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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.

[Fed, State Money To Cover Most Nashville Flood Tab \(Associated Press\)](#)

Local taxpayers in Nashville will largely be off the hook for the costs of repairing public facilities damaged by severe flooding in May. The Tennessean quoted Metro Nashville Finance Director Rich Riebeling, who said the estimated cost of fixing public works after the flood is about \$250 million. Riebeling said all but about \$5 million will be reimbursed by the federal and state government and a \$100 million city insurance policy. "I don't think the ultimate impact will be much," Riebeling said. "It's not an insignificant amount, but if we do everything right, it won't be an extensive impact to us." Between federal and state funding, the city usually is reimbursed for 87.5 percent of disaster-related costs. Riebeling's department lists 75 projects that will repair an estimated \$32.3 million in flood damage. Just four buildings account for more than half of those costs LP Field, Bridgestone Arena, the Juvenile Justice Center and the Douglas Head Start center.

<http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=tennessean&sParam=33979861.story>

[Nashville Area Waits To Hear How Much Corps Will Give For Flood Repairs \(TN/Paine\)](#)

Cumberland damages exceed \$50M The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has estimated flooding damage at \$50 million to \$60 million at its dams and recreation areas up and down the Cumberland River system. The annual budget of the Nashville Corps office that oversees the Cumberland River system doesn't include emergency funds, but an appropriations bill pending in Congress includes up to \$200 million for Corps repairs after natural disasters. How much of that would go to the Nashville office to repair Middle Tennessee Corps facilities will be up to the Corps headquarters in Washington, D.C., where officials have declined to answer specific questions about potential funding. "The Corps does not comment on pending or proposed legislation," said Gene Pawlik, a spokesman for the Corps headquarters. Torrents of water tore out light poles, guardrails and campsites, and smashed Corps equipment during the unprecedented rainfalls in early May.

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100707/NEWS01/7070362/Nashville+area+waits+to+hear+how+much+Corps+will+give+for+flood+repairs>

[Cleveland Airport Price Tag Estimated At \\$42 Million \(Times Free-Press/Higgins\)](#)

The price tag for Cleveland's new airport could be about \$42 million, mostly from federal and state sources, officials said. "That assumes some things at the end that we may, or may not, be able to afford," Cleveland Airport Authority Chairwoman Lynn DeVault said. Wright Brothers Construction and others are working through the summer heat to reroute a creek and part of Tasso Road to make way for the general aviation airport. As the massive project becomes more visible to the public, City Councilman George Poe said he is being asked again just how much this costs and what part of it is local money. "Some people understand. But I still get a lot of questions," Mr. Poe said. The estimate is \$42.1 million, according to Ms. DeVault. About \$16.2 million is expected to come from the Federal Aviation Administration and about \$14.5 million from the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission of the Tennessee Department of Transportation, she said.

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2010/jul/07/cleveland-airport-price-tag-estimated-at-42/>

Opinion**[Editorial: Infrastructure Repairs Timely For State's Tourism \(Knoxville News-Sentinel\)](#)**

If the roads and bridges built a couple of generations ago are to last for a couple of generations into the future, repairs to the nation's infrastructure are important now and in the coming decades. Two recent announcements shine as examples. Last month, Tennessee Department of Transportation Commissioner Gerald Nicely said that bids will go out in December for a \$58 million bridge over the Tennessee River near Fort Loudoun Dam. Construction on the project could begin as early as spring 2011. The new span will replace the current two-lane bridge running along the top of the dam. The new bridge a few hundred yards down the river from the dam will have four lanes. The current bridge is 50 years old, and building a new bridge has been a priority for at least the past decade, said Lenoir City Mayor Matt Brookshire.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/jul/07/infrastructure-repairs-timely-for-states-tourism/>

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