

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 34**

**TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR ADOPTING THE ANNUAL STREET AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, the Cullman City Council recognizes that street and transportation infrastructure are among the City of Cullman’s most significant capital assets and financial obligations; and

WHEREAS, Ala. Code § 23-8-8 requires municipalities receiving state transportation funds to adopt an annual transportation plan identifying projects for the next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, sound fiscal governance requires transparency, long-range planning, clearly identified funding sources, and public communication regarding capital street improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that a formally adopted annual street and transportation infrastructure capital plan enhances transparency, assists in strategic budgeting, and promotes public accountability; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama:

**SECTION II.** The following section, Section 411 of Chapter 2 Administration, Article VI. Finance, of the *Code of Ordinances City of Cullman, Alabama*, is hereby added as follows:

**Sec. 2-411. Procedures to adopt the annual Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan.**

- (a) Purpose.
  - a. Establish a mandatory Annual Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan.
  - b. Require Council approval of said plan prior to submission of the Mayor’s proposed budget.
  - c. Ensure all paving expenditures are aligned to the said and approved plan.
  - d. Promote transparency and public communication.
  - e. Provide structured reporting and accountability.
- (b) Applicability.
  - a. This ordinance shall apply to any department responsible for street paving, resurfacing, reconstruction, or major roadway capital improvements.
- (c) Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan.
  - a. Annual Submission Requirement - No later than June 1 of each year, the Street Superintendent, in coordination with engineering and under the supervision of the Mayor, shall submit to the City Council a proposed annual Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan for the upcoming fiscal year.
  - b. Required Contents of the Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan shall include, at minimum, the following:
    - i. Complete List of Proposed Projects
      - 1. Street name
      - 2. Project limits
      - 3. Description (mill & overlay, full-depth reconstruction, widening, drainage correction, etc.)
    - ii. Project Prioritization Methodology
      - 1. Pavement condition index (PCI) or similar objective criteria
      - 2. Traffic volume considerations
      - 3. Safety concerns
      - 4. Economic development impact
      - 5. Utility coordination needs

- iii. Timeline
    - 1. Quarter of anticipated bid
    - 2. Quarter of anticipated construction
    - 3. Estimated completion dates
  - iv. Detailed Cost Estimates
    - 1. Engineering
    - 2. Materials
    - 3. Construction
    - 4. Contingency
  - v. Identified Funding Sources
    - 1. Rebuild Alabama funds
    - 2. Gas tax revenues
    - 3. General Fund
    - 4. Bond proceeds
    - 5. Federal or state grants
    - 6. ARPA or other special revenue
  - vi. Five-Year Capital Projection
    - 1. Forecasted paving needs
    - 2. Estimated funding gaps
    - 3. Long-term maintenance strategy
  - vii. Map Exhibit
    - 1. Geographic visualization of proposed paving projects
- (d) Review and Approval of the Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan
- a. Mandatory Public Presentation - The Mayor and Street Superintendent shall:
    - i. Present the proposed Paving Plan at a regularly scheduled Council meeting;
    - ii. Provide a written report;
    - iii. Answer Council and community questions;
    - iv. Allow public comment.
  - b. Adoption by the City Council
    - i. Adopted by resolution of the City Council; and
    - ii. Approved prior to submission of the Mayor's proposed annual budget.
  - c. Budget Restriction - No paving-related capital expenditures shall be included in the proposed budget unless:
    - i. The project appears in the Council-approved Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan; or
    - ii. The Council approves an emergency amendment by Resolution.
- (e) Amendments to the Plan
- a. Amendments to the adopted Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan shall require:
    - i. Written explanation of change;
    - ii. Updated funding sources;
    - iii. Public Council approval by resolution.
- (f) Reporting Requirements
- a. The Street Superintendent shall submit monthly reports to the Council detailing:
    - i. Project status
    - ii. Expenditures to date
    - iii. Budget variances
    - iv. Project delays
    - v. Change orders
    - vi. Updated completion dates
  - b. These reports shall be presented in a public Council meeting.

- (g) Transparency
  - a. Upon adoption, the Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan shall be published on the City website;
    - i. A summary shall be distributed through official City communication channels;
    - ii. A project status tracker shall be maintained online.
- (h) Failure to Comply
  - a. Failure to submit the required Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan by June 1 shall:
    - i. Prevent inclusion of discretionary paving projects in the proposed budget.
    - ii. Be formal written notification to the City Council. The City Clerk shall promptly report the noncompliance in writing to the full Council.
    - iii. Require formal explanation. The Mayor and the Street Superintendent shall appear before the Council (or provide a written statement to be read into the record) to explain the reasons for the delay or failure to submit the plan and outline corrective actions to be taken.
- (i) Emergency Exceptions
  - a. Emergency repairs - These urgent, high-priority interventions are performed to address critical situations that pose immediate threats to public safety, infrastructure integrity, or essential mobility. They include, but are not limited to:
    - i. Response to natural disasters (such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, severe storms, wildfires, or other extreme weather events) that damage roadways, drainage systems, bridges, or related infrastructure.
    - ii. Repairs following infrastructure collapse or structural failure (e.g., bridge failures, sinkholes, major pavement blowouts, or undermined roadbeds).
    - iii. Mitigation of immediate safety hazards (including but not limited to large potholes creating imminent danger, fallen trees or debris blocking travel lanes, hazardous debris on roadways, unstable slopes, exposed utilities, or other conditions that present a clear and present risk to motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, or emergency responders).
  - b. Emergency repairs prioritize rapid assessment, temporary stabilization, debris clearance, and restoration of safe passage to minimize harm, facilitate emergency access, and support community recovery efforts.
  - c. May proceed prior to amendment of the Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan for Emergency Exceptions, provided:
    - i. The Mayor certifies the emergency in writing; and
    - ii. Council ratifies the action at its next regular meeting.
- (j) Street Maintenance
  - a. The Mayor is authorized to approve all routine street maintenance, included in the city budget as adopted by the City Council, as deemed necessary for the safety of our citizens.
  - b. Routine street maintenance encompasses a variety of ongoing activities designed to preserve roadway safety, functionality, and appearance. These include, but are not limited to:
    - i. Filling potholes and patching pavement defects,
    - ii. Repairing utility cuts and patches,
    - iii. Restoring curbs and gutters,
    - iv. Maintaining and repairing storm drains and drainage structures,
    - v. Repairing or replacing damaged sidewalks,
    - vi. Restriping pavement markings and refreshing traffic lines,
    - vii. And other routine upkeep tasks as needed to sustain the street network.

**SECTION III. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.** Each and every provision of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and that holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid for any reason shall not

affect any other provision hereof and it is hereby declared that the other provisions of this Ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might have been held invalid. This Ordinance repeals any prior Ordinance in conflict therewith.

**SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance shall be effective following its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this the 9th day of March, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

### COUNCIL AGENDA REQUEST

Date: 03/06/2026

Department: Street Name: Pam Leslie

Phone: 256-775-7104 Email: pleslie@cullmanal.gov

Type of request (select all that apply):

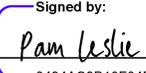
- Alcohol License
- Budget Amendment
- Contract Approval
- Public Comment
- Special Event
- Other ordinance
- Annexation
- Change Order
- Petition
- Resolution
- Tax Abatement
- Bid Award
- Codification Change
- Proclamations
- Rezoning
- Variance

Reason for Request:

Updated paving procedure ordinance reflecting June 1 date

Supporting Documentation:

Attach supporting documentation.

Signature:  

Signed by: Pam Leslie  
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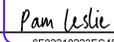
Approval Sequence:

1. Administration – City Clerk’s Office

Verifies form is completed and proper documentation is attached.

Approved to Move Forward  Rejected  Return to Requestor

Comments:

Signature:  Date: March 6, 2026 | 8:12 AM CST

Signed by: Pam Leslie  
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2. Council Committee Chairperson - Jason Willoughby

Ensures necessity of the request.

Approved to Move Forward  Rejected  Return to Admin

Comments:

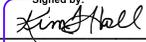
Signature:  Date: March 6, 2026 | 8:32 AM CST

Signed by: Jason Willoughby  
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3. Council President

Approved for Council Agenda  Rejected  Return to Committee

Comments:

Signature:  Date: March 6, 2026 | 8:52 AM CST

Signed by: Kim Hall  
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4. Administration – City Clerk’s Office

Added to Council Agenda Date of Meeting: 03/09/2026

Comments:

Signature:  Date: 03/07/2026

Signed by: Wes Moore  
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