

## Donny Jones

**From:** Chamber of Commerce [Donny@tuscaloosachamber.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2007 10:42 AM  
**To:** Donny Jones  
**Subject:** Chamber Agenda



### Upcoming Events

**Sep 17**  
Executive Committee

**Sep 18**  
Leadership Tuscaloosa 25th Anniversary "The Bash At The Zone"

**Sep 19**  
Women In Business Roundtable

**Sep 20**  
State of the Community Breakfast

**Sep 20**  
Business Back-ups & PDA Productivity

(More Events)

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### Sign Ordinance & Riverfront Zoning Ordinance on the Planning Commission's Agenda

Two important ordinances will be considered at the meeting of Tuscaloosa Planning & Zoning Commission today, **Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**. The commission's meeting will begin at **4:00 PM** in the Council Chambers at Tuscaloosa City Hall. Please note the time - 4:00 PM - which has been set to provide an early start to a long agenda.

The Chamber has been monitoring both issues carefully over the past several weeks. An ad hoc Sign Ordinance Task Force, led by **Cal Holt**, has been working diligently on behalf of business interests and The Chamber, both in Tuscaloosa and Northport. In addition, a Board-adopted position favoring in principle the proposed riverfront zoning ordinance has been filed, reserving the right to review the various details of the proposed ordinance.

The Chamber continues to call for a balanced approach to proposed ordinances, emphasizing the need to have reasonable, fair guidelines that promote a healthy, positive business climate and that stimulate the community's economic well-being, environmental quality, and livability.

Chamber members are encouraged to participate in this important planning and zoning process and attend the meeting today at 4:00 PM.



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## **State of the Community Breakfast Provides a Voice For Business**

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The annual "State of the Community" breakfast is scheduled for this week on Thursday, **September 20<sup>th</sup>** at The Capstone Hotel (formerly the Sheraton Four Points) beginning at **7:30 AM**. This annual session with local elected leaders, is hosted and sponsored by The Chamber and The Tuscaloosa News.

Probate Judge & County Commission Chairman, Hardy McCollum, Mayor Walt Maddox of the City of Tuscaloosa, and Mayor Harvey Fretwell of the City of Northport, will all be present to provide an update on progress and goals for the coming year.

A key part of The Chamber's mission and business plan includes proactive leadership and advocacy for business interests and issues, and one of the ways we achieve results and implement our strategic plan is through active participation with elected officials. The "voice of business" is essential and requires business involvement.

There is no cost to attend the "state of the community" breakfast, but registration is encouraged to complete preparations. Call The Chamber today to register at 391.0559 or 758.7588 or go online at [www.tuscaloosachamber.com](http://www.tuscaloosachamber.com).

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## **2007 Washington Fly Set To Take Off**

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A community leadership team is headed to Washington to promote a number of issues, projects and needs as part of the annual Washington Fly In, sponsored by The Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama. The 15-member team will be in Washington, September 25-26, meeting with members of Alabama's Congressional delegation and other key staff and administrative leaders.

Among key issues and projects on this year's Fly In agenda are: the 2007 water resources bill, which includes funding and language for the relocation of the Corps of Engineers facilities in Tuscaloosa; funding for the McWrights Ferry road extension and other transportation projects; support for a HOPE VI grant for Rosedale Courts and the Tuscaloosa Housing Authority; runway extension and radar system expansion at the Tuscaloosa Regional Airport; continued support and funding for the Tuscaloosa-Northport riverfront initiatives.

The Chamber delegation will be led by 2007 Chamber Chairman Jim Harrison, III, and Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox. The delegation also includes members of The Chamber's Board of Directors and other local business and civic leaders representing Tuscaloosa County Schools, Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority, Tuscaloosa Housing Authority and others.

Chamber President Johnnie Aycock emphasized that "our Fly In to Washington has been very effective over the years, advocating key business positions on legislative issues as well as providing support for vital community and economic development projects for our area. We have an excellent, diverse leadership team participating and look forward to a result-driven visit."

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