



**KINGSPORT-AREA COMMITTED BUT UNFUNDED
ROAD PROJECTS IDENTIFIED**

Bill Moore addresses transportation funding dilemma with Sen. Jim Tracy

KINGSPORT, Tenn. (Oct. 29, 2015) – Bill Moore, chairman of the Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance and former chief engineer for the Tennessee Department of Transportation, today highlighted several committed but unfunded road projects in the Kingsport area, projects that cannot be carried out due to the state’s funding dilemma surrounding transportation infrastructure.

Moore’s presentation was part of a hearing hosted by Senate Transportation and Safety Committee Chairman Jim Tracy, R-Shelbyville, to discuss Tennessee’s roads and transportation needs. Sen. Tracy will host a total of nine such hearings across the state in an effort to get input from a wide variety of residents and community leaders on transportation infrastructure needs and possible funding solutions.

(KINGSPORT-AREA LIST ATTACHED)

“The Kingsport area is experiencing rapid growth in terms of population and economy,” said Moore. “The committed but unfunded projects highlighted today are important, and would go a long way toward helping the quality of life for residents and businesses alike. Our state faces a funding dilemma, and it will take all of us working together to solve it.”

“The Transportation Coalition of Tennessee applauds Sen. Jim Tracy for bringing attention to our state’s transportation infrastructure dilemma,” said Susie Alcorn, executive director of the Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance. “Our state leaders must determine how we will pay for the very real infrastructure needs of our state’s cities and counties. The future prosperity of Tennessee depends on it. I thank Sen. Tracy for his leadership on this important issue.”

State and local transportation projects in Tennessee are funded primarily by state and federal fuel-tax revenues. These projects include maintenance, repair and new construction. Tennessee’s fuel taxes have not changed since 1989, yet the state’s population has increased 14 percent since 2000, bringing more traffic to roads and highways. Transportation experts estimate it would take an additional \$6 billion to \$8 billion to begin to seriously address some of the committed but unfunded road projects across Tennessee.

The Transportation Coalition of Tennessee has posted a new, interactive Web page showing nearly 400 unfunded state road/highway projects. The Web page is part of the coalition's ongoing education initiative to highlight transportation infrastructure funding problems.

The link to the Web page is <http://www.tcoftn.org/unfunded-projects.html>.

For more information or to join the Transportation Coalition of Tennessee, visit its website at www.TransportationCoalitionTN.org.

For more information, please contact:

Susie Alcorn
Executive Director
Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance
(615) 763-3835

Keith Miles (kmiles@mpf.com) or
Alice Chapman (achapman@mpf.com)
McNeely Pigott & Fox
(615) 259-4000