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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**TRAFFIC OPERATIONS DIVISION**  
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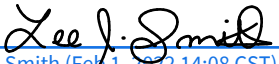
**BILL LEE**  
GOVERNOR

**TRAFFIC OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM NO. 2201**

**Highway System Access Manual**



The Highway System Access Manual (HSAM) policy is effective February 1, 2022. The HSAM Volume 2 will be required in project planning and scoping starting April 1, 2022 or later. The HSAM Volume 3 will be required on new alignments, roadway widening, and major reconstruction projects that start the ROW phase on or after February 1, 2022.

Policy Attached.

  
[Lee Smith \(Feb 1, 2022 14:08 CST\)](#)

Lee Smith, PE  
Interim Director  
Traffic Operations Division

LS:mn  
2/1/2022  
Attachment

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DEPARTMENTAL POLICY</b> State of Tennessee Department of Transportation</p>	<b>Policy Number: 385-01</b>
	<b>Effective Date:</b> February 1, 2022
<b>Approved By:</b> 	<b>Supersedes:</b>
<b>SUBJECT: Application of the Highway System Access Manual on TDOT Projects</b>	

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** Traffic Operations Division

**AUTHORITY:** T.C.A. §54-5-301. If any portion of this policy conflicts with applicable state or federal laws or regulations, that portion shall be considered void. The remainder of this policy shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.

**PURPOSE:** This policy will establish standards for managing access to the state highway system.

**APPLICATION:** All Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) employees, consultants and contractors involved in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of state and federally funded projects, and local governments managing and maintaining transportation projects with funding through TDOT’s Local Programs Development Office.

**POLICY:**

TDOT recognizes the benefits of Access Management in promoting safety and efficiency on the state’s transportation system. The intent of this policy is to define when the Highway System Access Manual (HSAM) is to apply to TDOT Projects or local government projects on state highways.

**PROCEDURE:**

- A. The HSAM Volume 1: Planning is recommended guidance to local agencies for use in the development of their land use policies. The Volume 1 Guidance is to guide land use decisions to allow for appropriate access management.
- B. The HSAM Volume 1: Planning shall be used to guide the process of developing corridor management agreements.
- C. The HSAM Volume 2: Intersection and Interchange Evaluation shall be used during the project planning process to evaluate intersections on all projects. For projects where there are more than 1 intersection, the intersections shall be evaluated individually.

Projects implemented by in-house maintenance, private driveways, other than street type

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intersections, and intersections where the major and minor approach have less than 400 vehicles per hour are not required to be evaluated under this policy.

D. The HSAM Volume 3: Geometric Design Criteria shall apply to the following types of projects:

1. New alignment projects
2. Roadway widening projects
3. Major reconstruction projects

The project planning process shall utilize this manual when scoping projects.

E. The HSAM Volume 3: Geometric Design Criteria guidelines should be used when feasible on all other projects; though, no exception or waiver is required for not meeting design requirements.