

State Route 30 Improvements

From near State Route 29 (US-27)

to west of New Union Road/White Oak Road in Rhea County, TN

PIN 109410.03

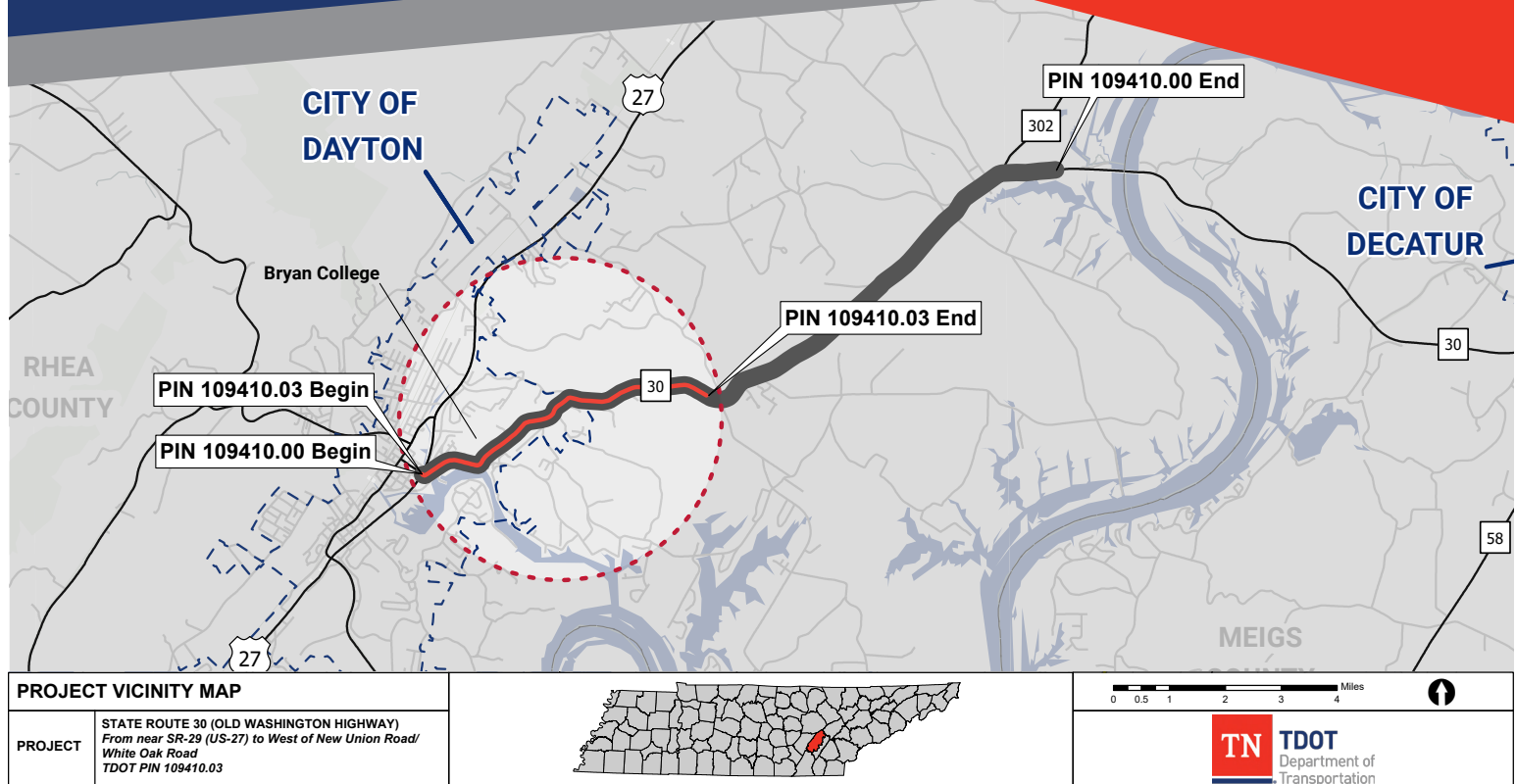


Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map

Project Overview

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing improvements to State Route (SR) 30 from near State Route 29 (US-27) to west of New Union Road/White Oak Road in Rhea County. The length of the proposed project is approximately 3.8 miles.

Because the proposed project is being designed and constructed utilizing federal transportation dollars, the project is subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). TDOT and FHWA are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the NEPA to identify and evaluate the environmental effects of the proposed project and identify measures to minimize harm. The project cannot proceed until this requirement has been successfully completed.

Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of this public meeting is to provide the public the opportunity to review and comment on the purpose and need for the proposed SR-30 project as well as the range of alternatives under consideration.

The Public Meeting will follow an open house format, with project information delivered through a rolling PowerPoint presentation, visual displays, and this Handout. Members of the TDOT project team will be available to discuss the proposed project and review displays with members of the public. All project information will also be available on the project website.

Project History

The proposed project was originally included as the western segment of a larger, previously proposed SR-30 improvement project that extended from SR-29 to west of the Tennessee River (PIN 109410.00). TDOT approved a Transportation Planning Report (TPR) for the original project in 2008. Tennessee Environmental Streamlining Agreement (TESA) field reviews were held for the original project in 2011. Following the initial planning efforts but prior to the initiation of NEPA, TDOT continued to evaluate the original project for feasibility, constructability, and to further refine the proposed project scope. In 2016, the original project (PIN 109410.00) was divided into four design segments. No NEPA document was completed for PIN 109410.00. The four design segments are described below (**Figure 2**):

- ♦ PIN 109410.01: SR-30 from SR-29 to the Tennessee River Bridge
 - Safety improvements let to construction in 2017. Completed under PIN 119707.00.

- ♦ PIN 109410.02: SR-30 from west of New Union Road/White Oak Road to Sky Drive
 - Safety improvements let to construction in 2019, construction completed.
 - D-List Categorical Exclusion (CE) Construction Reevaluation approved 10/11/2018.

- ♦ PIN 109410.03: SR-30 from near SR-29 to west of New Union Road/White Oak Road (Figure 3)
 - Widen existing two-lane roadway to two-lanes with a center turn lane.
 - Currently in the Preliminary Engineering Phase – ***Subject of the current EA.***
 - Project is in TDOT's 2025-2035 10-Year Plan.

- ♦ PIN 109410.04: SR-30 from near Sky Drive to west of the Tennessee River Bridge
 - Widen existing two-lane roadway to two-lanes with a center turn lane.
 - Project is considered active but is not included in the TDOT 10-Year Plan.



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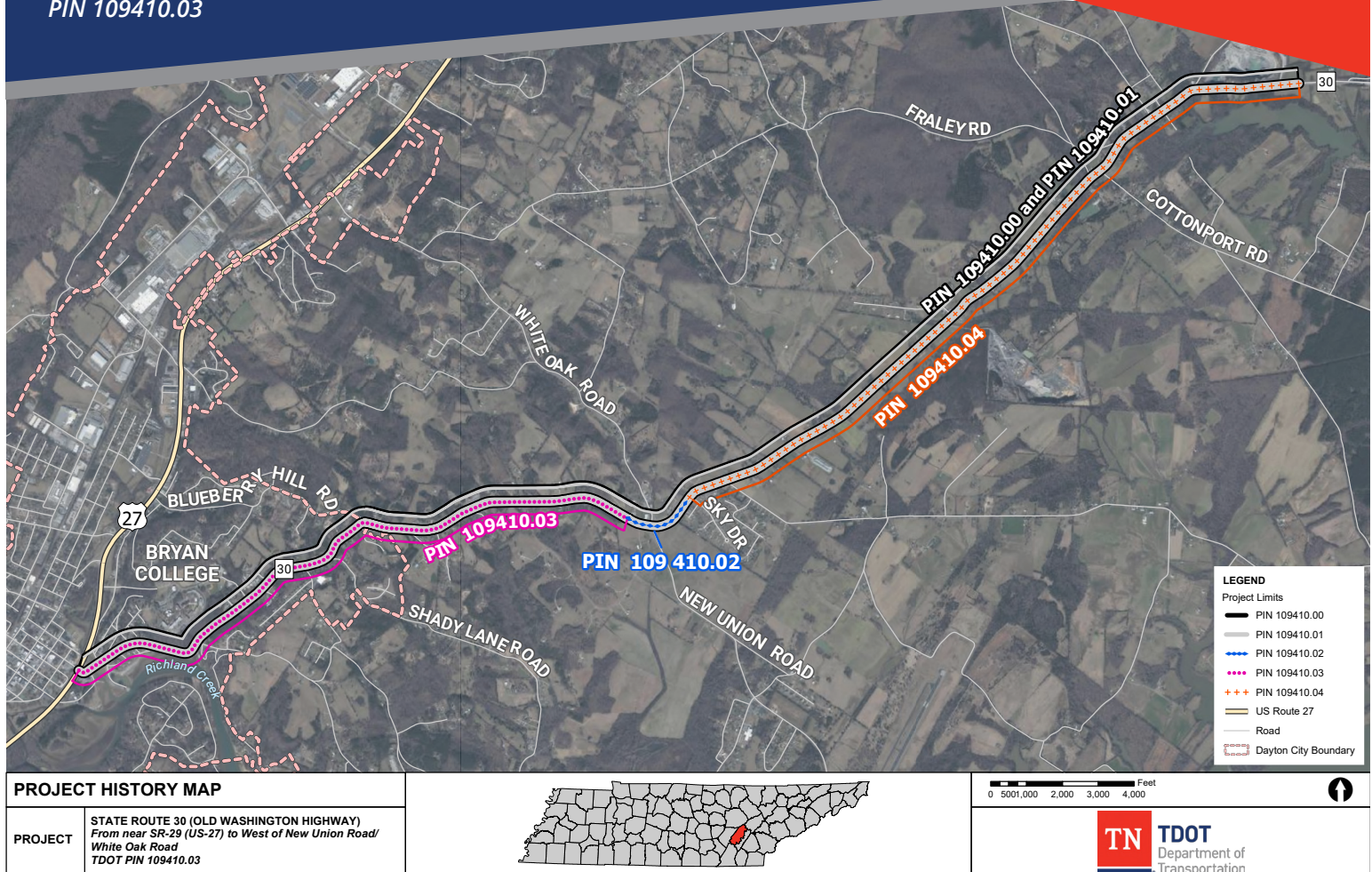


Figure 2. Project History Map

Why is the Project Needed?

The following preliminary needs for the proposed SR-30 project have been identified as follows:

- ♦ High severe crash rate;
- ♦ Existing roadway geometric deficiencies; and
- ♦ Improve SR-30 consistent with the legislative intent of the Improving Manufacturing, Public Roads, and Opportunities for a Vibrant Economy (IMPROVE) Act and the Transportation Modernization Act (TMA).

What is the Purpose of the Project?

The preliminary purpose of the proposed SR-30 project has been identified as the following:

- ♦ Reduce the high severe crash rate;
- ♦ Correct roadway geometric deficiencies; and
- ♦ Meet the legislative intents of the IMPROVE Act and the TMA.

What Alternatives are Being Evaluated in the Environmental Assessment?

A No-Build Alternative and one Build Alternative are being evaluated in the EA. Each alternative is described below.

No-Build Alternative:

The No-Build Alternative has been retained for detailed study and serves as a benchmark for comparison with the Build Alternative. The No-Build Alternative would retain the existing state route and roadway configuration throughout the project area except for those modifications to the roadway network that have been programmed and approved for implementation, as identified in TDOT's *25-Year Long Range Transportation Policy Plan*,¹ *State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*,² and the *TDOT 10-Year Project Plan*³ and would allow for routine maintenance and safety.

Build Alternative:

The Build Alternative proposes to include two 11-foot travel lanes (one in each direction), a 10-to-12-foot center turn lane, two-foot shoulders, curb and gutter, and a 10-foot multi-use path on both sides of the roadway from near SR-29 to Mulberry Avenue. From Mulberry Avenue to west of Union Road/White Oak Road, the proposed project would include two 11-to-12-foot travel lanes (one in each direction), a zero to 12-foot left-turn lane, two-to-10-foot shoulders (two-to-eight-foot paved), and guardrails.



1 <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/long-range-planning-home/25-year-transportation-policy-plan.html>

2 <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/program-development-and-administration-home/program-development-and-administration-state-programs.html>

3 <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/build-with-us.html>

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What is the Project Schedule?

Transportation projects are developed in four phases. Planning and Environmental Design, Design, Right-of-Way, and Construction. The following is an estimated timeline for various aspects of the proposed project. Note that forecasted dates are subject to change.



Quarter 1: January through March

Quarter 2: April through June

Quarter 3: July through September

Quarter 4: October through December

*Once the final environmental document is approved by FHWA, the Planning and Environmental Phase is complete

Figure 3. Project Schedule

What are the Next Steps?

- ♦ TDOT will complete environmental technical studies and draft the Environmental Assessment for FHWA review and approval.
- ♦ To further engage the public, following FHWA approval of the Environmental Assessment, TDOT will:
 - Make the approved Environmental Assessment available for public review (including the results of all environmental technical studies).
 - Hold a public hearing to present the findings of the environmental technical studies.
 - Invite feedback and comments from the public on the results of the Environmental Assessment.

Right-of-Way and Relocations

TDOT will make relocation assistance available to all eligible persons impacted by this project, including residences, businesses, farm operations, non-profit organizations, and those requiring special services or assistance. The Regional Relocation Staff will administer the relocation program under the rules, policies, and procedures set forth in the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 as amended, the Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1972, implementing federal regulations, TCA 13-11-101 through 119, the State of Tennessee Relocation Assistance Brochure and Chapter IX of the State of Tennessee Department of Transportation Right-of-Way Manual.

An information pamphlet, ***Relocation Assistance Program***, outlines the services offered and any payments for which you may be eligible, such as moving expenses and replacement housing benefits for owners and tenants. The pamphlet also outlines the eligibility requirements for receiving these payments. The pamphlet is available for download from the TDOT Relocation Office website:

<https://www.tn.gov/tdot/right-of-way-division/relocation-office.html>.

TDOT will provide advance notification of proposed right-of-way acquisition. The TDOT Right-of-Way Office has the responsibility, once a project is approved, of appraising, purchasing and, if required, assisting individuals, families or businesses in relocating. Before acquiring property, all properties are appraised on the basis of comparable sales and land use values in the surrounding areas. The value will be established by using independent real estate appraisers who will prepare, for TDOT's use, written appraisals using actual sales data in the surrounding community.

When an appraisal is necessary, the appraiser will contact each property owner and offer the owner the opportunity to accompany him/her on an inspection of the property. After the appraisal is complete, the TDOT Right-of-Way Appraisal staff will review the findings for accuracy to ensure that everything relating to value has been considered in establishing the amount to be offered. Owners of property will be offered fair market value for their property rights, as it is TDOT's desire to pay fair market value for the necessary property.



If you have a question regarding the TDOT Relocation process, please contact

Mr. Brad Scott,
Region 2 Project Management
at Brad.Scott@tn.gov
or 423-510-1100

How Do I Submit Comments?

You are encouraged to provide comments and input on the proposed project. Your input will become part of the official public record for this project. Below are the ways you can ask questions and submit comments.

For additional information please contact the following TDOT representatives:

Ms. Erin Woodson

TDOT Region 2 Project Management

Erin.Woodson@tn.gov

(423) 510-1227

Public comments received or postmarked by **December 9, 2025** will be included in the official summary of the public meeting.

Written Comments:

- ♦ Send a comment card or letter by mail to:
NEPA Public Meeting
Attn: SR-30 Project
Tennessee Department of Transportation
Suite 700
James K. Polk Building
505 Deaderick St.
Nashville, TN 37243-0332
- ♦ Send an email to TDOT.comments@tn.gov using the subject line **State Route 30 Project**
- ♦ Complete an online comment form available on the SR-30 project website <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/projects/region-2/state-route-30.html> or by scanning the QR code:

