



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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**GERALD F. NICELY**  
COMMISSIONER

**PHIL BREDESEN**  
GOVERNOR

October 18, 2004

Gerald F. Nicely, Commissioner  
Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Suite 700, James K. Polk Building  
Nashville, TN 37243

Re: Recommendation to discontinue consideration of the Hardin Valley Road/Marietta Church Road interchange in the design of State Route 475 in Knox County.

Dear Mr. Nicely:

This letter is to recommend that the Tennessee Department of Transportation eliminate the Hardin Valley Road/Marietta Church Road interchange from further design consideration as part of the State Route 475 project. During the Section 2 Regional Subcommittee meeting on October 6, 2004, in Knoxville, the Subcommittee made a recommendation to the Regional Parkway Design Resource Team that the proposed Hardin Valley Interchange be eliminated from further consideration. The Regional Parkway Design Resource Team agreed with the Subcommittee and recommends that the interchange be eliminated for the following reasons:

1. Overwhelming opposition to the proposed interchange at this location as expressed by area residents attending the public workshop held at Hardin Valley Elementary School. There were 165 (86%) citizens who were opposed to the interchange contrasted with 17 who were in favor and 9 additional citizens who indicated that they could live with it.
2. Cost savings realized from removing the ramps.
3. The Pellissippi Parkway and Watt Road Interchanges are within 5 – 6 minutes of the proposed interchange site and the local access is very good.
4. It could reduce noise and air pollution.
5. The area is not in need of a development incentive; it is already developing without it.
6. Existing roads could not handle the additional traffic.
7. Potential impacts to a culturally sensitive church and cemetery near the proposed interchange location.

In addition the Team feels that elimination of this interchange further emphasizes the need for the Pellissippi Parkway interchange and that even without the interchange the dangerous curves at the intersection of Hickory Creek Road and Gallaher Ferry Road should be improved within the SR 475 corridor.

The Regional Parkway Design Resource Team thanks you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Russell  
TDOT Project Manager

MWR: mr

Cc: Mr. Ed Cole