

DISCOVER



At A Glance

- A 6.5-mile trail system connecting the sidewalks along Bearden Road to the entrance of Oak Mountain State Park.
- Phases 1 & 2 - Opened in the summer of 2020. Bearden Road - City Park Complex - Dog Park
- Phases 3 & 4: City Park - Neighborhoods along Cahaba Valley Creek (aka Bishop Creek) - Pelham's Entertainment District at Campus No. 124 - Amphitheater Road
- Phase 5: Completed. State Park Road - Oak Mountain State Park.

A PATH APART.

Pelham Greenway Trail Moves to Phases 3 & 4

Work will begin later this year to complete Phase 4 of the Pelham Greenway Trail. An updated plan for Phase 3, which will include improvements to the existing YMCA trail along Cahaba Valley Creek (AKA Bishop Creek), is [open for public comment](#). The updated Phase 3 design calls for the trail to continue to Park 124, located behind Campus 124. From there, the trail will connect to property purchased by the City between Campus 124 and Fire Station No. 2, which is considered the fourth and final phase. The project is expected to go out for bid in late spring/early summer, with construction beginning within 60 days of the bid being awarded.

The original plans for Phase 3 called for a portion of the trail to follow the US-31 right of way from the Pelham YMCA to Amphitheater Road. An opportunity to change the route to follow Bishop Creek is now available, providing better connectivity and meeting the original intent of the trail.

Phase 4 was initially approved to follow Bishop Creek from US-31 to State Park Road. However, the Phase 5 trail alignment was extended from State Park Road along the south side of Amphitheater Drive. The Phase 5 trail extension removed the need for the proposed Phase 4 trail section along Bishop Creek. The proposed realignment for Phase 4 is to connect the completed Phase 5 on Amphitheater Road. This proposed re-alignment provides a better logical endpoint and continues to provide access to Oak Mountain State Park. [You can see a map of the project and read more here.](#)



City Improvements

Work is happening around the city to improve infrastructure, enhance our recreational facilities, and offer our residents a better quality of life. Many of these projects were specifically budgeted as a result of citizen input from the [2022 Pelham Citizen Survey](#), which identified your priorities.

2024 Street Paving Project

The budget for the annual street resurfacing project was increased this year. This will allow for more streets to be paved. [The five-year paving plan](#) lists the schedule through 2027.



Amphitheater Road Widening

Late last year, Amphitheater Road was widened, creating safer travel lanes, a dedicated left turn lane the entire length of the road, and a ten-foot pedestrian and bike lane. Contractors put in the final striping and signs last week. This includes a crosswalk at the intersection of Amphitheater Road and Canopy Trail. Signs will indicate the presence of the crosswalk. Activation lights are also included in the project, which will alert drivers to the presence of pedestrians crossing the road. The lights will be installed soon. Additional work will be done to realign the left turn lane from State Park Road to Amphitheater Road.



Water Main Replacement

[The City's project](#) to replace the aging water infrastructure continues. Work began this week on King Valley Road and along C.R. 52 from King Valley Drive to Clark Street.

Thermal Imaging Cameras

The City of Pelham has installed traffic signal detection upgrades at two intersections: Hwy 119 at Oak Mtn Circle and Highway 31 at Pelham Plaza. The new system will use thermal imaging and video cameras to detect vehicles in the turn lanes and cross streets to trigger the signal to cycle for those movements. Thermal imaging cameras will be installed at 12 additional intersections in the coming months.



Emergency Call Boxes at Greenway Trail

Two emergency call boxes have been placed in the wooded portion of the Pelham Park Greenway Trail that runs along the creek near the Bearden Road entrance. The call boxes will be operational this week. The call boxes were made possible through an AARP grant submitted by Pelham resident Dr. Judy Mannings. Read Dr. Mannings' story

(Article continues next page.)



featured in the [June 2023 issue of "The Pelham Pathway"](#) to learn how the grant came about.

New Playground at City Park

The new playground at City Park is almost complete. It is located near the splash pad and dog park. The equipment includes inclusive components and adaptive swings. Plenty of shade will be available.

No More Gravel Parking Lot

The Pelham City Council is set to vote to award a bid to pave the gravel parking lot near the dog park, splash pad, and new playground on Monday, March 4. The paved parking lot will make it easier for people with wheelchairs and strollers. We can't wait for this upgrade just in time for summer fun!



Water Building Exterior Refresh

The Waterworks Building will get an exterior refresh in the coming months. Existing landscaping is being removed to prepare for exterior painting. The red brick will be painted white to match Pelham City Hall. New landscaping and signage will complete the look.

Ballantrae Golf Club Improvements

Improvements at Ballantrae Golf Club are in full swing, and work recently moved from the clubhouse to the golf course. The bunkers are currently under construction. Contractors are removing old drainage systems and sand and installing capillary concrete, a state-of-the-art technology designed to address moisture and drainage issues. Some bunkers will undergo a reshaping process to enhance their aesthetic appeal and functionality. A new G-angle sand will be added, further elevating the playing experience of golfers. After completing the bunkers, the project will move on to cart path renovations.



Racquet Club Reno

The Pelham Racquet Club is undergoing a significant renovation to improve operations and the overall visitor experience. Renovations began in January, and construction is on schedule. The project is expected to be completed in mid-April. Some upgrades include a dedicated stringing services space, a more centralized and inviting front desk, a dedicated pro shop, and temperature-controlled outdoor storage. 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 club hosts players from across the U.S. and around the globe during tournaments throughout the year.





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.

- Voted to declare specific Police Department property as surplus.
- Approved a summary change order and an FY 2024 budget amendment to complete the Heather Ridge Well Pump Repair.
- Approved the ABC license application transfer from Mapco to Circle K for retail beer and table wine (off-premises only).
- Appointed Amy Milling to the Pelham Public Library Board, Place No. 2, effective February 19, 2024.
- Entered into a professional services agreement with KPS Group, Inc. to assist with reviewing and developing recommendations for revisions to the city's Zoning Ordinance. This expense was budgeted in FY 2024.
- Approved a three-year lease agreement with Deere Credit, Inc. for two John Deere 2400 mowers and mowing accessories for Ballantrae Golf Club.
- Approved a master contract with Alabama Power Company for public safety services. This is an update to the two-year contract for five flock cameras.
- Approved the 2024 contract with Pyro Shows of Alabama, Inc. for the city's annual "Fire on the Water" fireworks show on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at Oak Mountain State Park.
- Recognized Pelham Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Alicia Walters for being named Alabama Recreation and Parks Association Professional of the Year for 2024.



City Council Appointment

The Pelham City Council held a special called work session on February 13, 2024 to conduct interviews to replace Councilmember Mildred Lanier-Reed, Place No. 5, who resigned in January. Eight citizens were interviewed.

The discussion was held in a regularly scheduled City Council work session on February 19, 2024, to determine the appointee, but the Council still needs to reach a consensus. A subsequent discussion appears on the March 4, 2024, City Council agenda.