

The Huntsville Times

Kay Ivey pledges to spend more gasoline tax money on local roads if elected governor

By **Keith Clines**

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[View full size](#)Huntsville Times file photoKay Ivey, state treasurer and Republican candidate for governorHUNTSVILLE, AL. - With rows of gasoline pumps behind her, Republican gubernatorial **candidate Kay Ivey** this morning signed a pledge to return more gasoline tax money to Madison County for roads and bridges if she's elected.

"It's your money and you certainly deserve to get it back," Ivey said before signing a large cardboard replica of the pledge at the Kangaroo station on University Drive.

The Madison County Commission and the Huntsville and Madison city councils adopted resolutions asking the candidates for governor to sign a pledge to spend at least 80 cents on road work in Madison County for every \$1 collected in gasoline taxes in the county.

The resolution came on the heels of a study that showed only 53 cents for every \$1 collected in gas taxes came back to the county over a 15-year period.

"Y'all deserve more of your local money to benefit the community," said Ivey, who is in her second term as state treasurer.

Ivey said that for too many years political influence and the "politics of pork" have dictated where the state directed road and bridge improvements.

The growth and economic development of North Alabama benefit the entire state, Ivey said.

Improved roads and bridges are crucial to the area because of the jobs moving here from the Base Closure and Realignment Commission actions, and because of the potential gains from the next round of military downsizing in 2015, she said.

"We must be prepared," Ivey said.

Ivey is the fifth gubernatorial candidate to sign the pledge.

Democrats Artur Davis, a U.S. representative from Birmingham, and Ron Sparks, the state agricultural commissioner, and Republican Roy Moore, former state Supreme Court chief justice, have not signed the pledge.