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Governor Bredesen Announces Grant for Smyrna Airport
Grant awarded through TDOT's Aeronautics Division

NASHVILLE—Governor Phil Bredesen announced today that an aeronautics grant totaling \$32,850 has been approved for improvements at Smyrna Airport in Rutherford County.

“Our local airports are vital to the economy and travel system of Tennessee,” said Bredesen. “Investing in our airports helps keep them competitive and efficient at meeting the needs of businesses and travelers. I’m pleased to support continued improvement at Smyrna Airport.”

Smyrna Airport will use the funds to install centerline and other runway markings.

The grants are made available through the Tennessee Department of Transportation’s Aeronautics Division.

“This division administers federal and state funding to assist in the location, design, construction and maintenance of Tennessee’s diverse public aviation system,” reported TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely. “We are pleased to continue to support Tennessee’s general aviation and commercial airports.”

Except for routine expenditures, grant applications are reviewed by the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission (TAC), which is a five member board charged with policy planning and with regulating changes in the state airport system plan.

TAC Chair Larry Mullins explained, “Our board examines the applications carefully to ensure that the proper state and local matching funds are in place and that the grants will be put to good use.”

The TDOT Aeronautics Division has the responsibility of inspecting and licensing the state’s 126 heliports and 75 public/general aviation airports. The Division also provides aircraft and related services for state government and staffing for the [Tennessee Aeronautics Commission](#).

The Rutherford County Legislative Delegation helped secure this grant.

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