### **TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

## DATA VISUALIZATION PORTFOLIO



### **ABOUT**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Veronica Allen Chris McPhilamy William Brewer Catherine Brown Tara Boyd Courtney Cotton Eric Goodwin Catherine Hawkins

Meredith Hoos Keith Pratt Marshall Wilson

### **METHODOLOGIES**

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### **SOURCES**

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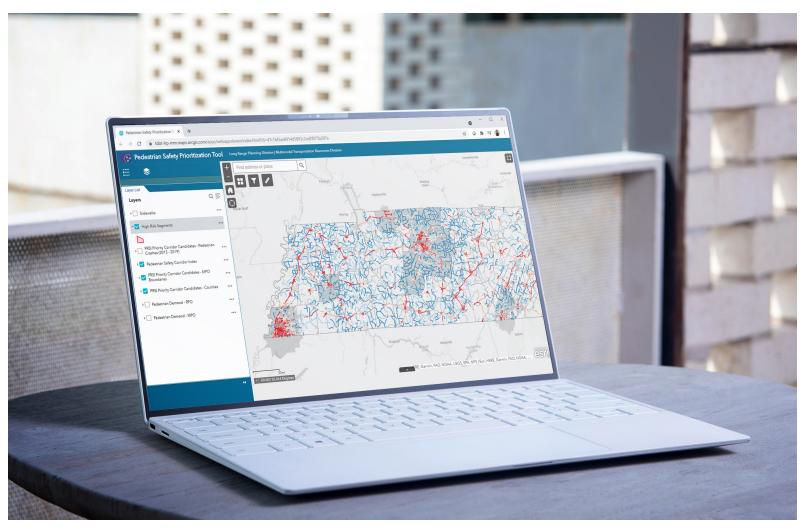
## PEDESTRIAN ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE

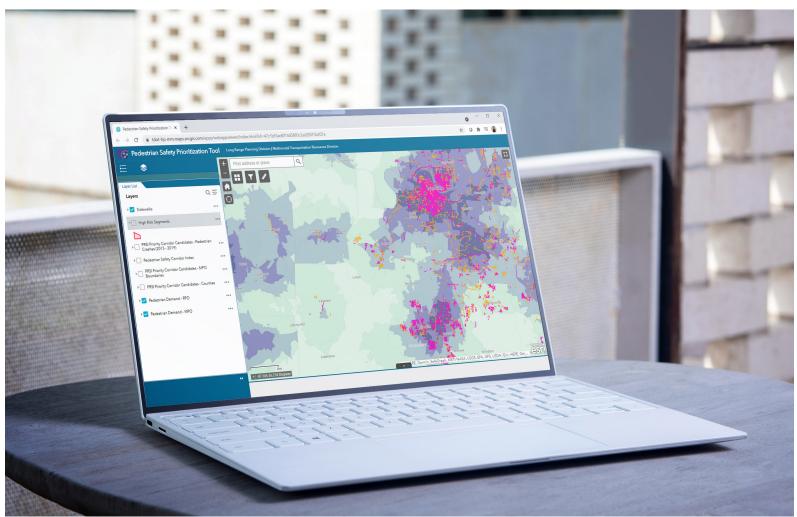
### **PURPOSE**

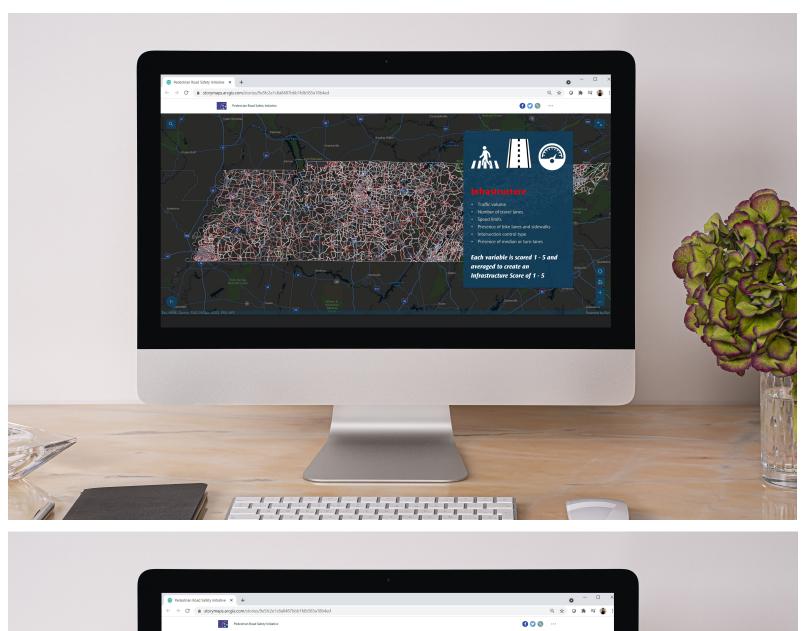
TDOT manages an annual Pedestrian Road Safety Initiative (PRSI), which receives federal funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program. A PRSI first, staff within TDOT developed an ArcGIS data-driven analysis without the assistance of researchers or consultants. The methodology was designed through a multicriteria evaluation and relied heavily on the Tennessee Roadway Information Management System (TRIMS), historical crash data, socioeconomic datasets from the US Census, and other features such as land use, transit, and points of interest. The intent was to take on a more a systemic approach - which is a broader view and evaluates risk across an entire roadway system. The challenge of working on a statewide scale includes the following considerations: urban and rural context, the presence of vulnerable road users, the level of pedestrian activity or exposure, and the risk factors associated the roadway infrastructure. These reasons led the project team to identify the following criteria in the analysis: pedestrian safety - crash frequency and severity; pedestrian demand - features that influence the propensity of walking or level of activity; equity - a census-based environmental justice index of vulnerable users of the road; and infrastructure - roadway assets that could impact the level of pedestrian ease or comfort.

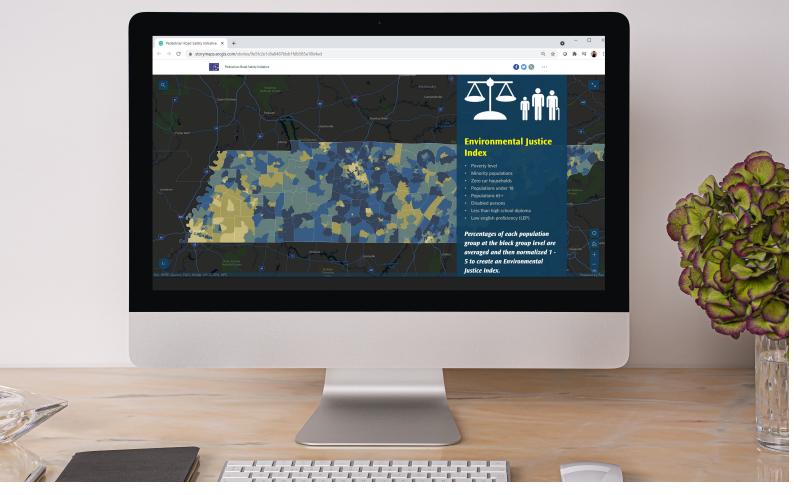
### **OUTCOME**

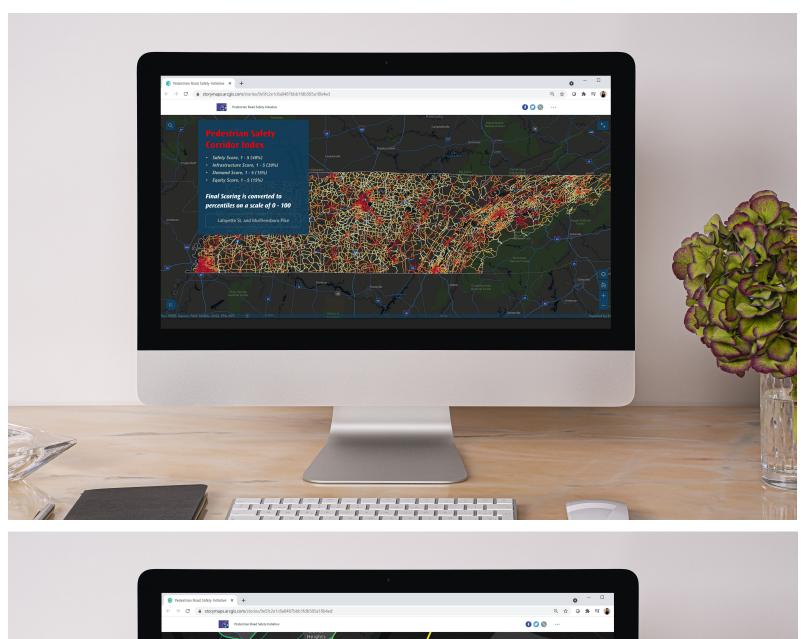
This systemic approach allows planners, engineers, and decision makers to not only identify a safety concern based on an evaluation of crash and roadway data at the system level, but also establish common characteristics (risk factors) of locations where severe crashes frequently occur. The inclusion of the demand and equity components simply reinforces this approach. The emphasis on implementation will involve deploying countermeasures to address the underlying circumstances at many of the locations experiencing the risk factors. Lastly, the project team created an ArcGIS Online dashboard, storymaps, and web mapping applications that currently serve as resources for transportation professionals, and the public, to become more informed on the research involved and the factors that may impact the safety of pedestrians in Tennessee.

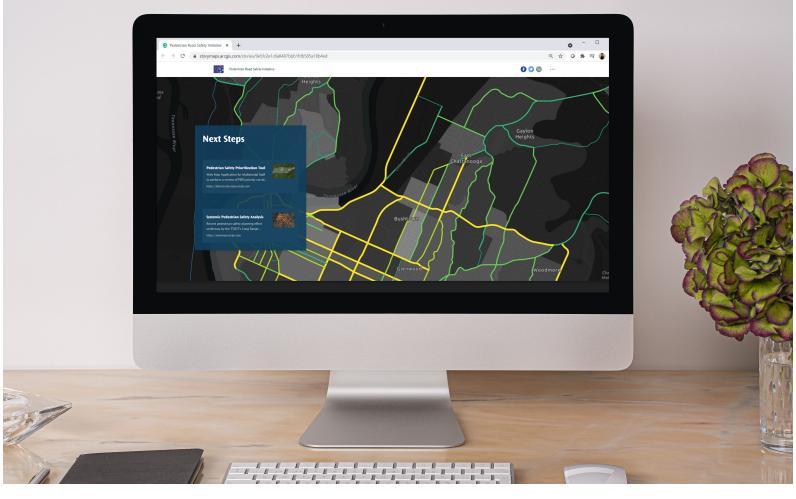












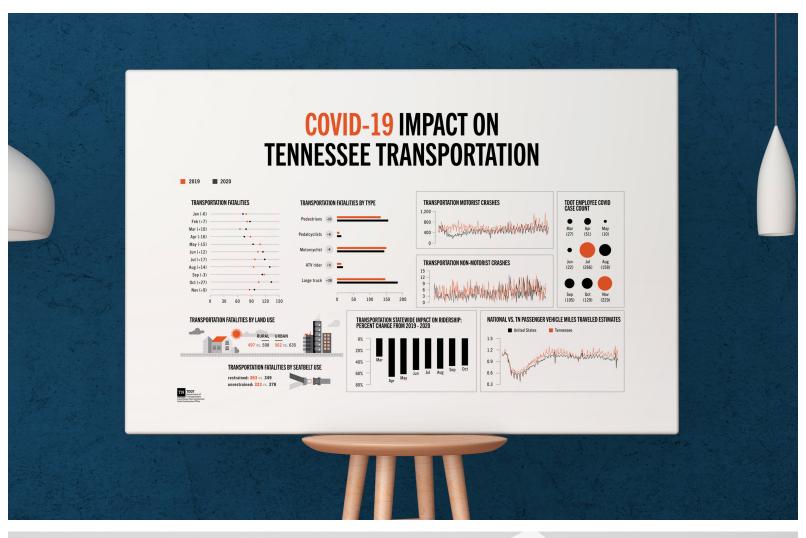
## COVID IMPACT ON TRANSPORTATION

### **PURPOSE**

To explore the relationship between the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on statewide crashes, including vehicle non-motorist, pedestrian, bicycle, ATV, truck and bus data from 2019 - 2021. This projected also explored transportation fatalities by age, restraint and land use, statewide impacts on mass ridership and national vs. Tennessee vehicle miles traveled, year over year. These data provided leadership with critical knowledge in order to make informed decisions.

### **OUTCOME**

Tennessee has seen a significant reduction in crashes across the state since the COVID-19 pandemic took hold of the world in March 2020. A comparison of crashes from 2019 - 2021 reveals that there is still a noticeable reduction a year since the beginning of the statewide pandemic response. Crashes plummeted in March 2020, accompanying a major reduction in traffic. The crash totals from March 2021 reveal that there is still a significant reduction in crashes, though the degree of reduction has decreased by more than half. This comparison demonstrates the ongoing impact of the pandemic on transportation in Tennessee. Although there has been an increase in traffic in 2021, the continued reduction in crashes indicates that many Tennesseans continue to limit their travel and work from home. A greater number of non-motorist-involved crashes occurred in March 2021 than in 2019, though the difference was minimal. There are several possible explanations for this small increase in crashes such as warmer weather, creating more non-motorist traffic, and communities potentially partaking in recreational activities that were previously inaccessible or restricted.





## FREIGHT MOVEMENT IN TENNESSEE

### **PURPOSE**

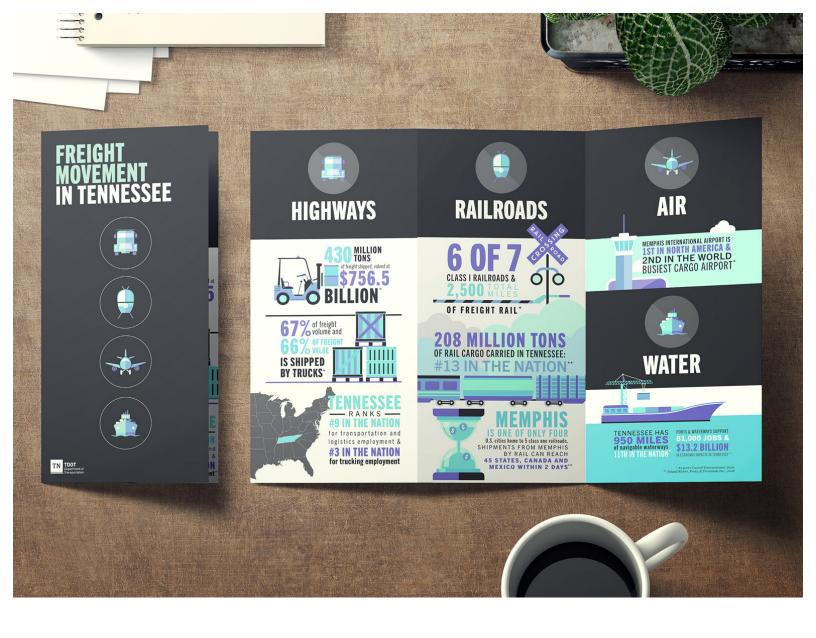
Freight transportation is a critical part of economic development, job creation, and global growth for Tennessee. Approximately 430 million tons (\$756 billion worth of goods) was moved via Tennessee's infrastructure in 2018. Tennessee has a history of success with attracting and retaining industries from diverse freight sectors such as automotive, manufacturing, and transportation industries. The purpose of the study is to investigate a range of multimodal solutions to address future travel demands, with emphasis on managing congestion, improving safety, maximizing the potential for freight diversion, and preserving and enhancing the corridor's economic benefits. For more info visit tinyurl.com/i65multimodalcorridorstudy.

### **OUTCOME**

TDOT completed an update to the state's Long Range Transportation Policy Plan that includes a more robust Multimodal Freight Plan, organized statewide and regional freight advisory committees, and completed an update to the Statewide Travel Demand Model. TDOT also completed major corridor studies on I-24, I-75, I-65, and I-55/I-75/I-26 and is in the process of completing a corridor study for I-40/I-81.

I-65, a major freight corridor in Tennessee, runs from the Alabama state line to the Kentucky state line. The I-65 corridor study was completed in 2017. The purpose of the study is to investigate a range of multimodal solutions to address future travel demands, with emphasis on managing congestion, improving safety, maximizing the potential for freight diversion, and preserving and enhancing the corridor's economic benefits.

I-24 is one of the Tennessee's primary freight assets, providing a connection from the southeastern U.S. to north of Tennessee. The I-24 corridor study produced 12 possible improvement strategies to improve freight mobility. Some of these strategies include the relocation or reconstruction of key freight facilities such as rail yards or locks/dams, improved signage on major interchanges, and the continued support of the statewide freight advisory committee.



### INFRA GRANT PROPOSALS

### **PURPOSE**

TDOT requested \$27,106,200 in INFRA grant funding for the SR 28 Upper Cumberland Connector Project – roadway improvements to a segment of State Route 28 (SR 28) in Fentress and Cumberland counties in Tennessee. Additionally, TDOT requested \$43,551,593 million in 2021 INFRA grant funding for the I-40 at Donelson Pike (SR-255) Interchange Reconstruction and relocation of Donelson Pike (SR-255), near Nashville International Airport (BNA). This multimodal project is integral to the vision of the airport, as well as the mission of TDOT to provide safe and reliable transportation for people, goods, and services in a manner that supports the economic prosperity of the state of Tennessee. Finally, TDOT requested \$47,381,400 in 2021 INFRA grant funding for the I-240 Airways Boulevard Interchange near Memphis International Airport. The proposed modifications for the I-240 and Airways Boulevard interchange will improve traffic flow and mobility as well as improve safety for all roadway users.

### **OUTCOME**

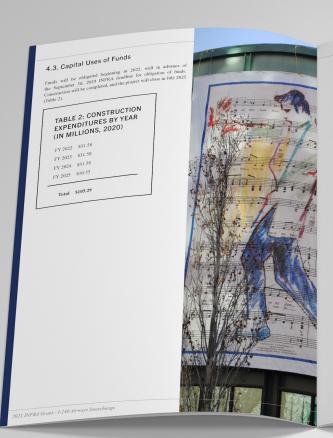
The SR 28 Connector improvements are part of a comprehensive program to improve the corridor to stimulate economic development among distressed counties on the northern Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee. This project is part of additional US 127/SR 28 improvements by TDOT, mentioned specifically by the Upper Cumberland Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (2019) as important to connecting employees between the two counties.

Based on its schedule, the I-40 at Donelson Pike (SR-255) Interchange Reconstruction and relocation of Donelson Pike (SR-255) project would be one of the first 2021 INFRA projects able to deploy funds and begin construction quickly, stimulating economic activity to continue the rebound of the COVID-19 downturn, ensuring funds are obligated well ahead of the September 30, 2024 deadline for FY 2021 INFRA fund expenditures.

Regarding the I-240 Airways Boulevard Interchange project, careful attention has been taken to minimize the necessity of additional right-of-way and to avoid relocations of residents or commercial establishments. The proposed improvements in the study area will require some minor additional right-of-way; however, no relocations will be necessary. Numerous retaining walls throughout the project area are required, as well as landscaping and lighting elements since the interchange reconstruction is the preferred route entrance into the Memphis International Airport.



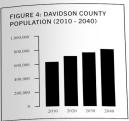




ion to providing access to Ninhville International Airport, the interchange is a primary access point connecting the highly-populated and Dondston communities to downtown Ninhville. Between 2010 and 2018, Dividion County's population has grown by over access, compared to approximately seven present growth for the state as a whole. Neighburing Wilson County is the east, a prominent or county that is bone to commenter who utilized 1-00 to travel to work in downtown Ninhville County to the east, a prominent of the county of the cou

his period.

Based on population projections from the University of Temensee's State Data Center, this growth is not expected to slow down anytime
soon. The State Data Center projects a growth of over 110,000 people in Davidson County between 2018 and 2010. Witson County is
expected to grow by a stagetring 46 percent during this time period, from approximately 141,000 in 2018, in 2345,000 in 2349.



### TABLE 1: PROJECT BENEFITS

Economic vitality
Nashville is a major location for freight
movement and a destination for visitors
movement and a destination for visitors
from across the globe. This project will i
improve freight flows, fluidity and simplify
mavel throughout the corridor and region,
coinciding with the long-term vision for the
state and airport, improving the economics
of the airport and region.



Traffic operations and safety
The interchange reconstruction will not only
improve safety by reducing crashes, it will
also make it ensier to mergate in and around
the aiport and two cargo facilities.
Additionally, the design reconstruction
will include pedestrian improvements on
Donelson Pike.



Connectivity and reliability
The proposed project is expected to reduce
back-ups at various intersections along
Donelson Pike and improve congestion on
a route that connects the rapidly growing
Nashville communities of Antioch and
Donelson.



### RPO PROJECT RANKINGS STORYMAP

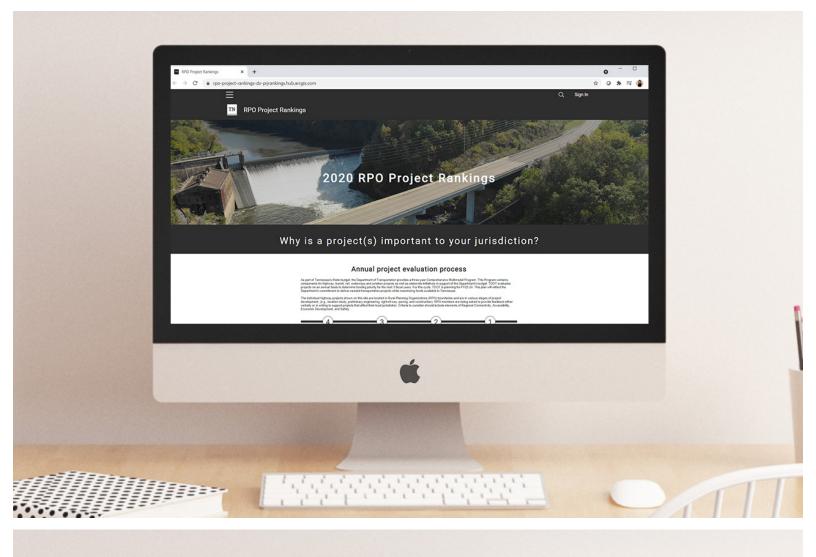
### **PURPOSE**

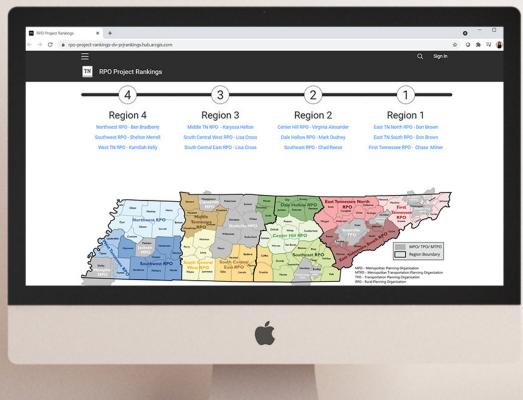
As part of Tennessee's State budget, TDOT provides a three year comprehensive multimodal program. This program contains components for highway, transit, rail, waterways and aviation projects as well as statewide initiatives in support of the department's budget. TDOT evaluates projects on an annual basis to determine funding priority for the three fiscal years, this cycle being FY22-24. This plan reflects the department's commitment to deliver needed transportation projects while maximizing funds available to Tennessee.

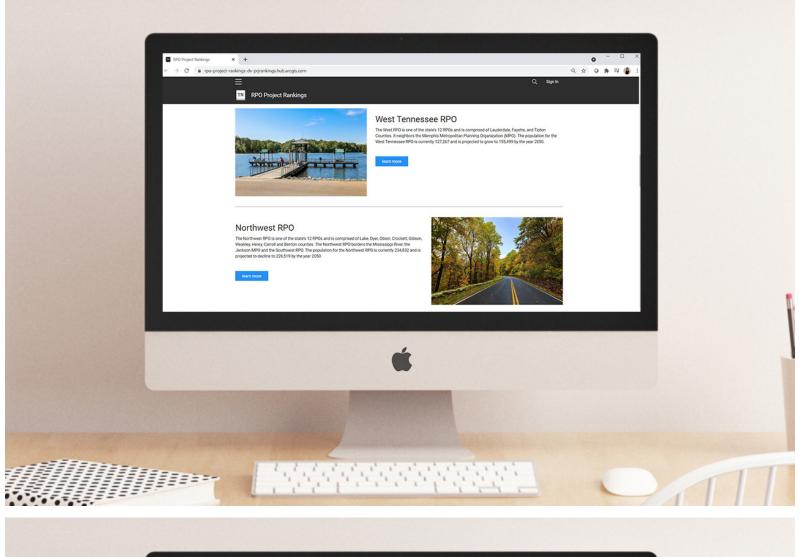
The individual highway projects in this project are located in Rural Planning Organizations (RPO) boundaries and are in various stages of project development, (e.g., location study, preliminary engineering, right-of-way, paving, and construction).

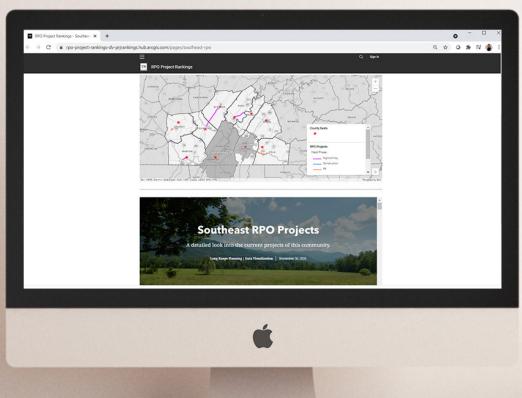
### **OUTCOME**

RPO members provided feedback to support projects that affected their local jurisdictions. Criteria to consider include elements of regional connectivity, accessibility, economic development, and safety. By enabling local and regional stakeholders to easily view project details in an interactive web mapping platform, project ranking meetings were held virtually without compromising the efficiency and integrity, leading to higher engagement with rural communities to enable transportation decisions.









# RURAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS

### **PURPOSE**

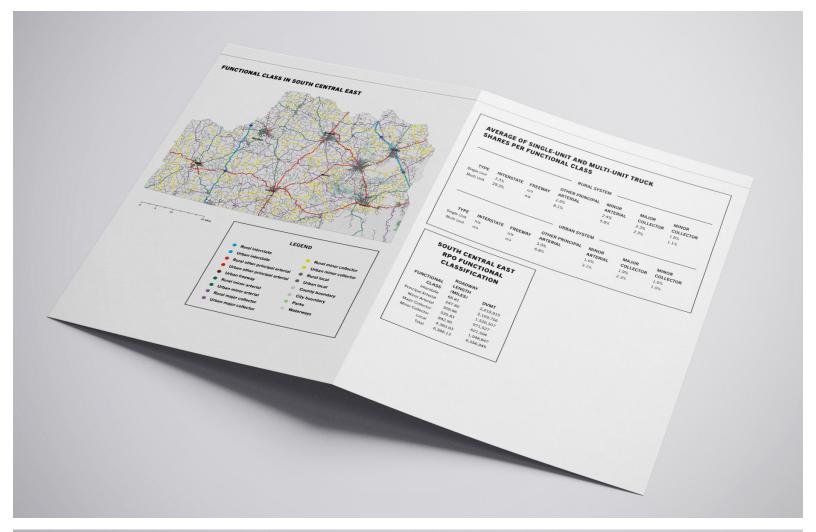
In conjunction with 12 Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs) across the state, TDOT collaborates in planning efforts for the development of Rural Regional Transportation Plans. The purpose of the plans is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the state's rural transportation infrastructure investments and to increase the economic competitiveness of the state's rural regions. These plans stem from recommendations contained within TDOT's 25-Year Long Range Transportation Policy Plan as related to RPOs. Tennessee's RPOs are Center Hill, Dale Hollow, East Tennessee North, East Tennessee South, First Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, West Tennessee, Northwest Tennessee, South Central East, South Central West, Southeast Tennessee, and Southwest Tennessee.

### **OUTCOME**

Identifying needs and making a range of recommendations for rural Tennessee's transportation system is a goal of TDOT's Long Range Planning Division. Once completed, the Rural Regional Transportation Plans will be used for additional future studies, identification for county-level transportation plans, as well as any additional needs recognized. There are currently 6 plans completed; 4 plans in progress and 2 remaining to be completed by the end of 2022.









## STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

### **PURPOSE**

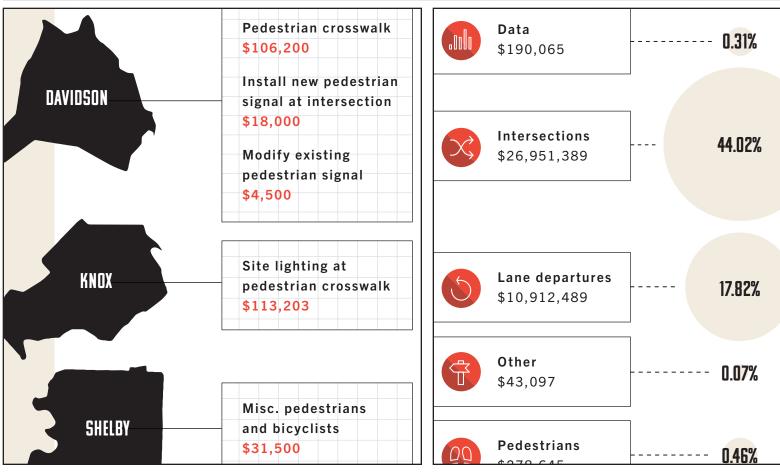
The intent of Tennessee's update to the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) is to develop a comprehensive safety road map for the state, identify concerns related to crashes that result in fatalities and serious injuries, and provide strategies to mitigate or eliminate these concerns. The SHSP builds off the foundation set forth by the Tennessee's original SHSP in 2004 and subsequent updates, and uses a data-driven approach with collaboration from various agencies and organizations statewide with the following goals: eetermine predominant factors and trends associated with severe crashes; develop a comprehensive list of safety strategies to combat identified safety concerns; identify current programs, initiatives, and projects (actions) in line with safety strategies; and identify potential actions and associated challenges with their implementation. The SHSP update follows guidance provided by the Federal Highway Administration and meets all current federal requirements needed for obligation of funds under the Highway Safety Improvement Program.

### **OUTCOME**

Tennessee has maintained its commitment to the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) vision. TZD is the result of a national collaboration of safety professionals from various agencies and organizations using a data-driven approach to develop standard strategies focused on providing safer roadways that are regularly refined, implemented, and evaluated. The vision set forth by TZD is a surface transportation network free of fatalities through a sustained and even accelerated decline in transportation-related deaths and injuries.

Historic, statewide vehicular fatality and serious injury data was used to identify key contributing factors that then were grouped into emphasis areas. Through contributions from various safety stakeholders, a multifaceted set of strategies and actions were developed that relate to the four E's of transportation safety: engineering, enforcement, education, and emergency response. Multi-faceted solutions are essential to the reduction of severe crashes, as their cause can be the result of one or more factors (human, infrastructure, environmental, etc.) that may not be solved through the use of only one of the four E's.





## SYSTEMIC PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ANALYSIS

### **PURPOSE**

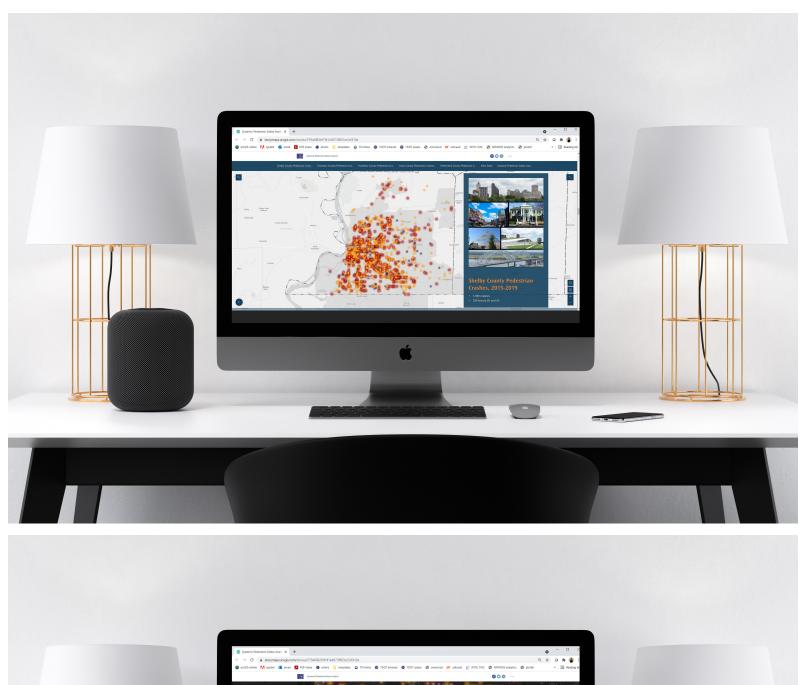
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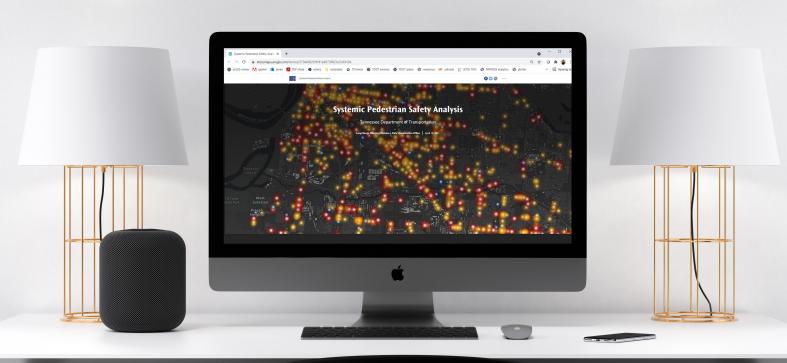
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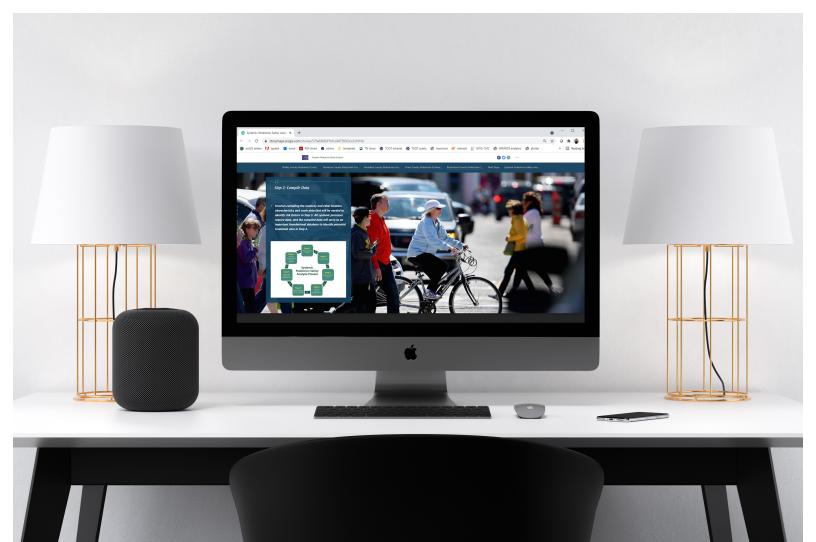
### **OUTCOME**

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### MULTIMODAL ACCESS GRANT

### **PURPOSE**

The Multimodal Access Grant is funded and managed by TDOT, using state funds. Its purpose is to support the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders through the provision of infrastructure that addresses accessibility and gaps on State routes. It is competitively awarded, with Counties, Cities and Towns competing in funding rounds each year. The grant is in high demand - in 2020 over 80 applicants proposed over \$54M of work, and 18 communities were successfully awarded over \$14M.

Mapping is used to highlight certain characteristics of awardees during the selection process, as well as to illustrate the geographic spread of the projects proposed for funding each year.

A range of characteristics is used during the selection process, such as: economic wellbeing of the applicant county or city; whether the applicant is in within a Metropolitan Planning Area or a Regional (rural) Planning Area; and the history of awards in previous years. These are displayed on custom maps created for the purpose.

A map is also produced showing the proposed final selection of awards. This map is presented to senior TDOT management as part of the final selection process, enabling them to quickly understand the geographic spread of awards across the state.

### **OUTCOME**

Mapping is used to easily show geographic characteristics used during project selection. This helps explain and increase the transparency of the selection process.

Mapping shows the relative location of awardees across the state, allowing quick identification of the spread of funding, and comparison with previous award years. This gives senior management confidence about the equitable distribution of awards, across both past years and geographically.



## TRUCK PARKING IN TENNESSEE

### **PURPOSE**

TDOT was awarded \$250,000 in grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to study freight flows and truck parking as part of the National Economic Partnership (NEP) Pilot Program. TDOT was one of only four pilots selected. Truckers struggle daily to find safe truck parking to meet hours of service laws and to rest properly. Sometimes, they will search up to one hour per day to try to find a space that provides safety, as well as needed amenities such as food, fuel, showers, maintenance, and security. TDOT needed to identify all public and private truck parking spaces as part of this grant program.

### **OUTCOME**

As part of the grant, the first step was to take a survey of all public and private truck parking spaces within a 0.25 mile radius of all interstates in Tennessee and portions of I-65, I-20, I-59, and I-75 in Alabama and Georgia. The NEP pilot covered the greater Chattanooga region, as well as freight avenues in a wider area of the tri-state region. TDOT hired a consultant to work with Georgia Tech on surveying all the private truck parking spots and any available amenities that were located at each spot. Public truck parking spaces were coordinated and obtained from the three state DOTs. The survey found that in the tri-state area there were 12,781 public and private truck parking spaces.

The second step was to map all the spaces, along with the number of available amenities. TDOT's Data Visualization Office served as the project lead for this portion of the project. They created a static map, along with the capabilities for the map to live in a virtual setting in the future. The circles they used, and the color intensity represented the number of spaces and amenities at each location. The bigger the circle, the more spaces that were available. The more intense the color, the more amenities that were available.

Overall, this project was a success and will serve as a base to build on for future work related to truck parking. The maps that TDOT Data Visualization created also provides an easy way to see where future truck parking is needed at a glance.



## TENNESSEE STATE TRANSPORTATION MAP

### **PURPOSE**

The state tourism map or transportation map has been published nearly every year since 1918. It provides an accurate and up to date account of state highway infrastructure across the Tennessee. Updated annually, this map circulates nearly 20,000 copies every year. The purpose of this continual project is to provide to the state and the nation the most up to date information on the Tennessee transportation network.

### **OUTCOME**

Prior to 2020, the transportation map has been maintained by hand using traditional digital methods. While modern in nature, they still represented a static snapshot of the data. In 2020, TDOT released the first ArcGIS Pro digital map, which is comprised entirely of authoritative data sources from agencies that created and compiled data in real time using ArcGIS software. This modernization has allowed for efficient and timely updates, and most importantly always reflect the most current available information for all data sources. Future development will see this product into a basemap that will serve as the foundation for all future TDOT online mapping products.



