

Investigating the Service of App-Based Rideshare and Transportation Network Companies in Tennessee

Purpose of the Project

This project aims to inform TDOT about use of ridesharing, and those who use it, throughout the state of Tennessee.

Scope and Significance

The scope of work is divided into five primary sections, which are briefly described below:

- Conduct a comprehensive literature review related to transportation network companies (TNCs) using the latest publications from academic studies and reports from industry and consultants.
- Assess usage of TNCs in the state of Tennessee by utilizing the most recent (2017) National Household Travel Survey (NHTS). This survey presents a unique opportunity to provide simple, baseline data about rideshare use across Tennessee, and compare the results to the NHTS nationwide statistics.
- Conduct a comprehensive analysis of rideshare use in major cities in Tennessee by using data from Populus, a San Francisco-based company which provides current and representative data about availability, adoption, and use of rideshare services in metropolitan regions.
- Compare the results of rideshare use in Tennessee between the two different datasets, which are the National Household Travel Survey and the Populus dataset. After identifying similarities and differences, we will develop recommendations for TDOT to continue using one or both of the datasets in the future to regularly update Tennessee rideshare statistics, which is important given the rapid growth in this industry.
- Write a comprehensive final report that summarizes the results and provides recommendations for future analyses and actions.

Expected Outcomes

The following are expected outcomes of this research project:

- Comprehensive analysis of TNC usage in Tennessee which is essential for planning in metropolitan areas where TNCs are expanding their presence.
- Actionable recommendations for data collection and/or analyses of TNC usage in the future.

Time Period

The time period for the project is 16 months beginning August 1, 2019 and ending November 30, 2020.

Contact Information

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