# **CORRIDOR STUDY**

## WHAT IS A CORRIDOR STUDY?

A corridor study is a planning project that defines the relationships between a roadway and its adjacent land. Corridor studies are used to:

- Define acceptable levels of access and mobility
- Determine appropriate land uses
- Consolidate and control access points
- Identify operational breakdowns and promote operational efficiency
- Promote redevelopment of an underperforming corridor



#### WHY DO A CORRIDOR STUDY?

Corridor studies are an effective tool for assessing existing conditions, developing a preferred future condition, and can offer interim fixes for transitioning corridors as they change. Specific benefits of corridor studies may include:

- Maximization of existing infrastructure
- Improved safety conditions
- Development of coordinated land uses
- Access or mobility improvements
- Air quality improvements through congestion reduction





Schematics from Corridor Study: Kingston Springs, TN



# Tennessee Department of Transportation Long Range Planning Division Community Transportation Planning Grant Fact Sheets

#### TENNESSEE EXAMPLE OF A CORRIDOR STUDY: KINGSTON SPRINGS

In 2008 Kingston Springs government and community leaders took a proactive approach to address the realities of future growth. Through a two-day visioning process, leaders determined strengths, weaknesses, risks, and opportunities of their community and identified goals for future development.

As a result of this process, Kingston Springs determined that the existing interchange and commercial strip leading to Interstate 40 did not reflect the desired future character of the community. Kingston Springs worked with TDOT to develop a corridor study to improve these conditions. The resulting study will allow Kingston Springs to develop a new, more attractive, business district that better fits the future vision for the community while also developing a safer, more pedestrian and bicycle friendly community gateway.

#### **HOW TO DO A CORRIDOR STUDY**

## **STEP 1: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

**Leadership Commitment** Community leaders must demonstrate a clear commitment to support the project.

**Visioning and Consensus** Establishing a shared vision and consensus allows the community to set project goals and objectives. Understanding needs and developing support from the community is vital to start the planning, design, and implementation processes.

**Planning and Design** Communities should leverage local resources and knowledge to assist in guiding project activities to best meet the needs of their community. Tailoring best practices to meet local conditions and desires will assist in developing an implementable, successful planning study.

#### **STEP 2: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

**Funding for Implementation** Communities should seek diverse funding sources to implement their corridor studies. Partnering with private industry as well as seeking funding from other state and federal sources.

TDOT offers the following competitive programs to assist with implementation:

- **Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP):** Program that implements projects that reduce fatalities and serious injuries on all public roadways.
- **Surface Transportation Program:** Funding for roadway construction and improvements, operational improvement, transportation systems, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, ridesharing programs and facilities and transportation planning and studies
- **Transportation Alternatives:** The Transportation Alternatives Program functions as the main funding source for general pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure projects.

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