

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

For more information, contact: Jeff Welch Transportation Planning Manager/TPO Director Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization 865-215-3790 jeff.welch@knoxtpo.org

TPO Shares Draft Mobility Plan 2045

Knoxville, Tennessee – March 8, 2021 – The TPO has shared a draft of Mobility Plan 2045 and the accompanying project list for a final round of community input. 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 projects, along with important information, can be found on an interactive map at <u>https://maps.knoxmpc.org/app/mobility</u>. The map allows users to zoom in to any county within the TPO planning area to see projects most directly affecting them. It also allows users to view projects by mode, helping users filter and locate projects they are most interested in.

"Community input helped us determine our final project list, and we want to make sure residents are aware of the final list 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 them 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 held over 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 Hall:

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

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 <u>https://knoxmobility.org</u> or contact the project team at <u>mobility@knoxplanning.org</u>.

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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