



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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226 Anne Dallas Dudley Blvd., Suite 508
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0760
Phone: (615) 741-3012
Fax: (615) 532-2443
www.tn.gov/tacir

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members

FROM: Cliff Lippard *Cliff*
Executive Director

DATE: 17 December 2020

SUBJECT: Commission and Staff Updates

Commission Update

As an extension of its ongoing public infrastructure needs inventory project, staff has begun a study of the effects of social disruptions and economic downturns from the global pandemic on public infrastructure needs. Governments have taken various approaches to containing the spread of COVID-19 to preserve public health and reduce the loss of life as a direct result of the virus. These approaches have the potential to decrease economic output and subsequently may reduce government tax revenues. Virus mitigation strategies also may result in long-lasting social changes that could affect public infrastructure needs, reducing some while increasing others.

The study will be in two phases. Phase-one will examine the historical rate at which project development progressed from the conceptual stage through future stages from 2007 through 2019. Phase-two will compare project needs and development reported since the beginning of the pandemic with historic rates and attempt to identify existing and potential shifts in infrastructure needs and the ability of the state and local government to meet those needs.

The study will include a survey of local government officials on their observations of the effect of the pandemic on infrastructure needs and priorities so far. We thank our members representing local governments for their assistance in designing the survey, which is now available online (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TGO6RBS>). We will be asking the County Technical Assistance Service, Municipal Technical Advisory

Service, Tennessee Municipal League, and Tennessee County Services Association for their assistance promoting the survey with city and county mayors. We hope our members will also encourage city and county mayors not on the Commission to take the survey.

Staff Update

Research Manager Mark McAdoo has recently graduated from the Tennessee Government Management Institute, the state's comprehensive mid-management development program. And Senior Research Associate Tyler Carpenter has completed LEAD Tennessee, the intensive training program for the state's emerging leaders. Please join me in congratulating Mark and Tyler on their accomplishments.