

LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

The entities included in this section are involved in economic and community development at the local level in Alabama.



Local and Regional Economic Development Contacts by County

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Chambers of Commerce

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County Commission Chairs

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County Extension Coordinators

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Regional Economic Development Entities

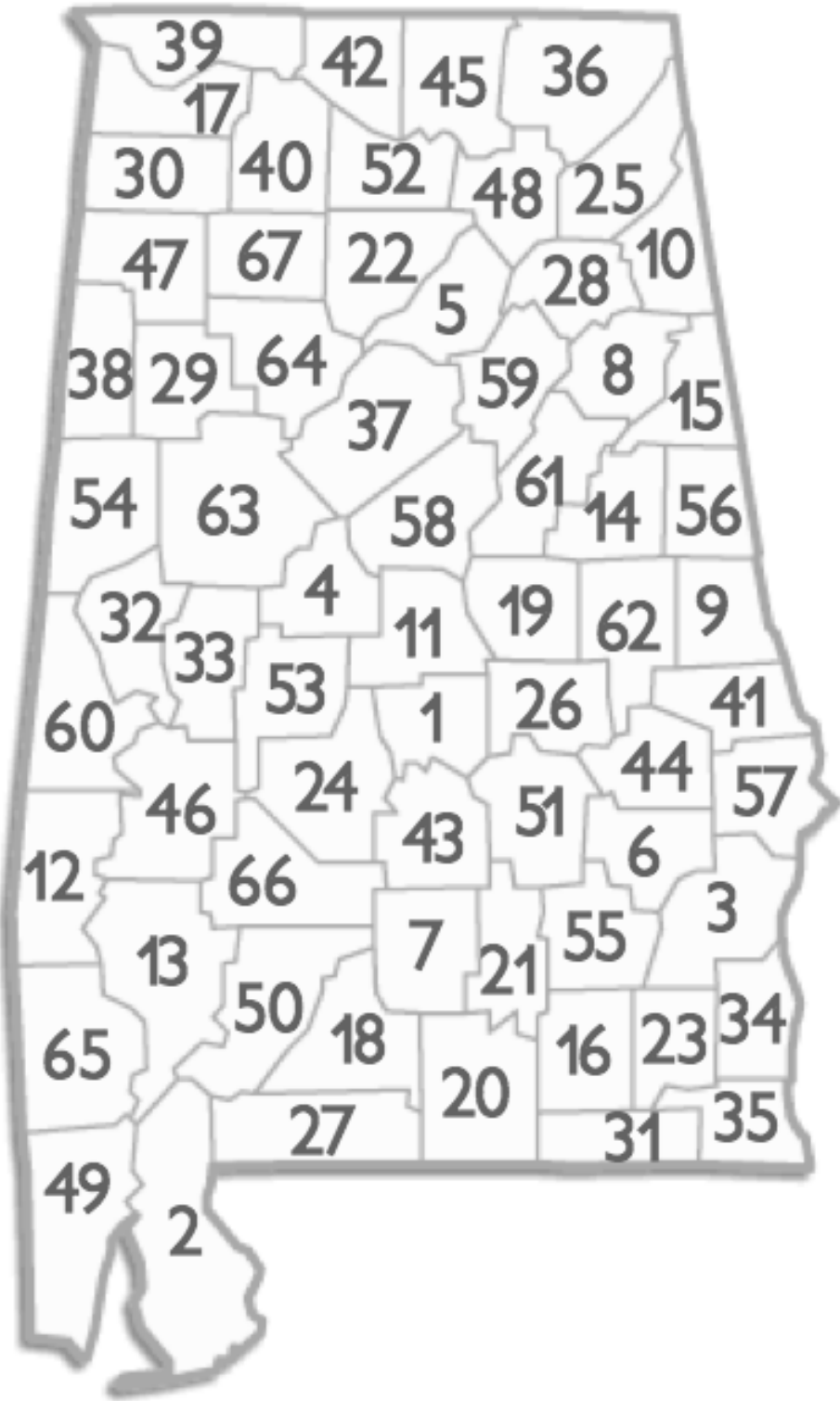
60



Regional Planning Councils

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The numbers on the map below correspond to the numbers beside Alabama county names in the following lists: *Local and Regional Economic Development Contacts by County*, *County Commissions*, and *County Extension Coordinators*.





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The CCAA serves its members by providing information on governmental affairs, including hosting a joining conference every fifth legislative day with members of BCA's Governmental Affairs staff and local Chamber professionals; by communicating issues that affect the local business community through its Web site; by holding statewide membership events every quarter that address the professional development and networking needs of Chamber professionals; and by providing a clearinghouse for business-related information and contacts that serves the needs of local Chamber professionals.

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Web: www.greencountyalabama.com

Evergreen / Conecuh Co. Area Chamber

Daryl Harper-Executive Director
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Fairfield Chamber

Volunteer Chamber
E-mail: ronjefferson@bellsouth.net

Fayette Area Chamber

Anne Hamner-Executive Director
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Web: www.fayetteareachamber.com

Flomaton-Century Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Fort Deposit Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Fort Payne Chamber

Carol Beddingfield-Executive Director
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Web: www.fortpayne.com

Franklin County Chamber

Lisa Stockton-Executive Director
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Web: www.franklincountychamber.org

Gardendale Chamber

Joy Clayton-Executive Director
E-mail: gdalechamber@mindspring.com
Web: www.gardendalechamberofcommerce.com

Gordo Area Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Grant Chamber

Sheila Barbuck - Executive Director
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Greater Brewton Area Chamber

Judy Crane-Executive Director
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Greater Geneva Area Chamber

Alice Faye Smith-Executive Director
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Greater Irondale Chamber

Kim Pate-Executive Director
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Greater Jackson County Chamber

Rick Roden-President
E-mail: roden@scottsboro.org
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Greater Limestone Chamber

Hugh Ball-President
E-mail: hball@pclnet.net
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Greater Pell City Chamber

Lynn Batemon-Executive Director
E-mail: pellcitychamber@centurytel.net
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Greater Shelby Chamber

Jennifer Trammell-President
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Web: www.shelbychamber.org

Greater Talladega Area Chamber

Heidi Edwards-President
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Greater Tallassee Area Chamber

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Greater Valley Area Chamber

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Greenville Area Chamber

Francine Wasden-Executive Director
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Grove Hill Area Chamber

Cheryl Horton-Executive Director

Haleyville Area Chamber

Jonathan Bennett-President
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Hamilton Area Chamber

Kristi Babb-President
E-mail: chamber@cityofhamilton.org
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Hartselle Area Chamber

Susan Hines-President
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Headland Chamber

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Homewood Chamber

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Hoover Chamber

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Hueytown Area Chamber

Rebecca W. Williams-Executive Secretary
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Huntsville / Madison Co. Chamber

W. Brian Hilson, President & CEO
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Jackson Area Chamber

LaShaunda Holly-Executive Director
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Lake Guntersville Chamber

Morri Yancy-President
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Lawrence County Chamber

Vicki Morese-Executive Director
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Leeds Area Chamber

Sandra McGuire-Executive Director
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Livingston / Sumter Co. Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Midfield Chamber

Volunteer Chamber
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Millbrook Area Chamber

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Mobile Area Chamber

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Monroeville Area Chamber

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Montevallo Chamber

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Montgomery Area Chamber

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Moody Area Chamber

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Mountain Brook Chamber

Tricia Ford-Executive Director
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North Baldwin Chamber

Dr. Margo Allen-President
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Odenville Chamber

Volunteer Chamber
E-mail: drsstuvvs@aol.com

Opelika Chamber

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Opp & Covington Co. Area Chamber

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Ozark Area Chamber

Jeanette Reeves-Executive Director
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Perry County Chamber

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Phenix City / Russell County Chamber

Victor W. Cross-President
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Pike County Chamber

Jennifer Barner-President
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Prattville Area Chamber

Jeremy Arthur-Executive Vice President
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Prichard Area Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Rainsville Chamber

Timothy B. Eberhart-Executive Director
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Randolph County Chamber

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Reform Area Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Saraland Area Chamber

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Selma-Dallas County Chamber

Lauri Cothran-President
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Shoals Chamber

Steve B. Holt CCE, CEcD-President
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South Baldwin Chamber

Donna Watts-President
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South Lamar Area Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

South Shelby Chamber

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Southwest Alabama Chamber

Marilyn Morgan-Executive Director
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Springville Area Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Sylacauga Chamber

Joe Richardson-Executive Director
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Tarrant / Pinson Valley Chamber

Volunteer Chamber
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Tillman's Comer Chamber

Larry Kent-Executive Director

Tri-City Chamber

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Trussville Area Chamber

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Tuskegee Area Chamber

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Vernon Chamber

Volunteer Chamber

Vestavia Hills Chamber

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Wetumpka Area Chamber

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Wilcox Area Chamber

William Malone-Executive Director
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Winfield Chamber

Volunteer Chamber
E-mail: winfield@dls.net
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COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIRS

ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS OF ALABAMA (ACCA)

Sonny Brasfield
Executive Director
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Web: <http://www.acca-online.org>
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OVERVIEW

The Association of County Commissions of Alabama works to promote quality county government and improved services to Alabama's residents. The Association works with leaders of the executive branch, as well as the Legislature, to promote the interests of county government. The Association sponsors the Alabama Local Government Training Institute and educational programs for county administrative personnel, county engineers, county attorneys, and county revenue officers.

1. Autauga

County Seat: Prattville
Clyde C. Chambliss Jr.
Chairman
Autauga County Commission
134 N. Court Street, Ste. 131
Prattville, AL 36067-3049
Phone: (334) 361-3701
E-mail: clyde@chamblissengineering.com
Web: www.ataugaco.org

Barbour County Commission
P.O. Box 398
Clayton, AL 36016-0398
Phone: (334) 775-3203

2. Baldwin

County Seat: Bay Minette
Frank Burt, Jr.
Chairman
Baldwin County Commission
Baldwin Co. Administration Building
312 Courthouse Square, Suite 12
Bay Minette, AL 36507
Phone: (251) 937-0395
E-mail: fburt@co.baldwin.al.us
Web: www.Commission.co.baldwin.al.us

4. Bibb

County Seat: Centreville
Charles Beasley
Commissioner
Bibb County Commission
157 SW Davidson Drive
Centreville, Alabama 35042
Phone: (205) 926-3114
E-mail: markt07@bellsouth.net

3. Barbour

County Seat: Clayton
Kenneth Earl Gilmore
Chairman

5. Blount

County Seat: Oneonta
David Standridge
Chairperson
Probate Judge
Blount County Commission
220 2nd Ave E Ste 106
Oneonta, AL 35121-1702
Phone: (205) 625-4191
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Web: www.co.blount.al.us

6. Bullock

County Seat: Union Springs
Ronald Smith
Chairman
Bullock County Commission
P.O. Box 472
Union Springs, AL 36089-0472
Phone: (334) 738-3883

7. Butler

County Seat: Greenville
Daniel Robinson
Chairman
Butler County Commission
P.O. Box 756
Greenville, AL 36037-0756
Phone: (334) 382-3612
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8. Calhoun

County Seat: Anniston
Robert Downing
Chairman
Calhoun County Commission
1702 Noble St, Suite 103
Anniston, AL 36201-3841
Phone: (256) 241-2800
E-mail: ccc@calhouncounty.org
Web: www.calhouncounty.org

9. Chambers

County Seat: Lafayette
Wayne White
Chairman
Chambers County Commission
18 Alabama Ave E
Lafayette, AL 36862-1745
Phone: Lafayette: (334) 864-4341
Valley: (334) 586-8225
E-mail: commission@chamberscounty.com
Web: www.chamberscounty.com

10. Cherokee

County Seat: Centre
Melvin Salter
Probate Judge
Cherokee County Commission
260 Cedar Bluff Rd
Centre, AL 35960
Phone: (256) 927-3668

11. Chilton

County Seat: Clanton
Cathy B. Martin
County Administrator
Chilton County Commission
P.O. Box 1948
Clanton, AL 35046-1948
Phone: (205) 755-1551
Web: www.chiltoncounty.org

12. Choctaw

County Seat: Butler
D'Wayne May
Probate Judge
Choctaw County Commission
117 S Mulberry Ave, Ste 9
Butler, AL 36904-2557
Phone: (205) 459-2100

13. Clarke

County Seat: Grove Hill
Paul Bradford
Chairman
Clarke County Commission
P.O. Box 548
Grove Hill, AL 36451-0548
Phone: (251) 275-4254

14. Clay

County Seat: Ashland
Ricky Burney
Chairman
Clay County Commission
P.O. Box 187
Ashland, AL 36251-0187
Phone: (256) 354-7888

15. Cleburne

County Seat: Heflin
Ryan Robertson
Probate Judge
Cleburne County Commission
120 Vickery St Ste 207
Heflin, AL 36264-1199
Phone: (256) 463-5655

16. Coffee

County Seat: Elba
Jim Thompson
Chairman
Coffee County Commission
2 County Complex
New Brockton, AL 36351-9702
Phone: (334) 894-5556

17. Colbert

County Seat: Tuscumbia
Phillip Burleson
Chairman
Colbert County Commission
201 N Main St
Tuscumbia, AL 35674-2062
Phone: (256) 386-8500
E-mail: countyadmin@colbertcounty.org
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18. Conecuh

County Seat: Evergreen
Wendell Byrd
Chairman
Conecuh County Commission
P.O. Box 347
Evergreen, AL 36401-0347
Phone: (251) 578-2095

19. Coosa

County Seat: Rockford
Corey Thomas
Chairman
Coosa County Commission
P O Box 218
Rockford, AL 35136
Phone: (256) 377-2420

20. Covington

County Seat: Andalusia
Greg White
Chairman
Covington County Commission
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Andalusia, AL 36420-1203
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E-mail: gbwcpa@alaweb.com

21. Crenshaw

County Seat: Luverne
Ronnie Hudson
Chairman
Crenshaw County Commission
P.O. Box 227
Luverne, AL 36049-0227
Phone: (334) 335-6568

22. Cullman

County Seat: Cullman
Wiley Kitchens
Chairman
Cullman County Commission
500 2nd Ave SW Rm 201
Cullman, AL 35055-4155
Phone: (256) 775-4878
E-mail: cco@co.cullman.al.us
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23. Dale

County Seat: Ozark
Eunice Hagler
Chairperson
Dale County Commission
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Ozark, AL 36360-8819
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24. Dallas

County Seat: Selma
Kimbrough Ballard
Probate Judge
Dallas County Commission
P.O. Box 987
Selma, AL 36702-0987
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25. DeKalb

County Seat: Fort Payne
Sid Holcomb
President
DeKalb County Commission
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26. Elmore

County Seat: Wetumpka
Joe Faulk
Chairman
Elmore County Commission
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27. Escambia

County Seat: Brewton
Tony Sanks
County Administrator
Escambia County Chairman
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28. Etowah

County Seat: Gadsden
Patrick Simms
Chief Executive Officer
Etowah County Commission
800 Forrest Ave
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29. Fayette

County Seat: Fayette
Charlie Jones
Chairman
Fayette County Commission
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Phone: (205) 932-4510

30. Franklin

County Seat: Russellville
Mike Green
Probate Judge
Franklin County Commission
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31. Geneva

County Seat: Geneva
Fred Hamic
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Geneva County Commission
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Web: www.genevacounty.org

32. Greene

County Seat: Eutaw
Nick Underwood
Probate Judge
Greene County Commission
P.O. Box 790
Eutaw, AL 35462
Phone: (205) 372-3349

33. Hale

County Seat: Greensboro
Leland Avery
Probate Judge
Hale County Commission
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34. Henry

County Seat: Abbeville
JoAnn Smith
Probate Judge
Henry County Commission
101 Court Sq
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35. Houston

County Seat: Dothan
Mark Culver
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Houston County Commission
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36. Jackson

County Seat: Scottsboro
James Tidmore
Chairman
Jackson County Commission
102 E Laurel St Ste 47
Scottsboro, AL 35768-1852
Phone: (256) 574-9280

37. Jefferson

County Seat: Birmingham
Bettye Fine Collins
President
Jefferson County Commission
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38. Lamar

County Seat: Vernon
Johnny Rogers
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39. Lauderdale

County Seat: Florence
Dewey Mitchell
Probate Judge
Lauderdale County Commission
P.O. Box 1059
Florence, AL 35631-1059
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40. Lawrence

County Seat: Hayneville
Mose Jones, Jr.
Chairman
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41. Lee

County Seat: Opelika
Bill English
Probate Judge
Lee County Courthouse
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42. Limestone

County Seat: Athens
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43. Lowndes

County Seat: Hayneville
Charlie King, Jr.
Chairman
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44. Macon

County Seat: Tuskegee
Jesse Upshaw
Chairman
Macon County Commission
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45. Madison

County Seat: Huntsville
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Madison County Commission
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46. Marengo

County Seat: Linden
Ken Tucker
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Marengo County Commission
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47. Marion

County Seat: Hamilton
Bobby Burleson
Chairman
Marion County Commission
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Hamilton, AL 35570
Phone: (205)921-3172
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48. Marshall

County Seat: Guntersville
Douglas Flemming
Chairman
Marshall County Commission
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49. Mobile

County Seat: Mobile
Stephen Nodine
President
Mobile County Commission
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50. Monroe

County Seat: Monroeville
Mike Colquett
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Monroe County IDB
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51. Montgomery

County Seat: Montgomery
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Montgomery County Commission
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52. Morgan

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53. Perry

County Seat: Marion
Brett Harrison
Chairman
Perry County Commission
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Phone: (334) 683-2200

54. Pickens

County Seat: Carrollton
Willie Colvin
Chairman
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55. Pike

County Seat: Troy
Robin Sullivan
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56. Randolph

County Seat: Wedowee
Edward Creed
Chairman
Randolph County Commission
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57. Russell

County Seat: Phenix City
Cattie Epps
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58. Shelby

County Seat: Columbiana
Larry Dillard
Chairman
Shelby County Commission
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59. St Clair

County Seat: Ashville
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60. Sumter

County Seat: Livingston
Chairperson
Sumter County Commission
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Phone: (205) 652-2731

61. Talladega

County Seat: Talladega
Jimmy Roberson
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Talladega County Commission
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Talladega, AL 35161-6170
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62. Tallapoosa

County Seat: Dadeville
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63. Tuscaloosa

County Seat: Tuscaloosa
W. Hardy McCollum
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64. Walker

County Seat: Jasper
Bruce Hamrick
Chairman
Walker County Commission
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65. Washington

County Seat: Chatom
Charles Singleton
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Washington County Commission
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66. Wilcox

County Seat: Camden
Mark H. Curl
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67. Winston

County Seat: Double Springs
Jerry Mobley
Chairman
Winston County Commission
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COUNTY EXTENSION COORDINATORS

ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

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MISSION

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the primary outreach organization for the land-grant mission of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University, delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

OVERVIEW

Through the work of more than 500 Extension agents and other field-based staff, in addition to specialists in many facets of its six program areas, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System brings the research and knowledge of the land-grant universities and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, and the expertise of its many partners, to the people.

Extension plays a leading role in revitalizing Alabama communities, especially where declining farm populations have resulted in such problems as dwindling revenue bases and youth flight. The Economic & Community Development Institute, based at Auburn University, provides direction for County Extension Coordinators in economic and community development.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES

COASTAL GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia and Monroe Counties)

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MISSION

The Coastal Gateway Economic Development Authority's primary mission is to market and promote the assets of Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Monroe and Escambia Counties.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

CGEDA works to accomplish its mission through four program goals:

- Marketing and recruitment of the Coastal Gateway region as a top tier southeast destination location
- Retention and expansion of existing business to strengthen and expand the income potential of all areas
- Creation of a planning and development program to assist in prioritizing county-wide issues that impact the Coastal Gateway region as a whole
- Development of a flexible resource fund to help execute collaborative lobbying efforts, entrepreneurial opportunities, regional networking and seed capital for initiatives.

CGEDA carries out its mission and fulfills its goals through partnerships with the local chambers of commerce, the local county economic development authorities, local industrial development boards and local city and county governments.

I-85 CORRIDOR ALLIANCE™

(The Counties linked by the Interstate-85 Corridor from Montgomery to the Alabama-Georgia state line: Bullock, Chambers, Elmore, Lee, Macon, Montgomery, Russell, and Tallapoosa Counties)

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MISSION

The I-85 Corridor Alliance is a regional partnership of government, civic, business, and educational stakeholders dedicated to promoting innovation, prosperity, collaboration and competitiveness along Interstate I-85 in Alabama.

OVERVIEW

Drawing upon examples of other university-based economic partnerships, such as the Research Triangle in North Carolina, the I-85 Corridor Alliance™ strives to promote productive cooperative partnership among various stakeholder interests in the region of central and eastern Alabama defined by the counties linked by Interstate 85 from Montgomery to the Georgia state line.

Auburn University and the Auburn-Opelika metropolitan area serve as the hub of Alliance™ activity focused on

- Providing a forum among stakeholders with a goal of creating an overall economic vision for the region
- Creating development strategies which draw upon the unique assets of the region and its communities
- Creating a brand identity for promoting the region to outside interests
- Conducting joint projects of mutual benefit and interest to the region's stakeholders
- Promoting development initiatives of individual stakeholder partners to leverage value for the region.

The Alliance™ strives to reach across city, county and political lines to promote value added development of the region, ultimately creating high quality, high paying jobs, better quality of life and increased prosperity for all citizens along the corridor.

The Economic & Community Development Institute at Auburn University provides direction and administrative support for the I-85 Corridor Alliance™.

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(Bibb, Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, and Walker Counties)

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OVERVIEW

The Metropolitan Development Board is the lead economic development agency for the Birmingham-Hoover MSA, encompassing a seven-county region. MDB's focus is on recruiting quality companies from around the globe and assisting local businesses with expansion plans.

FOCUS AREAS

MDB and area leaders have identified several major business activities that match up exceptionally well with the Birmingham area's resources, and that have responded well to the area's location advantages, including:

- Financial Services
- Biotechnology
- Distribution Centers
- Automotive Parts Manufacturing & Distribution
- Headquarters and Administrative Support Office Operations
- Machinery and Fabricated Metals

NORTH ALABAMA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

(The Tennessee Valley Authority power distribution region of North Alabama: Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, Morgan, and a portion of Winston Counties)

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OVERVIEW

NAIDA assists in the location and development of industry in the TVA power distribution area of Alabama. NAIDA markets nationally and internationally.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- Available Buildings and Sites - There are over 100 buildings available in North Alabama that range in size from 2,000 sq. ft. to 691,000 sq. ft. These buildings are suitable for manufacturing, distribution or research and development. In addition, the region has available industrial sites ranging in size from 5 acres to over 2,000 acres. Specification sheets and photographs are available upon request.
- Demographics - NAIDA can provide complete community demographic information for each county within the North Alabama region.
- Visit Coordination – NAIDA can make all of the local arrangements for site or building visits within their region, including providing information on financing, environmental permitting, incentives and free labor training.
- Confidentiality and Valuable Relationships: NAIDA ensures confidentiality for all inquiries and correspondence, and all of their services are provided free of charge without obligation. They are committed to building valuable relationships that last.

SOUTHEAST ALABAMA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

(Barbour, Coffee, Covington, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Pike Counties)

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OVERVIEW

The Southeast Alabama Economic Development Partnership Web site is designed to provide the most comprehensive economic development information about Southeast Alabama. It was created through funding from the Economic Development Administration and the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning

and Development Commission. The content for the site was built and is maintained by Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission through a partnership with local and state organizations.

FOCUS AREAS

Web site content is broken up into five distinct categories:

- Industry
- Retirement
- Tourism
- Entrepreneurial/Small Business
- Agriculture

WEST ALABAMA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Fayette, Lamar, and Pickens Counties)

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MISSION

To promote and enhance the economic well being of all citizens, businesses and industry in Fayette, Lamar and Pickens counties through effective planning and proven development strategies.

OVERVIEW

The West Alabama Economic Development Authority (WAEDA) is a quasi-public agency encompassing three counties in West Alabama. The counties represented by the organization include Fayette, Lamar and Pickens counties. WAEDA was formed in October 2000 by state statute, with the sole purpose of promoting economic development throughout the tri-county region.

The authority can provide access to numerous incentives available through the State of Alabama and local governments. Incentives may include tax abatements for sales, use and property taxes, as well as infrastructure grants.

WEST ALABAMA REGIONAL ALLIANCE

(Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties)

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OVERVIEW

The West Alabama Regional Alliance is a five-county partnership designed to promote community and economic development in the areas of Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter counties.

MISSION

The mission of the Alliance is to work together to improve the quality of life in West Alabama by supporting effective leadership, developing the region's workforce, and promoting economic growth. Additionally, the Alliance will promote regional unity and collaboration, serve as an advocate for regional community and economic development, and provide opportunities to discuss regional issues and concerns.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Economic Development Committee has been charged with the following objectives:

- To establish a program to attract retirees to the area
- To support existing business and industry
- To focus on recruiting new industry along the I-20/59 corridor and throughout the region
- To promote the development of the natural resources of the region.

For More Information: The Alliance also maintains:

- A toll-free telephone line for answering questions related to regional tourism.
- A Web site, which contains regional information regarding historic sites, hotels, and other tourism related information (such as a calendar of events). This Web site can be accessed online at <http://www.alabamacanebrake.org>.



REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS (AARC)

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OVERVIEW

The Alabama Association of Regional Councils is an organization representing all twelve Regional Councils within the State of Alabama. Working through the AARC, the Regional Councils form statewide task forces to accomplish missions of statewide importance. Through communication, planning, policymaking, coordination, advocacy, and technical assistance, the regional council serves the local governments and citizens in the region.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Regionalism is working together and sharing resources to meet needs and take advantage of opportunities. Through regional councils, cities and counties can:

- Work together to secure and administer grants and loans from various sources
- Support a shared staff of professional talent to supplement local capabilities
- Participate in cooperative programs that are efficient and effective because of "economies of scale"
- Share information and solutions about common problems or issues that are not confined by political boundaries
- Stimulate overall economic, social, and physical environments
- Promote coordination of public and private interests and investments
- Avoid duplication of services and facilities

It is not easy to make regionalism work. However, the advantages are clear -- communities can solve problems and provide higher quality services at a reduced cost. Regional councils are a "service arm" of local governments. Their activities are directed in response to local needs. These needs may currently exist or be based on projected growth, changing lifestyles, and technological innovations.

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2. Northwest AL Council of Local Governments

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