

SUMMARY DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
For The *Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update* for the
Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization Planning Area.

Prepared April, 2009 by the City of Montgomery MPO Transportation Planning Staff
For the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

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SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

The City of Montgomery MPO Transportation Planning Staff held a two week public comment period from March 2, 2009 through March 16, 2009 to solicit comments from the general public regarding the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update. In addition, the City of Montgomery Transportation Planning Staff held a public hearing to solicit comments from the general public.

- **Comments Received**

Three (3) comments were received via mail. No comments were received from the public involvement sites in the City of Montgomery, Montgomery County, City of Prattville, Autauga County and Elmore County.

- **Publicity**

The City of Montgomery MPO Transportation Planning Staff placed an advertisement in the Montgomery Advertiser, Millbrook Independent, Prattville Progress, and Wetumpka Herald. Also, the Draft Congestion Management System Plan document, advertisement and comment form were placed on the Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) website for access the internet at http://www.montgomerympo.org/public_involvement.html .

The Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update document, advertisement, and comment forms were placed at locations listed below for public viewing and comment from March 2, 2009 through March 16, 2009:

Montgomery City/County

- Montgomery City/County Library, Main Branch, 245 High Street
- Montgomery Planning and Development Department, 27 Madison Ave, 2nd floor
- Montgomery Intermodal Transportation Facility, 495 Molton St
- Montgomery Housing Authority, Main Office, 1020 Bell Street
- Rufus Lewis Library, 3095 Mobile Highway
- Rosa L. Parks Library, 1276 Rosa L. Parks Ave
- ALDOT Sixth Division Office, 1525 Coliseum Blvd
- E.L. Lowder Library, 2590 Bell Road

City of Prattville/Autauga County

- Prattville/Autauga County Library, 254 Doster Street
- Prattville City Hall, City Clerk's Office – Room 162, 101 W. Main St

Elmore County/City of Millbrook/City of Wetumpka/Town of Coosada

- Millbrook Library, 3650 Grandview Road
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- Coosada Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, 5800 Coosada Rd.
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MONTGOMERY MPO COMMENT FORM
DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN UPDATE
FOR THE MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA

Carla Kruger
NAME

3/12/09
DATE

268 Perry Hill Rd
ADDRESS

Montgomery
CITY

1. Please list all comments regarding the Draft Congestion Management System Plan document that is enclosed: Please see attached pages

2. Please list any overall comments regarding congestion in Montgomery, Autauga and Elmore Counties: Focus and spend more on managing projected congestion due to new construction, roads, developments, etc. and spend less on attempting to eliminate present congestion, and use the least disruptive measures to ease present congestion problems, such as signal timing, access management, and an emphasis on, maybe tax or other breaks for, using alternative transportation.

3. Please list comments about this public involvement procedure: I think more than the minimum required notice should be considered. I hope to comment on the public involvement plan to suggest that there be more advertising of the purpose and meetings of MPO, and when a project is being considered that will directly adversely affect a property owner, those owners should be notified in writing that such project is being discussed.

Please return by March 16, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. to the address below. Telephone comments may be made by calling 241-2249. All comments will be provided for MPO members review before final consideration of the draft CMSP document as final. Thank you for your involvement.

Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
P.O. Box 1111, 27 Madison Ave Second Floor, Planning and Development Department,
Transportation Planning Division, Montgomery AL 36101-1111
Telephone: (334) 241-2249 Fax: (334) 241-2326
E-mail: rsmith@montgomeryal.gov

MONTGOMERY MPO COMMENT FORM – Page 2
DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN UPDATE FOR THE
MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
PLANNING AREA

Comments concerning Congestion Management System Plan Update 2009-2013

Page 47, Table 4.2

MPO should utilize the access management principle of categorizing roadways according to the function they are intended to serve, and use minor roadways (collectors and locals) primarily to provide access to and from homes and businesses, not for arterials.

Page 51

The MPO should and a successful CMS must recognize that substantial congestion mitigation can be achieved by alleviating or improving localized bottlenecks. Also, access management can ease congestion when coupled with signal timing (as opposed to road widening). (Madison Avenue at Union St. example). Property owners on this segment should each be notified in writing of any proposed project.

Page 54

Note that localized improvements implemented at specific locations (e.g., intersections) may address specific bottlenecks that contribute to overall congestion – for example, for the Atlanta Highway at Perry Hill Road intersection, it is recommended to consider a traffic signal timing upgrade.

Also, concerning the Atlanta Highway at Perry Hill Road intersection, the north bound Perry Hill Road lanes used to be a left turn lane, a straight lane, and a right turn lane. Some years ago this was changed to a left turn lane, a left or straight lane, and a right turn lane. Speaking from daily experience at all times of day, this has not worked out. Most drivers get in the left/straight lane whether they are going left or straight. This lane gets backed up much farther than the other lanes. If it went back to the left, straight and right lanes only, I believe some bottleneck at that intersection would improve.

Page 57

A roundabout is suggested at Birmingham Highway and Bell St./Day St. Much as I like the idea, judging by how people fail to grasp the concept at Washington Ave. and Ripley St., doing this could be a horrible mistake.

Page 59

Eastern Blvd. at I-85 ramps: Note recommendation to perform an interchange capacity study to determine the feasibility and potential benefits of ramp lanes and then modifying I-85 accordingly. There is work currently being done at this location. Was any kind of study done prior to this work?

MONTGOMERY MPO COMMENT FORM – Page 3

Page 63

Note recommends not increasing capacity on Vaughn Rd. from Perry Hill Rd. to Eastern Blvd. as it would not be in the interest of the communities that depend on the facility as a neighborhood street, but rather recommends a two way turn lane be added and the speed limit be set at no more than 30 mph. I think this is a great idea. It recognizes that this section has a residential nature and should operate as such. The 30 mph speed limit would have to be strictly enforced, however. As it is people regularly go 45 or even 50 mph on this segment. Property owners on this segment should each be notified in writing of any proposed project.

Page 63

Recommends consolidating access along Zelda Rd. between I-85 and Vaughn Rd. “although it would be politically difficult to consolidate access points.” The MPO should have the political strength to make this happen. It sounds like a safer and more effective plan than a 5-lane with middle turning lane.

Page 70

Discussing individual landowner resistance to retrofit access management (consolidating access and/or improving flow with turn lanes and signalization), Landowners might be more open to these methods than just having their property taken so a wider road can be built and they end up living on an arterial when it should be a collector. These less disruptive methods are likely also less expensive.

Page 71

Note comment about dynamic message signs being useless if there are no alternative routes. The MPO should consider this when looking at purchasing message signs for I-85 and I-65.

Page 73

Note especially: **Most of the projects in the LRTP that are aimed at addressing congested locations with additional lanes or new roads. It is highly recommended that some of these projects be revisited in terms of the intended functional classification of these facilities and how alternative access management strategies might reduce local congestion.**

With reference to projected 2016-2030 projects, also recommends continued study of the effectiveness of adding physical capacity (new lanes, roads) and that of strategies to more efficiently use existing facilities such as access management.

Page 76

Re: Project Nos. 100044273, 10044272, 100007740 (Widen Perry Hill Rd from Atlanta Hwy to Harrison Rd:

****Turning movements to and from many accesses may compromise actual capacity gains expected from the widening. Widening will also disrupt residences and incur significant ROW costs. Further study is recommended . . . and investigate the merits of alternative proposals**** Property owners on this segment should each be notified in writing of any proposed project.

MONTGOMERY MPO COMMENT FORM – Page 4

Page 76

Re: Widening of Ann St. from Atlanta Hwy to Highland Ave – access management study strongly recommended, access density may reduce realizable benefits from widening. Property owners on this segment should each be notified in writing of any proposed project.

Page 76

Re: Widening of McGehee Rd from Carter Hill Rd to E. S. Blvd – investigate merits of alternative proposals. Property owners on this segment should each be notified in writing of any proposed project.

Page 77 Conclusion: Rethink the common approach to mitigating congestion of simply adding capacity . . . embrace access management, public transit and travel demand management as alternative, possibly more sustainable, congestion management solutions.

MONTGOMERY MPO COMMENT FORM
DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN UPDATE
FOR THE MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA

Greta Duckett
NAME

3/16/09
DATE

3821 Robbins Road
ADDRESS

Montgomery
CITY

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Comments concerning Congestion Management System Plan Update 2009-2013

Page 11, Table 2.1, 4th and 5th lines

“Results from the 2030 adopted model network” for Travel Delay for Freeways and Incident Related Delay both list 0 vehicle hours (vs. 318 and 795 for 2000 validated network):

If this is not a typo, it seems overly optimistic (or impossible) to project zero delays. Or is it that the freeways just not included in the 2030 model?

Page 47, Table 4.2

MPO should consider the access management principle of categorizing roadways according to the function they are intended to serve, and use minor roadways (collectors and locals) primarily to provide access to and from homes and businesses, not for arterials.

Also important to consider is the principle of making sure there is enough room between intersections so that traffic operations at one do not interfere with traffic operations at another, both in retrofitting existing intersections and in building new roads and developments. Traffic projections should be consulted before finalizing signaling.

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The MPO should and a successful CMS must recognize that substantial congestion mitigation can be achieved by alleviating or improving localized bottlenecks. Also, access management can ease congestion when coupled with signal timing (as opposed to road widening). (Madison Avenue at Union St. example). Property owners on this segment should each be notified in writing of any proposed project.

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With reference to projected 2016-2030 projects, also recommends continued study of the effectiveness of adding physical capacity (new lanes, roads) and that of strategies to more efficiently use existing facilities such as access management.**

MONTGOMERY AREA MPO COMMENT FORM
DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN
DOCUMENT FOR THE MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA

Miss Tomora Michelle Pace
NAME

3/23/09
DATE

870 Mindingall Road
ADDRESS

Tuskegee, AL. 36083-5254
CITY

1. Please list all comments regarding areas where you are currently seeing or

experiencing traffic congestion: Okay, my comments on currently seeing or experiencing traffic congestion is primarily on Eastern Blvd. Also, there is traffic congestion going towards Vaughn Road.

2. Please list any overall comments regarding congestion in Montgomery, Autauga

and Elmore Counties: Overall, the congestion needs improvement mainly in the Montgomery area. Montgomery has the highest fatalities (car accidents) that I've ever seen. I've been involved in two accidents already in Montgomery.

3. Please list comments about this public involvement procedure: The public involvement procedure is very important. The public needs to be safe on all highways. Honestly, I don't or won't feel safe driving in Montgomery traffic. There needs to be changes made to effectively deal with traffic congestion.

Please return by Monday March 16, 2009 to the front desk here or mail to the address below. Telephone comments may be made by calling 241-2249. All comments will be provided for MPO members review. Thank you for your involvement.

Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Transportation Planning Division,
Intermodal Transportation Facility, 495 Molton Street, Montgomery AL 36104
Telephone: (334) 241-2249 Fax: (334) 241-2326
E-mail: rsmith@montgomeryal.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD ON THE DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN DOCUMENT FOR THE MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA

Notice is hereby given that the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff will hold a Public Involvement Meeting and comment period concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update for Montgomery, Elmore, and Autauga Counties to discuss roadway congestion with the general public. The Draft Congestion Management System Report details the traffic patterns for the morning rush hour, evening rush hour and non-rush hour periods for 320 miles of roadway identified by the MPO as congested. Citizens are asked to review the plan and comment.

A Public Hearing Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the City of Montgomery-City Council Chambers, City of Montgomery City Hall, located at 103 North Perry Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.

The Public Hearing Meeting format will be an open-house format for the meeting. Attendance at the meeting is at your convenience. Preliminary information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Report will be available at the meeting as well as at public involvement sites listed below. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)-Transportation Planning Staff will be available at the meetings to answer questions and hear concerns. The public involvement comment period will last for 15 days from March 2, 2009 until March 16, 2009.

In addition to the public involvement meeting, concerned citizens can see the information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update and make comments at the following locations listed below.

Comments-The Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update information and comment forms are available at various locations in the City of Montgomery (see list below). Comment Forms are available at each location as well as on the internet.

Montgomery City/County

- Montgomery City/County Library, Main Branch, 245 High Street
- Montgomery Intermodal Transportation Facility, 495 Molton Street
- Montgomery Area Transit System, 2318 West Fairview Ave
- Montgomery Housing Authority, Main Office, 1020 Bell Street
- Rufus Lewis Library, 3095 Mobile Highway
- Rosa L. Parks Library, 1276 Rosa L. Parks Ave
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- E.L. Lowder Library, 2590 Bell Road
- Montgomery Planning and Development Department, 27 Madison Av. 2nd Floor

City of Prattville/Autauga County

- Prattville/Autauga County Library, 254 Doster Street
- Prattville City Hall, City Clerk's Office – Room 162, 101 W. Main St

Elmore County/City of Millbrook/City of Wetumpka/Town of Coosada

- Millbrook Library, 3650 Grandview Road
- Millbrook City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 3390 Main St.
- Coosada Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, 5800 Coosada Rd.
- Wetumpka City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 212 S. Main St.

The Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update is available on the web at <http://www.montgomerympo.org> under the **Public Involvement** link at http://www.montgomerympo.org/public_involvement.html. For more information or to comment by telephone, call the City of Montgomery - Transportation Planning Division Staff at (334) 241-2249 by March 16, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Our Office is located at the City of Montgomery's Intermodal Transportation Facility, at 495 Molton Street. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Comments can also be e-mailed to rsmith@montgomeryal.gov or sent by mail to:

Mr. Robert E. Smith Jr., Senior Transportation Planner
Transportation Planning Division Head
City of Montgomery, Planning and Development Department
Transportation Planning Division
Intermodal Transfer Facility
495 Molton Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

If you have special disabilities that requires special assistance, please contact the City of Montgomery - Transportation Planning Division Staff at least 72 hours before the meeting at the telephone number or email address listed above. All public hearings are open to the public.

MONTGOMERY MPO COMMENT FORM
DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN
UPDATE FOR THE MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA

NAME

DATE

ADDRESS

CITY

1. Please list all comments regarding the Draft Congestion Management System Plan document that is enclosed: _____

2. Please list any overall comments regarding congestion in Montgomery, Autauga and Elmore Counties: _____

3. Please list comments about this public involvement procedure: _____

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MONTGOMERY AREA METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Public Hearing Meeting
Draft Congestion Management System Plan
City Council Chambers
Sign-In Sheet – Guests

(March 12, 2009 5 – 7 p.m.)

<u>NAME (please print)</u>	<u>AGENCY (if associated)</u>
1. Kindell Anderson	MPD Staff
2. Greta Duckett	Citizen
3. Jon BROADWAY	"
4. Robert Smith	mpo Staff
5. Kelvin Miller	MATS
6. Dwight H. Davis	ALDOT
7. April Delchamps	mpo Staff
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PUBLIC NOTICE

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Notice is hereby given that the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff will hold a Public Involvement Meeting and comment period concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update for Montgomery, Elmore, and Autauga Counties to discuss roadway congestion with the general public. The Draft Congestion Management System Report details the traffic patterns for the morning rush hour, evening rush hour and non-rush hour periods for 320 miles of roadway identified by the MPO as congested. Citizens are asked to review the plan and comment.

A Public Hearing Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the City of Montgomery-City Council Chambers, City of Montgomery City Hall, located at 103 North Perry Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.

The Public Hearing Meeting format will be an open-house format for the meeting. Attendance at the meeting is at your convenience. Preliminary information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Report will be available at the meeting as well as at public involvement sites listed below. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Transportation Planning Staff will be available at the meetings to answer questions and hear concerns. The public involvement comment period will last for 15 days from March 2, 2009 until March 16, 2009.

In addition to the public involvement meeting, concerned citizens can see the information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update and make comments at the following locations listed below.

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 Transportation Planning Division
 Intermodal Transfer Facility
 495 Molton Street
 Montgomery, AL 36104

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The Millbrook Independent

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Organization(MPO)-Transportation Planning Staff will be available at the meetings to answer questions and hear concerns. The public involvement comment period will last for 15 days from March 2, 2009 until March 16, 2009.

In addition to the public involvement meeting, concerned citizens can see the information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update and make comments at the following locations listed below.

Comments-The Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update information and comment forms are available at various locations in the City of Montgomery (see list below). Comment Forms are available at each location as well as online.

Montgomery City/County

- Montgomery City/County Library, Main Branch, 245 High Street
 - Montgomery City Hall, Room 207, 103 North Perry Street
 - Montgomery Area Transit System, 2318 West Fairview Ave
 - Montgomery Housing Authority, Main Office, 1020 Bell Street
 - Rufus Lewis Library, 3095 Mobile Highway
 - Rosa L. Parks Library, 1276 Rosa L. Parks Ave
 - ALDOT Sixth Division Office, 1525 Coliseum Blvd
 - E.L. Lowder Library, 2590 Bell Road
- City of Prattville/Autauga County**
- Prattville/Autauga County Library, 254 Doster Street
 - Prattville City Hall, City Clerk's Office - Room 162, 101 W. Main St

Elmore County/City of Millbrook/City of Wetumpka/Town of Coosada

- Millbrook Library, 3650 Grandview

Road

- Millbrook City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 3390 Main St.
- Coosada Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, 5800 Coosada Rd. •Wetumpka City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 212 S. Main St.

The Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update

is available on the web at <http://www.montgomerympo.org> under the Public Involvement link at http://www.montgomerympo.org/public_involvement.html. For more information or to comment by telephone, call the City of Montgomery - Transportation Planning Division Staff at (334) 241-2249 by March 12, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Our Office is located at the City of Montgomery's Intermodal Transfer Facility, at 495 Molton Street. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Comments can also be e-mailed to rsmith@montgomeryal.gov or sent by mail to:

Mr. Robert E. Smith Jr., Senior Transportation Planner, Transportation Planning Division Head, City of Montgomery Planning and Development, Department, Transportation Planning Division, Intermodal Transfer Facility, 495 Molton Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

If you have special disabilities that requires special assistance, please contact the City of Montgomery - Transportation Planning Division Staff at least 72 hours before the meeting at the telephone number or email address listed above. All public hearings are open to the public.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD ON THE DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN DOCUMENT FOR THE MONTGOMERY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA

Notice is hereby given that the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff will hold a Public Involvement Meeting and comment period concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update for Montgomery, Elmore, and Autauga Counties to discuss roadway congestion with the general public. The Draft Congestion Management System Report details the traffic patterns for the morning rush hour, evening rush hour and non-rush hour periods for 3.70 miles of roadway identified by the MPO as congested. Citizens are asked to review the plan and comment.

A Public Hearing Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the City of Montgomery-City Council Chambers, City of Montgomery City Hall, located at 103 North Perry Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.

The Public Hearing Meeting format will be an open-house format for the meeting. Attendance at the meeting is at your convenience. Preliminary information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Report will be available at the meeting as well as at public involvement sites listed below. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)-Transportation Planning Staff will be available at the meetings to answer questions and hear concerns. The public involvement comment period will last for 15 days from March 2, 2009 until March 16, 2009.

In addition to the public involvement meeting, concerned citizens can see the information concerning the Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update and make comments at the following locations listed below.

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Montgomery City/County

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- Montgomery Intermodal Transportation Facility, 495 Molton Street
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- Montgomery Housing Authority, Main Office, 1070 Bell Street
- Rufus Lewis Library, 3095 Mobile Highway
- Rosa L. Parks Library, 1276 Rosa L. Parks Ave
- ADOF Sixth Division Office, 1525 Coiseum Blvd
- E.L. Lowder Library, 2590 Bell Road
- Montgomery Planning and Development Department, 27 Madison Av. 2nd Floor

City of Prattville/Autauga County

- Prattville/Autauga County Library, 254 Doster Street
- Prattville City Hall, City Clerk's Office -- Room 162, 101 W. Main St

Elmore County/City of Millbrook/City of Wetumpka/Town of Coosada

- Millbrook Library, 3650 Grandview Road
- Millbrook City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 3390 Main St
- Coosada Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, 5800 Coosada Rd.
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The Draft Congestion Management System Plan Update is available on the web at <http://www.montgomerympo.org> under the **Public Involvement** link at http://www.montgomerympo.org/public_involvement.html. For more information or to comment by telephone, call the City of Montgomery - Transportation Planning Division Staff at (334) 241-2249 by March 16, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Our Office is located at the City of Montgomery's Intermodal Transportation Facility, at 495 Molton Street. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Comments can also be e-mailed to rsmith@montgomeryal.gov or sent by mail to:

Mt. Robert E. Smith Jr., Senior Transportation Planner
Transportation Planning Division Head
City of Montgomery, Planning and Development Department
Transportation Planning Division
Intermodal Transfer Facility
495 Molton Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

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Prattville Progress 2-28-09

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD ON THE
DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PLAN
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PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) PLANNING AREA**

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