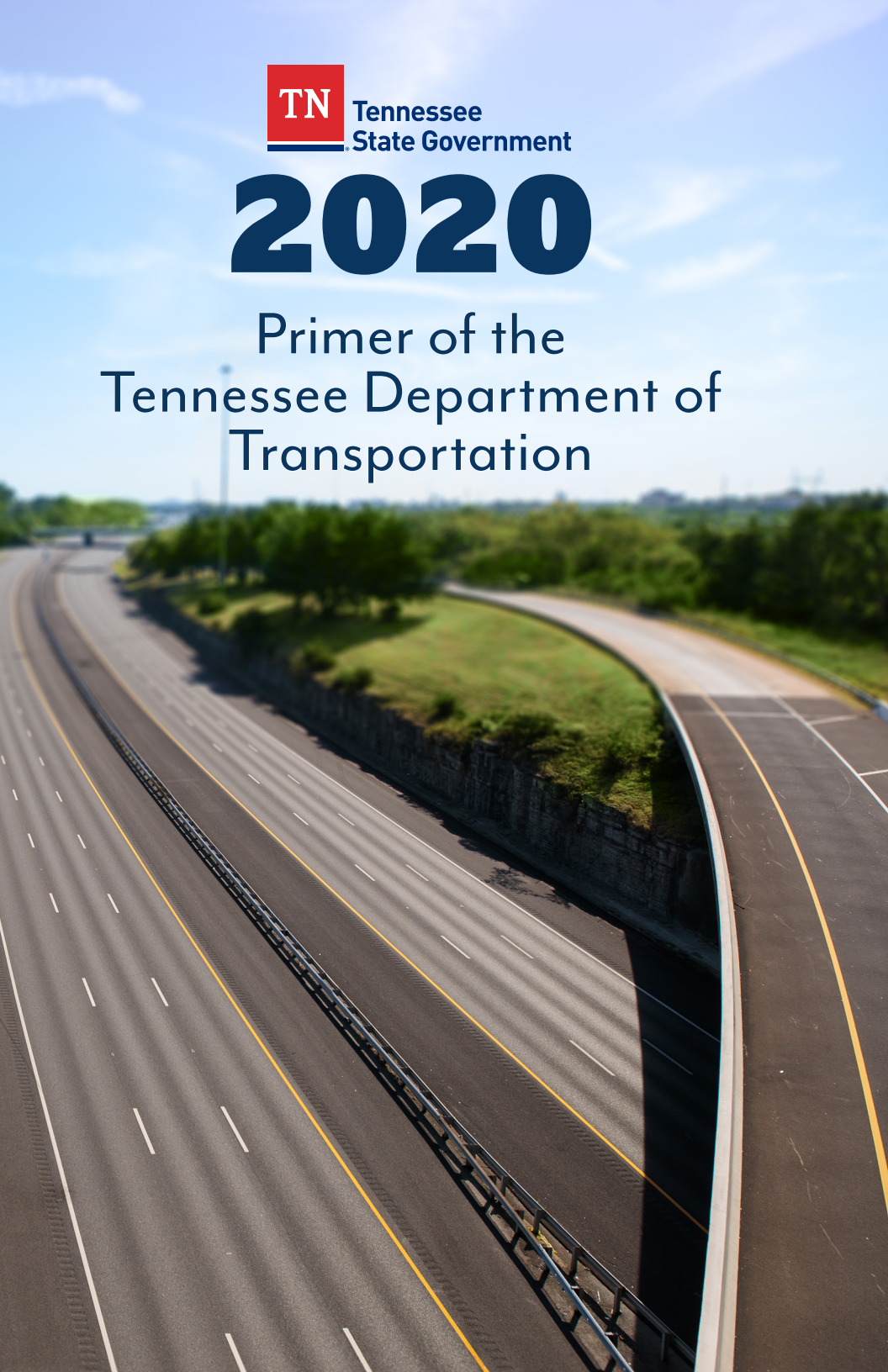
TN Tennessee State Government

2020

Primer of the Tennessee Department of Transportation



TDOT's Mission

To provide a safe and reliable transportation system
that supports economic growth and quality of life.

TDOT's Vision

Commitment to excellence in managing and improving
the state's transportation system, promoting the success of our
employees, and strengthening the trust of our customers.

Values

Stewardship
We take the best possible care of our assets.

Integrity
We are professional, honest, and do the right thing.

Safety
We identify and mitigate hazardous conditions for
our employees, contractors, and the traveling public.

Consistency
We are reliable and uniform in our actions and words.

Development
We continually grow and share our knowledge, expertise, and experience.

Innovation
We look for new and emerging ways to serve our customers.

Collaboration
We work together internally and with our partners to
share ideas, skills, and insights to get the best results.

Family
We promote a culture of caring, concern for others, and pride in what we do.

Clay Bright, *Commissioner Tennessee Department of Transportation*

Clay Bright was appointed Commissioner of Transportation by Governor Bill Lee in January 2019. He is the 30th commissioner of the state agency that oversees a statewide transportation system including highways, rail, airports, waterways, and transit.

With a career dedicated to construction and project delivery, Commissioner Bright is eager to build on TDOT's growing Accelerated Delivery Program and innovative approaches to congestion and traffic management. Recently enacted legislation will allow the department to continue to utilize the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) project delivery method, and Bright is currently overseeing the implementation of the first Smart Corridor project in Tennessee.

Commissioner Bright has also made it his mission to better serve the rural areas of Tennessee. During his first few months in office, Commissioner Bright visited all 15 distressed counties and met with local leaders to discuss ways TDOT can advance these under-developed areas.

Safety and educational advancements continue to be a top priority under Commissioner Bright's leadership, with a strong focus on TDOT's front line employees. With the implementation of an aggressive internal safety campaign, the department has seen a dramatic decrease in employee injuries. The TDOT ReConnect program will also provide opportunities for employees to advance their education levels and work towards a college degree.

Commissioner Bright spent 36 years working for Brasfield & Gorrie, one of the nation's largest construction firms. In 1998, he opened Brasfield & Gorrie's Nashville-based office. During the 20 years under his leadership, Brasfield & Gorrie's Nashville team completed over $3 billion in construction and grew to employ over 200 people.

Commissioner Bright is an active member of Nashville's business community, serving on several boards and commissions. He also devotes time to global humanitarian causes, and has participated in several mission trips.

Commissioner Bright received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Alabama. He and his wife, Kim, have two sons and are members of Christ Presbyterian Church. In his free time, he enjoys running, golf, hunting, and fishing.

IMPROVE Act

The IMPROVE Act, passed in 2017, is funding 962 road and bridge projects, across all 95 counties in Tennessee. At full implementation, an additional $105 million will be generated annually for cities and counties to support local infrastructure needs. TDOT currently has a comprehensive plan of over $10 billion worth of projects, with the primary goal of improving safety, increasing capacity, and supporting a growing economy. Work is well underway on various phases of 527 projects identified in the legislation. Engineering activities are underway on 333 projects in all four regions of the state. Sixty-two projects are in the right of way phase, 71 in the construction phase, and 61 have already been completed. Timely delivery on these projects is a top priority. To facilitate efficiency, TDOT is striving to reach a consistent staffing level of 4,450 employees.

Preserving our Investments

With one of the top transportation systems in the nation, TDOT continues to focus on preservation by taking an Asset Management approach to maintaining pavement and bridges. These assets are our most valuable resources and represent a tremendous investment by the people of Tennessee.

- TDOT has developed a comprehensive Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) which provides a strategic framework that considers the full life-cycle cost when evaluating, managing, and investing in transportation assets and infrastructure. The purpose of our TAMP is to document all transportation assets that fully encompass Tennessee's transportation network in order to maintain and preserve that network. The goal of the TAMP process is to create proactive approaches to management of transportation assets with methodical processes that consider the strategic management of the overall transportation network. This is achieved by maintaining assets in order to extend their life cycle. Our TAMP currently utilizes a 10-year investment strategy for all pavement and bridge assets on the National Highway System and on Tennessee's State Route System.
- For the tenth year in a row, Tennessee's transportation system ranks as one of the best in the nation. According to *CNBC's 2019 study, "America's Top States for Business," Tennessee is fifth in the category of "Transportation and Infrastructure."
- TDOT's "pay as you go" philosophy is still intact as we continue to spend only the revenue, we are provided through our state highway user fees and federal funds. We are one of only five states in the nation without debt.

Key Endeavors

- TDOT awarded 480 projects to contract in 2019 totaling approximately $1,134,932,351.
- Through TDOT's Airport Improvement Program and Aeronautics Economic Development Fund, the department awarded 201 projects, which provided $55 million to local communities for airport improvements. This included eight construction projects that directly impacted job creation and investment opportunities for private corporations in Tennessee's aviation industry.
- Through TDOT's State Industrial Access Program and other projects supporting economic development, the department awarded 12 projects to construction. These 12 construction projects support 14 new and/or expanding industries that have added nearly 2,368 jobs to Tennessee.

The industry investments for all locations combined are over $525 million, while the department spent approximately $33 million on projects to improve the industries access needs.

- TDOT promotes inclusion of all people through its Multimodal Access Policy. It reviews transportation project designs to increase mobility, access and safety of all roadway users, and applies multimodal design guidelines to projects during the planning phase. Further, it provides its upcoming repaving list to local communities for them to identify opportunities for new bike and pedestrian facilities. In 2019, TDOT offered $15 million in state-funded Multimodal Access walking and biking grants, $47 million in state-funded transit grants, and $20 million in state match for federal transit funds.
- TDOT's TRAC Program, which stands for TRAnsportation and Civil engineering, is expanding. The educational outreach program is designed to bring high-level, quality interactive activities into middle and high school science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) classes. It includes three different modules which engage students in solving real-world, civil engineering problems. TDOT provides the program free of charge to TN educators with the vision of delivering a program that connects students to the work world of transportation, especially civil engineering, and encourages them to consider careers in these fields. To date, 187 Tennessee educators in 102 different schools across the state have been trained and currently participate in the program. https://www.tn.gov/tdot/human-resources-home/trac-program.html
- TDOT Reconnect is an 18-month continuing education program for TDOT employees who have not completed post-secondary education. TDOT Reconnect provides employees a comprehensive overview of department-related skills such as welding, traffic operations, and transportation while also including mathematical concepts, business writing, and computers. Employees who complete the TDOT Reconnect Program obtain a Transportation Systems Technology Certificate. To date, TDOT has eight agreements in place with local community colleges which honor credit hours for employees who graduate from the program. In 2019, 25 employees graduated, and two new 2020 classes are currently in session. Since the program started in 2015, 121 employees have completed the program.
- TDOT celebrated two major milestones in 2019: The Adopt-A-Highway Program celebrated 30 years of beautifying Tennessee roadsides and

The HELP Program marked 20 years of service. The HELP Program works to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety, and assist stranded motorists. Since its inception, HELP drivers have provided over 2.5 million services statewide. Thanks to Adopt-A-Highway, more than 12 million pounds of litter have been removed and more than 550 miles of roadsides across the state have been adopted by volunteer groups.

New Initiatives

- TDOT is using innovation and technology to improve the transportation system. We are currently developing the I-24 Smart Corridor Project, which takes a comprehensive approach to managing the existing infrastructure and improving travel time reliability between Rutherford and Davidson Counties. It pairs I-24 with State Route 1, as an alternative, using 30 miles of connector routes. Other improvements include extending ramp lengths, adding emergency pull-offs, and installing ramp meters along the connectors. Signals on the connector routes will be upgraded and adjusted to optimize timing and efficiently move additional traffic. Overhead signs will alert motorists to speed, lane or merge conditions ahead and travel information boards will guide drivers to alternate routes to provide a safer, more efficient and reliable commute. Phases one and two of this project are under construction. Phase three is currently in the design stage with an expected letting in summer of 2022. https://www.tn.gov/tdot/projects/region-3/i-24-smart-corridor.html
- TDOT is currently piloting a Traffic Signal Modernization Program designed to help communities modernize existing traffic signal equipment and operations. The program is being implemented through a grant application process, currently 100% state funded and state contracted, with the goal to begin traffic signal upgrades within 12 months of project selection. Expected benefits include the following: a reduction in traffic congestion, increased reliability in detecting vehicles, improved traffic signal visibility, savings in energy efficiency, and a reduction in maintenance costs.
- TDOT created the new Procurement and Contracts Division to provide leadership and oversight for all TDOT purchasing, procurement, and contracting within the authority of the Central Procurement Office. As TDOT continues to refine its business and financial processes, this new division will lead us toward a more streamlined and cost-effective approach to procurement.

Looking Ahead

- The biggest contract in TDOT history, the reconstruction of I-440 in Nashville, is nearing completion this year. The Design-Build project includes replacing deteriorated concrete pavement with asphalt and removal of the median to provide at least six lanes of traffic, three in each direction, for approximately 7.6 miles. The project addresses congestion and improves safety along the corridor. It's on schedule with an estimated completion date of August 2020.
- Work has begun on the I-75/I-24 Interchange Modification Project in Chattanooga. Using the Design-Build project delivery method, design and construction will be completed in less than three years. The planned improvements will consist of modification and reconstruction of 2.7 miles of roadway in order to increase capacity, safety, and operation of the interstate, while providing congestion relief and addressing the deficiencies of the existing interchange. The estimated completion of construction on the $132.5 project is June 2021.
- For the first time, TDOT is looking at bundling some bridge projects and using the Alternative Delivery method to get those projects underway faster. Alternative Delivery, which includes the Design Build and Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) methods, saves time and minimizes impacts on the travelling public.

*CNBC Report on Top States for Business: https://www.cnbc.com/2019/07/10/5-states-with-the-best-infrastructure-in-america-in-2019.html

TN TDOT Department of Transportation
work with us

There are 19,909 bridges in Tennessee, more than in most southern states. The state owns 8,423 bridges and 11,486 are locally owned.

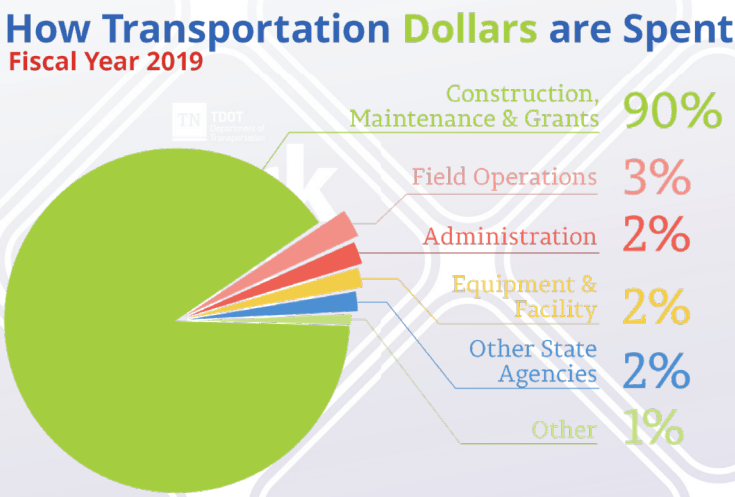
Tennessee has more than 96,116 miles of roadway. This includes 1,233 miles of interstate highways and 14,108 state highway miles overseen by TDOT.

On the highway system, there are 19 interstate rest areas, 16 interstate welcome centers open and there are 8 truck weigh stations.

The transportation system also includes the following:

- 74 general aviation airports
- 5 commercial airports
- 148 heliports
- 887 main channel miles of commercially navigable waterways and two ferries
- 23 short line railroads
- 6 Class I rail lines operating on 2,133 route miles of rail
- 28 transit (bus, van, rail) systems serving all 95 counties
- 913 miles of state route with sidewalks
- 4531.25 miles of state routes with four-foot or greater shoulders to accommodate cyclists
- 487 miles of greenways and trails
- 201 miles of state routes with designated bike lanes

As of July 2019, Tennessee motorists pay a state gas tax of 27.4 cents a gallon and 18.4 cents of federal gas tax. The state diesel tax is 28.4 cents per gallon and the federal tax on diesel is 24.4 cents per gallon. The funds are dedicated for the Tennessee transportation system.



One of TDOT's most popular programs is the HELP Program. Its function is to remove vehicles and obstacles from the travel lanes, in order to reduce traffic impacts. In 1999, HELP was started to assist motorists in the urban areas of Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Memphis. HELP patrols operate seven days a week from early in the morning to late in the evening. In addition, HELP staff remain on call to respond to traffic incidents 24/7. Our four Traffic Management Centers (TMC) are also staffed 24/7.

TDOT SmartWay is the state's intelligent transportation system (ITS). The full complement includes a system of live cameras, large electronic message boards, traffic speed sensors and transportation management centers to monitor traffic and assist in reducing congestion on Tennessee's urban interstates. Systems are in Chattanooga, Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis.

TDOT operates rural ITS sites outside of the major urban areas of the state. The system includes cameras, overhead electronic message signs, and a highway advisory system with radio transmitters and accompanying signs. Locations include rural sections along I-75, I-40, I-24, and I-81 in East Tennessee, and sections I-40, I-24, and I-65 in Middle Tennessee.

Strong Partnerships

- It takes strong partnerships to keep traffic moving on our highways and safety is the top priority. TDOT signed a new "open roads" agreement with the Department of Safety and the Tennessee Highway Patrol. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) aims to clear crashes and restore travel lanes as quickly as possible. These crashes are often caused by distracted driving. TDOT installed signs on major routes across the state reminding drivers about the Hands-Free law in Tennessee. In 2019, we standardized all work zones so that motorists are seeing the same information as they travel through the state. Our public facing safety campaign, called Work with Us, reminds motorists to move over and slow down in work zones. Our internal campaign, Work 4 Us, delivers intense training and proper safety gear for our employees. https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/tdot/work-with-us.html

- It takes strong partnerships to provide the best customer service possible to the citizens of Tennessee. TDOT is working with the Treasurer and lawmakers to better track and deal with damage claims on state highways. We've implemented a new electronic process for damage identification and repairs. The new online Maintenance Work Request Form is a more efficient way to locate and track problem areas, such as potholes. Once motorists submit the form, it's routed to the correct field office where crews are dispatched to assess and fix the problem. All requests are tracked through completion and may include a follow-up with the concerned party, if required. https://www.tn.gov/tdot/maintenance/maintenance-request.html

- TDOT remains focused on enhancing local partnerships through the Office of Community Transportation (OCT). The OCT works closely with communities on local land use decisions and community visions as it would pertain to a more effective statewide transportation system. https://www.tn.gov/tdot/long-range-planning-home/longrange-oct.html

Process for TDOT to Sign Named Highways and Bridges in Tennessee as Designated by the Tennessee General Assembly

The Tennessee Department of Transportation uses a numerical designation system to identify roads on the state highway system across the state. The department does not designate road "names" for any state highways.

Local governments (city and county) have authority to designate official road names tied to official postal addresses and 911 systems for streets and roads within their jurisdiction. Cities have authority to give official city street names to state highways within their city limits because, apart from interstate highways and other freeways, these state highways are also city streets. Cities may also sometimes give commemorative or memorial names to these non-freeway state highways within their jurisdiction which are also city streets.

The Tennessee General Assembly has the authority to name highways and bridges in Tennessee, and TDOT will install signs as directed by legislation passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor. These names are honorary and typically commemorative in nature and generally do not change the official road name, and they do not change TDOT's official numerical designation of a state highway. In recent years, it has been the General Assembly's practice to pass one large omnibus naming bill each year, which usually names approximately 50-60 bridges and highways. In some cases, the State Senator or State Representative who sponsor the naming prefer a local government first pass a resolution requesting the Tennessee General Assembly name the subject bridge or highway.

The fees to fabricate and install the required signs are usually required to be non-state sourced and are sometimes paid for by local governments, the bill sponsors, or family members of the honoree. Some honorees, such as a soldiers or police officers killed in the line of duty, will have the fees for the signs covered by the State under Section 54-1-133 of Tennessee Code. The specific language in the enacting legislation / appropriations act directs how each sign is to be funded.

Once a bill passes to name a highway or bridge, staff of the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT HQ Traffic Engineering) sends a notice to the prime Senate and House sponsor for each honoree which directs funds are required, the amount and where to send those funds. If no fees are required, the notice advises the sponsors that TDOT can proceed.

Once any required funds are received, and if the Senate and House sponsor decide they will conduct a ceremony and notify TDOT as to when they plan to conduct their ceremony, then TDOT installs and covers the signs several days in advance of the event. It is important that TDOT receive a minimum of 14 work days advance notice of the planned ceremony date as it generally takes this long to fabricate, check underground utilities, and install the signs. If the Senate and House sponsor decide not to conduct a ceremony, then TDOT installs the signs, when possible, after being notified.

For additional information, contact Joseph Sweat at 615-532-3431 (TDOT) or email to Joseph.Sweat@tn.gov.

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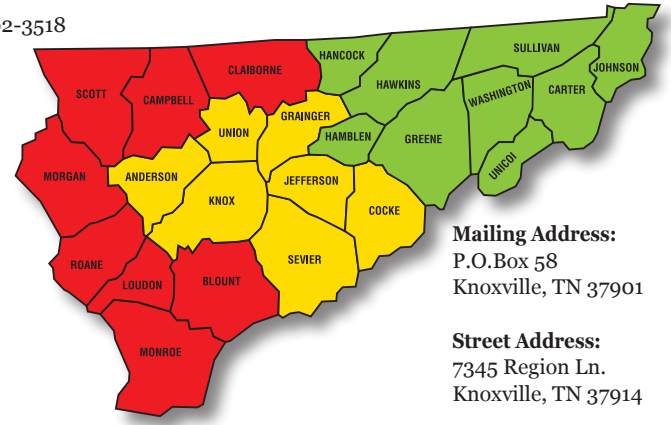

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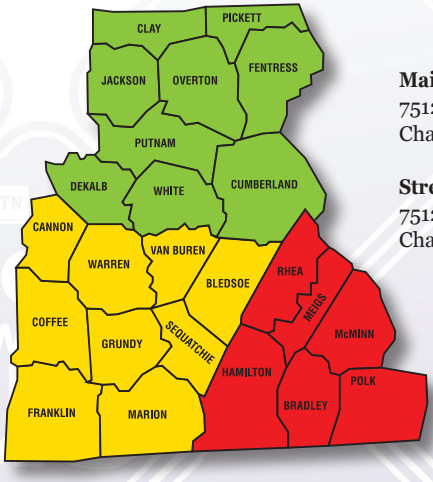

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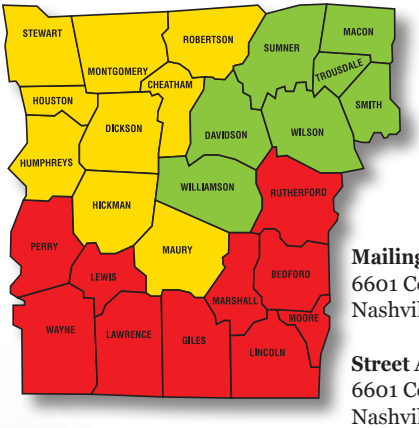

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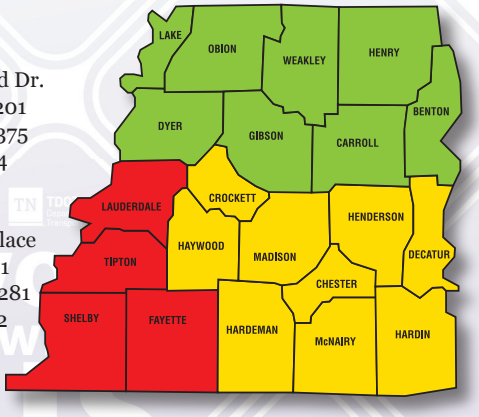

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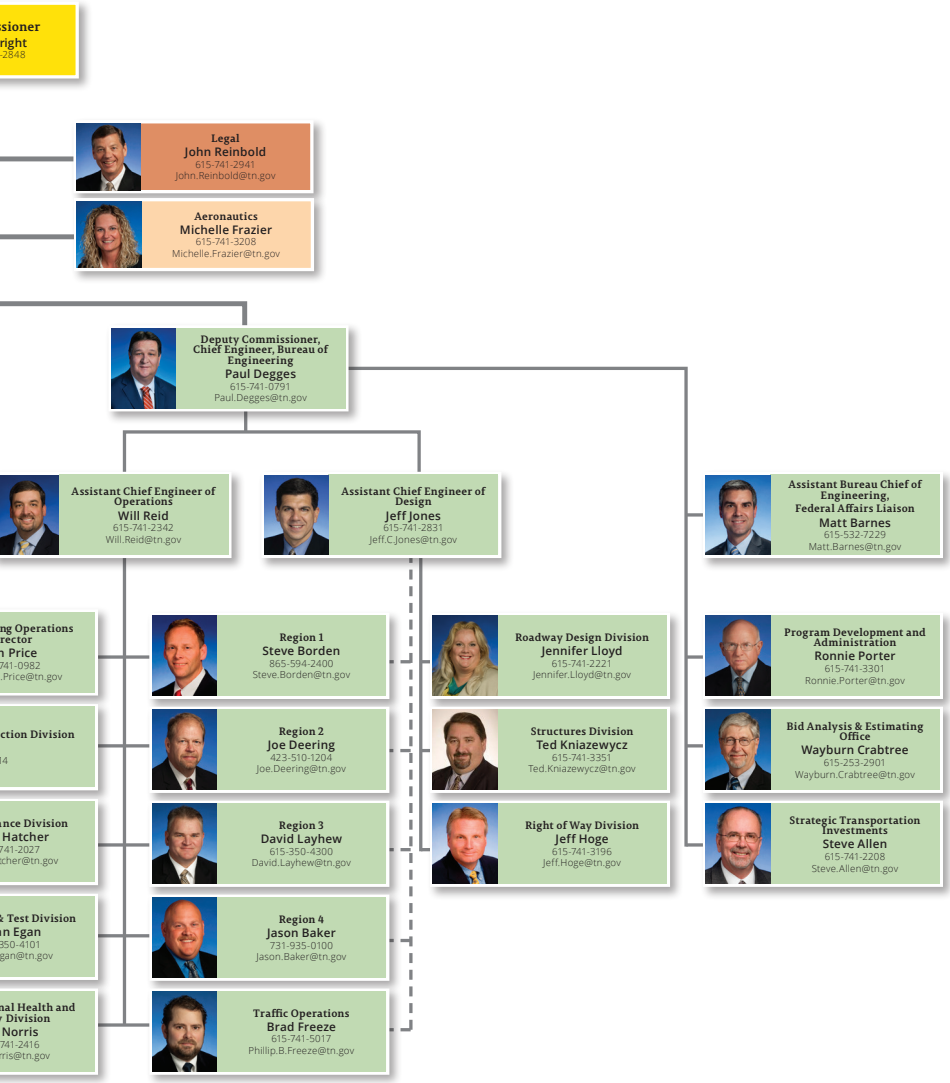

Updated December 13, 2019

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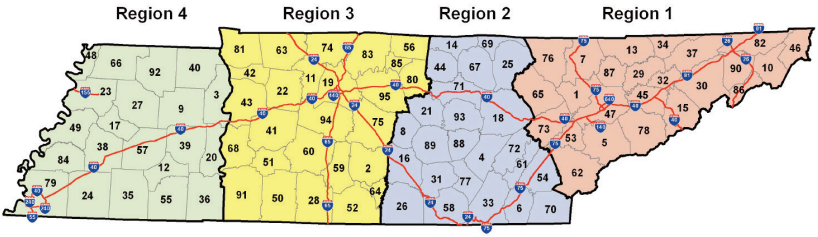
TDOT Regions



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86 • Unicoi
87 • Union
88 • Van Buren
89 • Warren
90 • Washington
91 • Wayne
92 • Weakley
93 • White
94 • Williamson
95 • Wilson

TN TDOT Department of Transportation
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Chief of Staff

Deputy Commissioner /Chief of Staff
Lyndsay Botts
Phone: 615.741.2848

The Chief of Staff serves as the senior advisor to the Commissioner, providing support on executive decisions, strategic projects, and communications initiatives. A primary role of the Chief of Staff is to work with the Bureau Chiefs to advance the Commissioner's strategic vision for the Department. The Chief of Staff's Bureau includes the Communications and Legislative Divisions which focus on developing and promoting the comprehensive communications and legislative strategies for the Department.

Assistant Bureau Chief / Community Relations and Communications Division
BJ Doughty, Director
Phone: 615.741.7736

The director of this division serves as the chief spokesperson for the agency. The mission is to provide leadership in promoting TDOT, integrating the concerns of our customers into our processes and promoting a consistent message. This involves conducting community outreach activities, managing public meetings and hearings, establishing relationships with the news media and community groups, assisting the general public in accessing TDOT's services, answering questions and concerns, and providing better communication both inside and outside the department which includes managing the website content and all social media. In addition to headquarters communications, constituent services and public involvement staff, the director supervises a community relations officer (CRO) in each of TDOT's four regions.

Legislative Division
Brian Carroll, Director
Phone: 615.335.8785

The director of this division advises the commissioner and senior staff on legislative issues. Staff works with members of the General Assembly to promote the department's agenda through legislation. Assistance is provided in legislative matters and responses and information are provided to legislators involving the department.

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Joe Galbato
Phone: 615.741.2848

The Deputy Commissioner serves as both the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the agency, as well as the Chief of the Administrative Services Bureau. Responsibilities include financial oversight for the department, including budget preparation, budget management, and federal highway reimbursement. This position has responsibility for oversight of eight divisions. Functions include: procurement oversight, general purchasing, fleet management, overweight and over dimensional permitting; administration of Title VI, Affirmative Action and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs; workforce recruiting, training, and retention; developing of agency goals and performance measures; audit and assurance services, and development of software and technology tools. A key role of this position is to provide direction, leadership, and policies on overall governance and fiscal accountability to help protect the financial integrity of the agency.

Human Resources Division
Delaine Linville, Director / Asst. Chief of Administration
Phone: 615.741.3461

The Assistant Chief of Administration also serves as the Human Resources Division Director. Duties of this position include day-to-day human resources management for 4,100 TDOT employees. This position plays a crucial role in aligning HR and business strategy, re-engineering organization processes, and providing support to both employees and management in the areas of learning and development, classification and compensation, recruitment, employee relations, and benefit and retirement counseling. The Human Resources Director provides appropriate guidance to executive leaders and managers to ensure compliance with all local, state, and federal employment laws, rules, and policies and serves as liaison with the Department of Human Resources related to transactions, classification compensation, payroll, benefits and employee relations issues.

Central Services Division
Bob Alwine, Director
Phone: 615.741.7750

Central Services provides coordination and general administration of staff services, as well as the reproduction of technical drawings, specifications, forms and contracts and official documents. The office administers purchase procedures, procurement, supply chain, fleet utilization, and facilitates the insurance and risk management programs. This division handles issuance of special permits for overweight/over-dimensional loads, records management and agency publications liaison, and purchases “Alternate Fuel Vehicles.” It coordinates the annual budget for heavy equipment and vehicle purchases and operates the HQ Motor Pool. The division assists with facilities and property management, inventory control and surplus property removal.

Finance Division
Jennifer Herstek, Director
Phone: 615.741.2261

The Finance Division provides the total accounting system for the Department of Transportation, including billing and receipts, consultant auditing and sub-recipient monitoring, payables, payroll, and cost accounting. This division is responsible for preparing and managing the department's budget. This involves comprehensive documentation and sound financial reporting. Budget preparation and reporting provide cost control and ensure that maximum service benefits accrue to the public. To accomplish its mandate, the Finance Division uses information submitted by various DOT offices, F&A, and FHWA to prepare an annual budget document. Once the budget document has been submitted and approved, it is entered into the State's accounting system. Financial activities are coordinated with the Department of Finance and Administration to ensure adherence to policy, laws, and generally accepted accounting principles.

Information Technology Division
Joe Kirk, Director
Phone: 615.741.3576

The Information Technology Division (IT) is responsible for the direction, planning, coordination and management of the department's computerized information resources. IT staff evaluate, purchase, install and maintain computer hardware and software, manage network services for the Intelligent Transportation System network, develop and support applications and provide technical assistance to departmental personnel in their use of these resources. The IT Division is responsible for coordination with the State's central technology Division, Strategic Technology Solutions (STS).

Internal Audit Office
Mel Marcella, Director
Phone: 615.741.1651

The Division of Internal Audit provides audit and assurance, consulting and advisory, education, and integrity services for the department. The primary focus of the division is conducting performance audits designed to ascertain the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of TDOT's various operational and financial programs, processes, and activities. Audit and assurance services are prioritized from a risk management approach to focus resources on areas of high risks. The ultimate objective is to provide the management structure and senior leadership with information they need to make better decisions - through practical, cost beneficial recommendations geared toward improving TDOT's operations. Consulting and advisory services are designed to initiate a collaborative approach to address concerns regarding the ever-changing business environment. Education services include providing training on ethical behavior, fraud awareness, internal controls, and the proper use of TDOT assets to department employees. Integrity services are performed to substantiate alleged instances of fraud, waste, and abuse of TDOT funds by department employees, contractors, vendors, and grantees.

Civil Rights Division
Vince Malone, Director
Phone: 615.741.3681

The Civil Rights Division is responsible for the administration of both state and federal programs of nondiscrimination that includes Title VI, Affirmative Action and Small Business Development. Each program monitors all activities for compliance and provides training and onsite technical assistance. Additionally, the division is responsible for developing and implementing TDOT's internal and external affirmative action plans and investigating complaints of alleged discrimination, including sexual harassment. The division also administers the federally mandated Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program.

Strategic Planning
Patsy Mimms, Director
Phone: 615.532.3507

The Office of Strategic Planning is responsible for assisting TDOT in defining a clear direction for the organization, coordinating with all divisions to develop and implement a strategic plan, and monitoring performance toward departmental goals. Critical transportation issues, trends, resources, customer needs, and results are monitored to evaluate the impact on departmental priorities. The office is also responsible for monitoring implementation and progress of the strategic plan and ensuring alignment with other departmental plans and objectives. Performance results are reported in compliance with state and federal guidance.

Procurement and Contracts
Chris D. Yarbrough, Director
Phone: 615.770.1772

This new division provides leadership and oversight for all TDOT purchasing, procurement, and contracting within the authority of the Central Procurement Office. The Procurement and Contracts Division serves as the liaison between TDOT and the state of Tennessee's Central Procurement Office to maximize efficiency, accountability, and stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

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Bureau of Engineering

Deputy Commissioner / Chief Engineer
Paul Degges, P.E.
Phone: 615.741.0791

The responsibilities of the Bureau of Engineering are to develop, preserve and maintain the state highway system and to provide assistance to local governments in the development of their highway systems. This bureau also provides technical and developmental support to agency divisions of the department. Specific responsibilities include the following: highway data collection, program development and scheduling, design, right-of-way acquisition, estimates, aerial surveying, construction, maintenance, traffic engineering, materials and geological testing.

Assistant Chief of Engineering / Federal Affairs Liaison
Matt Barnes
Phone: 615.532.7229

This office handles issues related to the department's transportation initiatives and federal-aid program as directed by the Chief Engineer. It also coordinates with internal stakeholders and key congressional offices and Washington D.C.-based non-governmental organizations to develop federal policy positions that promote departmental goals and initiatives. The Federal Affairs Liaison covers congressional hearings, tracks major transportation-related federal legislation, prepares materials for legislative visits, and provides timely and accurate responses to congressional inquiries. This office also works across all TDOT bureaus to coordinate the department's comments to the Federal Register, develop action plans to implement major federal transportation legislation and policies.

Construction Division
Vacant, Director
Phone: 615.741.2414

The Construction Division is responsible for preparing proposals and letting to contract all TDOT transportation highway and bridge projects. Contract administration on TDOT projects and writing TDOT specifications and special provisions is also the responsibility of this division. The Construction Division is also responsible for the pre-qualification of all contractors that perform TDOT projects. The division also approves all first-tier subcontracts for our road and bridge construction.

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Roadway Design Division
Jennifer Lloyd, Director
Phone: 615.741.2221

This division's responsibilities include performing aerial surveys; establishing roadway design, drainage, and field survey criteria; maintaining and developing roadway design standard drawings; providing training; providing CADD support and implementation of software; providing pavement design; performing Value Engineering studies; and checking plans for quality assurance/quality control, ADA, and traffic work zone compliance. The consultant oversight group reviews pre-qualification of consultant engineering firms, advertises for continuing contracts for aerial and ground survey and roadway design contracts and project specific contracts. The division also oversees consultant projects and has an in-house design unit that is responsible for the development of right-of-way and construction plans for proposed highway improvement projects. Other key responsibilities include overseeing the state drone program, GNSS network, and maintaining all final construction plans through the Plan Sale unit.

Right of Way (ROW) Division
Jeff Hoge, Director
Phone: 615.741.3196

This division is responsible for the appraisal and acquisition of land needed for state highway construction and relocation of families and businesses affected. This division is also responsible for the coordination and relocation of utility and railroad facilities necessary for highway construction projects. Excess land is administered and disposed of through this division.

Traffic Operations
Brad Freeze, Director
Phone: 615.253.1122

The core mission of the Traffic Operations Division is to maximize the capacity of the existing roadway infrastructure in Tennessee. This division consists of the Traffic Engineering office, the Transportation Management office, and the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) office. Responsibilities include providing policy and guidance to TDOT's four Regional Transportation Management Centers (TMC) and HELP Incident Management Programs; the design and oversight of traffic signal, roadway lighting, and roadway signage projects; the development and maintenance of standard guidelines for traffic design and operations; and the design and deployment support for ITS projects that support operations using technology.

Maintenance Division
Jerry Hatcher, Director
Phone: 615.741.2027

The Maintenance Division is responsible for the administration of several statewide programs to ensure the state roadway network and highway assets are maintained at a high-level using cost effective measures. Specific responsibilities include the following: establishing standard operating maintenance procedures and policies, development of an annual roadway maintenance budget, emergency management planning, pavement management, interagency and city maintenance agreements, development of roadway maintenance contracts and facility maintenance.

Bid Analysis and Estimating
Wayburn Crabtree, Director
Phone: 615.253.2901

The Office of Estimating & Bid Analysis is responsible for producing preliminary estimates, the Engineer's Estimate of Cost and Notice to Contractors for all construction and maintenance projects let by TDOT. The office reviews estimates and bids on locally managed projects to ensure that TDOT policies and guidelines are followed in the bid letting and contract award processes. The office maintains records of estimates and bids on TDOT projects according to statutory requirements and reports cost trend analysis annually and on request.

Structures Division
Ted Kniazewycz, P.E., Director
Phone: 615.741.3351

This division is responsible for designing and developing plans and specifications relating to all state highway structures and for the inspection of all bridges in Tennessee. Key responsibilities include the design of structural foundations, piers, abutments and girder systems, including major or unusual structures with complex geometry. The division also completes hydrology and hydraulic studies involving legal action; scour studies; inspection of prefabrication plants; welding procedure review; on-site erection supervision; design and development of contract plans and specifications. Additionally, the division evaluates and rates, for load carrying capacity, bridges on the national highway and sate route system, including the review of bridge and underwater inspection reports.

Materials & Tests Division
Brian Egan, Director
Phone: 615.350.4100

Headquarters Division of Materials and Tests is responsible for ensuring that all materials used in the construction and maintenance of Tennessee's highways meet the appropriate ASTM, AASHTO, and Departmental specifications. This division monitors the quality and performance of TDOT's highway network by performing field evaluations, conducting production facility reviews, performing laboratory tests, and analyzing a variety of data. The division coordinates pavement and materials research projects and maintains the department's Qualified Products List. It provides technical expertise and support to the entire department, including the development of new specifications, geotechnical testing and consulting, and technician training and certification.

Program Development & Administration Division
Ronnie Porter, Director
Phone: 615.741.3301

This division is responsible for developing and implementing TDOT's highway programs. The State Transportation Improvement Program is compiled and administered through this division. It establishes and maintains a schedule of development on all highway improvements, except for those managed through the Region Project Development Directors. Other responsibilities include generating and processing state and federal project allotments and funding authorizations and administering state funds and federal funds through FHWA used by local agencies for highway, safety and enhancement improvements.

Strategic Transportation Investments Division
Steve Allen, Director
Phone: 615.741.2208

The Strategic Transportation Investments Division provides strategic support for projects that addresses safety, congestion, and economic development needs across the state. This includes Expedited Project Delivery (EPD) whose goal is to address the immediate issues on the highway system and propose the proper solution. The division conducts operational analysis of non-highway transportation projects as they impact the highway system. Investments relates to the work of this division in determining what new commitments (i.e. investments) TDOT will be making. The process includes the new "Needs Assessment Process" which will determine the appropriate level of study and Project Prioritization (DL3) which uses technical data, schedule and cost to provide a prioritized list of major projects to assist in the development of the 3-year Multimodal Transportation program.

Occupational Health and Safety Division
Jay Norris, Director
Phone: 615.741.2416

The Occupational Health and Safety Division develops and implements policies, specifications, and procedures to ensure the health and safety of people inspecting, maintaining, constructing, and traveling our transportation system. The division requires individual accountability, expects all employees to adhere to safety standards, and actively participates in and supports the advancement of health and safety practices. Safety is the responsibility of all employees, including top management and the individual employee.

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Bureau of Environment & Planning

Chief of Environment and Planning
Vacant
Phone: 615.741.5376

This bureau administers the planning, environmental, and multimodal activities of the department. Functions include environmental compliance, environmental planning and technical studies, environmental policy, long range and project transportation planning, travel data collection and analysis, GIS mapping, conceptual project design, public transit grant programs, bicycle and pedestrian access and safety, and highway beautification.

Freight and Logistics Division
Dan Pallme, Director / Asst. Chief of Environment and Planning
Phone: 615.741.4031

The Freight and Logistics Division provides leadership on issues of rail, water and highway freight. The division serves as a liaison between TDOT and freight stakeholders in an effort to find opportunities to improve access for existing freight and appropriately prepare for the projected increases in freight as it moves in and out of the state. The primary focus areas for the division include water, short-line railroads, Section 130 rail program, rail inspection, highway freight and technology, freight advisory committees and the freight and state rail plan updates.

Environmental Division
Susannah Kniazewycz, Director
Phone: 615.741.5373

This division is responsible for the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment with the implementation of transportation projects. The division, under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), assists in transportation project development and decision-making processes. Other specific responsibilities include: analysis of air quality and noise impacts and for the avoidance of hazardous materials sites; preparing federal and state environmental documents; assessing, preparing and acquiring environmental permits for transportation projects; and is responsible for Outdoor Advertising control, Vegetation Control, Junkyard Control, Litter Grant and Adopt-A-Highway and the Scenic Highways Program.

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Long Range Planning Division
Vacant, Director
Phone: 615.741.3421

The Long-Range Planning Division is responsible for the planning, development and management of statewide transportation studies and planning tools that help guide the policies and programs of TDOT and its various divisions. The division identifies transportation needs through the analysis of travel and safety data, and engages the communities to obtain public input on transportation investments. Specific responsibilities include developing the statewide long-range transportation plan, preparation of corridor studies, University research, travel data collection, feasibility studies and metropolitan and rural transportation planning coordination. The division is also responsible for GIS mapping.

Multimodal Transportation Resources Division
Suzanne Carlson, Director
Phone: 615.253.1055

The Multimodal Division supports mobility for all through public transportation, bicycling and pedestrian infrastructure, complete streets and transportation demand management. The division administers state and federal transit grants, provides compliance oversight, and works in partnership with transit agencies to support ridership. The multimodal planning and active transportation program implements TDOT's Multimodal Access Policy, reviews all TDOT projects for opportunities to expand pedestrian, bicycle, and low speed mobility access, and facilitates communications with external stakeholders.

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Additional Divisions

Legal Division
John Reinbold, General Counsel
Phone: 615.741.2941

This division is comprised of agency legal staff providing services to the Commissioner, his staff and all divisions and regions. Services include preparation and review of contracts, grants, and right-of-way acquisition documents; administrative hearings representation; drafting/review of legislation and regulations; advice on regulatory and program requirements; and assistance in employment law. The office works closely with the State Attorney General's Office in response to TDOT contract, tort, employment, and condemnation cases.

Aeronautics Division
Michelle Frazier, Director
Phone: 615.741.3208

The Aeronautics Division is responsible for licensing public airports, monitoring compliance with federal grants and providing flight services for all branches of state government. It performs engineering services, aviation planning studies, airport improvement and project design consultation to local airports. It ensures the operational safety and efficiency of the statewide aviation facilities system.

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In 2016, the Tennessee Department of Transportation lost three workers in the line of duty. All three were struck by passing motorists. Those tragedies bring the total number of TDOT lives lost to 112. We don't want to lose another member of our TDOT family. We're asking you to WORK WITH US.

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