

Tennessee Infrastructure In The News

November 4, 2008

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

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

\$500,000 sewer grant received (Sparta Expositor)

City of Sparta is the recipient of a half-million-dollar grant from Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development that will be used for sewer rehab. According to Sparta Mayor Tommy Pedigo, this money can be applied for every other year. City of Sparta signed a "commissioner's order" a few years ago that committed the city to spend its CDBG money for the next 10 years on refurbishing its sewer system. During a December 2007 meeting, Public Works Director Ross Fan reported on the "Basin 5" sewer rehab project, which included South Oak Street, Highland Drive, Dale's Place, Cooper Street, Windsor Drive and the Camp Heights area. The "Basin 6" project was approved during that same meeting and included South Carter, Katz, Knowles and Templeton streets. "Community development is impossible without teamwork, said State Senator Charlotte Burks, " and this award is evidence that Sparta understands that need for cooperation."

<http://www.spartaexpositor.com/articles/2008/11/03/news/doc490f1462c39d3559613511.txt>

Grant revives Harriman center efforts (Knoxville News-Sentinel/Fowler)

State funds help save downtown icon of 1930s Harriman officials Monday said they've received a huge boost from the state in their efforts to renovate and revitalize a stately downtown icon. The \$317,846 transportation enhancement grant will be used to upgrade the Princess Theater on Roane Street. That 900-seat theater with its colorful Art Deco exterior saw its heyday in the 1930s and '40s and screened its last flick in 1999. Harriman officials have been working to reopen the building as a seven-county hub for cultural and educational events and as the studios for a new public access television station. "This is definitely making it a reality instead of just a vision," Harriman Mayor Chris Mason said Monday. "We're just so floored we got the money." Mason said the grant represents "a big chunk of our goal" of \$1.9 million needed for the upgrade. He said it will jump start local fundraising efforts and help secure other grants.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/nov/04/grant-revives-harriman-center-efforts/>

-Opinion -

Commissioner Nicely: Expanding Transit In Tennessee

Public transportation in Tennessee is an important piece of our transportation network and plays a significant role in the state's economic health. Surging gas prices, traffic gridlock, and environmental concerns are encouraging more and more people to look to transit as an affordable, reliable means of travel. Public Transit helps reduce roadway congestion allowing both commuters and freight to travel through our state more efficiently. What's more, the Federal Transit Administration estimates transit saves the nation almost 4 million gallons of gasoline a day. It also provides Tennesseans with transportation to jobs, schools, medical appointments and

community activities and allows seniors and people with disabilities to remain independent.
http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_138296.asp

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