

Member Hotline

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DOWNTOWN MOBILE ALLIANCE

The Streets, They are A-Changin'

For decades folks who worked in or visited Downtown had to navigate sometimes confusing one-way streets, and several traffic studies have indicated redevelopment efforts in the city's center would be aided by reworking traffic patterns. The city of Mobile is beginning to move forward with some of the recommendations to convert many one-way streets to two-way. The first phase of the project, scheduled to begin in early November, will involve the streets bordering the new RSA Tower and Battle House Hotel project.

Also included in the early conversion will be Royal Street from Congress to Government and St. Joseph Street from Congress to Dauphin. Subsequent phases will target St. Louis, St. Francis, Lawrence and Washington Streets. The good news is that the plan preserves most of the on-street parking along these arteries.

The City is committed to creating a more vibrant downtown and a more walkable city is the key to attracting businesses and visitors. Converting one-way streets to two-way will slow (not reduce) traffic; double the opportunities that commuters have to patronize the shops on a given street; reduce driving by creating more direct routes; and vastly improve pedestrian access across the street and through the rest of the neighborhood. This is the first step in what we hope will be a series of traffic changes that will enhance the appeal of downtown.



For decades one-way streets have dominated downtown, but a pedestrian focus is leading the conversion to two-way streets.

For more information about the city's traffic circulation plan, contact the Traffic Engineering department, 251-208-2960, or pick up a copy of the plan at the Downtown Mobile Alliance office at 261 Dauphin Street.

New Equipment Assists Regents and Stewards

The streets and sidewalks in the Business Improvement District are cleaner and safer thanks to two new pieces of equipment now in service:

The **Regents** are now able to patrol the District on a Segway, a high-tech personal transportation device that allows both speed and better visibility. Atop the Segway, Regents travel with the openness and accessibility of foot patrols, but with the speed of a motorized vehicle. The Segway was a big hit with BayFest visitors and even helped apprehend a suspect who tried to flee before police arrived on the scene of an altercation.

The **Stewards**' new entry in their arsenal of weapons to keep the sidewalks cleaner, the Gum Buster, does exactly what its name implies. By using steam, a cleaning solution and a small wire brush, the Gum Buster allows Stewards to remove the unsightly residue that mars our sidewalks. The process is a slow one, but the improvement is dramatic. Once the District has been cleaned, the hope is that folks who chew gum will be less inclined to simply throw it on the sidewalks, especially when trash cans abound in the district.



Steward with Gum Buster Cleans Sidewalk



Segway allows easy movement through BID

Residential Study Complete

The results of the Residential Market Potential Analysis for downtown Mobile are in and are very promising. Author of the study, Laurie Volk, will be in Mobile November 9th to discuss the findings and answer questions.

The meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. at the Downtown Mobile Alliance office at 261 Dauphin Street. Call 434-8498 for more information.

Web Site Launched—be sure to check out the Alliance's new web site for the latest news and information about downtown. www.downtownmobile.org

