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**Governor Bredesen Announces Enhancement Grant for Town of Tracy City
*Grant to Fund Improvements to Pedestrian Traffic Enhancement Project***

NASHVILLE - Governor Phil Bredesen joined TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely and state and local leaders today to announce the award of a \$521,883 transportation enhancement grant to the town of Tracy City for Phase Four of the Pedestrian Traffic Enhancement Project.

The project phase will include the construction of approximately 900 linear feet of sidewalks, installation of street lights, construction of decorative stamped brick crosswalks, curbing, and landscaping along Railroad Avenue and Altamont Street (U.S. Hwy. 41) to 10th Street. The project will provide a safe route for pedestrians and bicyclists and improve safety at this busy intersection. The improvements will also aid in business district development and heritage tourism efforts.

“Railroad Avenue originally featured a section of the L&N Railroad line, passenger and freight depot, and many businesses,” said Bredesen. “This project presents an important opportunity to revitalize a historic area while providing alternate transportation for residents and visitors alike, and I’m pleased the state is helping improve this important link to our past for future generations.”

“Revitalizing the intersection of Railroad Avenue and Altamont Street with new pedestrian facilities is a top priority for Tracy City,” said Representative Bill Harmon. “I am very happy to have been able to help secure funding for this important project.”

Senator Eric Stewart added, “Revitalizing a downtown area can have a major positive economic impact on a town. I’m pleased Governor Bredesen and TDOT are making this investment in Tracy City’s historic downtown area.”

The grant is made possible through a federally funded program administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

“Through Transportation Enhancement grants, TDOT has funded approximately \$223 million in non-traditional transportation projects,” said Nicely. “Established by Congress in the early 1990’s, the program supports activities designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic and environmental aspects of the nation’s transportation system.”

A variety of activities such as the restoration of historic facilities, bike and pedestrian trails, landscaping and other non-traditional transportation projects are eligible for grant funds under the federal program.

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