

Transportation & Community



Linking Transportation and Land Use Planning in Tennessee



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK ON THE FUTURE OF TN TRANSPORTATION!

By Larry McGoogin, Community Transportation Planner, Region 3

The 25-Year Long Range Transportation Plan is continuing to move along and we are seeking your feedback. Public input is critical in establishing the goals of the department and making the Long Range Transportation Plan a success. Updated every five years, the plan will serve as the TDOT's roadmap for future state-wide transportation investments. Beginning last fall and continuing throughout

2014, TDOT is reaching out to the public for your thoughts and opinions on Tennessee transportation choices and investments.

TDOT has already gathered valuable input from state and local partners through eight regional Long Range Transportation Plan Summits held across the state last fall. Nearly 300 stakehold-
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L RTP DASHBOARD - TRACK OUR PROGRESS



ONLINE SURVEY PARTICIPATION

MEETINGS/EVENTS ATTENDANCE

BOOK A PLANNER PRESENTATIONS

L RTP WEBSITE HITS



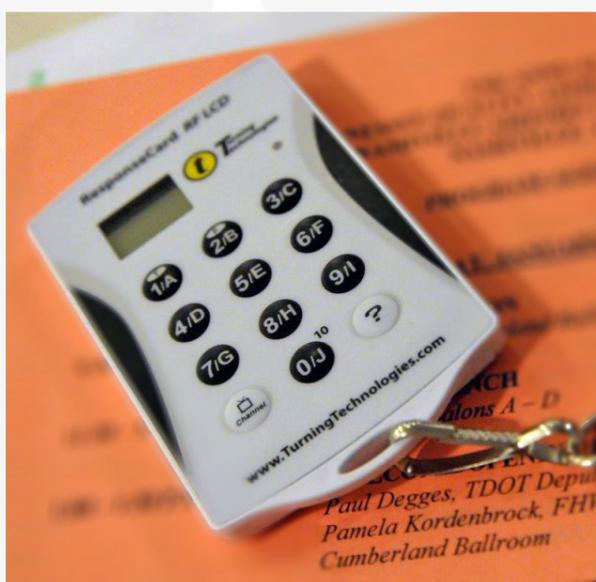
UPDATED 4/11/2014

You Gotta Have A Plan (continued)



TN 25-Year Long Range Transportation Plan

ers provided important feedback on a number of transportation issues, including preferred types of transportation projects, project funding, and construction methods. Opportunities for further public involvement will be given as the plan is developed.



Transponders used for live polling

Photo Credit: Deborah Varallo

Participation is easy and anyone can have a voice in the future of Tennessee's transportation system by taking an online survey on TDOT's [website](#).

TDOT has also established the "Book-A-Planner", an interactive outreach program and presentation, administered through the Long-Range Planning Division's Office of Community Transportation. Attendees are able to share their input via live polling to assist TDOT in making sure the community's needs are addressed as they look to the future. To "Book-A-Planner" for your organization, please visit www.tdot.state.tn.us/transportationplan/speaker.shtml.

REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICE NEWS

By Angela Midgett, Transportation Manager, Nashville

- In the late fall of 2013, the Office of Community Transportation welcomed the Rural Planning Organization staff to the Regional Planning Office. Formerly in the Project Planning Division (now the Strategic Transportation Investments Division in the Bureau of Engineering), the RPO staff work with the twelve RPOs across the state to identify safety concerns on State and local roads. They also help to oversee the rural consultation process with local officials on transportation plans and programs.

- All of the MPOs have adopted a new 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program, and new Long Range Transportation Plans were adopted by both the Chattanooga Transportation Planning Organization and the Clarksville Metropolitan Planning Organization.

- The annual MPO Conference will be held in May at Pickwick Landing State Park. Highlights of the conference include the FHWA INVEST Tool, a progress report on TDOT's 25-Year LRTP, the recently completed Customer Survey, and progress toward implementing Management Programs required under MAP-21.

- In November 2013, work began on the Tennessee State Freight Plan. The work for this plan is being conducted by RPM Transportation Consultants, AECOM, and Cambridge Systematics. The plan will be compliant with guidelines set forth in the MAP-21 legislation and will be completed by the end of August 2014. The Freight Plan will be a stand-alone plan, but it is part of the 25-Year State Multimodal Plan effort. Work thus far has been done on updating freight data collected for previous studies, and in preparing project lists to be priori-



TDOT Commissioner John Schroer at Statewide Freight Advisory Committee Meeting in December 2013.

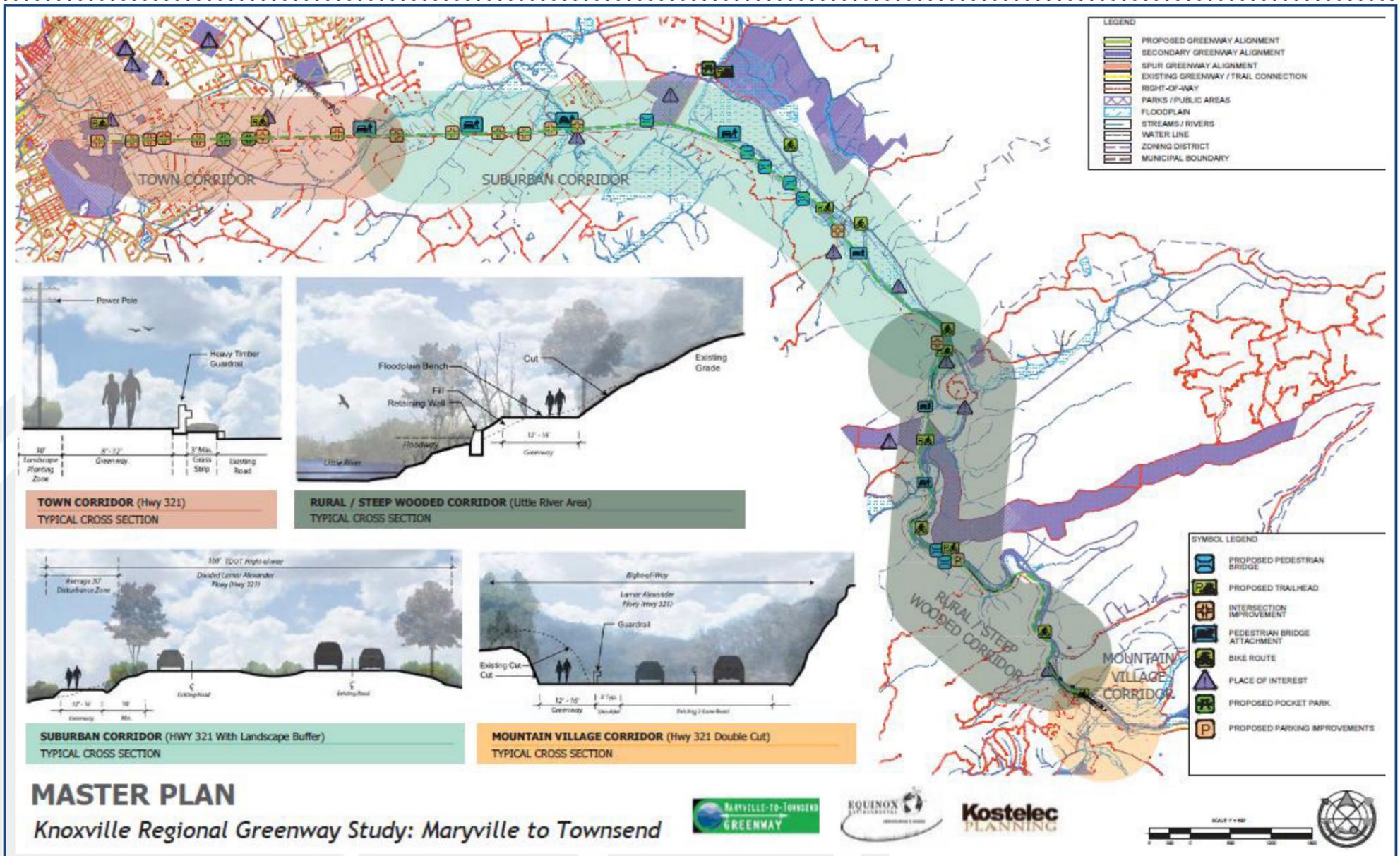
Photo Credit: Larry McGoogin

tized by the [Tennessee Freight Advisory Committees](#).

- The Freight Advisory Committee held meetings in Nashville in December and April and representatives from all three regions of Tennessee were present. The April meeting included a panel discussion with freight representatives from five adjoining States. The representatives from North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, and Mississippi discussed common problems and opportunities in the freight sector. FAC members then elected officers and began the task of prioritizing freight projects in their regions.

- As part of the update of the 25-Year State Multimodal Plan, work began in August 2013 on the update of the Statewide Model (SWM). Traffic Analysis Zones have been established for the State, and reviewed by the MPOs and State planners. Socio-economic data for the TAZs has also been reviewed and agreed upon. The model network is nearing completion, and should be ready for review soon. Much work remains, but we should have a working model before the end of 2014.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TENNESSEE



MARYVILLE-TO-TOWNSEND GREENWAY MASTER PLAN COMPLETED

By Nick Weander, Community Transportation Planner, Region 1

A coalition of planning partners recently completed a master plan for the Maryville-to-Townsend Greenway. The 13.7-miles of trail proposed in the plan will connect the City of Maryville to Townsend, a gateway community to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Contained in the document are alignments, typical cross-sections, proposed signage, and adjacent land use recommendations for the entire corridor.

As planned, the corridor would attract an estimated 109,500 users per year. It is hoped that the construction of the greenway will improve the health of children, adults and senior citizens in the

region. Blount County's population currently has a physical activity rate higher than the state average but access to recreational facilities is 25 percent lower than the state average. The construction of a multi-use greenway would improve access to local recreational facilities and create opportunities for physical activity. A modest 5 percent increase in physical activity in Blount County could save the community an estimated \$13 million annually on health care and lost productivity.

Over the first ten years of operation, the project is estimated to generate \$65 million in positive local economic impacts. Based upon figures included in the plan, every \$1 spent on the greenway would return \$2.66 to the local economy; a 166 percent benefit to cost ratio.

The entire master plan document is available at www.knoxblounttrail.org/docs.htm.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TENNESSEE

2014 TENNESSEE BIKE SUMMIT

The Tennessee Bike Summit is quickly approaching. The summit brings together advocates, engineers, planners, and business owners to learn best practices for advancing cycling in our state.

This year, the summit will be hosted in Downtown Nashville from May 14 - 17. Special guests include Toks Omishakin, TDOT Assistant Commissioner/Environmental Bureau Chief; Nashville Mayor Karl Dean; Kim Wiley-Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner, New York City Department of Trans-

portation; and Jim Sayer, Executive Director, Adventure Cycling Association.

On Saturday May 17th, there will be over 1,000 riders for the 10th Tour de Nash. The Tour includes 3 different routes for riders of all abilities, and afterwards there will be food and music to celebrate.

For more information and to register for the summit and/or the Tour de Nash, please see the website:

www.tnbikesummit.org



POWER OF TEN Regional Summit

The sixth annual POWER OF TEN Regional Summit is scheduled for Wednesday, April 30 in Nashville at TPAC's Polk Theater from 1 - 6 pm.

This year's POWER OF TEN Regional Summit will focus on our key regional issue of Land Use and Quality Growth with the title "Redeveloping Middle

Tennessee's Communities: Infill, Innovation, Investment," which is of much interest in our community.

2014 State Keynote speaker and Summit presenting co-sponsor, TDOT Commissioner John Schroer, will share experiences and lessons from TDOT's efforts to connect transportation, land

use planning, and infrastructure investments that are supporting successful community redevelopment and sound fiscal stewardship for Tennessee.

Please register online at www.10power.org and make plans to attend and represent your organization, our community and region.

GIS & MAPPING IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

By Katy Braden, Community Transportation Planner, Region 3

TDOT's Long Range Planning Division, responsible for carrying out the comprehensive planning process, houses the [GIS Mapping and Facilities Office](#). The GIS Mapping and Facilities Office create many different kinds of tools to aid in the comprehensive planning process: data reports, maps, graphics, vid-

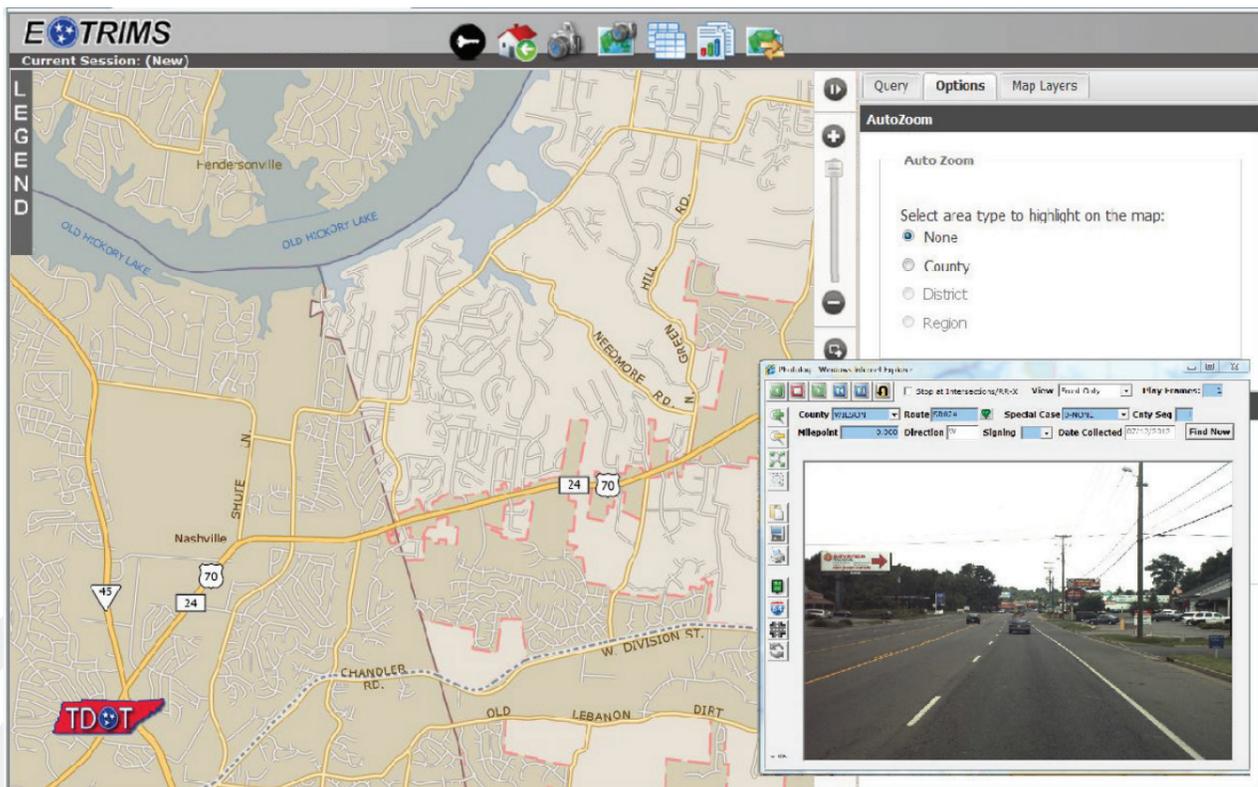
eos, artist renderings and various views of roadway information. Along with GIS mapping abilities, the staff has worked to develop and maintain the E-TRIMS application. With its map interfacing abilities, E-TRIMS provides a data analysis framework to advance and support the planning process including improving

system performance and safety, monitoring existing conditions, identifying transportation problems and needs and forecasting future growth.

TDOT planners in the Office of Community Transportation have embraced this transportation data management sys-

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GIS & MAPPING IN THE PLANNING PROCESS (continued)



E-TRIMS Screenshot

tem and technology developed by the GIS Mapping and Facilities Office. Accessible data and mapping information allows OCT planners the ability to analyze and understand all matters concerning the implementation of transportation planning. By providing a system that integrates data and organizes information spatially, OCT planners are easily able to observe and monitor local and regional transportation networks as well as land uses such as major activity centers or environmentally sensitive areas. Using E-TRIMS and GIS allows planners to develop and implement data driven plans that responsibly manage resources and support the long term visions for large and small communities across the state.

E-TRIMS and GIS resources also provide a framework to advance and support the initiatives of TDOT's Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan. The LRTP seeks to develop departmental program policies. It is also a roadmap for capital improvements and operational strate-

gies, estimating the impact of future improvements to the transportation system, and developing a plan for securing sufficient revenues to cover the cost of implementing strategies. The combination of readily available data access and maps will allow the Long Range Transportation Plan to provide an enhanced level of service to our local partners across the state.

A collaborative team effort is essential to the success of the innovation, development and execution behind the department-wide programs and policy decisions. Above all, the GIS Mapping and Facilities Office provides the technical expertise to support an integrated workflow not only in the Long Range Planning Division but within other TDOT divisions and our planning partners across the state to ultimately implement strategic plans that successfully maintain and grow our strong statewide transportation network!

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www.tdot.state.tn.us/longrange/oct.htm

PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE IS BETTER THAN REACTING TO THE PAST
-TDOT Commissioner John Schroer