# I-40/I-81 Study Update Nashville



### April 3, 2008

## Agenda

- I-40/I-81 Tennessee's Major Artery
- Study Overview
- Process for Evaluating Potential Solutions
- Preliminary Study Results
- Remaining Steps

### **Study Corridor**

- Bristol to Memphis, 550 Miles
- Includes 9 of State's 12 RPOs
- Crosses 8 of State's 11 MPOs/TPOs



### **Corridor Importance**

- A Corridor in the Strategic Investment Plan
- 55% of State's population live along the corridor (28 counties)
- Truck volumes along corridor are estimated to double by 2030; trucks carry 74% of freight in State
- Rail freight volumes projected to increase over 50% by 2030

### **Corridor Importance**

- Major commuting route in urban areas
- Serves as a jurisdiction's "Main Street" and provides local access if parallel roads are congested or don't exist
- Demand along corridor is very different from original system function of facilitating interstate travel

### **Study Purpose**

- Identify & address I-40/I-81 deficiencies
- Identify low-cost operational improvements along corridor
- Consider effectiveness of truck/rail diversion
- Consider multi-modal solutions

# Identify, Evaluate & Prioritize Solutions That Address:

- Congestion & capacity
- Operations & maintenance
- Safety & security
- Freight movement & diversion
- Economic access
- Commuter patterns
- Inter-modal facilities (freight and/or passenger)

# -40 / I-81 CORRIDOR FEASIBILITY STUDY

### **Study Outcomes**

- Projects & strategies for consideration by TDOT, MPOs/TPOs & RPOs
- Short, mid & long-range solutions and cost estimates

## Previous Nashville Public Meeting

- Held on September 4, 2007
- Provided background on I-40/I-81 study
- Asked if there were deficiencies in the corridor beyond what we had identified
- Requested input into range of potential solutions to be considered

## Other Regional Stakeholder Meetings

- Memphis
- Jackson
- Knoxville
- Tri-Cities
- Cookeville

March 31 April 1 April 7 April 8 April 10

### **Initial Screening Process**

- Five "packages" of multimodal solutions for corridor analysis for 2030
  - -Existing + Committed Improvements
  - -Roadway Capacity
  - -Corridor Capacity
  - -Operational Solutions
  - -Rail-Focused Solutions
- Developed performance measures from statewide and urban area models
- Off-model analysis for selected measures

### **Purpose of Evaluation Process**

- Identify solutions/projects with highest benefit/cost (B/C) ratios, recognizing that this measure represents only one factor in project assessment
- Identify solutions/projects that will provide benefits in short- and midterm periods

### **Evaluation Process**

- B/C ratios estimated for projects from those "packages" found to be significant
- Benefits for each project monetized to allow consistent measurement across evaluation criteria
- Roadway cost estimates consistent with TDOT methodology
- Projects evaluated for multiple planning horizons
- Benefits estimated only for I-40 & I-81

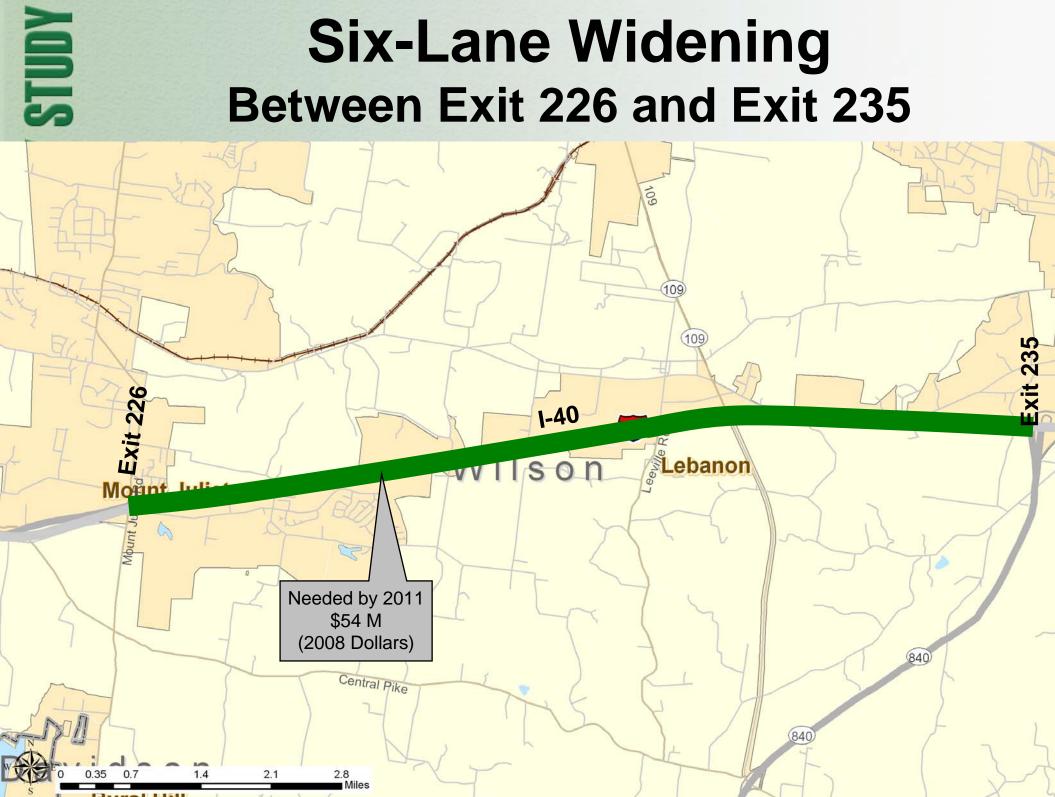
### **Evaluation Components**

- Auto hours of recurrent delay
- Truck hours of recurrent delay
- Auto hours of non-recurrent (incident) delay
- Truck hours of non-recurrent (incident) delay
- Number of accidents
- Number of fatalities

### Identified I-40 Widening Projects

- Widen to 6 Lanes between Exit 226 (Mt. Juliet Rd) and Exit 235 (SR-840)
  - 2030 B/C ratio of 3.2 for widening 8-mile segment at an estimated total cost of \$54 million
  - Modeling analysis shows need for these improvements by 2011

### **Six-Lane Widening Between Exit 226 and Exit 235**



# I-40 Corridor Capacity Projects

- Completion of remaining segments of SR-840
  - 2030 B/C ratio of 5.7 for completing this roadway at estimated cost of \$248.8 million
  - Provides alternative route for I-40 through traffic and motorists going to I-65 South and I-24 South

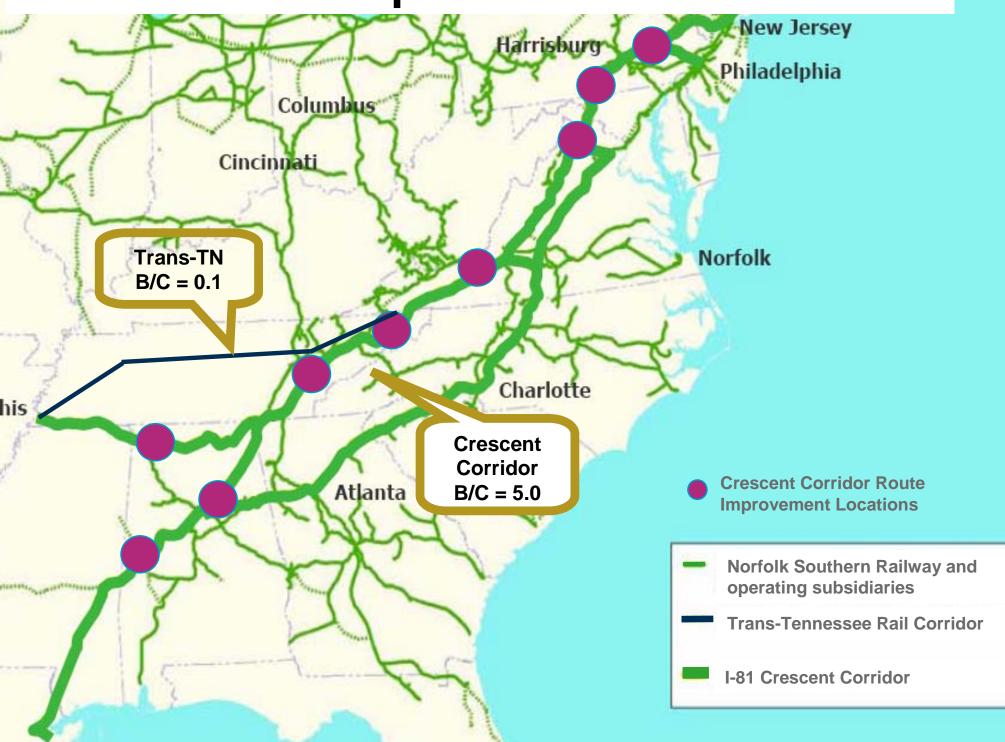
# SR-840 Corridor Capacity Project



# **Truck/Rail Diversion**

- Truck trips are divertible to rail if
  - Trip distances are long (greater than 500 750 miles)
  - Commodities can be handled easily by rail
    - Bulk goods
    - Non-perishable goods
    - Goods easily packaged and shipped using intermodal containers
  - Rail network matches desired trip origin and destination

### I-40/I-81 Rail Improvement Alternatives



### **Trans-Tennessee Rail Corridor**

- Re-development of rail connection
  between Crossville and Cookeville
- Provides rail connection across state
- Direct rail service between Nashville and Knoxville
- Estimated cost of improvements is \$1.2 billion

### **Crescent Corridor**

- NS estimates over 1 million divertible truckloads along the Crescent Corridor
- Plans forecast 28 new trains per day
- NS seeking public-private partnerships to improve the rail network at an estimated cost of \$2 billion
- Corridor investments will begin this year with roll-out of improved services in 2009
- Entire network to be complete by 2013

## **Cooperation with Virginia**

- Regular meetings on rail corridor planning between DOT officials from both states
- Cambridge Systematics also is assisting Virginia in analyzing benefits of truck-rail diversion
- Virginia shared results of I-81 truck origindestination surveys with TDOT to assist in calibration of truck-rail diversion model

### **I-40 Rail-Focused Improvements**

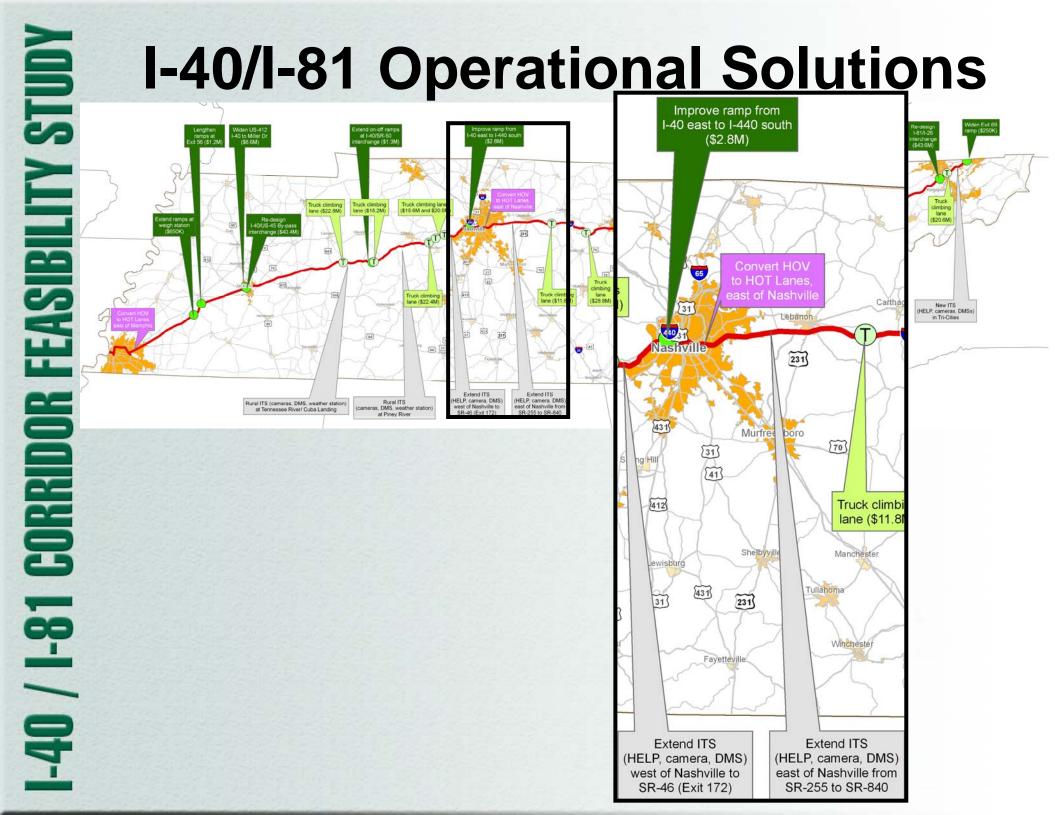
- Norfolk Southern Crescent Corridor
  - 2030 B/C ratio of 5.0 warranting further analysis of planned improvements in and out of the state

### Trans-Tennessee Rail Corridor

 2030 B/C ratio of 0.1, but includes benefits for I-40/I-81 Corridor & economic benefits identified in An Evaluation of Tennessee Rail Plan's Treatment of a Trans-Tennessee Rail Routing only

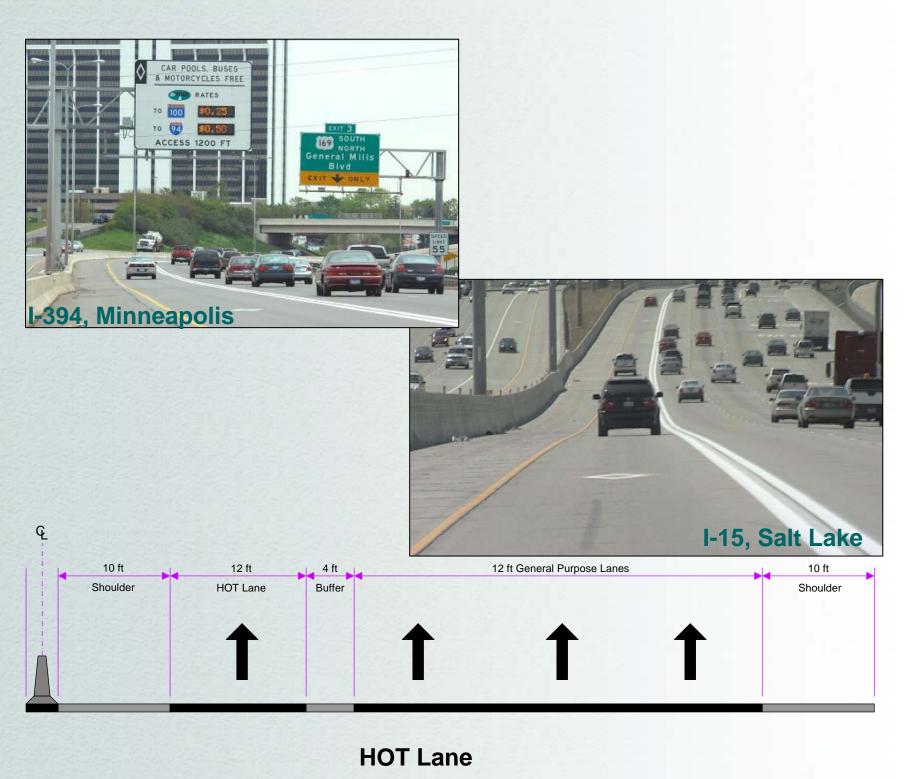
### I-40/I-81 Operational Solutions

- High occupancy vehicle (HOV) or high occupancy toll (HOT) lane expansion or conversion
- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) improvements
- Interchange, rest area & weigh station ramp improvements
- Truck climbing lanes



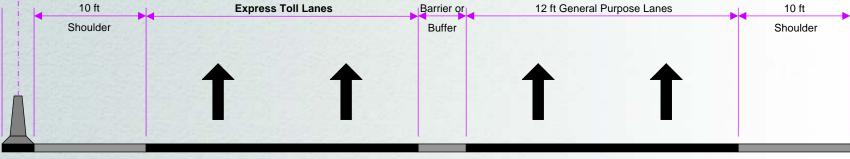
## I-40 HOT Lanes in Nashville

- Low volume of HOVs in 2005 with high number of violators
- HOT lanes would permit singleoccupant vehicles to pay to use lane and reduce violators
- Would require change in state law to allow pricing on existing interstates
- Could provide dedicated funding for enforcement, but would not likely generate significant revenue



# I-40 / I-81 CORRIDOR FEASIBILITY STUDY



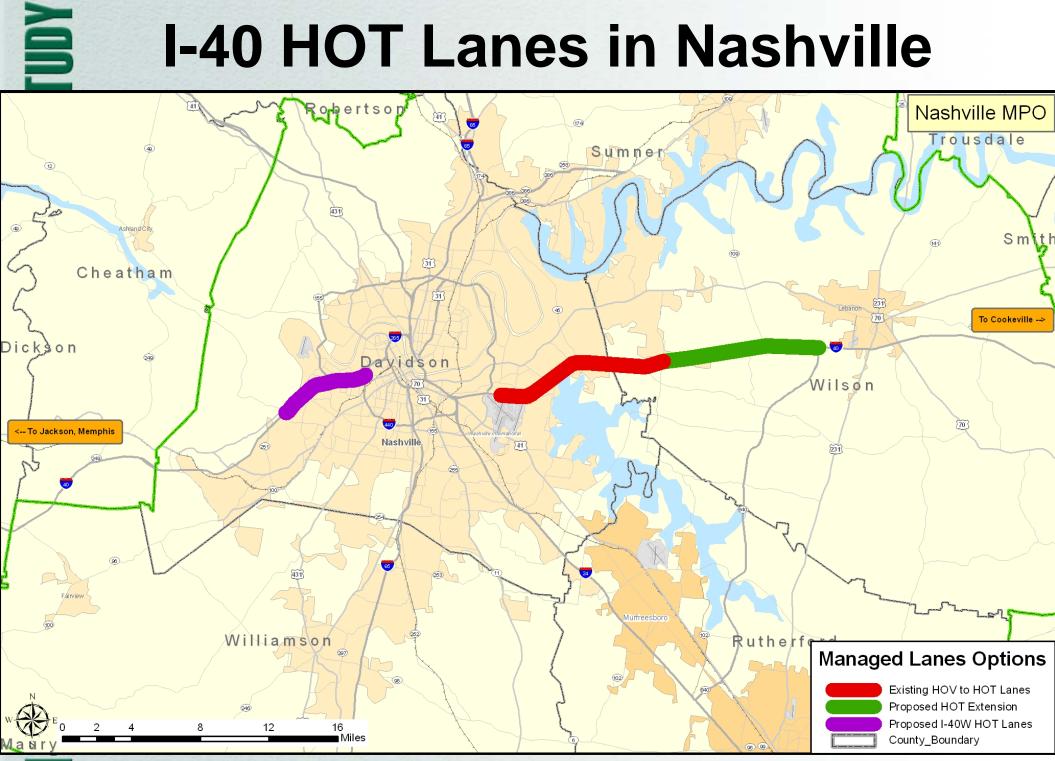


### **MANAGED EXPRESS / TRUCK TOLL Lanes**

## I-40 HOT Lanes in Nashville

- Mid-term potential for HOT lanes in median west of I-440
- Long-term potential for limited lane extensions & queue bypass treatments to improve access from HOT lanes to downtown
- Supplement with active traffic management
  - Dynamic merge control, speed controls, truck restrictions, etc.

### **I-40 HOT Lanes in Nashville**



# **ITS Expansion along I-40**

- Extend ITS west to SR-46 (Exit 172) & east between Donelson Pike and SR-840 (Exit 235)
- Equipment cost of \$4.3 million with annual operating/maintenance cost of \$445,000
- System includes:
  - Surveillance cameras
  - Speed detection at ½ mile intervals
  - Dynamic message signs
  - HELP service vehicles
  - 511 and Web traveler information
  - Real time weather sensors

### I-40/I-440 Interchange Improvement

- Extend I-40 eastbound deceleration lane
- Lengthen ramp from I-40 eastbound to I-440
- Estimated cost of \$2.8 million
- Suggested during stakeholder interviews

### **Interchange Improvement at** I-40/I-440



### Truck Climbing Lane Dickson County

- Based on AASHTO standards for vehicular traffic, truck traffic & percent grade
- About 1.33 miles long, in eastbound direction
- Estimated cost of \$23 million (2008 Dollars)
- Maximum grade of 3.8%

### Truck Climbing Lanes Cheatham County

### Westbound Lane

- about 1.28 miles long
- Estimated cost of \$21 million (2008 Dollars)
- Maximum grade of 4%

### Westbound Lane

- about half-mile long
- Estimated cost of \$16 million (2008 Dollars)
- Maximum grade of 5.3%

-40 / I-81 CORRIDOR FEASIBILITY STUDY

### Truck Climbing Lane Smith County

- About half-mile long, in eastbound direction
- At western boundary of Smith County
- Estimated cost of \$12 million (2008 Dollars)
- Maximum grade of 5.4%

# -40 / I-81 CORRIDOR FEASIBILITY STUDY

# **Project Programming**

- Near-term, medium-term and long-term projects with highest B/C ratios identified for each region
- Projects divided into constructible segments
- Segments are programmed based on timing of impacts and availability of funds

## **Remaining Steps**

Late April

Review public comments with TDOT Present draft corridor program to Commissioner



Complete corridor program & Final Report

### For more information on the study, contact:

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