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Vision to Action for National Historic Trail

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are planning the last of three community involvement meetings to discuss revitalization along the Selma-to-Montgomery National Historic Trail. The final visioning sessions will be held in Montgomery at Trenholm Technical College - Building D. The visioning sessions will be held on May 5 and May 6 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. In addition, a visualization presentation that captures the thoughts and comments that are gathered during the visioning sessions will be held in the same location on May 7 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The Vision to Action meetings provide opportunities for community members along the National Historic Trail to become involved in potential redevelopment and revitalization efforts. The meetings provide a venue for local citizens to express their vision for redevelopment through words and drawings, with a professional artist creating color images of the concepts and ideas that are expressed. The meetings will be facilitated by trained staff and will conclude with the formulation of various revitalization or redevelopment concepts. The graphic visualization of these ideas will provide the attendees with something to take back to their communities highlighting the possibilities for revitalizing sites on or near the National Historic Trail.

Meetings have already been held in Selmont and Hayneville, with more than 100 persons attending. ADEM and EPA are utilizing resources from their Brownfields Program to work with elected officials, other state/federal agencies, and local redevelopment officials to help revitalize areas with high unemployment and low tax bases. As part of this effort, ADEM and EPA are also partnering to assess old petroleum storage tank sites along the National Historic Trail to promote redevelopment and reuse of these old buildings.

For more information on the Vision to Action meetings contact Larry Bryant (ADEM) at (334) 271-7771 or Camilla Warren (EPA) at (404) 562-8519.

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