

Transportation & Community

Linking Transportation and Land Use Planning in Tennessee



Community Transportation Planning Grant

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Regional Planning Office News2
 You Gotta Have A Plan.....3
 State Departments and Public Collaborate on Public Health4

"The truth is, failing to plan, simply means planning to fail. It is difficult to name any successful individual, organization, corporation or community that doesn't plan for the future." –Ed McMahon, ULI Senior Fellow for Sustainable Development

Successful communities share a common characteristic: an established vision for their future. The basic element to achieve that vision is the creation of a plan. Planning involves leading a public process through identification of goals, analysis and development of solutions that will shape the quality of life for its community members.

TDOT has created a new program to help communities realize and capitalize on their vision for the future. TDOT's Community Transportation Planning Grant (CTPG) is a pilot program which seeks to provide resources that assist Tennessee communities to develop plans for preparation of growth and development.

The CTPG is an initiative to link land use and transportation planning efforts to support a quality transportation system. During this pilot phase, the CTPG program is available to RPO

municipalities and can be utilized to achieve the following objectives:

- Develop transportation and land use plans that can be used as guiding tools for future projects
- Define solutions that are cost effective and feasible for local governments to implement
- Address issues that improve traffic flow, safety, and overall efficiency of the transportation system
- Create policies and procedures that link all transportation modes and provide alternative mobility options
- Develop transportation planning efforts that preserve and enhance scenic, historic, community, and environmental resources

Above all, the intent of the CTPG is to foster a collaborative planning process between municipalities and TDOT. Through the development of plans related to the transportation

system and local land use patterns to promote positive community development, mobility choices and economic growth.

Eligible Planning Documents include:

- Corridor Studies
- Complete Streets Plans
- Local Road Concepts
- Transportation Ordinances
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plans
- Road Diet Analysis
- Transportation systems management and operations (TSM&O)

These planning resources work to achieve community visions as related to transportation and land use needs that promote future economic growth.

For more information visit www.tn.gov/tdot/longrange/planninggrant.htm.

REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICE NEWS



By Angela Midgett, Transportation Manager, Nashville

Freight Planning

Work is wrapping up on Phase 1 of the Tennessee State Freight Plan that was developed in cooperation with the Tennessee Freight Advisory Committees (FAC). Work on this plan began in November of 2013 and was conducted by AECOM, RPM & Associates, and Cambridge Systematics. The plan examines freight forecasts, trends and needs, committee input, and any freight related problems we are experiencing. Improvement strategies and the implementation of these strategies are also covered in the plan.

The Tennessee Freight Advisory Committees (FAC) held regional meetings in August. The main purpose of these meetings was to ask committee members to identify issues along the transportation network across the various modes, get feedback on the draft Freight Plan, and to help prioritize projects for this plan. Alan Jones, TDOT's Air Quality Policy Manager, made a presentation on freight projects that qualify for Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) funding. The Executive FAC meeting was held in the Polk Building in Nashville on August 22. Presentations were made by TDOT Commissioner John Schroer, Tennessee FHWA, and Regional Committee Chairpersons along with a final review of the draft freight plan and project priorities.

For more information visit www.tn.gov/tdot/longrange/freightplanning.htm.

Statewide Travel Demand Model

Work on the Statewide Model (SWM), a fundamental building block of the 25-Year State Multimodal Plan, continued with Phase 2. With the completion of network and socio-economic data development, work began on Trip Generation and Trip Distribution. The trips were then assigned to the SWM network, and the calibration and validation process began. This process is now complete, and we are developing Existing plus Committed (E + C) and future scenario networks on which we can run assignments to determine deficiencies. Phase 3 of the SWM will begin later in 2014. This phase will have the added dimensions of a 4-step model, commodity flow freight modeling, and time of day modeling. This Phase 3 model is scheduled to be complete by the Fall of 2015.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination

All eleven MPOs adopted new Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWPs) for the new Federal fiscal year that began October 1, 2014. The UPWP outlines the work an MPO will undertake for its planning area using PL (planning) funds provided by FHWA through TDOT. This year's UP-

WPs focus on the Federal emphasis areas of climate trends / extreme weather, disaster preparedness, planning for operations, freight, safety, public health, and environmental justice.

Another successful annual MPO Conference was held in May at Pickwick Landing State Park near Savannah, TN. Highlights of the conference included a presentation by FHWA on their INVEST Tool, a progress report on TDOT's 25-Year LRTP and Customer Survey, and information on the performance measures, including safety, required under MAP-21. Representatives from all eleven (11) MPOs were present at the Conference, as well as attendees from various TDOT Divisions and FHWA. Planning is already underway for next year's Conference, which is scheduled to be held at the MeadowView Conference Center in Kingsport in June of 2015.

New metropolitan planning area (MPA) boundaries were adopted by the Bristol, Cleveland, Johnson City, and Kingsport MPOs. MPOs are required to develop new MPAs every 10 years based on their new Census-defined urbanized areas. The MPA consists of the urbanized area plus the area the MPO anticipates will become urbanized over the next 20 years.

FUN FREIGHT FACT

Coal is the highest volume commodity flowing into Tennessee. Each year, the state's coal consumption is roughly one ton per man, woman, and child. Most of this coal is moved into the state via rail or waterway.



Source: "Tennessee Freight Data" – Cambridge Task 7 – Cambridge Systematics

You Gotta Have A Plan

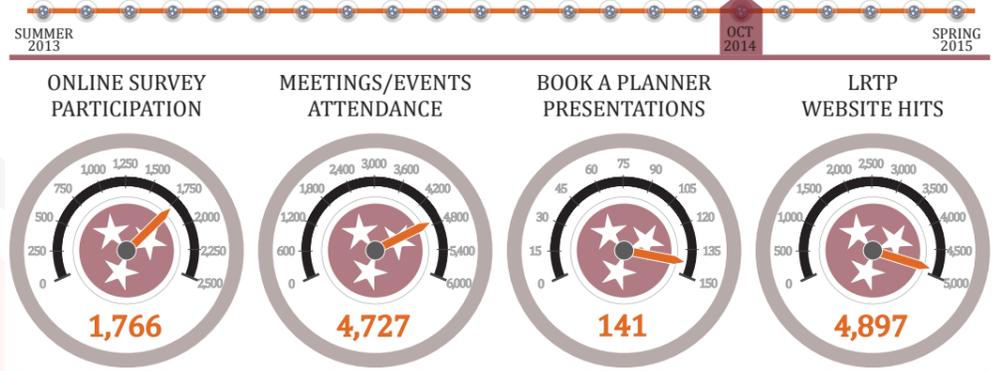
TDOT's 25-Year Long Range Transportation continues to move forward as we approach the end of the calendar year. Eight policy papers are currently under review by TDOT leadership. These policy papers will help inform and guide the direction of the department in the coming years. Topics of the papers include:

- Accessibility
- Coordination, Cooperation, and Consultation
- Demographic and Employment Changes and Trends
- Financial Revenues & Fiscal Outlook
- Freight Logistics and Planning
- Mobility
- Safety, Security, and Transportation Resilience
- Travel Trends & System Performance

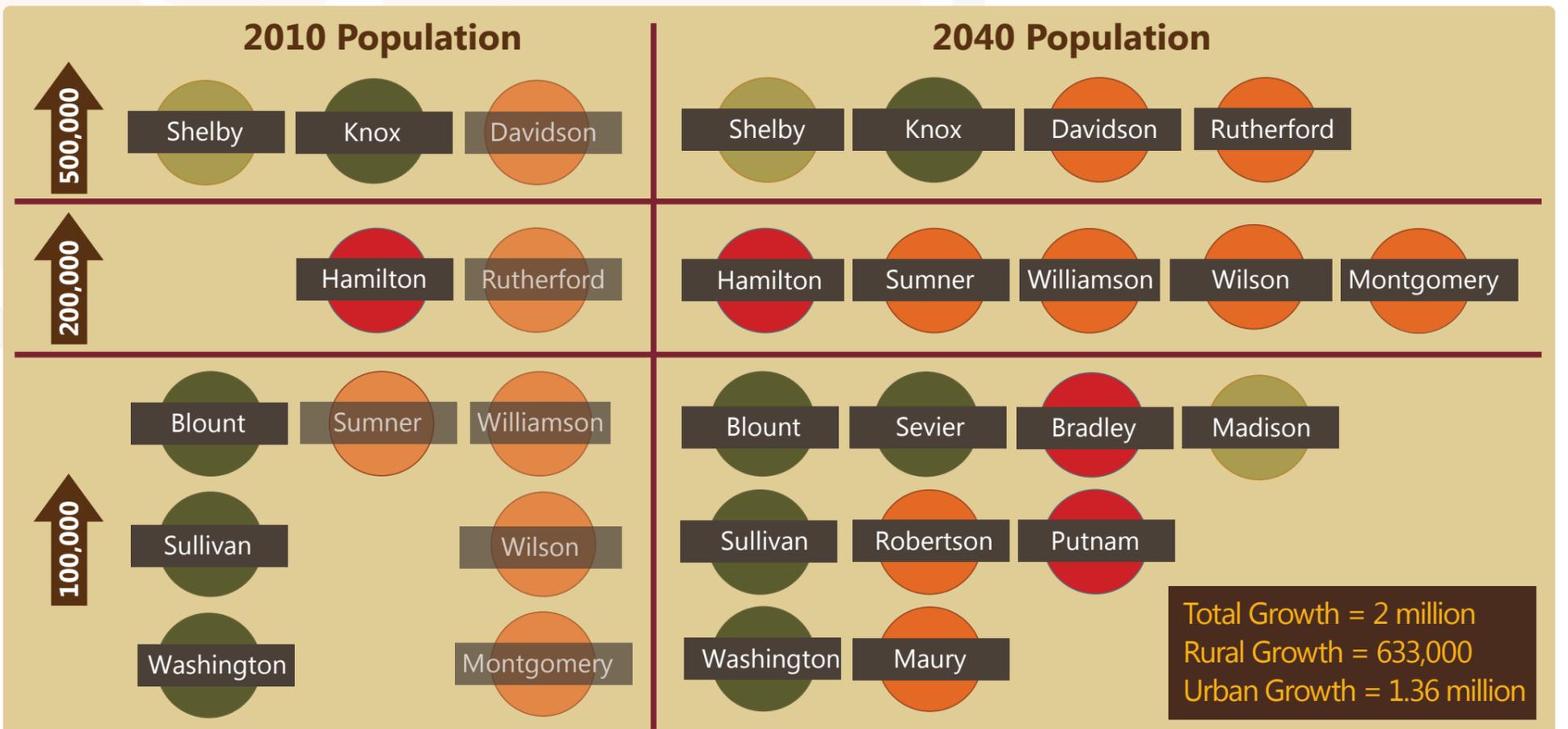
Over the past year, planning staff have presented to and gathered input from over 140 groups (4,700+ TN citizens). Long Range Planning staff have also been getting prepared to do an additional round of public participation throughout the state. Dubbed "Book-A-Planner 2.0", Community Transportation Planners will be visiting community groups, associations, and other interested parties to inform the public about the plan, as well as gather input from citizens regarding

the state's future transportation investments. If you'd like to have a planner come to your group to present please complete the form on our webpage: www.tn.gov/tdot/transportationplan/speaker.shtml

L RTP DASHBOARD - TRACK OUR PROGRESS



Tennessee Population - Projected Growth



Tennessee population is continuing to grow at a healthy rate. TDOT must consider this factor and how it will affect the transportation system, from roads to transit to bikes and snow removal. We know that by 2040, Tennessee is expected to have 2 million more people with nearly 75 percent of this growth occurring within the urban areas of the state. The above graphic shows different population thresholds of 100, 200, and 500 thousand people and the counties that fall into these categories as of 2010. Many of these same counties shift thresholds by 2040 as population grows in both urban and rural areas of the state.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TENNESSEE

STATE DEPARTMENTS AND PUBLIC COLLABORATE FOR IMPROVED HEALTH

By Aury Kangelos, Community Transportation Planner, Region 4

The link between the built environment, transportation, and a person's health is often thought a fallacy. Many peoples' views on transportation are focused on the movement of vehicles and fail to recognize the externalities of traveling as it relates to our health. During the 2014 annual update to the State Health Plan, the Tennessee Department of Health's Division of Health Planning decided to challenge that notion.

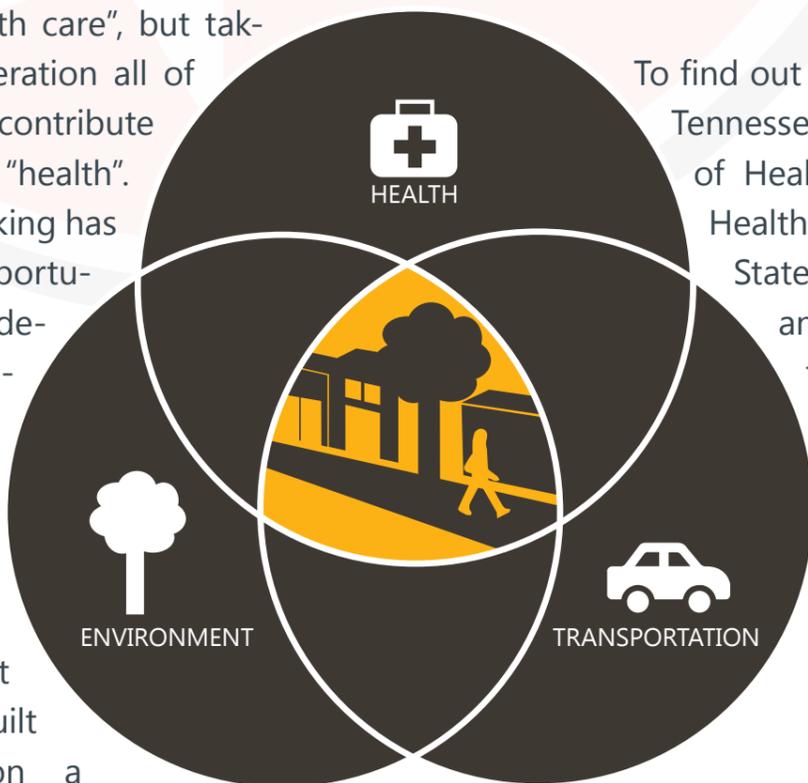
The goal of the State Health Plan is to "improve the health of Tennesseans" through the development of policy directives that "protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee". While most would consider access to health care, quality of care, and doctor recruitment/retention to be the most vital components to a healthy Tennessee, the Division of Health Planning under the guidance of Jeff Ockerman, Director of Health Planning, and Julia Bayles, Assistant Director of Health Planning, made an important transition into not only focusing on "health care", but taking

into consideration all of the factors that contribute to a person's "health". This shift in thinking has opened up opportunities for multi-departmental collaboration.

In recent years, planning research has begun to highlight the effects of built environment on a

person's health. Obesity rates, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes can be traced back to not only diet and exercise, but a strong correlation can be shown between development patterns, transportation mode choice, and public health. During the State Health Plan update, the Division of Health Planning recognized this health correlation and sought input from TDOT on transportation programs and funding opportunities that could help contribute to the goals of the State Health Plan.

While intra-state collaboration is important, the Division of Health Planning has sought ideas and opinions through a participatory process that included nine public meetings, three regional health council meetings, and an electronic survey sent to an estimated 2,000 persons. The Division also met with rural and urban health departments and councils to discuss possible collaborations on the Plan's goals and objectives. Overall, the process has accounted for more than 25 meetings that have involved over 500 people.



To find out more about the Tennessee Department of Health's Division of Health Planning, the State Health Plan, and opportunities to become involved, you can visit their website at www.health.state.tn.us/HealthPlanning.

Tennessee Department of Transportation
Bureau of Environment & Planning
Long Range Planning Division
Office of Community Transportation

John Schroer, TDOT Commissioner

Toks Omishakin, Deputy Commissioner, Chief of Environment and Planning

Tanisha J. Hall, AICP, Long Range Planning Director
Tanisha.Hall@tn.gov • (615) 741-3421

Community Planning Office

Region 1 – Knoxville

Jack Qualls, Community Transportation Planner
Jack.Qualls@tn.gov • (865) 594-2662

Nick Weander, Community Transportation Planner
Nick.Weander@tn.gov • (865) 594-2667

Region 2 – Chattanooga

Stacy Morrison, Community Transportation Planner
Stacy.Morrison@tn.gov • (423) 510-1177

Kevin Herrit, AICP, Community Transportation Planner
Kevin.Herrit@tn.gov • (423) 510-1167

Region 3 – Nashville

Larry McGoogin, Community Transportation Planner
Larry.McGoogin@tn.gov • (615) 253-2428

Katy Braden, Community Transportation Planner
Katy.Braden@tn.gov • (615) 532-3563

Region 4 – Memphis

Carlos McCloud, Community Transportation Planner
Carlos.McCloud@tn.gov • (901) 684-5465

Aury Kangelos, Community Transportation Planner
Aury.Kangelos@tn.gov • (901) 684-5466

Regional Planning Office

Angela Midgett, Transportation Manager
Angela.Midgett@tn.gov • (615) 741-3431

Deborah Fleming, Transportation Specialist
Deborah.Fleming@tn.gov • (615) 741-3507

Bob Rock, Transportation Specialist
Robert.Rock@tn.gov • (615) 741-3695

Reggie Brooks, Transportation Planner
Reginald.Brooks@tn.gov • (615) 253-2417

Chin-Cheng Chen, Transportation Modeler
Chin-Cheng.Chen@tn.gov • (615) 253-6301

Rural Planning Office

Paula Strauss, Transportation Manager
Paula.Strauss@tn.gov • (615) 253-5061

Mickey Phelps, Senior Transportation Project Specialist
Mickey.Phelps@tn.gov • (615) 532-3387

Lia Prince, Transportation Project Specialist
Lia.Prince@tn.gov • (615) 741-2934

Joseph Roach, Transportation Specialist
Joseph.Roach@tn.gov • (615) 253-2435

www.tdot.state.tn.us/longrange/oct.htm