

Tennessee Infrastructure In The News

March 10, 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.

[Transit Group Selects TDOT Official As Leader \(Tennessean/Rau\)](#)

Nashville's mayor lauds the selection of a private alliance pushing for a significant overhaul of mass transit in Middle Tennessee announced Tuesday that it has hired Ed Cole, TDOT's environment and planning chief since 2003, to head its efforts. The move signals a new level of commitment by the group, Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee, to urge Metro and surrounding communities to explore ways to pay for a multi-billion-dollar public transportation project to rival those in places such as Austin, Texas; Charlotte, N.C.; and Denver. Cole will join the Transit Alliance on April 15 and immediately begin the job of public advocate for growing mass transit in Nashville and its neighboring counties. Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, who said last month the cost of expanding the region's mass transportation system would be "scary," applauded the decision to hire Cole. "Ed Cole is the right person to head the Transit Alliance," Dean said. "He has credibility throughout Middle Tennessee as an expert on transportation issues. He will be an invaluable asset as we begin the public education process about the need for regional mass transit."

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100310/NEWS0201/3100349/1001/NEWS/Transit+group+selects+TDOT+official+as+leader>

[TDOT's Ed Cole To Helm Transit Alliance, Lead Push For Mass Transit \(Nashville Business Journal\)](#)

...has been named executive director of the [Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee](#). The alliance was created by a regional caucus of mayors last year to help build private sector support behind efforts to develop and fund a [transit system in Middle Tennessee](#). The group of private businesspeople will help pinpoint a dedicated funding source for transportation, and then help sell the idea to the broader public.

<http://nashville.bizjournals.com/nashville/stories/2010/03/08/daily14.html>

[Bypass Subcontractor To Be Replaced \(Times-Gazette\)](#)

A grading subcontractor on the Shelbyville bypass, State Route 437, has gone out of business, but a new contractor should be lined up soon and state transportation officials say the change will have no impact on the completion date for the bypass. Callers to the Times-Gazette reported that work on the bypass, which connects U.S. 231 north of Shelbyville to U.S. 41-A east of Shelbyville, stopped suddenly about a week ago and equipment had been removed. B.J. Doughty of Tennessee Department of Transportation said that Thomas & Associates, a subcontractor for primary contractor Wright Paving Contractors Inc. of Fayetteville, has gone out of business. She said Wright Paving should have a new subcontractor lined up "in the next week or so" and the change should have no impact whatsoever on the project's completion date. Doughty said the subcontractor was employed by Wright Paving, not the state.

<http://www.t-g.com/story/1616834.html>

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