

Tennessee Infrastructure In The News

August 29, 2008

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

For the full story, click on the link below the excerpt.

Governor announces grant for Town of Unicoi (Valley Beautiful Beacon)

Governor Phil Bredesen announced on Wednesday that the state will provide a Tennessee Roadscapes Grant in the amount of \$35,000 to the Town of Unicoi to assist with improvements to an important gateway into the town from I-26. "The development of well-planned landscaping programs create inviting surroundings that boost local economies and improve the quality of life for citizens," said Bredesen. "It's important to create welcoming places for people to live and work and to build a sense of pride in one's community." The Unicoi Roadscapes project includes developing a landscaped entryway to enhance the natural beauty of the town of Unicoi by planting trees, shrubs and flowers in all four quadrants at Exits 32 and 34 on I-26. The Tennessee Roadscapes initiative was developed in 2006 as a partnership between community organizations across the state and TDOT to create inviting spaces through an integrated approach to roadside landscaping. <http://www.vbbeacon.com/vnews/display.v/ART/2008/08/27/48b46aba53dd9>

Transportation and safety departments make Labor Day road plans (Comm Appeal)

Barring some awful miles-long interstate highway backup behind a traffic accident, motorists should expect smooth moving across Tennessee this Labor Day weekend. State transportation and safety officials are teaming up to keep traffic flowing and the roadways safe. The Tennessee Department of Transportation says there will be no construction-related lane closures on interstate and state highways from noon today through 6 a.m. Tuesday, to provide maximum roadway capacity for travelers. However, workers will still be working in many construction zones. So drivers should obey all posted speed limits, particularly in construction areas and especially because the normal lane closures that give workers buffer zones will be open to traffic. <http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2008/aug/28/transportation-and-safety-departments-make-labor-d/>

Clinton bridge closed by TDOT, city (Oak Ridger)

The city of Clinton Public Works Department has been notified by the Tennessee Department of Transportation that the bridge on Yarnell Road crossing Little Dismal Creek at the Clinton city limit is no longer safe for vehicular traffic. After an inspection by TDOT officials Thursday, the bridge was found to be structurally deficient. Previous annual inspections required a three-ton load limit to be posted, which is the weakest bridge rating. The bridge has been scheduled for replacement during spring 2009, according to a news release from the city. Federal funds will cover 80 percent of the estimated \$450,000 project. Until construction work is complete, the bridge will remain closed. "Road closed" signs are installed at the intersection of East Wolf Valley Road and Yarnell Road, and at the intersection of Lee Road and Yarnell Road. <http://www.oakridger.com/news/x1577092772/Clinton-bridge-closed-by-TDOT-city>

Home can't receive stormwater relief (Tennessean)

Jimmy Davy lives in the Crieve Hall area. He has had long-term problems with stormwater... Stormwater control is an urgent issue in Nashville. A consultant has estimated that the city has

\$200 million in work it needs to do over the next eight years. One suggestion has been to charge the property owner a stormwater fee. Mayor Karl Dean and the Metro Council have not made a decision on water rates or fees.

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080828/COLUMNIST0128/808280406/1008/OPINION01>

Public Meeting Set On Proposed Tennessee River Toll Bridge (Chattanooga.com)

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has set a public meeting for the proposed toll bridge over the Tennessee River near Soddy-Daisy. The hearing on a toll feasibility study will be next Thursday at 6 p.m. at Soddy-Daisy High School – Gymnasium. This is a public meeting hosted by State Rep. Jim Cobb & TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely "to gather local input on the proposed Tennessee River Bridge in northern Hamilton County." Officials said, "If constructed this project would provide an additional north-south route between two areas in Northern Hamilton County via a bridge over the Tennessee River."

http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_134084.asp

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