

The following report was generated to indicate the third quarter progress of the City towards the goals set forth by the City Council at the beginning of this fiscal year.

GOAL AREA 1: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- 1) Progress on tracking the City budget continues and at the end of the third quarter the budget is projected to be consistent with the original projections made for the fiscal year 2008-09 when the budget was adopted in September 2008. This is positive considering the significant cuts made by many communities and indicates the level of economization undertaken by the City Administration through such practices as centralized purchasing, competitive bidding and many additional techniques.
- 2) Two employees were successfully transferred from the discontinued Pitter Patter Program to the Library per Civil Service regulations.
- 3) An employee training program began development, with the goal of aiding employees in furthering their education and training. The proposed program should be complete by August 1, 2009.
- 4) The “Top Guns” employee recognition program was re-instated per Council request.

GOAL AREA 2: INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- 1) The Coleman Circle CDBG project has made significant progress. The successful completion of property appraisal is allowing the easement acquisition process to continue; also bids for construction have been taken.
- 2) Work has continued on the Honda Bond paving project. ALDOT approval has been obtained for the design of the project, and we are currently awaiting ALDOT approval of the City's selection of project engineer.
- 3) The Veterans Park Ditch Reconstruction project was successfully bid, with Neel-Schaffer being selected. The project is currently in the design phase.
- 4) The City purchased fourteen new replacement vehicles on State Bid Contract to improve the quality of the fleet.
- 5) An application was submitted to ADECA for funding to repair the Harmon Park Well under the CDBG-R program. This project requests \$385,000 in funding and requires no local match.
- 6) The City completed the pre-application process for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). If selected to develop a full application the project, which would install solar panels on City Hall and the Spring Street Recreation Center, would be valued at \$207,000.

GOAL AREA 3: SELECTIVE ANNEXATION

- 1) The City's annexation plan, House Bill 921, was approved by the Alabama Legislature.

2) GOAL AREA 4: CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

- 1) Bids were successfully awarded for the City's vehicle maintenance, which will allow the City to realize significant savings.
- 2) Bids were accepted and awarded for the contract to install new playground equipment for the City parks; this contract was awarded to KidZone, Inc.
- 3) Bids were solicited for the North Street Parking Lot project, which has already undergone utility replacement. The construction phase of the project is awaiting ALDOT approval.
- 4) Bids have been issued for the mowing of weed abatements and removal of condemned properties, which will allow these nuisance lots to be dealt with in an efficient manner.
- 5) The renovation of the old jail area of City Hall has been issued to bid. After the completion of this project, the Police Department will relocate completely in this area.

GOAL AREA 5: COMMERCIAL RE-DEVELOPMENT/ INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

- 1) The Community Development Department has submitted a Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG). This grant is used to facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses, and would be used for the downtown redevelopment. The potential award for this grant is \$199,999.
- 2) The City successfully negotiated an agreement with the Allen-Ricky Corporation to extend water and sewer service to the Highway 77 and Highway 275 junction. This extension of service paves the way for business relocation and development in the area at a cost of \$50,000 to the Water & Sewer Utility.
- 3) The City was awarded \$400,000 under the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfield Program for brownfield analysis. These funds will allow the inspection and assessment of existing brownfield sites within the City, and will also allow the City to compete for further grants to redevelop and clean up the brownfield properties.

GOAL AREA 6: MARKETING OF THE CITY

- 1.** The city website has been revised and improved, with updated content added. The updated site provides the Citizens with a remote source to access City ordinances, Council Minutes, Resolutions, Public Notices and other pertinent items.
- 2.** The City was named Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. This recognition signifies commitment of the City to maintain existing trees, plant new ones, and promote public awareness.
- 3.** The City engaged in a television promotional campaign on ABC 33/40, partnering with the Chamber of Commerce and the Talladega Superspeedway. The program focused on promoting Talladega, as well as the April in Talladega festivities and the Talladega Superspeedway.
- 4.** The City hosted an award ceremony for the EPA Brownfield Grant that was awarded for site assessment. This event was heavily publicized in the local and Birmingham media and was attended by officials from various state and federal agencies.
- 5.** The City partnered with several veterans organizations to place flags on Battle Street to honor holiday observances. Also, the City partnered with the Talladega Superspeedway and April in Talladega to place banners around the square and along Battle Street, in an effort to further promote City events and improve image.

Goal Area 7: Downtown Revitalization

- 1) The Community Development Department has submitted a Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG). This grant is used to facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses, and would be used for the downtown redevelopment. The potential award for this grant is \$199,999.
- 2) The North Street Parking Lot project has been successfully bid out and awarded. The lot has been prepared for paving and sewer and water lines have been replaced. Plans have been submitted to ALDOT for approval and paving of the lot will commence after that approval is received.

GOAL AREA 8: QUALITY OF LIFE

- 1) The nautilus equipment at the Spring Street Recreation center was successfully bid out, the replacement of the existing equipment will help to attract more citizens to the facility.
- 2) Playground equipment at the City parks has been successfully bid out and ordered, the installation of this new equipment will greatly improve the quality of the parks as a whole.
- 3) The Police Department recently furthered the goal of CALEA accreditation with the creation and filling of the CALEA Training Coordinator position; this employee will help to organize and direct training exercises, and expedite the process of gaining CALEA certification for the Department.
- 4) The Parks and Recreation Department is currently conducting a Summer Enrichment Program, which is being attended by more than 50 children per day. This program is slated to expand further next summer to serve even more children. Also, Parks & Recreation has planned an After School Program that will begin next school year at all of the recreation centers, providing programming for children from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m..
- 5) During this period of time the City successfully hired professional staff in the positions of Public Works Director, Assistant Public Works Director, Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector. The addition of this staff will greatly aid the City in its development.

6) The City continues to aggressively pursue grant funding for various sources that seek to improve the quality of life. Previous and current grant applications include:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Funding Agency</u>	<u>Grant Program</u>	<u>Possible Award</u>	<u>Funding Status</u>
Coleman Circle	ADECA	CDBG	\$350,000	Approved
NPRA Football League Uniforms	NPRA	NFL Youth & Dev.	\$5,000	Approved
Fort Lashley Archeological Study	NEH	Historical Preservation	\$75,000	Rejected
Fort Lashley Restoration	Congress	n/a	\$2,000,000	Pending
Bicycle Path (Phase I)	ALDOT	Trans. Enhancement	\$720,000	Rejected
Vet. Park Playground Equipment	USDA	Beautification Grant	\$60,000	Pending
Brownfield Site Assessment	EPA	Brownfield Grant	\$400,000	Approved
Wal-Mart Community Grant	Wal-Mart	Community Outreach	\$10,000	Rejected
U.S. Tennis Association Grant	USTA	USTA Tennis Grant	\$25,000	Rejected
Youth Programming Grant	ADECA	Safe & Drug Free Schools	\$60,000	Pending
Solar Panel Grant	DoE	Energy Block Grant	\$207,000	Pending
Downtown Business Grant	USDA	RBEG	\$199,999	Pending
Downtown Restoration Grant	Congress	n/a	\$2,300,000	Pending
Harmon Park Well	ADECA	CDBG	\$385,000	Pending

GOAL AREA 9: PARTNER WITH CITY SCHOOL –SYSTEM

- 1) The City partnered with the City School's CareerTech program for the planting of trees in City Parks. This was documented by local media during the Tree City USA award ceremony and served as positive publicity for both the City and the CareerTech program.
- 2) Students from the City partnered with Community Appearance employees to perform a beautification project that improved the appearance of an entry sign to the City.

GOAL AREA 10: PROMOTE CITY AS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

- 1) Refurbishment efforts at the Municipal Golf Course have continued throughout this period of time, as provided for in the 2008-2009 Capital Improvement Program approved by the City Council. This work has provided significant physical and aesthetic enhancement to the course and future improvements will further enhance the facility.