

The Voice

JANUARY 2014

Voice



THE VOICE OF TENNESSEE'S ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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You've Got to Have a Plan: Your Help is Needed as TDOT Plans for the Future

by: *Tanisha J. Hall, AICP*
TDOT Director of Long Range Planning

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) requests your help in spreading the word about development of the 25-Year Multimodal Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP will take a look at changes in population, demographics, the economy, technology, land use, departmental policies and other variables to develop a data driven roadmap to drive strategic investments.



Tanisha J. Hall

The 25-Year LRTP will develop a vision, refine or adopt policies, and develop goals and objectives for the future. In addition, the plan will include a fiscally constrained 10-year strategic investment program which will be used to feed TDOT's 3-year work program. The seven guiding principles for TDOT's 25-Year LRTP are:

- Preserve and manage the existing system
- Provide for the efficient movement of people and freight
- Support the state's economy
- Maximize safety and security
- Build partnerships for sustainable and livable communities
- Protect natural, cultural and environmental resources
- Emphasize financial responsibility

In September 2013, TDOT leadership set

out on an eight-city regional summit tour to kick-off the LRTP. Elected officials, planning partners and key stakeholders were invited to participate in an informative and interactive presentation that gave a glimpse into some of the issues the department considers when making transportation investments. Participants used transponders to record which issues they thought the department should focus on, like balancing investments across the state or focusing funding on the greatest need, and honoring historic commitments or addressing current needs. Results of the survey were presented when polling for each question ended.

Upon completion of the regional summits, TDOT began three additional efforts to get public input:

- Conducted a **Customer Satisfaction Survey** to determine satisfaction levels with the quality of our state transportation

(continued on page 2)



The TDOT LRTP Regional Summit stopped in Kingsport on October 8 to address representatives from Bristol, Johnson City, and Kingsport, TN.

Renewing Our Commitment to ACEC in the New Year

by David Harrell, PE
President, ACEC of Tennessee

I trust that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas holiday and took some time to spend with family and friends and also to reflect on the past year. I know that, for



David Harrell

me, there was much that was left undone both personally and professionally. As we move into the New Year, I have reflected on the goals we set for ACEC of Tennessee back in May of 2013 and see that there is still much left for us to do.

I know that all of our committees have been hard at work and we have seen some progress in many areas. However, there are still opportunities and even threats that are before us and we must be diligent in identifying those and addressing them.

We must continue to be proactive in recruiting more member firms to our organization

and we must make this organization one that potential firms want to be a part of. We do this by continuing to actively participate in our causes with both our time and money. Our participation must be constructive and unified as we are never stronger than when we are all working together with one common goal. I know that there are many things competing for your time and attention but your efforts spent contributing to this organization are vital for it to be effective.

As is so often done at the beginning of a new year, let's renew our commitment to do the things for ACEC of Tennessee we said we were going to do last year. If you're not active, get active. If you have been active, stay active or become even more active. We have a little less than six months left to accomplish our goals we set back in May of last year. It will take a lot of hard work but with everyone working together, our organization can achieve those goals and have a prosperous and successful year.

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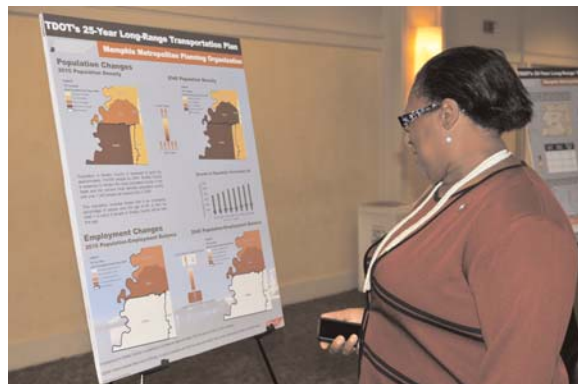
Manager of Member
Services

TDOT LRTP (cont. from page 1)

system and to help identify and prioritize the transportation services and improvements that are most important to Tennesseans;

- Ask organizations to **Book-a-Planner** and TDOT staff will come to your regularly-scheduled meeting to present LRTP update and get public involvement; and
- Established LRTP website survey to get additional public feedback about the process and plan development.

We need your help in letting people know about the LRTP development, so ask them to visit the website and Book-a-Planner. We also need your input, so take the survey when you get



State Rep. Karen Camper looks over projections for Shelby County at the Memphis Summit September 24.

a moment. Public involvement will be requested throughout the two-year plan development.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/longrange/>.

Welcome New Members!

- **Wiser**
247 W. Northfield Blvd., Ste. 200
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
(615) 896-7375
www.wiserco.com

Key Contact: Lucian Cayce, Chief Administrative Officer lmcayce@wiserco.com

Wiser is a company designed to provide mapping, engineering and information solutions specializing in Civil-Structural, Civil-Transportation, Marine & Coastal, Surveying/GIS/Mapping and Water/Wastewater.

- **Energy Land & Infrastructure, LLC (ELI)**
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(615) 383-6300
www.eli-llc.com

Key Contact: Thomas L. "Chuck" Saunders, PE, President chuck.saunders@eli-llc.com

ELI is an engineering and land surveying services firm incorporated in Tennessee serving the southeast in the areas of natural gas pipelines, transportation, water resources, utilities, civil sites, civil works and environmental compliance and permitting.

EEA Judging Team Named



There can only be one Grand Iris winner at the Engineering Excellence Awards - and now the group charged with making that choice has been named. A team of seven will convene at the Tennessee

Engineering Center on February 7th to look over project information and ultimately determine the winners. Twenty-two projects are competing for top honors this year.

The 2014 judges are: **Sandra Dudley, PhD, PE**, Director of Water Services, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation; **Gary Gilmartin**, President, Gilmartin Engineering Works; **Les Johnson**, MSFC Advanced Concepts Office Deputy, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center; **Kevin Line**, Regional Engineer, LP Building Products; **Karen Rennich**, Deputy Director TPO Coordinator, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency; **Philip Stuckert, PE**, City Engineer, City of Lakeland; **Mike Wilson**, Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management, Nashville District U S Army Corps of Engineers.

In addition to the Grand Iris Award, a Grand Award will be handed out in each project category. The Engineering Excellence Award winners will be announced at a banquet at the Franklin Marriot Cool Springs in Franklin, Tennessee, on March 11, 2014.

NEW, The People's Choice Award!

Now, you also get to be the judge! The upcoming Engineering Excellence Awards will have a brand new feature - the People's Choice Award. Attendees at the Awards Banquet will have the chance to vote on their fan favorites during the reception from 6-7 p.m. where the project boards will be on display. Once the dinner begins at 7 p.m., voting will close and the ballots will be counted. The winner will be announced during the awards portion of the evening!

Thank you, EEA Sponsors!

(as of December 16)

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2014 EEA Entrants

(by project title)

Beaver Creek WWTP Decommissioning - Dothan, AL
Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon for City of Dothan
C-5 Upgrade and Extend Runway and Taxiway - Martinsburg, WV
Atkins North America for 167 Air Wing, West Virginia Air National Guard
Chattanooga Regional ITS System CEI - Chattanooga, TN
Atkins North America for City of Chattanooga
Citico Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation - Chattanooga, TN
LDA Engineering/Cannon & Cannon, Inc. for City of Chattanooga
City of Chattanooga Area 2 Closure Construction - Chattanooga, TN
ARCADIS for City of Chattanooga
East Branch Dam Independent External Peer Review - Elk County, PA
K.S. Ware & Associates for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Founders Park - Johnson City, TN
LDA Engineering for City of Johnson City
Lyons View Pike Utility Replacement - Knoxville, TN
CDM Smith for Knoxville Utilities Board
Marion County Park Shoreline Stabilization - Jasper, TN
Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. for TDOT
Memphis Pyramid - Memphis, TN
Geotechnology, Inc. for City of Memphis
Music City Center - Nashville, TN
Ross Bryan Associates, Inc. for Convention Center Authority
Nashville International Airport Taxiway Kilo Recon. - Nashville, TN
Garver for Nashville Airport Authority
Paw Paw Creek Mitigation - Roane County, TN
S&ME, Inc. for Roane County, TN
Spring Creek 1A: Horizontal Directional Drilling - Morristown, TN
LDA Engineering for City of Morristown
Stones River Greenway - Murfreesboro, TN
TTL, Inc. for City of Murfreesboro
Stormwater Planning and Program Management - Morristown, TN
LDA Engineering for City of Morristown
Stormwater Runoff from TN Highways - Anderson, Knox and Sumner Counties, TN
EnSafe Inc. for TDOT
TDOT Facility Surveying and GIS Data Management - Tennessee (various locations)
EnSafe Inc. for TDOT
UT Cherokee Farm Infrastructure Improvements - Knoxville, TN
Gresham, Smith and Partners/CDM Smith for University of TN
West Valley Data Management System - West Valley, NY
AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. for U.S. Dept. of Energy
Wolf Creek Bridge Rehabilitation - Cocke County, TN
AECOM for TDOT
Wolf River Boulevard Connector - Germantown, TN
Smith Seckman Reid, Inc. for City of Germantown

CALENDAR

JANUARY
24

ACEC Scholarship
Applications Due

FEBRUARY
7

EEA Judging
TN Engineering
Center

FEBRUARY
16-22

Engineers' Week

MARCH
10

Legislative
Reception
5:30 p.m. at
Sheraton Nashville
Downtown

MARCH
11

Engineers' Day on
the Hill
Engineering
Excellence Awards
Banquet

Tennessee Engineering Center
800 Fort Negley Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37203

Return Service Requested

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MEMBER NEWS

- ARCADIS has added Gupta Borra, PE, PTOE as a Senior ITS Engineer in its Nashville office.
- Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon, Inc. has added Justin Graham, GISP, as information management practice leader.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What does success look like for ACEC in 2014?

by Candy Toler
Executive Director, ACEC of Tennessee

The answer is **member involvement** . . . there are many ways that you can participate to ensure ACEC of Tennessee's success in 2014, such as participation on a committee, attending the *Legislative Reception, Engineers' Day on the Hill*, and the *EEA Banquet*. You could also attend ACEC's national convention April 27-30 in Washington, DC. I encourage you to take an active role in supporting your profession in 2014.



Candy Toler

Legislators want to hear from you

Your Government Advocacy Committee will begin reviewing legislation this month and your voice will be needed. The General Assembly will reconvene on January 14 with some major issues to face in this election year. Last session we pushed back efforts to limit the state's ability to outsource work to the private sector and weaken the building codes, to

name a few. These bills and more will be considered in 2014 by the legislature.

Your elected representatives appreciate the opportunity to hear from you about issues. The ACEC Nashville Chapter invites you to attend the *Legislative Reception on March 10*, the evening before *E-Day on the Hill*. It begins at 5:30 pm at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown (near the Capitol) and we will start with a rundown on bills of interest.

On March 11, participate in E-Day. The event, which drew about 80 participants last year, offers engineers the opportunity to promote the value that engineers bring to every community across Tennessee and address issues that impact public safety and your profession. Simply let me know (ctoler@tnecc.org) you plan to attend and who your State Senator and State Representative are. Breakfast will be served between 7:30 and 8 a.m., followed by a review of legislation.

Contribute to ACEC's success in 2014 by joining engineers from across the state to take part in these events which are critical to the engineering profession in Tennessee.