

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Input Opportunities Available for Draft Mobility Plan 2045

Knoxville, Tennessee – March 4, 2021 – A draft of Mobility Plan 2045 will be available on Monday, March 8 at <u>knoxmobility.org</u> for public comments.

Last fall, local jurisdictions submitted applications for all potential projects to be included in the plan. Projects were selected and prioritized after consideration of both technical analysis and public input. All proposed projects and accompanying information can be found on an interactive map on the plan website. The map will allow users to zoom in to any county within the TPO planning area and filter projects by mode to see those directly affecting them. It will also allow users to submit comments on projects straight from the map.

"We want to make sure residents are aware of upcoming projects in their communities," said TPO Director Jeff Welch. "Once the plan is adopted, many of these projects will start to move through the development process. Transportation projects can have a big impact on a community, so we want to make sure people know what to expect. We also want residents to stay engaged throughout the life of these projects to help shape them as they unfold."

To provide more information about the draft plan, and to give community members an opportunity to speak to staff about specific topics or projects, a series of virtual meetings has been scheduled throughout the month of March. Transportation Tuesdays will be hosted during lunch for three Tuesdays in the month, and each will focus on a different theme relating to the plan. There will also be two Virtual Town Hall events held at the end of the month. These will allow participants to move into breakout rooms organized by county to find out more about specific projects that are important to them. Finally, the regularly scheduled TPO Technical Committee and Executive Board Meetings will be open to the public.

Transportation Tuesdays:

Tuesday, March 9, 12:00 p.m. – Mobility Plan 2045 Overview Tuesday, March 16, 12:00 p.m. – Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Tuesday, March 23, 12:00 p.m. – Streets and Highways

Virtual Town Halls:

Thursday, March 25, 12:00 p.m. – County specific project overview Thursday, March 25, 5:00 p.m. – County specific project overview

Regularly Scheduled Meetings:

Tuesday, March 9, 9:00 a.m. – TPO Technical Committee Meeting Wednesday, March 24, 9:00 a.m. – TPO Executive Board Meeting

Additional details and registration links can be found at knoxmobility.org.

Mobility Plan 2045 is the region's long-range transportation plan and is updated every four years to account for changes in community and regional priorities, technology, project costs, and available funding. This update will guide transportation investments in the region for the next 25 years. It allows federal money to be received for transportation projects and ensures that we're making the best long-term decisions for our residents, employers, and visitors. For more information on Mobility Plan 2045, please visit https://knoxmobility.org or contact the project team at mobility@knoxplanning.org.

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Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) coordinates a comprehensive, multimodal transportation planning process for the Knoxville Urban Area. Member jurisdictions include Knox County and the urbanized areas of Anderson, Blount, Loudon and Sevier Counties and includes the following cities: Alcoa, Clinton, Knoxville, Lenoir City, Loudon, Maryville and Oak Ridge, the Town of Farragut, Tennessee Department of Transportation and East Tennessee Development District. For more information, visit our website: www.knoxtpo.org