



**STATEMENT BY TRANSPORTATION COALITION OF TENNESSEE
Regarding Rep. Mike Harrison Announcement**

April 8, 2015

NASHVILLE – “The members of the Transportation Coalition of Tennessee applaud today’s announcement by Rep. Mike Harrison that he plans to work with Gov. Haslam to find an answer for Tennessee’s transportation infrastructure funding problem.

“This is an issue that is only going to get larger and more expensive to fix the longer we wait to address it.

“We know good roads mean safe roads. We know good roads attract economic development. We know that keeping our roads and bridges up-to-date creates jobs for Tennesseans.

“The problem is that funding has not kept pace with demand. The largest generators of funds for transportation infrastructure are gasoline and diesel user fees, which were last raised more than 25 years ago.

“In the meantime, vital transportation projects remain only on paper. Our cities and counties scramble to keep up with the repair and construction of local roads. Citizens in our largest cities struggle with lengthy work commutes due to congestion. Providing transit remains a concern around the state as we address system expansion and population growth.

“The Coalition pledges its support to Rep. Harrison and the administration as they seek an answer.”

- Susie Alcorn, executive director of the Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance

Video of Rep. Harrison’s remarks in committee available here:

<http://www.tcoftn.org/press-room.html>

REPORTER/EDITOR NOTE:

Below are links to important background information, including the current state backlogged project list, the 2015 report from the comptroller’s office on transportation infrastructure funding and the economic impact study released by the TCT.

Comptroller report

<http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/OREA/PublicationDetails.aspx?ReportKey=57b20768-f541-4531-bfac-4746da14d85c>

Economic impact study

[TNinfrastructure.org/Ebook](http://www.tninfrastructure.org/Ebook)

Backlogged project list

<http://www.tninfrastructure.org/#!tdot-backlog/clrc>

ABOUT THE TRANSPORTATION COALITION OF TENNESSEE

The Transportation Coalition of Tennessee was created to educate the public and state legislators as it seeks an increase and reform in Tennessee's transportation fees. The coalition aims to recruit other interested parties to join in seeking a comprehensive funding solution to maintain and expand Tennessee's critical transportation system.

Participants in the Transportation Coalition of Tennessee include businesses, citizens, community leaders, public officials and organizations that are interested in continuing Tennessee's transportation infrastructure for the long haul.

The Transportation Coalition steering committee includes representatives from the Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance, Auto Club Group/AAA Tennessee, Tennessee Public Transportation Association, Tennessee Trucking Association, Tennessee County Highway Officials Association, Tennessee Municipal League, American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee and Tennessee Road Builders Association.

Tennessee is a pay-as-you-go state, with transportation projects funded primarily by state and federal fuel tax revenues. The dollars are apportioned for state and local projects, which include maintenance, repair and new construction.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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