

Tennessee Infrastructure In The News

March 11, 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.

[TDOT To Use ARRA Funds For More Intercity Bus Service Options \(Biz Clarksville\)](#)

The Tennessee Department of Transportation, TDOT, will use federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to provide rural residents with better access to daily public transit. Vice President Joe Biden announced federal approval of TDOT's plan to use \$3.1 million in Recovery Act funds to expand direct intercity bus routes on Friday, March 5. The funds will be used by existing intercity bus carriers to purchase 23 buses, security equipment, support vehicles, computers, intelligent transportation system software, for ADA enhancements to vehicles and preventive maintenance. TDOT announced the first intercity bus routes in the state in March 2009. The program provides fixed route public transportation services between rural areas and the state's urban centers. "The intercity bus program provides Tennesseans in rural areas with reliable daily access to health care, jobs, schools and other services in the state's urban centers," said Governor Phil Bredesen.

<http://businessclarksville.com/2010/03/10/tdot-to-use-arra-funds-for-more-intercity-bus-service-options/>

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

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.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100310/NEWS0201/3100349/1009/NEWS02>

[TDOT Official Selected As Leader Of Transit Group \(Associated Press\)](#)

Tennessee Department of Transportation official has been selected to lead a group that's been pushing for an overhaul of mass transit in Middle Tennessee. The Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee announced Tuesday that Ed Cole, TDOT's environment and planning chief, will lead the group. Cole will join the group April 15 and will advocate expanding mass transit in Nashville and the surrounding counties. Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, who last month said the cost of expanding the region's mass transit system would be "scary," applauded the decision to hire Cole and said he's the right person to head the group.

<http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=tennessean&sParam=32993087.story>

[Repair Work Stopped On Critical Phase Of Wolf Creek Dam \(City Paper\)](#)

Major rehabilitation work on a critical area of Wolf Creek Dam was halted Wednesday after monitors reported increased pressure in areas adjacent to the work site. The area of the dam in question, referred to as Critical Area 1, is the portion of the dam where the earthen embankment ties into the concrete section. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been keeping a close eye on the 1950s-era dam since officials noticed increased seepage at the Kentucky dam in the early 2000s. In 2006, the Corps launched a massive \$584 million rehabilitation plan to install a 4,400-foot long, 275-foot deep concrete barrier wall. The suspension affects only 600 feet of the wall. "As a precautionary measure, we have suspended construction in Critical Area 1 while we evaluate the most recent monitoring and instrumentation data," said Barney Davis, chief of engineering and construction division for the Nashville district of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

<http://nashvillecitypaper.com/content/city-news/repair-work-stopped-critical-phase-wolf-creek-dam>

[Work Halts on Shaky Wolf Creek Dam \(WPLN-Radio Nashville\)](#)

Construction work on the most vulnerable part of Wolf Creek Dam has been suspended because of slight movement in the structure. Kentucky's Wolf Creek Dam is upstream from Nashville on the Cumberland River. The leakiest part is where the earthen embankment meets the concrete structure. The Corps of Engineers is pumping grout into underground cracks and caves created by seepage from Lake Cumberland. Project manager David Hendrix says a system of monitors warned of slight shifting underground. "We want to make sure that what we're doing is not 1. causing the problem or 2. exacerbating the problem." Hendrix says it will take four to six weeks to figure out what caused the movement, but he says the suspension of work should not be cause for alarm. "We're not at an imminent failure situation. It's precautionary and we're going to take some time to evaluate all the information that we have."

<http://wpln.org/?p=15663>

[Corps Partially Suspends Work On Wolf Creek Dam \(WKRN-TV Nashville\)](#)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Wednesday announced the partial suspension of work on the Wolf Creek Dam in Kentucky. The dam, located on Lake Cumberland, was deemed "high-risk" by the Corps and a breach would be catastrophe, flooding towns and neighborhoods along the Cumberland River, including areas in both Hendersonville and Nashville. Work was suspended on Critical Area I, or the portion of the dam that has been a major source of seepage in the past after an instrument indicated movement in the dam's foundation and increased pressure. The suspension is a precautionary measure and only affects 600 feet of the 4,400-foot long, 275-foot deep concrete barrier wall. The Corps said repairs are continuing on other areas of the dam. The work is part of the \$584 million Wolf Creek Dam rehabilitation project, which began in 2008.

<http://www.wkrn.com/global/story.asp?s=12117900>

[Wolf Creek Dam Repairs Suspended \(WSMV-TV Nashville\)](#)

Foundation Movement Causes Concern Repair work is being temporarily suspended along a section of the Wolf Creek Dam in Jamestown, Ky. The Corps is strengthening the dam, which is leaking. Contractors are injecting grout into the holes in the limestone foundation and building a new concrete barrier wall. The Corps announced Wednesday it has partially suspended repair work because several monitoring instruments have picked up movement in the foundation and increased hydrostatic pressure. The movement was recorded in the area around a cave where grout was being injected. Wolf Creek Dam's Project Manager David Hendrix said, "It doesn't make sense to go forward blind, we just had to step back and take a look at it."

<http://www.wsmv.com/news/22804117/detail.html>

[More Leaks Discovered In Sewage Lagoon \(The Daily Herald\)](#)

Despite spending millions of dollars on a wastewater lagoon system, city officials are having to allow treated wastewater to overflow onto wetlands to avoid "catastrophic failure." The procedure violates the city's permit with the state. The \$8 million unfinished lagoon system, which has been under construction since 2007, has already been found to be leaking sewage.

http://www.c-dh.net/articles/2010/03/10/top_stories/01sewagelagoon.txt

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