

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## TOWN OF PIKE ROAD AWARDED ADECA TRAILS GRANT

The Town of Pike Road has been awarded a grant that will help fund the construction of trailhead facilities for the Natural Trail system. The grant, which is administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), is in the amount of \$36,000.

“As a former mayor I am aware of the positive impact that recreational trails and parks have on communities,” said ADECA Director Jim Byard Jr. “In addition to encouraging a physically fit population, outdoor facilities, particularly the one planned in Pike Road, are wonderful locations for social activities, events and gatherings that bring cohesiveness to communities. Recreational facilities and their use and upkeep also speak volumes to visitors and potential businesses and industries about the pride residents take in their community.”

The first phase of the Pike Road Natural Trail is a four-mile segment that occupies the right-of-way along a portion of Meriwether Road. Construction was completed late in 2011 and was funded through a matching grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Trailheads provide staging areas, parking, picnic facilities and ADA compliant restroom facilities at key locations along the Pike Road Natural Trail.

“The trail is one of the many recreation offerings that are planned in the Town of Pike Road and that help build on the tradition of outdoor activity this community has long enjoyed,” said Mayor Gordon Stone. “We are pleased to be able to enhance the structures associated with the trail by virtue of this grant from ADECA, and we hope the improvement will make the trail and its health and wellness benefits accessible to even more people every day.”

Mayor Stone added, “We are very grateful to our partners at the Central Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission for assisting the town in the preparation of the grant application. This is one of many partnerships that allow us to provide excellent quality of life offerings while operating in a fiscally conservative manner.”

The grant award will be used to complete the restroom facilities at the second trailhead, located at the old town hall site near the intersection of Meriwether Road and Pike Road. The facility should be complete by spring 2012. Plans are underway to extend the trail in subsequent phases, incorporating many of the town’s more than 30 neighborhoods.

For more information on the Pike Road Natural Trail, please contact Gordon Stone or Mary Catherine Barganier at 272-9883.

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