

Tennessee Infrastructure In The News

November 10, 2009

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.

[Is Your Safety Being Censored? \(WSMV-TV Nashville\)](#)

I-Team Investigates State Bridge Inspections Tennessee has some bragging rights when it comes to bridges. It's one of four states in the country with a perfect record for inspecting them on time. It's No. 1 when it comes to spending every available dollar on upkeep and repair. "We really pride ourselves on trying to make sure the people of Tennessee don't have to really think about bridges when they drive over them, because there's confidence that the condition of them is always the best it can be," said Paul Degges, Tennessee Department of Transportation chief engineer. But glowing records are only as solid as the record keepers. Some of the state's bridge inspectors, with decades of experience, are raising questions about the integrity of their own work.

<http://www.wsmv.com/news/21561371/detail.html>

[Part Of I-81 To Close For Emergency Repairs \(Knoxville News-Sentinel\)](#)

A portion of Interstate 81 in Greene County, already carrying detoured traffic because of a North Carolina rock slide, soon will be closed for emergency repairs. Repairs will be performed on the northbound and southbound overpasses at Exit 23, where I-81 crosses over U.S. Highway 11E. Officials with the Tennessee Department of Transportation have scheduled a press conference for 10 a.m. today to explain the closure and where traffic will be diverted, said Travis Brickey, regional spokesman for TDOT. Both overpasses have been undergoing rehabilitation through a \$1.2 million contract. Work on that contract began in the summer. That work is slated to be finished in June 2010. The rehabilitation work included painting the overpasses and repairing any worn concrete areas on the deck. The portion of I-81 in Greene County slated for closure carries about 30,000 vehicles a day, according to 2008 TDOT traffic counts.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2009/nov/10/part-of-i-81-to-close-for-emergency-repairs/>

[Consolidated Utility Reaches Highest Rating \(Murfreesboro Post\)](#)

For the first time in its 40-year plus history, the Consolidated Utility District (CUDRC) has achieved a AAA/Stable rating from the Standard & Poor's rating service, the highest rating available to public entities. Standard & Poor's, in a credit profile on Consolidated Utility, cited several reasons for bestowing its AAA/Stable rating, including CUDRC's "strong senior-lien and total annual debt service coverage, its strong liquidity position, its low debt burden and its economically strong service area."

<http://www.murfreesboropost.com/consolidated-utility-reaches-highest-rating-cms-20316>

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