

# TDOT PUBLIC MEETING

---

**SR-320 TO SR-321**

**November 07, 2019**



*Elite Reporting Services*

Celebrating 28 Years of Reporting Excellence!

**Melissa M. Smith, RPR, LCR, CCR**

**Senior Associate Reporter**

Chattanooga (423)266-2332 Jackson (731)425-1222

Knoxville (865)329-9919 Nashville (615)595-0073 Memphis (901)522-4477

[www.elitereportingservices.com](http://www.elitereportingservices.com)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

---

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Hamilton County Public Meeting  
SR-320 from east of Bel-Air Road to near  
SR-321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road)

November 7, 2019  
5:00 p.m.

East Hamilton High School  
2015 Ooltewah-Ringgold Road  
Ooltewah, Tennessee

---

Elite Reporting Services  
[www.elitereportingservices.com](http://www.elitereportingservices.com)  
MELISSA M. SMITH, RPR, LCR, CCR  
Senior Associate - East  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
(423)266-2332

\* \* \*

BEGINNING OF ONE-ON-ONE COMMENTS

MR. GERSKIN: The property of 9507 East Brainerd Road was the house that I grew up in with my parents until 1986. They were divorced and forced to sell the house. It has been out of the family for 30 years, and I have purchased it back and we've been living in it for three years now.

There's a green line going through, and they're saying they're going to relocate me, and I have absolute zero interest in relocation or monetary compensation of any kind.

I have spent so long trying to reacquire this, and I am not letting go of my goals and my dreams. I've worked for the County for ten years as a schoolteacher. I've planted trees on that property. My clubhouse when I was a kid was there, my basketball goal is still there. My mother-in-law, we've moved her in on the back. We have a special needs autistic brother that we take care of. He cannot go through another change.

I don't know what else to say, other than those are my concerns, and they seem to presume that they're going to purchase the property and

05:14:37  
05:14:41  
05:14:44  
05:14:48  
05:14:52  
05:14:57  
05:15:04  
05:15:08  
05:15:11  
05:15:14  
05:15:19  
05:15:23  
05:15:28  
05:15:35  
05:15:41  
05:15:43  
05:15:49  
05:15:52  
05:15:58  
05:16:07  
05:16:10  
05:16:15

1 relocate me, and I am very -- I am not -- I am not 05:16:18  
2 happy. It is not going to happen. Max, M-A-X, 05:16:20  
3 Gerskin, G-E-R-S-K-I-N. 05:16:29  
4 MR. SWEARINGEN: William Swearingen, 05:24:39  
5 S-W-E-A-R-I-N-G-E-N. My address is 1781 Morris 05:25:11  
6 Woods Trail. 05:25:21  
7 In this proposal, they got my driveway 05:25:26  
8 going up 14 percent of a grade and there ain't no 05:25:29  
9 way a car will make it up a 14 percent grade, let 05:25:32  
10 alone a four-wheel drive truck. So they're going to 05:25:37  
11 have to do something to change that. I mean, it's 05:25:40  
12 just common sense, you know. 14 percent is pretty 05:25:44  
13 sharp. You can't get a truck up 14 percent, let 05:25:53  
14 alone a car, you know. My car don't sit but this 05:25:57  
15 high (indicating) off the ground, and I can't hardly 05:26:01  
16 get up it now the way they cut it open. 05:26:04  
17 And here's another factor you can put on 05:26:07  
18 there. They messed with my driveway on this new 05:26:08  
19 proposal that they done on the new widening of the 05:26:10  
20 road. They shouldn't have ever messed mine up. 05:26:13  
21 They didn't tell me about it. First thing I knew 05:26:16  
22 about it, they're down there cutting it out. 05:26:19  
23 I ain't seen nothing. I went down there and told 05:26:21  
24 them, and they didn't say nothing. I ain't got no 05:26:25  
25 papers to prove nothing. 05:26:28

1                   Anyway, that's all I got to say.                   05:26:30

2                   MR. FUGATE:   Harold Ray Fugate,                   05:26:39

3   F-U-G-A-T-E.   And I live 9406 East Brainerd Road.           05:26:47

4                   And what I'm questioning about is 9408.           05:27:02

5   They tell me they're going to take my house.   Well,           05:27:06

6   you know, when they had that first one out there,           05:27:22

7   there was going to be a wall in the front of it,           05:27:25

8   down there at the front of the house between there           05:27:29

9   and the road.   Now the guy told me over there they           05:27:31

10   would probably take it, and I don't want to sell.           05:27:35

11   So I'm not going to be damn easy seller.           05:27:39

12

13                                   BEGINNING OF PRESENTATION

14                   MS. FLYNN:   Okay.   Thank everyone for           05:29:26

15   coming out tonight.   I'm Jennifer Flynn.   I'm with           05:29:28

16   the TDOT Community Relations Office here in           05:29:32

17   Chattanooga.   This a design public meeting for TDOT           05:29:35

18   project in development to widen East Brainerd           05:29:39

19   Road/State Route 320 from east of Bel-Air Road to           05:29:42

20   Ooltewah-Ringgold Road.           05:29:50

21                   I want to thank Senator Todd Gardenhire           05:29:50

22   for coming out tonight.   Thank you.           05:29:54

23                   And Representative Esther Helton, I know           05:29:55

24   I talked to you.           05:29:58

25                   And Representative Mike Carter.   And           05:30:00

1 also Hamilton County Circuit Clerk Larry Henry is 05:30:02  
2 here joining us tonight. 05:30:07  
3 What we're going to do is our -- also 05:30:09  
4 I want to introduce -- he's around here somewhere -- 05:30:12  
5 our regional director, Joe Deering. 05:30:16  
6 We have plenty of TDOT people here. We 05:30:20  
7 all have gold badges on. So once we get done with 05:30:23  
8 this portion of the program, you can feel free to 05:30:25  
9 ask any one of us questions and we'll try to help 05:30:29  
10 YOU as much as we can. 05:30:32  
11 And basically, as I said, we're here to 05:30:34  
12 just get your comments and answer some questions 05:30:36  
13 about this project in development. 05:30:39  
14 What we're going to do, Curt Duncan and 05:30:40  
15 Jason Ingram from our project development office are 05:30:43  
16 going to tag team and give the presentation. And 05:30:45  
17 after that, we're going to have questions and 05:30:47  
18 answers. We'll open the floor to questions. And 05:30:49  
19 then, after that, we'll have just an open house and 05:30:53  
20 you can look at the plans and talk one on one. 05:30:55  
21 We want to get your comments. There is 05:30:59  
22 several ways to get comments in. And they will go 05:31:00  
23 over them, but you can either write them down on 05:31:03  
24 your comment card, you can talk to the court 05:31:06  
25 reporter, or speak up during the question-and-answer 05:31:07

1 session. 05:31:09

2 So right now, I'm going to turn it over 05:31:09

3 to Curt Duncan, and he'll kick us off with a 05:31:12

4 PowerPoint. Thank you. 05:31:14

5 MR. DUNCAN: Thank you, Jennifer. Thank 05:31:25

6 y'all for coming out on a rainy night. Like she 05:31:26

7 said, my name is Curt Duncan. I'm the design 05:31:29

8 manager over this job. And this is the Hamilton 05:31:31

9 County East Brainerd Road to Ooltewah-Ringgold Road. 05:31:37

10 Our meeting purpose tonight is to 05:31:42

11 provide the public with up-to-date information on 05:31:45

12 the proposed project, to display preliminary design 05:31:47

13 plans. We've got them all over the wall. We've got 05:31:51

14 them on the tables, and we've got people around to 05:31:54

15 talk to you about them and, as Jennifer said, to 05:31:57

16 solicit comments and concerns from the public 05:31:59

17 regarding this meeting. 05:32:03

18 The TDOT project development process, 05:32:05

19 we're currently in the design phase with 05:32:07

20 right-of-way set to begin pending funding approval. 05:32:10

21 And the project purpose is to create a 05:32:15

22 consistent five-lane curb-and-gutter section roadway 05:32:17

23 with bicycle lanes and sidewalks along East Brainerd 05:32:23

24 Road, to provide additional lanes for travel for 05:32:26

25 safe traffic operations, and to improve major 05:32:28

1 intersection at East Brainerd and Ooltewah-Ringgold 05:32:31  
2 Road. 05:32:33

3 The design template for the East 05:32:36  
4 Brainerd Road is a five-lane curb-and-gutter section 05:32:39  
5 with a 6-foot shoulder to include bike lanes, a 05:32:44  
6 2-foot grass strip with two 5-foot sidewalks. 05:32:47

7 The Ooltewah-Ringgold template from the 05:32:51  
8 intersection to the high school here, the entrance, 05:32:55  
9 is a five-lane curb-and-gutter section, no 05:32:57  
10 shoulders, 2-and-a-half-foot grass strip with a 05:33:01  
11 10-foot multi-use path on the high school side and a 05:33:05  
12 5-foot sidewalk on the other side. 05:33:09

13 And this is an overall view of the 05:33:15  
14 project. We're up here at the high school. We 05:33:17  
15 begin over here at Bel-Air Road, and we go to the 05:33:21  
16 intersection with improvements up and down 05:33:29  
17 Ooltewah-Ringgold Road and continue on East Brainerd 05:33:32  
18 Road to improve the intersection. 05:33:36

19 It ends right outside the high school 05:33:38  
20 here. It goes down to the Stonebrook Subdivision 05:33:41  
21 and to the Pathway Baptist Church. 05:33:48

22 All right. Now I'm going to turn over 05:33:51  
23 to Jason Ingram, the designer of this job, and he's 05:33:53  
24 going to talk about several design aspects. 05:33:56

25 MR. INGRAM: Thank you, Curt. 05:34:01



1 I'll go ahead and start. This is a 05:34:02  
2 kindly overview of how the project is going. The -- 05:34:05  
3 Hamlet Drive, this is right in the area where you 05:34:10  
4 see right now where we ended the five-lane and we've 05:34:16  
5 brought into a two-lane right now. This is where 05:34:21  
6 we'll be starting our construction for the new 05:34:27  
7 project. 05:34:30

8 This is an aerial view, kindly showing 05:34:32  
9 this. Right here is where Hamlet Drive is right 05:34:34  
10 now. We'll be re-striping the markings in between 05:34:39  
11 Bel-Air Road and Hamlet Drive. As we move east on 05:34:43  
12 East Brainerd, we'll move down to where Fuller Road 05:34:51  
13 is. Fuller Road, we'll be raising the grade right 05:34:54  
14 here in order to improve the safety and sight 05:35:00  
15 distance and to improve the operation efficiency of 05:35:04  
16 the road. 05:35:08

17 As we move on down East Brainerd, we'll 05:35:09  
18 also -- we've brought the road itself right between 05:35:12  
19 Westview Elementary and the cemetery and Cornerstone 05:35:20  
20 Community Church. And it will not be affecting the 05:35:23  
21 cemetery on this side, and our slopes will not be 05:35:29  
22 affecting the drive through on Westview Elementary. 05:35:34

23 As we go east on to the project, we'll 05:35:39  
24 come down to the intersection right here. And the 05:35:43  
25 intersection will include the addition of turn 05:35:47

1 lanes, and it will be a signalized intersection, 05:35:53  
2 which, it's signalized right now, but this will be 05:35:55  
3 addition of lanes in order to take on the storage 05:36:00  
4 and the amount of traffic congestion that's 05:36:05  
5 happening right now. 05:36:08

6 As I come up on a close-up view on the 05:36:24  
7 intersection to kindly show that we'll be -- we're 05:36:27  
8 proposing tonight a double left-turn movement that's 05:36:30  
9 going east on East Brainerd onto -- north on 05:36:34  
10 Ooltewah-Ringgold Road. We're also proposing a 05:36:38  
11 dedicated right-turn movement that will be going 05:36:43  
12 south on Ooltewah-Ringgold Road and going west onto 05:36:49  
13 East Brainerd. 05:36:52

14 As you go east on East Brainerd right 05:36:56  
15 past the Pathway Baptist Church, this is kindly a 05:37:00  
16 view that you'll probably see when you're driving 05:37:04  
17 and stuff. This is where we'll be ending the job on 05:37:07  
18 East Brainerd past the intersection. 05:37:11

19 The aerial view shows that East Brainerd 05:37:12  
20 will be right before that curve as you're going east 05:37:16  
21 on East Brainerd. That's where we'll be stopping 05:37:20  
22 at, and it's just right past the Pathway Baptist 05:37:22  
23 Church here. 05:37:26

24 We'll move up to where the entrance that 05:37:30  
25 you came in this evening at, at the high school 05:37:32

1 right here, where we'll be ending the project up on 05:37:36  
2 Ooltewah-Ringgold, the north end of 05:37:39  
3 Ooltewah-Ringgold. 05:37:42

4 We will actually be doing a full -- the 05:37:46  
5 template all the way right at the ending of the 05:37:50  
6 existing turn lanes right now, and we'll be ending 05:37:53  
7 the project a little bit past those existing turn 05:37:58  
8 lanes. 05:38:02

9 On the entrance of -- the school 05:38:06  
10 entrance right there with this proposal, we're 05:38:09  
11 looking at possibly doing a midblock crossing, and 05:38:12  
12 the right turn lane's going to stay in in order to 05:38:16  
13 provide the amount of traffic that's coming into the 05:38:20  
14 high school right there. 05:38:24

15 The midblock and the island that will be 05:38:26  
16 within this intersection will provide for a 05:38:31  
17 pedestrian crossing. 05:38:35

18 As we move south on Ooltewah-Ringgold, 05:38:38  
19 down from the intersection right there, we'll go to 05:38:44  
20 the end of the job that's near Stonebrook. And this 05:38:47  
21 aerial view actually shows that right there at the 05:38:52  
22 entrance we'll just actually end it just right past 05:38:56  
23 that entrance for the project. 05:39:00

24 Tonight we've got several TDOT and 05:39:05  
25 right-of-way representatives throughout the whole 05:39:09

1 area right here. Like what Jennifer was saying, 05:39:14  
2 they've got their name badges on. They can help you 05:39:16  
3 with general questions like general project limits 05:39:21  
4 with design elements, and the right-of-way agents 05:39:24  
5 are really good on the right-of-way process that you 05:39:28  
6 can ask them on -- any detail on that tonight. 05:39:31

7 And we really want to encourage you all 05:39:36  
8 to get your input tonight because this is in the 05:39:40  
9 prelim stages to where we can actually get more of 05:39:46  
10 an understanding of where y'all want this to go and 05:39:51  
11 everything. So there's three ways to get your input 05:39:55  
12 today, the first one that I've got here, by the 05:39:59  
13 mail-in comment cards. When you came in, there was 05:40:05  
14 three sheets. The back sheet that was stapled, 05:40:09  
15 that's what we're calling comment cards. That 05:40:12  
16 little sheet right there has an ability to where you 05:40:17  
17 can write your comments on tonight. Or, when you 05:40:20  
18 get home you can make your comments, and you'll need 05:40:24  
19 mail them to the address that's shown on there by 05:40:27  
20 November 28th. 05:40:32

21 You can also do the exact same thing 05:40:34  
22 from home by e-mailing us at [TDOT.comments@TN.gov](mailto:TDOT.comments@TN.gov), 05:40:36  
23 as you can see right here. And we'll want to try to 05:40:45  
24 get those comments in at the same date with it too. 05:40:47

25 The second way of giving your input 05:40:52

1 would be by -- tonight you can actually take that 05:40:55  
2 same comment card, and we have pens that we can 05:40:58  
3 provide you if you don't have pens, in order to make 05:41:03  
4 your comment tonight. And you can give it to one of 05:41:07  
5 your TDOT representatives or you can drop it off at 05:41:10  
6 our sign-in table as you're leaving to give whatever 05:41:13  
7 comments that you have on your tracts that would 05:41:16  
8 help us to make the project better for you. 05:41:19  
9 Now on -- the third way of giving 05:41:26  
10 comments, we're going to have -- you can do your 05:41:29  
11 comments by doing a one-on-one with our court 05:41:33  
12 reporter after the Q-and-A session tonight, and you 05:41:35  
13 can also -- when we have the Q-and-A session, that 05:41:40  
14 is another form of you giving your comments so we 05:41:44  
15 can get your input on it. 05:41:48  
16 And with that, I'm going to turn it over 05:41:51  
17 to Jennifer Flynn and let her go to it. 05:41:58  
18 MS. FLYNN: Okay. We've got people here 05:42:06  
19 with microphones somewhere. Okay. And if you want 05:42:08  
20 to ask a question, just raise your hand, and they'll 05:42:13  
21 bring you a microphone. And I ask that you please 05:42:17  
22 state your name for the transcript, and we'll see 05:42:20  
23 what we can do and see if we can address your 05:42:21  
24 concerns or answer your questions. 05:42:25  
25 Okay. Yes, ma'am. 05:42:27

1 And I know there is a gentleman in the 05:42:27  
2 back. 05:42:27

3 MS. GRAY: Joyce Gray. 05:42:28

4 I want to know why you are proposing a 05:42:34  
5 crosswalk in front of the high school. 05:42:37

6 MR. INGRAM: The proposal of that 05:42:48  
7 crosswalk right now is more of accessibility in 05:42:55  
8 order to get people across the road. We follow to, 05:42:59  
9 like, ADA standards now to where if someone, for 05:43:03  
10 instance, was coming down that sidewalk they could 05:43:06  
11 go to the high school if they needed to go to the 05:43:09  
12 high school by walking there or by, I mean, you 05:43:11  
13 know, whatever disability that they have. 05:43:16

14 MS. GRAY: So you are not anticipating a 05:43:20  
15 lot of traffic going that way to where you would 05:43:22  
16 need to put a raised crosswalk there to facilitate 05:43:24  
17 the traffic moving underneath? 05:43:32

18 MR. INGRAM: Yes. As of right now, 05:43:35  
19 we're still reviewing over that intersection to 05:43:36  
20 determine what can be done and what other ways of 05:43:39  
21 doing it that would be warranted to allow the amount 05:43:44  
22 of traffic that would come through there with the 05:43:48  
23 design elements that we have. 05:43:51

24 MS. GRAY: Thank you. 05:43:53

25 MR. INGRAM: Thank you. 05:43:55

1 MR. GALE: David Gale. 05:43:58

2 How close was Fuller Road where it comes 05:44:07

3 back out to getting a traffic light instead of just 05:44:11

4 improving the sight? 05:44:16

5 MR. INGRAM: On Fuller Road right now, 05:44:19

6 as of right now, it's not showing that it warrants a 05:44:22

7 traffic light at it, but, you know, if you're -- 05:44:26

8 please make your inputs, you know, on -- what, you 05:44:33

9 know, tonight on -- if you feel like there should be 05:44:38

10 a traffic light or so forth at Fuller Road. 05:44:41

11 MS. FLYNN: Yeah. That's something that 05:44:46

12 can be looked at in the future. 05:44:47

13 MR. WEINHOLD: Fred Weinhold at 05:44:53

14 Stonebrook. 05:44:55

15 Do we have any estimates or optimistic 05:44:56

16 or pessimistic on dates and timing of this? 05:45:00

17 MS. FLYNN: Realistic. 05:45:06

18 MR. DUNCAN: Currently, like we said, 05:45:08

19 it's in the design phase. And we're going 05:45:10

20 through -- we'll be going through right-of-way, 05:45:12

21 pending funding. That's about as much as I can say 05:45:15

22 right now. 05:45:18

23 MS. FLYNN: It would -- 05:45:20

24 MR. WEINHOLD: What's that mean? 05:45:22

25 MS. FLYNN: Yeah. Let our regional 05:45:27

1 director come up here and field that one. 05:45:29

2 That's a Joe question. 05:45:33

3 MR. DEERING: Good evening. My name is 05:45:36

4 Joe Deering. I'm a regional director for TDOT 05:45:36

5 Region 2. 05:45:39

6 So as many of you know, TDOT is a 05:45:40

7 pay-as-you-go type state, so we fund projects 05:45:43

8 through three different phases: Through the 05:45:44

9 preliminary engineering phase, through the 05:45:45

10 right-of-way phase, and through the construction 05:45:47

11 phase. 05:45:50

12 Right now, we're in the preliminary 05:45:50

13 engineering phase. Once we get through that phase, 05:45:51

14 we put out what's called a three-year plan. At that 05:45:54

15 point we'll ask for funding for the right-of-way. 05:45:57

16 Right now, it will probably take another 05:46:00

17 year or so to get through the preliminary 05:46:01

18 engineering phase. So I'm going to say probably 05:46:05

19 late 2020 or 2021 we'll be looking and asking for 05:46:07

20 funding for the right-of-way stage. Once we get to 05:46:11

21 that phase, we'll start purchasing the right-of-way. 05:46:13

22 So probably at the earliest, early 2021 would be the 05:46:16

23 earliest we would start looking at right-of-way. 05:46:20

24 MS. FLYNN: And that is why he's our 05:46:25

25 director. 05:46:27



1 MR. JANES: Joe, thank you for that. 05:46:36

2 Hey, I'm Chad Janes. 05:46:38

3 I know these are very complicated 05:46:41

4 questions, and we saw the first phase of this and 05:46:42

5 the decade or longer it took. So just based on 05:46:44

6 experience and what the past and the history has 05:46:48

7 shown us, is that 10 years, 12 years, 14 years for 05:46:52

8 completion? 05:46:58

9 MR. DEERING: So when we built the first 05:46:59

10 phase -- you know, again, we're a pay-as-you-go 05:47:01

11 state. We didn't have a steady stream of funding. 05:47:03

12 Thanks to Improve Act that passed in 2016, now we 05:47:06

13 have a steady stream of funding. 05:47:09

14 So projects now are moving on in more of 05:47:12

15 a standard way. So once we get to that, through the 05:47:14

16 preliminary phase, you know, then we go ask for 05:47:17

17 the -- so I'm not going to say 10 years, but, again, 05:47:19

18 it will probably take us -- how many tracts are on 05:47:21

19 this? 05:47:24

20 204 right-of-way tracts. So it's 05:47:25

21 probably going to take us three years just to buy 05:47:28

22 right-of-way. So you talk 2021, another three 05:47:30

23 years, 2024 at the earliest, just to begin 05:47:34

24 construction. So that's kind of an early schedule 05:47:37

25 of looking at it right now. 05:47:40

1 MR. JANES: And I think the first phase 05:47:41  
2 was about six years construction. So would that be 05:47:43  
3 the -- 05:47:45  
4 MR. DEERING: I hope it didn't take us 05:47:47  
5 six years to build it. 05:47:49  
6 MS. FLYNN: It just felt like it. 05:47:50  
7 MR. DEERING: It just felt like it. 05:47:52  
8 MR. JANES: And that was done very well, 05:47:52  
9 and I appreciate all your help on it. 05:47:54  
10 MR. DEERING: So a quick glance at this 05:47:56  
11 project right now, again, from what the preliminary 05:47:57  
12 plans are showing, this is probably somewhere 05:47:57  
13 between a 36- to 42-month-long project to construct 05:47:59  
14 it. 05:48:03  
15 And, again, that's an early phase. A 05:48:03  
16 lot of things we get into with this when we start 05:48:05  
17 looking at the numbers -- utilities that have to be 05:48:08  
18 relocated, things like that, that adds time to it 05:48:11  
19 because they have to get out of the way or we 05:48:14  
20 include them in the project. And when we start 05:48:17  
21 phasing these projects, you know, they have to move 05:48:19  
22 before we can build the actual road proper. 05:48:22  
23 So, again, that's why right now early 05:48:25  
24 guess is probably somewhere between the 36- to 05:48:26  
25 42-month-long project. 05:48:28

1 MR. JANES: So it would be the one year 05:48:31  
2 plus the three year, plus the 36 to 42 months? 05:48:32  
3 MR. DEERING: Right. 05:48:35  
4 MR. JANES: Thank you, sir. I 05:48:36  
5 appreciate that. 05:48:37  
6 MR. DEERING: And, again, that's 05:48:38  
7 standard for a project of this size. 05:48:39  
8 MR. JANES: Sure. 05:48:40  
9 MR. DEERING: In the early -- before the 05:48:40  
10 Improve Act we didn't know when the next pot of 05:48:41  
11 money was coming along. 05:48:44  
12 MR. JANES: Right. And we appreciate 05:48:46  
13 the timing has been moved up. We're just trying to 05:48:46  
14 get a general estimate. 05:48:48  
15 MR. DEERING: Perfect. 05:48:50  
16 MR. JANES: Great. Thank you, sir. 05:48:51  
17 MR. FUGATE: I'm Ray Fugate. And I see 05:48:53  
18 you're taking care of the guy that has got all the 05:48:56  
19 money down here. You're going out there to that 05:49:00  
20 house out there and widen the road out there and, 05:49:01  
21 this guy here, you're going to widen his road. 05:49:04  
22 And I've got a motorcycle, and y'all 05:49:05  
23 charge me a damn tag for it every year and you're 05:49:05  
24 building a lane for these people to ride their 05:49:08  
25 bicycle. You're taking that. Now, why? Make them 05:49:10

1 buy a tag like I have to buy a tag. 05:49:13

2 MS. FLYNN: Thank you for that comment. 05:49:20

3 I'm not really sure how to answer that one. 05:49:22

4 MR. FUGATE: Well, I have to buy a tag 05:49:24

5 my motorcycle. 05:49:27

6 MS. FLYNN: I understand. I understand. 05:49:29

7 MR. FUGATE: You stand out there and 05:49:30

8 look. And walking down East Brainerd Road there 05:49:32

9 would be one person maybe every three months you'll 05:49:34

10 see walking and maybe one bicycle a month. You 05:49:38

11 don't really -- on both sides of the road. 05:49:39

12 MS. FLYNN: But TDOT doesn't issue tags 05:49:41

13 and we don't -- we don't do that. 05:49:43

14 MR. FUGATE: And I know I'm just a small 05:49:45

15 duck in the pond, but that pisses me off when you do 05:49:48

16 stuff like that. 05:49:51

17 MR. GERSKIN: The sidewalk is already 05:49:52

18 overgrown. Nobody is using them. They aren't even 05:49:54

19 being taken care of. 05:49:56

20 MS. FLYNN: Okay. Thank you. 05:50:05

21 MS. SENSEBAUGH: My name is Kay 05:50:06

22 Sensebaugh. I live in Shadow Ridge, and I have a 05:50:08

23 question about -- I guess it's similar to the 05:50:13

24 question that the gentleman asked about Fuller Road. 05:50:16

25 What is going to be done, if anything, 05:50:19

1 about the intersection of Rolling Ridge and East 05:50:21  
2 Brainerd Road? Many of us have to get out using 05:50:25  
3 Rolling Ridge, and right now you can't make a left 05:50:29  
4 turn. You can hardly make a right turn. 05:50:31

5 What are your plans to accommodate 05:50:35  
6 getting us out of our neighborhood? 05:50:38

7 MR. DEERING: So what we do when we look 05:50:45  
8 at this, there are nine signal warrants that we look 05:50:47  
9 at, and we look at each one of them. Some of them 05:50:50  
10 don't apply to these, but we look at peak hour 05:50:53  
11 travel, we look at eight-hour counts. 05:50:57

12 If they warrant a signal warrant, we 05:50:59  
13 will put a signal up. If they don't, putting an 05:51:01  
14 unwarranted signal up is actually more dangerous 05:51:03  
15 than not having a signal. So if it warrants a 05:51:07  
16 signal both at Fuller or whatever, we will put a 05:51:11  
17 signal up. 05:51:13

18 So the good thing is you're having 05:51:14  
19 trouble getting out because you have a two-lane 05:51:16  
20 facility now so all that traffic is in one lane. So 05:51:18  
21 now they're going to have two lanes each direction 05:51:21  
22 plus a center turn lane, so that gap to get out is 05:51:25  
23 actually going to be bigger. 05:51:29

24 So take peak time. It varies, but it's 05:51:36  
25 usually from 6:00 in the morning to 9:00 in the 05:51:38

1 morning and 3:00 in the afternoon to 6:00 in the 05:51:42  
2 afternoon. We can look at three-hour periods for 05:51:45  
3 peak hour. Now, peak hour can change, you know, 05:51:45  
4 depending on where you're at, but that typically is 05:51:47  
5 the peak hour times. 05:51:49

6 MS. FLYNN: Okay. I don't see anybody 05:51:56  
7 else. If that's -- oh, there's a question right up 05:51:58  
8 here. 05:52:03

9 MR. GREEN: Jim Green. 05:52:04

10 I was just wondering if ahead of time if 05:52:18  
11 you could do something with the corner there where 05:52:21  
12 Ringgold and East Brainerd meet to alleviate the 05:52:25  
13 traffic turning right or left, because only one car 05:52:29  
14 at a time can go through that area. That wouldn't 05:52:33  
15 require purchasing other land. You probably -- that 05:52:38  
16 would be part of the -- you know what I'm talking 05:52:41  
17 about? 05:52:46

18 MR. DEERING: I think we've been working 05:52:47  
19 with the City on looking at their signal timings, 05:52:48  
20 and we're providing some information there. We're 05:52:50  
21 looking into that, but as far as -- go ahead. 05:52:53

22 MS. FLYNN: I was going to say we're 05:52:55  
23 looking into it. Well, the County is. 05:52:56

24 MR. DEERING: Oh, County. I said 05:52:59  
25 "City." Yeah, the County as well to look at what we 05:52:59

1 can do with some of the improvements. 05:53:02

2 But what we don't want to do is go spend 05:53:02

3 money that we're going to turn around and tear right 05:53:05

4 back up. 05:53:08

5 MR. GREEN: Waiting ten years to do 05:53:10

6 it doesn't -- waiting ten years doesn't make sense 05:53:12

7 to me when you've got traffic backed up for 2 miles 05:53:14

8 or 3 miles past the high school every way you go 05:53:17

9 here, and you could alleviate a lot of that by 05:53:20

10 letting the people turn on the signal. 05:53:23

11 You guys know that, but I'm asking you 05:53:27

12 what are you going to do about it? 05:53:29

13 MR. DEERING: Well, again, we're working 05:53:32

14 with the County right now to look at that and see 05:53:33

15 what we can do with some short-term improvements. 05:53:36

16 MS. FLYNN: Okay. We'll -- there's a 05:53:43

17 question back there. 05:53:46

18 MS. BRANDON: My name is Linda Brandon, 05:53:51

19 and I have a question. I guess it's for the 05:53:56

20 acquisition people, the right-of-way. 05:54:02

21 If these preliminary things show the 05:54:04

22 road going right through my house, is there a 05:54:07

23 protest or is it just "we're taking your house and 05:54:11

24 we don't care" and it's just a matter of how much 05:54:15

25 we're going to pay you? 05:54:20

1 MS. FLYNN: We'll get our right-of-way 05:54:22  
2 expert up here. Just hang on a second. 05:54:23

3 MR. SCOTT: Ma'am, we hire outside 05:54:30  
4 appraisers to appraise the property to find the 05:54:32  
5 value of the property, and we pay you fair market 05:54:36  
6 value of the property that we need for the road, 05:54:38  
7 so -- 05:54:40

8 MS. BRANDON: What if we don't want to 05:54:42  
9 sell the house? 05:54:44

10 MR. GERSKIN: How do you put a 05:54:46  
11 sentimental value on something? 05:54:47

12 MS. BRANDON: Is there a protest process 05:54:49  
13 or do you just -- you just come get the property 05:54:51  
14 whether we want you to or not? 05:54:54

15 MR. GERSKIN: You're proposing digging 05:54:57  
16 up pets that I had buried 40 years ago, trees that 05:54:59  
17 I planted when I was in third grade and went to 05:55:03  
18 Westview school and they sent us saplings home. 05:55:06

19 MR. SCOTT: Basically, what we can do is 05:55:11  
20 get your comments in there through the court 05:55:13  
21 reporter. 05:55:14

22 MR. GERSKIN: I've given my comments. 05:55:14

23 MR. SCOTT: And then Design will look at 05:55:16  
24 it and see if there's something they can do with 05:55:18  
25 that. But if they need the property for the road, 05:55:21



1 then we need to pay you fair market value for it. 05:55:23

2 MS. BRANDON: I have another question. 05:55:27

3 His house and property is like two and a 05:55:29

4 half acres. Will they buy the entire two and a half 05:55:32

5 acres, or will they just buy the house? 05:55:36

6 MR. SCOTT: They will appraise the 05:55:42

7 entire piece of property to see if there's damages 05:55:44

8 to the remainder. And, basically, we will review 05:55:46

9 those and see about what we can do at that point. 05:55:53

10 MS. BRANDON: Okay. Because I live 05:56:02

11 behind his house, and this is a family affair. We 05:56:04

12 have 20 -- 43-year-old autistic son that lives in 05:56:07

13 the compound, so to speak. 05:56:14

14 If the house in the back isn't affected 05:56:16

15 from the road, you're not going to give him money 05:56:19

16 for the back house? 05:56:23

17 MR. SCOTT: Like I said, we have to let 05:56:25

18 the appraiser look at that and see what he comes up 05:56:26

19 with the value on it and what we need to do. 05:56:29

20 MS. BRANDON: Okay. So all we can do is 05:56:31

21 wait until somebody comes and talks to us in 05:56:34

22 private. 05:56:37

23 MR. SCOTT: And, like I said, these are 05:56:37

24 preliminary plans. They're subject to change. 05:56:39

25 Until we get right-of-way funding, we cannot go out 05:56:42

1 there and start the right-of-way process. 05:56:45

2 MS. BRANDON: Okay. And that someone 05:56:48

3 said it would be like two years? 05:56:50

4 MS. FLYNN: He said at the earliest. 05:56:51

5 MR. SCOTT: At the earliest. 05:56:56

6 MS. BRANDON: At the earliest. So 05:56:57

7 nothing is going to happen in the next two to three 05:56:58

8 years? 05:57:00

9 MR. SCOTT: That's correct. 05:57:03

10 MS. BRANDON: Okay. Thank you. 05:57:04

11 MS. FLYNN: Okay. If that's it, we'll 05:57:08

12 be here. We'll be here till 7 o'clock. We're here 05:57:11

13 for another hour if y'all want to talk to the court 05:57:18

14 reporter, talk to any of us, look at the plans. 05:57:21

15 We're here. So thank you very much for coming out. 05:57:23

16 We appreciate it. 05:57:26

17 CONTINUATION OF ONE-ON-ONE COMMENTS

18 MR. GALE: David Gale, G-A-L-E. 06:03:19

19 So Fuller Road, there are neighborhoods 06:03:29

20 and subdivisions that come off of Fuller Road onto 06:03:32

21 East Brainerd. And right now at times of day when 06:03:36

22 school is going to start, so that's a little before 06:03:43

23 7:00 and then again a little before 8:00 and then 06:03:46

24 especially when school lets out, there are buses 06:03:50

25 that can't turn, there are cars that can't turn, and 06:03:53

1 we're talking about people trying to get out and 06:03:57  
2 people trying to get in at different times of day. 06:04:00  
3 And I think it would -- if Banks Road warranted a 06:04:04  
4 light, it seems to me that Fuller Road is going to 06:04:15  
5 be the same situation. 06:04:18  
6 MS. MORRIS: Sharon Morris, M-O-R-R-I-S. 06:04:47  
7 And I live across from Rolling Ridge 06:05:43  
8 Drive. But the traffic backup in the busy hours, 06:05:49  
9 it's really bad. It goes down sometimes almost to 06:05:53  
10 Banks Road for the people trying to turn into 06:06:01  
11 Rolling Ridge. The people coming from the east do 06:06:04  
12 not always stop to allow the turn-ins. So it's -- 06:06:08  
13 it is a snarl. Somebody needs to come and sit for a 06:06:13  
14 few minutes or an hour or so. And I think it's more 06:06:17  
15 for 5:00 to 7:00 than it is from 3:00 to 6:00. 06:06:22  
16 But something needs to be done. There's 06:06:27  
17 frequent accidents. It's a nonvisual area. You 06:06:30  
18 have trouble seeing. Somebody needs to come sit and 06:06:38  
19 watch it for a minute. Thank you. 06:06:42  
20 MR. FUGATE: Harold Fugate. 06:07:17  
21 On my property on 9406, I would like for 06:07:27  
22 them to leave that house there, if possible, and 06:07:33  
23 build a wall or slope it off in front of the house 06:07:36  
24 instead of taking my house. I don't know if it's 06:07:41  
25 possible or not. 06:07:46

1 MR. WHITE: Danny White. 06:17:12

2 Well, our concern is that they're going 06:17:17

3 to come so close to the corner of our home that, you 06:17:22

4 know, it's on that -- I know it's early stage of 06:17:27

5 relocating or -- we don't know what -- we don't know 06:17:31

6 whether to move now or stay and wait. We don't know 06:17:39

7 if we're going to lose, waiting, or if the value of 06:17:45

8 my house is going to be depreciated, you know, by 06:17:48

9 the road coming in like that and I won't be 06:17:54

10 compensated for what it is. 06:17:57

11 So we're worried whether to stay now or 06:17:59

12 move or wait out. It's a private road, Tatum Road. 06:18:02

13 107 Tatum Road. I'm right on the -- East Brainerd 06:18:16

14 Road and Tatum Road. And... 06:18:20

15 MS. WHITE: He said you would have a 06:18:24

16 map. You would see what -- 06:18:25

17 MR. WHITE: I guess my complaint is -- 06:18:38

18 MS. WHITE: They're taking our yard, 06:18:41

19 they're taking our driveway, and they said -- 06:18:43

20 MR. WHITE: Yeah. Well, that would be 06:18:47

21 our complaint about this. 06:18:49

22 It's not really complaining. It's just 06:18:51

23 concern. We're not complaining. We know it's tough 06:18:53

24 out there. But right now I don't know what -- if 06:18:56

25 this -- if they do all these homes they're planning 06:18:59

1 on building, then, I can't even -- it's on a mercy 06:19:02  
2 situation, you know. 06:19:14

3 MS. WHITE: Because it's two-lane, a lot 06:19:16  
4 of traffic. 06:19:18

5 MR. WHITE: Everybody sort of, like, 06:19:19  
6 knows that lives out there, sort of try to help you 06:19:20  
7 out, like, you know, when you're in a traffic jam. 06:19:23  
8 You go every other one, but some don't do that. But 06:19:25  
9 that's the concern. Like they said, you can't turn 06:19:29  
10 left, you can't turn right. You're just stuck. 06:19:32

11 MS. WHITE: He said that they would 06:19:35  
12 purchase some of our property, but it's going to be 06:19:37  
13 pretty much right up at our doorway. 06:19:41

14 MR. WHITE: Yeah, it will be. 06:19:45

15 MS. WHITE: And then when they -- the 06:19:46  
16 hill we live on on Tatum Road -- we live in the 06:19:48  
17 first house right there as you go up on the left. 06:19:52  
18 And then they said they would pave the driveway and 06:19:55  
19 stuff or take some of it. 06:19:58

20 MR. WHITE: Yeah. But it still is going 06:20:00  
21 to be right on the road. I mean, if I had a kitty 06:20:02  
22 cat, I would have to have a 10-foot pole. 06:20:06

23 MS. WHITE: I'm sorry. 06:20:10

24 MR. WHITE: The noise, we can't handle 06:20:17  
25 the noise now. 06:20:18

1 MS. WHITE: But he told us to come to 06:20:21  
2 you and report it to you and -- 06:20:23

3 MR. WHITE: Road coming too close to our 06:20:26  
4 home, you know, to depreciate the value of it. So 06:20:29  
5 I don't know how that will work. Anyway. 06:20:33

6 That's the complaint we have. 06:20:36

7 MS. WHITE: I'm Tina White, his wife. 06:20:40

8 MR. JETTON: Sterling Jetton, 06:42:51  
9 J-E-T-T-O-N. 06:43:08

10 I'm the pastor of Shelter Church, and we 06:43:11  
11 just have a question about the entrance into our 06:43:36  
12 church once the grade level is built up and, then, 06:43:40  
13 as well as the relocation of our church sign. 06:43:44

14 My cell phone number is (423)208-4105. 06:44:00

15 (End of one-on-one comments.)

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF TENNESSEE

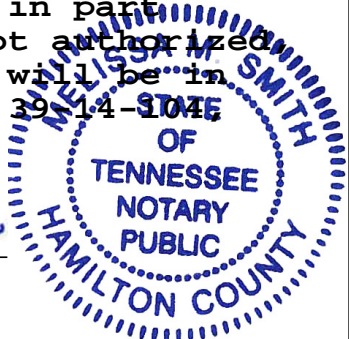
COUNTY OF HAMILTON

I, MELISSA M. SMITH, Licensed Court Reporter, with offices in Chattanooga, Tennessee, hereby certify that I reported the foregoing hearing of TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, by machine shorthand to the best of my skills and abilities, and thereafter the same was reduced to typewritten form by me.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties named herein, nor their counsel, and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome of the proceedings.

I further certify that in order for this document to be considered a true and correct copy, it must bear my original signature, and that any unauthorized reproduction in whole or in part and/or transfer of this document is not authorized will not be considered authentic, and will be in violation of Tennessee Code Annotated 39-14-104 Theft of Services.

*Melissa M. Smith*  
MELISSA M. SMITH, RPR, CCR, LCR  
Elite Reporting Services  
Senior Associate - East and  
Notary Public State of Tennessee



My Notary Public Commission Expires: 7/25/2022  
LCR # 122 - Expires: 6/30/2020