

July 5, 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.

[An Impressive Vehicle \(Nashville Post/Lawley\)](#)

A key cog in Middle Tennessee's economic engine, Nashville International Airport is pouring millions into upgrades. The Nashville International Airport wraps up a renovation project and adds a couple of new flights. Economic development officials announce a corporate relocation or expansion, bringing hundreds of jobs to Middle Tennessee. Yes, these things are related. More than just the gateway to summer vacation or out-of-state relatives, the airport has an important role in the region's ability to attract and retain the businesses that create jobs for Middle Tennesseans. "If we didn't have an adequate airport, and if we had terrible air service, Nashville would not be doing as well as it is in the economic development business," said Raul Regalado, president and CEO of the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority. "What's happening in the downtown and in surrounding areas is dependent on what's going on at the airport," he said..

http://www.nashvillepost.com/news/2010/7/6/an_impressive_vehicle

[Northeast Henry County Utility gets grants and loans aimed at improving water system \(The Paris Post-Intelligencer\)](#)

The citizens of northeastern Henry County will have better access to clean drinking water because of some recently-awarded federal funding. The Northeast Henry County Utility District was awarded \$3.3 million in federal funding during a ceremony Thursday afternoon at the district office on Rice Lane in the Antioch area. The funding includes a \$2.4 million low-interest infrastructure loan, and \$952,800 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development branch.

http://www.parispi.net/articles/2010/07/02/news/local_news/doc4c2e11aec1feb996787228.txt

Opinion

[Gerald Nicely: Clearing Congestion \(Chattanooga\)](#)

Nothing is more frustrating than inching along a congested highway. Now in the final year of Governor Bredesen's administration, TDOT is including a number of major improvements designed to alleviate some of the worst tie-ups in the state in the 2010-2013 three year multimodal transportation program. The department has undertaken a series of "corridor studies" to determine the best mix of initiatives to relieve congestion. Studies have been completed for the I-40, I-81 and -75 corridors, and similar studies will be conducted for the I-65 and I-24 corridors. One of TDOT's key components in combating congestion is the SmartWay system of traffic cameras and HELP trucks. With systems in place in Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis, we will officially launch a new SmartWay Traffic Management Center in Chattanooga later this year. The Nashville SmartWay system, now seven years old, is undergoing an upgrade to be completed this year. Camera feeds to the facility are being switched to faster fiber optic lines and more traffic cameras are being added.

http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_179133.asp

###