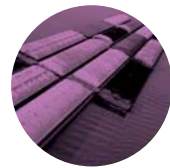




# Tennessee's 25-Year Transportation Plan

# PLAN *Go*

Vision. Strategy. Responsibility.





“Our transportation system simply can’t be taken for granted. Putting off repairs and delaying upgrades to vital infrastructures can in itself lead to a disaster. While it’s easier to leave the job to someone else, it takes real courage to stand up, roll up our sleeves and get to work. I believe the 25-year transportation plan is a sound plan, it makes sense for everyone, and it is the right thing to do.”

Phil Bredesen, Governor of Tennessee

**25  
Year**

## The 25-Year Vision Plan

Based on input from thousands of Tennesseans, as well as principles used by state and federal agencies, we have adopted seven guiding principles that clearly set the standards and values by which we will preserve and improve our transportation system. These principles are:

- Preserve and Manage the Existing Transportation System
- Move a Growing, Diverse and Active Population
- Support the State’s Economy
- Maximize Safety and Security
- Build Partnerships for Livable Communities
- Promote Stewardship of the Environment
- Emphasize Financial Responsibility

### *Taking care of our growing needs.*

Tennessee is one of the fastest growing states in a rapidly developing region of the country. Over the next 25 years, Tennessee’s statewide transportation needs are estimated to be nearly \$130 billion.

- Highway and bridge improvements, including TDOT’s SmartWay system, account for \$95.5 billion or 74% of statewide needs.
- Public transportation, bicycle, pedestrian, and commuter assistance programs add up to \$14.6 billion or 11% of statewide needs.
- Aviation, rail and waterways needs are \$19.6 billion or 15% of statewide needs.
- Backlogged needs – improvements needed immediately – represent \$40 billion of the nearly \$130 billion.

## *Our Path to the Future Is Here, in Your Hands.*

When you take to the road, do you ever wonder: How bad will traffic get—before it gets better? What’s being done to make driving, bicycling, and walking safer? How will the state balance a growing, aging and diverse population with the pressing needs of business and industry? Good questions. In this pamphlet, you’ll discover how we are planning ahead to make the future of transportation better for all of us.

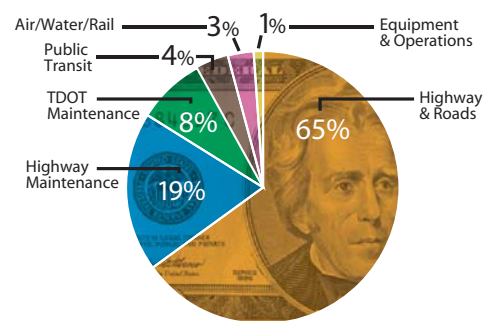
## *What is Plan Go?*

Plan Go offers people more travel choices, helps ease congestion and improves key transportation corridors across the state – all with clear milestones for success as well as the flexibility to adapt to a constantly changing world.

Plan Go has three major parts:

- 25-Year Vision Plan
- 10-Year Strategic Investments Program
- 3-Year Project Evaluation System

**TDOT Total Expenditures**



### *Spending priorities for the next 25 years.*

The 25-Year Vision Plan places the highest priority on the preservation of existing infrastructure, transportation services and public safety. It also calls for investing more in all transportation modes and developing a long-term, sustainable funding structure for transportation in Tennessee.

- The Vision Plan calls for a state investment of \$85 billion over the next 25 years. A state investment of \$85 billion, combined with partner funds, would address 78% of the total estimated needs.
- The 25-Year Vision Plan meets nearly 100% of all maintenance and preservation needs, 75% of identified safety improvements and 70% of expansion needs.
- Forecasted state revenue to meet the investment goals is \$69 billion.
- The primary source of state revenues is fuel taxes, which are cents per gallon and do not keep pace with inflation. Over the long-term, new fuel technologies will also undermine the purchasing power of fuel taxes.
- Future transportation funding will require new tools and strategies to meet the needs of our growing state. Other sources of funding to consider include tolls, bonds and alternatives to fuel taxes.



Tennessee Department of Transportation



## 10 Year The 10-Year Strategic Investments Program will get us moving.

The 10-Year Strategic Investment Program will jump-start key pieces of the 25-Year Vision Plan. The 10-year program focuses on congestion relief, travel choices and key corridors. It proposes spending an additional \$2 billion over projected revenue.



### Congestion Relief

- An additional \$840 million is proposed to help reduce congestion. The majority of this investment will be for improving and expanding highways.
- Today, 42% of Tennessee's urban highways and 10% of rural highways are congested.
- By 2030, travel times between cities in Tennessee are projected to increase by 15 to 33% as an example, it will take an additional hour and 15 minutes to drive between Nashville and Memphis.

### More Transportation Choices

- The 10-year program calls for investing \$665 million in services that offer all Tennesseans more transportation choices, including bus and van systems, commuter and light rail, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- As the state's population grows, ages and becomes ever more diverse, new demands are placed on limited public transportation resources in both rural and urban areas. On some of our most heavily traveled highways, public transportation may be the most practical alternative to meet future travel demand.
- This strategic initiative relies heavily on local and regional partnerships.

### Key Corridor Improvements

- An additional \$495 million will accelerate improvements in key corridors that form the backbone of the state's transportation system.
- The largest investments would be in rural interstate corridors, county seat connections to interstate highways and shortline rail upgrades.
- Corridors include highways, rail, waterways, airports, public transportation and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

## 3 Year The 3-Year Project Evaluation System is where it all starts

Each year, the multimodal Project Evaluation System will help our state develop a 3-year program of transportation projects. Providing an open and objective comparison, the Project Evaluation System is the vital first step toward achieving the 25-Year Vision Plan.

- The Project Evaluation System is a guide or tool, not a final decision. Proposed projects will be reviewed and approved by the state legislature, local governments, and the general public.
- The evaluation system focuses on improving mobility, access and safety within a limited budget. Priority projects will also reflect community and environmental goals.
- Many proposed projects will come through Tennessee's regional transportation planning partners, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs), which work closely with communities to identify projects at the local level.
- A multi-year program allows legislators, local officials and communities to plan for transportation improvements.

# PLAN Go

Vision. Strategy. Responsibility.



"In developing our Long-Range Transportation Plan, we've listened to people across the state share their transportation needs and concerns. They all generally want the same thing – safe roads, a well-maintained system, choices, a responsible plan and, a strategy so that we are prepared for 2030. This plan takes us in that direction, and if we all work together we can reach these goals."

Gerald F. Nicely, Commissioner  
Tennessee Department of Transportation



Tennessee Department of Transportation



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*The future is coming, and Plan Go will lead the way.*

*Our growing population and changing economy are already placing heavy demands on our existing transportation system. That's why we need a comprehensive plan that looks at all aspects of transportation – from highways to byways, from rivers to railroads, from buses to businesses. Plan Go embraces it all, preparing us for both the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead, shaping the future in a way that helps all of us move forward and go further.*



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