

## FLOOD EDITION

May 2, 2010

### **A daily roundup of recent news stories and opinion pieces about Tennessee transportation, water and flood control infrastructure**

For the full story, click the headline or use the link.

#### **[Record River Levels Will Continue To Rise](#)**

Water main breaks and sewage treatment problems reported across the area. Cumberland River will continue to rise through Monday. Water levels in Clarksville already 7 feet over flood stage. Corps of Engineers releases record water from Old Hickory Lake: "There is no comparison to anything we have ever done before." <http://www.tennessean.com/article/D4/20100502/NEWS01/100502025/Vanderbilt+Children+s+Hospital+cancel+s+elective+surgeries+for+tomorrow+>

#### **[All Washed Up \(Columbia Daily Herald\)](#)**

As storms pushed through Middle Tennessee Saturday, flash floods caused headaches for Maury County officials, prompting a call to the National Guard for assistance. E-911 Director Freddie Rich said the Maury County Emergency Management had requested the Guard's help dealing with the flooding in northeast Maury County. "They are going to use Santa Fe school as a staging area," Rich said. Calls flooded into the E-911 dispatch center as travelers encountered covered roadways, and in some cases, homes threatened by rising waters. "We've got a store floating off," Rich said. A house and a business near Leiper's Creek Road were threatened by water, but Rich said no one has been reported injured. He said authorities have conducted "numerous" water rescues. At least three people died in Tennessee during Saturday's flooding, according to WSMV Channel 4.

[http://www.columbiadailyherald.com/articles/2010/05/02/top\\_stories/02weather.txt](http://www.columbiadailyherald.com/articles/2010/05/02/top_stories/02weather.txt)

#### **[Weekend Storms Kill 11 In Tenn., 4 In Miss. \(News-Sentinel/Talbott, Burke\)](#)**

Devastating thunderstorms slammed Tennessee and northern Mississippi over the weekend, killing at least 15 people, five in Nashville, closing scores of highways, and leaving weeks of cleanup for thousands of residents whose homes were damaged. Thousands were evacuated and hundreds of others were rescued from their homes — some plucked from rooftops — as flood waters from swollen rivers and creeks inundated neighborhoods across the region. Hospitals, schools and state buildings also were flooded. Firefighters busted through the windows of Audrey Talley's trailer early Sunday to rescue her family, including her three small grandchildren, ages 9 months to 4 years old. Talley's son woke her up to tell her water was coming into the trailer in south Nashville. Within 10 minutes it was knee deep. "We've lost everything," the Talley, 47, said at an emergency shelter at Lipscomb University. "I don't know what we're going to do. We've got nowhere to go."

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/may/02/weekend-storms-kill-11-tenn-4-miss/>

#### **[Tennessee Officials Activate Guard Units For Flooding Response \(Gannett\)](#)**

Tennessee officials have activated National Guard units and requested Federal Emergency Management Agency representatives to assist in emergency response and assessment amid the state's widespread flooding. The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency had activated the 1176 Transport Company and 212th Engineering Company by 6 a.m. to provide high water vehicles and 79 guardsmen, said spokesman Jeremy Heidt. The units are stationed in Maury, Gibson and Rutherford counties, central locations to quickly reach areas in need of their assistance. Helicopters are also on standby and will be used, weather permitting, in rescue efforts. TEMA is working with FEMA to bring core federal officials to work with state officials in their emergency response. As water levels decrease, they will do damage assessment with local governments to see whether the state meets the threshold for federal aid, Heidt said. A state of emergency was declared midday Saturday with the activation of the state emergency management plan.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/D4/20100502/NEWS01/100502002/Tennessee+officials+activate+Guard+units+for+flooding+response>

### **[TEMA Asks National Guard to Help with Flood Rescue \(WHBQ-TV Memphis\)](#)**

The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency is asking the Tennessee Army National Guard to help rescue people from flooding. Spokesman Mike Browning said Gov. Phil Bredesen was getting hourly updates on the storm. At least five people in Tennessee have been killed after a line of strong thunderstorms on Saturday dumped at least 10 inches of rain on Memphis. The storms also produced tornadoes and hail along the Mississippi River Valley in Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky and northward. Guard and Tennessee Highway Patrol helicopters with hoist lift capabilities were on standby Sunday. Interstate-24 remained closed in Nashville, and segments of I-40 between Nashville and Memphis were blocked. Browning said people should stay off the roads because they are very dangerous.

<http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpp/news/local/050210-tema-asks-national-guard-to-help-with-flood-rescue>

### **[Officials: At Least 5 Dead In Tenn. Flooding \(Associated Press\)](#)**

Officials say at least five people have died and hundreds are being evacuated as flash flooding inundated Tennessee. The forecast called for more rain through the weekend. Jeremy Heidt, spokesman for the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, said Saturday evening that the five deaths reported in Stewart, Davidson, Williamson and Carroll counties were storm related, but the exact causes of the deaths were not yet known. Hundreds of homes had been evacuated in Tennessee and shelters were being opened across the state for people stranded due to flooded roads. Memphis received up to 10 inches or more of rain during the day and officials were warning that 4 - 8 more inches could fall overnight and into Sunday.

<http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=tennessean&sParam=33427947.story>

### **[Tennessee Flooding Kills 5 \(Tennessean/Cousins\)](#)**

Severe thunderstorms dropped 6 to 10 inches of rain on Middle Tennessee, causing at least five deaths, washing over interstates and forcing emergency management officials to rescue people using swift-water boats. One person died when a vehicle was caught in flood waters on Interstate 24 near Bell Road. A flood death was reported in Leiper's Fork, but Williamson County officials released no details. Two people were killed Saturday when their SUV was caught in flood waters in Dover, Tenn. One person was reported dead in Carroll County, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency spokesman Jeremy Heidt told CNN. At least three counties requested swift-water rescue boats from TEMA, Heidt said. The agency sent rescuers to Williamson, Shelby and Madison counties.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020355/Tennessee+flooding+kills+5+>

### **[Flooding, Heavy Rain Reported Across Tennessee \(Associated Press\)](#)**

Flooding was being reported across Tennessee on Saturday as heavy rains continued to pound the state. Some areas of the state had gotten up to 10 inches of rain by Saturday afternoon and more was expected, said Tennessee Emergency Management spokesman Jeremy Heidt. He said crews were called out for swift-water rescues from Nashville to Memphis. "It's so widespread, it's a very serious concern," he said. The southwestern part of the state was extremely hard hit, with several streets in the Memphis area declared impassable. Bob Nations, Director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness, advised people to stay off roads if possible. Emergency officials in Shelby County said hundreds of people are being evacuated due to high water, including residents of the Navy base in Millington and inmates at a federal prison.

<http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=tennessean&sParam=33427177.story>

### **[Tenn. Under A State Of Emergency, After Storms Slam State \(WVLT-TV Knoxville\)](#)**

Five people were killed, due to flooding and storms across Tennessee, according to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency. TEMA officials are assisting with conditions across the state, with the five deaths around the Middle Tennessee area. 2 people were killed in Stewart County, and one person was killed in Carroll, Davidson, and Williamson counties. The weather conditions put Tennessee in a Level 3, State of Emergency. TEMA says this means the situation is serious, public warnings are being issued, plus the state is under an emergency plan, with their operations center open. TEMA has already sent assistance to several counties, and is continuing to monitor the situation. TEMA spokesperson, Jeremy Heidt said, "If people could remember the 'turn around don't drown' that would help tremendously. If they stayed home, they stayed off the roads, every accident takes a trooper or an ambulance away from someone else who might need that emergency equipment."

<http://www.volunteertv.com/news/headlines/92604029.html>

### **[Flooding Brings Chaos To Mid-South \(Commercial Appeal/Silence, Charlier, Poe\)](#)**

Ferocious thunderstorms unleashing up to a foot of rain swamped the Memphis area with "unprecedented" flooding Saturday -- inundating homes and vehicles, bursting levees and forcing the evacuations of more than 1,500 people, including some plucked from swift water in dramatic rescues. Although there were no deaths or serious injuries reported locally by late Saturday, at least five fatalities were blamed on the weather in Middle Tennessee. And authorities are braced for potentially worse flooding today as a result of the additional 3-6 inches of rain that were expected to fall on the already-saturated region overnight. In addition to the rain, tornadoes were rolling through the area, with funnel clouds reported in West Memphis and Millington shortly before 11 p.m. Interim Shelby County Mayor Joe Ford declared a state of emergency Saturday afternoon, and U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Memphis, called on Gov. Phil Bredesen to make a similar declaration, which would clear the way for federal assistance.

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2010/may/01/thunderstorms-pound-memphis-area/>

### **[Nashville Flooding 'Only Going To Get Worse' \(Tennessean/Upchurch\)](#)**

Flooding that killed at least five people, closed interstates and drove thousands from their homes across the state is expected to worsen today, with another storm system moving in and adding to the 10 inches that fell in some areas Saturday. "It's only going to get worse; we may get as much as 4 to 5 inches more over the next 36 hours," Mayor Karl Dean said Saturday night. "Stay home, get off the road." Saturday's flooding claimed at least one life in Davidson County, one in Williamson, two in Stewart County and one in Carroll County. Closed roads aren't likely to reopen today. State and local officials will be checking and barricading if more roads become impassable. "Don't go around a barricade. If you come to high water, stop," said B.J. Doughty, spokeswoman for the Tennessee Department of Transportation in Nashville. Travel conditions are worsening as major highways close. "The secondary routes could be worse in many locations. We're running out of alternates," Doughty said.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020372>

### **[Downtown Lebanon Under 2 Feet Of Water \(Tennessean/Highland\)](#)**

Flooded tracks strand 550 on excursion train Emergency workers and volunteers worked Saturday to sandbag downtown Lebanon, evacuate about 60 businesses, open shelters, perform multiple water rescues and shuttle 550 stranded excursion train riders from Wilson County back to Nashville. "It's the worst I've seen it in the last 20 years," Lebanon Public Works Commissioner Jeff Baines said. "The creek is full. It can't take anymore." Sinking Creek left downtown Lebanon under about 2 feet of water. Flood waters reached out about a block from the square, Mayor Philip Craighead said. Floodwaters stranded some 550 excursion train riders who were taking a trip from Nashville's Tennessee Central Railway Museum depot to Crossville. The train had to stop in Brush Creek, about 15 miles east of Lebanon, Wilson County Emergency Management Agency Director John Jewell said. Wilson County Schools Director Mike Davis authorized using school buses to shuttle the stranded train passengers back to Nashville.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020369/Downtown+Lebanon+under+2+feet+of+water>

### **[Midstate Flooded: At Least Five Killed \(Daily News Journal\)](#)**

When the rain finally let up Saturday night in Middle Tennessee, at least five lives were lost, countless houses were flooded, hundreds of people were evacuated and cars were left underwater on Interstate 24. One person died when a vehicle was caught in floodwaters on Interstate 24 near Bell Road. A flood death was reported in the Leiper's Fork area and two more were reported in Stewart County. Details of the fifth death were not available. The Highway Patrol closed Interstate 24 in Davidson and Rutherford counties, Interstate 65 at Cool Springs in Williamson County, and several sections of Interstate 40 in Hickman and Dickson counties because of rising waters. Tennessee Department of Transportation cameras showed cars floating down Interstate 24 westbound near Bell Road in Antioch as the concrete median held floodwaters from nearby Mill Creek like a levee.

<http://www.dnj.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020332/1002/Midstate+flooded++At+least+five+killed>

**[Interstates Flooded, Mayor Urges Residents To Stay Home \(WKRN-TV Nashville\)](#)**

Nashville Mayor Karl Dean is urging residents to stay home Saturday amid the worst flooding the city has seen in more than three decades. Many of the area's interstates are underway and impassible. In southeast Davidson County, Interstate 24 west of Bell Road is shut down after nearly a dozen cars got caught in the floodwaters. A Tennessee Department of Transportation camera showed the vehicles' occupants on the other side of the interstate median after being forced from their cars and SUVs. The vehicles in the westbound lanes, heading into Nashville, were literally bobbing up and down in an estimated six feet of water. A portable building from a local school could be seen floating down the interstate. A TDOT camera also showed Interstate 24 east of Briley Parkway underwater. Interstate 24 is closed in Rutherford County near LaVergne, where city leaders have shut down the town due to high waters.

<http://www.wkrn.com/global/story.asp?s=12409921>

**[Flooding Causes Road Closures Across Middle Tennessee \(WTVF-TV Nashville\)](#)**

Heavy rain Saturday has caused severe flooding in areas across the mid-state. Officials are closing roads due to the standing water. All lanes are blocked on Interstate 40 near mile marker 180 in Dickson County. The Tennessee Highway Patrol reports westbound traffic is being diverted to alternate routes. Several cars were caught in the high water on Nolensville Pike near Bunny Drive in Nashville. Traffic was also at a stand still on Interstate 24 at the Bell Road exit around 4:30 p.m. In Franklin officials said they are working numerous wrecks. There are also reports of trees being down and people being trapped in their homes. Police are asking residents to stay at home unless absolutely necessary. Officials also advise if you see standing water in the roadway, do not attempt to cross it.

<http://www.newschannel5.com/global/story.asp?s=12410466>

**[SUBMERGED: Flash Floods Cause Outages, Sink Holes, Road Closings \(Jackson Sun\)](#)**

West Tennessee prepared for tornadoes Saturday, but the dark clouds instead brought constant rain, with up to 11 inches falling in a 13-hour period in Madison County. Flash floods ripped gaping sinkholes in many roads, including Forest Avenue, U.S. 70, McClellan Road and Wallace Road in the Jackson area. The hole on Forest Avenue swallowed a pickup truck, but the driver escaped without serious injury. Bridges and roads flooded so quickly that drivers were trapped in their cars. Rivers and lakes swelled, and levees burst. Campbell Lake in Jackson overflowed its bank onto Campbell Street, and homes downstream flooded, with only the roofs of cars visible in driveways. Levees were breached in the Springbrook area of northeastern Madison County, resulting in evacuations downstream in the Spring Creek community. Emergency workers used boats and trucks to rescue people from rooftops, cars and flooded neighborhoods around Jackson and Madison County. Officials in several other West Tennessee counties reported many major roads flooded and situations where residents had to be evacuated.

<http://www.jacksonsun.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020319/SUBMERGED-Flash-floods-cause-outages-sink-holes-road-closings>

**[Storm: Springbrook Estates Levees Break Loose \(Jackson Sun\)](#)**

Emergency workers waited Saturday night to see if the levee would hold at Blair Lake in Springbrook Lake Estates in east Madison County. If it failed, like two other levees did Saturday in the sprawling subdivision, major flooding was expected near the Spring Creek community, north of Springbrook, said Madison County Sheriff David Woolfork. "If that levee breaks, that's where problems are," he said. Precautionary evacuations near Highway 152, from Law Road to Tige Hopper Road, began about 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. Residents there will be affected if the Blair Lake levee fails. "We sent crews to go door to door," said Madison County Fire Chief Eric Turner. Springbrook Lake Estates has a series of lakes separated by levees. Woolfork, Turner and other emergency workers watched as flood waters from Springbrook Lake washed a 50-foot gap through Lakewood Drive and sent water churning into Blair Lake. Gas lines under Lakewood Drive had to be shut off by the Jackson Energy Authority. The Springbrook Lake levee failed after the Fern Lake levee breached upstream, sending the lake's water rolling into Springbrook Lake. Sunset Lake was also flowing into Springbrook Lake, and the Sunset levee was expected to fail Saturday night.

<http://www.jacksonsun.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020320/1002/Storm--Springbrook-Estates-levees-break-loose>

### **[Official: Estimated 100 Houses Flooded In Brownsville \(Jackson Sun\)](#)**

Brownsville got the worst flooding on Saturday that James Waldrop has seen in his 17 years as an emergency medical technician with the Ambulance Authority of Haywood County. Waldrop, who is also a lieutenant with the Brownsville Fire Department, said an estimated 100 houses flooded. Some people were stranded on top of their cars, and as of 4 p.m., there were seven car accidents with injuries. It started to rain at about 1 a.m. in Brownsville, Waldrop said. By 5:30 a.m., it already had rained 5 inches. "The real bad flooding started around 4 a.m.," he said. A tractor-trailer was stranded in high water near the underpass by Back Yard Bar-Be-Cue. The westbound lanes of Interstate 40 near mile marker 59 were closed because of flooding, and traffic was routed through Brownsville at exit 56. The Sugar Creek Retirement Center on South Dupree Street was evacuated. Residents were sent to Crestview Health Care Center. Waldrop said he went on one call to rescue a woman on Jefferson Street who said she was short of breath and couldn't leave to go to the hospital because water was waist high outside her home.

<http://www.jacksonsun.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020308/1002/Official--Estimated-100-houses-flooded-in-Brownsville>

### **[Regional Storm Roundup \(Jackson Sun\)](#)**

Emergency management officials and law enforcement in The Jackson Sun's coverage area reported many roads flooded Saturday and situations where residents had to be evacuated. A county-by-county assessment is below: Emergency Management Agency Director John Smoot described the county's state as a "mess," with some areas reporting 13 to 15 inches of rain. As of Saturday evening, Smoot estimated that as many as 30 roads had to be closed. Major roads include Tenn. 69 going to Big Sandy; Tenn. 641 heading to Interstate 40; and both sides of Interstate 40. For part of Saturday, businesses around a three-block area of Camden were flooded, and rescue squads had to help some residents out of their homes. There were a large number of rescue efforts for people stranded in water or who had to be evacuated from homes, according to EMA Interim Director Terry Bradshaw. Every avenue leading into the county had been blocked off except Tenn. 22. About 12 to 15 roads in low-lying areas were impassable Saturday afternoon after the county received about 6 inches of rain, said EMA Director Mike Burkhead.

<http://www.jacksonsun.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020310/1002/Regional-storm-roundup>

### **[2 Drown In Stewart Co. As Truck Washes Away \(Leaf Chronicle\)](#)**

Bystander dies after attempting to rescue couple Two Tennessee Ridge residents were swept away and drowned by the raging waters of rain-swollen Hurricane Creek in Stewart County on Saturday morning. Clint Mathis, head of Stewart County Emergency Management Agency, confirmed the deaths. Officials would not confirm the victims' identities, but confirmed both bodies had been found and one had been recovered. Unofficial reports indicate that at approximately 11 a.m., two residents of Upper Alsup Road, a husband and wife became surrounded by high water while driving a Chevrolet Suburban across a low bridge on their property — approximately two miles west of State Route 49 between Tennessee Ridge and Dover. According to accounts, a neighbor saw the couple's predicament and alerted another neighbor, who rushed to the scene to help. The driver of the vehicle tried to throw a rope to the neighbor, who could not quite reach it and was swept away. The driver, his wife and the Suburban also were swept away.

<http://www.theleafchronicle.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/5020323/1002/news01/2-drown-in-Stewart-Co.-as-truck-washes-away>

### **[Flash Flooding Damages Property Throughout Midtown \(WREG-TV Memphis\)](#)**

Neighbors along one street in midtown say when torrents of rain came down Saturday, it formed a river along their street that nearly washed them out. Frustrated homeowners along Angelus Street near Overton Park Avenue in midtown spent the afternoon tracing the line where flash flood waters raced into their homes and wracked their nerves. "It's a lot of water in a short amount of time. Just ten or 15 minutes," says one homeowner whose home had water damage throughout the first floor of her home. Across the street, David Pang says a rush of waist-deep water covered the street and trapped him in his car. He managed to struggle free, but not before realizing how close he came to disaster. He says, "I could have drowned in the vehicle, right in front of the house." "It just shook like an earthquake. We thought the tree behind us came down but you could just see the water change course," says Angela Davidson whose basement is submerged. "Eight inches of concrete wall was gone."

<http://www.wreg.com/news/wreg-midtown-flash-flooding,0,7711582.story?track=rss>

### **[Thousands Evacuated In Millington After Levee Breached \(WMC-TV Memphis\)](#)**

Thousands of people, including patients and prisoners, were evacuated due to flooding from two levee breaches on the south side of Millington. At a mobile home park in the Shady Oaks community of Millington, 200 residents were evacuated because feet of water were pouring into their homes. High water caused problems all over Millington. The Commodore Apartments along Highway 51 filled with water. Police said they started evacuated the complex around 10 a.m. Saturday. Residents who were evacuated sought shelter at the Baker Community Center, which was set up as an emergency shelter after police put out a warning in several neighborhoods. About 2,000 residents at the Naval support activity in Millington were evacuated after the levee breached. Eight additional boats were brought in to help rescue residents in danger. As night fell on Millington, flood waters continued to rise along Bill Knight Road, where levee breaches along Big Creek forced people to abandon their cars for boats.

<http://www.wmctv.com/global/story.asp?s=12410828>

### **[Curfew Enacted in Flood Damaged Millington \(WPTY-TV Memphis\)](#)**

The Tennessee town of Millington, population 10,433, is quickly becoming an island. Emergency officials say water is "compartmentalizing", closing in on all sides of the city after several levee breaks on Saturday, May 1, 2010. As the water continues to rise, and hundreds are forced out of their flooded homes, a dusk-to-dawn curfew has been put into effect. Shelby County Emergency Management Director Bob Nations tells myEyewitnessNews.com that city and county leaders are focusing their efforts in Millington. He describes the situation as "precarious". There were 146 citizens rescued from the Navy base. One homeowner tells us they were evacuated moments before the levee broke and that everything they own, including both cars, was destroyed by the flood waters. A Medical Clinic, located at 2251 Highway 51, is open and staffed with medical personnel to assist citizens with medical problems.

[http://www.myeyewitnessnews.com/news/local/story/Curfew-Enacted-in-Flood-Damaged-Millington/I2INNI\\_9MUeexXb9PFQVIQ.csp?rss=59](http://www.myeyewitnessnews.com/news/local/story/Curfew-Enacted-in-Flood-Damaged-Millington/I2INNI_9MUeexXb9PFQVIQ.csp?rss=59)

## **Other Infrastructure News**

### **[Norfolk Southern raises the roof on 'the Heartland Corridor'](#)**

Their task: to carve a higher clearance in the ceiling of the tunnel, making it big enough to handle rail cars loaded with cargo containers stacked two-high, doubling the railroad's capacity and giving shippers more bang for their buck. It is one of 28 tunnels that form the centerpiece of what Norfolk Southern calls "the Heartland Corridor," a sort of Northwest Passage for double-stack rail traffic between Hampton Roads and the Midwest that will shave 230 miles and about a day of transit time from existing routes.

<http://hamptonroads.com/2010/05/norfolk-southern-raises-roof-heartland-corridor>

### **[Boaters, Businesses Celebrate Jefferson Co. Bridge Reopening \(WBIR-TV Knoxville\)](#)**

After six weeks of repairwork, the Highway 92 Bridge in Dandridge has reopened for the public. The roadway connecting both halves of the Jefferson County town reopened in mid-April. However, being this weekend is one of the first boating weekends of the season, many businesses are celebrating the completion. "(The closing) was horrendous, financially for us," said Dave Rivers from Angelo's Restaurant. "I mean, it probably dropped our business 90-percent." Boaters also felt the pressure. Ernest Ramsey said the closing was a major inconvenience. "We couldn't go to the restaurants; to the grocery stores or the gas stations," Ramsey said. "(It) put us about 30 miles out of our way- one way. So total 60 miles round trip". Angelo's held a party this Saturday in honor of the repairwork. "We're booked with weddings and receptions all summer long. And if they had to do it, it was the best time because it was our slow period," said Rivers.

<http://www.wbir.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=120474&provider=rss>

### **[Billion Dollar Transportation Improvement Plan Announced \(WTVF-TV Nashville\)](#)**

Governor Phil Bredesen announced his 3-year transportation improvement plan. The plan includes widening, repairing and improving some of the areas busiest stretches of interstate. There are 49 projects in the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Middle Tennessee area. They are expected to cost \$1.5 billion, and each project is expected to take anywhere from 18 months to 2 years to complete. Several projects will relieve congestion in Nashville and surrounding areas. They are extending an additional lane on I-440 eastbound from Nolensville Road to the I-24 Interchange (2010/2011), widening I-65 from Trinity Lane to Dickerson Road (2011/2012), widening I-65 in Williamson County from Highway 96 to State Route 248 (Goose Creek Bypass) (2010/2011), widening I-65 from SR-248 to SR-840 and reconstruction of the Goose Creek interchange (2012/2013) and widening SR-374 in Montgomery County from Dunbar Cave Road to SR-13 (U.S. 79) (2012/13).

<http://www.newschannel5.com/Global/story.asp?S=12408003>

### **[Magazine: Tennessee Named No. 3 For Business \(Nashville Business Journal\)](#)**

Tennessee has been named the third best state in the nation for business by Chief Executive magazine. Texas and North Carolina beat out Tennessee, coming in at No. 1 and No. 2, respectively. But the Volunteer State jumped two spots in this year's ranking from No. 5 last year. Chief Executive surveyed 651 CEOs in January for the annual best and worst states survey. They were asked to reflect on their experiences with states in relation to taxation and regulation, quality of work force and living environment. The rankings appear in the May/June issue of the publication. Within each of the three categories they graded the states in five sub-categories. The most important attributes included employee work ethic, lower tax rates, perceived attitudes toward business and living environment considerations such as real estate costs, education, crime rate and public health and hospitals.

<http://nashville.bizjournals.com/nashville/stories/2010/04/26/daily30.html?surround=lfm>

### **[TDOT Cancels I-440 Roadwork For Weather \(Tennessean/Young\)](#)**

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has canceled its plans to close part of I-440 over the weekend due to the forecast of rain. Crews were originally supposed to lay reflective striping on the westbound lanes of the interstate from the I-65 junction to the I-40 junction. Officials said the closure would be rescheduled for a later date. Meteorologists with the National Weather Service in Nashville said heavy rain is moving into the area. One to 2 inches could fall on Middle Tennessee today. A lull is anticipated tonight, and then another round of strong storms will move in Sunday when another 1-2 inches is possible. More storms are expected Monday and Tuesday with possible flash flooding. For more information on construction projects, visit [www.tn.gov/tdot/tdotsmartway/](http://www.tn.gov/tdot/tdotsmartway/). Travelers can also dial 511 from any landline or cellular phone for more details.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100501/NEWS01/5010325/1001/NEWS/TDOT+cancels+I-440+roadwork+for+weather>

### **[I-65 Widening, Goose Creek Intersection Projects On TDOT's 3-Year List \(TN/Walters\)](#)**

State road planners have included widening a portion of Interstate 65 in Williamson County and reconstruction of the Goose Creek Bypass as work they want to occur in the next three years. On Friday, the Tennessee Department of Transportation released its three-year, \$1.5 billion work program for 2010-13. The list of 175 projects will be presented to state legislators for potential funding. The three-tiered program includes projects in various construction phases in 70 counties in Tennessee, the state said. Included in the proposal are 49 highway and bridge projects in TDOT's Region Three, which includes Williamson County. Williamson County's projects include widening I-65 from Highway 96 to the Goose Creek Bypass (State Route 248) in the upcoming fiscal year 2010-11. Work to widen I-65 from the bypass to State Route 840, as well as reconstruction of a new I-65/Goose Creek interchange, would both be slated for 2012-13. Work on the entire widening is estimated to cost more than \$100 million. For a list of projects on the state's three-year list click here.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100430/NEWS03/100430014/1009/NEWS02/I-65+widening++Goose+Creek+intersection+projects+on+TDOT+s+3-year+list>