



A Publication of the Public Affairs Council of the West Alabama Chamber of Commerce

Upcoming Events

- Jul 26
Board of Directors
- Aug 1
Adopt-A-School Breakfast Seminar
- Aug 1
Transportation Forum
- Aug 7
Chamber In Session -
Welcome Congressman
Artur Davis
- Aug 13
Executive Committee
- Aug 14
Chamber After Hours
Networking Event
- Aug 16
Public Affairs Council
- Sept 20
State of the Community
Breakfast
- Sept 25-26
Washington Fly In

Inside this issue

- [The Advocacy Role of The Chamber - Your Involvement Is Key!](#)
- [Chamber Survey Questions - Check Them Out!](#)

The Advocacy Role of The Chamber - Your Involvement Is Key!

As part of the mission and objectives of The Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, active involvement by our member in public, legislative and governmental affairs is essential. Acting as the "voice of business", The Chamber's effective leadership is tied directly to active participation by our members and business leaders.

With a broad agenda, The Chamber is often called on for guidance, input and recommendations related to public policy issues at local, state and federal levels of government. Through our committee system, we seek business expertise and leadership on these issues in order to effectively represent the interests of our members on a diverse agenda of legislative issues.

Therefore, we encourage and seek your participation. And there are several scheduled functions coming in the next few weeks, all of which are related to Chamber adopted goals and objectives in governmental and public affairs. For your interest and scheduling, here are a few important dates:

Wed., August 1st - 3:00 PM - Transportation Forum - Chamber/Morrow Room

A review of the recently released report from the Alabama Commission On Infrastructure will be the subject. Dr. Greg Harris of the University of Alabama at Huntsville's Office For Economic Development & Office For Freight, Logistics and Transportation will make the presentation.

Tues., August 7th - 12 Noon - Chamber/Rotary In Session - Indian Hills CC

Congressman Artur Davis is the guest speaker, co-sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa and The Chamber. Reservations are required at \$20.00 per person for non-Rotarians. Call The Chamber at 391.0559. Seating is limited.

Thurs., August 16th - 7:30 AM - Public Affairs Council -

Chamber/Morrow Room

Probate Judge Hardy McCollum will present an overview of goals, issues and projects for Tuscaloosa County. Make plans to participate and learn what's going on in our county government.

September 25-26 - Washington Fly In

Plans are being finalized for The Chamber's 2007 Fly In, which will include a dinner with our Congressional delegation on Tuesday night, September 25th at Bistro Bis at the Hotel George. Visits to Congressional offices will take place on September 26th. Space is limited. Registration is \$150.00 per person. Each person will be responsible for their air and hotel (a block of rooms is currently being arranged based on the responses to participate). Contact The Chamber today to reserve your spot.

Sept. 20th - 7:30 AM - State of the Community Breakfast - Four Points Sheraton

The Chamber will host our annual breakfast that will feature Probate Judge and Chair of the Tuscaloosa County Commission, Hardy McCollum; Mayor Walt Maddox of the City of Tuscaloosa; and Mayor Harvey Fretwell of the City of Northport. Make plans now to be in attendance.

These programs, along with the meetings of various Chamber committees and task forces, are important in fulfilling the advocacy role of The Chamber and to make sure the "voice of business" is effective. The Public Affairs Council meets each month on the **3rd Thursday at 7:30 AM** at The Chamber, and any Chamber member is welcome to attend.

In addition, The Chamber currently has various task forces and committees dealing with tax and fiscal policy, environmental issues, transportation and infrastructure, sign and landscaping ordinances and various other activities. If you would like to be involved, simply call The Chamber at 758.7588 or you can email johnnie@tuscaloosachamber.com.

As business leaders and members of The Chamber, we encourage your active, visible and responsive participation. You make a positive difference as we work together to address a growing menu of legislative and governmental issues that can impact the climate for business.

[Top](#)

Chamber Survey Questions - Check Them Out!

Watch for a regular survey question on The Chamber's website and respond and give your opinion. For example, the latest survey question is: "Are you aware of the various workforce development services available in Tuscaloosa County for your business?" Based on input from our members, 82% of our respondents answered 'no'.

This is good information for our planning, advocacy role and committee

activities. Be sure and check out the survey question on The Chamber's website.

Thank you for your support of The Chamber and your involvement. Please let us know how we can be of service, and for complete details and schedules of various Chamber programs, visit our website at www.tuscaloosachamber.com.

[Top](#)