



District Update

From Mayor Walter Maddox

There is so much I love about my job - especially weaving together the diverse interests of our City who have different backgrounds and life experiences. I fully understand that I will never meet all expectations; however, everyday we are working with great passion and effort to raise the quality of life of entire community.

Although we are proud of the tremendous progress, it brings about challenge. To that end, what can we expect to see from the City in the next 12 to 24 months?

DOWNTOWN TUSCALOOSA PRECINCT - The Council has authorized the establishment of a precinct that will have a strategic focus on the central city. It will be located within the Municipal Court building and Chief Steve Anderson will be hiring a precinct commander this spring. If all goes well, we will be operational by winter 2015.

POTENTIAL ELECTION LAW CHANGES - The latest municipal election brought forth several issues that centered on residency requirements and how such residency should be verified. The City has requested that the local legislative delegation explore avenues such as; (1) Change in the election date as to avoid concerns with potential voters who relocate to Tuscaloosa at the beginning of an academic semester; (2) Clarify the residency requirement between multiple state code sections; (3) Modify the existing voter registration form to require that the registrant swear under oath that they have been a resident of the district at the address which they are listing for the prescribed statutory time period. The goal is to have legislation presented in the 2015 session.



LIGHTING AND SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY - Four years ago, in partnership with the University of Alabama the City began installing a security camera network along the "Strip" and surrounding neighborhoods. To date, 32 cameras and 26 streetlights have been added. After recent discussions with President Judy Bonner, we will expand our partnership and add an additional 45 cameras plus more streetlights in and around the historic neighborhoods bordering the campus over the next 24 months.

GREATER DOWNTOWN PLAN - An interdepartmental team of City staff has been working diligently to create an Implementation program for the 2010 Greater Downtown Plan. This Program will include recommendations for a pedestrian and vehicle wayfinding program, a comprehensive street master plan, new zoning districts, as well as concepts for new and enhanced public spaces, creative public infrastructure financing options and much more. In the coming months, our recommendations will be brought forward for public review and discussions.

Unfortunately, due to lack of space, I am unable to touch on all the initiatives we are working on, but to that end, we are having a District Four Mayor's Night Out town hall meeting on Thursday, March 13 at the Calvary Baptist Church Annex. The focus will be to outline our short and long term plans, and most importantly, to listen to your concerns and needs. There will be a meet and greet from 5:30 to 5:45 p.m. which is designed as a come-and-go opportunity to address any matters. Beginning at 5:45, I will give a brief overview of what is going on in District Four and then have a question-and-answer session until 7p.m.

I want to close by expressing my thanks to Councilman Matt Calderone who has hit the ground running in District Four with a sincere passion for making a difference.



2014 Mayor's Cup } **April 26**
 Benefiting Tuscaloosa's
 Pre-K Initiative

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Thursday, March 13
 5:30 - 7 p.m.
 Calvary Baptist
 Church Annex

Tuscaloosa **311**.com
 Make One Call to City Hall

