



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS DIVISION
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PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Availability

Finding of No Significant Impact Issued for the I-24 Southeast Choice Lanes Project

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is announcing the availability of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) environmental document for public inspection. The FONSI was approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on June 16, 2026, for the proposed I-24 Southeast Choice Lanes Project between I-40 and I-840 in Davidson and Rutherford counties, Tennessee.

The project would include widening the existing interstate to accommodate the addition of price-managed lanes (Choice Lanes) in each direction, adding additional interchange and access points, and interchange improvements. The project would use the Public-Private Partnership (P3) model, where TDOT would partner with a private entity that would design, build, finance, operate and maintain the proposed Choice Lanes. The P3 model would also leverage the potential for innovations in design and flexibility during construction, as well as the revenue-generating mechanism of price-managed Choice Lanes, enabling accelerated project delivery

The Build Alternative, also referred to as the Recommended Preferred Alternative or Build Alternative 1A, is the result of refinements to Alternative 1 to address public and stakeholder comments and minimize environmental impacts. This alternative would consist of:

- Constructing two new Choice Lanes in each direction on approximately 26 miles of I-24 Southeast and installing associated signage and fee collection infrastructure.
- Realigning and reconstructing approximately 17 miles of existing general-purpose or High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes impacted on I-24 Southeast by Choice Lanes construction. The current number of general-purpose and HOV lanes would remain the same and all general-purposes lanes within the project limits would be resurfaced.
- Modifying existing interchanges and intersections and adding new interchanges to provide Choice Lanes access.
- Replacing 37 bridges, widening 3 bridges and constructing 55 new bridges.
- Constructing approximately 77 retaining walls at a length of approximately 18.9 miles to minimize right of way (ROW) and environmental impacts and extend the width of the road, where needed.
- Constructing approximately 30 noise abatement barriers, as needed.
- Approximately 43 acres of ROW acquisition.

The purpose of the project is to provide a cost-feasible transportation option that offers travel time advantages with user participation for both passenger and commercial vehicles along I-24,

between I-40 south of downtown Nashville and I-840 near Murfreesboro by addressing the following transportation issues:

- Capacity
- Travel times
- Limited funding and accelerate project delivery

Based on the issues above, the project is needed to address increasing urban congestion caused by insufficient capacity. This can be defined and measured by slow travel speeds accompanied by high travel demand, weaving issues due to traffic density and geometric constraints at system-to-system interchanges and bottlenecks in critical areas along the corridor.

In 2023, the Transportation Modernization Act (TMA) was signed into law, giving TDOT the authority to enter into P3 contracts and develop user-fee facility projects to address congestion. The project would meet the legislative intent of the TMA by relying on a P3, thus addressing the limited funding aspect of the project's need and the need to accelerate project delivery.

The FONSI is available on the project website at <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/projects/region-3/interstate-24-choice-lanes-.html>

Questions: Anyone with questions regarding the FONSI or the I-24 Southeast Choice Lanes project should contact the Project Team at TDOT.24ChoiceLanes@tn.gov or (615) 451-8039.