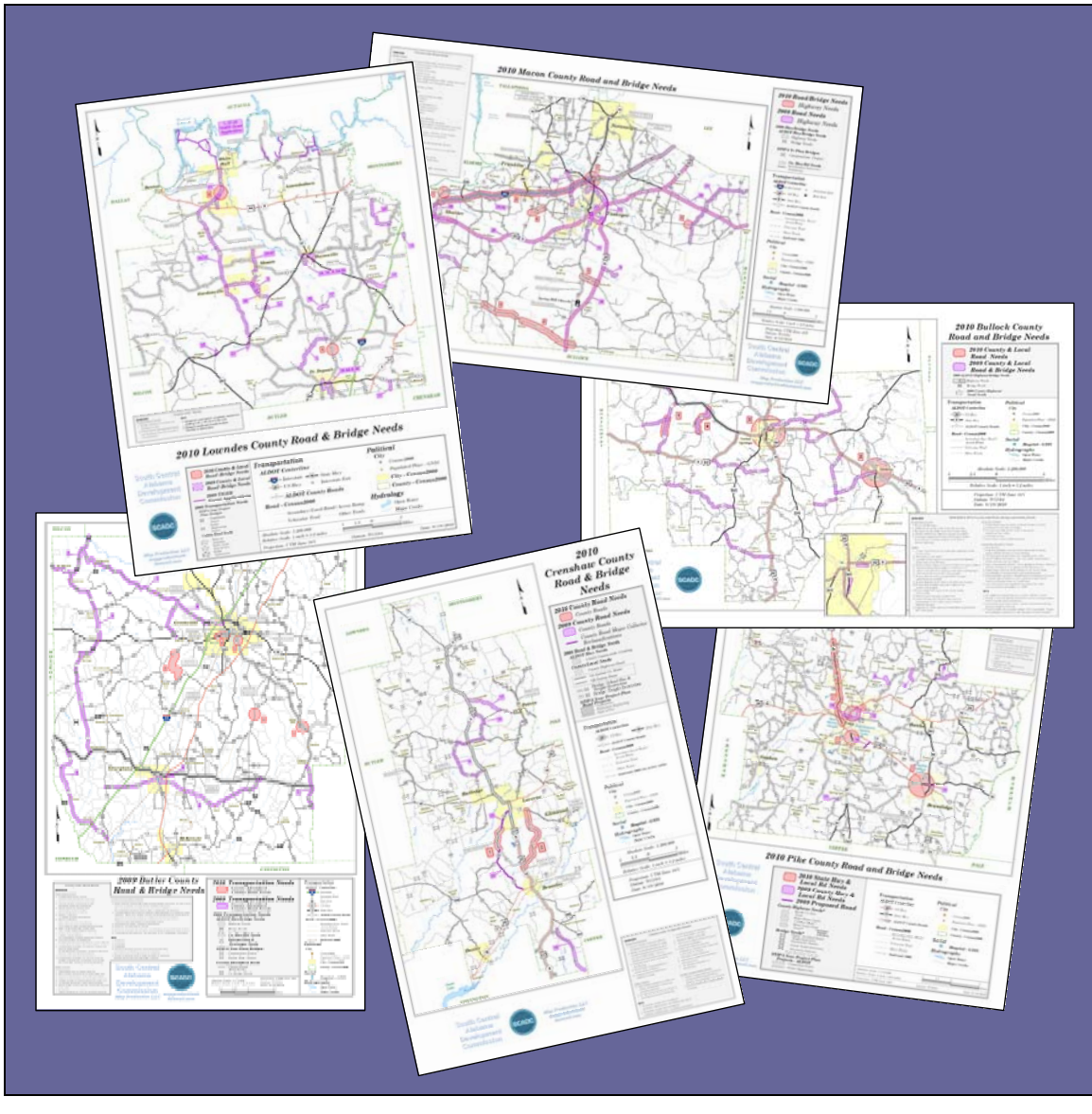


South Central Alabama Rural  
Transportation Consultation Process  
**Rural Transportation  
Summary**

2009 – 2010



## Acknowledgements

This document, along with three other documents (the *2010 South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Needs and Issues Report*, the *2010 South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Long-Range Recommendations Report*, and the *2010 South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Record of Public Involvement*) were produced by the South Central Alabama Development Commission under a contract with the Alabama Department of Transportation as part of the South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Consultation Process.

Additional copies of these documents are available by contacting the South Central Alabama Development Commission at the address and phone number below.

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## South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Steering Committee, 2009–2010

### **Bullock County**

Chairman Ron Smith, Bullock County Commission  
Mr. Jason DeShazo, Bullock County Engineer  
Mayor John McGowan, City of Union Springs

### **Butler County**

Chairman Jesse McWilliams, Butler County  
Commission  
Mr. Dennis McCall, Butler County Engineer  
Mayor Dexter McLendon, City of Greenville

### **Crenshaw County**

Chairman Ronnie Hudson, Crenshaw County  
Commission  
Mr. Benjie Sanders, Crenshaw County Engineer  
Mayor Joe Rex Sport, City of Luverne

### **Lowndes County**

Chairman Charlie King, Lowndes County  
Commission  
Mr. David Butts, Lowndes County Engineer  
Mayor Helenor Bell, Town of Hayneville

### **Macon County**

Chairman Louis Maxwell, Macon County  
Commission  
Mr. J.D. Smith, Macon County Engineer  
Mayor Frank Tew, Town of Notasulga

### **Pike County**

Chairman Jimmy Barron, Pike County Commission  
Mr. Russell Oliver, Pike County Engineer  
Mayor Jimmy Lunsford, City of Troy

### **South Central Alabama Region**

Mr. John Lorentson, ALDOT, Sixth Division  
Mr. J. M. Griffin, ALDOT, Seventh Division  
Mr. Tyson Howard, SCADC  
Mrs. Sylvia Bowers, SCADC / Aging

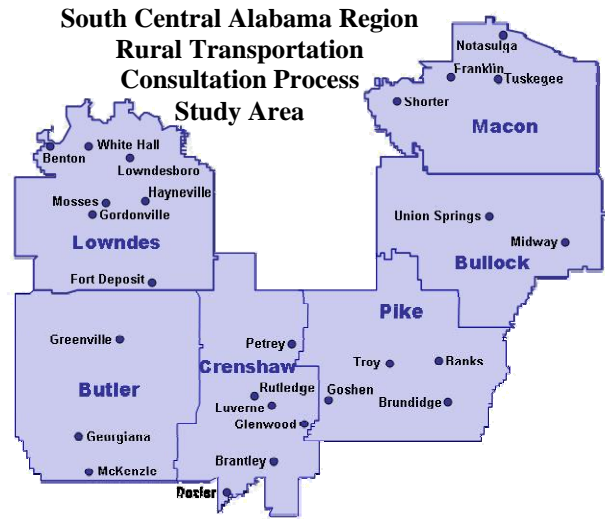
## Purpose

Under an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation, the South Central Alabama Development Commission (SCADC) has continued a rural transportation consultation process for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, covering the period from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. The study area for the South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Consultation Process includes the six counties, and the 26 municipalities located therein, that are served by the SCADC, in their entirety. These counties are Bullock, Butler, Crenshaw, Lowndes, Macon and Pike Counties. The purpose of the ongoing program is to assist the Alabama Department of Transportation in carrying out a Statewide Transportation Planning Process, as outlined in 23 CFR Part 450, Subpart B, as revised in January 2007, by establishing a continuous and on-going rural transportation planning process that will aid in the identification of rural transportation needs and issues of the South Central Alabama region.

## Region

The six counties of the South Central Alabama Region comprise 4,012 square miles, which is 7.9 percent of the total land area of Alabama. There are 26 incorporated cities and towns within the region, with a total population of 113,961 persons. Population density in the South Central Alabama region ranges from 18.7 to 44.1 persons per square mile, in comparison to the population density of the State of Alabama, at 87.6 persons per square mile.

The counties of the South Central Alabama Region have demographic characteristics similar to many other rural areas of the state, but dissimilar to the State of Alabama, overall. Where the State has experienced a 10.1 percent population increase between 1990 and 2000, the most significant population increases in the region were in Pike County, at 7.3 percent, Lowndes County, 6.4 percent, and Bullock County, at 6.1 percent. Half of the counties in the region, (Bullock, Lowndes and Macon) have a majority African-American population in comparison to the State, where only 26.4 percent of the population is African-American. The State's 1999 per capita income, at \$18,189, and 2003 median household income, at \$36,131, are both considerably higher than any county in the region. Home ownership in the region, however, tends to be higher than that of the State, with the exception of Macon and Pike Counties. It is



**South Central Alabama Region  
Population and Area, 2000**

County	Population	Land Area
Bullock	11,714	625 square miles
Butler	21,399	777 square miles
Crenshaw	13,665	610 square miles
Lowndes	13,473	718 square miles
Macon	24,105	611 square miles
Pike	29,605	671 square miles
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,961</b>	<b>4,012 square miles</b>

*Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 2000*

assumed that the higher rental rates in these counties is directly tied to the presence of Tuskegee University in Macon County and Troy University in Pike County. According to the 2000 Census, 72.5 percent of the housing units in the State are owner-occupied. In the South Central Alabama region, the percentage of owner-occupied housing ranges from a low of 67.2 percent in Pike County to a high of 83.3 percent in Lowndes County.

<b>South Central Alabama Demographics</b>						
	<b>Bullock</b>	<b>Butler</b>	<b>Crenshaw</b>	<b>Lowndes</b>	<b>Macon</b>	<b>Pike</b>
<b>Population Change</b>						
1990 Population	11,042	21,892	13,635	12,658	24,928	11,042
2000 Population	11,714	21,399	13,665	13,473	24,105	27,595
2005 Estimated Population	11,055	20,766	13,727	13,076	22,810	29,639
% Change: 1990 to 2000	6.1	-2.3	0.2	6.4	-3.3	7.3
<b>Race (2004 Est.)</b>						
% White	26.9	58.0	75.3	27.0	15.5	60.0
% Black	72.2	41.3	23.7	72.7	83.3	37.3
% Other	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.3	1.2	2.7
<b>Age</b>						
Median Age	35	37.7	38.8	33.9	32	32.5
% 65 and Older	13.2	16.3	17.1	12.2	14	12.6
% 5 and Younger	6.3	6.3	5.9	7.5	6.5	6.5
<b>Income</b>						
Per Capita Income, 1999	\$10,163	\$15,715	\$14,565	\$12,457	\$13,714	\$14,904
Median Household Income, 2003	\$20,808	\$26,880	\$28,263	\$24,009	\$22,492	\$26,525
Persons below poverty, 2003	26.2	20	17.6	23.3	25.8	20.3
<b>Education</b>						
Population, 25 and Older	7,570	13,767	9,268	8,183	13,955	17,703
Without High School Diploma	31.8	21.8	28.7	24.7	11.2	12.5
High School Diploma or equivalent	60.5	67.8	60.1	64.3	70.0	69.1
Bachelors Degree or Higher	7.7	10.4	11.2	11.0	18.8	18.4
<b>Housing</b>						
# of Housing Units	4,727	9,957	6,644	5,801	10,627	13,981
% Vacant	11.0	13.0	13.0	12.3	14.5	13.4
% Occupied	89.0	87.0	87.0	87.7	85.5	86.6
% Owner-Occupied	74.5	76.2	76.7	83.3	67.3	67.2
% Renter-Occupied	25.5	23.8	23.3	16.7	32.7	32.8
Median 2000 Value, Owner Units	\$56,600	\$57,700	\$51,300	\$55,500	\$64,200	\$71,400
Average Household Size	2.56	2.52	2.42	2.73	2.44	2.38
Average Family Size	3.13	3.06	2.96	3.28	3.13	2.98

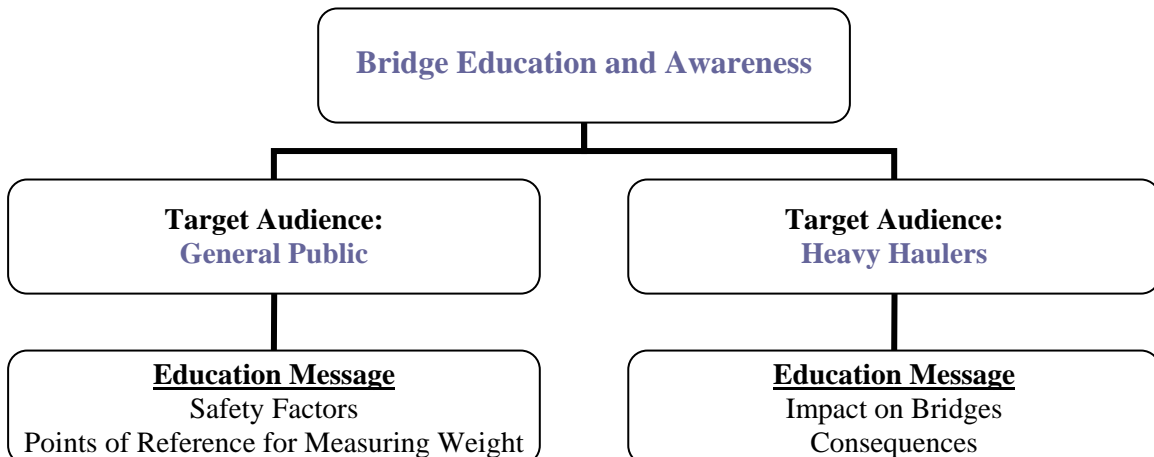
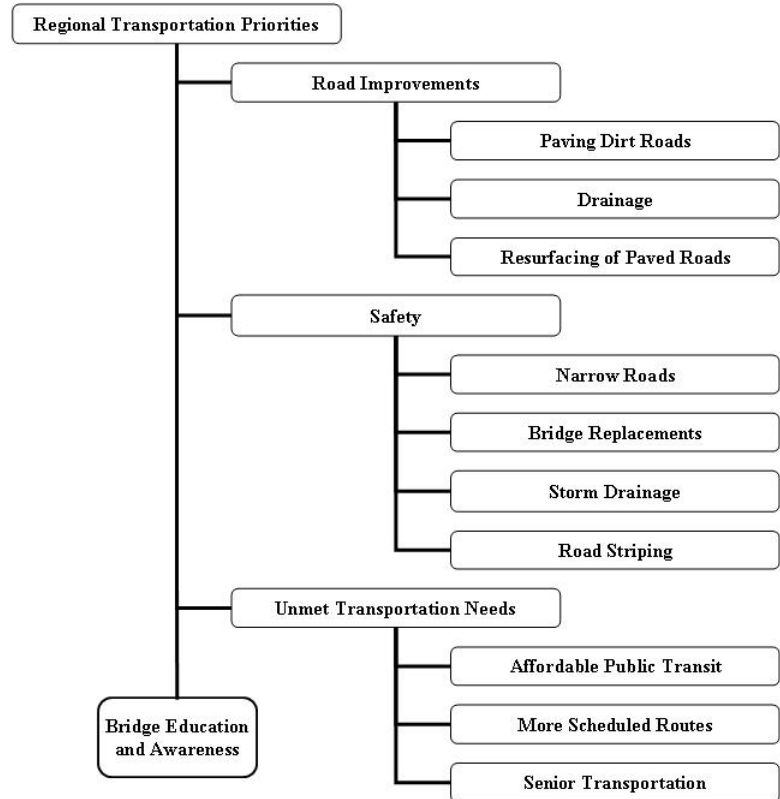
## **Public Involvement**

The South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Consultation Process employs a public involvement process that includes the identification of, and outreach to, rural transportation stakeholders. To date, 515 rural transportation stakeholders have been identified in the region. Between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2010, the South Central Alabama Development Commission (SCADC) conducted two Steering Committee meetings, one Regional Rural Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, and six joint meetings of the county advisory committee and the rural transportation stakeholders in each county. Notification of the public involvement activities was provided by letter to rural transportation stakeholders and committee members and by advertisement in all local newspapers.

## Rural Transportation Priorities

Although each county in the South Central Alabama region has identified a variety of rural transportation needs and issues, there are some common rural transportation priorities throughout the region. General transportation projects identified in each county during the 2010 fiscal year are listed on the following page and more detailed information can be found in the *2010 South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Needs and Issues Report*. During the 2009 fiscal year, advisory committees prioritized regionally common projects as shown in the diagram to the right. Stakeholders agreed, however, that bridge education and awareness is a top priority for all counties and the region due to the safety factors associated with posted bridges.

Transportation stakeholders and committee members agreed during the 2010 fiscal year that the priorities from 2009 remain the same in 2010, with the exception of increased emphasis on bridge education and awareness in regards to traveling on posted bridges with weight limits. Committee members defined two target audiences and outlined the major points of information that need to be related to those audiences. (See diagram below.) Committees suggested that distribution methods include public services announcements, newspapers and communications through schools.



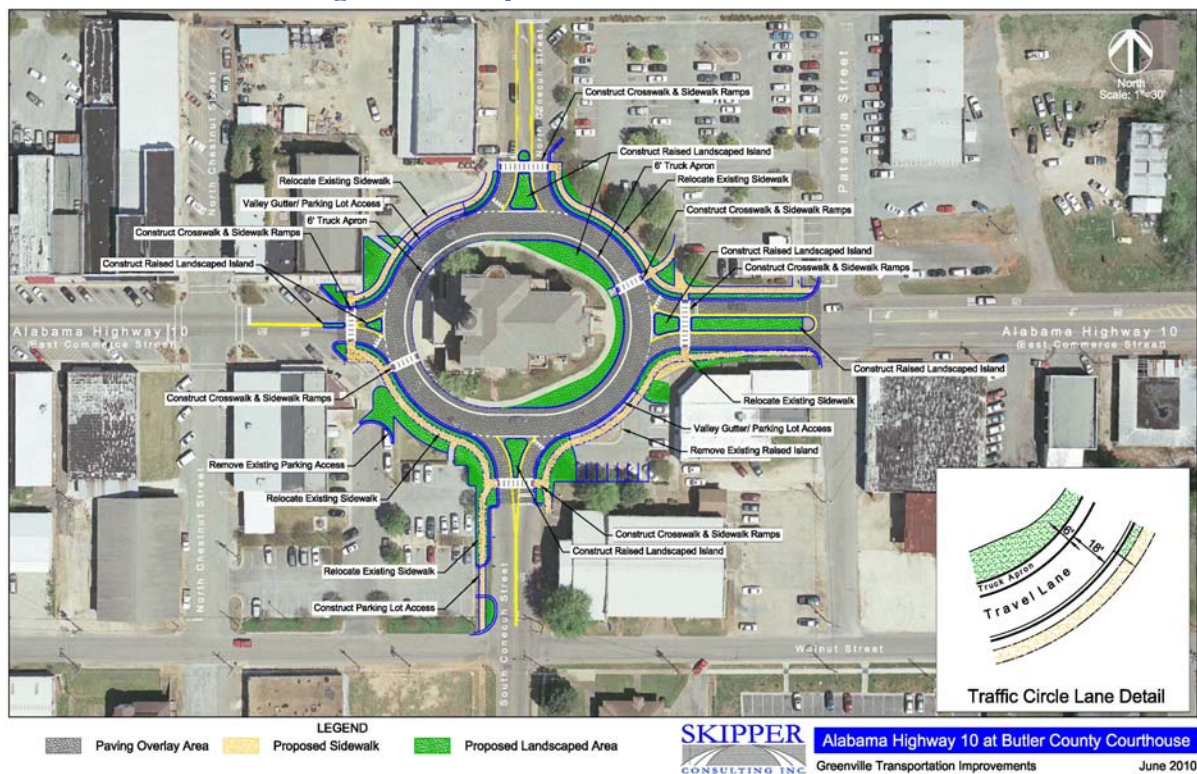
**2009–2010 Identified Areas of Rural Transportation  
Road Improvement Needs, Safety Issues and Unmet Transportation Needs**

<b>Bullock County</b>	<b>Butler County</b>	<b>Crenshaw County</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CR 7</li> <li>• Burns Circle</li> <li>• Parker Street</li> <li>• Depot Street</li> <li>• Old Troy Road</li> <li>• CR 47 South</li> <li>• Hall Street</li> <li>• Normadean Avenue</li> <li>• James Street</li> <li>• Ellis Avenue</li> <li>• Thomas Street</li> <li>• Tye Avenue</li> <li>• W. Locke Avenue</li> <li>• Esquire Drive</li> <li>• AL 223</li> <li>• CR 31</li> <li>• CR 7</li> <li>• CR 100, Harris Road</li> <li>• Foster Road</li> <li>• CR 177</li> <li>• AL 110 / CR 177 (Cornerstone Road)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halso Mill Road (CR 59)</li> <li>• CR 45</li> <li>• South Conecuh Street</li> <li>• AL 10 West</li> <li>• Vickery Road</li> <li>• Intersection of Halso Mill Road and US 31</li> <li>• McKenzie Grande Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elderly transportation needed in Dozier</li> <li>• CR 39</li> <li>• CR 41</li> <li>• Intersection of AL 10 and US 331</li> <li>• US 331 – traffic volume during summer beach traffic</li> <li>• County roads intersecting US 331 – detour routes</li> </ul>
<b>Lowndes County</b>	<b>Macon County</b>	<b>Pike County</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South CR 37</li> <li>• North CR 37</li> <li>• CR 23, White Hall</li> <li>• Pave all dirt roads in county</li> <li>• Public transportation for elderly hindered by lack of access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-85</li> <li>• I-85 Exit 38 @ AL 81</li> <li>• I-85, MM 20 to MM 47</li> <li>• I-85 - Shorter exit</li> <li>• I-85</li> <li>• US 80</li> <li>• CR 40</li> <li>• CR 97</li> <li>• CR 2</li> <li>• CR 2</li> <li>• CR 50</li> <li>• CR 50 (Shady Circle)</li> <li>• CR 22</li> <li>• CR 47</li> <li>• South Church St.</li> <li>• Railroad Avenue</li> <li>• Macon County</li> <li>• CR 45</li> <li>• CR 23</li> <li>• Rosa Parks Avenue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US 231</li> <li>• Truck conflicts in downtown Brundidge</li> <li>• Walnut Street and 3 Notch Street, Troy</li> <li>• Need for public/elderly transportation throughout county</li> <li>• Lynwood Road, Troy</li> <li>• Wallace Drive, Troy</li> </ul>

## Strategic Recommendations

Two access management studies were conducted in the 2010 fiscal year. While study highlights are provided below and on the following page, details of these studies are included in the *2010 South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Long-Range Recommendations Report*. One study was in downtown Greenville in Butler County in response to traffic issues around the Butler County Courthouse located in a circle at the intersection of Alabama Highway 10 and Conecuh Street. Recommendations, as shown in the plan below, included development of a more user-friendly roundabout to facilitate traffic flow and minimize both vehicular conflicts and vehicular-pedestrian conflicts. Details include the construction of raised landscaped islands, relocation of existing sidewalks, installation of valley gutters, better access to parking areas, and installation of crosswalk and sidewalk ramps.

## Greenville Access Management Study:

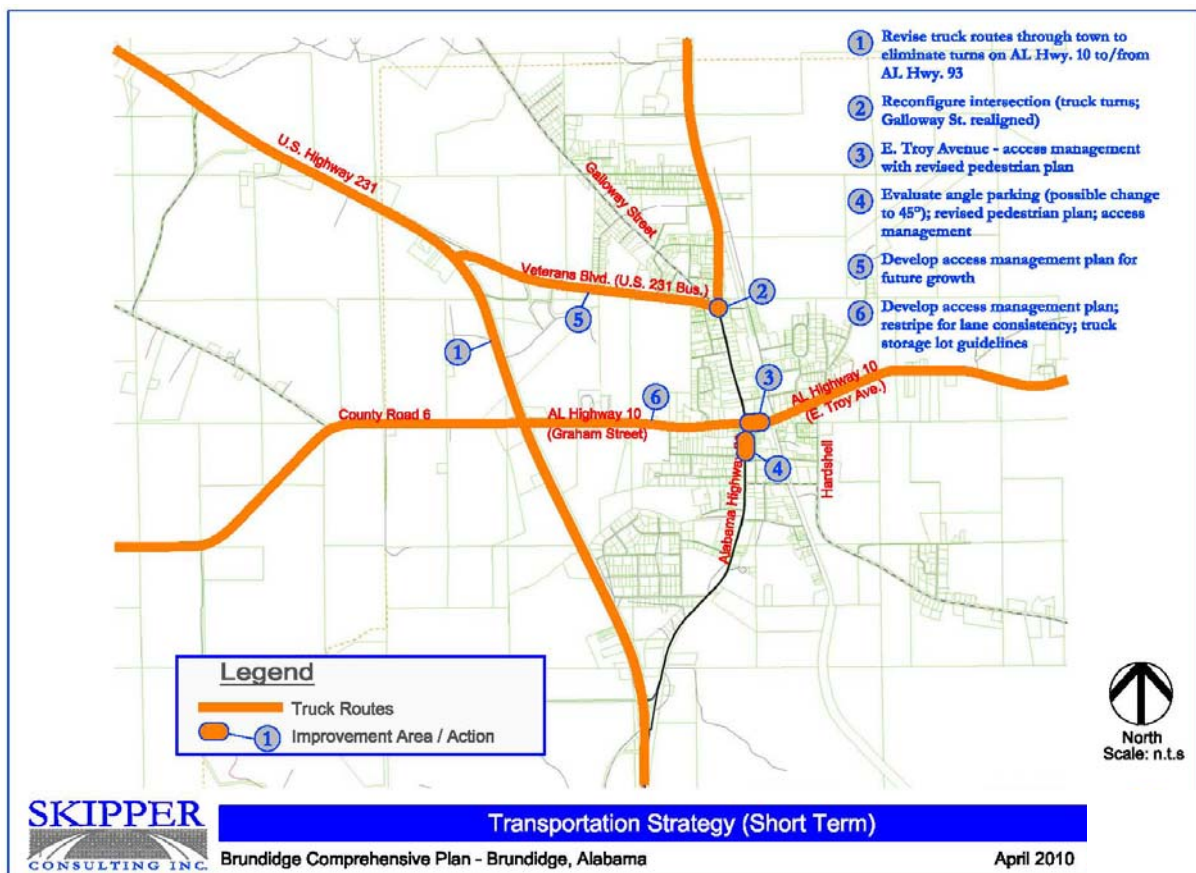


The second study was in Brundidge in Pike County in response to the accommodation of heavy truck traffic through the downtown area to serve local industries while retaining a safe pedestrian-scale commercial center. Both a short term and a long-term improvements were recommended to Brundidge to accomplish these goals.

## Brundidge Short-Term Transportation Recommendations

1. Revise the truck routes in Brundidge to eliminate trucks on Alabama Highway 93 from U.S. Highway 231 north to Veterans Boulevard. The truck route would be carried along U.S. Highway 231 and along Veterans Boulevard. By rerouting trucks from Alabama Highway 93 to U.S. Highway 231, truck turning movements at the intersection of Alabama Highway 93 and Alabama Highway 10 can be eliminated;

2. Reconfigure the intersection of Alabama Highway 93 and Veterans Boulevard/Galloway to accommodate increase truck turning traffic;
3. Implement improvements at the intersection of E. Troy Avenue and Alabama Highway 93 to reduce walking distances for pedestrian traffic in the downtown area;
4. Main Street immediately south of E. Troy Avenue evaluate the possibility of converting the current angle parking to 45 degree parking, revise the pedestrian paths for Main Street and practice access management;
5. Veterans Boulevard should adopt access management principals to guide future development; and
6. Graham Street should have access management principals to guide future development, restripe for consistency of lanes and develop criteria for developing truck storage lots near U.S. Highway 231.



Long-term recommendations for Brundidge include the extension of Veterans Boulevard (two lanes) eastward to intersect Alabama Highway 10 east of downtown with an overpass of the railroad. This construction of a northern bypass would allow the removal of all trucks from the downtown area, provide improved mobility for traffic in Brundidge and improve emergency vehicle accessibility for areas east of the railroad.

*All South Central Alabama Rural Transportation Consultation Process documents are available at [www.scadc.state.al.us](http://www.scadc.state.al.us).*