

# Building Tennessee's Tomorrow: Anticipating the State's Infrastructure Needs

July 2021 through June 2026

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Basic Education Program (BEP):** Tennessee's main elementary and secondary school funding mechanism. According to Tennessee law, the BEP is "the funding formula for the calculation of kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) education funding." The funds generated by the BEP are what the state has defined as sufficient to provide a basic level of education for Tennessee students. The basic level of funding includes both a state and local shares of the BEP. Established by the **Education Improvement Act (EIA)** of 1992.

**Broadband:** See **Type of Project**.

**Business District Development:** See **Type of Project**.

**Canceled:** See **Status/Stage of Project**.

**Community Development:** See **Type of Project**.

**Completion:** See **Status/Stage of Project**.

**Conceptual:** See **Status/Stage of Project**.

**Construction:** See **Status/Stage of Project**.

**Duplicate:** See **Status/Stage of Project**.

**Education Improvement Act (EIA):** A law enacted by the General Assembly in 1992 that had the effect of, among other things, requiring additional teachers and, therefore, classroom space to be in place at the beginning of the 2001-2002 school year.

**Estimated Cost:** An approximate amount of money judged reasonably necessary to complete a project recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. Estimates must be in current dollars, not adjusted for future inflation. Cost estimates recorded in the inventory should not be limited by the ability of the reporting entity to pay them.

**Existing Public Schools Inventory Form:** The blank document to be completed for existing primary and secondary schools recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. The construction of new schools is to be reported on the General Survey Form.

**Federal Mandate:** Any rule, regulation, or law originating from the federal government that affects the cost of a project recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. See also **Mandate**.

**Fire Protection:** See **Type of Project**.

**General Survey Form:** The blank document to be completed for each project, except existing public schools, which will be recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. except existing public schools (see **Existing Public Schools Survey Form**). See **Type of Project** for lists and definitions of projects for which these survey forms should be completed.

**Housing:** See **Type of Project**.

**Industrial Sites and Parks:** See **Type of Project**.

**Infrastructure; Public Infrastructure:** Capital facilities and land assets under public ownership, or operated or maintained for public benefit, including transportation, water and wastewater, industrial sites, municipal solid waste, recreation, low and moderate-income housing, telecommunications, and other facilities or capital assets such as public buildings (e.g., courthouses; education facilities). Other examples include the basic network of public utilities and access facilities that support and promote land development; storm drainage systems; roads, streets and highways; railroads; gas and electric transmission lines; solid waste disposal sites and similar public facilities.

**Infrastructure Need:** An infrastructure project with a minimum capital cost of \$50,000 deemed necessary to enhance and encourage economic development, improve the quality of life of the citizens, and support livable communities. Infrastructure projects included in the inventory, including each component project in the survey of existing schools, must involve a capital cost of not less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), with the exception of technology infrastructure projects in the survey of existing schools, which may be included regardless of cost. Projects considered normal or routine maintenance shall not be included in the inventory.

**New Public School Construction:** See **Type of Project**.

**Law Enforcement:** See **Type of Project**.

**Libraries, Museums, and Historic Sites:** See **Type of Project**.

**LEA System-wide Need:** See **Type of Project**.

**Mandate; Federal/State Mandate:** Any rule, regulation, or law originating from the federal or state government that affects the cost of a project recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. See also **Mandate—Cost of Compliance**.

**Mandate—Cost of Compliance:** The marginal cost attributable to the additional requirements imposed by a federal or state mandate. In the absence of a federal or state mandate, an expense that would not be incurred.

**Post-Secondary Education:** See **Type of Project**.

**Ownership:** The entity (e.g., agency, organization, or level of government) that will hold legal title to the capital facility or land asset upon completion of the project.

**Other Education:** See **Type of Project**.

**Other Facilities:** See **Type of Project**.

**Other Utilities:** See **Type of Project**.

**Planning and Design:** See **Status/Stage of Project**.

**Public Buildings:** See **Type of Project**.

**Public Health Facilities:** See **Type of Project**.

**Recreation:** See **Type of Project**.

**Routine Maintenance:** Regular activities, including ordinary repairs or replacement unrelated to new construction, designed to preserve the condition or functionality of a capital facility or appurtenance to a capital facility, typically costing less than \$5,000 for each individual instance. Examples of routine maintenance include, but are not limited to, the replacement of air filters, light bulbs, moving parts subject to natural wear and tear, the replenishing of lubricating or combustible fluids, or the application of paints or other preservatives.

**Solid Waste:** See **Type of Project**.

**State Mandate:** Any rule, regulation, or law originating from state government that affects the cost of a project recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. See also **Mandate**.

**Status/Stage of Project:** The current phase of development for a project recorded in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory may be any one of the following:

**Canceled:** terminated at any stage from conceptual through design or construction; eliminated from consideration for any reason other than completion; to be removed from the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory.

**Completed:** construction or acquisition has concluded and the capital facility or land asset is available to provide the intended public benefit.

**Conceptual:** identified as an infrastructure need with an estimated cost, but not yet in the process of being planned or designed. See **Infrastructure Need** and **Status/Stage of Project—Planning and Design**.

**Construction:** actual execution of a plan or design developed to complete or acquire a project identified as an infrastructure need. See **Infrastructure Need** and **Status/Stage of Project—Planning and Design**.

**Duplicate:** a project that mirrors another project in the inventory and has been removed from the inventory analysis.

**Planning and Design:** development of a set of specific drawings or activities necessary to complete a project identified as an infrastructure need. See **Infrastructure Need** and **Status/Stage of Project—Construction**.

**Storm Water:** See **Type of Project**.

**Technology:** See **Type of Project**.

**Transportation:** See **Type of Project**.

**Type of Project:** Classifications that may be used for needs recorded on the General Survey Form of the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory (subject to the definitions of **Infrastructure** and **Infrastructure Need**) include the following:

**Broadband:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support the provision of public services to support publicly-owned telecommunication infrastructure. Examples include, but are not limited to, fiber optic cable, cellular towers, and administrative space.

**Business District Development:** Creation, acquisition, expansion, or enhancement of a local or regional area or facility designated for commercial enterprise or activity. Examples include, but are not limited to, parking facility improvements, business park development, and speculative building to attract businesses.

**Community Development:** Creation, acquisition, expansion, renovation, or improvement of a local area or facility designated for the benefit of the residents of a specific locality bound together by a shared government or a common cultural or historical heritage. Examples include, but are not limited to, establishing a community center, improvements to a tourist attraction, and building a welcome center. Residential sidewalks are no longer included in this category.

**Fire Protection:** Capital facilities or assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded efforts to prevent, contain, extinguish, or limit loss from the destructive burning of buildings, towns, forests, etc. Examples include, but are not limited to, fire hydrants, fire stations, and emergency alert systems. Tornado sirens, early warning systems, storm alarms, etc. are included here.

**Housing:** Capital or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded low or moderate-income residential facilities or shelters. Examples include, but are not limited to, housing for the elderly, public housing redevelopment and rehabilitation, modular public housing, public assisted living facilities, and low-income senior housing.

**Industrial Sites and Parks:** Capital or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded areas for the location of trade or manufacturing enterprises. Examples include, but are not limited to, speculative industrial building and land acquisition for industrial development.

**New Public School Construction:** The development or acquisition of a facility to house instructional programs for kindergarten through twelfth grade students, and that has been or will be assigned a unique school identification number by the Tennessee Department of Education.

**School System-wide Need:** Projects that are related to primary and secondary public education but do not meet the definition of public school needs. Examples include, but are not limited to, the central office and maintenance and transportation facilities.

**Law Enforcement:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded efforts to compel obedience and to prevent violation of statutes, ordinances, regulations, or rules prescribed by governmental authority. Examples include, but are not limited to, jails and police stations. 911 systems and related projects are included here.

**Libraries, Museums, and Historic Sites:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to house publicly funded and accessible catalogued collections of books or recordings; other reading, viewing or listening materials; and works of art, scientific specimens, or other objects of permanent value. Restoring an historic site is included in this category.

**Other Education:** Pre-schools and state-owned schools, including the schools for the deaf and blind and the Alvin C. York Agricultural Institute.

**Other Facilities:** Capital assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded programs or initiatives that do not meet the definition of any other type of need, and are not open to the public. Examples include storage sheds, garages and public cemeteries.

**Other Utilities:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support the provision of public services such as electricity or gas, but not including water. Examples include, but are not limited to, the installation of gas lines and electrical cables.

**Post-secondary Education:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded instructional programs for post-secondary students. Examples include junior colleges, public colleges, public universities, and public adult continuing education.

**Public Buildings:** Capital facilities developed or acquired to support publicly funded programs or initiatives that do not meet the definition of any other type of project. Examples include, but are not limited to, building or renovating a courthouse, city hall, post office, and public restrooms.

**Public Health Facilities:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded health care services. Examples include, but are not limited to, public health offices, public clinics, public hospitals, and public ambulance stations when such stations are not housed in the same building as a fire department.

**Recreation:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded efforts to provide for physical activity, exercise, pastimes, or amusements. Examples include, but are not limited to, greenways, hiking trails, public swimming pools, parks, public marinas, ballparks, soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and municipal auditoriums.

**Solid Waste:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded efforts to provide for the disposal or processing of any garbage or refuse including recyclable materials when they become discarded; sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; and any other discarded material including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, or agricultural operations or from community activities. Examples include, but are not limited to, recycling centers, transfer stations, public landfills, public dumps, and green boxes.

**Storm Water:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support publicly funded efforts to collect, transport, pump, treat, or dispose of runoff from rain, snow melt, surface runoff, wash waters related to street cleaning or maintenance, infiltration (other than infiltration contaminated by seepage from sanitary sewers or by other discharges), and drainage. Examples include, but are not limited to, drainage structures, conduits, sewers (other than sanitary sewers), berms, catch basins and culverts, gutters, and downspouts.

**Technology:** Capital assets, including advanced or sophisticated devices such as electronics and computers, but not including telecommunications assets, developed or acquired for general public benefit.

**Transportation:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support the conveyance of people, goods, etc. for general public benefit. Examples include, but are not limited to, the construction

and rebuilding of highways, roads, sidewalks, railroad tracks, rail spurs for industry, airports, marine ports, locks, and mass transit systems.

**Water and Wastewater:** Capital facilities or land assets developed or acquired to support the treatment or distribution of potable water, or the collection, treatment or disposal of commercial and residential sewage or other liquid waste for general public benefit. Examples include, but are not limited to, constructing a water tower, pumping station, or water treatment plant.

**Upgrade:** A significant improvement or enhancement of the condition of existing infrastructure. For example, a building might be in poor condition, but the addition of a new roof and the replacement of damaged drywall could improve its condition. (Contrast **Routine Maintenance**.)