



The Old Bull Slough Bridge (Conecuh County, Ala.) was constructed in 1924.

The Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program: Cullman County

The Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIP) was introduced by Governor Robert Bentley in 2012 as a bold infrastructure initiative aimed at investing over **\$1 billion** into Alabama's local roads and bridges. As a result of ATRIP's investment plan, many counties are completing 15 to 20 years of road and bridge projects in a three to four year period. **This accelerated investment into local infrastructure helps counties address many critical needs by giving them the resources to rehabilitate, preserve, and improve roads and bridges on county systems—improvements that would otherwise not be possible.** ATRIP involves the use of federal funds, and is only applicable to roads that are functionally classified as a major collector or higher. In addition to the millions of dollars the ATRIP investment has saved taxpayers by leveraging record low interest rates versus delayed construction costs, studies also show that the \$1.25 billion investment provides Alabama's citizens with nearly **\$6.275 billion in benefits.***

The ATRIP investment in Cullman County has produced 61 miles of road improvements. **The \$12 million in improvements delivered over a 3 year period is equivalent to 20+ years of normal federal allocations received by the county.** The ATRIP road and bridge projects in Cullman County have directly impacted numerous residents residing along the county routes that received upgrades. The ATRIP investments also improved the mobility of over 107 school buses carrying approximately 6,500 students each school day, and sustained or created jobs for 7 contractors (including 2 local contractors). The citizens of Cullman County received an estimated benefit of \$62 Million due to ATRIP's investment in the Cullman County projects.

*67 Counties, **One** Voice*

CULLMAN COUNTY: MORE ROAD WORK AHEAD?



POPULATION: 81,289

COUNTY SEAT: Cullman, Alabama
LAND AREA: 734.8 mi²

What's Next for Alabama County Roads & Bridges?

Each year, Alabama motorists spend **\$3.1 billion** combating the deficient conditions of Alabama's roads and bridges. Currently, county governments have approximately \$369 million in annual revenues to provide maintenance and improvements to the county road and bridge systems, but it is not enough. A 2010 study by the Association of County Engineers of Alabama and the Alabama Department of Transportation detailed that Alabama counties actually need \$502 million each year to adequately preserve and improve the 43,284 miles of county paved roads and 8,650 county bridge structures throughout the state. Simply stated: Alabama counties do not have the resources to perform the necessary preservation and improvement activities to roads and bridges, not to mention basic maintenance functions. A sustainable road and bridge revenue source for local governments—created out of the momentum of ATRIP—would have a massive impact on Alabama's infrastructure at a fraction of the **\$3.1 billion** Alabama drivers already spend every year due to deteriorating roads and bridges.

ATRIP Project: CR 1223

ATRIP invested \$1,034,457.42 (80% federal and 20% local) in roadway maintenance and safety improvements to County Road 1223 in Cullman County. The resurfacing project benefited over 95 homes, 3 churches, and 5 businesses located on the roads—not to mention the surrounding communities of West Point, Battleground, and South Vinemont.

In addition to the residential and recreational impacts, the project improved access to 250 acres of timber land and 578 acres of farm land—with combined property values exceeding \$3 million. These upgrades will aid in the movement of goods from the farm to the market. The 4.138 miles of ATRIP improvements aided the county in addressing problems that could not have been funded with the county's current revenue streams.



A SILENT CRISIS IN CULLMAN COUNTY:

A 2010 joint study by the Association of County Engineers of Ala. and the Ala. Department of Transportation indicated that Cullman County should be expending \$13.6 million per year on a 10 year cycle to resurface its ~1500 mile paved road network.

An additional \$743,000 annual expenditure is needed to replace and rehabilitate the 158 county-owned bridge structures on a 50 year cycle.

The combined annual investment needed in Cullman County to preserve and improve the existing paved roads and bridge structures is **\$14.3 million—a little more than half of the entire ATRIP investment.**

The needed investments to improve and preserve the county's road and bridge network represent a **300% increase** in the amount available for Cullman County to perform basic maintenance activities.