

ETDD Newsletter

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The Infrastructure Development and Replacement Dilemma – How Do We Pay for It All?

The Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) has recently released the latest edition of their comprehensive statewide infrastructure needs inventory report. The report can be accessed on TACIR's website at www.tn.gov/tacir. TACIR has been engaged in the compilation of an infrastructure needs report since enabling legislation was passed in 1996. The report is based on information gathered from local officials by development district staff, information gleaned from the annual state capital budget and project data provided by the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The report is based upon a five year need horizon and includes only those projects that are valued at \$50,000 or more. The report has been an extremely useful tool within the long range planning process at the state level and has provided the General Assembly with annual status benchmarks within infrastructure categories so that efficient and effective funding decisions can be rendered. At the local level, the report has assisted local leaders with the prioritization of capital improvement projects and has focused attention on the need to integrate long-term infrastructure development with the annual budget process.

According to the latest report, the estimated value of all infrastructure improvements that need to be completed between 2014 and 2019 is \$41.5 billion. This represents a small percentage decrease from last year's total, due primarily to a decrease in the estimated cost of road projects that are already in the inventory. The report divides infrastructure needs into six categories – Transportation and Utilities; Education; Health, Safety and Welfare; Recreation and Culture; General Government; and Economic Development.

Transportation and Utilities has always been the single largest infrastructure category in the inventory and it remains so despite a decrease of \$611 million (2.4%) from last year to \$25.4 billion. Comprising 60.7% of estimated costs for all infrastructure improvements, transportation alone dwarfs all other types of infrastructure needs.

Education is the second largest category and increased \$204 million (2.4%) to \$8.5 billion, mainly because of a \$218 million (10.5%) increase in the amount needed to renovate or replace existing public school buildings. Asked about the overall condition of their school buildings, public school officials reported that 91.6% are in good or better condition.

Health, Safety, and Welfare, the third largest category in the inventory, increased by \$265 million (5.6%) to \$5.0 billion. This increase resulted primarily from increases in the need for improved water and wastewater, as well as infrastructure needed for stormwater improvements.

The Recreation and Culture category decreased overall by \$119million (7.0%) to \$1.6 billion because of decreases in all three types of infrastructure in this category but mainly because of community development projects that were completed, which reduced the total for that type of infrastructure by \$79 million (29.5%) to \$190 million.

The estimated cost of General Government infrastructure improvements decreased by \$56 million (8.4%) to \$614 million. This category includes only two types of infrastructure: public buildings and other facilities.

The estimated cost of infrastructure improvements in the Economic Development category—the smallest category this year— increased by \$19 million (5.3%) since the last inventory and now totals \$379 million.

Good stewards of resources leave as least as much to the next generation as was left to them by the previous generation. Will we answer the challenge?

(Source: TACIR Building Tennessee's Tomorrow: Anticipating the State's Infrastructure Needs)

ETDD BOARD HOLDS 50TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The East Tennessee Development District held its 50th Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, July 14th, 2016 at the Museum of Appalachia in Norris. The banquet was attended by ETDD staff and more than 100 local officials and guests.



Robert Martineau, Jr., Commissioner of the TN Department of Environment & Conservation provided keynote comments at the Banquet



Terry Bobrowski, Director of ETDD, presented Hamblen County Mayor Bill Brittain with a plaque for appreciation of his service

Each year ETDD recognizes local governments, other agencies and individuals for special contributions to regional development. At the 2016 banquet, sixteen awards were presented to recognize significant projects in the region. Each honoree received a plaque that commemorates their particular achievement. Projects recognized at the Awards Banquet were:

1. The City of Rocky Top for the renovation of the Bank Street Water Tank
2. Campbell and Claiborne County for the completion of the Rebuild and Recover Disaster Response Housing Program
3. Claiborne County for the completion of the Midway Area Water Line Extension
4. Cocke County for the completion of the Grassy Fork Elementary School Water Line Extension Project
5. The Town of Bean Station for the development of the new Bean Station History Museum
6. The City of Luttrell for the completion of the New Luttrell City Hall
7. The Morristown Crossroads Downtown Partnership for the listing of the Morristown Commercial District on the National Register of Historic Places
8. The City of Jefferson City for the development of the new Jefferson City Public Library facility
9. The Town of White Pine in recognition of their Centennial Celebration
10. The Loudon Utilities Board for the development of electrical infrastructure to serve the new Del Conca production facility
11. The City of Madisonville for the completion of Phase Five of their wastewater system improvements program
12. Morgan County and the Cumberland Utility District for the completion of the Brushy Mountain Water Line Renovation Project
13. Roane County for the completion of the South Pine Ridge Road Sewer Line Extension Project
14. The City of Pigeon Forge for the development of the Ripken Experience baseball complex
15. Sevier Solid Waste, Inc. for the development of a new Recycling Hub
16. Union County for the completion of the Southwest Area Water Line Extension Project

ETDD extends a special congratulation to all of these communities for their outstanding achievements.



Cocke County Mayor Crystal Ottinger accepts the award for the Grassy Fork Elementary School Water Line Extension Project at the Awards Banquet



Jefferson City Manager John B. Johnson and Library Director Anjanae Brueland accepting the award for the new Jefferson City Public Library

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

During the last quarter a FastTrack Infrastructure Development (FIDP) grant was submitted for HAVCO Wood Products located in the Niles Ferry Industrial Park in Monroe County. HAVCO manufactures wood and laminate flooring and is a leader in the industry. The FIDP grant provided by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development will partially fund site improvements for the HAVCO expansion.

PINI (TACIR) SURVEY

The PINI survey is complete for the year 2015. All projects have been entered into the Internet Web based system and have gone through a bi-level quality control system. It will soon be time to kick off the new survey for the year 2016. ETDD will start mailing out the education's survey forms in early September. The collection for the General database and TDOT's projects will begin around January 2017. After all the surveys have been collected, the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) publishes a lengthy summary that details infrastructure needs for all of Tennessee. The report is presented to the governor and state legislators for use as a planning tool and a funding decision-making tool.

GRANT INFORMATION

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

The State of Tennessee held workshops in each grand division to talk about the upcoming Community Development Block Grants for the 2017 year. We would like to thank the Town of Farragut for being a gracious host for the East Tennessee Region. This is the first year that the State had done this in each grand division and with over 150 attendees at all of the meetings have deemed this a success and will probably look at doing the grand divisions meetings in the future rather than one meeting in Nashville. To find the power point presentation of the meeting go to www.tn.gov/ecd/section/cdbg.

The level of funding is determined annually through congressional appropriations. Each state receives a projected allocation of CDBG funds, based on a federal formula and does not compete with other states for funding allocations. Tennessee typically receives about \$24M per year. 80-85% of the funds are used for water and sewer projects, approximately 10% is used for community

livability project, and about 5% for housing rehabilitation. Economic development projects are funded as eligible applications are received.

ETDD staff is currently working with the following ETDD communities:

1. Monroe County – Waterline
2. Sweetwater – Downtown Façade Improvements
3. New Tazewell – Housing
4. Tazewell Housing – Housing
5. Dandridge – Wastewater Rehab
6. Rockwood – Housing
7. Vonore – Fire Equipment
8. Scott County – Wastewater Rehab
9. Campbell County – Fire Equipment
10. Jefferson County – Waterline Extension
11. Clinton – Housing
12. Norris – Wastewater Rehab
13. Claiborne County – Road Improvements
14. Cocke County – Waterline Extension
15. Morgan County – Waterline Extension
16. Anderson County – Waterline Extension

It is never too late to start thinking about the upcoming CDBG applications and what your community wants to apply for. Reminder that you are allowed only one open grant under this program, so if you have an existing grant open that could be closed out by February 2017, stay on top of your administrator and engineer to get the project closed out.

The following dates require items to be accomplished in order to make applications for 2017.

- Public Hearings – Complete by January 24, 2017
- Final Change Order – submitted to State by January 27, 2017
- Final Request for Payment – submitted to State by February 3, 2017
- Closeout of previous CDBG project – February 10, 2017
- TDEC Priority List Letters – due January 20, 2017
- Application deadline – February 24, 2017

There are five categories that you can make an application in and they are:

1. Water line extensions
2. Water line plant improvements and waterline collection system improvements.
3. Wastewater line plant improvements and wastewater collection system improvements.

4. Community livability that includes fire trucks, ambulances, drainage, etc.
5. Housing

There is a match for all of these categories except housing. ETDD staff can let you know what your match will be.

Tennessee Main Street and Tennessee Downtowns Community Development Block Grant Façade Improvement Grant (FIG)

Tennessee Main Street communities and communities that have participated in the Tennessee Downtowns program in Rounds 1-4 and have an active Design Committee are eligible for a grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) for commercial façade improvements. Approximately five grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded to organizations that can illustrate the need for a façade program and the ability to execute a solid design plan for the façade improvements. Applications were due on August 26, 2016. ETDD assisted the City of Sevierville in applying for a \$100,000 grant for improvements in the Bruce Street and Court Street area of their downtown.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

There will be an upcoming application workshop for anyone interested that will take place on November 2, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. EST at the MKAA Training Center, 2950 Airfield Service Drive, Alcoa, TN. We anticipate the upcoming pre-applications for the 2017 ARC round to be due in January 2017. If you have a project that can promote economic development, please contact ETDD staff so that we can talk about the project and begin putting the application together.

FEMA Firefighters Grant Program

One issue the local fire departments need to be made aware of is that no monies will be awarded unless you are registered with the SAM.GOV Federal program.

The Assistance to Firefighter Grant has announced that October 11, 2016 will be the opening of the grant with a deadline of November 18, 2016. No physical meeting times have been set in the East Tennessee Region, but there are a couple of webinars that have been set for October 3 & 5. You will have to go onto their website to get the PIN# to use for the webinar or call ETDD staff and we can help. The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA) for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

Recreation

Congratulations to the following ETDD staff assisted communities on the awarding of a Local Park Recreation grant: 1. Sweetwater – improvements to Engleman Park; 2. Morristown – multiple park improvements; and 3. Pittman Center – city hall park improvements.

A total amount of \$2,760,700 were awarded in the East Tennessee area with \$15.8 million award across the State.

TDOT Grants

The State has just announced the Transportation Alternative Program application process that opened on July 1 and will close on October 3. The areas of interest that applications can be made are the following:

- Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
- Safe Routs for Non-Drivers
- Conversion of Abandoned Railway Corridors to Trails
- Scenic Turnouts and Overlooks
- Outdoor Advertising Management
- Historic Preservation & Rehab of Historic Transportation Facilities
- Vegetation Management
- Archaeological Activities
- Stormwater Mitigation
- Wildfire Management.

The grant is an 80 -20 grant for construction only with all preliminary costs being paid by the community, including any engineering fees.

Energy Grant

Congratulations to ETDD assisted Anderson County and the City of Rockwood on receiving their Clean Tennessee Energy Grant LED/HVAC in government buildings. A total amount of \$32,297.50 was awarded with a 50% match for a grand total of \$64,595.00.

Police Grants

Please note that you can go online at www.grants.gov to find out about different grants available. The site has a list of 26 federal grant making agencies. Also, please get in the habit

to frequent our website at www.ETDD.org to receive updates on grants and other important information and deadlines.

SOLID WASTE

ETDD staff attended the State workshop for upcoming grant applications for recycling equipment and used oil grant.

Recycling Equipment Grant

The Recycling Equipment grant is funded by revenues derived from a fee for Class I waste disposal that is accessed by the State. The grant does involve a match from the community that ranges from 10% to 50% depending on economic factors. The grant can be used for any recycling equipment that is deemed needed by the community and is shown in the annual progress report as a need. The total amount of the grant application can be \$50,000.

Used Oil Grant

Used oil grants are authorized under the Used Oil Collection Act of 1993 and are funded by the Used Oil Collection Fund, which receives its revenues from a two cent (\$.02) fee collected against every quart of oil sold. The grant is a 100% grant and can be used for used oil burners, tanks, pads, canopies or any other items that are needed to operate the used oil collection system.

Needs Assessment

ETDD staff has started needs assessments for Monroe, Loudon, Union and Jefferson counties for FY 2016/2017 year.

HOUSING

ETDD received an allocation from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) for the Emergency Repair Program on July 1, 2016. This allocation will be used to address repairs for houses across the 16-county region. The program provides grants for home repairs in households where the applicant is at least 60 years of age and who meets ownership and income requirements. One new detail of the 2016 program is that the age requirement will be waived for disabled residents so that additional clients in need of repairs can be assisted. ETDD works with local non-profits and organizations who coordinate construction activities and qualify the homeowners. THDA expects a 50% match for the grant funds used for emergency repairs. The program has provided a great deal of assistance in our area, but there

is an ongoing need to locate funding that will assist low-income homeowners with housing repairs. ETDD maintains a list of local housing partners and assistance programs that can be accessed through the Housing page of our website, or by contacting us directly with specific needs.

ETDD housing staff is available to discuss housing needs and community housing grant applications. We can also provide information on local and regional housing service providers, agencies and alternate programs that can assist individuals in need of housing repair. For more information on these programs, contact Lindsay Crockett at (865) 273-6003.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Located in Oak Ridge, the Alexander Inn is a two-story hotel constructed to accommodate visiting dignitaries during the Manhattan Project effort to produce the atomic bomb. The Inn was closed in the early 1990s, and sat empty and decaying for many years. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. With assistance from the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance and Knox Heritage, Rick Dover of Dover Development undertook a \$7.5 million project to restore and rehabilitate the building. The Alexander Inn now serves as an assisted living facility, and Dover worked hard to preserve the building's original character. Dover Development, ETPA, Knox Heritage, and the Department of Energy were awarded the prestigious Chairman's Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation by the national Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in July. The Alexander Inn project clearly represents the benefits of collaboration, attention to detail, and adaptive re-use of historic buildings.

Mark your calendars for the Preservation Power Summit on November 4, 2016. This one-day event is hosted by the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance and will be held in Morristown at the historic Rose Center. Attendees will benefit from education sessions based on proven historic preservation applications, heritage tourism, and downtown revitalization. Historic site tours will visit Crockett Tavern, General Longstreet's Headquarters, and Bethesda Church, and the event will end with an awards reception at historic Arrow Hill. More information and registration is available at <http://knoxheritage.org/etpa/conference>.

ETDD works with a variety of local and regional preservation groups and advocates that can assist with NRHP nominations, preservation grant applications, and tax incentives. ETDD's preservation staff also has experience surveying and identifying mid-twentieth-century architectural resources. Please contact Lindsay Crockett

with ETDD for preservation-related assistance and technical guidance.

PLANNING ADVISORY SERVICE

The planning advisory services program has now been up and running for five years at the East Tennessee Development District. In fact, since the program was launched, the planning advisory service has increased its contract load to thirty-two (32) cities and counties in the East Tennessee Region. The program was established to assist cities and counties with growth and development issues at the local and regional levels by providing technical advisory services to local governments. There are a broad array of planning services offered under seven different primary program components. Daily services typically consist of a variety of activities that include site plan and subdivision plat review; advising local officials, developers, and the general public on community processes; staffing local planning commission meetings and other meetings, and making recommendations on agenda items. In addition, ETDD offers planning commissioner training on a regular basis; either coordinating training with other agencies or conducting the training sessions. Lastly, planning staff coordinates with other agencies and planning organization to foster cooperation for a regional planning approach in East Tennessee.

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

At the request of the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the RPO Coordinators across the state are assisting TDOT in determining which counties and municipalities have appointed American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinators and prepared an ADA Transition Plan.

Title II of the ADA Act requires all public entities to comply with applicable provisions of the Act. Public agencies under the act include any State or local government, as well as any department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality of a State or local government. Under Section 504, any recipient of federal financial assistance must also comply with this regulation. The ADA requires public agencies with more than 50 employees to prepare a transition plan.

All State and local government agencies must provide pedestrian access for persons with disabilities in compliance with ADA Title II. 42 U.S.C. §12131(1). Federal, State, and local governments must provide pedestrian access for

persons with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 standards. 29 U.S.C. §794(a). (9-12-06).

Recipients and public entities need take the following steps to be in compliance with the ADA (Title II) and Section 504.

1. Designating an ADA Coordinator;
2. Providing public notice about ADA requirements;
3. Establishing a grievance procedure;
4. Developing internal design standards, specifications, and details;
5. Developing self-evaluation and Transition Plan, if more than 50 employees;
6. Approving a schedule and budget to implement the Transition Plan; and
7. Monitoring progress on implementation of the Transition Plan

For more information on ADA compliance, contact: Margaret Z. Mahler, ADA Compliance Office, Tennessee Department of Transportation, 615-741-4984, margaret.z.mahler@tn.gov.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Working with the ETDD planner, GIS staff recently prepared Focus Area Four (of five) of a zoning and land use study of Rocky Top. Over several months, a series of land use and zoning study maps have been provided for planning staff and the Rocky Top Planning Commission. Aerial photo illustrations of the focus areas were also created. The town and staff planner will use the maps in their studies to better align zones with current and projected land use.

GIS staff contributed maps and illustrations for several grants this quarter. Maps were prepared for two Solid Waste needs assessments, a National Register nomination, a CDBG housing grant, HOME Section 106 report, and north and south RPO studies.

Over the summer, GIS staff worked to complete final maps for the Gatlinburg Land Use Plan. The document contains 15 maps prepared by ETDD GIS, which includes Slope, Flood, Soil Type, and development by year built, as well as the traditional land use and location maps.

Two special GIS project were completed this quarter. A smoke detector canvas zone map was created for the Harriman Fire Department, and two radius maps were prepared for Campbell Co. economic development.

Areawide Development Corporation SBA 504 News



State Senator Doug Overbey addressing the Areawide Development Corporation membership at the Annual Meeting. At left is Don Woods, Areawide Development Corporation Director, David Verble, Board President of Areawide Development Corporation and President of Citizens National Bank of Sevierville. At right is Terry Bobrowski, Areawide Development Corporation Executive Vice President and Executive Director of East Tennessee Development District, and Teri Brahams, Board Vice President of Areawide Development Corporation and Executive Director, Economic and Workforce Development Pellissippi State Community College.

Areawide Development Corporation held its annual membership and board of directors meeting on Monday, September 20, 2016 at Green Meadow Country Club. State Senator Doug Overbey addressed the membership. Senator Overbey shared the state of Tennessee is in a good place financially coming out of the great recession. He shared that the state has done a good job managing revenues and expenses as well as budgeting conservatively. The state has an AAA bond rating from all three rating agencies in New York City. He discussed building back up the state's rainy day fund as well as monies being allocated to Education and Transportation within the state budget this year and upcoming years. Senator Overbey closed by saying that economic / community development and job creation is important in our state and that we need to safeguard against unnecessary regulations which will help businesses succeed in our state.

In his report to the membership, Don Woods, ADC Director noted ADC has had five SBA 504 loans approved this fiscal year and the total dollar amount of loans approved has increased. Nationally, the number of loan approvals is down slightly but the dollar amount of loans approved has increased roughly 7%. Overall, ADC's portfolio is strong without evidence of delinquency. Our loan portfolio is \$40.9 million and consists of 55 SBA 504 loans. On September 14, 2016, the effective rates were published for the September 2016 debenture funding's. The 20 year debenture full term funding rate was 4.543% and the 10 year full term funding rate was 4.844%.

During the Annual Meeting the following officers were elected for the upcoming year:

President	David Verble
Vice President	Teri Brahams
Treasurer	Jim McBrearty
Secretary	Tish Campbell

Alpesh Patel, owner of Kana Hotel Group recently resigned from the ADC board and we would like to thank Mr. Patel for his service as a board member.

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September 2016

- 5 Labor Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 13 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 19 Areawide Development Corporation Annual Business Meeting, Alcoa
- 20 Tennessee Development District Association Meeting, Nashville
- 21 Senator Yager’s Grants Conference, RSCC, Kingston
- 27 CROET Board of Director’s Meeting, Oak Ridge

October 2016

- 10 Columbus Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 11 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 11 East Tennessee Regional Council of Fire Chiefs, Kingston FD
- 12-14 Tennessee County Services Association Conference, Nashville
- 16-19 NADO Annual Training Conference, San Antonio, TX
- 18-20 Association of Tennessee Valley Governments, Gatlinburg
- 27-28 Governor’s Conference on Economic Development, Nashville Renaissance Hotel

November 2016

- 2 ARC Grant Workshop, MCAA Training Facility, Alcoa
- 8 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, Cancelled
- 11 Veterans Day Holiday
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday, ETDD offices closed

December 2016

- 13 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 23&26 Christmas Holiday, ETDD offices closed