

RIGHT-OF-WAY AND RELOCATIONS

In order to minimize unavoidable effects of right-of-way acquisition and the displacements of people, TDOT has a right-of-way relocation program in accordance with the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 (P.L. 91646), and the Tennessee Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1972.

An information pamphlet "Relocation Assistance Program" is available and outlines the services offered and any payments for which you may be eligible, such as moving expenses and replacement housing benefits for owners and tenants.

The brochure also outlines the eligibility requirements for receiving these payments.

TDOT will provide advance notification of proposed right-of-way acquisition. The Right-of-Way Office has the responsibility, once a project is approved, of appraising, purchasing and, if required, assisting individuals, families or businesses in relocating.

Before acquiring property, all properties are appraised on the basis of comparable sales and land use values in the areas. The value will be established by using independent real estate appraisers who will prepare, for TDOT's use, written appraisals using actual sales data in the surrounding community.

When an appraisal is necessary, the appraiser will contact each property owner and offer the owner the opportunity to accompany him/her on an inspection of the property.

After the appraisal is complete, the Right-of-Way Appraisal staff will review and field check the findings for accuracy to insure that everything relating to value has been considered in establishing the amount to be offered.

Owners of property will be offered fair market value for their property rights, as it is TDOT's desire to pay fair market value for the necessary property.

A relocation study was prepared during the development of the CE to estimate the number of persons who may be dislocated by the project. The results of the relocation study are then re-verified during subsequent NEPA Reevaluations.

This data has been correlated with an inventory of available rental and sales housing locations. Based on the number of housing units currently available in the area, and the number of such resources likely to become available over a one-year period, TDOT foresees no difficulty in satisfactorily relocating all persons likely to be displaced.

Representatives from TDOT Region 2 are here tonight to answer questions relating to relocations and right-of-way acquisitions.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING PUBLIC COMMENTS

You are encouraged to provide comments and input on the project. Your input will become part of the official public record for this project.

Please use the comment card to make a written statement, and leave it with a representative from TDOT at the front of the room, or mail it to TDOT by August 21, 2016 to the address on the comment card. Public comments concerning this project can also be submitted to: TDOT.Comments@tn.gov.

Be sure to include the project name (SR-317 Improvements Project, Hamilton County).

A court reporter is available for those persons who desire to make a statement about the project and have the statement included in the official transcript of the project. If you wish to make a statement, please see the representative at the court reporter's table.

If you do not wish to make a statement at this time, or if you wish to make an additional statement, you may send in your written comments within 21 days from the date of this hearing or by August 21, 2016 to:

De Minimis Comments
Attn: State Route 317 Project
Tennessee Department of
Transportation
Suite 700, James K. Polk Building
505 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37243-0332

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please feel free to contact TDOT representative:

Mr. Scott Medlin
TDOT Region 2
Project Development,
Environmental
P.O. Box 22368
Chattanooga, TN 37422

Email: Scott.Medlin@tn.gov

Phone: 423-510-1118

A copy of the display presented tonight will be available for public review at the following locations:

- TDOT Region 2 Office (Please call 423-510-1118 in advance of your arrival.)
- Collegedale Public Library

TDOT appreciates your attendance tonight and looks forward to receiving your comments!



Project Update/Notice of Section 4(f) De Minimis Finding

August 1, 2016 6:00 p.m.

City of Collegedale's City Hall, Municipal Room
4910 Swinyar Drive
Collegedale, TN 38120

State Route 317 Improvements

From State Route 321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road) to east of Layton Lane (PIN 112524.01)

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is present at tonight's City Commission Meeting in order to update the public on the proposed State Route (317) Improvements Project as well as provide the public with an opportunity to view and comment on the proposed project and the De Minimis (minor) impacts to Section 4(f) resources.

TDOT's portion of the City Commission Meeting will include a short presentation, followed by an opportunity for attendees to present their opinions and ask questions about the project and the proposed Section 4(f) De Minimis determination.

A map of the project area included in this handout is also displayed in the Municipal Room. Representatives of TDOT can answer any questions that you may have. They can be identified by their name tags.

PROJECT HISTORY

The SR-317 Improvements Project is located in the City of Collegedale, Hamilton County, Tennessee. Because this project utilizes federal funding, it is subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for improvements to SR-317 from SR-321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road) to East Brainerd Road on April 24, 2012.

Two previous public meetings were held for this project:

- Public Meeting regarding the Environmental Document- September 2010
- Design Public Meeting- June 2013

Following approval of an environmental document, TDOT completes two additional environmental reviews during project development. These additional environmental reviews (known as NEPA Reevaluations) are completed during the right-of-way and construction phase of project development in order to ensure that the results of the April 24, 2012 CE still remain valid.

TDOT is currently in the process of preparing a NEPA Right-of-Way Reevaluation for the portion of the project between SR-321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road) to near Layton Lane. Public comments from tonight's meeting will be included in this Reevaluation.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The limits of this project include the intersection of SR-321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road) to near Layton Lane. This section of the project is approximately 2.4 miles in length.

The typical section for the SR-317 improvements includes a five-lane roadway with two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, a 12-foot center turn lane, and four-foot shoulders on each side. The four-foot shoulders will also serve as bike lanes.

Two feet of curb and gutter will separate the shoulders/bike lanes from a multi-use path. The multi-use path will include five feet of concrete sidewalk separated by three feet of sod on one-side and four feet of sod on the other. All improvements are expected to occur within 96 feet of right-of-way.



City of Collegedale- Nature Nook



City of Collegedale- Dog Park

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The NEPA Right-of-Way Reevaluation for this project is anticipated to be approved by FHWA in Fall 2016. Right-of-Way appraisals and acquisition are tentatively scheduled for Fall 2016/Winter 2017. The project is currently funded for construction in the Spring 2018 construction contract letting.

SECTION 4(F) IMPACTS

TDOT's attendance at tonight's City Commission Meeting is also intended to provide notice of TDOT's intent to file, as a part of the project's NEPA process a Determination of Section 4(f) De Minimis use related to the minor use (acquisition) of recreational lands associated with the Wolftever Greenway.

Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Act of 1966 requires the USDOT to identify and address impacts to certain resources, including public parks and trails.

An impact may be determined De Minimis under Section 4(f) if:

1. The transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource, together with any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures incorporated into the project, does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f);
2. The official(s) with jurisdiction over the property are informed of FHWA's intent to make the De Minimis impact finding based on the written concurrence of the official(s) that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the property for protection under Section 4(f); and,
3. The public has been afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the effects of the project on the protected activities, features, and attributes of the Section 4(f).

The City of Collegedale will be asked to concur whether the greenway impacts are minor when mitigation is taken into account. The public will be afforded a 21-day comment period to comment on the Section 4 (f) De Minimis recommendation.

The Section 4(f) determination for the Wolftever Creek Greenway will be discussed in the NEPA Right-of-Way Reevaluation.

In coordination with local officials, TDOT has determined that the length of the Wolftever Creek Greenway is presently 29,362 feet (based on existing and future phases of the Wolftever Greenway as currently proposed by the City of Collegedale in June 2015- See Figure 1).

Due to the construction of the proposed project, the following impacts are anticipated to the Wolftever Creek Greenway:

- 565 feet of the existing greenway will be removed; and
- 300 feet of the existing greenway will be relocated.

Total impact to the existing Wolftever Creek Greenway is approximately 865 feet or three percent of the total greenway's existing and future phases.

MITIGATION OF SECTION 4(F) IMPACTS

With the improvements to SR-317, TDOT will be adding approximately, 1,404 feet in length or re-configuration of the existing greenway in several locations.

Once TDOT has completed improvements to SR-317 and reconfigured the greenway in some locations, the expected net impact to the Wolftever Creek Greenway is expected to be 539 feet or 1.8 percent of the total resource.

TDOT also proposes to make the following improvements as mitigation measures:

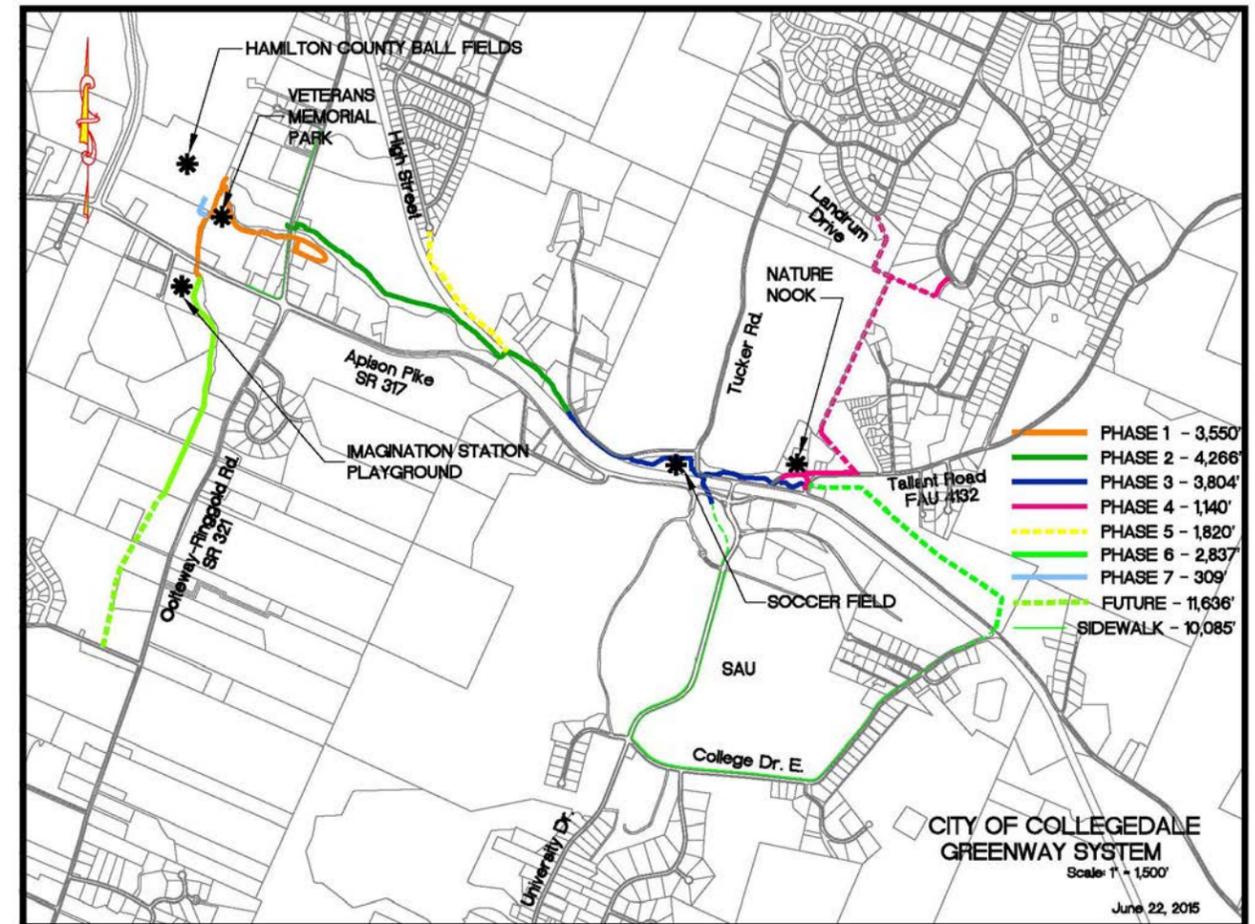
- Adding a new sidewalk that will connect the existing greenway to a new sidewalk at University Drive.
- Removal of an at-grade greenway crossing of Tallant Road near the City Park by building an underpass (culvert) under improved SR-317.
- The realignment of Tallant Road and use of the old bridge and roadbed will improve connectivity in this area by removing automobiles from the greenway and bringing all the connections to a common point.
- An additional access point to the greenway system will be provided at the intersection of Tallant Road and SR-317.

In many locations, the new greenway will be completed before the existing greenway is abandoned so that no service interruption of the greenway's use is expected. If it becomes necessary to close the greenway for any reason during construction of SR-317, work will be done at night when the greenway is closed.

If a situation occurs during construction that causes a safety problem on the greenway, the greenway will be shut-down immediately and the situation will be resolved as quickly as possible so that the greenway can be reopened.

Notices of potential temporary greenway closures will be posted at trailheads and on the City of Collegedale's website.

FIGURE 1: CITY OF COLLEGEDALE GREENWAY SYSTEM MAP- JUNE 2015



PARTICIPANT NOTES