



# District Update

From Mayor Walter Maddox

It is clear that District Three is one of the fastest growing areas in Tuscaloosa County. With this growth comes challenges, and your City is working to address it.

Recently, Councilor Cynthia Almond formed a task force to make recommendations on updating the 2009 District Plan. Beyond land use, I have asked our planning director, John McConnell, to include a comprehensive review of our infrastructure and future placement of City assets. In the interim period, we are moving forward with key projects that are critical to the area.

**RICE MINE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS** — In late spring 2014, the Council authorized \$1 million in traffic improvements for Rice Mine Road (New Watermelon Road to Paul W. Bryant Bridge). The engineering is in final design and in the near future, the City will begin rights-of-way (ROW) acquisition. Depending upon the length of negotiations surrounding ROW, road improvements will go under construction in late spring or summer.

In addition, the City is also exploring the possibility of an additional road into Rock Quarry Elementary/Middle Schools. It is likely that we will wait to see the impact on the Rice Mine Road improvements before moving forward with final design and construction.

**McWRIGHTS FERRY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS** — I firmly believe this is one of the top-needed road projects in Tuscaloosa. We clearly need another access point across North River. The estimated cost of this project is \$55 million, and would have to be a joint State/City project to bring to fruition. The positive news is that the engineering, environmental testing and preliminary design have been funded. In the next year, we plan on working with the governor and local elected leaders to identify funding sources to move this critical project from the drawing board to construction. Once funding is secured, it would likely take 24 additional months to complete ROW acquisition and final design.

Due to lack of space, I am unable to touch on every project or initiative; however, we are having the District Three Mayor's Night Out town hall meeting on Thursday, March 5 at the Phelps Activity Center.

I thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to talk with you about what is happening in your City and discuss avenues in which we can make Tuscaloosa better. At last year's MNO for District Three, one of the consistent concerns I received was the lack of lighting on New Watermelon Road above the dam. As a result, the Council placed funding in the budget to address this issue. Your voice mattered and achieved positive results.

I look forward to seeing you soon!



Morning traffic near Rock Quarry Elementary/  
Middle Schools.



April 25  
Benefiting Tuscaloosa's  
Pre-K Initiative



Mayor Walter Maddox  
P.O. Box 2089  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403  
mayor@tuscaloosa.com



205-248-5001



@WalterMaddox  
@TuscaloosaCity

Tuscaloosa **311**.com

Make One Call to City Hall

MAYOR'S  
NIGHT  
OUT

Thursday, March 5  
5:15 - 6:30 p.m.  
Phelps Activity Center

**TUSCALOOSA**  
REGIONAL AIR SHOW  
Presented by pepsi

**TUSCALOOSA**  
**REGIONAL**  
**AIR SHOW**

March 28-29, 2015

SHOW STARTS // AT 12 NOON

Tuscaloosa Regional Airport  
For ticket information & details, visit  
[TuscaloosaRegionalAirshow.com](http://TuscaloosaRegionalAirshow.com)  
\$5 per person presale & \$10 per person at the gate  
**Children under 12 are free!**