



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Christina Argo, Birmingham Department of Transportation Deputy Director, Strategic Projects

[Christina.Argo@birminghamal.gov](mailto:Christina.Argo@birminghamal.gov)

Mallory Sanford, *Birmingham Civil Rights Crossroads* Project Manager

[msanford@kempms.net](mailto:msanford@kempms.net)

Carolyn Buck, Red Rock Trail System Director

[Carolyn.buck@freshwaterlandtrust.org](mailto:Carolyn.buck@freshwaterlandtrust.org)

**Community Design Week for *Birmingham Civil Rights Crossroads* Project Begins this Week**

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the City of Birmingham will kick off its second week of the *Birmingham Civil Rights Crossroads*' Design Studio, a three-day event that invites the public to participate in the design of a transformational infrastructure and public space project that will reconnect the historic neighborhoods of Smithfield, Graymont, and Birmingham's Civil Rights District through safe, accessible, and vibrant streets.

Funded in part through a U.S. Department of Transportation's RAISE Grant, the 3.16-mile project will include protected bike lanes, expanded sidewalks, shared-use paths, and a new mobility hub near Legion Field, connecting residents and visitors to downtown Birmingham, historic landmarks, and everyday destinations. This project aims to improve Birmingham's transportation networks while honoring Birmingham's role in the Civil Rights Movement.

Located in the historic Carver Theater, Design Studio Week #2 will be an open event offering people who live, work, or visit the Civil Rights District and Smithfield community with an opportunity to share opinions and suggestions with the project team as they work on the *Crossroads* design in real time.

Design Studio Week #2 will build on the feedback the project team heard during the first round of community engagement sessions, collected from online surveys and in-person meetings hosted at Legion Field from June 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Drop in on Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> to see the proposed *Crossroads* design and then return on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. for live jazz music in the lobby and an open house presentation at 6:00 p.m. to hear how the ideas and insights the design team has learned about and heard from the community are shaping the next phases of the *Civil Rights Crossroads* project. The full Design Studio Week #2 schedule is set forth below.

---

The 3.16-mile *Birmingham Civil Rights Crossroads* trail is a key corridor of the Red Rock Trail System's proposed 36+-mile trail loop around the greater Birmingham metropolitan area, connecting the cities of Birmingham, Fairfield, Homewood, and Irondale via multi-use trail. For more information about the planned trail loop, please visit [www.freshwaterlandtrust.org](http://www.freshwaterlandtrust.org).

**Tuesday August 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Pop Up in the Park**  
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM  
Kelly Ingram Park

**Open Design Studio**  
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Carver Theater

**Wednesday August 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Open Design Studio**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Carver Theater

**Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Jazzy Happy Hour**  
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Carver Theater

**Studio Week Open House**  
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM  
Carver Theater