2019 Primer of the Tennessee Department of Transportation

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2019
Primer of the Tennessee Department of Transportation
**TDOT’s Mission**

To provide a safe and reliable transportation system for people, goods and services that supports economic prosperity in Tennessee.

**TDOT’s Vision**

To serve the public by providing the best multimodal transportation system in the nation.

**Agency Goals**

**System Preservation**
Maintain the state transportation system to protect the long term investment in our infrastructure assets.

**System Operation**
Operate and manage Tennessee’s transportation system to provide a high level of safety and service to our customers and workers.

**Project Delivery**
Deliver transportation projects on schedule and within budget.

**Mobility Access**
Expand mobility choices to maximize access.

[www.tn.gov/tdot](http://www.tn.gov/tdot)
CLAY BRIGHT was appointed Commissioner of Transportation by Governor Bill Lee in January 2019. He is the 30th commissioner of the state agency that oversees a statewide transportation system including highways, rail, airports, waterways, and transit.

Commissioner Bright spent 36 years working for Brasfield & Gorrie, one of the nation’s largest construction firms. In 1998, he opened Brasfield & Gorrie’s Nashville-based office. During the 20 years under his leadership, Brasfield & Gorrie’s Nashville team completed over $3 billion in construction and grew to employ over 200 people.

In his role as Vice President, Commissioner Bright led efforts in client development and growth strategies. Prior to becoming a vice president, he served as a senior project manager and was directly responsible for managing the construction of a wide variety of large commercial and institutional projects. During his tenure at Brasfield & Gorrie, he managed many key projects in Middle Tennessee, including the “Batman Building,” Caterpillar Financial Center, and SunTrust Plaza.

Commissioner Bright has served on the boards for the Economic Club of Nashville, American Heart Association, Nashville Antique & Garden Show, and the Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art. Currently, he is serving on the boards for the Nashville Business Coalition, University of Alabama College of Engineering Leadership Board, Ace Advisory Board, City of Belle Meade Municipal Planning Commission, and Boy Scouts of America (Middle Tennessee Council). He has held active membership roles with the Nashville Chamber of Commerce, Associated Builders and Contractors, Associated General Contractors of Tennessee, and NAIOP.

Commissioner Bright received a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from the University of Alabama. He and his wife, Kim, have two sons and are members of Christ Presbyterian Church. In his free time, he enjoys running, golf, hunting, and fishing.

The IMPROVE Act, passed in 2017, is funding 962 road and bridge projects, across all 95 counties in Tennessee. At full implementation, an additional $105 million will be generated annually for cities and counties to support local infrastructure needs. TDOT currently has a comprehensive plan of over $10 billion worth of projects, with the primary goal of improving safety, increasing capacity, and supporting a growing economy. Work is well underway on 429 projects in all four regions of the state. Sixty projects are in the right of way phase, 59 in the construction phase, and 28 have already been completed. Timely delivery on these projects is a top priority. To facilitate efficiency, TDOT is striving to reach a consistent staffing level of 4,450 employees.
A CCOMPLISHMENTS • 2018

Preserving our Investments

With one of the top transportation systems in the nation, TDOT continues to focus on preservation by taking an Asset Management approach to maintaining pavement and bridges. These assets are our most valuable resources and represent a tremendous investment by the people of Tennessee.

• For the ninth year in a row, Tennessee’s transportation system ranks as one of the best in the nation. According to ‘CNBC’s 2018 study, “America’s Top States for Business,” Tennessee is fifth in the category of “Transportation and Infrastructure.”

• Having completed our Expedited Project Delivery (EPD) review, TDOT has saved taxpayers more than $610 million dollars, over the course of six years, by reexamining and reducing the scope of projects from “wants” to “needs.”

• TDOT’s “pay as you go” philosophy is still intact as we continue to spend only the revenue we are provided through our state highway user fees and federal funds. We are one of only five states in the nation without transportation debt.

• TDOT remains focused on enhancing local partnerships through the Office of Community Transportation (OCT). The OCT works closely with communities on local land use decisions and community visions as it would pertain to a more effective statewide transportation system.

Key Endeavors

• TDOT awarded 461 projects to contract in 2018 totaling approximately $1,243,465,296, almost $181 million more than we delivered last year and the largest amount in the department’s history.

• TDOT launched the TRAC Program, which stands for TRAnsportation and Civil engineering. This hands-on, educational outreach program is designed to bring high-level, quality interactive activities into middle and high school science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) classes. The TDOT TRAC Program includes three different modules which engage students in solving real-world, civil engineering problems. TDOT provides the program free of charge to TN educators with the vision of delivering a program that connects students to the work world of transportation, especially civil engineering, and encourages them to consider careers in these fields. To date, 129 Tennessee educators in 70 different schools across the state have been trained and currently participate in the program. https://www.tn.gov/tdot/human-resources-home/trac-program.html

• TDOT Reconnect is an 18-month continuing education program for TDOT employees who have not completed postsecondary education. TDOT Reconnect provides employees a comprehensive overview of department-related skills, such as welding, traffic operations, and transportation, while also including mathematical concepts, business writing, and computers. Employees who complete the TDOT Reconnect Program obtain a Transportation Systems Technology Certificate. To date, TDOT has eight agreements in place with local colleges to give college credit to employees who graduate from the program. To date, 100 employees have graduated and four classes are currently in session. https://www.tn.gov/tdot/human-resources-home/tdot-education/tdot-reconnect-transportation-systems-certificate.html

• Through TDOT’s State Industrial Access Program and other projects supporting economic development, the department awarded nine projects to construction. These nine construction projects support 13 new and/or expanding industries that have added nearly 3,800 jobs to Tennessee. The industry investments for all locations combined are over $534 million, while the department spent approximately $29 million on projects to improve the industries access needs.

New Initiatives

• TDOT is leading the way on autonomous vehicles and building a strategy for this evolving technology of driverless cars that will greatly impact traffic and infrastructure. Companies can already transport via platooning on Tennessee roads. TDOT is also a founding member of TennSMART, an organization involving key stakeholders from the public and private sectors to assess, develop, and deploy new intelligent mobility innovations in Tennessee.

• TDOT is creating a new culture that is focused on safety. The Occupational Health and Safety Division implemented a new Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Provision Program and policy. The program identifies specifically which items are required for each task being performed and ensures that each employee has the gear they need to work safely and has become one of the leading such programs in all of TN state government. From 2017 to 2018, work related injuries reduced by 13.5%, medical claims costs have reduced by a projected 60% and loss time days have been reduced by a projected 39%.

Looking Ahead

• As we move into 2019, we anticipate lettings to stay at similar levels as delivered in 2018, with calendar year lettings totaling around $1.2 billion. We are under contract on two large design build projects, the reconstruction of I-440 in Nashville and the I-24/I-75 interchange in Chattanooga. Our second Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC) project in Memphis is well underway with construction activities continuing into 2019. The third CMCG project in Chattanooga is expected to begin late 2019.
TDOT is currently developing the I-24 Smart Corridor Project, which takes a comprehensive approach to managing the existing infrastructure and improving travel time reliability between Rutherford and Davidson Counties. It pairs I-24 with State Route 1, as an alternative, using connector routes. Improvements include extending ramp lengths, adding emergency pull-offs, and installing ramp meters along the connectors. Signals on the connector routes will be upgraded and adjusted to optimize timing and efficiently move additional traffic. Overhead signs will alert motorists to speed, lane or merge conditions ahead and travel information boards will guide drivers to alternate routes to provide a safer, more efficient and reliable commute. The work will be done in phases and is set to begin in the spring of 2019 with planned completion late 2020. 


*CNBC Report on Top States for Business: https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/28/these-10-states-are-beating-americas-infrastructure-crisis.html*
Tennessee’s Transportation System

There are 19,823 bridges in Tennessee, more than in most southern states. The state owns 8,386 bridges and 11,437 are locally owned.

Tennessee has more than 95,986 miles of roadway. This includes 1,201 miles of interstate highways and 13,890 state highway miles overseen by TDOT.

On the highway system, there are 19 interstate rest areas, 16 interstate welcome centers open and there are 8 truck weigh stations.

The transportation system also includes the following:
- 74 general aviation airports
- 5 commercial airports
- 136 heliports
- 887 main channel miles of commercially navigable waterways and two ferries
- 22 short line railroads operating on 915 miles of rail
- 6 Class I rail lines operating on 2,133 route miles of rail
- 28 transit (bus, van, rail) systems serving all 95 counties
- 917 miles of state route with sidewalks
- 4,502 miles of roadways with four-foot shoulders to accommodate cyclists
- 487 miles of greenways and trails
- 196 miles of state route with designated bike lanes

As of July 2018, Tennessee motorists pay a state gas tax of 26.4 cents a gallon and 18.4 cents of federal gas tax. The state diesel tax is 25.4 cents per gallon and the federal tax on diesel is 24.4 cents per gallon. The funds are dedicated for the Tennessee transportation system.

One of TDOT’s most popular programs is the HELP Program. Its function is to remove vehicles and obstacles from the travel lanes, in order to reduce traffic impacts. In 1999, HELP was started to assist motorists in the urban areas of Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Memphis. HELP patrols operate seven days a week from early in the morning to late in the evening. In addition, HELP staff remain on call to respond to traffic incidents 24/7. Our four Traffic Management Centers (TMC) are also staffed 24/7.

TDOT SmartWay is the state’s intelligent transportation system (ITS). The full complement includes a system of live cameras, large electronic message boards, traffic speed sensors and transportation management centers to monitor traffic and assist in reducing congestion on Tennessee’s urban interstates. Systems are located in Chattanooga, Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis.

TDOT operates rural ITS sites outside of the major urban areas of the state. The system includes cameras, overhead electronic message signs, and highway advisory radio transmitters. Large signs with solar powered flashing beacons accompany radio transmitters. Locations include rural sections along I-75, I-40, I-24, and I-81 in East Tennessee, and sections I-40, I-24, and I-65 in Middle Tennessee.

How Transportation Dollars are Spent
Fiscal Year 2018

- Construction, Maintenance & Grants: 88%
- Field Operations: 3%
- Administration: 2%
- Equipment & Facility: 3%
- Other State Agencies: 3%
- Other: 1%
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Updated February 2019
Process for TDOT to Sign Named Highways and Bridges in Tennessee
As Designated by The Tennessee General Assembly
(11-30-18)

The Tennessee Department of Transportation uses a numerical designation system to identify roads on the state highway system across the state. The department does not designate road “names” for any state highways.

Local governments (city and county) have authority to designate official road names tied to official postal addresses and 911 systems for streets and roads within their jurisdiction. Cities have authority to give official city street names to state highways within their city limits because, apart from interstate highways and other freeways, these state highways are also city streets. Cities may also sometimes give commemorative or memorial names to these non-freeway state highways within their jurisdiction which are also city streets.

The Tennessee General Assembly has the authority to name highways and bridges in Tennessee, and TDOT will install signs as directed by legislation passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor. These names are honorary and typically commemorative in nature and generally do not change the official road name, and they do not change TDOT’s official numerical designation of a state highway. In recent years, it has been the General Assembly’s practice to pass one large omnibus naming bill each year, which usually names approximately 50-60 bridges and highways. In some cases, the State Senator or State Representative who sponsor the naming prefer a local government first pass a resolution requesting the Tennessee General Assembly name the subject bridge or highway.

The fees to fabricate and install the required signs are usually required to be non-state sourced and are sometimes paid for by local governments, the bill sponsors, or family members of the honoree. Some honorees, such as a soldiers or police officers killed in the line of duty, will have the fees for the signs covered by the State under Section 54-1-133 of Tennessee Code. The specific language in the enacting legislation / appropriations act directs how each sign is to be funded.

Once a bill passes to name a highway or bridge, staff of the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT HQ Traffic Engineering) sends a notice to the prime Senate and House sponsor for each honoree which directs funds are required, the amount and where to send those funds. If no fees are required, the notice advises the sponsors that TDOT can proceed.

Once any required funds are received, and if the Senate and House sponsor decide they will conduct a ceremony and notify TDOT as to when they plan to conduct their ceremony, then TDOT installs and covers the signs several days in advance of the event. It is important that TDOT receive a minimum of 14 work days advance notice of the planned ceremony date, as it generally takes this long to fabricate, check underground utilities, and install the signs. If the Senate and House sponsor decide not to conduct a ceremony, then TDOT installs the signs when possible after being notified.

For additional information, contact Joseph Sweat at 615-532-3431 (TDOT) or email to Joseph.Sweat@tn.gov.

Contact

| Commissioner Clay Bright  | 615.741.2848 |
| Angie Martin, Executive Asst. to the Commissioner | 615.741.2848 |
| Lyndsay Botts, Dep. Commissioner/Chief of Staff | 615.741.2848 |
| Paul Degges, Dep. Commissioner/Chief Engineer | 615.741.0791 |
| Joe Galbato, Dep. Commissioner/Chief Financial Officer | 615.741.2848 |
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| BJ Doughty, Assistant Bureau Chief/CommunityRelations/Communications Director | 615.741.7736 |
| Brian Carroll, Legislative Division Director | 615.335.8785 |
| Deborah Luter, Civil Rights Division Director | 615.741.3681 |
| Liza Joffrion, Multimodal Transp. Resources Director | 615.741.2781 |
| Michelle Frazier, Aeronautics Director | 615.741.3208 |
| John Reinbold, General Counsel | 615.741.2941 |
| Delaine Linville, Asst. Chief of Admin./Human Resources Director | 615.741.3461 |
| Steve Borden, Region 1 Director | 865.594.2400 |
| Joe Deering, Region 2 Director | 423.510-1204 |
| David Layhew, Region 3 Director | 615.350.4300 |
| Jason Baker, Region 4 Director | 731.935.0193 |
The Chief of Staff serves as the senior advisor to the Commissioner, providing support on executive decisions, strategic projects, and communications initiatives. A primary role of the Chief of Staff is to work with the Bureau Chiefs to advance the Commissioner’s strategic vision for the Department. The Chief of Staff’s Bureau includes the Communications and Legislative Divisions which focus on developing and promoting the comprehensive communications and legislative strategies for the Department.

Community Relations & Communications Division
BJ Doughty • Director/Assistant Bureau Chief
615.741.7736

The director of this division serves as the chief spokesperson for the agency. The mission is to provide leadership in promoting TDOT, integrating the concerns of our customers into our processes and promoting a consistent message. This involves conducting community outreach activities, managing public meetings and hearings, establishing relationships with the news media and community groups, assisting the general public in accessing TDOT’s services, answering questions and concerns, and providing better communication both inside and outside the department, which includes managing the website content and all social media. In addition to headquarters communications, constituent services and public involvement staff, the director supervises a community relations officer (CRO) in each of TDOT’s four regions.

Legislative Division
Brian Carroll • Director
615.335.8785

The director of this office advises the Commissioner and senior staff on legislative issues. Staff works with members of the General Assembly to promote the department’s agenda through legislation. Assistance is provided in legislative matters and responses and information are provided to legislators involving the department.

The Deputy Commissioner serves as both the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the agency as well as the head of the Administrative Services Bureau. Responsibilities include financial oversight for the department, including budget preparation, budget management, and federal highway reimbursement. This position has responsibility for oversight of seven divisions. Functions include: purchasing, fleet management, overweight and over dimensional permitting; administration of Title VI, Affirmative Action and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs; workforce recruiting, training, and retention; developing of agency goals and performance measures; audit and assurance services, and development of software and technology tools. A key role of this position is to provide direction, leadership, and policies on overall governance and fiscal accountability to help protect the integrity of the agency.

Human Resources Division
Delaine Linville • Director / Asst. Chief of Administration
615.741.3461

The Assistant Chief of Administration also serves as the Human Resources Division Director. Duties of this position include day-to-day human resources management for 4,100 TDOT employees. This position plays a crucial role in aligning HR and business strategy, re-engineering organization processes, and providing support to both employees and management in the areas of learning and development, classification and compensation, recruitment, employee relations, and benefit and retirement counseling. The Human Resources Director provides appropriate guidance to executive leaders and managers to ensure compliance with all local, state, and federal employment laws, rules, and policies and serves as liaison with the Department of Human Resources related to transactions, classification compensation, payroll, benefits and employee relations issues.
Central Services Division  
Bob Alwine • Director  
615.741.7750

Central Services provides coordination and general administration of staff services, as well as the reproduction of technical drawings, bid lettings, specifications, forms and contracts and official documents. The office administers purchase procedures, procurement, supply chain, fleet utilization, and facilitates the insurance and risk management programs. This division handles issuance of special permits for overweight/over-dimensional loads, records management, the agency publications liaison, and the purchase of "Alternate Fuel Vehicles." It coordinates the annual budget for heavy equipment and vehicle purchases and operates the HQ Motor Pool. The division assists with facilities and property management, inventory control and surplus property removal.

Finance Division  
Jennifer Herstek • Director  
615.741.2261

The Finance Division provides the total accounting system for the Department of Transportation, including billing and receipts, consultant auditing and sub-recipient monitoring, payables, payroll, and cost accounting. This division is responsible for preparing and managing the department’s budget. This involves comprehensive documentation and sound financial reporting. Budget preparation and reporting provide cost control and ensure that maximum service benefits accrue to the public. To accomplish its mandate, the Finance Division uses information submitted by various DOT offices, F&A, and FHWA to prepare an annual budget document. Once the budget document has been submitted and approved, it is entered into the State’s accounting system. Financial activities are coordinated with the Department of Finance and Administration to ensure adherence to policy, laws, and generally accepted accounting principles.

Information Technology Division  
Joe Kirk • Director  
615.741.3576

The Information Technology Division (IT) is responsible for the direction, planning, coordination and management of the department’s computerized information resources. IT staff evaluate, purchase, install and maintain computer hardware and software, manage network services for the Intelligent Transportation System network, develop and support applications and provide technical assistance to departmental personnel in their use of these resources. The IT Division is responsible for coordination with the State’s central technology Division, Strategic Technology Solutions (STS).

Internal Audit Division  
Mel Marcella • Director  
615.741.1651

The Division of Internal Audit provides audit and assurance, consulting and advisory, education, and integrity services for the department. The primary focus of the division is conducting performance audits designed to ascertain the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of TDOT’s various operational and financial programs, processes, and activities. Audit and assurance services are prioritized from a risk management approach to focus resources on areas of high risks. The ultimate objective is to provide the management structure and senior leadership with information they need to make better decisions - through practical, cost beneficial recommendations geared toward improving TDOT’s operations. Consulting and advisory services are designed to initiate a collaborative approach to address concerns regarding the ever changing business environment. Education services include providing training on ethical behavior, fraud awareness, internal controls, and the proper use of TDOT assets to department employees. Integrity services are performed to substantiate alleged instances of fraud, waste, and abuse of TDOT funds by department employees, contractors, vendors, and grantees.

Civil Rights Division  
Deborah Luter • Director  
615.741.3681

The Civil Rights Division is responsible for the administration of both state and federal programs of nondiscrimination that includes Title VI, Affirmative Action and Small Business Development. Each program monitors all activities for compliance and provides training and onsite technical assistance. Additionally, the division is responsible for developing and implementing TDOT’s internal and external affirmative action plans and investigating complaints of alleged discrimination, including sexual harassment. The division also administers the federally mandated Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program.

Strategic Planning  
Patsy Mimms • Director  
615.532.3507

This office is responsible for TDOT’s strategic planning process, working with all agency units to promote and coordinate strategic planning and management and to implement management improvements. Strategic management calls for an on-going process when resources, results, critical issues, trends and citizen needs are systematically reviewed to help us evaluate and reset priorities.
Deputy Commissioner / Chief Engineer
Paul Degges
615.741.0791

The responsibilities of the Bureau of Engineering are to develop, preserve and maintain the state highway system and to provide assistance to local governments in the development of their highway systems. This bureau also provides technical and developmental support to agency divisions of the department. Specific responsibilities include the following: highway data collection, program development and scheduling, design, right-of-way acquisition, estimates, aerial surveying, construction, maintenance, traffic engineering, materials and geological testing.

Construction Division
Lori Lange • Director
615.741.2414

The Construction Division is responsible for preparing proposals and letting to contract all TDOT transportation highway and bridge projects. Contract administration on TDOT projects and writing TDOT specifications and special provisions is also the responsibility of this division. The Construction Division is also responsible for the pre-qualification of all contractors who perform TDOT projects. The division also approves all first tier subcontracts for our road and bridge construction.

Roadway Design Division
Jennifer Lloyd • Director
615.741.2221

This division is responsible for the survey and design functions of the department, including the performance of aerial and ground surveys, the establishment of roadway design criteria, and the development of right-of-way and construction plans for proposed highway improvement projects. Other key responsibilities include the pre-qualification of consultant engineering firms and oversight, performing traffic signal designs, lighting designs, pavement marking designs, roadway signing designs for transportation improvement projects, maintaining and developing roadway design standards.

Right of Way (ROW) Division
Jeff Hoge • Director
615.741.3196

This division is responsible for the appraisal and acquisition of land needed for state highway construction and relocation of families and businesses affected. This division is also responsible for the coordination and relocation of utility and railroad facilities necessary for highway construction projects. Excess land is administered and disposed of through this division.

Traffic Operations Division
Brad Freeze • Director
615.741.5017

This division incorporates the Traffic Engineering Office and the Incident Management Office. It provides policy and guidance to all four (4) regional TMC and HELP operations to provide consistency across the state, similar to how Headquarters Construction and Maintenance interact with the regions. Day-to-day operations remain the responsibility of the regions; however, this division is involved in promotional and hiring decisions that affect the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), TMC and HELP operations.

Maintenance Division
Jerry Hatcher • Director
615.741.2027

The Maintenance Division is responsible for the administration of statewide highway and bridge maintenance services ensuring safety, user convenience and conservation of aesthetic qualities. Specific responsibilities include: regulation and control of traffic on the state highway system, signing and marking, review and inspection of new public road/railroad crossing plans, emergency management planning, interagency agreements, and facility maintenance, managing contracts for highway rest areas and for the operation of state welcome centers, maintenance contracts, and responsibility for systematic inspection of railroad facilities.
The Bid Analysis and Estimating Office is responsible for producing preliminary estimates, the Engineer's Estimate of Cost and Notice to Contractors for all construction and maintenance projects let by TDOT. The office reviews estimates and bids on locally managed projects to ensure that TDOT policies and guidelines are followed in the bid letting and contract award processes. The office maintains records of estimates and bids on TDOT projects according to statutory requirements and reports cost trend analysis annually and on request.

**Structures Division**

Ted Kniazewycz • Director  
615.741.3351

This division is responsible for designing and developing plans and specifications relating to all highway structures and for the inspection of all bridges in Tennessee. Key responsibilities include design of foundation conditions, tolerances and complex geometry, the design of major or unusual structures, resolution of hydrology and hydraulic studies involving legal action, scour studies, inspection of prefabrication plants, welding procedure review, on-site erection supervision, design and development of contract plans specifications, development of automated structural detailing systems, and bridge inspection.

**Materials & Tests Division**

Brian Egan • Director  
615.350.4100

Headquarters Division of Materials and Tests is responsible for ensuring that all materials used in the construction and maintenance of Tennessee's highways meet the appropriate ASTM, AASHTO, and departmental specifications. This division monitors the quality and performance of TDOT's highway network by performing field evaluations, conducting production facility reviews, performing laboratory tests, and analyzing a variety of data. The division coordinates pavement and materials research projects and maintains the department's Qualified Products List. It provides technical expertise and support to the entire department, including the development of new specifications, geotechnical testing and consulting, and technician training and certification.

**Program Development & Administration Division**

Ronnie Porter • Director  
615.741.3301

This division is responsible for developing and implementing TDOT's highway programs. The State Transportation Improvement Program is compiled and administered through this division. It establishes and maintains a schedule of development on all highway improvements, except for those managed through the Region Project Development Directors. Other responsibilities include generating and processing state and federal project allotments and funding authorizations and administering state funds and federal funds through FHWA used by local agencies for highway, safety and enhancement improvements.

**Strategic Transportation Investments Division**

Steve Allen • Director  
615.741.2208

The Strategic Transportation Investments Division provides strategic support for projects that addresses safety, congestion, and economic development needs across the state. This includes Expedited Project Delivery (EPD) where the goal is to address the immediate issues on the highway system and propose the proper solution. The division also conducts operational analysis of non-highway transportation projects as they impact the highway system. Investments relates to the work of this division in determining what new commitments (i.e. investments) TDOT will be making. The process includes the “Needs Assessment Process” which will determine the appropriate level of study and Project Prioritization (DL3) which uses technical data, schedule and cost to provide a prioritized list of major projects to assist in the development of the 3-year Multimodal Transportation program.

**Occupational Health and Safety Division**

Jay Norris • Director  
615.741.2416

The Occupational Health and Safety Division develops and implements policies, specifications, and procedures to ensure the health and safety of people inspecting, maintaining, constructing, and traveling our transportation system. The division requires individual accountability, expects all employees to adhere to safety standards, and actively participates in and supports the advancement of health and safety practices. Safety is the responsibility of all employees, including top management and the individual employee.
This bureau administers the planning and environmental activities of the department and multimodal activities. Functions include environmental compliance, environmental planning and technical studies, environmental policy, long range and project transportation planning, travel data collection and analysis, GIS mapping, conceptual project design, safety planning and highway beautification.

The Freight and Logistics Division provides leadership on issues of rail, water and highway freight. The division serves as a liaison between TDOT and freight stakeholders in an effort to find opportunities to improve access for existing freight and appropriately prepare for the projected increases in freight as it moves in and out of the state. The primary focus areas for the division include water, short-line railroads, Section 130 rail program, rail inspection, highway freight and technology, freight advisory committees and the freight and state rail plan updates.

This division is responsible for the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment with the implementation of transportation projects. The division, under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), assists in transportation project development and decision-making processes. Other specific responsibilities include: analysis of air quality and noise impacts and for the avoidance of hazardous materials sites, preparing federal and state environmental documents; assessing, preparing and acquiring environmental permits for transportation projects, and is responsible for Outdoor Advertising control, Vegetation Control, Junkyard Control, Litter Grant and Adopt-A-Highway and the Scenic Highways Program.

The Long Range Planning Division is responsible for the planning, development and management of statewide transportation studies and planning tools that help guide the policies and programs of TDOT and its various divisions. The division identifies transportation needs through the analysis of travel and safety data, and engages the communities to obtain public input on transportation investments. Specific responsibilities include developing the statewide long range transportation plan, preparation of corridor studies, University research, travel data collection, feasibility studies and metropolitan and rural transportation planning coordination. The division is also responsible for GIS mapping.

The Division of Multimodal Transportation Resources includes Public Transportation, Rail and Waterways, Rail Inspection and Safety, and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. The division administers state and federal grant programs for public transportation. On rail and water transportation, inspects railroads and rail crossings for safety, provides safety upgrades at key highway-rail crossings. The division’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, monitors TDOT resurfacing projects, and works with other divisions to include appropriate treatments for bicycles and pedestrians.

This division is comprised of agency legal staff providing services to the Commissioner, his staff and all divisions and regions. Services include preparation and contract review, grants, and right-of-way acquisition documents; administrative hearings representation; drafting/review of legislation and regulations; advice on regulatory requirements; and assistance in employment law. The office works closely with the State Attorney General’s Office in response to TDOT contract, tort, employment, and condemnation cases.

The Aeronautics Division is responsible for licensing public airports, monitoring compliance with federal grants and providing flight services for all branches of state government. It performs engineering services, aviation planning studies, airport improvement and project design consultation to local airports. It insures the operational safety and efficiency of the statewide aviation facilities system.
In 2016, the Tennessee Department of Transportation lost three workers in the line of duty. All three were struck by passing motorists. Those tragedies bring the total number of TDOT lives lost to 112. We don’t want to lose another member of our TDOT family. We’re asking you to WORK WITH US.