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To serve as a catalyst for regional leadership, cooperation, and sustainability in Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, and Walker counties.

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2020: A YEAR IN REVIEW

AGENCY INITIATIVES
Alabama Partners for Clean Air (APCA)
- Reduced traffic emissions by over 83 pounds per day through partnership initiatives
- Increased alternative fuel usage in the metropolitan area by 2,791,297 gallons
- Tested 93 cars for emissions standards, and 20 of those cars were repaired to decrease emissions
- Gained pledges from 2,094 residents agreeing to promote air quality and reduce emissions

CommuteSmart
- Added 1,095 new participants in the program and maintained an average of 32 vanpools per month
- Reduced more than 11 million commuter miles and saved participants $6 million in commuter costs
- Gained 4 new corporate partners and attended 59 outreach events to promote the program prior to COVID-19 pandemic, which restricted on-site events

COMMUNITY PLANNING
- Completed and initiated 3 citywide Comprehensive Plans, saving municipalities an average of $100,000 per plan
- Engaged approximately 10% of each municipality’s population using community surveys, open houses, pop-up events, and virtual public meetings for Comprehensive Plans
- Wrote new Mixed-Use Zoning Districts for two municipalities to add to their Zoning Ordinances

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- Provided assistance and support with 15 grant applications submitted by local governments and agencies, which attracted over $4.4 million of federal and state funding to the region
- Issued 57 loans totaling over $3.28 million through the Revolving Loan (RLF) Program with Sabre Finance
- Assisted other state regional councils with the development of Regional Hazard Mitigation Plans for the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) divisions represented in the region

MEDICAID WAIVER
- Secured $20,000 in grant funds through the Lucille Beeson Foundation to provide emergency assistance to clients
- Served 882 disabled or elderly individuals throughout the metropolitan area, saving the state $60.5 million in funding

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
- Completed 5 APPLE Feasibility Studies, saving municipalities an average of $48,000 per study
- Completed 2 Safety Studies, which identified potential improvements and allowed municipalities to apply for federal safety funds
- Completed an analysis to identify the impacts of COVID-19 traffic volumes and crashes
- Completed a study that identified the owner/maintainer of each federal aid route and developed a GIS database to share it