

SEPT 2024

MONTHLY NEWS

A Message to Our TDOT Family

We wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the delay in sending out this month's newsletter in light of the recent devastation that has deeply impacted East Tennessee. As we all know, these have been challenging times, and we felt it was important to pause and reflect on the magnitude of what our communities are facing.

Our hearts and thoughts go out to everyone who has been affected, whether directly or through loved ones, and we want to express our deepest gratitude to the TDOT teams who continue to work tirelessly around the clock. Your dedication and resilience are remarkable, and we are humbled by the unwavering support you're providing to ensure the safety and recovery of our roads and communities.

As we move forward, please know that we stand together through these tough times. Thank you for your hard work, compassion, and commitment to serving Tennessee.



TDOT Wins Two Awards at AASHTO's 2024 TransComm Conference

TDOT proudly brought home two prestigious awards from the Annual Committee on Transportation Communications (TransComm) Conference, held in Atlanta, GA, from September 22-25. These accolades highlight TDOT's dedication to innovative and strategic communication efforts that resonate with both local and national audiences.

TDOT earned an **Excel Award** for its 2024 **National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW)** campaign, which featured a vibrant and engaging comic book theme. This campaign stood out for its creativity and effectiveness in raising public awareness about work zone safety. Through this innovative approach, TDOT not only spread awareness but also made a lasting impact on drivers across the state.

Additionally, TDOT's **America's River Crossing on I-55 Over the Mississippi River Bridge Replacement Project** logo took home the award for **Best Logo**. The logo was developed for the proposed project to replace a critical bridge connecting Memphis, TN, and West Memphis, AR. Featuring the Memphis skyline, the design was intentionally agnostic to the bridge's final structure, allowing flexibility while emphasizing the regional and national significance of the crossing. The logo's color palette reflected both Tennessee and the United States, and the design effectively elevated the visibility of the project.

These awards underscore TDOT's commitment to creativity, strategic communications, and impactful storytelling. Each initiative demonstrated how the power of innovative design and outreach can drive awareness, build trust, and make a meaningful difference.



EPIC Careers Updates

EPIC Careers continues to be your one-stop resource for the latest updates to TDOT's organizational charts and divisional information. Recently, we've added a fresh round of videos featuring directors from several key divisions, sharing updates and insights on the important work being done across our department.

If you haven't visited EPIC Careers lately, now is the perfect time to explore these new additions. [CLICK HERE](#) to watch the latest director videos and gain a deeper understanding of their teams' work:

- **Strategic Planning, Research and Innovation** – Julie Carmean, Director
- **Local Programs and Community Investments Division** – Steve Allen, Director
- **Occupational Health & Safety** – Clay Culwell, Director
- **Maintenance Operations** – Jamie Waller, Director
- **Traffic Operations** – Josh Brown, Director

Make sure to check out these videos to stay informed about the work happening across TDOT's divisions. You won't want to miss these insights directly from our leadership!



TDOT TV Celebrates Its First Month on the Air



TDOT successfully launched its first ever digital signage system TDOT TV on August 26. Today, more than 280 TDOT TV players are streaming content across all four TDOT Regions. More than 75 stories and 10 videos have already played on the platform.

Employees in the field, who were previously limited in the way they received TDOT internal communications, now receive TDOT updates directly via their TDOT TV screens. They'll see content from Safety, IT, HR, TDOT leadership, SmartWay, weather, local updates, Tennessee news, TDOT social media and more. Employees can interact directly with TDOT TV by scanning QR codes, which lead to full stories, contests and videos.

TDOT TV reflects another important layer of **EPIC (Empowering People, Influencing Culture)**. By ensuring that all employees—whether in the field, office, or remote—have access to the latest information, TDOT TV serves as an innovative tool that fosters clear communication and keeps everyone connected. It's part of our broader effort to empower employees with the information they need to do their jobs effectively and to strengthen our organizational culture by continuously finding new ways to communicate.

The TDOT TV network is managed centrally at TDOT HQ in Nashville, but TDOT Regional Communications teams have the ability to coordinate and add local content by Region, District and individual sites if needed. Contact your Regional Communications team if you'd like to coordinate content locally.

TDOT TV network is intended to be for the employees and by the employees, so we're counting on employees to give feedback on what they like and don't like. We're also asking employees at all levels to submit story ideas and let us know about the great things going on in their areas. Contact us today at TDOT.TV@tn.gov. If you have content ideas for TDOT TV, you can submit them using this [FORM](#).

Thank you for watching TDOT TV!

The 2024 Engagement Survey is live – This is our TDOT. Let's Make it EPIC.



As **ANNOUNCED** by Commissioner Eley on September 19, TDOT received our next Engagement Survey. Check out the survey Share Point page, and click the video link below to learn more.

[Sharepoint](#)

[Video](#)

"For TDOT to be successful in our mission of providing a safe and reliable transportation system to support economic growth and quality of life, **we need to focus first on investing in our people**," Eley said. "We must be strategic in how we manage these investments, and I believe that your opinions and perspectives are a valuable part of developing this strategy. That's why I'm counting on you to participate in the upcoming 2024 Employee Engagement Survey. Simply put – **we need and value your insights.**"

Here are some important things to know about the survey:

- All employees have received an email from Employee.Engagement@tn.gov with the subject line: **Employee Engagement Survey 2024.**
- Survey responses are anonymous.
- TDOT leadership values your constructive feedback. Surveys are an important first step to improving the employee experience and promoting TDOT as an employer of choice.
- The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes.

This [FAQ](#) will answer many questions employees may have, but employees can also email Employee.Engagement@tn.gov.

Employee.Engagement@tn.gov

Want to get involved or have feedback? Click here!