

Subject: MAYOR LARRY P. LANGFORD PROPOSES REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR FUEL SAVINGS
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254-2368

MAYOR LARRY P. LANGFORD PROPOSES REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR FUEL SAVINGS

City hopes wood waste can be used for ethanol

Mayor Larry P. Langford met with Hoover Mayor Tony Petelos and Mayor Ed May of Bessemer to discuss developing a regional plan to turn the regions wood waste into ethanol for the cities' use.

Before the end of the year, Birmingham public works crews who normally gather the wood debris for the City's landfills would be providing the raw material that would fuel city vehicles.

"The City of Birmingham generates an estimated 16,000 tons of wood waste per year. One ton of wood waste generates an estimated 215 gallons of E85 fuel. Just based on that, this City could generate three times our annual fuel consumption," said Mayor Langford.

"Not only do we utilize this program for cost savings, but we recycle and we avoid filling up our landfills with debris that the City can profit from by using," continued Mayor Langford.

According to published reports, Hoover Mayor Tony Petelos has met with Gulf Coast Energy CEO Mark Warner said plans are under way to process the city's wood waste into ethanol at a plant being developed by Gulf Coast Energy in Livingston.

Currently, the City of Birmingham has over 130 flex fuel vehicles. Birmingham will only purchase flex fuel vehicles from this point forward, said Langford.

"Our goal is to negotiate a better per gallon rate based on the volume of wood waste that we can provide by joining together as the three largest cities in this region," said Mayor Langford, "Mayor Petelos had a great idea and I am glad to join with him and Mayor May to help our region."

This program combined with the Mayor Langford's 4-Work Week and the scrap metal recycling program are the beginnings of Birmingham's effort to go green, save fuel and utilize all its available resources.

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