

SR-162 / Pellissippi Parkway Extension

PUBLIC MEETING
SR-162/PELLISSIPPI PARKWAY EXTENSION
BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE



Presented by the Tennessee Department of Transportation
February 19, 2008

Project Background

- ◆ **1977** - First of three requests to TN General Assembly by local officials of Blount County, Maryville, and Alcoa to extend Pellissippi Parkway from I-40 to SR 73
- ◆ **1986** - General Assembly includes Pellissippi Parkway as part of the Better Roads Program and Urgent Highway Needs Program
- ◆ **1998** - Federal TEA-21 includes Pellissippi Parkway Extension in High Priority Projects Program
- ◆ Knoxville TPO includes Pellissippi Parkway Extension in Regional Long Range Transportation Plans in 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2007

Project Background

- ◆ **1999** – TDOT initiates Environmental Assessment for PPE between SR 33 and SR 73
- ◆ **2002** – EA and FONSI approved; court injunction stops project
- ◆ **2005** – Appeals Court allows TDOT & FHWA to revisit the environmental evaluation
- ◆ **2006** – TDOT initiates EIS with Notice of Intent

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

- ◆ **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
 - requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

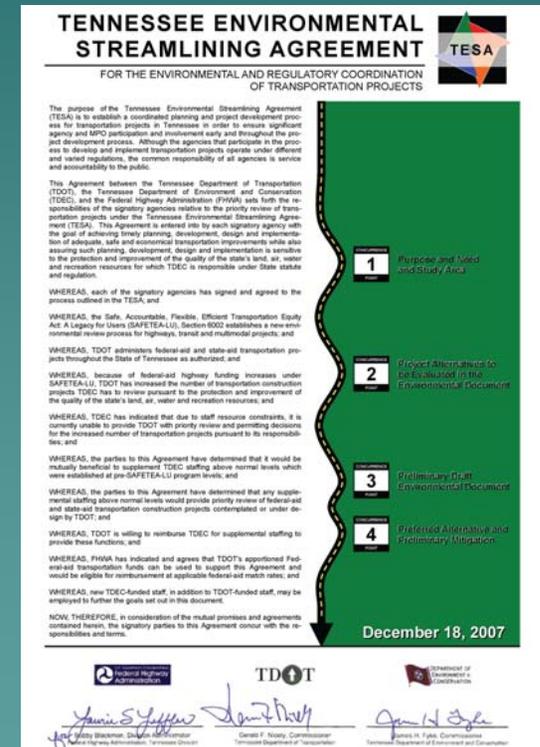
- ◆ **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**
 - a full disclosure document that details the process through which a transportation project was developed
 - includes consideration of a range of reasonable alternatives
 - analyzes the potential impacts resulting from the alternatives, and
 - demonstrates compliance with other applicable environmental laws and executive orders.

Tennessee Environmental Streamlining Agreement

- ◆ **The purpose of the agreement is to:**
 - Establish a coordinated planning and project development process for major transportation projects
 - Ensure significant agency and MPO participation and involvement early and throughout the project development process
 - Streamline the NEPA process
 - Coordinate NEPA, permitting and Section 106 processes
 - Implement environmental stewardship and environmental review process improvements

Tennessee Environmental Streamlining Agreement

- ◆ The Agreement establishes four (4) concurrence points:
 - Purpose and Need and Study Area
 - Project Alternatives to be Evaluated in the Environmental Document
 - Preliminary Draft Environmental Document
 - Preferred Alternative and Preliminary Mitigation



Summary of Purpose and Need

◆ Transportation Needs

- Existing road network is primarily radial extending out of Maryville, with no northwest/east connection to serve northeast Blount County
- Incomplete regional road network
- Traffic congestion and poor levels of service on major arterial roads
- High crash incidents in the Maryville core

Summary of Purpose and Need

◆ Purpose of Project

- Improve mobility by providing travel options to the existing radial roadway network
- Enhance regional transportation system linkages
- Assist in achieving acceptable traffic flows on the local transportation network
- Assist in improving roadway safety on the existing roadway network

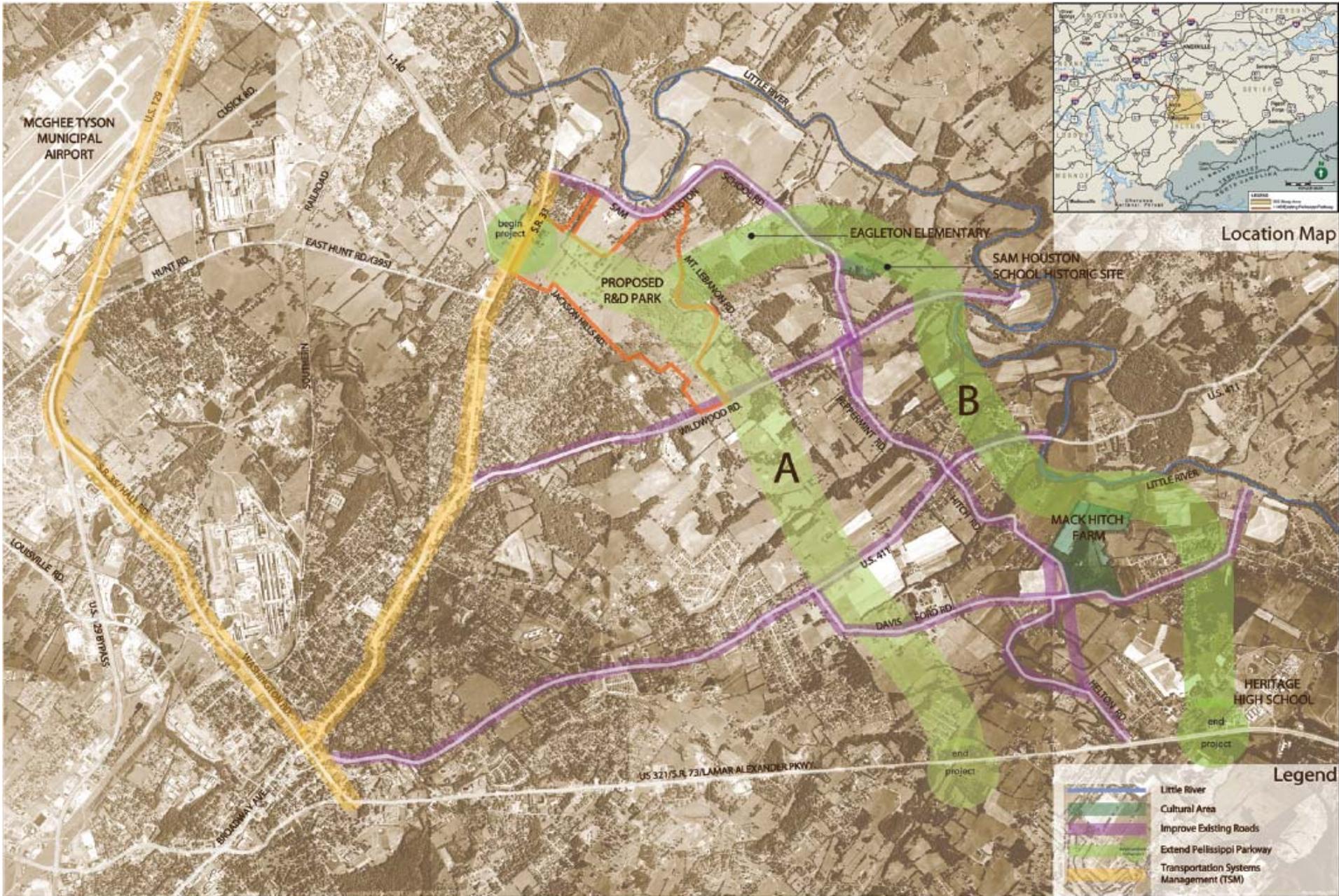
Summary of Purpose and Need

◆ Other Objectives

- Support community and growth management goals
- Minimize adverse impacts to neighborhoods and businesses
- Minimize adverse impacts to farmlands
- Minimize adverse impacts to the natural and cultural environment

Initial Range of Alternatives

- ◆ No Build
- ◆ Public Transit
- ◆ Transportation System Management (TSM)
- ◆ Improve network of existing roadways in NE Blount County
- ◆ Extend Pellissippi Parkway on new location in Corridor A or Corridor B



Location Map

Legend



PELLISSIPPI PARKWAY EXTENSION EIS
Project Vicinity Map



Tentative Project Schedule

- ◆ Refine Alternatives – *Spring 2008*
- ◆ Conduct Technical Studies – *Spring /Summer 2008*
- ◆ Prepare DEIS – *Summer/Fall 2008*
- ◆ Circulate Draft EIS circulated & hold public hearings – *Winter/Spring 2009*
- ◆ Complete Final EIS – *Winter 2010*