seem to accept the patching of potholes and cracks, but others say there’s a better way.

“It’s almost like a surgeon caring for injured patients with nothing but Band-Aids when you know they really need stitches to correct the damage,” said Colbert County Engineer John Bedford.

On local roads, an inch or more of plant mix asphalt makes an excellent surface. Every 15 years, that road should be repaved with the same high-quality material.

However, counties frequently have to maintain plant mix roads with a chip seal or similar treatment — basically a half-inch (or less) layer of liquid asphalt and rock. It’s a strategy that falls short of proper restoration, but it does prolong the road’s life.

“It’s getting us by until we’re adequately funded, but it is not the same as properly preserving the value of an asset,” he said.

## Converting Paved Roads Back to Gravel

Seventy-five years ago, Alabama’s progress in the modern world was going to be measured in miles and miles of soon-to-be-paved Farm-to-Market Roads.

However, in the new millennium, it is not uncommon to find county roads going back to gravel — or “back to the Stone Age.”

There’s no indication that Alabamians of today like unpaved roads — dusty one day and muddy the next — any better than previous generations, but the choice to go backward is financially driven.

Mary C. Smith Road in Barbour County is a typical example. The hard surface was steadily disintegrating, and the 3.7-mile route was low on the priority list for repaving.

“The road was originally paved in the ‘70s and got so bad that it had to be turned back to a gravel road for lack of funding,” said County Engineer Matthew Murphy.

After the conversion, the road’s maintenance has been handled by county crews with county equipment.



*Common Dilemma: Filling potholes could not halt disintegration, and there was no funding to resurface. Barbour County ultimately decided to grind up the remaining pavement and turn Mary C. Smith Road back to gravel.*

*Photo: Barbour County*



# TRUCKWORX

*For the seventh year in a row, Truckworx proudly offers Kenworth's ultimate workhorse to Alabama's counties; a truck that is built to withstand even the toughest conditions. The Always Tough, Ever-Dependable Kenworth T800.*

**STILL**

**BIGGER, BETTER ENGINE.**

**STILL**

**UNMATCHED SERVICE.**

**NOW AVAILABLE  
WITH CHALMERS SUSPENSION  
& EXTENDED CAB**



**IMPROVED  
DRIVER COMFORT**

**EVEN BETTER  
RESALE VALUE!**

For more information contact Michael Smith  
Office: (334) 263-3101 • Toll-Free: (888) 241-3101  
Cell: (205) 335-0991 • E-mail: MichaelSm@truckworx.com



**WITH 8 ALABAMA LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!**

150 Repair Bays • 150 Service Employees • Dedicated Express Bays  
Service Triage • Onsite Service Trucks • Daily Parts Delivery

# ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS OF ALABAMA

## Road and Bridge Data Collection Survey

\*FIVE-YEAR PROJECTIONS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL REVENUE

*+Includes resurfacing, reconstruction and construction*

COUNTY	Total Miles of County Roads	Miles of Paved County Roads	Projection: Miles to be Repaved <sup>+</sup> in Next 5 Years*	Total Number of County Bridges	County Bridges 50 Years or Older	Projection: Bridge Replacements in Next 5 Years*
AUTAUGA	667	336	24	71	23	1
BALDWIN	1,567	1,378	280	163	21	5
BARBOUR	742	438	60	134	62	0
BIBB	527	384	16	60	32	0
BLOUNT	1,134	994	126	120	71	6
BULLOCK	380	315	25	76	42	0
BUTLER	725	505	13	101	28	2
CALHOUN	1,116	1,112	75	150	75	2
CHAMBERS	784	443	49	144	50	0
CHEROKEE	807	770	100	120	89	0
CHILTON	931	535	14	102	31	0
CHOCTAW	600	400	25	101	52	2
CLARKE	807	298	10	95	55	1
CLAY	680	432	100	87	47	1
CLEBURNE	720	394	15	97	40	3
COFFEE	759	528	20	153	73	0
COLBERT	660	630	75	99	37	0
CONECUH	810	415	75	162	62	5
COOSA	600	417	40	93	46	0
COVINGTON	1,290	630	7	283	160	11
CRENSHAW	715	282	44	135	42	4
CULLMAN	1,563	1,334	125	153	99	7
DALE	500	459	15	104	50	0
DALLAS	847	475	25	104	45	0
DEKALB	1,470	1,145	70	167	89	0
ELMORE	1,000	818	30	123	20	3
ESCAMBIA	880	550	40	104	31	0
ETOWAH	866	794	30	90	44	1
FAYETTE	824	437	30	172	61	0
FRANKLIN	812	625	50	114	47	0
GENEVA	909	402	20	168	74	0
GREENE	1,048	672	6	94	38	2
HALE	595	384	35	131	104	9
HENRY	690	510	35	95	42	0

# ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS OF ALABAMA

## Road and Bridge Data Collection Survey

\*FIVE-YEAR PROJECTIONS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL REVENUE

*+Includes resurfacing, reconstruction and construction*

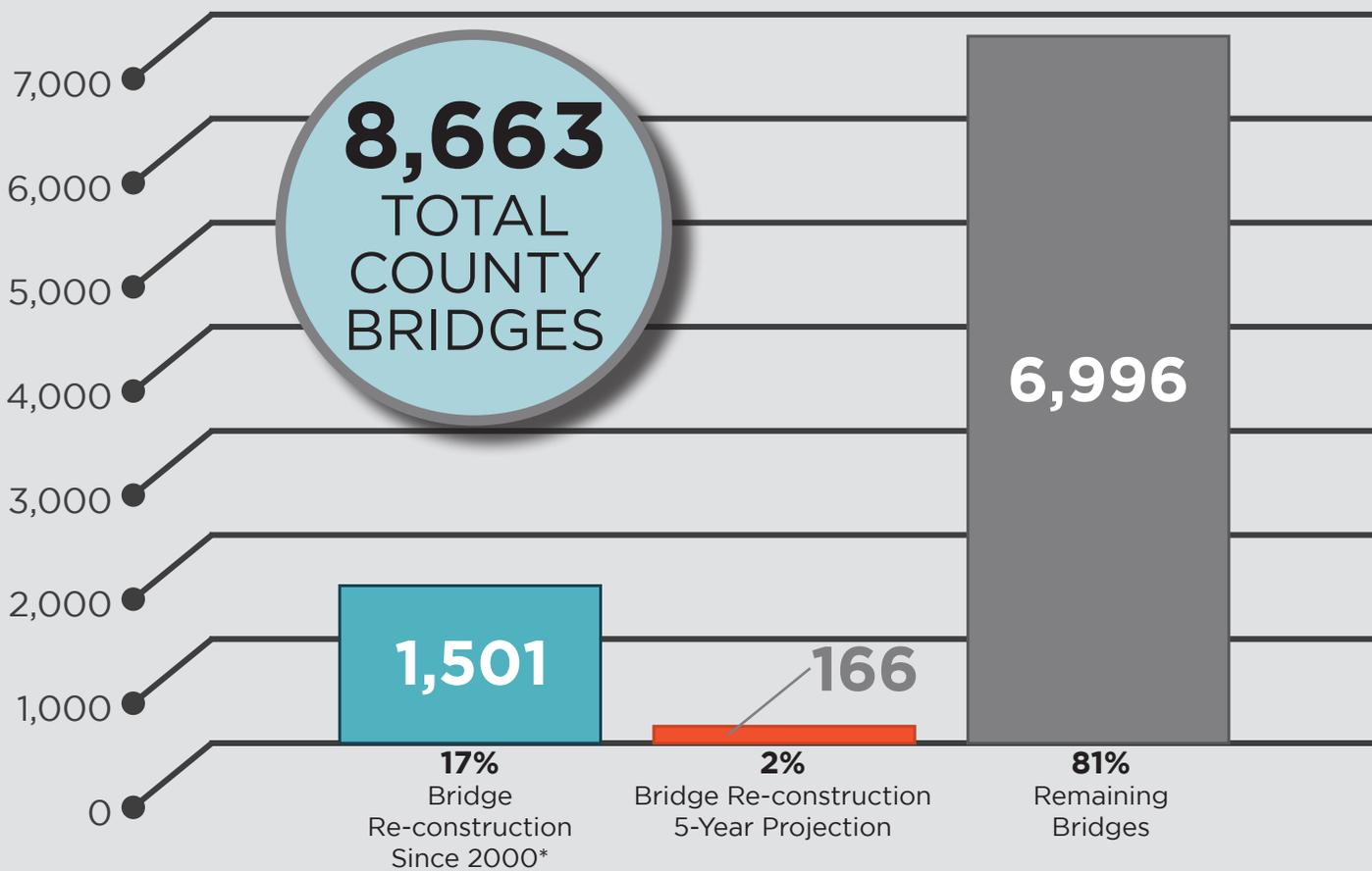
COUNTY	Total Miles of County Roads	Miles of Paved County Roads	Projection: Miles to be Repaved <sup>+</sup> in Next 5 Years*	Total Number of County Bridges	County Bridges 50 Years or Older	Projection: Bridge Replacements in Next 5 Years*
HOUSTON	941	794	36	152	57	1
JACKSON	1,100	1,060	60	185	113	2
JEFFERSON	2,100	2,100	150	297	122	10
LAMAR	801	391	25	113	62	1
LAUDERDALE	1,382	1,293	150	189	87	3
LAWRENCE	864	681	40	142	59	0
LEE	851	674	50	109	50	7
LIMESTONE	1,040	1,027	75	160	103	0
LOWNDES	600	325	32	94	49	1
MACON	575	342	12	101	80	2
MADISON	1,400	1,400		252	198	
MARENGO	646	345	15	98	16	5
MARION	937	732	20	112	49	1
MARSHALL	1,168	1,065	50	114	33	0
MOBILE	1,402	1,130	150	162	37	4
MONROE	707	357	15	98	20	8
MONTGOMERY	575	552	146	205	51	0
MORGAN	1,040	1,019	97	125	40	3
PERRY	682	356	25	111	77	0
PICKENS	850	392	32	156	69	1
PIKE	765	460	33	161	70	16
RANDOLPH	960	410	63	122	32	0
RUSSELL	638	439	70	108	56	0
SHELBY	961	844	140	189	45	11
ST. CLAIR	679	676	200	62	30	1
SUMTER	505	352	6	115	83	4
TALLADEGA	1,058	978	35	123	50	3
TALLAPOOSA	957	735	40	82	63	0
TUSCALOOSA	1,606	1,241	96	209	46	11
WALKER	1,115	976	35	99	58	2
WASHINGTON	873	430	15	117	76	0
WILCOX	626	390	35	79	31	4
WINSTON	1,062	583	41	57	19	0
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>60,491</b>	<b>44,790</b>	<b>3,693</b>	<b>8,663</b>	<b>3,913</b>	<b>166</b>

# Bridge Funding Falls Short



*What You See and What You Don't: These are above and below images of the same bridge. School buses cannot safely cross a bridge with a three-ton weight limit.*

## Alabama County Bridge System

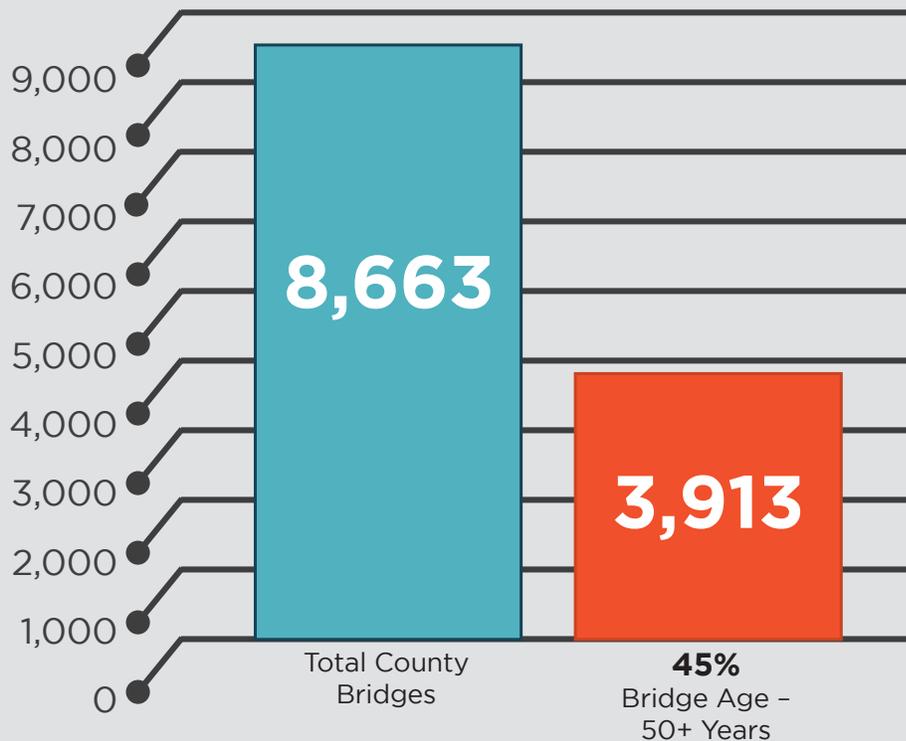


\*Note: An unusually large number of bridge projects have been completed since 2000 because of two special funding initiatives, the GARVEE Bonds Bridge Program and ATRIP.



*Most of Alabama's bridges were designed for a lifespan of 50 years, and a large share — some 45% — of county bridges are overdue for major rehabilitation or replacement due to age alone.*

## **Bridge Age: Alabama County Bridge System**



**Webb & Eley**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



The attorneys and staff of Webb & Eley, P. C. support and appreciate all of the county commissioners and their staff.

P.O. Box 240909, Montgomery, AL 36124  
(334) 262-1850  
Website: [www.webbeley.com](http://www.webbeley.com)  
E-mail: [contactfirm@webbeley.com](mailto:contactfirm@webbeley.com)

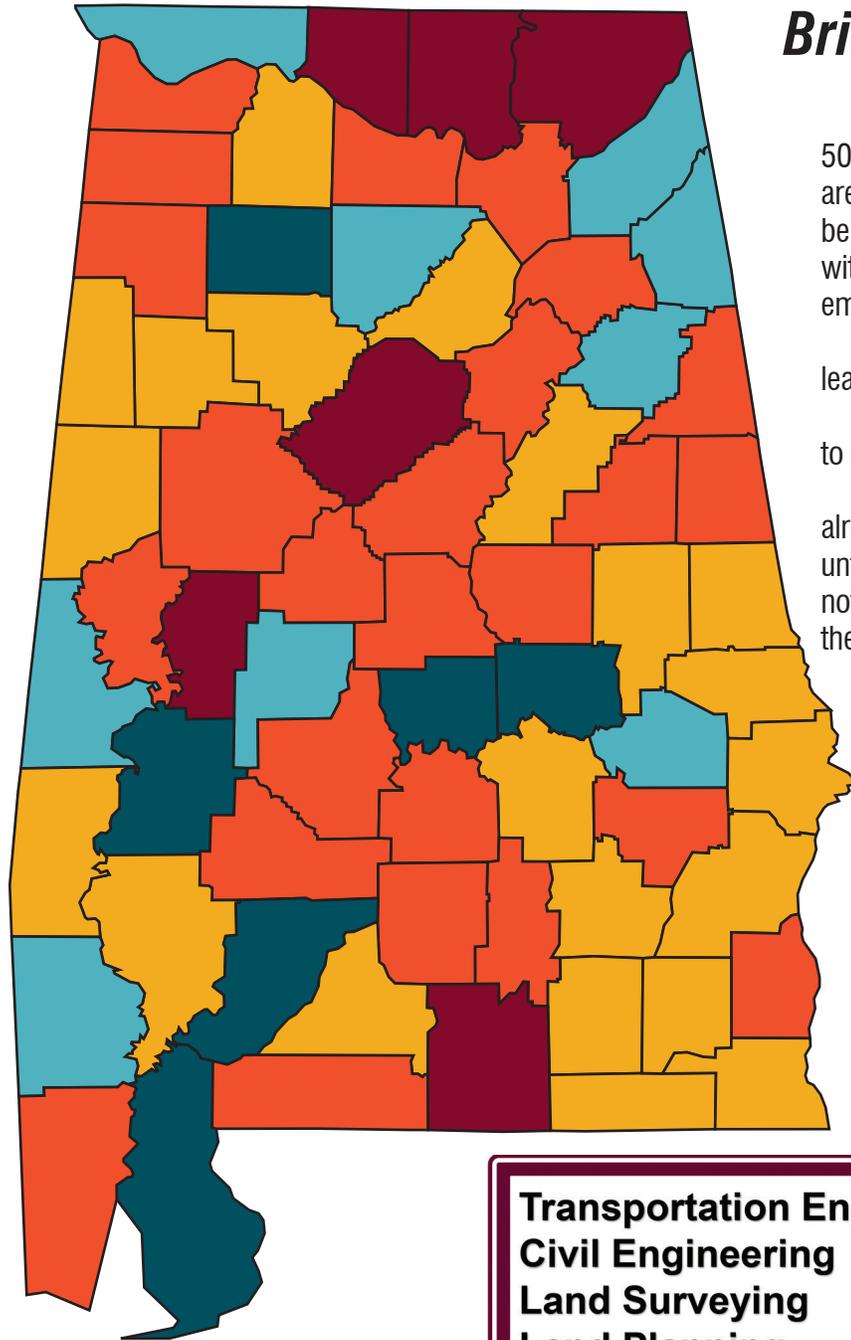
## Bridges on Borrowed Time

Bridges are typically built for a service life of 50 years. After the half-century mark, the spans are overdue for rebuilding and more likely to be subject to weight limits, which can interfere with efficient travel for school buses, log trucks, emergency responders and others.

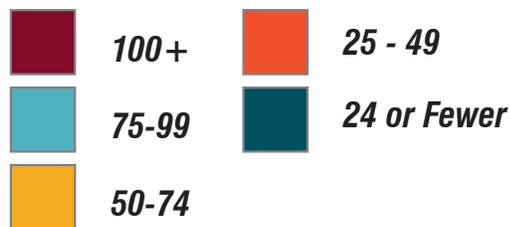
The average county has 58 bridges that are at least a half century old.

On average, current funding will allow a county to rebuild three bridges within the next 5 years.

That means, in each county, 55 bridges already more than 50 years old will remain untouched through 2023, and that number does not include the additional structures that will pass the half-century mark in the meantime.



Number of County Bridges 50+ Years Old



### Digging Deeper: Bridge Construction 5-Year Projection

**58** Average Number of  
Bridges Age 50+  
Per County

**3** Average Number of Bridge  
Projects Per County Over  
the Next 5 Years

Transportation Engineering  
Civil Engineering  
Land Surveying  
Land Planning



## GONZALEZ-STRENGTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

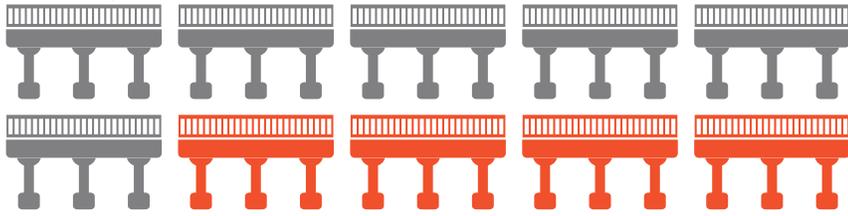
Ensuring Excellence In Site Civil Engineering and Land Surveying since 1957

GOOD PEOPLE DOING  
GOOD WORK FOR  
GOOD PEOPLE

2176 PARKWAY LAKE DRIVE  
HOOVER, AL 35244  
PH: 205.942.2486  
[www.gonzalez-strength.com](http://www.gonzalez-strength.com)



8,663 COUNTY BRIDGES in Alabama



BRIDGES ON BORROWED TIME

45% County Bridges Aged 50 Years or Older

# Alabama Counties Lack Funding to Maintain Roads & Bridges

County Commissioners Support Legislative Action for Additional Funding

## ESSENTIALS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



FAVORABLE BUSINESS CLIMATE



QUALIFIED WORKFORCE



TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE



Alabama Topped the 2018 Best Business Climate Rankings from BusinessFacilities.com

0604910

MILES County Roads in Alabama

That is more than two laps around the equator.



## ROAD FATALITIES ON THE RISE IN ALABAMA



1,100 lives lost annually

60%

of road fatalities occur in rural areas



Equivalent to a regional commercial jet crashing and killing everyone on board - every 3 1/2 weeks.



SOURCES: American Society of Civil Engineers; Association of County Commissions of Alabama; and Alabama Transportation Institute, University of Alabama

# Much Road & Bridge Work Needed, But Funding Falls Short

As ATRIP's one-time investment in local roads and bridges comes to an end, road work will slow to a crawl with current funding.

No additional funding is currently available, and counties have no way to secure additional resources without the Alabama Legislature's help.

### Next 5 Years

**2%** county bridges to be replaced

**8%** county paved roads to be resurfaced



## ASCE Infrastructure REPORT CARD

### ROADS

Alabama



### GRADING SCALE

**D = 51-69% = Poor, At Risk**

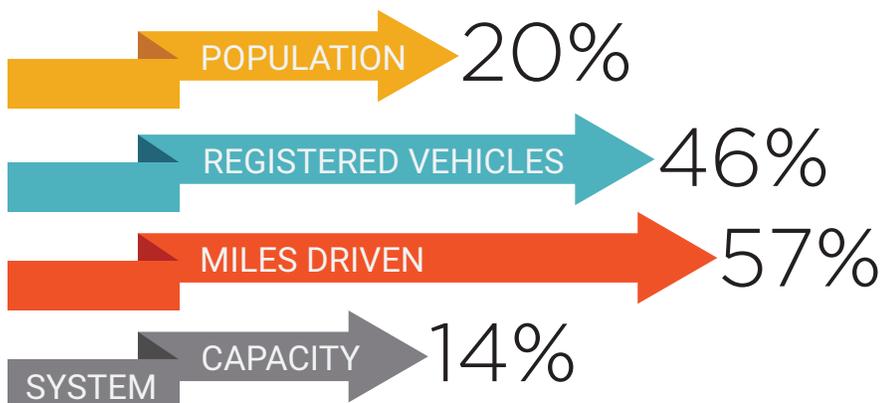
Poor to fair condition and mostly below standard, with many elements approaching the end of their service life. A large portion exhibits significant deterioration. Condition and capacity are of significant concern with strong risk of failure.

## MAINTENANCE: Falling Further Behind

	STANDARD	ALABAMA
County <b>ROADS</b>	Repave <b>100%</b> every 15 years	Repave <b>57%</b> 2000-2023
County <b>BRIDGES</b>	Rebuild <b>100%</b> every 50 years	Rebuild <b>19%</b> 2000-2023

## GROWTH 1990-2015

Alabama on the Move, but Infrastructure Lagging



### Costs Rise, but Funding Declines

- Since 2003, inflation on road and bridge construction has increased twice as much as the consumer price index.
- Improvements in fuel efficiency continue to undercut funding for necessary infrastructure.

SOURCES: American Society of Civil Engineers; Association of County Commissions of Alabama; and Alabama Transportation Institute, University of Alabama

# EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE! OF BUYING & SELLING WITH

**JEFF  
MARTIN**  
AUCTIONEERS, INC.

Jeff Martin Auctioneers is a full service auction company that holds over 40 Live, Online and simulcast auctions per year. Our focus is on exceptional customer service experience for both buyers and sellers. We pride ourselves on individual customer service where we treat everyone like family. In paraphrasing a line from Herb Keller, "We are in the customer service business: we just happen to do auctions."

Now with 4  
locations in Texas,  
Iowa, Mississippi,  
and Florida to  
better serve your  
needs!

Auctions can be held at our location, your location and online.



Specializing in online & onsite auctions consisting of heavy construction equipment, heavy trucks, farm equipment, and vehicles. From straight commissions to net guarantees, call us to discuss what options are available to you.

LET US TAKE CARE OF ALL YOUR AUCTION NEEDS!



**JEFF  
MARTIN**  
AUCTIONEERS, INC.



Our mission is to consistently provide our guests with the best value added service with the highest level of honesty, integrity, and professionalism in the auction industry.  
- Jeff Martin, President

1-844-450-6200 | [www.JeffMartinAuctioneers.com](http://www.JeffMartinAuctioneers.com)

# A Funding Problem Requires a Funding Solution

*How did Alabama get in this hole? And how do we get out?*

**Average New Car Cost**  
1992 - \$16,336  
2018 - \$37,007

Alabama's gas tax has been the same since 1992, when the Legislature increased it by a nickel.

In the last 15 years, road construction costs have skyrocketed more than 70%.

Steady improvements in fuel efficiency mean vehicles are putting increasingly more wear and tear on roads per gallon of gas.

State law guarantees county governments a critical percentage of gas tax revenues. Unlike cities, counties cannot collect a gas tax without approval from the State Legislature.

Counties own 54% of Alabama's bridges, and county roads provide vital connections for residents, property owners, agriculture, forestry and suppliers for the automotive industry.

Sources: Alabama Transportation Institute at the University of Alabama, DRIVE Alabama, Federal Highway Administration and U.S. Census Bureau

## Where Does Road and Bridge Money Come From?

Unlike cities, counties in Alabama cannot establish a fuel tax for roads and bridges on their own. For counties, approval from the Alabama Legislature is required, and some counties have local support for their road systems.

However, the lifeblood of county road department budgets comes from state and federal sources. Here's a breakdown of major sources that are common to all counties:

### State Fuel Taxes

The mainstay of county road budgets is the county's share of the state gasoline tax. The county portion is largely divided according to population, with another amount split equally among all 67 counties.

These funds are protected by strict earmarks to ensure dollars benefit roads and bridges.

### Federal Aid

Counties receive a small

percentage of federal taxes on gasoline and diesel. Distribution is handled by the Alabama Department of Transportation, and a 20% match is required. For example, a county must contribute \$100,000 from other sources to secure \$500,000 in federal road dollars.

Federal funds can only be spent on certain roads and bridges that meet criteria from the Federal Highway Administration.

**Other State Sources**

State law allocates a portion of the following to county roads and bridges: driver's license fees and motor vehicle licensing taxes and registration fees. All counties also receive a percentage of the trust income from the Alabama Trust Fund, and some of these dollars can be directed to roads and bridges.



**Protecting Alabamians' Investment**



**\$387,000,000,000**

Total Value of Road and Bridge Infrastructure in Alabama

What is the single largest capital investment citizens in this state have made? The answer is Alabama's network of roads and bridges, according to Justice Smyth from the Alabama Transportation Institute.

Taken altogether, the 213,127 miles of roadways and 15,954 bridges are a large and incredibly valuable asset, built by earlier generations of Alabamians.

However, the current annual investment equals less than 0.5 percent of the asset's current cost, Smyth said.

"For most people, your biggest investment is your house. If I've got a leaky roof, and I don't do anything to replace that roof or repair that roof, it's eventually going to get worse and worse and worse until I've got water everywhere from a bad rainstorm," Smyth said. On the other hand, "if I reinvest money into my largest asset, it only protects and preserves that value — so we can't do anything to address the issues for the transportation network."



Congratulations  
**ACCA**  
on your new home!



Congratulations  
**Tuscaloosa County**  
on your new  
911 / EMA Facilities!



PUBLIC SAFETY | 911 | JAILS | EMA | MUNICIPAL | ADMINISTRATIVE

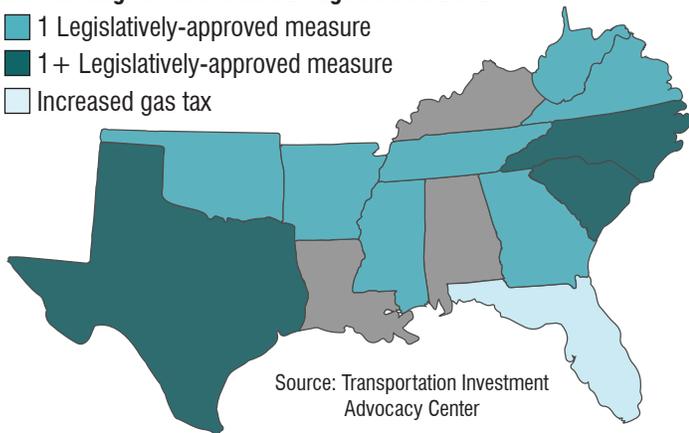
## Most States Investing in Road and Bridge Infrastructure

Since 2012, 37 state legislatures have voted to boost funding for roads and bridges. In more than a dozen of these states, legislators have passed more than one infrastructure funding mechanism.

The trend holds steady among Alabama's neighbors in the southeastern United States. In fact, Alabama is surrounded on three sides by states where lawmakers have voted to increase funding for roads and bridges.

### New Funding for Roads and Bridges Since 2012

- 1 Legislatively-approved measure
- 1+ Legislatively-approved measure
- Increased gas tax



Source: Transportation Investment Advocacy Center

## Strong Earmarks Ensure Gas Tax Spent on Roads and Bridges

Alabama's system of roads and bridges is a \$387 billion investment, and over the years, state leaders have been very careful to ensure that the system's funding could not be diverted for other purposes.

Generally speaking, gas tax revenues can only be used for construction, improvement, maintenance and supervision of highways, bridges and streets.

But there are additional and more specific earmarks that apply to some proceeds that make sure the spending is balanced across a range of expenses. Some dollars can only be used for resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation of paved county roads.



# VOLKERT

**Engineers, Planners, Environmental Scientists, and Program Managers**



**Volkert** provides planning, design, construction engineering, environmental and program management services in more than twenty areas of specialization through offices in eleven states and the District of Columbia. These offices are supplemented by construction and right-of-way acquisition field offices throughout our geographic area.

**Alabama Office Locations:**

Mobile, Birmingham, Montgomery, Huntsville, Foley, and Tuscaloosa



[www.volkert.com](http://www.volkert.com)



## ROLL WITH PITTMAN TRACTOR

Atlas Copco Dynapac rollers are designed to make your job as fast, simple and profitable as possible. Whether you are compacting soil, base materials or asphalt, Pittman Tractor has a model to get the job done.



*Atlas Copco*

*Sustainable Productivity*



**PITTMAN TRACTOR COMPANY, INC.**  
9652 Milton Jones Road • Daphne, AL 36526

**Phone:** (251) 621-3555  
**Fax:** (251) 621-5626  
**Website:** [Pittmantractor.com](http://Pittmantractor.com)

*Midland Road Widener now available + Serving Alabama and the Gulf Coast since 1988*



**PITTMAN TRACTOR COMPANY, INC.**

9652 Milton Jones Road • Daphne, AL 36526 • (251) 621-3555 • [PittmanTractor.com](http://PittmanTractor.com)

# Get to Know: County Road and Bridge Departments in Alabama

In Alabama, the road system is one of county government's biggest responsibilities. Most county commissions delegate the day-to-day operations and administration to a specific department under the leadership of the county engineer. This arm of the county commission is most commonly known as the Road and Bridge Department or the Highway Department.

## Qualifications for County Engineer

- Registered professional engineer in Alabama
- Minimum 3 years of experience in the maintenance and construction of roads and bridges

## More Than Roads and Bridges Department duties also include:

- Mowing grass and cutting brush along roadways
- Managing access to the county right-of-way for driveways and utilities
- Maintaining traffic control signs
- Cleaning ditches
- Administering subdivision regulations (where enacted)
- Removing disaster debris from the right-of-way



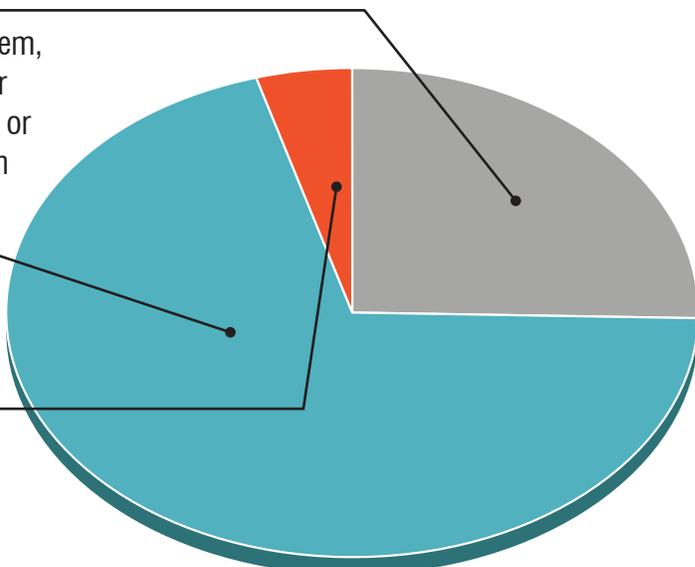
*Inadequate funding has made it impossible for counties to properly repair and replace bridges. Weight-restricted bridges can force long detours for school buses, emergency responders and routine traffic essential to forestry and agriculture.*

## Unit System or District System? Three basic structures for road system management:

**17** counties use the district system, in which each county commissioner supervises roads and bridges in his or her district. Each district has its own road crew and equipment.

**47** counties use the unit system with operations organized for the county as a whole.

**3** counties use a modified unit system, a hybrid of the unit and district methods.





GET THE **CERTAINTY** YOU NEED  
WHEN IT COMES TIME TO SELL  
**YOUR EQUIPMENT**



STRAIGHT COMMISSIONS • NET GUARANTEES • ONSITE AUCTIONS • INTERNET AUCTIONS  
ASSET MANAGEMENT • EQUIPMENT PREPARATION

[www.jmwood.com](http://www.jmwood.com)



**JMWOOD**

AUCTION COMPANY, INC.

THE EQUIPMENT AUCTIONEERS



Call "The Equipment Auctioneers" to discuss your needs:

**800-447-7085**

**334-264-3265**

## Average County in Alabama

About 900 miles of county roads, roughly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of them paved

Around 130 county bridges

At least 50 of those bridges are 50 years old or older, making them overdue for replacement or rehabilitation

## Infrastructure Funding

- ➔ County roads and bridges are funded through a combination of federal, state and local sources. Local sources typically require legislative authorization.
- ➔ County roads and bridges are heavily dependent on the county share of state fuel taxes.
- ➔ Funding is strictly earmarked for road and bridge construction and maintenance.
- ➔ Federal dollars often require a 20% match.



Want to visit one of the longest bridges in the world?

The roundtrip driving distance from Fort Payne, Ala., to the 24-mile Lake Pontchartrain Causeway outside New Orleans is about 900 miles, the same length as the average county road system in Alabama.

ALABAMA GUARDRAIL, INC



Keith Dillard  
(205) 625-3880

WWW.ALGUARDRAIL.COM  
60701 US HWY 231 Oneonta, AL 35121



Guardrail

Fence



Cable

Signs



Your source for MASH compliant guardrail installation and maintenance

SCENIC  
*North Alabama*

# Motorcycle ROUTES

A Free Brochure Featuring Nine Breathtaking Routes in North Alabama

**NORTH ALABAMA** 800.648.5381 • [www.NorthAlabama.org](http://www.NorthAlabama.org)  
ALABAMA MOUNTAIN LAKES TOURIST ASSOCIATION

## Rallying Support for County Roads and Bridges

DRIVE Alabama is a coalition of community leaders, elected officials and everyday citizens who are committed to developing a transportation and infrastructure vision that will meet the state's 21<sup>st</sup> century mobility needs. The coalition was the brainchild of Alabama's 67 county engineers, who recognized the urgent need to educate the public about the current state of county roads and bridges.



[www.DRIVEAlabama.org](http://www.DRIVEAlabama.org)



@DriveAlabama



DRIVE Alabama

## County Innovations

County Road and Bridge Departments have a long track record of implementing innovative solutions to enhance public services, save money or save time.

- Jackson County is using a technique called hydro-demolition to repair the deck of the county's longest and tallest bridge rather than rebuilding from scratch. A new bridge was estimated at \$10 million, but the repair is projected to cost less than half a million dollars.
- Marshall County turned to high-tech materials on a recent bridge replacement, utilizing geosynthetic reinforced soil abutments and an integrated bridge system. The old structure was removed and replaced in less than 60 days.
- Dissatisfied with costly and time-consuming training options available, Alabama counties worked together to create a training program for motor grader operators. Expert operators from Alabama counties serve as instructors. In its first year, more than a dozen sessions were conducted, and 90 county employees were trained, all for less than \$10,000.
- The County Joint Bid Program is a long-running example of counties working together to solve a universal problem. Using counties' combined buying power, the cooperative purchasing program has driven down prices for heavy equipment and reaped savings on herbicides, road sign materials and metal pipe. In the last decade, the program expanded to services, with the addition of pre-disaster contracts for storm debris removal.



The Alabama Motor Grader Training Program is nationally recognized, earning a 2018 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties.



Detention Facilities  
E-911 Call Centers  
Office Buildings  
Courthouses

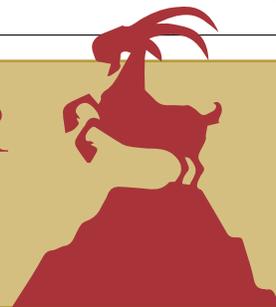


ARCHITECTS & INTERIOR DESIGN

Founded 1957 • Pearson, Humphries, & Jones Architects  
334.265.8781 [www.phjarchitects.com](http://www.phjarchitects.com)

ACCA Headquarters designed by PH&J, 1976

# GETTING READY FOR GOAT HILL



## 2019 ACCA DISTRICT MEETINGS

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 17**

Montgomery Marriott Prattville  
Hotel at Capitol Hill  
Prattville, Ala.  
Elmore County

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 29**

The Venue at Coosa Landing  
Gadsden, Ala.  
Etowah County

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 24**

Grove Hill Senior Center  
Grove Hill, Ala.  
Clarke County

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

Eutaw Activity Center  
Eutaw, Ala.  
Greene County

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 28**

Lakeshore Inn  
Double Springs, Ala.  
Winston County

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

National Security Conference Center  
Elba, Ala.  
Coffee County

- Register at [www.alabamacounties.org](http://www.alabamacounties.org)
- Registration fee (\$20) covers your meal.
- All meetings are 6-8 p.m. Choose the one that best fits your schedule.
- County elected officials and staff leaders are encouraged to attend.
- Questions? Call the ACCA office (334-263-7594) and ask for Jennifer Datcher.



DELIVERING  
CHOICE

**rb** RITCHIE BROS.  
Auctioneers®

**IRON**  
PLANET

# More Ways Than Ever to Sell Equipment

Ritchie Bros. and IronPlanet have joined together  
to serve you better with more solutions:

## Ritchie Bros. Auctions

Exciting unreserved live  
auctions with onsite and  
online bidding, access to  
global buyers.

## IronPlanet

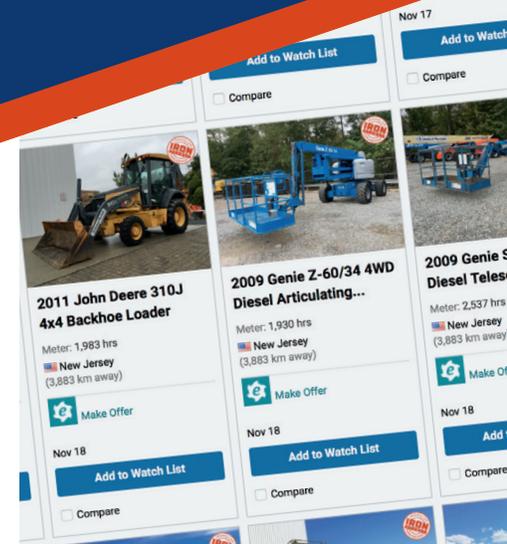
Weekly online auctions  
helping you buy & sell  
equipment fast, when  
you need it.

## Marketplace<sup>e</sup>

Robust selection of  
equipment available 24/7  
through multiple buying  
formats.

Contact us today if you need to sell  
equipment. **Colton Nielsen | 1.678.423.5737**

Learn more at [RitchieBros.com](http://RitchieBros.com)



# •ACCA• 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## JANUARY 2019

- 16-17 ALGTI: Media Relations and the Open Meetings Law
- 17-18 ALGTI: Ethical and Legal Issues
- 17 District Meeting in Elmore County
- 24 District Meeting in Clarke County
- 28 District Meeting in Winston County
- 29 District Meeting in Etowah County
- 30-31 CGEI: Personnel Administration
- 30-31 AJTA: Policy

## FEBRUARY 2019

- 5 District Meeting in Greene County
- 7 District Meeting in Coffee County
- 20-21 CGEI: Legislative and Governmental Relations
- 20-21 CGEI CROAA: Legal Considerations

## MARCH 2019

- 2-6 NACo Legislative Conference at the Washington Hilton in Washington, DC
- 5 First day of the Legislative Session
- 20-21 ALGTI: Roads and Bridges
- 21-22 ALGTI: Personnel Administration
- 27-28 AJTA: Officer Responsibilities and Offender Supervision
- 27 ACCA County Day #1

## APRIL 2019

- 3-4 CGEI: Finance and Revenue
- 10 ACCA County Day #2
- 11 SIDP: Safety Coordinator & Public Officials/ AS&S Training in Clanton, AL
- 14-18 NACE Annual Meeting/Management & Technical Conference in Wichita, Kansas
- 17 ACCA County Day #3
- 24-25 ALGTI: Financial Administration
- 25-26 ALGTI: Understanding the Liability of the County Commission

## MAY 2019

- 1 ACCA County Day #4
- 7-8 Engineers Annual Conference at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL
- 8-9 Administrators Annual Conference at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL
- 16 SIDP: Safety Coordinator & Public Officials/ AS&S Training in Cullman, AL
- 22 ACCA County Day #5
- 29 AJTA: Inmate Management

## JUNE 2019

- 5 ACCA County Day #6
- 6 SIDP: Safety Coordinator & Public Officials/ AS&S Training in Evergreen, AL
- 11-13 Alabama Disaster Preparedness Conference in Prattville, AL
- 12-13 CGEI: Ethics
- 14-19 NENA Conference & Expo at the Gaylord Palms in Orlando, FL
- 17 105th Day of the Legislative Session
- 19-20 ALGTI: 49th Alabama County Government Institute
- 26-27 AJTA: Searches and Use of Force

## JULY 2019

- 12-13 NACo Annual Conference at the Bally's Las Vegas Hotel in Las Vegas, NV

## AUGUST 2019

- 20-22 ACCA 91st Annual Convention at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL

## SEPTEMBER 2019

- 11-12 AJTA: Corrections Law
- 25-26 CGEI: Grant Writing

## OCTOBER 2019

- 9-10 CGEI: Overview of County Government
- 9-10 CGEI CROAA: Business Licenses
- 16-17 AJTA: Mental Health
- 30-31 CGEI: General Management and Supervision
- 30-31 CGEI: Fundamentals of the Emergency Communications District

## NOVEMBER 2019

- 13-14 AJTA: Officer Responsibilities and Offender Supervision

## DECEMBER 2019

- 4-5 ACCA Annual Legislative Conference at The Hotel at Auburn University in Auburn, AL





WILMER & LEE

A Professional Association

Attorneys at Law

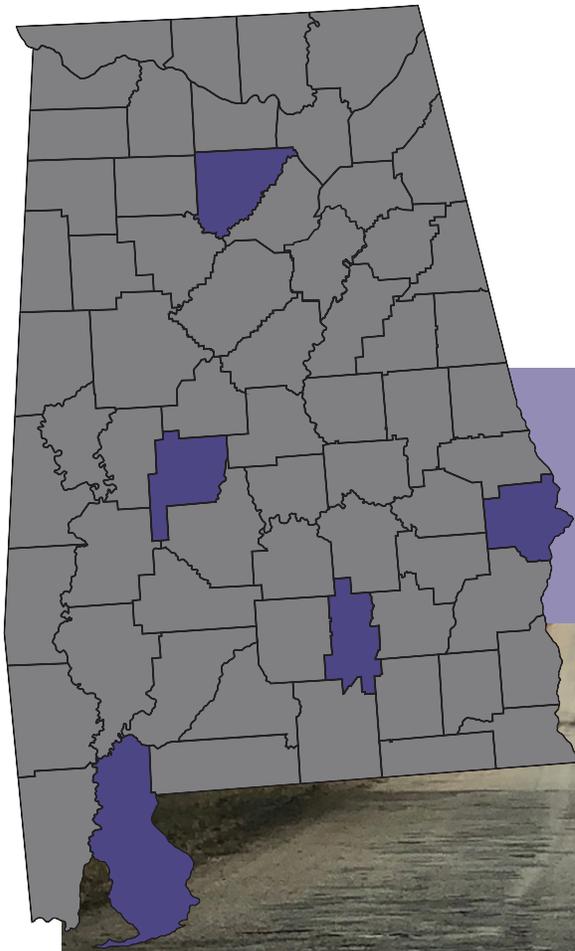
Our attorneys have been advising County Commissions for over thirty-five years on all matters including competitive bid issues, public works issues, open meetings issues, employment matters, zoning matters, and representing commissions in litigation in both state and federal court.

Please contact

Mike Cole, Fred Fohrell,  
Robert Lockwood or Mark Maclin  
at (256) 232-2010.

No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

# Voices from the County Family



**From your point of view, why is it critically important to address the “Silent Crisis” of crumbling county roads and bridges?**



**David Smyth** *Crenshaw County*  
First Vice President, Association of  
County Administrators of Alabama

**A** Crenshaw County is extremely grateful for the ATRIP & RAMP programs, but we are still in desperate need of another program of this magnitude for our local infrastructure. We have replaced numerous bridges that were unsafe for our citizens and our children on school buses; however, we still have depreciating farm-to-market roads that need immediate attention.



**DeAndrae Kimbrough** *Perry County*  
President, Association of County  
Engineers of Alabama

**A** Infrastructure funding is an issue of safety — of life and death. The conditions of county roads and bridges and the lack of funding to maintain them cannot be overemphasized. County Highway

In general, paved roads are said to have a 15-year lifespan, and this chip seal road is dangerously deteriorated after about 25 years of use. This section of Lawrence County 173 is just outside the county seat and serves 39 homes, a plant nursery and land used to produce row crops, cattle and timber. Photo: Lawrence County

Departments have gone above and beyond to provide safe and efficient travel conditions for the public — including lowering speed limits on distressed roads, closing bridges that are no longer functional and even reclaiming paved roads to gravel roads. These temporary measures are no longer safe or acceptable for county government.



**Bob Franklin** *Russell County*  
President, Alabama Association of  
Emergency Managers

**A** Local roads and bridges are critical to the safety of our residents, and we've got to take good care of these infrastructure lifelines. The maintenance of ditches and culverts, although commonly overlooked by the general public and

seemingly simple, is costly and time-consuming yet necessary to prevent emergencies. If we receive a heavy rain and were unable to properly remove debris in advance, roads become washed out.



**Gordon Sandlin** *Cullman County*  
President, Alabama Association  
of 9-1-1 Districts

**A** 9-1-1 personnel answer thousands of calls per day, and each one usually requires the response of an emergency agency. As county roads and bridges deteriorate, this can contribute to more accidents. Also, response times to and from scenes are slowed, which hampers the effectiveness of medical care, along with putting first responders

in jeopardy. A well-funded road maintenance program in each county is a necessity for public safety.



**Kimberly Creech** *Baldwin County*  
President, County Revenue Officers  
Association of Alabama

**A** All counties in Alabama must pick and choose which roads and bridges can be repaired and maintained. Over the years, motor fuel funding has decreased due to the increased fuel efficiency of new vehicles. Countless roads and bridges are in desperate need of repair or replacement, but the funding is simply insufficient. The constant battle for County Finance Directors in Alabama is to determine which roads and which bridges can receive a portion of the attention they need.



County Risk Services, Inc.

**Workers' Compensation | Liability | Property**

For nearly four decades, the Association of County Commissions of Alabama's (ACCA) Self-Funded Insurance Pools have utilized an outside company to serve the insurance needs of Alabama's 67 counties.

**Beginning in 2019, counties' insurance needs will be served by a new entity, a nonprofit created exclusively for counties by counties — County Risk Services, Inc.**

# At Nationwide<sup>®</sup>, participant priorities are *our* priorities.

We help America's workers prepare for and live in retirement — and that means making your participants' needs #1. From enrollment through retirement, our people, tools and education surround and support participants so they can confidently make smart decisions.

To find out more about how we put participants first, contact:

 Martha Sutton  
 256-509-1389

 Jeremy White  
 334-689-0947

 Elaine Graham  
 205-249-8423

 Keith McGraw  
 251-263-2857

 [www.nrsforu.com](http://www.nrsforu.com)



Nationwide, through its affiliated retirement plan service and product providers, has endorsement relationships with the National Association of Counties and the International Association of Fire Fighters-Financial Corporation. More information about the endorsement relationships may be found online at [www.nrsforu.com](http://www.nrsforu.com). Nationwide, its agents and representatives, and its employees are prohibited by law and do not offer investment, legal or tax advice. Please consult with your tax or legal advisor before making any decisions about plan matters. Retirement Specialists are registered representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member FINRA. Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2017 Nationwide

NRM-10021AL (4/2016)

# ACCA Board of Directors 2018-19



**Hon. Tony Cherry**  
President | Choctaw County



**Hon. David Money**  
President-Elect | Henry County



**Hon. Randy Vest**  
Vice President | Morgan County

## DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Hon. David Black, District 1 ..... Colbert County  
 Hon. Steve Haraway, District 2 ..... Madison County  
 Hon. Marcie Foster, District 3..... Cherokee County  
 Hon. Jeff Clark, District 4 ..... Morgan County  
 Hon. Joe Knight, District 5 ..... Jefferson County  
 Hon. Donald Anderson, District 6 ..... Hale County  
 Hon. Lindsey Allison, District 7 ..... Shelby County  
 Hon. Robert Ham, District 8..... Lee County  
 Hon. Jay Thompson, District 9 ..... Autauga County  
 Hon. Leonard Millender, District 10 ..... Conecuh County  
 Hon. Greg White, District 11 ..... Covington County  
 Hon. Jerry Carl, District 12..... Mobile County

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Hon. Steve McKinnon ..... Dale County  
 Hon. Ray Long ..... Morgan County  
 Hon. Merceria Ludgood..... Mobile County  
 Hon. Ricky Harcrow ..... DeKalb County  
 Hon. Ricky Burney ..... Clay County  
 Hon. Rhondel Rhone ..... Clarke County  
 Hon. Mark Culver ..... Houston County  
 Hon. Roger Hayes ..... Winston County  
 Hon. Hardy McCollum ..... Tuscaloosa County

## MINORITY DIRECTOR

Hon. Marcus Campbell ..... Sumter County

## AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVES

David Smyth, ACAA ..... Crenshaw County  
 DeAndrae Kimbrough, ACEA..... Perry County

## ACCA Staff

Sonny Brasfield ..... Executive Director and Publisher. .... sbrasfield@alabamacounties.org  
 Beth Sievers ..... Assistant to the Executive Director..... bsievers@alabamacounties.org

## MEMBER & EXTERNAL SERVICES

Morgan Arrington ..... General Counsel ..... marrington@alabamacounties.org  
 Terri Sharpley Reynolds ..... Legislative Counsel ..... treynolds@alabamacounties.org  
 Abby Luker Fitzpatrick ..... Director of Communication and Engagement ..... afitzpatrick@alabamacounties.org  
 Chase Cobb ..... Governmental Affairs Manager ..... ccobb@alabamacounties.org  
 Jeannie Gaines ..... Public Relations Manager ..... jgaines@alabamacounties.org  
 Jennifer Datcher ..... Coordinator of Events and Education ..... jdatcher@alabamacounties.org  
 Lisa Harris ..... Coordinator of Policy and Member Services ..... lharris@alabamacounties.org

## ADMINISTRATION

Lauren Westbrook ..... Director of Finance ..... lwestbrook@alabamacounties.org  
 Henry van Arcken ..... Director of Insurance Services ..... hvanarcken@alabamacounties.org  
 Marcia Collier ..... Coordinator of Insurance Services ..... mcollier@alabamacounties.org  
 Paulette D. Williams ..... Receptionist..... pwilliams@alabamacounties.org



**Allow us  
to put our years  
of auction experience  
to work for YOUR benefit !!**



**2019 Deanco Auction Calendar**

**22nd Annual 3-Day Farm Eq., Construction Eq. & Trucks Public Auction**  
*Thursday, Jan. 31st thru Saturday, Feb 2nd • Dothan, Alabama*

**19th Annual Springtime Contractors' Equipment & Trucks Public Auction**  
*Wednesday, Mar. 20th thru Thursday, Mar. 21st • Philadelphia, Mississippi*

**Huge 2-Day Contractors' Equipment & Trucks Public Auction**  
*Wednesday, May 22nd & Thursday, May 23rd • Philadelphia, Mississippi*

**Huge 2-Day Contractors' Equipment & Trucks Public Auction**  
*Wednesday, July 17th & Thursday, July 18th • Philadelphia, Mississippi*

**Huge 2-Day Contractors' Equipment & Trucks Public Auction**  
*Wednesday, Sept. 18th & Thursday, Sept. 19th • Philadelphia, Mississippi*

**Huge 2-Day Contractors' Equipment & Trucks Public Auction**  
*Wednesday, Nov. 20th & Thursday, Nov 21st • Philadelphia, Mississippi*

**We specialize in the  
auctioning of:**

- Governmental Surplus**
- All Types of Construction Equipment**
- Dump Trucks - Truck Tractors**
- Specialty Trucks - Trailers - Support Equip.**
- Logging Equipment - Farm Tractors**
- All Types of Row Crop & Field Equipment**
- Aircraft - Watercraft - Real Estate**

**Deanco Auction & Real Estate**  
**Phone: 334-677-3192**

Fax: 334-671-0149 soldal@deancoauction.com  
3664 S Oates St • Dothan, AL 36301

**Deanco Auction Co. of MS**  
**Phone: 601-656-9768**

Fax: 601-656-0192 sold@deancoauction.com  
1042 Holland Ave (PO Box 1248) • Philadelphia, MS 39350

**bid live  
ONLINE**

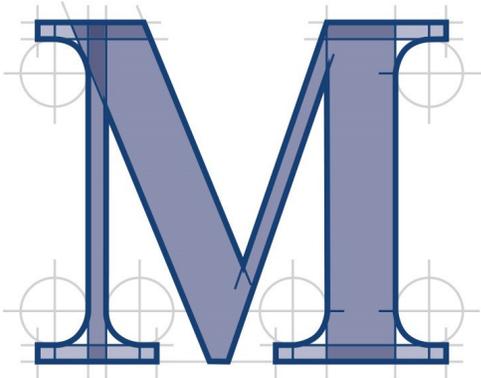


**www.deancoauction.com**

Auctioneers: Donnie W. Dean, MS Lic. 733, AL Lic. 907;  
Wes Dean, AL Lic. 5219; MS Gallery Lic. 835F

# Martin & Cobey

Your Trusted Construction Partner Since 1964



**MARTIN & COBEY**

CONSTRUCTION | MANAGEMENT | DESIGN

**Brian L. Moore**

President

[bmoore@martinandcobey.com](mailto:bmoore@martinandcobey.com)

[www.martinandcobey.com](http://www.martinandcobey.com)

256.232.5384



**Limestone County Courthouse, Renovated 2016**

**112 N. Marion Street | Athens, AL 35611**