

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Governor Haslam Announces Safe Routes to School Grant for City of Hendersonville

NASHVILLE – Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Commissioner John Schroer today announced Safe Routes to School funding for the City of Hendersonville totaling \$192,555 for improvements near two local schools. The Safe Routes to School Program is a statewide initiative designed to make bicycling and walking to school a safer, more appealing and healthier alternative for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

“Safety is a crucial component in our efforts to promote a healthier lifestyle for Tennessee children,” Haslam said. “The Safe Routes to School Program helps create safer walking and biking environments for students and funds activities to encourage children and their parents to increase their physical activity.”

Hendersonville will utilize the Safe Routes to School funds to construct sidewalks and crosswalks improvements, and install new signage near Walton Ferry Elementary and Hawkins Middle Schools. Funds will also be used to provide an educational program focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety and promotional activities to encourage walking and bicycling as a safe and healthy initiative. The project will support the city’s commitment to build, manage, and maintain an effective and safe non-motorized transportation program.

The grant is made possible through a federally funded program administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

“Safe Routes to School is an innovative program that provides an opportunity to work closely with schools, the community, and local government to create a safe environment for children to walk or bike to school,” said Commissioner Schroer. “Since 2007, these grants have funded more than 50 different improvement projects across the state.”

This year, TDOT provided more than \$1.6 million in Safe Routes to School funds to 10 municipalities for projects across the state.

State Sens. Mae Beavers (R-Mt. Juliet) and Kerry Roberts (R-Springfield), State Reps. Linda Elam (R-Mt. Juliet), Debra Maggart (R-Hendersonville), and Mike McDonald (D-Portland) represent Sumner County in the Tennessee General Assembly.

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