

July 26, 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.

**[Board Ready To Move On Intersection Work \(Johnson City Press\)](#)**

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is preparing to move forward with a project expected to increase safety at a busy Unicoi intersection. Monday evening, the Unicoi Board of Mayor and Aldermen will look to approve a resolution to support the planned TDOT project that will see the widening of the intersection at Marbleton Road and Unicoi Drive. Town Recorder Larry Rea said once the project is complete the intersection, which now intersects at a 45-degree angle, would be straightened to intersect at a 90-degree angle. "They would widen the road to make it easier for people to get in and out, especially trucks," he said. Previously, Unicoi officials said the intersection makes for a difficult turn for those turning left onto and right off Marbleton Road, particularly for trucks heading to the Jones & Church Farms packing plant on Marbleton Road.  
<http://www.johnsoncitypress.com/News/article.php?ID=79225>

**Opinion**

**[Flood Hearing Helpful \(Leaf Chronicle\)](#)**

On the heels of last week's Senate hearing on the way in which the Army Corps of Engineers handled the May flooding in Tennessee, Sen. Lamar Alexander said more such hearings may be coming. That's a good idea. This hearing before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development produced apologies from the Corps and the National Weather Service on the way that flood warnings were handled and promises that a better warning system would be established. Alexander said that, among other things, he would like more specific information on how an early flood warning system could be put into place that would be on par in sophistication with the tornado warning system. At this first hearing, a representative from the National Weather Service said it already was collaborating with federal agencies to find ways to better forecast flooding and create visual models of how a rising river could impact nearby neighborhoods.  
<http://www.theleafchronicle.com/article/20100725/OPINION01/7250310/1014/OPINION>

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