

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: [Reggie Tiller](#), (404) 960-9067

Freedom Riders National Monument planning gets underway
National Park Service hosts open house, invites public comment

ANNISTON, Ala. — The National Park Service (NPS) will hold a public forum in Anniston next week to begin establishing a framework for managing the new Freedom Riders National Monument.

The open house session — scheduled for June 29 at the Anniston Meeting Center — is part of a comprehensive planning process that will also include targeted stakeholder meetings, research and analysis that contribute to development of an NPS foundation document. A foundation document identifies a national park unit’s core purpose and significance, its most important resources and values, and the interpretive themes that tell its unique and significant American story.

“The foundation document will be critical to helping the National Park Service map out management plans and priorities for the new park,” said Freedom Riders National Monument Superintendent Reggie Tiller. “We are inviting the public to play a role in shaping the park’s future operations.”

Freedom Riders National Monument’s foundation document will inform future park management decisions by outlining what is most important about the park and documenting what is needed to protect and preserve those assets.

Get Involved:

Interested citizens can participate by sharing their thoughts on what is most important about the Freedom Riders National Monument, potential issues that could threaten future preservation and commemoration of the site, and what opportunities exist to improve the protection of and provide access to this national treasure. The project team will consider public input while developing the plan. Specifically, the National Park Service needs your help as we work to better understand the historic appearance of the former Greyhound bus station (especially inside the building) and bus burning site. NPS is looking for any stories, old photos, or memories people may have about the sites and are willing to share.

During next week's open house session, attendees will have an opportunity to hear formal presentations about the foundation document process (at 7:00 pm), review material about the process, ask questions and share ideas directly with NPS staff. The session will be held:

June 29, 6:30 pm to 8:30 p.m.
Anniston Meeting Center
1615 Noble Street
Anniston, AL

Public commenting is also available through July 17, 2017 through one of the following channels:

Online: parkplanning.nps.gov/FRRI

Email: frri_information@nps.gov

Phone: (404) 960-9067

Mail: Freedom Riders National Monument, Anniston City Hall, 1128 Gurnee Avenue, Anniston, Alabama 36201

Stay connected:

Connect with the Freedom Riders National Monument on the park's official website

www.nps.gov/frri and social media accounts [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/FreedomRidersNPS)

[FreedomRidersNPS](https://www.facebook.com/FreedomRidersNPS) and <https://www.facebook.com/FreedomRidersNPS>

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