

Legislature increases unemployment taxes

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

With state unemployment numbers marking the highest level since the 1970s (9.9 percent in April), the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation earlier this month to prevent the Unemployment Trust Fund from going broke.

The new measure increases the amount employers are taxed from \$7,000 to \$9,000 and raises the tax rate by point-six percent. With the new tax, employers can expect to pay an additional \$108 per employee each year.

The bill also provides for repealing the surcharge when the trust fund (now \$235 million)

reaches \$650 million and reduces the wage base when it reaches \$1 billion. The federal government recommends that during good economic times Tennessee should maintain a balance of \$1.2 billion.

By state statute, as the trust fund decreases, a higher tax rate is triggered in order to keep pace with the increase in claims. In January 2009, the tax went from the third-lowest of six rate tables to the highest. The new tax rate brings Tennessee in line with the Southeast average of \$9,000 but still ranks below the nation average of \$11,570.

States pay for unemployment benefits through payroll taxes levied on employers. These taxes are deposited into the federal Unemployment Trust Fund. See **FUND** on Page 7

U.S. Congressmen to speak at TML Annual Conference

Transportation funding and alternative energy will be among the topics addressed by two Tennessee Congressmen during the 70th Annual Conference of the Tennessee Municipal League.

Rep. John Duncan, Jr., and Rep. Zach Wamp will serve as keynote speakers during the TML conference, slated for June 14 – 16, in Chattanooga.

Congressman Wamp will kick off the conference during the Opening General Session on Sunday, June 14, at 3:00 p.m. Wamp, who has represented Tennessee's Third Congressional District since 1995, has established himself as a leader on national issues like alternative energy, preventive health care, and global security. He is a former co-chairman of the House Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Cau-

cus and was instrumental in the formation and success of the Tennessee Valley Corridor.

What started in 1995 as a regional economic summit has grown into a national award-winning economic development organization focused on high-tech research, development, manufacturing and investment in the Tennessee Valley Corridor. Wamp will discuss his work with the Corridor and how it is helping to create the jobs of the future by teaming with local government officials to achieve regional success. He will also talk about his work on the House Appropriations Committee and the Energy and Water Subcommittee.

Congressman Duncan, who currently serves as ranking member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Highways and Transit Subcommittee, will share his insights into the many challenges facing the nation's transportation system on Monday, June 15, during the Second General Session.

With a September deadline drawing near to enact a new reauthorization plan for the nation's highway programs, congressional committees have begun serious talks on the future of surface transportation. The debate has focused heavily on how to pay for long-term maintenance of the current system while meeting the needs of future de-



John Duncan, Jr.



Zach Wamp

mands.

Duncan, who has represented the Second Congressional District since 1988, is a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and also holds seats on the House Committee on Natural Resources, which retains jurisdiction over national parks and natural resources, and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

New law shortens time to correct negative changes for water, wastewater plants

BY DICK PHEBUS
MTAS Finance Consultant

Public Chapter 72 pertaining to the operation of water and wastewater facilities in Tennessee was recently signed into law. The act, which became effective on April 15, 2009, amends T.C.A. § 68-221-1010(a) by requiring the Comptroller of the Treasury to file a copy of an audit report with the water and wastewater financing board for any water system or wastewater system that has a negative change in net assets for two consecutive years.

Prior to this change the law required the audit report to be filed for any system that had a negative change in net assets for three consecutive years.

The wording of the amendment retains two additional factors that identify a financially distressed water or wastewater system. Listed below are the factors that now identify a financially distressed system for the purpose of reporting the system to the water and wastewater financing board.

Any one of these factors will result in a water or wastewater system being considered financially distressed:

- A deficit total net assets in any one year;
- A negative change in net assets for two consecutive years; or

- Currently in default on any debt instruments.

This amendment deleted:

(1) The provision that allowed water and wastewater systems seven years old or less to ignore depreciation expense in determining whether the system has a deficit total net assets or a negative change in net assets; and

(2) The provision that allowed a water or wastewater facility that has total net assets at least four times greater than total debt to disregard depreciation expense in determining the criteria for filing a report to the water and wastewater financial board. After the effective date of the act depreciation expense for all systems will be considered regardless of age or financial condition.

Compliance with the new requirements will be effective for all municipal and utility district audits received by the comptroller's office after April 15, 2009.

MTAS recommends that municipal management and finance officials should carefully review the operations of their water and wastewater systems to ensure compliance with the new requirements of the act. For systems that exhibit any of the three symptoms listed above, management should consider taking steps to correct the issue before being referred to the water and wastewater financing board.



The Capitol Steps' Supreme Court disco number, "Stayin' Alive," pokes fun at the age of the justices.

Capitol Steps sure to entertain with nonpartisan, political satire

More than 25 years ago, the Capitol Steps began as a group of U.S. Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them. Since then, the Capitol Steps have recorded 28 albums, have been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, and PBS, and is a returning favorite at National League of Cities conferences.

The Tennessee Municipal League is bringing the ensemble to the 2009 Annual Conference in Chattanooga to perform Monday, June 15, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

With lyrics ripped straight

from today's headlines, the Troupe creates song parodies and skits which convey a special brand of satirical humor. Most cast members have worked on Capitol Hill; some for Democrats, some for Republicans, and others for politicians who firmly straddle the fence. No matter who holds office, there's never a shortage of material.

Most recently, the Capitol Steps are having fun with the fact that the press is so enamored with Barack, in the form of their song "Obama Mia." And Hillary grits her teeth and tries to be happy to be Barack's Secretary of State, in the song "Ebony and

Ovaries." Or what about Illinois Governor Blagojevich's attempted sale of the Senate seat with "Come Buy With Me."

The Capitol Steps tackle international issues as well, such as North Korean leader Kim Jong Il singing show tunes "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Korea?" and Vladimir Putin showing his 'soul' in "Midnight Raid to Georgia."

No matter who's in the headlines, the Capitol Steps are equal opportunity offenders promising an evening full of bipartisan lampooning.

Only minor errors found in Bond Fund audit

Board frequently approved Seivers status as independent contractor

An outside audit has found only minor errors in billing in the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund and reaffirms statements by TMBF President and CEO Charles G. "Bones" Seivers that he regularly advised and received approval from the board of directors about his status as a private contractor with the ability to receive income outside the TMBF.

The audit was performed by Pugh & Company, P.C., a Knoxville based public accounting firm, and delivered to the TMBF Board of Directors at its meeting on June 13 in Chattanooga.

In May, *The Tennessean* raised questions about possible overpayments by several local governments borrowing money from the bond fund. The newspaper also questioned Seivers' status as a private contractor with TMBF and his compensation package.

"Our examination included the review of approximately 17,372 transactions related to 339 borrowers," the report states. "In approximately 99 percent of the transactions we examined, the fees charged did not exceed the fees allowed to be charged. In addition, for the period



Pugh & Company, P.C., examined more than 17,372 transactions related to 339 borrowers and found only minor errors.

we examined, the total fees charged represented approximately 37 percent of the total fees that TMBF and TCSLP were allowed to charge in accordance with the Program Management Contracts and Loan Agreements."

Specifically, the audit said TMBF incorrectly billed a total of \$44,993.86 of which \$20,493.60 has already been refunded to Metro Nashville. Seivers said after the

board of directors approves the audit findings, the remaining \$24,500.26 will be refunded and the affected local governments will be notified.

Auditors suggested four changes to the program:

1. "TMBF and TCSLP should instruct the Trustee of the active pools to perform a detailed review of the governing documents to determine what fees can be charged and their See **TMBF** on Page 8

TML president appoints Nominating Committee

TML President Tom Beehan appoints the 2009 Nominating Committee:

- Tom Rowland, Cleveland Mayor, Chair (East Tennessee)
- Tommy Green, Alamo Mayor (West Tennessee)
- Tommy Pedigo, Sparta Mayor (Middle Tennessee)
- Johnny Dodd, Jackson Councilmember (West Tennessee)
- Kay Senter, Morristown Vice Mayor (East Tennessee)
- Johnny Piper, Clarksville Mayor, (Middle Tennessee)
- Tom Beehan, Oak Ridge Mayor, (Ex-Officio, non-voting member)

The committee will meet on Monday morning, June 15, from 9 to 10 in the Directors Room of the Chattanooga Marriott.

The nominating process

In accordance with the TML by-



Tom Rowland

laws, the Nominating Committee will nominate a slate of officers and at-large board directors for the 2009-2010 term of office. The positions are:

- President
- First Vice President
- Second Vice President
- Third Vice President
- Eight At-large Directors

See **BOARD** on Page 8

NEWS
ACROSS
TENNESSEE



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

CHATTANOOGA

The Chattanooga Human Services Program has earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the nation’s leading organization of early childhood professionals. The program has provided services to the community for more than 30 years and is among only six childcare centers in Chattanooga Hamilton and in the State that has such status. The program provides quality childcare services to low-to moderate-income families in order for them to continue their education, remain employed and to provide services for teen parents to complete their high school education. To earn NAEYC Accreditation, the childcare staff completed an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against 10 NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria.

CHATTANOOGA

Chattanooga waterways will have more watchful eyes on them after security cameras are installed underneath three bridges in the city. A Department of Homeland Security grant awarded to the city two years ago will give Chattanooga money to purchase cameras and sniffers to monitor activity on the Tennessee River. Sniffers are devices that detect the presence of unauthorized material, such as explosives. Cameras are expected to be placed underneath the Walnut Street, Market Street and Veterans bridges.

FRANKLIN

The Water Management Department is reaching out to children and families with the “Don’t be a Water Hog, be a Water Hero” campaign. It will involve 7th graders from the Franklin Special School District. Students from Belmont University’s Students in Free Enterprise program (SIFE) will serve as mentors to the 7th graders as they produce a video and develop a coloring book and story around the water hog-water hero theme. The students will also be encouraged to bring in their utility bills over a three-month period to see who can lower their families’ water usage by practicing conservation. Ongoing measures taken by the Water Management Department to conserve the city’s water supply include: a new leak detection program, scheduled to be implemented in the next few months; rehabilitation of the city’s raw water reservoir, with construction beginning the end of 2009; and educating the public with the water hog-water hero campaign.

FRANKLIN

The city will provide citizens with a 24-hour online request system to make it easier for citizens to file a service request or a complaint. Citizens will be able to choose a department within the city, file a service request, and track the request as it moves through the system and the service is rendered. Citizens wanting to reach any city department or just wanting to get in touch with their local Aldermen or Mayor can use the new 24-hour online system. When using the system, a user is guided

through a simple three-step process that identifies the problem, location of the problem, and the user’s contact information. If the user chooses to be notified, e-mails will be automatically sent notifying them of the status of the problem or code enforcement violation as it moves toward a final resolution.

HENDERSONVILLE/
SUMNER COUNTY

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation met with city leaders in Sumner County. They are teaming up for a pilot plan to help integrate the water supply in the region. During the 2007 drought, cities started asking each other for water not knowing how much was available or how quickly it could be supplied. The state hopes to help those cities integrate their water systems to ensure the entire county will be covered next time there was a drought. The State Department of Environment and Conservation chose Sumner County for a pilot program with the mission to bring together every city with a water system and connect them better. Officials hope to have a finalized plan sometime in 2010. If the project is successful, it could be used as a model for other counties throughout the state.

JACKSON

Delta Faucet announced that it will hire 200 additional people starting next month. The company will move its assembly and brazing operations from Greensburg, Ind., to Jackson. Brazing is the process of attaching copper tubes to brass faucet bodies. The company will hire throughout the end of this year. The additional 200 people will increase Delta Faucet’s ranks from around 600 to about 800 employees. New and current employees will braze and assemble Delta and Brizo brand faucet products that are currently produced in Greensburg. The company will move equipment from its Indiana plant to Jackson to perform the operations.

KINGSTON

The first study on the environmental effects of the Kingston fly-ash spill shows fish in the Emory and Clinch rivers contain high levels of selenium, though researchers say the toxin could have been accumulating in fish tissue for years. The study - released by researchers at Appalachian State University, environmental publication Appalachian Voices, the Tennessee Aquarium and Wake Forest University, also found that some cenospheres from the ash, previously thought to be inert, are coated with iron oxide that could carry arsenic and other toxins downstream. Cenospheres are particles of silica that float on the surface of water when released from the ash.

LEXINGTON

Young Touchstone has laid off 140 employees at plants in Jackson and Lexington. Seventy employees, totaling 30 percent of the company’s local workforce, was laid off from each of the two plants. The company manufactures heat exchange units for the railroad industry and heavy industrial applications. The layoffs were a result of lower sales and the current state of the economy.

LINDEN

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has put 46 Perry Countians to work with funds from the American Recov-

ery and Reinvestment Act. The hires are part of Gov. Phil Bredesen’s plan to reduce unemployment in the Middle Tennessee County by 40 percent by hiring 300 people there. The new hires will work as maintenance workers throughout TDOT’s District 35, which includes Perry, Dickson, Hickman and Humphreys counties. The new employees will pick up litter, remove trees and weeds, mow grass, remove graffiti, clean culverts and paint and repair fences. When Bredesen outlined his employment plan on May 15 in Linden, Perry County’s unemployment rate was 25.4 percent, the highest in the state with 760 citizens there out of work.

MEMPHIS

Memphis ranked 37th on a list of America’s 50 fittest cities by the American College of Sports Medicine. The American Fitness Index is a snapshot look at the state of health and fitness in America’s 50 most populous metros. The ranking is a composite of preventive health behaviors, levels of chronic disease conditions, health care access, community resources and public policies that support physical activity. Memphis scored an aggregated 38.5 in these categories.

NASHVILLE

State employees who work in the Metro Nashville area will be able to continue riding public transit to and from work at no cost under a new agreement reached between the Metropolitan Transit Authority, Regional Transportation Authority, Tennessee Department of Transportation and Department of General Services. In addition, employees who live east of Nashville will now be able to take the Music City Star to work at no cost beginning July 1, 2009. The state’s participation in the program will continue through at least June 2010. The service will be available for work trips only. Employees who currently participate in the program and have a Swipe and Ride card should notice no change in service and may continue using their current cards. Beginning July 1, state workers who wish to begin utilizing this service can apply for the program by visiting the TDOT’s [Smart Commute web page](#) and filling out an application or can pick up an application from their department’s Human Resources Office. TDOT will coordinate card issuance with MTA. Nashville MTA route information is available online at [www.nashvillemta.org](#) or by contacting the MTA customer service call center at 615-862-5950.

OAK RIDGE

The government has paid out more than \$1 billion in claims to 9,134 Tennesseans made ill from working in the nuclear weapons facilities at Oak Ridge during the Cold War. The Labor Department announced the latest tally saying others may still be eligible who haven’t filed claims. The Tennesseans worked at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant, the former K-25 uranium enrichment plant or the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Since the program began in 2001, about one in five payouts have gone to Tennesseans. The program provides compensation and medical benefits to workers diagnosed with cancer or other illnesses caused by workplace exposure to radiation, beryllium or silica.

SHELBYVILLE

The Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) have won a \$50,000 award for its Welcoming Tennessee Initiative, partially focused in Shelbyville over the past year. The prize, called the E Pluribus Unum national award for exceptional immigrant integration initiatives, was given to the TIRRC in Washington, D.C., by the Migration Policy Institute (MPI).

One Source
Document Solutions, Inc.

Document Management
Simplified™

“Serving Municipalities Across the Southeast”

Provide Instant Access to Paper and Digital Records

Significantly Reduce Costs & Improve Customer Service

Achieve Highly Secure Records Protection and Archiving

Automate Approvals and Manual Business Processes with “Workflow”

Increase Staff Productivity with Minimal Training

Provide Public Access to Records from Your Website

Ask about our “Agenda Management” solutions to
fully automate your entire meeting creation and distribution
process using a simple, flexible Web form!

One Source Document Solutions, Inc.
865-256-0903
www.osdsinc.com

Winners Circle VAR

Professional Water and Wastewater Operations

Sandy Neal, SPHR
Vice President

206 South Keene Street • Columbia, MO 65201
573-874-8080 Ext. 224 • Fax: 573-443-0833
Cell: 573-808-5946 • [sneal@alliancewater.com](#)

Discover ARCADIS . . .
Total business solutions that add value to your bottom line

Infrastructure

■ Transportation
■ Water Resources
■ Program Management/Construction Management
■ Land Resources

Facilities

■ Buildings
■ Operating Facilities Management
■ Remediation Management

Environment

■ Site Investigation
■ Remediation
■ Risk and Associated Services

Business Solutions

■ Strategic Consulting
■ GRP Remediation Program
■ Property Redevelopment—Guaranteed
■ Environmental Asset and Liability Management

Knowlville 865.675.6700
Chattanooga 423.756.7193
[www.arcadis-us.com](#)

Consulting • Design • Project Management

Civil

Survey

Environmental

Planning

TH&P

Solutions for the Future

3428 Bristol Highway
Johnson City, TN 37601

TYSINGER, HAMPTON & PARTNERS, INC.

(423) 282.2687 P (423) 282.1621 F
[thp@tysinger-engineering.com](#) • [www.tysinger-engineering.com](#)

JOEL B. SPAULDING
& COMPANY, INC.

2402 WINFORD AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37217
PHONE (615) 255-7766
FAX (615) 255-7767

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Engineering • Planning • Public Finance

Municipal
Commercial
Industrial
Residential

Water • Wastewater • Collection • Distribution
Treatment • Site Design • Land Planning • Roads
Storm Water • Erosion Control • General Civil
Solid Waste • Regulatory Compliance & Permitting
Planning • Public Finance • Grants

248 Bruce Street
Sevierville, Tennessee 37862
[www.mcgillengineers.com](#)

ph 865.908.0575
fx 865.908.0110

HART FREELAND ROBERTS, INC.

Committed To Excellence Through
Client Satisfaction Since 1910

Brentwood, TN
615.370.8500
[www.hfrdesign.com](#)

Jackson, TN
731.660.1322

RAGAN • SMITH

LAND PLANNERS • CIVIL ENGINEERS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS • SURVEYORS

315 WOODLAND ST. P.O. BOX 60070
NASHVILLE, TN 37206
PHONE (615) 244-8591 FAX (615) 244-6739
[WWW.RAGANSMITH.COM](#)

Your Professional Employee Benefit Company

The Malone Company

124 North Main Avenue • P.O. Box 616
Fayetteville, TN 37334

Jim Malone
President

Office: (931) 433-6907
FAX: (931) 433-9714
Toll Free (888) 752-7126

Email: [Jim_Malone@TheMaloneCompany.com](#)

American Traffic Solutions

Daniel S. Foglton
Senior Business
Development
Director

14861 N. Scottsdale Road
Suite 109
Scottsdale, Arizona 85254

Cell: 803.466.0628
Tel: 480.368.0900 ext. 246
email: [dan.foglton@atsol.com](#)
Fax: 480.607.0901
Online: [www.atsol.com](#)

Tennessee Municipal League 70th Annual Conference

Sunday, June 14, 2009
9:00 - 5:00 pm *Hall C-D*
Registration *Chattanooga Convention Center Hall C-D, CCC*

9:00 - 5:00 pm
Exhibit Hall Open

10 - 10:45 am *Hall C-D, CCC*
First Vendor Workshop:
OHM (Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc.)
Funding Green Streets and How to Find Money for Stormwater Infiltration
Presenter: Evan Pratt, PE, Principal

The interactive workshop will include example projects and funding sources to demonstrate workable ideas for finding funds for water quality improvements while working in conjunction with your community's road projects. Technical issues such as porous pavement and other infiltration techniques will be discussed; as well as a simple planning/funding cycle process to follow.

11 - 11:45 am *Hall C-D, CCC*
Second Vendor Workshop: Chattanooga
• *Chattanooga Going Green*
Presenter: Gene Hyde, Green Committee
• *Branding Your City and Green PR Tactics*
Presenter: Amanda Galas, Waterhouse PR

Noon *Hall C-D, CCC*
Buffet Lunch
12 - 2 pm *Hall C-D, CCC*
J.R. Wauford & Co Ice Cream
12 - 2 pm *Plaza C*
TCMA Lunch Meeting *Marriott*

1:15 - 2 pm *Hall C-D, CCC*
Third Vendor Workshop
One Source Document Solutions, Inc.
Going Green and Reducing Costs with Dynamic Document Management and Workflow Solutions
Presenter: Kevin B. Smith, Senior VP

Diligent document management enables municipalities to increase staff productivity, reduce costs, enhance regulatory compliance, and conserve natural resources. By eliminating the regular costs associated with printing, copying, shipping, routing and storing documents, this session will review the benefits of implementing document management and workflow strategies that will help cities reduce their carbon footprint and unnecessary expenses.

2:15 to 2:45 p.m. District Meetings
District 1 *Room 9*
Jane Myron, Mayor, Johnson City
District 2 *Room 10*
Cindy C. Ogle, City Manager, Gatlinburg
District 3 *Room 11*
Chris Dorsey, City Manager, Red Bank
District 4 *Room 12*
J.H. Graham, Mayor, Crossville
District 5 *Room 13*
Ken Wilber, Mayor, Portland
District 6 *Room 14*
Betsy Crossley, Mayor, Brentwood
District 7 *Room 15*
Charles Rahm, Councilmember, Jackson
District 8 *Room 16*
Keith McDonald, Mayor, Bartlett

3:00 - 4:15 pm *Ballroom E-F, CCC*
Opening General Session
Presiding: Tom Beehan, Oak Ridge Mayor, TML President
Presentations of Colors:
Chattanooga Fire Department
National Anthem: State Rep. Vince Dean
Keynote Speakers:
U.S. Congressman Zach Wamp
Charlie Geiger, The USA Green Lady

From transportation to energy, the Tennessee Valley Corridor is providing national leadership for keeping America at the forefront of innovation and energy independence. Congressman Zach Wamp will discuss how the Corridor will lead in the research, development, technology and manufacturing of clean energy solutions for the entire world while teaming with local governments to create a generational legacy of economic opportunity for the people of the region.

The USA Green Lady will explore what it means to be "Green" and the connection and responsibility that we have with our environment and our community.

4:30 - 5:30 pm Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 1 *Room 12, CCC*
Budget for Outcomes, Not Costs
Speaker: Jim Chrisinger, Public Strategies

The impact of the recession on communities will be severe. Local governments will have less money for schools, roads, public safety – and virtually everything government does. But what if, amidst the carnage, community leaders use this economic crisis as an opportunity to both save money and deliver better results? This workshop will focus on a different approach to budgeting. Rather than the use of traditional budgeting practices, this method takes the next critical step beyond performance-based budgeting. It starts with the results city officials want for citizens instead of just using last year's expenditures. Decision-

makers focus on the "keeps" instead of the "cuts." Tough choices are still required, but they are made in a framework built around value for tax dollars, not what it costs to do what we currently do.

Workshop 2 *Room 14, CCC*
Harnessing Green Energy: What do these new technologies mean for your community?
Moderator: Charlie Geiger, USA Green Lady
Panelists:
Gil Melear-Hough, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Elizabeth Eason, U.S. Green Building Council
Melissa Voss Lapsa, Oak Ridge National Lab

Is "green" right for every community? Are there limits to green projects that should be avoided or have little benefit? Where can a municipality make the biggest difference for smallest effort and cost? Are savings, alone, reason enough to "go green?" These questions, plus many more, will be answered by our expert panel.

6:30 - 9:30 pm
Host City Reception - Chattanooga Zoo
Buses to depart from Convention Center at 6:00

Chattanooga is just "wild" with excitement over hosting a safari party at the Chattanooga Zoo. Attendees will enjoy an eco-friendly reception using all biodegradable products. All are welcome to stroll through the zoo or simply enjoy a fun ride on the carousel.

Monday, June 15, 2009
8:00- 8:45 am *Hall C-D, CCC*
Continental Breakfast

8 am - 5 pm *Plaza A-B*
TMAA Meeting *Marriott*

9 am - 2 pm *Hall C-D, CCC*
Registration / Exhibit Hall

9:00 - 10:15 am
Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 3 *Room 9, CCC*
More Tools for the Budget Gap Toolkit
Speaker: Jim Chrisinger, Public Strategies

For most of us, there's no single or easy answer to the budgeting dilemmas we face today. And it's probably going to get worse before it gets better. Most of us are not using all the entrepreneurial tools available to us. This session will pique your interest by highlighting successful methods being used by government agencies across the country.

Workshop 4 *Room 13, CCC*
Tennessee Healthcare Survey
Presenters: Mark T. Morgan, President
Michelle Middendorf, CPA,
Lisa Stamm, VP Consulting, Sherrill Morgan

Public agencies from across the state were invited to participate in a health care survey sponsored by the Tennessee Chapter of the International Public Management Association for Human Resources. The purpose of the survey is to communicate current government employee benefit statistics and health plan trends in the Tennessee marketplace. More than 135 organizations, representing 177 different insurance plans and more than 27,000 employees responded to the survey. A summary report of the findings will be presented in this workshop.

Workshop 5 *Room 12, CCC*
Immigration Issues in Tennessee
Moderator: Sarah Adair, Government Relations & Public Policy, University of Memphis
Panelists:
Stephen Fotopoulos, Executive Director, Tenn. Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition
Harry Green, Executive Director, TACIR
Wayne Pitts, Dept. of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Memphis
Joyce Mucci, Field Representative
Federation for American Immigration Reform

The impact of unauthorized immigrants have received considerable attention nationally and in Tennessee. Frustration over federal inaction and lack of enforcement to curb the number of unauthorized aliens has resulted in state and local government attempts to enact laws to increase control and enforcement. Numerous bills were filed in the 105th and 106th Tennessee General Assemblies to try to further limit unauthorized aliens' access to employment, as well as public benefits and services. This workshop will provide information about the issues including data on Tennessee's undocumented immigration population; Federal precedence over state law; potential economic impact on jobs and wages; and how various pieces of proposed legislation on the state and federal level would affect local governments.

Workshop 6 *Room 17, CCC*
Developing a Treasury Management Proposal
Speaker: Tom Boyd, BOA Client Manager

This workshop will provide attendees with helpful hints on developing a request for proposal (RFP) for financial services. It will include information about the RFP timeline, terms and conditions, dos and don'ts of RFPs, evaluating bids and other RFP process considerations.

Workshop 7 *Room 14, CCC*
Fiber Optics & Smart Grid Technologies
Speaker: Katie Espeseth, Vice President, Chattanooga Electric Power Board

Electricity meters smart enough to monitor the flow of energy to homes and businesses are being implemented in a handful of communities in Tennessee. In Chattanooga, through the deployment of fiber optics, the Electric Power Board, is offering Smart Grid technologies to its customers, which allows them to manage their consumption more effectively, thus saving energy and money. This presentation will include EPB's entry into fiber optics, the tremendous savings related to Smart Grid, and the overall economic impact on the entire community.

10:30 - 11:15 *Ballroom E-F*
Second General Session
Presiding: Tommy Pedigo, Sparta Mayor
TML First Vice President

Speaker: U.S. Congressman John Duncan, Jr.

With a September deadline drawing near to enact a new authoriation plan for the nation's highway programs, Congressional committees have begun serious talks on the future of surface transportation. The debate has focused heavily on how to pay for long-term maintenance of the current system while meeting the needs of future demands. Tennessee Congressman John Duncan, who serves as the ranking Republican on the Highways and Transit Subcommittee and is a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, will share his insights on this important reauthorization bill.

11:30 am - 12:15 pm *Ballroom E-F*
Annual Business Meeting
Presiding: Tom Beehan, Oak Ridge Mayor, TML President
President's Annual Report: Tom Beehan
Executive Director's Report: Margaret Mahery
Nominations Committee Report:
Tom Rowland, C leveland Mayor
Risk Pool Report: Lee Holland, President
Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Annual Report:
Charles "Bones" Seivers, President & CEO

12 - 2 pm *East-West*
MTAS Advisory Lunch *Marriott*

12:30 - 1:30 pm *Hall C-D, CCC*
Buffet Lunch

12:30 - 2 pm *Hall C-D, CCC*
J.R. Wauford & Co. Ice Cream
1:30 - 2 pm *Hall C-D, CCC*
Exhibitor Prize Drawings

2:15 - 3:30 pm Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 8 *Room 12, CCC*
Green Ideas to Employ in Your Community
Presenters:
Gene Hyde, Chattanooga Green Committee
Pete Peterson, Johnson City
Erin Burns, Knoxville Solar City
Gary Cinder, Oak Ridge Recyling Bank

Some cities in Tennessee are already leading the way in energy conservation. This panel presentation of cities' best practices will feature information from cities that are taking action to save money; promote new jobs; reduce waste; and support new technology.

Workshop 9 *Room 9, CCC*
Quality Growth through Sustainable Land Use Planning
Speakers: Dr. Bridget Jones, Executive Director
Cumberland Region Tomorrow
Ed Cole, Chief of Environment and Planning, Tennessee Department of Transportation

Learn how the physical layout of your community impacts sustainability and affects the ability to meet your community's goals. This session will present strategies, tools and resources from the Cumberland Region Tomorrow Quality Growth Toolbox that create successful community redevelopment, reinvestment and improved livability. Specific emphasis will be given to the use of comprehensive plans that integrate land use, transportation, housing, parks and open space, and other community services. Strategies that integrate good urban design, context sensitive solutions, and focused infrastructure investments will also be presented.

Workshop 10 *Room 13, CCC*
The Road to the Census 2010
Speaker: William Hatcher, Regional Director

While the process of completing the Census has begun, there remains much yet to do before April 1, 2010, the Official Census Day. Cities need to be actively involved to ensure that a complete count of all residents takes place. There are a number of activities that will take place this year, is your city participating in the process and what can you do to ensure that everyone gets counted in your community?

Workshop 11 *Room 14, CCC*
THDA's Response to the Economic Crisis
Speaker: Lorrie Shearon, THDA Strategy Officer

The Tennessee Housing Development Authority is responsible for administering new funding provided by the federal stimulus legislation. Some programs are designated for public housing authorities, while others are for all communities dealing with foreclosed properties. THDA is also providing first-time homebuyers who are eligible for the \$8,000 home purchase tax credit with a 0% deferred loan for down payment and closing costs. Come hear more about how THDA is reponding to the economic crisis.

3:45 - 4:30 pm Concurrent Workshops
Workshop 12 *Room 17, CCC*
Understanding New Media: Web 2.0
Speaker: Keith Miles, McNeely Pigott & Fox

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube — from social networking sites to podcasting to mobile messaging, Web 2.0 is a rapidly changing field of technology that represents the next generation of Internet use. As citizens increase their use of these new technologies, municipalities have significant opportunities to leverage these tools for citizen outreach. This session will begin with an overview of these new tools, followed by examples of how elected officials and municipal governments can use these platforms to communicate to a new generation of Web-savvy voters.

Workshop 13 *Room 12, CCC*
Municipal Audits and Error Free Procedures
Speaker: Dennis Dycus, Director of Municipal Audit, Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury

Some grant funding for local governments is available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). But before a city decides to apply for or accept ARRA grants, they should determine whether the staff is willing and able to comply with strict accounting and reporting requirements. This workshop will provide a list of directives, internal controls, and risk assessment procedures for accepting ARRA funds. Mr. Dycus will also discuss common and reoccurring mistakes found in municipal audits, as well as the proper procedures for cities to receive payments of fees via a credit card.

Workshop 14
Green Roads For Red Budgets *Room 13, CCC*
Speaker: John Calvert, Director, Tennessee Public Works Institute; & Technical Consultant, Pavement Technology, Inc.

Eco-friendly paving practices can conserve resources while at the same time help cities reduce their carbon footprint. Through the use of pavement rejuvenators, a city's future growth and development is in a cleaner, healthier environment through the reduction of CO2 emissions. This workshop will highlight these environmental benefits as well as present various preservation activities that cities can implement in their communities.

Workshop 15 *Room 17, CCC*
Professional Local Government Management
Panelists: Tom Beehan, Oak Ridge Mayor
Pat Hardy, MTAS Management Consultant
Sam Gaston, City Manager, Mountain Brook, Ala

As the issues that face local government change and problems become more complex, more cities nationwide rely on professionally trained managers to run the daily operations of a city. Panelists will discuss the benefits of professional management and the forms of government that provide this system of leadership.

Workshop 16 *Room 9, CCC*
Marketing Your City for Economic Development
Presenter: Amanda Galas, Waterhouse PR

Actively marketing your city or town is one of the smartest things city leaders can do, even with limited human and financial resources. This session will discuss how a community can promote themselves through branding, media relations, "green" marketing, special events, and grassroots coalition building.

Workshop 17 *Plaza A-B, Marriott*
Bullet proofing Your Administrative Hearings: A Stormwater Appeals Board Example
Speakers: Karen Beyke, Franklin Attorney
John Chlarson, MTAS Consultant

This session will focus on administrative law and the fundamental components of administrative hearings. Information will be provided on procedures of particular hearings such as stormwater, property maintenance, water and wastewater.

5:30 - 6:30 *Ballroom H-I-J*
Capitol Steps
The nationally acclaimed group began more than 25 years ago making bipartisan fun of the nation's political landscape. Since then, they have recorded 28 albums, and have been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, and PBS, and is a returning favorite at NLC conferences.

6:30 - 11 pm *Ballroom E-F-G*
TML Risk Management Pool Party

Tuesday, June 16, 2009
8 - 10 am *Ballroom H-I*
Annual Awards Breakfast
Presiding: Tommy Pedigo, Sparta Mayor
TML First Vice President
Welcome: Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield
TML Achievement Awards
Excellence in Green Leadership: Knoxville
Excellence in Governance: Erwin
Excellence in Human Resources: Chattanooga
Excellence in Public Works: Sparta
Excellence in Police Services: Gallatin
Excellence in Quality of Life Initiatives:
Dyersburg
Community Progress: Kingsport
Small Town Progress: Alexandria
TCMA Excellence in Governance Award
TCAPWA Murphy Snoderly Award
Annual Awards
Stand by Your Spouse Award
City Manager of the Year
Mayor of the Year

TML to present the 2009 Achievement Awards in Chattanooga

Chattanooga: Excellence in Human Resource Programs

Chattanooga has a proven track record in reducing municipal healthcare costs effectively and innovatively through the “Well Advantage Program.” A model in comprehensive wellness, the program offers participants various amenities, such as free on-site medical care, free annual health risk assessments, educational programs and a fitness center, providing participants with support, encouragement and information about health and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. The Tennessee Municipal League recognizes Chattanooga’s innovative measures to reduce healthcare costs with an Excellence in Human Resources Benefits Award.

Currently, 2,100 employees and their dependents, plus 800 retirees enjoy health benefits through the city of Chattanooga. But, for participants of the city’s “Well Advantage Program,” life is a little sweeter. Only a few other cities in the country have undertaken this fresh approach to healthcare, where medical services are provided free of charge at two on-site medical centers and patients can enjoy the one-stop convenience of an on-site pharmacy providing prescription medicines at a reduced cost.

The pharmacy program alone has saved the city \$8.5 million since its inception in 2008, including all management and labor costs. There, employees and their dependents can obtain generic medication for \$2 for a 30-day supply and \$5 for a 90-day supply. While patients can get their prescriptions filled at other pharmacies, the co-pays are much less at the on-site center, where other non-generic prescriptions are also available at reduced costs. Participants also enjoy the free fitness center and classes for weight management, nutrition and smoking cessation.

As city employees and their families experience the perks of preventative healthcare, Chattanooga’s Well Advantage Program should provide a healthy advantage in quality and savings for years to come.



The TML Achievement Awards will be presented on June 16 in Chattanooga as part of the annual awards ceremony.

Gallatin: Excellence in Police Services

The importance of quality municipal police services can never be underestimated, particularly in high growth areas. Remarkably, while dealing with the city’s explosive growth rate, the Gallatin Police Department managed to reduce Gallatin’s crime stats by 31 percent, while providing timely and informative outreach programs for the community. In recognition of the department’s dedication and unparalleled service, the Tennessee Municipal League presents the city of Gallatin with an Excellence in Police Services Award.

In 2004, the Gallatin PD implemented the managerial process known as COMPSTAT under the direction of its new police chief John Tisdale. COMPSTAT is an acronym for COMPUter STATistics or COMParative STATistics, a process where the police department collects, analyzes and maps crime data and other essential police performance measures on a regular basis. Police managers are held accountable for their performance, which is measured by this data. As Gallatin’s population grew by 15 percent during a five-year period and the clearance rate for crimes reported increased from 44 to 65 percent, the city’s crime rate dropped during this same period.

“The reduction in crime is attributable to the aggressive and consistent efforts by both the patrol and investigative units to identify problems, to solve and prosecute crimes that have occurred, and prevent future crimes from occurring by making Gallatin an unattractive place for criminals to commit crimes,” said Rex Barton, Municipal Technical Advisory Service Police Management consultant.

The COMPSTAT process is also used to measure traffic safety efforts, enhancing police patrol activities in areas with a high incident of crashes in conjunction with video traffic enforcement technology. In 2008, Gallatin’s property damages were down 21 percent and personal injury accidents down 17 percent.

The Gallatin PD also concentrates its efforts toward positive community programs that have left a major impact on the citizens at large. The department has received numerous state and national awards for its traffic safety initiatives and mission-based approach to delivering police services.

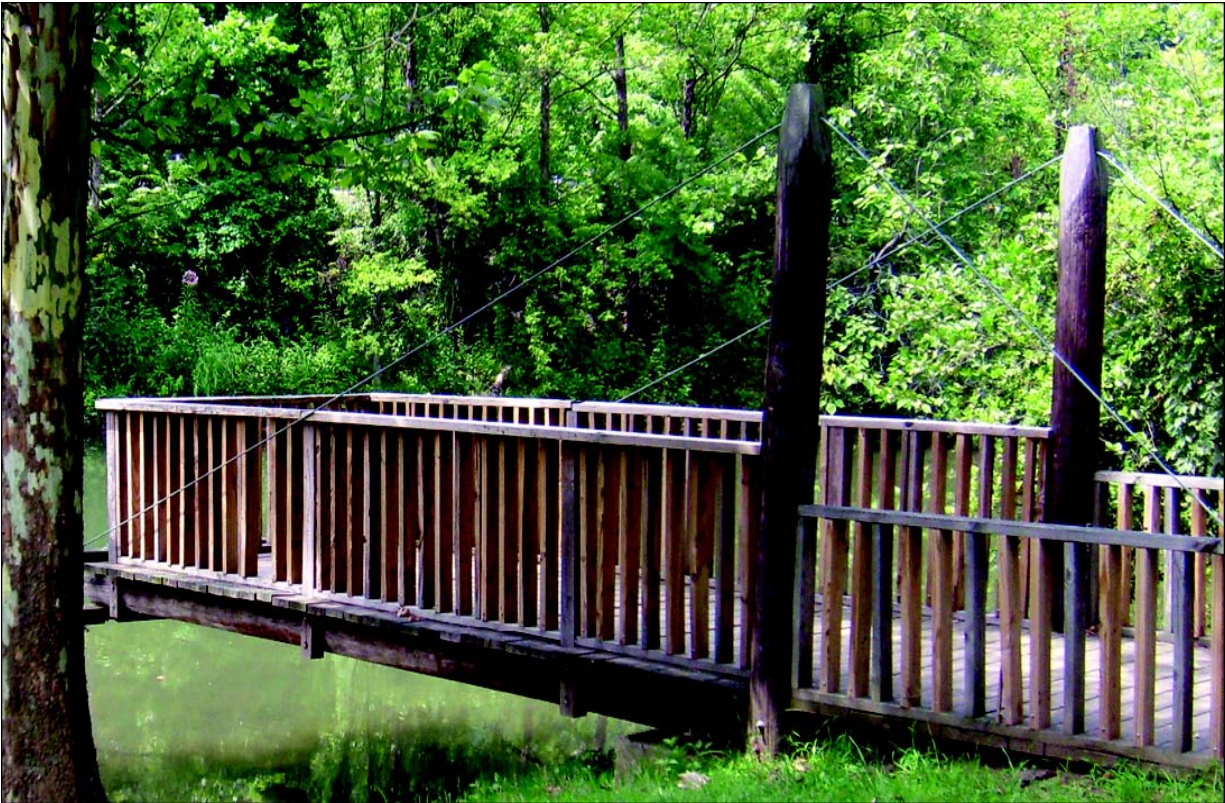
Their “Treats for Seats” pro-



The Gallatin PD “Treats for Seats” program received the 2006 Child Passenger Safety Award by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

gram received the 2006 Child Passenger Safety Award by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Governor’s Highway Safety Office. The project awarded parents and children for wearing their seat belts and using age appropriate child restraint seats. The department also provides educational

materials and training on how to properly install child restraint seats. “Chief John Tidsale and the men and women of the Gallatin PD have raised the bar for law enforcement agencies in Tennessee,” said Barton. “The citizens of Gallatin certainly have a police department to be proud of.”



Erwin’s residents are enjoying their nearby linear trails, which have doubled more than five miles the past two years.

Pictured above, Chattanooga city employees workout at a free fitness center, part of the perks of membership in the city’s Well Advantage Program.

Erwin: Excellence in Governance

The town of Erwin is a model in persistence and consistency, as it strives to deliver the best of municipal services for its citizens year after year through innovative projects, upgrading existing services and technology and through open door policies with the community. With the perfect match in leadership and a top-notch appointed staff, Erwin’s can-do spirit reflects what town governance is all about. In honor of the town’s hard work and continued success, The Tennessee Municipal League presents Erwin with an Excellence in Governance Award.

After a 25-year effort, Erwin’s persistence accomplished one of the most difficult projects in the town’s history, funding the right-of-way for constructing an important railroad overpass. With a large railroad yard sitting directly adjacent to downtown, the overpass will allow a continued flow of traffic and emergency vehicles during the numerous times trains are on the tracks. For those citizens with a combined interest in reading and historic preservation, the town also remodeled the old Train Depot to serve as a beautiful new public library.

Staying on top of technology, improving existing services and progressiveness are top priorities in Erwin. The town completed a comprehensive record digitalization project for all its departmental records dating back to 1920. Residents are also enjoying the linear trails, which have doubled more than five miles these past two years.

Improving Erwin’s fire protection capacity has been a key focus for the community. After upgrading their ISO rating from class 6 to a class 5, the department’s investment in professionalism was put to the test. A huge downtown fire completely destroyed the old three-story city hall; however, Erwin’s well trained firefighters skillfully prevented the blaze from spreading and damaging adjacent buildings.

The town’s active seniors will be thankful for years to come for their new \$8.5 million assisted living facility brought to fruition through state and federal grants and public-private partnerships following years of funding obstacles. The project is the perfect companion to the town’s new Senior Citizen Center.

“Very few cities would have persisted with such a difficult project,” said Pat Hardy, MTAS Municipal Management consultant. “Most would have left it to the “private sector market” to accomplish, but not Erwin. They would not take “no” for an answer, but continued to seek alternative approaches that would lead to success.”

Erwin has also demonstrated regional cooperation by reaching out to the neighboring community of Unicoi. The new joint animal shelter program between Erwin, Unicoi and Unicoi County has greatly improved the quality of animal services for all three communities. They have continued this positive relationship by extending wastewater treatment services to Unicoi.

“Erwin’s positive approach to government is infectious,” said Hardy. “People want to be a part of something successful, and I’m sure nothing is impossible in Erwin.”

Alexandria: Small City Progress

Alexandria, home to 837, is a small town that’s wasted no time in getting organized. Under the leadership of Mayor Ria Baker, Alexandria’s list of accomplishments is impressive, and a shining example of small town leadership at its best. For Alexandria’s indomitable spirit and prudent use of resources, the Tennessee Municipal League presents a Small City Progress Award.

When Mayor Baker assumed office, she had to help organize the town from scratch. Alexandria had only \$500 in the bank to meet payroll and other obligations, the town charter needed revision and the industrial board had not met in years, in fact many of its members had died or moved away. No one was acquainted with the town’s laws and regulations and personnel policies were nonexistent.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen rolled up their sleeves and went to work fixing not one or two, but all the problems forming a new town charter, creating a modern budget process, and a code with organized laws and regulations, a planning commission that understands its responsibilities, modern personnel policies, and a beer board to regulate the sale of alcoholic beverages.

In the meanwhile, the Board requested that the Municipal Technical Advisory Service undertake an annexation study and prepare a plan of services for an area of 1,000 acres.

“I had serious doubts to the town’s ability and political will to undertake such an ambitious annexation,” said Don Darden, MTAS Municipal Management consultant.

“To my amazement, much of the proposed annexation has been implemented. “It is not uncommon for a town or city to make one or two such improvements. What is extraordinary is that this little town has made all the improvements during the past 15 months.”

“When I was notified we were receiving the award for our list of accomplishments, I hadn’t thought about how many items we had accomplished,” said Baker. “I just thought completing these things was what we were supposed to do.”

“Alexandria is an example of what can be accomplished when city officials work together, use all the resources available to them, and make the best effort to do what is right and in the best interests of its citizens,” said Darden. “This little town knows where it is going and it has never looked back.”



Alexandria recently completed an annexation of this 1,000 acre area in addition to a list of other major improvements in a span of 15 months. The Board also requested that the Municipal Technical Advisory Service undertake an annexation study and prepare a plan of services for the annexed area.

Knoxville: Excellence in Green Leadership

Selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as one of 12 Solar America Cities, Knoxville has received more than \$500,000 so far in funding and technical assistance from the DOE, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and TVA to develop a sustainable solar energy infrastructure by reducing the barriers to the increased installation of solar technologies and making solar-generated electricity cost competitive by the year 2015.

Through the solar program, Knoxville plans to install a 4.8kW solar power generation system in the new LEED-certified downtown transit center; integrate solar hot water systems in some of the homes developed by the Community Development Department and its non-profit partners; initiate various outreach programs targeted at businesses and individuals interested in solar power; establish high-quality solar installation certification courses to strengthen the local workforce; and create technical training programs for the city, county, KUB code officials and inspectors.

In addition to the city's commitment to solar energy, Knoxville is involved in several energy saving programs including Green Power Switch and those aimed at significantly reducing energy and water consumption and costs.

For the city's forethought and outstanding policies in green leadership, The Tennessee Municipal League presents Knoxville with an Excellence in Green Leadership Award.

Solar energy and energy conservation is the latest buzz in Knoxville since the city's selection as a Solar American City in 2008. A new LEED-certified downtown transit center set for completion in 2010 will sport 4.8kW solar panels and an educational showroom at the front entrance featuring displays and energy efficiency technologies.

"Solar energy is new to Tennessee because there is a lack of knowledge about the affordable products out there on the market," said Gil Melear-Hough, Knoxville Solar America Cities Program project coordinator.

Knoxville is getting the word out through public educational outreach efforts, training programs and workshops for individuals and businesses.

Most recently, the city is partnering with Knox Heritage in the restoration of a Victorian-era house on the edge of Fort Sanders and World's Fair Park. The partnership, using grant funding, expects to install three different solar energy devices as part of the effort to make the restored home a showplace of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. The technologies will use the sun's energy to generate electricity, which will be sold back to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), and help offset the home's electricity bills. TVA's Green Power Switch program is where TVA purchases one hundred percent of the green power output at a rate per



Mayor Bill Haslam and officials cut the ribbon for one of the city's first Energy Star rated affordable homes.

kilowatt-hour. Through Green Power Switch, Knoxville plans to make the entire downtown area green one block at a time and also replace the city's traffic signals with energy efficient LED.

"One of the main reasons solar

technologies aren't widely used in Knoxville is that people just aren't aware of all the benefits of solar energy or the financial incentives out there to help offset the cost of installation," said Madeleine Weil, deputy director of Knoxville's

Policy and Communications Department.

Knoxville's educational initiatives and projects should help change that while ushering in a green future for its citizens and the nation at large.

Kingsport:Community Progress

Kingsport is the city where "no" isn't an option. A place where present and future goals intersect, top notch leadership and administrative teams work as one continuously guiding the community toward extraordinary heights and uncommon opportunities. For its innovative initiatives, tenacity and devotion to progress, the Tennessee Municipal League presents the city with a Community Progress Award.

Hard times were the catalyst that brought education into play in Kingsport. Community leaders were dealing with a steep decline in the area's historically strong manufacturing base and the city lacked a skilled workforce conducive to economic diversity. Following an Economic Summit, diversifying Kingsport's economic base became the catalyst toward re-educating the city's workforce. Now, an \$18 million plus Academic Village in Kingsport's downtown area is changing the face of education across the nation.

The Kingsport Center for Higher Education, the first Leed

certified green education building in Tennessee, will open in August 2009 and the Pal Barger Center for Automotive Technology in 2010. Kingsport's Educate/Grow scholarships pay full tuition toward an associate degree for any high school graduate of Kingsport or Sullivan County. This higher education initiative has placed in the top 16 among Harvard University's choice of top 50 Innovation in Government programs across the nation.

Revitalizing and replacing run down housing with new affordable options became part of the city's \$30 million effort to renew two area neighborhoods thanks to a \$11.9 million Hope VI Grant from HUD. Kingsport is one of the smallest communities to receive the funds. The city has also committed \$7 million toward reconstructing the V.O Dobbins Community Center where new education and recreation spaces will benefit the community and a new Non-Profit Center will create a one-stop shop for many of the city's non-profit agencies.

When defunct book plant

Quebecor, deeded their facility to Kingsport, the city ran with the opportunity to further mixed-use development hosting the downtown Farmer's Market and an \$18.5 million physician practice to open in 2010. Plans also include downtown lofts.

Kingsport's energy initiatives are gaining ground as well. The city's Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved \$75,000 for the new John Adams Elementary School to use geothermal energy and newly installed automated radio-read water meters should save the city up to five percent annually by reducing operating costs and improving billing accuracy. The addition of hybrid vehicles and an all-electric vehicle along with automated garbage trucks, energy audits and the Greenbelt En-



The shell of Kingsport's new Regional Center for Applied Technology

hancement Plan, protecting 3,000 acres of flood plain to filter runoff, is keeping the city in the green.

Kingsport's selfless initiatives will have payoffs which extend far beyond the current generation.

Sparta: Excellence in Public Works

Displaying initiative and courage in the face of major public works and utility challenges would test the mettle of most cities, regardless of size. However, Sparta rolled up its sleeves and tackled several big projects head on, setting in motion progressive and significant changes for the future. From modernizing equipment to upgrading wastewater infrastructure to implementing necessary funding, the city moved forward with strategic planning processes while communicating with its citizens and business owners.

The Tennessee Municipal League recognizes Sparta's efforts to enforce quality municipal improvements with an Excellence in Public Works Award.

Prior to 2008, the city collected residential refuse via rear-loaders staffed by three-person crews. Refuse collection for residential and commercial customers was paid entirely from the city's general fund. The old equipment was worn out and the city was faced with the decision of continuing collection processes

as they were or modernizing through automated loaders and carts. Recognizing the challenge as an opportunity to become more efficient and self-sufficient in refuse collection and disposal, Sparta's governing body chose to switch to automated collection, implementing refuse collection/disposal fees for both residential and commercial customers to cover the costs of operation.

The change occurred with few complaints as the city fostered communication efforts with all customers during the process.

Sparta also recognized the need to upgrade water and wastewater infrastructure to satisfy regulatory mandates and catch up on maintenance. City officials agreed on a capitol budget that included five large water and sewer projects and ten pieces of equipment at a price tag of \$7.6 million. Opting to perform more maintenance work in-house rather than outside contracting, the city directed the Utilities Department to plan for added positions, which resulted in a 52 percent water and wastewater rate increase implemented in two phases.

“Not many small cities are willing to bite off this much change in a short period of time,” said Sharon Rollins, MTAS consulting manager. “Sparta's governing body and employees are to be commended for their hard work and courage.”

The results of Sparta's strong choices, should translate into a strong future for the city.



Workers clear a former mobile home lot while building an access road to Dyersburg's new Industrial Park, Commerce Park, home of NSK Steering Systems. A second Spec building has recently been constructed at Commerce Park.

Improving the quality of life for its residents became a mission in Dyersburg where the city has redirected itself to the highest ideals of professionalism and public service and has shown impressive success in a variety of programs impacting local quality of life.

The Tennessee Municipal League rewards Dyersburg's efforts with an Excellence in Quality of Life Initiatives Award.

Formulating a new mission statement to guide all municipal decision-making and operations, the city moved forward redeveloping the municipal website for added convenience and integrating a new pavement management program to identify and promptly repair city streets in need of attention.

Dilapidated properties have been cleaned up or demolished, the riverfront area cleaned and the city's impoundment lot relocated to a more appropriate site.

As economic development efforts ramped up, the community's ability to attract and retain new jobs improved and a new business, NSK, made Dyersburg its new home. A \$500,000 grant has provided upgrades to the municipal airport and the "Shop Dyersburg First" campaign encourages support for local businesses.

Recognizing a significant shortfall, the city's Board of Mayor and Aldermen restructured water and sewer rates which are now operating in the black.

Major strides have also been made in public safety, with crime rates lowered in 2008 and the Police Department's bike patrol reorganized and in full operation. A storm shelter data base was developed to improve the city's response to disasters and emergencies and a Code Red city watch program has been initiated. Citizens are

learning more about their local government processes through the new City Hall education program.

"I have had the opportunity to observe Mayor John Holden and the Dyersburg Aldermen make these commitments and follow through on them this past year," said David Angerer, MTAS Municipal Management Consultant. "The municipal employees have implemented each of these changes and new programs with enthusiasm and an openness to change."

Through its hard work and dedication, Dyersburg has exhibited a commitment to their community and drive toward a successful future.



Sparta's governing body chose to upgrade their refuse collection system modernizing by purchasing new automated loaders and carts.

STATE BRIEFS

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

There’s something new on Tennessee’s roadways. T-DOT has now marked each lane of the Interstate at the I-24 and I-75 split, part of an \$860,000 plan to make the interchange safer. Officials say drivers often cut dangerously across lanes because they don’t realize the split is coming, and don’t want to miss their turn. T-DOT will also add truck rollover emblems to existing signs along the interstate.

State Finance Commissioner Dave Goetz announced that more than 700 state workers will lose their jobs in the next fiscal year. About 600 state jobs are already vacant. Goetz says another 717 employees will have their jobs terminated during the next 12 months. The hardest-hit areas will be the state’s mental health institutes and the system that serves people with mental retardation. Those will lose a combined three hundred employees. Goetz says the layoffs are a financial necessity. In the two months since the administration completed its initial budget proposal, he says there’s been a 200 million dollar shortfall in revenue.

Gov. Bredesen has signed into law a bill to allow Tennesseans to buy up to five cases of wine at out-of-state wineries and bring them back home. The law is designed to overcome a recent federal appeals court opinion that found existing rules designed to promote Tennessee wineries were unfair to competitors from outside the state. The wine could only be bought from wineries that have acquired a special Tennessee license, and motorists would have to be able to show evidence they paid Tennessee taxes when bringing it across state lines.

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) seeks the assistance of Tennessee consumers registered on the Tennessee Do Not Call registry who are receiving unsolicited calls from companies attempting to sell extended auto warranties. These calls are being made in violation of both the state and federal Do Not Call laws. The TRA is currently investigating over 100 complaints filed by Tennessee citizens. Violations of Tennessee’s Do-Not-Call laws carry a fine of up to \$2,000 per violation. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) filed for a court order against companies which have



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Instead of seeing older workers staying on the job longer as the economy has worsened, the Social Security system is reporting a major surge in early retirement claims that could have implications for the financial security of millions of baby boomers. Since the current federal fiscal year began Oct. 1, claims have been running 25 percent ahead of last year, compared with the 15 percent increase that had been projected as the post-World War II generation reaches eligibility for early retirement. According to the Social Security Administration, many of the additional retirements are probably laid-off workers, who are claiming Social Security early, despite reduced benefits, because they are under immediate financial pressure.

The U.S. government is setting aside \$1 billion to launch development of an H1N1 swine flu vaccine, as the disease continues to spread around the globe and its future course and severity remain unknown. The money, which comes from existing federal funding for pandemic flu and preparedness, will be used both for clinical studies this summer and for the production of two bulk ingredients that will be placed in a federal stockpile to be used if officials decide to go ahead with a large-scale vaccination program. The move marks a significant step toward making a vaccine that would protect people against the spreading new flu virus. The move also helps alleviate the risk manufacturers are taking on by producing ingredients for a vaccine that may or may not end up being used.

been making calls that may be in violation of the FTC’s Do Not Call rules. The TRA also has an open state investigation as a result of these calls.

A bill, awaiting the governor’s signature, would allow local governments to, through ordinance or referendum, set up a funding source dedicated to public transportation projects. It also would give regional transportation authorities in the state the power to borrow money by issuing bonds. In other states, its beer drinkers, people who rent cars, and retail shoppers who pay to support public transportation. Local leaders discussed options they might select in Middle Tennessee, during a regional transportation summit, “The Power of Ten,” hosted by Cumberland Region Tomorrow, a nonprofit growth and planning group. The newest push for commuter rail has been between Clarksville and Nashville, the northwestern corridor. A feasibility study shows that the line could be planned and completed in five to eight years at an estimated cost of \$144 million.

Tennessee legislators voted to postpone for a year a planned \$50-per-month health insurance surcharge for state employees and teachers who smoke. The monthly surcharge was scheduled to begin on Jan. 1, 2010. That will be delayed until Jan. 1, 2011, under the amended bill. The program included free anti-smoking aids at state expense to employees trying to quit. That part of the program also will be delayed.

A proposal that would create an offense for falsely wearing military decorations will take effect on July 1. The proposal would make it a misdemeanor to “wear or display any decoration or medal authorized by Congress for the armed forces of the United States ... with the intent to deceive or misrepresent to another.” The bill was sponsored by Sen. Lowe Finney of Jackson and Rep. Craig Fitzhugh of Ripley.

A bill to align state jail space standards with federal standards and prevent jails from being decertified for space reasons is now law. The law is intended to help local governments across the state that may be facing jail decertification on the basis of per-inmate square footage. The bill stipulates that Tennes-

see follow the national standards for county jail facilities in terms of square footage as spelled out in the American Correctional Association’s Manual of Correctional Standards.

One in five Tennessee women smokes while pregnant, according to data from the Health Department. And it says women in rural counties are much more likely than those in cities to smoke while expecting. Hancock County in East Tennessee led the list. Almost half the women who gave birth there in 2007 said they smoked at the time. Two of the four counties with the least smoking during pregnancy were in the Memphis area – Shelby and Fayette counties.

Starting in July it will be illegal in Tennessee to publish photos or videos of autopsies without family consent. The new law won’t apply if images are provided at the direction of a law enforcement agency, a district attorney general or court order.

The number of mass layoff events in Tennessee more than quadrupled in April climbing to 35, as compared to a year ago, government data revealed. The April number was up from 29 in March, but down from 53 in February, according to a report by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The total number of workers affected also more than quadrupled to 2,877 in April from 570 a year ago. A total of 271,226 American workers lost their jobs through mass layoffs in April. That was down 28,162 from the March total.

Hate crimes rose dramatically in Tennessee in 2008, especially those against the disabled. According to a new Tennessee Bureau of Investigation report, the total number of hate crimes rose by 38 percent, jumping from 372 offenses in 2007 to 515 last year. Crimes against the disabled were up by 88 percent, with 42 total offenses last year. Mentally disabled victims showed a 94 percent rise, with 36 incidents. Ethnic hate offenses were the only category to show a decrease in numbers, slipping from 52 in 2007 to 34 last year. The report also noted that of the 515 hate crimes reported in 2008, a large proportion was in the category of unknown bias - a crime that has the traits of a hate crime.

Jim Pillow named 2009 Codes Official of the Year



Jim Pillow, assistant commissioner of Commerce and Insurance, left, was presented the Tennessee Building Officials Association’s 2009 award by Tim Ward, Oak Ridge Codes Director and TBOA President.

Jim Pillow, assistant commissioner of Department of Commerce and Insurance with the Fire Prevention Division for the state of Tennessee, was named the 2009 Building Codes Official of the Year by the Tennessee Building Officials Association (TBOA).

Pillow has extensive experience in both fire and building codes. A former contract instructor at the State Fire and Codes Academy in Bell Buckle, he has multiple certifications with the state of Tennessee, International Code Council (ICC), and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Some of these certifications include the Master

Code Professional (MCP), Certified Building Official (CBO) and Certified Fire Marshal (CFM).

Previous to his employment with the state, Pillow served for more than four years as Clarksville’s building and codes director and 10 years as Milan’s building official and fire inspector.

A Gibson County native, Pillow attended the University of Tennessee at Martin and Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, where he studied Business Administration. A former Marine Corps Military Police Sergeant, Pillow has served on several state and national building and fire codes committees

PEOPLE

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Fred Corum, 71, is retiring following more than two decades as the director of the Tennessee Department of Transportation’s Region One. Corum oversaw the SmartFIX40 project to widen and reconfigure the downtown Knoxville portion of I-40.



Corum

Ninth District Congressman Steve Cohen has been named 2009 “Man of the Year” by the 110 Institute, a Memphis-based organization concerned with urban research and development. The award will be presented to Cohen at the Youth Mentoring Event scheduled for June 20.



Cohen

J.R. Wauford & Company

Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Water and Wastewater Systems

Home Office:
2835 Lebanon Road
P.O. Box 140350
Nashville, TN 37214
(615) 883-3243

Branch Offices:
Maryville, TN 37801
(865) 984-9638
Jackson, TN 38305
(731) 668-1953

www.jrwauford.com

No loan is too large or too small

See us for your special projects needs. (615) 255-1561

The city of Murfreesboro closes a \$103 million loan, the largest in TMBF history.

The town of Nolensville closes a \$21,000 loan.

Tennessee Municipal League
2008-2009 Officers and Directors

PRESIDENT

Tom Beehan
Mayor, Oak Ridge

VICE PRESIDENTS

Tommy Pedigo
Mayor, Sparta

Dale Kelley
Mayor, Huntingdon

Kay Senter
Vice Mayor, Morristown

DIRECTORS

Alan Barker
Mayor, Humboldt

Chris Dorsey
City manager, Red Bank (District 3)

Betsy Crossley
Mayor, Brentwood (District 6)

Karl Dean
Mayor, Metro Nashville

Johnny Dodd,
Council , Jackson

David Gordon,
Mayor, Covington

J.H. Graham
Mayor, Crossville (District 4)

Bill Haslam
Mayor, Knoxville

W.W. Herenton
Mayor, Memphis

Ron Littlefield
Mayor, Chattanooga

Keith McDonald (District 8)
Mayor, Bartlett

Kevin Helms
President (TCMA)

Jane Myron,
Mayor, Johnson City (District 1)

Johnny Piper
Mayor, Clarksville

David May
Council, Cleveland

Charles Rahm
Council, Jackson (District 7)

Charles “Bones” Seivers
President-CEO, Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund

Cindy Cameron Ogle
City Manager, Gatlinburg (District 2)

Ron Washington
Council, Murfreesboro

Ken Wilber
Mayor, Portland (District 5)

PAST PRESIDENTS

Tommy Green (2007) Mayor, Alamo

Tommy Bragg (2006) Mayor, Murfreesboro

Bob Kirk (2004) Alderman, Dyersburg

Tom Rowland (2002) Mayor, Cleveland

Sam Sharpe (2001) Mayor, Paris

Dan Speer (1997) Mayor, Pulaski

TML AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS
(Ex-Officio Directors)

Tennessee Municipal Attorneys Assn.

Jim Gass, Pigeon Forge

Tennessee Municipal Judges Conference

John T. Gwin, Mount Juliet

Tennessee Chapter, American Public Works

Jerry R. Collins Jr., Memphis Light & Water

Tennessee Government Finance Officers

Mark S. Brown, Bartlett

Tenn. Assn. of Housing & Redevel. Auth.

Marilyn Medley, Morristown

Tennessee Building Officials Assn.

Tim Ward, Oak Ridge

Tennessee Fire Chiefs Assn.

Jerry W. Crawford, Collierville

Tennessee Assn. of Air Carrier Airports

Larry Cox, Memphis

Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police

Sterling Owen, Knoxville

Tennessee Water Quality Management

Jack Graham, Maryville

Tennessee Recreation and Parks Assn.

Pam Beasley, Germantown

Tennessee Chapter, American Planning

Karen Hundt, Chattanooga

Tennessee Personnel Management Assn.

Steve Adams, Metro Development & Housing Agency

Tenn. Assn. of Municipal Clerks & Recorders

Shirley Dancy, Gates

Tennessee Assn. of Public Purchasing

Rex Gaither, Smyrna

TN Section, Institute of Transportation Engineers

Kevin Cole, Knoxville

Tennessee Public Transportation Assoc.

Rebecca Harris, Cookeville

Tennessee Fire Safety Inspectors

Tommy White, Sevierville

Assn. of Independent and Municipal Schools

Reecha Black, Alamo

TML ASSOCIATE PARTICIPANTS

DIAMOND LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

Bank of America

GOLD LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A.

ING Financial Advisers, LLC

SILVER LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

AT&T

Redflex Traffic Systems

Sensus Metering Systems

BRONZE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

Alexander Thompson Arnold, PLLC

Alliance Water Resources

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee

Collier Engineering Co., Inc.

Johnson Controls

One Source Document Solutions, Inc.

Rare Element, Inc.

Thompson Engineering

CORPORATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

AMEC Earth & Environmental

Askew Hargraves Harcourt & Assoc., LLC

Barge, Waggoner, Sumner & Cannon, Inc.

Click2Enter, Inc.

CMI Equipment Sales, Inc.

Comcast Cable Communications

Concrete Paving Association of Tennessee

DBS & Associates Engineering

Desktop Risk Manager

Education Networks of America

Employee Benefit Specialists, Inc.

Florence & Hutcheson, Inc.

Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc.

J.R. Wauford & Co. Consulting Engineers, Inc.

LaserCraft, Inc.

Local Govt. Corporation

Mattern & Craig, Consulting Engineers, Inc.

McGill Associates, P.A.

Nashville Tractor & Equipment, Inc.

OHM(Orchard, Hiltz, & McCliment, Inc.

Pavement Restorations, Inc.

Rush Truck Center, Nashville

Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.

Statewide Insurance Group of America

Stowers Machinery

Tennessee Cable Telecommunications Assn.

Tennessee Energy Acquisition Corporation

Tennessee Fiber Optic Communities

Thompson & Litton, Inc.

Thompson Machinery

Third Rock Consultants, LLC

TLM Associates, Inc.

Tri Green Equipment, LLC

URS Corporation

Utility Service Co., Inc.

Vaughn & Melton

Volkert & Associates

Waste Management

Wiser Company, LLC

Recovery Act presents new opportunities, new challenges for local governments

BY DONALD J. BORUT
Nations' Cities Weekly

This spring, President Obama and Congress enacted the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) — landmark legislation designed to promote economic recovery by creating jobs, investing in infrastructure and minimizing and avoiding reductions in state and local government budgets and services. That’s what we know.

What we can’t know yet, is whether the ARRA will achieve its goals.

We certainly hope it will. To date, the cooperation between all levels of government has been remarkable, and the genuine desire of the new Administration to take the perspective of state and local officials into account during the implementation of the ARRA has been laudable.

At the same time, the Administration and Congress have made clear the importance of transparency and accountability in the use of Recovery Act funds. Given the enormous amounts of funding made available in the act combined with the public and political backlash from the bailout of financial institutions and private companies, the tension between the need to spend quickly to generate results and the unprecedented level of reporting requirements is understandable.

However, every dollar in the Recovery Act is a net new dollar, money that was previously unavailable to address the needs of local governments and jump start the economy and stabilize local government budgets. And while expectations are high in terms of seeing the visible and tangible impact of these funds, the application process has created challenges, challenges that the Administration understands and has been open to input and feedback from local government leaders, NLC and our colleague organizations in overcoming. We are clearly in new territory.

Paul Posner, director of the public administration program at George Mason University and president of the American Society of Public Administration, writing for Governing.com, has argued, “Transparency is the watchword of the stimulus program — more information on spending will be available on public web sites than ever before. The complex web of responsibility, however, threatens to undermine real transparency by limiting the public’s ability to understand who is responsible for what.”

It also threatens to undermine the public’s confidence in the ability of these investments to make a difference in our communities. While we patiently await additional guidance from the Administration on the specific roles and responsibilities of states and local governments in implementing the Recovery Act and wrestle with ambiguous terms like “imprudent project,” our national and local economies continue to shed jobs and our budget deficits grow larger.

Few would or could argue with the intent of the act’s accountability and transparency provisions and the mandate to move quickly. But the unintended consequence for local officials confronting practical needs maybe a reluctance to step forward with bold and innovative projects at the very moment when the broad objective is to create jobs and strengthen infrastructure.


The White House and the Office of Management and Budget have not only been sympathetic to these and other concerns about reporting requirements, but also proactive in seeking suggestions and input from local officials, NLC and other state and local government groups. The process has been enormously constructive. At the same time, it is premature to make a judgment on the outcome.

In addition to reaching out and working with the Administration to help with the Recovery Act implementation process, NLC continues to focus on providing relevant and targeted information to help local officials understand and access recovery funds. Through an ongoing series of live and archived webinars, targeted issue papers, articles in *Nation’s Cities Weekly* and an extensive set of workshops at the Congressional City Conference, we have framed our work to address the diverse needs and capacities of our member cities. NLC’s website, www.nlc.org, also provides links to pertinent information.

Another especially valuable resource has been a network of city recovery coordinators and advisors from cities of all sizes from across the country. This network provides a direct conduit to those enmeshed in the process of generating stimulus funds for their communities and working to understand and meet the application criteria and meet the transparency and accountability requirements. This network also provides an opportunity for cities to share with each other.

The challenge for elected officials is first to have realistic expectations in terms of the funding that is available to their communities and then to target staffing efforts on those programs that address specific priority needs. While the national priority is to accelerate the funding process to create jobs and invest in basic infrastructure, given the magnitude of the appropriations, the appropriate demands for transparency and accountability create understandable tensions and ambiguity.

These are a given, and as pragmatists local officials are demonstrating the ability and the creativity to play by the rules as they evolve. While it is useful to know that those developing the administrative funding guidelines, regulations and reporting requirements are being proactive in seeking input and guidance to address the realities and constraints experienced by those at the local level, the ultimate measure will be whether the goals of the ARRA are achieved.



TENNESSEE
FESTIVALS

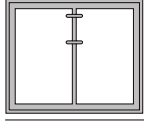
June 19 – 20: 7th Annual Secret City Festival

Oak Ridge. Main stage entertainment featuring a USO Variety Show on Friday and Survivor on Saturday, teen events and video gaming tent; free children’s activities - for kids of all ages; tours of Oak Ridge historical facilities and sites - ORNL, Y-12 and K-25; the largest World War II Reenactment in the South; antique and craft booths and juried art show; historic displays by the Oak Ridge Heritage & Preservation Association; and the 11th Annual Lavender Festival at Historic Jackson Square. More information is available at www.SecretCityFestival.com, or call the festival’s info line at 865-425-3610.

June 20: 15th Annual RC Moon Pie Festival


Bell Buckle. The RC Moon Pie Festival has been chosen as a top 20 event by the Southeastern Tourism Society. Start with the RC Moon Pie 10-mile run then games, a parade, crowning of the RC King and Moon Pie Queen, music and the ever popular synchronized Wading extravaganza. Concludes with the cutting of the World’s Largest Moon Pie. For a schedule of events and more information, visit the website at www.bellbucklechamber.com/rcmoon.html or call Phone/Fax: 931-389-9663 or Email: info@bellbucklechamber.com.

COMING
UP



Nov. 10-14: The National League of Cities — City Showcase, held at the 2009 Congress of Cities in San Antonio. NLC’s forum for municipal officials attending the Congress of Cities to network with each other while learning about effective and innovative programs around the country. For more information or for an online application, visit www.nlc.org. Click *Resources for Cities > Awards and Recognition > City Showcase*. More information is available on the NLC website http://www.nlc.org/resources_for_cities/awardsrecognition/125.aspx or call Larry Foxman at 202-626-3137 or e-mail foxman@nlc.org.

Rain or shine,
sleet or hail,
every day is perfect
for a GovDeals sale!



GovDeals

Online Government
Surplus Auctions—24/7

Visit GovDeals.com today
or call 1-866-377-1494

TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE STAFF

Margaret Mahery, Executive Director

Chad Jenkins, Deputy Director

Mark Barrett, Legislative Research Analyst

Kevin Krushenski, Legislative Research Analyst

Carole Graves, Communications Director & Editor, *Tennessee Town & City*

Edna Holland, Government Relations, TML/RMP

John Holloway, Government Relations

Debbie Kluth-Yarbrough, Director of Marketing / Member Services

Mona Lawrence, Administrative Assistant

Denise Paige, Government Relations

Victoria South, Communications Coordinator

Sylvia Trice, Director of Conference Planning

TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY

(ISSN. No. 0040-3415) Publication No. 539420

— Official publication of the Tennessee Municipal League. **Publisher:** Margaret Mahery (mmahery@TML1.org); **Editor:** Carole Graves (cgraves@tml1.org; **Phone:** 615-255-6416. **Advertising:** Publisher reserves the right to reject any advertising deemed unacceptable. Fax classified ads to *TT&C*: Attention Mona Lawrence at 615-255-4752, or e-mail mlawrence@TML1.org. Fax advertising copy to *TT&C*: Attention Debbie Kluth-Yarbrough at 615-255-4752, or e-mail to dkluth@TML1.org. Opinions expressed non League officials or staff do not necessarily reflect policies of TML. *Tennessee Town & City* is published, semi-monthly, 20 times per year at 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville, TN 37219-1894. Periodicals postage paid at Nashville, TN. Subscription rates: \$6 per year to members, \$15 to nonmembers, \$1 a copy. **Postmaster:** Send changes of address to Tennessee Town & City, 226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710, Nashville, TN 37219-1894.

Delivering the strength and insight of America’s bank.

A strong government requires both financial and intellectual capital to help communities thrive and grow. Our government banking specialists are dedicated to understanding and serving your organization like no one else can. With over a century of commitment to the public sector, Bank of America is a trusted banking leader to government entities nationwide. Call 615.749.3618 or visit bankofamerica.com/government to learn more.

GLOBAL COMMERCIAL BANKING

Cash Management Financing Solutions Public Finance Investments

CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising: \$9.25 per column inch. No charge to TML members. Send advertising to: TT&C Classified Ads, Mona Lawrence, 226 Capitol Blvd. Suite 710, Nashville TN 37219; e-mail: mlawrence@TML1.org; or fax: 615-255 4752.

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

BRISTOL. The city is seeking applicants for the position of Human Resources Director. Bristol employs 331 and provides fire, police, parks and recreation, and public works services. The Human Resources Director will provide professional leadership that will positively affect city staff. The director will perform complex administrative and supervisory work involving benefits, compensation, employee relations, risk management, and selection and placement. Masters degree in Human Resource Management, Business, or Public Administration, or related field is preferred. Bachelor's degree required. Five to seven years of progressive public management experience, preferably within a municipal government organized under the council-manager form of government, or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience, which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for the position. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Send confidential resume and application immediately to City of Bristol, Attn: City Manager, P.O. Box 1189, Bristol, TN 37621-1189. No electronic submittals. Position open until filled. See our website to download an application and review summary of benefits: www.bristoltn.org. EOE.

STAFF ATTORNEY

BRISTOL. The city is seeking applicants for the position of Staff Attorney with emphasis in Human Resources. The Staff Attorney will provide professional leadership that will positively affect city staff. The Staff Attorney will perform complex administrative and supervisory work involving legal services, benefits, compensation, employee relations, risk management, and selection and placement. Graduation from an accredited law school required. Licensed to practice law in Tennessee or eligible to become licensed. Five to seven years of progressive public management experience with an emphasis in human resource management, preferably within a municipal government, or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience, which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for the position. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Send confidential resume and application immediately to City of Bristol, Attn: City Manager, P.O. Box 1189, Bristol, TN 37621-1189. Position open until filled. See our website to download an application and review summary of benefits: www.bristoltn.org. EOE

Audit finds only minor errors in Bond Fund billing

TMBF from Page 1
respective limits. They should also instruct the Trustee to perform a review of its operations to determine that appropriate procedures are in place to ensure compliance with the governing documents in preparing the monthly invoices to borrowers in each pool.
2. "TMBF and TCSLP should instruct the Trustee to change the layout of the rate sheets attached to the invoices to the borrowers in each pool so that it is easier to understand what fee rates are being charged. We also recommend that TMBF and TCSLP consider showing on the invoices the maximum fee rates allowed to be charged and the amount of the fee rate discount that has been provided to the borrower.
3. "Management of TMBF and TCSLP has suggested that it might be prudent for the Boards of Directors of the TMBF and TCSLP to consider engaging their independent auditors to review the monthly

invoices sent to borrowers in the future months related to fees charged and retained by TMBF and TCSLP as pool administrators. This review would continue for a sufficient period of time to determine that the Trustee has performed the necessary procedures to ensure that future invoices will not contain errors which will not be discovered and corrected on a timely basis.
4. "Management of TMBF and TCSLP has suggested that the Trustee be instructed to send a written notice to all borrowers prior to any administrative fee changes in the future so that borrowers are better informed about the administrative fees being charged. We concur with management's suggestion and recommend it to the board of directors for approval."
TMBF Board Chairman Bob Kirk said he was pleased that the audit findings showed only minor errors in billing.
"We have loaned some \$3 bil-

lion to local governments over the course of this program, at better-than-market rates," Kirk said. "We have saved local governments in our state more than \$250 million in lower fees and interest rates.
In a separate letter, auditors noted that TMBF board meeting minutes frequently reflected a disclosure by Seivers of his status as an independent contractor and his ability to engage in outside relationships with bond fund service providers.
"We have reviewed payments made to Mr. Seivers in that capacity as part of our audit and have not discovered any discrepancies between the amounts approved by the board of directors and the amounts paid for the years we have audited," the letter states.
"This board has recognized the unique nature of this program and the experience and skills that Bones Seivers possesses," said Kirk. "This board has structured a compensation package for Bones that keeps our product competitive, but gives him

the flexibility to take outside income that provides him with a total compensation package that would be comparable to the private sector."
Kirk said the audit recommendations for greater transparency on fees and other recommendations would likely be approved by the board.

The audit report has been submitted to the Division of Municipal Audit and no further recommendations were made and no follow up work was required.

Cities and counties to receive refunds based on the audit are:

1994 City Refunds	
Bolivar	\$479.12
Clinton	\$1,321.23
Columbia	\$164.76
Covington	\$888.41
Erwin	\$1,028.69
Fairview	\$17.81
Gatlinburg	\$1,380.57
Kingsport	\$795.88
Loudon	\$1,280.88
Maury City	282.00
Oak Ridge	\$1,601.90
Pulaski	\$38.68
Springfield	\$381.42
Union City	\$362.25
Total	\$10,023.60
1995 City Refunds	
Athens	\$1,486.02
Chattanooga	\$1,606.19
Crossville	\$381.64
Decherd	\$524.62
Fayetteville	\$168.68
Jackson	\$411.48
Jefferson City	\$456.54
Millington	\$581.53
Selmer	\$ 335.34
Springfield	\$689.90
Total	\$6,641.94
1995 County Refunds	
Bedford County	\$2,404.85
Benton County	\$222.95
Coffee County	\$219.69
Hamilton County	\$1,578.44
Henry County	\$785.81
Marshall County	\$530.83
Scott County	\$338.35
Trousdale County	\$811.09
Union County	\$38.79
Van Buren County	\$606.29
Total	\$7,537.09
1996 City Refunds	
Murfreesboro	\$297.63
2008 City/County Refund	
Metro Nashville	\$20,493.60

Nominating process outlined for TML Board

BOARD from Page 1

In making its selections, the Nominating Committee gives consideration to the representation of women and minorities, geographic divisions, and an appropriate balance of mayors, council members, and appointed managers/administrators. The election of officers and at-large board directors will take place during the TML annual business meeting on Monday, June 15.

President and Three Vice Presidents. The custom is to select the president from among the three vice presidents on a sequential basis among the Grand Divisions. This practice assures the League of a president with experience on the Board.

The two remaining vice presidents have traditionally been re-elected and rotated to the next higher vice president's slot in order to rotate up to the presidency. A new third vice president is selected from the same Grand Division in which the new president resides.

In the normal rotation, Sparta Mayor Tommy Pedigo would become president — and a new third vice president from East Tennessee would be nominated.

At-Large Directors. The Nominating Committee will nominate eight at-large directors. Two at-large directors are nominated from each Grand Division, as well as two additional directors who are minorities and/or women. At-large directors serve one-year terms, and can serve consecutive terms. It has been customary to re-elect at-large directors completing their first term to an additional term so that they serve at least two years on the Board.

District Directors. District directors for Districts 1, 3, 5, 7 (because 2009 is an odd-numbered year) will be nominated by members during the district meetings on Sunday, June 14, at 2:15 – 2:45 p.m. Each municipality has one vote in district elections. District directors serve a two-year term, with half of the districts selecting new directors each year.

Other directors. The individuals who serve on the TML Board of Directors in designated positions, not nominated by the Nominating Committee include:

- District Directors (one from each of TML's eight districts, elected in the District Meetings held during the TML Annual Meeting)
- Mayors of the four largest cities in Tennessee
- Past presidents of TML who hold an elected position at municipality from which initially elected
- The president or designee of the Tennessee City Managers Association (voting)
- Director designated by the Tennessee Municipal League Risk Management Pool Chairperson
- Director designated by the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Chairperson
- Presidents of Affiliated Organizations (non-voting, unless the designee is also an elected official or a city manager/city administrator).

Good Risk Management is just Good Management



5100 Maryland Way • Brentwood, TN • 800-624-9698

Members aren't just clients. They're partners with a shared goal of keeping the towns and cities safe and thriving.

The Pool's foundation is built on each member taking responsibility to continuously reduce our risk exposures through good risk management practices. Through the success and productivity of this partnership, municipal governments are helping taxpaying citizens get the very best for their tax dollars.

TML RISK · MANAGEMENT · POOL

Your Partner in Risk Management since 1979.

SENSUS
METERING SYSTEMS

Tom Spencer
Territory Manager

570 Beechgrove Way
Burns, TN 37029 USA

T (615) 973-0367 tom.spencer@sensus.com
www.sensus.com

GRIGGS & MALONEY
INCORPORATED

Engineering & Environmental Consulting

P.O. Box 2968
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2968
(615) 895-8221
www.griggsandmaloney.com

CTI
ENGINEERS, INC.

Chattanooga
Phone: 423.267.7613
Fax: 423.267.0603

Knoxville
Phone: 865.246.2750
Fax: 865.246.2755

Nashville
Phone: 615.834.8300
Fax: 615.834.8328

practical innovation, by design™
www.ctiengr.com

Wiser
C O M P A N Y

1431 Kensington Square Court
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Phone 615/ 896-7375
FAX 615/ 890-7016

Engineering • Surveying • Mapping • GIS

Visit our web site at www.wiserco.com

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORPORATION

Financial Management - Revenue Management -
Document Management - City Court Management -
Hardware & Networking Solutions - Software Support & Training Solutions

714 Armstrong Lane
Columbia, TN 38401

Phone: 800-381-4540
Fax: 931-381-0678
E-mail: marketing@localgovcorp.com
www.localgovcorp.com

PAVEMENT TECHNOLOGY, INC.
ASPHALT RECYCLING & PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS

Helping Cities and Counties Make Pavements Last Longer Since 1972

1 - 800 - 333 - 6309

ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR CHANGE AND GROWTH

Mattern & Craig
CONSULTING ENGINEERS-SURVEYORS

OFFICE LOCATIONS
429 CLAY STREET
KINGSFORD, TN 37660
PHONE: (423) 245-4970
FAX: (423) 245-5932

403 E. MARKET STREET
JOHNSON CITY, TN 37601
PHONE: (423) 979-2220
FAX: (423) 979-2222

ROANOKE, VA
ASHEVILLE, NC
ATHENS, GA

www.matternandcraig.com

We can help any city in the state get the alt fuels info they need! Hard working, and here to help you... make the switch.

EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS

ETCleanFuels.org

(865) 974-3625
jgoverly@utk.edu

Tennessee Offices:

Nashville
Knoxville
Memphis
Chattanooga
Tri-Cities
Oak Ridge

BWSC
ENGINEERS
ARCHITECTS
PLANNERS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
SURVEYORS

burgewagon@aol.com

"YOUR PROJECT... OUR PROMISE"

THE WORLD HAS CHANGED IN THE LAST 40 YEARS, BUT OUR PROMISE STANDS STRONGER THAN EVER.

Since 1967, Vaughn & Melton has delivered on a promise which remains unchanged by trends or technology. We believe the success of your project is found in our promise to provide excellent service on-time and on-budget.

"Our vision for your project is built on the foundation of our experience and the momentum of our predecessors."

The legacy of our promise is proudly displayed in countless successful projects throughout the region. We look forward to the opportunity to deliver our promise to you.

V&M
Vaughn & Melton
Knoxville | Greenville
(865) 546-5800
www.vfmlltd.com

- Civil Engineering
- Surveying
- Construction Inspection
- Water & Wastewater
- Transportation
- GIS
- Subsurface Utility Engineering

ENGINEERS
ARCHITECTS
PLANNERS
SURVEYORS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

A2H
ASKEN HARDGRAVES HARCOURT & ASSOCIATES, INC.

MEMPHIS, TN 901.372.0404
JACKSON, TN 731.424.5450
HERNANDO, MS 682.298.2188

CREATING AN ENHANCED QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR CLIENTS AND COMMUNITY.

Water • Wastewater • Transportation
Stormwater • GIS Digital Mapping

GRW
GRW Engineers, Inc.

Nashville (615) 366-1600
Knoxville (864) 588-4166
www.grwinc.com



Build your RFP with ease at www.govbidspec.com

Your CAT® dealer provides the tools to make it easy for you to compare products based on total ownership costs, rather than just initial purchase price. Talk to your CAT® dealer and visit www.govbidspec.com for:

- Bid specifications for hundreds of machines, generator sets and work tools
- Life Cycle Cost Bid forms and Scheduled Maintenance Calculation forms
- Downloadable forms that you edit, print and attach to your RFP (Request for Proposal) documents
- Complete and accurate proposals that allow you to evaluate more options, budget with precision, reduce risk and make better business decisions

Working with your CAT dealer, you can invest with confidence, knowing the products and services you procure will do more work at a lower total cost, delivering an excellent return on taxpayer dollars.

www.govbidspec.com

The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIP), National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) and National Association of Fleet Administrators (NAFA) endorse the use of Life Cycle Costing as a preferred procurement method.

Stowers 

www.stowerscat.com

Knoxville
(865) 546-1414

Chattanooga
(423) 698-6943

Tri-Cities
(423) 323-0400

Crossville
(931) 484-4040

Thompson 

www.thompsonmachinery.com

Camden, TN
(731) 584-2732

Clarksville, TN
(931) 552-5496

Cookeville, TN
(931) 646-3200

Jackson, TN
(731) 988-4240

La Vergne, TN
(615) 256-2424

Manchester, TN
(931) 461-5000

Memphis, TN
(901) 332-3051

Chattanooga, a masterpiece in quality regional planning

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

This is the final article in a four-part series showcasing Cumberland Region Tomorrow's Quality Growth planning efforts across Middle Tennessee.

Once threatened by decay, the bloom is definitely back on the rose again in Chattanooga, gloriously vibrant, revitalized and poised to prosper in the 21st century like never before. From the Riverfront to the Bluff Street District, Main Street and all points in between, Chattanooga serves as a model of urbanization among cities, building upon its distinct natural resources, history and propensity for industry to draw residents and businesses back to its dynamic core.

With an emphasis on quality design principles, reinvestment strategies, transportation initiatives, affordable housing and sustainable growth, Chattanooga is a prime example of regional redevelopment at its best, according to Bridget Jones, executive director of Cumberland Region Tomorrow (CRT), a non-profit, regional organization working toward the future livability and economic vitality of the 10-county region. Jones notes that Chattanooga's revitalization projects strongly exemplify the strategies and practices of quality regional planning illustrated in CRT's resource guide, *The Quality Growth Toolbox*. CRT encourages growth planning with an emphasis on land use, transportation and preservation of the rural landscape and character of the region's economies.

"Chattanooga is the model city in the state for quality development... created over time in a meaningful way," said Jones. "They have an overall vision that fits together sequentially resulting in just the right output, starting from the city's core and moving outward."

"We're building upon our scenic assets," said Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield. "We have changed from a city that was stagnant to a growing population again. I've lived downtown for four years and it's exciting to see all the young families moving in and children playing nearby."

Plans for Chattanooga's comeback first blossomed in 1982 while the city was in the throes of serious decline, as traced by the 2007 Brookings Institute report "Restoring Prosperity: The State Role in Revitalizing America's Older Industrial Cities." After a period as the nation's largest regional industrial city, the former "Dynamo of Dixie," like other cities across the state and the nation, felt the sting of 1950s suburbanization and an ever dwindling population. As planning and zoning changes evolved to accommodate automobiles instead of people, segregated land use patterns drew residents and businesses away from the city's core into outlying suburbs. The bustling downtowns of yesteryear, once focal points of the counties and regions, dried up and became ghost towns as noted in *The Quality Growth Toolbox*:

These 60-year trends have resulted in a lack of reinvestment, maintenance, renovation, and reuse of older core commercial areas, neighborhoods, buildings, and infrastructure. Rather than serving in their former role as community assets, these areas and structures have become in many instances a public liability.

According to CRT, the success of any revitalization effort lies in the public meeting process where citizens, city and civic leaders as well as diverse stakeholders engage in focused dialogue helping to facilitate shared understanding and support for community revitalization decisions and projects ensuring long term support and success.

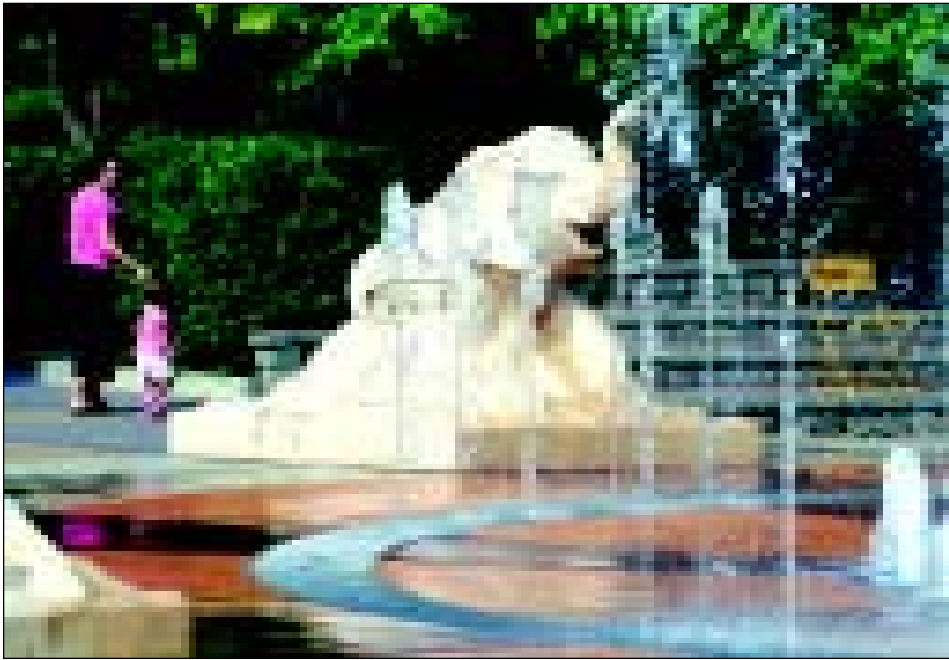
To foster this initiative within the region, CRT, partnered with the American Institute of Architects to offer AIA 150 Blueprint for America Assessment and Visioning Workshops to pilot communities Robertson County, Lebanon and Kingston Springs. Workshop participants completed AIA's "Ten

Principles of Livable Communities" questionnaire.

In Lebanon, CRT provided an option for the city's visioning process to be adopted as a design project for students of The University of Tennessee Knoxville School of Architecture who teamed with third year students from the Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management Real Estate Development Program.

While UT's students, designed Master Plans covering the half-mile radius encompassing Lebanon's downtown area and transit stop as part of a portfolio, the Vanderbilt students, assisted by professional developers from the Urban Land Institute Nashville District Council, conducted market analysis and strategies preparing a detailed pro forma financial analysis of the redevelopment project.

Pilot city project leaders completed the four-hour "Reinvesting in Towns and City Centers and Communities Planning and Design Workshop" based on CRT's *Quality*



Coolidge Park

Growth Toolbox, while CRT coordinated site visits between committees and the neighboring cities of Gallatin, Springfield and Franklin to observe how these cities applied best practices planning initiatives in their redevelopment. Results for the AIA Workshops can be viewed at CRT's website www.cumberlandregiontomorrow.org.

Similarly, in Chattanooga, concerned city and civic leaders and citizens rallied together comprising a series of community meetings and task forces focusing on the riverfront and downtown area. Students from the Urban Design Studio published *Images of the City*, and a student exhibit included proposals for the revitalization of Miller Park and Miller Plaza, more downtown housing, and highlighted the need for redevelopment along the riverfront. A particular note called for a Tennessee State Aquarium as one way to generate river front activity and provide pedestrian access to the river.

"The city was careful to build on its past, our history, our culture," said Karen Hundt, director of Planning and Design at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency. "When the idea to build the aquarium came about, there was a danger of simply incorporating what other cities are doing. I think one reason our aquarium is a success is that it's fresh water. Chattanooga isn't a salt water environment. We stayed true to the natural waterways of the region and those decisions have been helpful."

Chattanooga civic leaders, as part of the initiative "Chattanooga in Motion," traveled to Indianapolis where they were impressed with the city's planning efforts. In 1984, a vision was laid out for the city, "Vision 2000."

As development of the Riverpark and aquarium and the advent of Volkswagen choosing Chattanooga as the site for a new plant spurred interest and investment in the city's downtown area, Chattanooga's interest turned to transportation. The Walnut Street pedestrian bridge created a direct link between the commercial strip in north Chattanooga, downtown, the Aquarium, and the Riverpark and opened the door for development along Chattanooga's Southside.

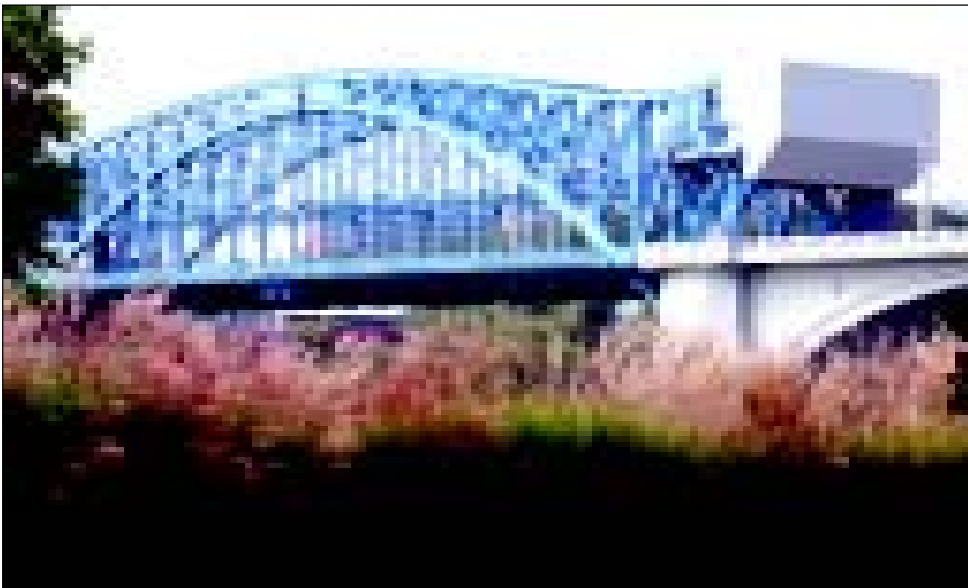
The city chose to reroute Riverside Drive, a state-owned road running between the river and the rest of downtown on the south shore. The plan also called for a glass bridge to link the Bluff View District and the aquarium. The city approached the Tennessee Department of Transportation to obtain ownership of the road. The project is an early example of Context Sensitive Design, a CRT



21st Century Waterfront



Bridge view of the Hunter Museum of Art in the Bluff View District



Walnut Street Pedestrian Bridge

Photos by Victoria South

planning principle that approaches the development of transportation projects that serves all users, compatible with surroundings, the community and the environment.

"During my six plus years as commissioner of the Department of Transportation (TDOT) it has become increasing clear to me that two of the most important factors in the development of good transportation policy are effective regional planning and the coordination of land use and transportation planning," said TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely. "The work of Cumberland Regional Tomorrow in Middle Tennessee is certainly an example of the former. In adapting highway design to local land use needs, a good model is the Riverside Drive project in Chattanooga. After running into hurdles in securing the necessary approvals to allow the desired changes to achieve community goals, the street was turned over to the city and the result has been a scenic drive which ties into the Riverwalk project. Both the state and local communities benefit when such flexibility can be achieved."

The regional transportation authority also launched a free electric shuttle in downtown, which eventually linked a parking garage at the south end of downtown to another garage near the aquarium.

"Our downtown electric shuttle is great for downtown commuters and has been a remarkable means of income as managed by the RTA," said Littlefield. "It's part of a mass transit program we're working with, so that Volkswagen may transport people everyday to their workplace. We've been working on high speed rail from the Atlanta Airport to Chattanooga and ultimately to Nashville and have spent federal, state and local dollars on it. We see these projects becoming a reality within the next 10 years."

State lawmakers recently took a step by passing a bill that would allow local governments to, through ordinance and referendum, set up a funding source dedicated to public transportation projects.

In Nashville, CRT hosted a regional summit, The Power of Ten, attended by community leaders and transportation planners to encourage regional mass transit. Among the speakers joining Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, was Patrick McCrory, mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina. He explained how his city was able to improve its mass transit system.

Leaders in the Middle Tennessee communities of Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Maury, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson and Wilson counties were urged by Dean to create work groups that will formulate concrete plans for mass transit that people would actually use.

"While most of the attention about the revitalization is on the Riverfront district and downtown area, as a former planner, I see our most significant transformation as the environment," said Mayor Littlefield. In 1969, the Federal Government declared Chattanooga as the most polluted city.

"We just completed a climate action plan that explains climate danger, alternative fuels and to rethink the way we've been doing things," said Hundt. The 123-page report released by the Chattanooga Green Committee includes 47 initiatives the city could take to make itself more green. The report serves as a guide for the future of Chattanooga, on how to become more sustainable and sets benchmarks for the years 2012-2050 in decreasing greenhouse emissions.

"I can remember when the

Bluff View District was deteriorating, not cleaned up," said Mayor Littlefield. "Today we can look up and see the sky. Upon driving through Chattanooga, General Douglas MacArthur once said, 'It's easy to see God gave you a beautiful setting for a city.' We are beautiful, but we need to be better stewards of what God gave us."

As for what's next in Chattanooga redevelopment, Littlefield muses, "We will continue to manage what we have, utilities, land use control, roads — that's all home territory for me. I would like to see the University of Chattanooga grow and prosper. We offer great incentives for businesses. Our German school for our new VW citizens is up and running and we are the only city anywhere to build two new downtown schools. Our downtown condos are priced in all economic ranges and are attracting people back to the city, even those who had moved away. I would like to see more infill and for developers to use land in the city to avoid sprawl. And, of course, we've got industry in our DNA."

To find out more about CRT's *Quality Growth Toolbox*, visit www.cumberlandregiontomorrow.org.

Mass Transit: What are our choices?





- **Local and Express Fixed Route Bus**—A system of buses operating on designated routes for local or longer distance commuting.
- **Bus Rapid Transit**—Typically traveling in dedicated lanes and usually easier and cheaper than LRT.
- **Light Rail Transit**— High frequency train service (streetcar).
- **Heavy Rail**—Intra-regional train service allowing superior travel times powered by over-head or third-rail electrification.
- **Commuter Rail**— Suburban-oriented service operating during peak travel times to and from the city.