

DISCOVER



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City of Pelham website

www.pelhamalabama.gov

CITY COMMUNICATION

How to Get the Information You Need

By: Ainsley Allison, Communications Manager

The City of Pelham is dedicated to keeping citizens informed of news that affects local families. We have several ways we communicate with the public. Our Communication Office's approach to using various communication channels is strategic and aims to reach different segments of the community effectively. Each platform serves a specific purpose. Here's an overview of why and how we use each communication channel:

Website

The city website serves as the central hub for official information, resources, and services. This is where we post all official announcements, legal notices, press releases, and important documents. You'll also find online forms for various city services, as well as community calendars and event listings, among other useful information.

Social Media

The City of Pelham communicates on social media via Facebook, Instagram, and Nextdoor. These platforms are used for real-time updates, marketing, and community engagement, such as posts about upcoming events, community meetings, and local news. For those who aren't familiar with Nextdoor, it is a neighborhood-based app that allows us to narrow our communication to people

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FEBRUARY 2024

E-NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE CITY OF PELHAM

GINA WOMACK, EDITOR

who live in specific areas when needed. For example, if street work is scheduled for a particular neighborhood or subdivision, we can send notifications to Nextdoor users who are part of that neighborhood's group.

Pelham 311 App

With our new Pelham 311 app, we have new tools to send push notifications to deliver timely and crucial information directly to your mobile device, whether it's a utility service disruption, a road closure, or a reminder about an important deadline or event. In some instances, all users may get a notification, and in others, we may narrow the notification to users within a polygon if the communication only affects people in a certain area. We encourage you to download the Pelham 311 app and enable push notifications, as it will allow for one additional way to engage with the City one-on-one and report issues, like a missed trash pickup.

E-Newsletter

If you're reading this e-newsletter, you opted to receive news and information from the City of Pelham. Thank you! The purpose of our monthly e-newsletter is to provide frequent, in-depth information, highlights, and updates on various city initiatives, as well as showcase upcoming plans and development projects.

Quarterly Magazine

The Pelham Pathway is produced quarterly and is designed to be a more in-depth and visually rich medium to showcase the community and capture the essence of Pelham. Lifestyle articles are featured to help you get to know some of your fellow Pelham residents, and we like to highlight all that our school system is doing to invest in our children. This is all in addition to City updates, initiatives, and community activities.

By tailoring our content to the strengths of each platform, we aim to ensure that residents receive information in a manner that is convenient and engaging for them. This multi-channel approach helps us reach a broad audience and facilitates a more inclusive and informed community. Regularly assessing the effectiveness of each channel allows us to refine our communication strategy and adapt to the evolving needs of the Pelham community.



The Big Five





Exceptional EMS

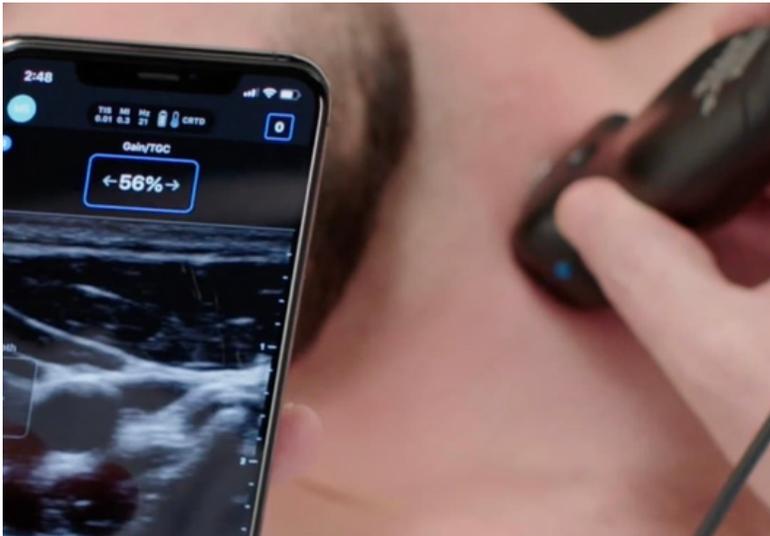
Pelham residents should rest assured that the Pelham Fire Department's emergency medical services (EMS) are among the best in the state. In a recent update to the Pelham City Council, Fire Chief Mike Reid, EMS Director Captain Matt Maples, and the department's medical director, Dr. Shea Duerring, showcased what sets the level of care apart regarding improved medical care in the field.

"The Pelham Fire Department will soon provide three advanced-level therapies and capabilities, which is setting a new standard of pre-hospital care," said Dr. Duerring. "There is only one location in the entire state of Alabama with these capabilities all in one place, and that's Pelham. The level of care is unparalleled."

The first of these capabilities is relatively new in the EMS world. The Pelham Fire Department will carry whole blood products when responding to medical emergencies. This is a game changer for someone who is losing blood in a prehospital setting. "We can now replace blood with blood instead of IV fluids. We're giving them what they're losing," stated Dr. Duerring. IV fluids do not have oxygen-carrying or blood-clotting capabilities. Shelby County Health Foundation funds the blood product initiative. Pelham Fire Department is one of four sites in Shelby County with whole blood available. There are logistics involved with the blood product initiative. The blood is stored in specialized coolers in the Battalion Chief's vehicle. This gives paramedics the ability to respond to adjacent jurisdictions if needed. The blood is exchanged with the American Red Cross every 21 days to prevent expiration. The initiative should be up and running early this month.

Another advanced-level capability is the availability of a prehospital ultrasound, a growing trend nationwide. "When we respond to an EMS call, we can usually only assess what's happening on the outside of a person's body. Prehospital ultrasound will allow us to look for internal injury," explained Captain Maples. The technology allows for heart assessment during CPR, lung assessment after trauma, and abdominal assessment and serves as an aid during difficult IV placement. "We think we can have this therapy deployed this summer," said Maples.

(Article continues next page)





The third advanced capability is Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI), highlighted in the December issue of [The Pelham Pathway magazine](#). Pelham Fire Department was a pilot program for RSI. Before the program's implementation, paramedics in Alabama couldn't do RSI in the field. It was limited to critical care paramedics, usually those assigned to helicopter units or a few mobile critical care units. Now, Pelham Fire Department paramedics can use medication to sedate patients quickly and take their airway for them before they get to the hospital. Doing this on the scene saves time, which is critical. In other words, the patients get better care earlier. Burns and head trauma are the two most likely situations where RSI is used, but it's used in any case where a person can't protect their airway.

The final piece to Pelham Fire Department's exceptional EMS operation will come January 1, 2025. That's when the department will begin transporting patients with a fleet of city-owned ambulances. This is another step that will save time and equip paramedics to provide rapid care when a patient is having a heart attack, stroke, or other trauma when seconds count. Fire Department leaders will spend this year preparing for patient transport by working out logistics such as hiring and training personnel, creating policies and procedures, training drivers, getting the required licenses, equipping and stocking the vehicles, and setting up billing processes. Dr. Duerring stated, "With the ability to trans-

port patients, not only will our providers deliver that care on scene, but they'll continue that care from the field to the hospital with the immediate availability of our city's ambulances. This will be crucial for our citizens in EMS calls where time makes a difference."

Perhaps the biggest takeaway from the presentation was the announcement of the Pelham Fire Department's CPR success rate, which is 54 percent. This success rate is often called the Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC) rate, the percentage of lives saved using CPR. Pelham's 54 percent is twice the national average of 23-26 percent. The 54 percent reflects Pelham paramedics' likelihood of getting a patient's pulse back. "The success shows in the numbers. This could give a family time to say goodbye to loved one, or better yet, another Christmas together", said Dr. Duerring. "I truly believe Pelham Fire Department has some of the best EMS providers in the state."



2023 CPR Success Rate

54%

National Average

23% - 26%



2024 Street Paving Plans

The City of Pelham Development Services and Public Works (DSPW) revealed plans for the 2024 street paving project at a recent Pelham City Council Work Session. DSPW Director André Bittas said streets were selected using evaluations on condition, usage, and street ratings. The budget for resurfacing was increased from \$750,000 in FY 2023 to \$1.25 million in FY 2024. The additional funding is partly due to the 1% sales tax increase. As a result, 29,650 linear feet of road surface have been identified for repaving this year, up from the 19,407 linear feet resurfaced in 2023.

Advertising for construction bids will begin this month, with the awarding of the bid slated for March or April. The estimated construction timeline is May - September.

Streets scheduled for resurfacing in 2024 include:

- Heather Ridge Drive/King Valley Circle
- Heather Lane
- Chandabrook Drive/Burning Tree
- Hidden Creek Parkway
- Hidden Creek Circle
- Hidden Creek Drive
- Hidden Creek Trail
- Hidden Creek Cove
- Hidden Cove Circle
- Crosscreek Trail
- Village Lane
- Cummings Street
- Church Street
- Driver's Way

The current five-year street paving plan kicked off in 2023. A list of streets scheduled to be paved through 2027 can be found in the [Street Department section of the City website](#).





Your City At Work

Here are some of the recent items approved by the Pelham City Council. Please visit the City of Pelham website for the complete text of the agendas, minutes, ordinances, and resolutions.

- Approved the FY 2023 Carry-Forward Capital Project Funding.
- Approved a quote for road ditch maintenance and re-grading of the Ballantrae Water Tank Access Road.
- Accepted a bid and issued the Notice of Award for the King Valley Water Main Replacement Project - Phase 2.
- Approved a professional services contract to inspect sanitary sewer CCTV and cleaning for Lift Stations J, T, Business Center, and BB drainage basins.
- Annexed into the corporate limits of the City of Pelham one acre (+/-) of real property located at 59 Homestead Trail, Pelham, AL.
- Accepted the resignation of City Councilmember Mildred Lanier-Reed, Place No. 5, effective January 8, 2024.
- Approved a quote to resurface the existing outdoor basketball and pickleball courts at Pelham City Park.
- Declared certain police vehicles as surplus. These vehicles are no longer needed for public or municipal purposes.
- Approved a professional services proposal to prepare traffic signal detection upgrade plans at 12 intersections.
- An ordinance was passed to repeal and replace the City of Pelham's current flood plain ordinance.
- Deannexed 6.3 (+/-) acres of real property, as requested by the owner, for property located along Cahaba Valley Road and across from Oak Mountain Elementary School and Oak Mountain Middle School.

Opportunities to Serve

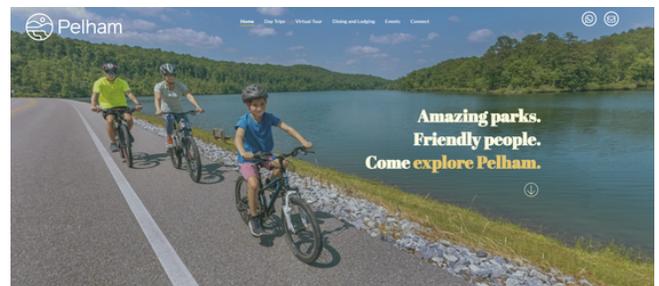
As previously announced on the City of Pelham website, the Pelham City Council is accepting letters of interest and resumes for the following through **Friday, February 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.:**

- Pelham City Council, Place 5
- Pelham Personnel Board

The Pelham City Council is accepting letters of interest and resumes for the following through **Friday, February 21, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. :**

- Pelham Board of Education, Place 1

You will find the application under City News on our website. The city clerk/treasurer will acknowledge receipt of the application by email.



Your guide to Pelham events and entertainment.

www.explorepelhamal.com



Ballantrae Construction

Work to upgrade parts of Ballantrae Golf Club continues this month. General Manager Hal Brown reports that work on bunker and cart path renovations should begin in two weeks. JTL Golf is the contractor. They estimate the completion time is three months, depending on the weather.

Renovations to the clubhouse are almost complete. New furniture was installed in the now-enclosed Greenside Terrace. Other improvements include fresh paint throughout the clubhouse and new lighting in the Fireside Grill. Pending approval from the fire and building inspectors, the Greenside Terrace will open by March 1, 2024.

Racquet Club Reno

The Pelham Racquet Club is going through a renovation as well. According to Chaney Mills, the club's director, anticipation is building for what the completed project will offer. "The renovations will give us so much more, and we're all excited about it." She said there isn't a definite timeline for completion, but she and the PRC crew are preparing for at least four months.

Some upgrades include a dedicated stringing services space, a more centralized and inviting front desk, a dedicated pro shop with organization, extra storage upstairs, a breakroom for employees, and outside temperature-controlled storage for vending services and operational supplies. "The temperature-controlled space will keep the equipment in better condition and allow for easier vending access for players," explained Mills. The second floor of the clubhouse, which includes a kitchen and gathering space, will be closed off to add privacy for meetings and rentals.

The first floor of the clubhouse has been gutted, and the club office



is currently housed in a trailer while construction is ongoing. As with any renovation, there are some inconveniences. "Right now, there is only one set of restrooms on the second floor that the public can use, in addition to the restrooms at the bottom tier of the facility," said Mills. It's a small price to pay for the improvements to come.

STAY INFORMED

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