

For Immediate Release
August 16, 2004

Knoxville Parkway Public Workshops Begin Tonight

Knoxville, Tennessee - The Regional Parkway Design Team (RPDT) and the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) have scheduled four public workshops to gather comments and answer questions regarding the Knoxville Parkway, Route 475.

Maps of the entire corridor, from I-40 in Loudon County to I-75 in Anderson County, including the 1,000-foot study corridor, will be shown at the workshops. No alignment within the corridor has been selected. Information gathered at these workshops will be used by the Regional Parkway Design Team to develop alternate roadway alignments to be presented at the next series of public workshops. The workshops will begin with a short video presentation and resource team members will be on hand to receive comments and answer questions.

The workshops are part of the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process being used by TDOT to get all the stakeholders involved in the development of the Knoxville Parkway.

The Public Workshops are scheduled for 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the following locations:

August 16, 2004 - Eaton Elementary 423 Hickory Creek Road, Lenoir City

August 17, 2004 - Claxton Elementary 2218 Clinton Highway, Powell

August 30, 2004 - Hardin Valley Elementary 11445 Hardin Valley Road, Knoxville

August 31, 2004 - Karns Elementary 8018 Beaver Ridge Road, Knoxville

TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely announced November 10, 2003 that the department was committed to using CSS in designing SR-475 Knoxville Beltway. "CSS is an approach that involves all stakeholders to develop a transportation facility that fits its physical setting, and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historical and environmental resources, while maintaining safety and mobility," said Nicely. "It is a process that is based heavily on input from the public, the people who pay for the project and who will use it."

For more information, call the Knoxville Parkway Hotline toll-free 1.888.447.7475, e-mail info@knoxvilleparkway.com or visit the web site: www.knoxvilleparkway.com.