

TDOT Presents

PIONEERING PARTNERSHIPS

MPO Conference

August 11-14, 2025

TN

TDOT

Department of
Transportation



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE



Tuesday, August 12

7:00 am	Registration / Breakfast
8:30am - 9:00am	Welcome to Chattanooga
9:00am - 9:30am	Conference Kickoff
9:30am - 10:15am	TDOT Planning Division Updates
10:15am - 10:30am	Break
10:30am - 11:00am	Grant Administration
11:00am - 12:00pm	All Things Local Programs & Community Investments
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 1:30pm	Telling Your Transportation Story
1:30pm - 2:00pm	EPIC in Passenger Transportation, Rail & Freight
2:00pm - 2:45pm	TDOT Long-Range Plan Update
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Break
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Acronym Bingo
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Freight
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Aeronautics (Part 1) Drones & AAM for Tennessee
4:30pm - 5:30pm	Enjoy the Hotel!
5:30pm - 7:00pm	MPO Hosted Opening Reception Sponsor Area
7:00pm	Explore Chattanooga!

Wednesday, August 13

7:00am - 8:30am	Breakfast
8:30am - 9:00am	Aeronautics (Part 2) Land Use & Height Zoning Ordinance Around Aeronautical Facilities
9:00am - 9:30am	Passenger Transit
9:30am - 10:15am	Functional Classification
10:15am - 10:30am	Break
10:30am - 11:00am	GIS & Planning Resources to Make Your Lives Easier
11:00am - 11:30am	Traffic Data Resources
11:30am - 12:00pm	AMPO Update
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 1:30pm	Statewide Partnership Program
1:30pm - 2:15pm	Road & Highways: The Backbone of Our Data
2:15pm - 2:45pm	Weigh in Motion (WIM)
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Break
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Public Participation What Works & What Doesn't
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Bridge Load Ratings
4:30pm - 5:30pm	Enjoy the Hotel!
5:30pm - 7:00pm	TDOT Hosted Closing Reception Paloma Lounge
7:00pm	Explore Chattanooga!

Thursday, August 14

7:00am - 8:30am	Breakfast
8:30am - 10:00am	Roundtable Discussion
10:00am - 10:45am	MPO Association Staff Meeting Sponsor Area
10:00am - 10:45am	TDOT Staff Meeting Portman Ballroom
11:00am	Farewell - Travel Safe!

**All Breakfast will be held in
Portman Ballroom**



2025 MPO Conference





TUESDAY, AUGUST 12



Time	Title	Presenter	Description
7:00am - 8:30am	Registration / Breakfast		Please check-In and grab your swag item. Breakfast in the Portman Ballroom
8:30am - 9:00am	Welcome to Chattanooga	Melissa Taylor Director of Transportation Planning & MPO Coordinator Tim Kelly Mayor of Chattanooga	
9:00am - 9:30am	Conference Kickoff	Matt Meservy, TDOT Planning Division Director	
9:30am - 10:15am	TDOT Planning Division Updates	Matt Meservy TDOT Planning Division Director Stacy Morrison TDOT Office of Community Transportation Manager Pamela Boyd-Walker TDOT Statewide Planning & Program Development Manager Chris McPhilamy TDOT Data Visualization & Forecasting Manager Randall Emilaire TDOT Roadway Data Coordinator	Planning Division Director and Managers will present current organization to provide updates on staffing roles, responsibilities and points of contact.
10:15am - 10:30am	Break		
10:30am - 11:00am	Grant Administration	Janice Shellington-Jenkins TDOT Program Development Team Lead	Contracts and Invoices: What to do, what to avoid.
11:00am - 12:00pm	All Things Local Program & Community Investments	Steve Allen TDOT Local Program & Community Investments Division Director Mike Gilbert TDOT Local Programs Manager Lisa Dunn TDOT State Aid Manager Antonia Hayes TDOT Community Investments Manager	LPACID staff will present current organization and provide updates on staffing roles, responsibilities and points of contact.
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch		



TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

(CONTINUED)



Time	Title	Presenter	Description
1:00pm - 1:30pm	Telling Your Transportation Story	Jay Klein Director of Legislation	Understanding the State Legislative process in Tennessee, with a focus on engaging with elected officials, fostering relationships, defining initiatives, building a coalition, and telling your story.
1:30pm - 2:00pm	Changes in Passenger Transportation, Rail, & Freight	Dan Pallme Assistant Bureau Chief, Passenger Transportation, Rail, & Freight Director	Latest update to whom, what, where and when in the PTRF Division.
2:00pm - 2:45pm	TDOT 2055 Long Range Transportation Plan Update	Pamela Boyd-Walker TDOT Statewide Planning & Program Development Manager Jaret Shaffer TDOT Statewide Planning Team Lead Gresham Smith Team	Planning staff will discuss the 2055 Plans schedule and facilitate an interactive engagement discussion with audience members.
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Break		
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Acronym Bingo	Gabrielle Burton TDOT Planning Division Administrative Assistant	Extra-long break or fun bingo? Your choice! Come try your hand at Transportation Acronym Bingo and win great prizes!
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Initiatives in Freight in the State	Dan Pallme Assistant Bureau Chief, Passenger Transportation, Rail, & Freight Director	Tennessee's multimodal impact to the MPO's, region, state, country, and the world.
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Aeronautics (Part 1) Drones & AAM for Tennessee	JP Saalwaechter TDOT Aeronautics Division Director	Part 1 This session will offer an industry overview and next steps for metropolitan areas in Aviation technologies
4:30pm - 5:30pm	Enjoy the Hotel!		
5:30pm - 7:00pm	Tennessee MPO Association Welcome Reception		Reception will be held in Sponsors' Area.
7:00pm	Explore Chatanooga!		



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13



Time	Title	Presenter	Description
7:00am - 8:30am	Breakfast		Held in Portman Ballroom
8:30am - 9:00am	Aeronautics (Part 2) Land Use & Height Zoning Ordinance Around Aeronautical Facilities	JP Saalwaechter TDOT Aeronautics Division Director	Part 2 Explore implementation, best practices, and resources in local government aviation
9:00am - 9:30am	Passenger Transit	Kaitlyn McClanahan TDOT Public Transportation Manager	An overview of TDOT's role in transit - including program funding, POC's and processes for TIP modifications and amendments.
9:30am - 10:15am	Functional Classification	Lia Prince TDOT Roadway Data Analytics Team Lead	TDOT's functional classification process, roles and responsibilities.
10:15am - 10:30am	Break		
10:30am - 11:00am	GIS & Planning Resources to Make Your Lives Easier	Chris McPhilamy TDOT Data Visualization & Forecasting Manager	The latest GIS tools & resources available to aid MPOs in planning efforts.
11:00am - 11:30am	Traffic Data Resources	Ashley Hunter-Mason TDOT Planning Data Team Lead	AADTs and where they can be accessed and analyzed.
11:30am - 12:00pm	AMPO Update	Ellen Zavisca AMPO Transportation Planning Manager	Exploring AMPOs efforts and the latest in federal policy. Ending with a Q&A
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch		
1:00pm - 1:30pm	Statewide Partnership Program	Preston Elliott Deputy Commissioner / Chief Bureau of Planning	Insight and discussion on one of TDOT's newer approaches to accelerating project delivery.
1:30pm - 2:15pm	Road & Highways: The Backbone of Our Data	Isaac Pratt TDOT Planning Specialist	An overview of ETRIMS and information pertaining to processes, practices, usage restrictions and how to submit needed corrections.



WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13

(CONTINUED)



Time	Title	Presenter	Description
2:15pm - 2:45pm	Weigh in Motion (WIM)	Randall Emilaire TDOT Roadway Data Manager	Everything you wanted to know about WIM in Tennessee.
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Break		
3:00p - 4:00pm	Public Participation What Works & What Doesn't	Micah Bray Bristol MPO Coordinator	A collaborative discussion of public participation successes and shortcomings. Be able to create and share new ideas for enhancing public participation activities.
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Bridge Load Ratings	Ted Kniazewycz TDOT Structures Division Director	Updates from the Structures Division on bridge ratings.
4:30pm - 5:30pm	Enjoy the Hotel!		
5:30pm - 7:00pm	TDOT Closing Reception		Reception will be held in Paloma Lounge
7:00pm	Explore Chattanooga!		



THURSDAY, AUGUST 14



Time	Title	Presenter	Description
7:00am - 8:30am	Breakfast		Held in Portman Ballroom
8:30am - 10:00am	Roundtable Discussion	TDOT & MPOs Open Presenters	Open discussion on important topics.
10:00am - 10:45am	MPO Association Staff Meeting		Held in Sponsors' Area
10:00am - 10:45am	TDOT Staff Meeting		Held in Portman Ballroom
11:00am	Farewell - Travel Safe!		Please check out of your hotel room and travel back home safely. It was wonderful to see you!

