

Upcoming Events

NARCOG Board Meeting
DATE: October 19 at 10 a.m.
LOCATION: NARCOG Board Room - Decatur, AL

NARCOG Board Meeting
DATE: December 7th at 10 a.m.
LOCATION: NARCOG Board Room - Decatur, AL

RPA Calendar

ATRIP - II FY2023 grant deadline, November 18

RPA Contacts

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Information ON THE WEB

www.narco.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

facebook.com/narcojal

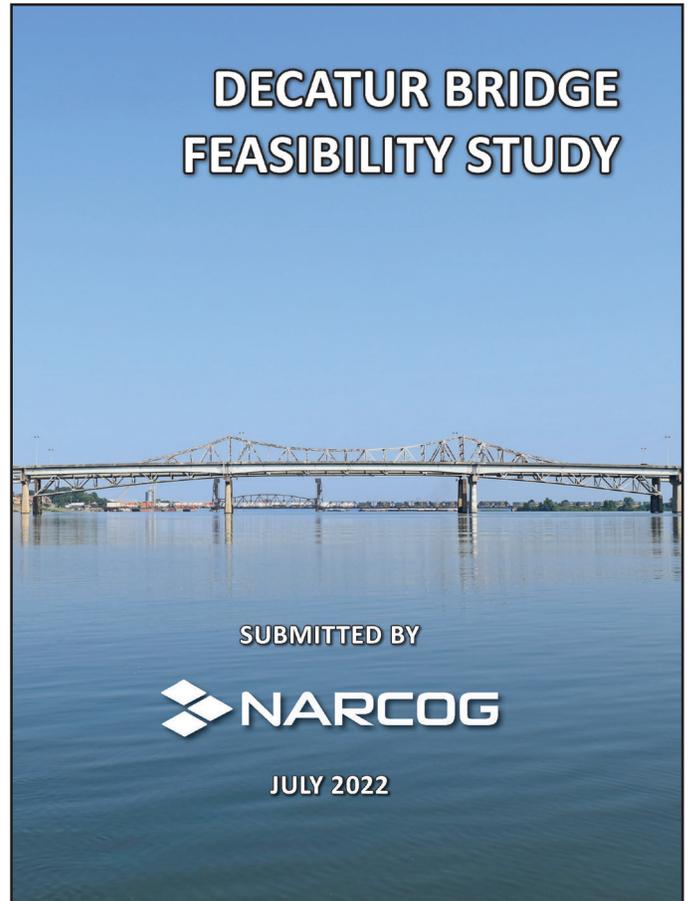
Decatur \$1M ARC SAAW Grant

City awarded \$1 million in funds for bridge feasibility study

The City of Decatur has recently been awarded a \$1 Million Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Southern Automotive and Aviation Workforce (SAAW) grant for a Decatur Bridge Feasibility Study.

The total cost of the study is \$2 Million. The purpose of the Decatur Bridge Feasibility Study is to assess the need for a new river crossing to replace the U.S. 31 southbound bridge over the Tennessee River, in the City of Decatur, Alabama. The construction of a new bridge over the Tennessee River is considered extremely important to ensure that the necessary transportation infrastructure is in place to support the continued growth of the Automotive cluster as well as the Aviation cluster in North Alabama. A new bridge will be an investment in "Building Appalachia's Infrastructure" and is a vital part of the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) since it is part of Corridor V.

The Study will be data-driven to determine the need for construction of a new southbound Tennessee River bridge, which will meet the existing and future needs of the Automotive, as well as the Aviation employers of



North Central Alabama and the City of Decatur, Alabama, along with their employees and suppliers.



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Meet Our Two New Team Members

A big "Welcome Aboard" to our new Team Members...Tiffany Green-Oldacre and Jacklyn Moore! We are excited to have them as part of the RPA and NARCOG Team. Tiffany and Jacklyn will be great assets to the communities that we serve, and

we look forward to everyone meeting having the opportunity to meet them.

Tiffany Green-Oldacre has lived in Cullman, AL. most of her life. She graduated from Cullman High School, Wallace State Community College, and

the University of North Alabama with a bachelor's degree in Communications.

She has been at NARCOG since April as a Grant Specialist.

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Robby Cantrell | Executive Director

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NARCOG Submits Three CDBG Applications for Nearly \$1.3M

NARCOG submitted three Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) grants in July for the Town of Colony, the Town of Garden City, and the City of Moulton. We are awaiting award announcements from Governor Ivey and ADECA in October, November, or December.

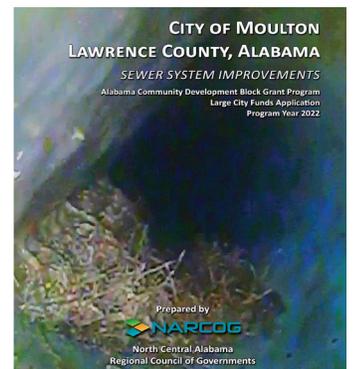
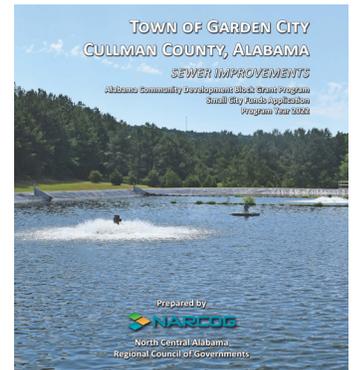
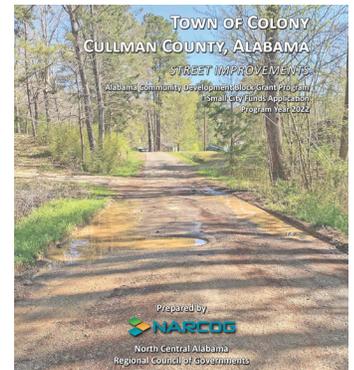
The Town of Colony submitted for \$399,827 in CDBG funds for the Colony Street Improvements project. The proposed Street Improvements project involves the rehabilitation of approximately 8,565 feet of paving along with patching and asphalt overlays on Johnson Circle, Ward Hill Road, and sections of Colony Road. The total square yards to be paved is 14,888. The roads do not have adequate ditching for stormwater drainage along the roads, so here will be 8,705 linear feet of drainage improvements required in the project areas as well to remove water from the roadway surfaces.

The Town of Garden City re-submitted for \$389,800 in CDBG funds for the Garden

City Sewer Improvements project. The proposed Sewer Improvements project provides benefit to 283 total people in 108 households, including 63 (57%) LMI households (160 persons). The urgent project will address the Alabama Department of Environmental Management's (ADEM) non-compliance notification that Garden City received in April 2021, regarding the algae buildup in the sewer lagoon. This project will also remedy the E. coli recently found at the wastewater treatment facility. The proposed project consists of the replacement of three existing floating aerators, along with the associated electrical components, the replacement of two baffle curtains and the replacement of the emergency generator, along with the modernization of the associated electrical systems at the wastewater treatment plant.

The City of Moulton re-submitted for \$500,000 in CDBG funds for the Moulton Sewer Improvements project. The proposed Sewer System Im-

provements project involves the rehabilitation of approximately sixty-five (65) 4-inch diameter sewer laterals. Rehabilitation activities include: 1) hydraulic and mechanical cleaning of service connections; 2) post CCTV inspection; and/or 3) cured-in-place lateral sealing at the connection; and 4) installation of new laterals and mechanical service connections. The proposed project will improve the quality of life of a total of 184 beneficiaries including the 141 (76.6%) LMI persons that live in the project area located south of the historic downtown in Moulton. The project area is approximately bounded on the north by College Street and Somerville Avenue; on the west by Main Street and East Street; on the west by Rosenwald Street; and on the south by Byler Road along with several perpendicular streets to the south.



FROM PAGE 1: Meet Our Two New Team Members

In her Grant Specialist role, Tiffany helps communities in the project development, preparation, submission, and management of a variety of grants through the ADECA CDBG and Recreational (RTP/LWCF) programs along with ARC. Some project examples include grants for infrastructure, such as water, sewer, storm water drainage, sidewalks, trails, and community facilities, such as parks, fire stations, community centers, senior centers, and educational programs and equipment.

Before coming to NARCOG, Tiffany worked as a print journalist, a preschool teacher, and secretary at a church. She has been married to her husband Zach for 12 years, who is a small business owner of Triple O Pest Control; they have two children, Mariah, age 21 and Tillman, age 11 who is a 5th grader at West Elementary. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, going to NBA games (the Celtics!), going on mission trips, reading, and photography. Tiffany describes her time here at NARCOG as "a great place to work!"

"In the short time I have been here, I have met and worked with great people who all want to contribute to their communities, whether it is through the grant funds or the aging services."

Jacklyn Moore recently graduated from Auburn University with a BS in Business Administration and Marketing. She has been working for NARCOG for almost three months now and loves it. She loves music, the outdoors, meeting new people, and learning new things. She works on grants as an Economic Develop-

ment Specialist at NARCOG and is excited about the many different types of projects that she is working on. Jacklyn is most recently from Enterprise, Alabama, and she just adopted a 1-year-old cat. Although Jacklyn has only been here for a short amount of time, she is "excited to see all of our current and future projects completed, to improve and better our communities."

We can't wait to see what both of these ladies accomplish in their positions.

NARCOG completes five-year CEDS plan



The NARCOG Regional Planning Agency just completed the new Building for the Future 2022-2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Cullman, Lawrence, and Morgan counties.

As the designated Economic Development District (EDD) by the Economic Development Administration (EDA), NARCOG is required to update its CEDS every five years. The new 2022-2027 CEDS goals consist of:

1. Build Resilient Regional Businesses
2. Build a Resilient and Sustainable Regional Economy
3. Build a Resilient Regional Workforce Ecosystem

4. Build Resilient Infrastructure for the Region

5. Build a Resilient Regional Tourism Based Economy

6. Build Resilient Regional Community Leaders and Capacity

ZNARCOG Regional Planning Agency will continue working with the CEDS Strategy Committee and other partners to implement the CEDS in the three-county region during the next five years.

The public can view NARCOG's 2022 CEDS document on the NARCOG website at https://www.narcog.org/images/2022_CEDS_FINAL.pdf

FROM PAGE 1: Decatur \$1M ARC SAAW Grant

The Decatur Bridge Feasibility Study will include site identification and site assessment based on various physical and environmental factors such as location, highway

and rail access, surrounding land uses, and the estimated cost of development amongst others. Once the most feasible site is identified, a detailed cost estimate, estimat-

ed economic impact (cost-benefit analysis), and potential funding sources, stakeholders, and partners will be identified to aid in moving the construction of a new bridge

forward. The City will be issuing a RFQ soon to select a consultant to prepare the study, and the estimated time for project completion is approximately one-year.

NARCOG Visits Worlds of Work Event in Huntsville

WOW! What an Event!

NARCOG staff promotes Regional Planning Agency (RPA) programs and projects along side the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) at Worlds of Work (WOW) Career Expo in support of workforce development.

WOW was held at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama and featured a large number of top employers in the North Alabama area. WOW describes their event as "a hands-on, interactive career expo designed to inform youth about high-demand, high-wage careers available in North Alabama." Eighth graders and high schoolers across 13 counties participated in the expo, learning about what could be in store for them after graduation.

