

From the Desk
of the Executive Director



Supporting TML is an investment in YOUR city

Recently, we mailed to all Tennessee towns and cities their annual TML dues invoice for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. TML dues are assessed based on a city's certified population and support approximately one-third of TML's operating budget. What does a city get for its dues? Great question.

For starters, TML is the only organization engaging state government throughout the entire year. During the recent Legislative Session, 75% of the bills TML supported became law. 93% of the bills TML opposed did not. Our team also provides daily reports of legislative activity during each Session. For cities that hire contract lobbyists, we provide them with analysis, potential impacts and strategy that helps them achieve their outcomes as well. And then there is the full-time collaboration with legislators, state departments and the Governor's Office every week of the year. It's a two-way street, where at times, they call us for advice or assistance.

TML Dues help support valuable information and programming on ever-changing issues and requirements impacting you as an official, and your city. Each year, TML provides locals officials with countless hours of state-required utility training, informative webinars with subject matter experts and state officials sharing information and ideas to address today's challenges.

Finally, there's the annual TML Conference and Expo. For almost 85 years, TML has provided this must-attend forum where hundreds of municipal officials gather to stay abreast of the latest legislative and regulatory developments, as well as exchange best practices to address a range of emerging challenges.

Your support makes our work possible and your city stronger. Thank you for being a member and your support of TML. Visit our website to learn more about what we're doing for Tennessee's Towns & Cities. www.tml1.org

NLC Local Infrastructure Hub workshops aim to help small cities win big



With unprecedented federal funding available for infrastructure, NLC Local Infrastructure Hub is offering free workshops to help smaller cities qualify for grants.

By KATE COIL

With the final push to award unprecedented levels of federal infrastructure funding underway, the [National League of Cities](#) (NLC) is hoping to help smaller cities get a bigger piece of the pie.

Katie Dailinger, director of the [NLC Local Infrastructure Hub](#), said the hub's free Grant Application Bootcamps are designed to help small to mid-sized cities connect with the best grant opportunities for their community and learn how to develop competitive grant applications for the future. Dailinger discussed how cities can participate in this program at the 84th Annual TML Conference in Knoxville.

"When the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) was passed two-and-a-half years ago, it made more than \$1 trillion available for communities all around the country," she said. "We wanted to make sure it was not just big cities getting this funding but also the medium-sized cities and small cities had a chance at this funding. We wanted to shift who was applying, who was winning that funding, and improve the quality of those applications. We want every community in the country to have transformational, safe infrastructure."

The program offers free, virtual classes for an hour once a week over three months. Participants attend larger webinars featuring subject matter experts and federal officials. Sessions are recorded so those who cannot participate in the session live can watch at their leisure.

"Each week, we dig into a different topic," Dailinger said. "We may have a member of a federal department talking about what they

want to read in a grant application or why this grant program is important. It may be a budget expert who discusses how to create a budget for the project, how to find a match, and here are some things to think about if a project requires a match. We often create a budget template for your city to fill out so you can slide that right in with the application."

Participants also have access to coaching sessions to work on specific questions with experts, on-demand one-on-one consultations with content experts, and toolkits and templates to provide resources cities can use to strengthen core components of their applications.

"A lot of our participants say the one-on-one consultations are the most valuable part of their time, because it's like having a free grants consultant," she said. "You can ask them anything you want to about the grant. We have people who come in with a problem in their community, a project idea to solve it, but aren't sure what is the right grant. Those experts can then determine what is the best grant for that project. We also have people who come in with a draft application and ask if it can be reviewed before they submit it. We have people who are just getting started, people who are almost finished, and everything in between."

As applications for federal grants often require a great deal of data, Dailinger said the Local Infrastructure Hub created a [Data Dashboard](#) to help cities make their applications more compelling. Information workshops teach participants how to both use this dashboard and how to use their own data to tell better stories on [See HUB on Page 3](#)

Google official Sean Maxwell discusses how to use AI to solve municipal issues

By KATE COIL
TT&C Assistant Editor

With municipalities charged with handling more data and sensitive information than ever, artificial intelligence is offering opportunities for cities to find unique solutions to problems.

Sean Maxwell is a research and computing technologist with Google and the Google Cloud Platform. He said the amount of data being produced – and the amount of data municipalities are expected to handle – has increased drastically since the year 2000.

"If you go from the beginning from humanity to the year 2000 and all the things that were created – the Space Shuttle, the Saturn V Rocket, the Library of Congress, all the movies and the data – by the end of today, we will create more data in that period of time," he said. "Every day, we create that much data. How can a municipality manage that and deal with those problems and their complexities? That is where AI comes in."

Maxwell said working with municipal governments has made him more aware of the political, operational, financial, regulatory, and environmental challenges and constraints governments are faced with.

"Think about what are the problems in your municipality," he said. "What are the challenges you want to take a look at? We understand that for so long you've been asked to do so much with so little, and now you're being asked to do everything with nothing. Staffing is becoming difficult. You have very good staff who are going to be ageing out, and you're going to lose the experts. Finances are a bit of a challenge. Regulatory constraints are changing.



Sean Maxwell, a research and computing technologist with Google and the Google Cloud Platform, discusses how cities can utilize artificial intelligence to solve municipal issues.

How do you keep up with the flow of information? How do you plan for the thing you didn't plan for? How do I articulate my needs back to the legislature? Those are the pieces we want to start thinking about."

When computing began, Maxwell said programming focused on telling computers how to answer questions. Artificial intelligence began with train-

ing computers to answer questions on their own.

"We began training it using images to tell the difference between a picture of a cat and a picture that wasn't a cat," Maxwell said. "You would train for 1,000 hours, and it would be able to tell you the difference between a cat and not a cat. [See GOOGLE on Page 4](#)

TVA President/CEO Jeff Lyash talks Tennessee's energy future

By KATE COIL

With concerns such as providing renewable energy sources, the expanding electric vehicle market, and ensuring American infrastructure can survive increasingly damaging weather events, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is working toward solutions for the state's energy future.

TVA aspires to have a carbon-free energy system by 2050, which includes the deployment and installation of 10GW of solar by 2035. Jeff Lyash, president and CEO of TVA, addressed how the authority plans to accomplish this and address other areas of concern at TML's 84th Annual Conference in Knoxville.

In his four decades of experience in the power industry, Lyash said he has never seen anything like the landscape of energy today.

"The next 25 years is going to be really remarkable," he said. "As we look back on this 25 years from now, the change will be as dramatic as anything we've seen in this industry in its 100-year history. What we built over the past hundred years we are going to have to build twice over in the next 25 years, just to give you an idea of the scale."

Lyash said TVA was founded with three goals in mind: the environment, economic development, and energy production. Some of those goals – such as harnessing the Tennessee River system, sustainable farming, stopping deforestation and flooding, attracting capital investment and jobs, supporting economic growth, and raising standards of living – are ongoing while others continue to evolve.

"These three goals are more important and even more inter-related than they were 91 years ago," he said. "First TVA built hydroelectric to help electrify the South. As time went on, we did coal electrification, and most of the U.S. was built on coal. It supported the war effort and a number of other things. Then we built nuclear plants, and in this country, we have built 100 nuclear plants in 50 years. After that, we began to



TVA President and CEO Jeff Lyash discussed the changing nature of public power and utilities at the TML 84th Annual Conference in Knoxville.



fill gaps. Now we're building more wind, solar, and other technologies."

For the first time, Lyash said TVA is also retiring assets, particularly coal plants, as they are reaching their end-of-life and no longer fit the needs of modern systems. Environmental concerns have also put pressure to reduce the use of coal.

"Almost 60% of all energy TVA generates today is carbon-free," he

said. "We do that through hydro and investing to extend the lives of our hydro fleet. Our nuclear fleet generates 43% of all energy. We also have a growing set of renewables. That remaining 40% is primarily coal and gas. Coal at one time was 70% of TVA's mix, but is now under 15% today. All the coal facilities will be retired by 2035. We are building natural gas right now, which is controversial but helps us drive the coal out for 60% less carbon emissions. It is also key to build gas as a bridge to renewables. I love the idea you can do it all from renewables; I'm an engineer and I know you can. What will happen is, over the next 20-50 years, is that renewable slice will grow bigger."

The challenge is to make way for the new assets to generate the [See TVA on Page 4](#)

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BRISTOL

Bristol Motor Speedway will host the first Major League Baseball (MLB) game in Tennessee next year. The Cincinnati Reds will face off against the Atlanta Braves in a regular season game as part of the MLB Speedway Classic on Aug. 2, 2025. The event is also the second to be awarded funding from the state's Special Event Fund, \$25 million appropriated in the state budget to attract and retain high-profile events that deliver significant economic impact, create jobs, and showcase the state to a global audience. The Special Event Fund is a competitive, incentive-based grant program tied to measurable performance outcomes. Eligible events will generate direct economic impact greater than \$10 million, and a net economic benefit of at least \$1 million in state tax revenue. A major league field will be constructed across the famed track at Bristol Motor Speedway, one of the largest sporting venues in the world. The event will also include musical performances and other festivities.

BROWNSVILLE

The city of Brownsville has received \$121,500 as part of more than \$720,000 in grants recently awarded to six communities by the Delta Regional Authority (DRA). Brownsville's funds will help develop a design-to-cost study for the establishment of a community resource center that will provide social, workforce and health services. The funds come from the fifth round of funding through the Strategic Planning Program, which is made available by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Strategic Planning Program supports communities in the DRA region by promoting problem solving, enhancing resilience and building partnerships.

CARTHAGE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers partnered with the town of Carthage on a streambank stabilization project on the Cumberland River, which aims to prevent further erosion on the riverbank near the Carthage Wastewater Treatment Plant. The city and the Corps entered a cost-share partnership for design and construction and recently completed a \$100,000 emergency bank stabilization study. Half of the cost of the project is covered by an appropriation in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The goal of the project is to eliminate the erosion threat while avoiding potential environmental and cultural impact.

CLEVELAND

Newly Weds Foods, LLC, officials announced the company's plans to expand its current base in Cleveland. The company is in the process of investing more than \$2 million and creating approximately 40 new jobs as part of the move, which will help increase product capacity. Newly Weds Foods, LLC, started in 1932 in Chicago, where the company produced America's first specialty ice cream dessert – the Newly Weds Ice Cream Cake Roll. Since then, the company has seen significant growth, and today, operates facilities in Asia, Australia, Europe and North America.

GREENEVILLE

John Deere Power Products officials announced the company will expand its manufacturing presence in Greeneville. John Deere Power Products will invest nearly \$15 million and add 25 new jobs through 2025. This expansion will allow the company to meet increased projected customer demand for the Z300 and Z500 zero-turn mowers. John Deere Power Products is part of the Small Ag & Turf division at Deere & Company. The business was originally founded by John Deere in 1837 and engages in the manufacture and distribution of equipment used in agriculture, construction, forestry and turf care.

JOHNSON CITY

LPI Inc. announced Johnson City has been selected for the new MD Carts manufacturing facility. This facility represents a more than \$14 million investment by LPI Inc., with at least 225 new jobs projected within five years. With the newest acquisition on Eddie Williams Road, MD Carts and its sister

company LPI Inc. have amassed more than 750,000-square-foot of manufacturing space at the former Q.E.P. building in the city. At the production facility, MD Carts will manufacture a line of specialty recreational carts with function, style and sophisticated appearances, elevating the vehicle from practical to leisure. MD Carts will sell its products directly to consumers at its more than 80 retail locations across the USA and online through its website, GolfCarts.com. MD Carts was founded in Kingsport, and production at the new Johnson City facility began in March 2024.

KINGSPORT and SURGOINSVILLE

Share Logistics officially announced the company will locate new operations in Kingsport and Surgoinsville to centralize logistics for its client, Accoya USA, which manufactures high performance and sustainable wood building products in Kingsport. Share Logistics will invest nearly \$400,000 across the two locations, creating at least 21 new jobs in Surgoinsville and 36 new jobs in Kingsport within the next five years. Tennessee is the fifth state that Share Logistics has expanded to nationally, joining Georgia, Texas, Florida and New Jersey.

MCEWEN

Nashville Wire Products officials announced the company's plans to establish a new manufacturing site in McEwen. The facility is the company's sixth base in the Volunteer State and will add 102 new jobs, increasing the company's total workforce in Tennessee by 19%. In total, Nashville Wire Products plans to invest more than \$20 million through the project. Nashville Wire Products originally started in a garage as a tool and die shop. Since then, the company has expanded to include retail displays, shelving, wire baskets and other high-quality products. Three generations later, Nashville Wire Products remains a family-owned and -operated business with 10 U.S. locations and one in Mexico.

NASHVILLE

Nashville will receive \$5 million from the White House and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to remove barriers to affordable housing production and preservation by creating a Faith Based Development Institute. Metro Nashville will also use the funds to bolster its Affordable Housing Finance Program, create and preserve new permanent supportive housing units, and accelerate development capacity with emerging partners. Nashville is one of just 21 communities nationwide out of more than 175 applicants to receive the funding award from HUD's new Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) program, which assists with lowering housing costs.

OAK RIDGE

Orano USA has selected Oak Ridge as its preferred site to construct a new, multi-billion-dollar, state-of-the-art centrifuge uranium enrichment facility. The uranium enrichment center will be a multi-structure commercial production site covering approximately 750,000 square feet, making it one of the largest in North America. Facility operations will create more than 300 new direct jobs in Oak Ridge. With U.S. headquarters in Bethesda, Md., and global headquarters in Paris, France, Orano is a leading technology and services provider for the commercial and federal nuclear industries. The company specializes in uranium mining, conversion and enrichment, used nuclear fuel management and recycling, decommissioning shutdown nuclear energy facilities, federal site clean-up and closure and developing nuclear medicines to fight cancer. Orano will be the second company to locate in Tennessee utilizing the Nuclear Energy Fund, which assists nuclear energy-related businesses choosing to relocate or grow in the Volunteer State and supports the state's universities and research institutions in further developing their nuclear education programs.

La Vergne cuts ribbon on new fire station



Officials with the city of La Vergne have officially opened the new La Vergne Fire Rescue Department Station 4. The opening ceremony included a ceremonial "push-in" ceremony for the new E-One pumper truck. The station provides better training facilities, new administrative offices, a 120-person classroom that can also serve as an emergency operations center, and four pull-through bays for seven emergency response vehicles. The new station has been named for former Fire Chief Richard "Ricky" McCormick, who passed away in August 2018. Chief McCormick served as the first fire chief after the private department was purchased by the city. During his time as chief, McCormick strongly advocated for a new station that would better serve the needs of the La Vergne community. The total project cost is approximately \$12 million, which spans more than 28,000 square feet. Vergne community.

Columbia dedicates championship field in honor of former Mayor Dean Dickey



Officials with the city of Columbia dedicated Ridley Park's Championship Field in honor of former Mayor Dean Dickey to celebrate his commitment to public service. Dickey was first elected to the Columbia City Council in 2008 and served as mayor from 2010 to 2019. The development of the Ridley Sports Complex and the Midstate Classic collegiate softball tournament hosted at the complex were two of the significant projects Dickey spearheaded as mayor.

Jackson Housing Authority receives \$2.3M grant



The city of Jackson and the Jackson Housing Authority were recently awarded a \$2.3 million Public and Indian Housing Jobs Plus Grant from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. State Sen. Ed Jackson, Jackson Mayor Scott Conger, Jackson City Councilmen Johnny Dodd and Richard Donnell, and Madison County Mayor A.J. Massey were among those present at the grant presentation.

Spring Hill celebrates new water tank



The city of Spring Hill hosted a "Turning of the Valve" ceremony at the June Lake Water Tank last month. The brand new June Lake Water Tank has the capacity to hold 3 million gallons. This is the second water tank to come online in 2024, joining the 1.5-million-gallon Arbor Valley Water Tank.

As Tennessee grows, special censuses can reap big benefits for cities

By KATE COIL
TT&C Assistant Editor

With Tennessee's population projected to increase by at least 600,000 by the next federal census, many municipalities have found holding a [special census](#) is an effective way to ensure state-shared revenues properly reflect growing populations.

Tim Kuhn, director of the [Tennessee State Data Center](#) (TNSDC), moderated a discussion between city officials on the benefits of conducting a special census as well as strategies to make a special census successful as part of TML's 84th Annual Conference in Knoxville. TNSDC administers the special census program for the state.



Tim Kuhn, TNSDC director, moderated a discussion between city officials on the benefits of conducting a special census.



Joanna McCall, senior research analyst with the Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC); Tim Ellis, Goodlettsville city manager; Kellye Murphy, director of tourism and marketing for Columbia; Tony Massey, Columbia city manager; and Joel Cook, Nolensville GIS coordinator; discussed winning strategies for making a special census successful.

HOW IT WORKS

Other than challenging the results of the federal census, Kuhn said a special census is the only method for municipalities to update their population estimates. Each municipality can conduct three special censuses between each federal census. These special censuses are either conducted by the municipality itself or through a contract with the U.S. Census Bureau.

With municipalities receiving an average of \$175 in state-shared revenues per person per year, Kuhn said conducting a special census can have real financial impact. Some 60.3% of Tennesseans – six in 10 – live in a municipality, and with 280 cities and towns adding population between 2022 and 2023 alone, Kuhn said cities are seeing the bulk of in-migration to the state.

To conduct a special census, a city must send a letter of intent to conduct a special census to TNSDC before Jan. 1, though Kuhn said it is not uncommon for his office to see them as early as the summer before.

Canvassing must be completed, and information must be turned into the area development district by March 1. The district then has until May 15 to submit their corroborated data to TNSDC, who certifies it and sends it to the U.S. Census Bureau. The U.S. Census Bureau typically returns its approval by July 1.

WHY A SPECIAL CENSUS

Columbia City Manager Tony Massey said the city decided to conduct a special census because they felt the 2020 census undercounted their population. While initially the city didn't feel the undercount was enough to merit a census challenge, the continued growth in the area prompted officials to decide to undertake a special census.

"Our building permits tracked more than 700 new units since the 2020 Census with 2,700 to 2,800 homes occupied since then. It just made sense to suggest to council we do a special census," Massey said.

Goodlettsville City Manager Tim Ellis said city officials noted that the number of both single-family and multi-family housing permits issued in the city didn't match up with census numbers.

"If you have at least two people living in each home – we estimated that the Census number we're about 5,000 short," he said. "With that said, we are probably leaving about \$1 million on the table by not capturing those residents. We knew we were providing services to 22,000 people



Nolensville turned their special census campaign into a competition, challenging individual neighborhoods to be the first to complete the surveys and giving residents access to the process. In addition to seeing data results online, residents could see this sign outside town hall showing how many more residents needed to be counted.

but only receiving funding from the state for 17,000."

Nolensville GIS Coordinator Joel Cook said the town tracks building permit approvals to better help capture how its population is growing. By doing this, Cook said the city can see where growth is happening and determine when enough growth has happened to justify doing a special census.

BUILDING BUY-IN

Massey said city officials in Columbia discussed the need for a special census as part of annual strategic planning sessions, allowing for the funds needed to conduct the census to be included in the annual budgeting process ahead of time. Cook agreed that having support from city councilmembers can also encourage residents to be responsive to the special census process.

Ellis said it also helped to put things into literal terms.

"Talk about how you can pay your debt service, build a new fire hall, and put a new fire truck in that fire hall, or you can hire this many police officers," he said. "Put it into the terms of what that equals to because those who don't deal with numbers every day may not see it in the same way."

Joanna McCall, senior research analyst with the Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC), said local development districts can give communities cost estimates for how much certifying a special census will

cost versus how much money the community stands to gain from conducting it. McCall said she has never seen a special census cost more than the amount of money the community stands to receive.

"For a rough estimate, they usually cost \$5 a head," she said. "We are only required to count 10% of what you counted. We do have to hire people to go door-to-door to verify the information you submit. Get in touch with your development district as soon as you are considering conducting a special census. We like to plan our pipeline of work as well, and it is more seamless if we know when to expect it."

Cook said Nolensville had a budget of \$75,000 for marketing, but only spent \$37,000 on mailers, shirts, buttons, and other materials.

Kellye Murphy, director of tourism and marketing for Columbia, said the city estimated it cost about \$35,000 for the marketing of the special census.

"We hired the U.S. Census Bureau, which comes with a great toolkit including bilingual information, social media posts, fliers, etc. that you can adapt to your location," she said. "While that is wonderful to have, you also have to have your arsenal of billboards, radio, heavy on social media, a write-up in the local paper, and every aspect you can touch. We also had special sign-up events for the recruiting. Even when working with the U.S. Census Bureau, recruiting is on us."

NLC Local Infrastructure Hub workshops help small cities win federal grants

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their applications. Examples of past successful applications and case studies of winning projects are also available on the Infrastructure Hub's website.

In the past 21 months, the program has provided strategic guidance and technical assistance to 921 municipalities in every state, with 65% of those cities having a population of 25,000 or less. The program has also helped more than 90 cities win \$225 million in federal grants to date.

"These are smaller cities winning infrastructure dollars," Dalinger said. "Most small cities never go after federal infrastructure dollars. They often rely on regional projects or for someone else to help them go after federal dollars. Our program is trying to show that smaller cities can go after federal dollars and can win them. We have had grant winners with populations under 10,000."

Trained 1,664 city staff members to have the tools and skills they

need to navigate federal grant programs in the future. Dalinger said she has heard feedback from city officials who may not have won the grant they were working on for the program, but have

"The vast majority of our cities who participate and the overwhelming majority of cities who win have no grants writer on their team, no grants consultant, and don't have anyone on their staff with a history of writing grants," she said. "We are teaching people who have never written a grant before how to write a grant. Even if you don't win this grant, what we've hopefully left behind is grants experience in your city team that you can take to other grants."

Four upcoming workshops will focus on the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)



funding. Building Resilient Infrastructure program, Flood Mitigation Assistance grant, and IRA Elective Pay program.

Learn more about the [NLC Local Infrastructure Hub](#) and [how to register for workshops here](#).



Goodlettsville helped build participation in their census by recruiting apartment complex managers to help count residents and displays like this one to draw attention to how to participate.



Columbia's special census is advertised at Fairview Park. With municipalities receiving an average of \$175 in state-shared revenues per person per year, conducting a special census can ensure municipalities are receiving their fair share amid population growth.

RECRUITING WORKERS

In addition to getting the word out about the census, municipalities also have to find workers to conduct the census. Tim Ellis said conducting the special census was a team effort for the city, which helped provide unique solutions to counting apartment residents.

"We have involved police department and their community relations officers, who have great working relationships with the apartment complexes," he said. "Much to my surprise, a suggestion from our city attorney was to incentivize the apartment managers as census takers. We have seen greater success in doing that than we have had in previous special census."

Cook said Nolensville recruited both volunteer firefighters and "VIP" volunteers.

"They were a group who was very interested in the special census," he said. "They would set up a booth at the local farmers market every week for a few months. They would give people the QR code to take the survey. That one-on-one interaction was important. People can ignore signs, so conversations are important."

McCall said municipalities should also make citizens aware that special census takers will be in their area, especially during the certification process.

"We are required to put out some sort of notice that they will be out there during the certification," she said. "Sometimes in the certification process, this is the second or even fifth time a person's door is getting knocked. They aren't always happy that our staff is out there. We have had some issues with aggression."

Trusted faces, such as police and fire officials or local residents who

participated in the initial census, can also accompany certifiers to ensure the process is easier. McCall said she has found the best hours for conducting a special census are 2-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and then from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays, times when most residents are home and willing to answer their doors.

GETTING CREATIVE

To build participation, Ellis said officials may have to get creative with how they get responses.

"Unfortunately, we live in a time when people are very cautious about what information they're sharing," he said. "Unlike previous special censuses we have done, our initial response has not been very good. We are having to be very creative because not only do we have many single-family units, we also have a lot of multi-family units, which are difficult to capture."

Cook said Nolensville turned the special census into a competition and kept residents up-to-date with the latest data to encourage that competition.

"We actually made it a competition between different neighborhoods," he said. "It was interesting to see people really excited about a census. It made the return on investment really worth it. We utilized Survey 1-2-3 to send out electronic surveys. With the responses from those, we could quality check as they came in. We could also flag duplicates. If we flagged that someone sent in bad quality information, we could send our staff back to that door to complete it. We also used a dashboard to help the public and field staff see the data as it came in."

To learn more about conducting a special census, [visit the TNSDC](#).

TVA's Jeff Lyash talks Tennessee's energy future

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electrical needs of the future while phasing out those facilities that can no longer perform.

"We are seeing dramatic growth in power demand," he said. "This is because of in-migration – people moving to your cities and towns. We are seeing economic development, which today requires huge amounts of electricity, more so than ever before. Third is electrification.

"What I mean by electrification is not necessarily EVs, but 65% of businesses and households in Tennessee use electrification for energy, which is the highest penetration anywhere in the country and is increasing. An auto manufacturer we are talking with said their largest need is curing the paint on the automobiles. That is presently done with natural gas, but they want to convert to electricity. A 40% electrification is usually about 300-400 megawatts. That one project is 450 megawatts."

One reason these needs are going up is technology that requires more electricity.

"Today in the TVA footprint, 1.5-2% of electricity sales go to computational businesses like cryptocurrency and data centers," Lyash said. "By 2030, that is going to be 10%."

As a result, Lyash said the energy landscape is changing.

"We are going to double or triple the amount of electricity we use in our lifetimes, and it means we are going to be more dependent on electricity than we are today," he said. "In 1950, only 2% of the energy you used in your life was electricity, and the rest was oil, gas, coal, etcetera. Today, that is 22%, and in 2050 it will be more than 50%. Not only are we going to use more electricity, we are going to be more dependent on that. That means expectations on its affordability and reliability have to go up."

The two main ways of achieving this are energy security and decarbonization or clean energy. Lyash said present dialogue makes either energy security or clean energy possible, but he feels both are interconnected. To be secure, he said energy needs to be affordable, reliable, and resilient.

"Don't make people choose between the two; we can have both, we just have to be careful about the way we do it," Lyash said. "Our goal is increasing energy security with ever more clean power even as the demand doubles and triples in the next several years."

Lyash said TVA is already working on making this possible.

"In general TVA has one of the



Construction is underway at TVA's first grid-scale, battery energy storage system in Vonore. When complete, the Vonore Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will use lithium-ion batteries, the same technology used in most electric vehicles, to store 40 megawatt-hours of energy. That is enough electricity to power over 10,600 homes for three hours.

most reliable systems in the country," he said. "In terms of affordability, we together with the municipal power systems and cooperatives deliver power at a residential retail price lower than 80% of the country and industrial rates lower than 95% of the utilities in the country. This is key to economic development."

One of the big challenges is the "significantly more volatile weather" being experienced in the region.

"The highs are higher, and the lows are lower; the changes are more rapid," Lyash said. "Things are more extreme. We have to make significant investment in resiliency... The system was built to go from the generator to the meter at your house for the past 100 years. We are rebuilding the system now to include a whole diverse set of resources."

This will be achieved through distributed energy – such as from community or regional solar facilities – and distributed storage, which is the storage of energy in lithium-ion batteries, at substations, or pump-hydro stations. The process reserves energy usage for peak hours while conserving it when less energy is being used. Last year, TVA launched a \$1 billion energy response program to reduce the load TVA is seeing by 30%.

"This is going to require tech-



To meet with new demand, TVA recently opened this systems operation center just outside Cleveland. The new SOC will employ smart technologies to manage power grid operations more reliably and efficiently.

nology investments in the distribution system," Lyash said. "It may be in your business or your house so we can see that, we can model it, and we can make sure we are optimizing all those distributed resources. We are integrating it with the big, pulp power systems so you get the best of it all. You should expect this now at your

co-op or your municipal utility."

The biggest challenge is energy and community officials working closer than ever before to use the unique TVA model to face what is on the horizon.

"The public power model in the Tennessee Valley, and this partnership between TVA, your local power

company, and your community is unique in the world," he said. "It doesn't exist anywhere like this. It is a mammoth strategic advantage because it is already delivering a lower price with higher reliability, higher resiliency, and low-carbon. It is poised to deliver that for generations to come."

Google official discusses use of AI to solve municipal issues

GOOGLE, from Page 1

ulations in, load them into a model, take all the changes that the state has inflicted – I mean given – us, and tell where we are out of line. That is how much things have changed."

Maxwell said Google wants to help municipalities make constituents feel that the experience with government is empowering, ensure municipal employees are given the tools to not just perform but exceed their goals, and give government officials the expertise and information they need to do these things.

Maxwell said Google designs specialized AI platforms for businesses and governments that operate differently and separately from services like Gemini and ChatGPT, which are accessible to the general public.

"We create a playground just for you, just your data," he said. "We can't see into it. You aren't training the big platform you see on the internet. We can set it up in such a way your data is always yours. Google can't see it."

By putting in individual data into an AI model, Maxwell said Google has helped several local governments solve major issues and look at problems from different perspectives.

GRANT WRITING

"One big issue we have found is grant writing," he said. "You can ask what programs are available in the state of Tennessee that have funding available to match the specific problems that I have, and I have the data to help fill out the request. It can then help you fill out that request. In higher ed, it is the bane of researchers to take their field of study and find the agencies in the federal government that are providing the funding they need. You can do that with AI. It



Google Cloud's Research Innovator recently worked with Vanderbilt University's Scope Lab, SmartTransit, and both the Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority (CART) and Nashville's WeGo services to design efficient transit systems by using artificial intelligence and real-time data analysis at scale. The result was fuel cost savings, increased efficiency, and data collection for future projects.

searches all of the available resources and moves you forward."

OPEN RECORDS REQUESTS

Another issue data reduction for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Maxwell said he has talked with city officials who have spent hours ensuring they have correctly redacted sensitive information in these requests, time that could be spent doing other city business.

"It's not just the name, address, phone numbers, and social security numbers," he said. "You also have

to redact weird things, like the locations of water wells and power transformers, and other sensitive information. You can load this into an AI tool we have prebuilt and get that job for you. The human still needs to do a review of it, but the vast majority of the heavy work is already taken care of."

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Google has worked with the city of Miami to use AI to deal with mental health diversions, giving officers data on the history of inter-

actions with the subject of a 911 call, such as how often police have been called to the home, what can trigger the person's behavior, advice from their psychologists, what calms them down, and other information that can help de-escalate a situation.

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

Similarly, Google worked with Orange County, Fla., and Orlando to decrease pedestrian deaths in an area where there were high levels of pedestrian and vehicle accidents.

"The No. 1 indicator of a traffic fatality, believe it or not, is curb design," Maxwell said. "We can't begin to test data on what would fix it until we know the root cause. We have taken data that is coming out of Europe, looking at the radiuses of crosswalks, crunching the data, and making those crosswalks higher. It slows traffic down a little bit, and then we can test to see that that would do."

SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS

With severe weather events becoming more frequent, Maxwell said Google AI is helping local governments compare digital images of areas before storms and after storms to provide them with the information they need to make decisions in periods of critical emergency response.

"The next day, you need to

know what's down, what's broken, where do you need to respond," he said. "You need to know if the power or water is out, if you've lost a school building, where are damages to the houses the worst, and where you need to put the most resources. There was a school district in Florida that used to send teachers and principals to schools to take pictures after storms. This took about a day of data collection. They needed to answer questions like which schools can be used as shelters, which schools are available to be open, which schools have roof damage that we need to address immediately. We are using data from before the storm and from today after the storm to identify where the biggest problems are."

Similarly, Google worked with officials in Maui following the devastating wildfires to help answer the flood of phone calls from people seeking information and services. Within 72-hours, Google put in an AI-powered call center with answers to all of the questions from residents ranging from where shelters were located to where they could fill prescriptions to even where houses were located prior to the fire."

For more information, visit [Google Cloud for State and Local Government's website](https://www.google.com/cloud/ai-for-social-good/).

WAUFORD

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Katrina Amos-Atkins has been appointed the first deputy town administrator for the town of Collierville. She comes to the town from serving as director of the Cape Girardeau, Mo., Regional Airport, where she excelled in capital project management, budget oversight, and grant administration. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and is nearing completion on a master's in business management and leadership. She is also an AAE Certified Member (C.M.) and has served on multiple boards, including the Missouri State Aviation Council and the Cape Girardeau Chamber of Commerce.



Katrina Amos-Atkins

as city roles in Arkansas and Florida. He holds a bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of Arkansas, a master's in public administration from the University of North Texas, and a doctorate in public education from Valdosta State University.

John Drake, chief of the Metro Nashville Police Department, has been elected president of the board of directors for the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), the nation's preeminent independent research organization that focuses on critical issues in policing. Drake began his career in law enforcement at MNP in 1988 in the patrol division, working in the Vice Division's Narcotics Unit, Police Athletic League, Office of Professional Accountability, Domestic Violence Division, Support Services Bureau, and Community Services Bureau, among others. He was appointed interim chief in August 2020 and then full-time chief that November.



John Drake

presentation award and multiple certificates of achievement for excellence in financial reporting.

Demetrice Johnson, an officer with the Memphis Police Department, died Aug. 2, 2024, following a two-vehicle car accident in Memphis. He was 34. Officer Demetrice Johnson began his career with the Memphis Police Department in May 2023. He graduated from the Training Academy in Basic Recruit Class 142 in March 2024 and was assigned to the North Main Station. Memphis Police Chief C.J. Davis said Johnson exemplified the highest standards of courage and dedication. He leaves behind a loving family who will miss him dearly and an MPD family committed to honoring his memory through service.



Demetrice Johnson

Mike Bell, longtime state legislative leader, has been selected as the new assistant commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance (TDCI) Division of Fire Prevention, which also includes the State Fire Marshal's Office. A native of McMinn County and former small business owner, Bell served 16 years the Tennessee General Assembly as a state representative and later as a state senator. Bell's career in the legislature included leadership roles as chairman of the Senate Government Operation Committee (2012-2018) and the Senate Judiciary Committee (2019-2022). In 2022, Bell joined the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) as the agency's Senior Policy Advisor and Legislative Director.



Mike Bell

Kirsten Ert Acuff, city manager of Lakesite, has been selected to join the 32 members of the Leadership Tennessee NEXT program. Leadership Tennessee NEXT is an opportunity for early to mid-career young leaders to create cross-state, cross-sector networks, learn about Tennessee's strengths and challenges, and prepare to serve their local and professional communities as they become the next generation of Tennessee leaders. Acuff has been Lakesite's first, full-time city manager since 2022. She is a native of Halle, Germany, where she studied political science at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. She completed her bachelor's degree at the University of Hawaii in 2014 and worked as a senate research coordinator under the late Hawaii State Sen. Sam Slom. She then moved to Chattanooga to earn a master's in public administration at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She then served as senior community planner for the city of Collegedale.



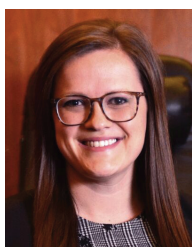
Kirsten Ert Acuff

Jessica Morgan has been selected as the city administrator of Sweetwater, a newly created position by the Sweetwater City Commission. Morgan has been serving as the city recorder for Sweetwater since 2005. Morgan has also been a certified municipal finance officer (CMFO) for the city since 2010. She holds an associate's degree from Hiwassee College and a bachelor's degree in business administration and management from Tennessee Wesleyan University.



Jessica Morgan

Samantha Burnett has been hired as the first full-time city attorney for Mt. Juliet. She comes to the city from serving as an associate at the Howell & Fisher, PLLC law firm for the past five years and will replace the previously contracted legal services for the city. Burnett served as a public safety officer in Rockford, Mich., for three years, and has defended cases related to civil rights, governmental immunity, municipal liability, First Amendment law, real estate and employment matters. She holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Ferris State University and her law degree from Western Michigan University's Thomas M. Cooley Law School.



Samantha Burnett

Mark Gwyn, former director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), died at the age of 61 at his home in Nashville from natural causes. Gwyn served as director of TBI from 2004 until his retirement in 2018. A native of McMinnville and a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, he began his law enforcement career as an officer with the McMinnville Police Department in 1985. He joined TBI three years later as a special agent in its Criminal Investigation Division. He spent eight years in that role before being promoted to role of executive officer and then assistant director of TBI's Forensic Services Division.



Mark Gwyn

David Santucci has been selected as the new town manager of Smyrna. Santucci comes to Smyrna from Deerfield Beach, Fla., where he served as city manager and in other roles since 2011. He began his career in public service in 2004, working in local governments as well as in public procurement in Lee County, Fla., as well as Coconut Creek, Fla. A sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps and a combat veteran, Santucci holds an associate's degree from Broward College and a bachelor's in public management from Florida Atlantic University.



David Santucci

Chris Cummins has been selected as the new fire chief for Columbia Fire and Rescue. Cummins has been serving as the interim chief of the department since March. He has more than three decades of experience with the fire service in Columbia, joining the department as a firefighter in 1990. He served as a fire engineer/driver, captain, assistant chief of suppression, and deputy chief before initially retiring in May 2021 and then returning on a part-time basis in 2021. He also has more than 20 years' experience as a volunteer firefighters in both Maury and Lawrence counties.



Chris Cummins

Paige Jackson has been promoted to assistant finance director for the city of Tullahoma. Jackson has been with the city as a purchasing officer since 2016. She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and finance from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and a master's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from Tennessee Tech University. She earned her Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) certification from the Tennessee Comptroller's Office in 2017. During her time as a purchasing officer, she has played a major role in Tullahoma earning prestigious Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) awards including a distinguished budget



Paige Jackson

Scotty Smith has been selected to fill the unexpired Camden alderman term left vacant by the death of Travis Pierce in July of this year. Smith will serve the remainder of the term, which expires in November 2026. He is the owner of J & J Equipment in Camden and is a member of the Benton County Fair Board.



David Santucci

Henderson Mayor Bobby King retires from public service



TML Executive Director Anthony Haynes (right) attended the retirement reception Henderson Mayor Bobby King who is retiring after serving 16 years with honor and distinction as the city's mayor. Mayor King served as President of the TML Board of Directors (2022-23) and as Vice President and an At-Large board member for a total of seven years of service to the League and 340+ member cities across the state.

Chattanooga Mayor Tim Kelly announces promotions, new hire

Chattanooga Mayor Tim Kelly has confirmed the appointment of two employees to new roles and the hiring of a third.

Carol Hunter has been selected as the new administrator of the city's department of community development. Hunter previously served as the director of operations for the department and has more than 25 years' experience leading community initiatives, working at the city since 2015.

She also works as project director for the EMPACT workforce training program at the Enterprise Center.

Joy Bullard-Moore will join the city to fill the role of director of operations for the department of community development after Hunter's promotion. Bullard-Moore comes to Chattanooga from Philadelphia where she served as the director of place-based initiatives for the Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) since 2020.

She holds a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania and has served as an adjunct facul-



Carol Hunter



Joy Bullard-Moore


ty member at Drexel University.

Donnie Walker has been selected as the new director of supplier of diversity for the city. Walker has been with the city since 2023 when he was hired as deputy administrator for community development.

He has more than 30 years' experience in policy regulation and managing complex program operations, previously serving as director of guest services and operations for the Tennessee Aquarium.



Donnie Walker



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STATE BRIEFS

The creation of a new department within the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) will help foster conservation efforts and provide access to the great outdoors across the state. Gov. Bill Lee announced the creation of TDEC's Office of Outdoor Recreation at the second annual Tennessee Conservation Summit in Nashville. The new office will help to ensure the state delivers meaningful returns on those investments. Brian Clifford has been appointed director to lead the office, headquartered at TDEC in Nashville. The office was created with existing resources to further state conservation efforts without expanding government and will focus on projects like the Tennessee Blueways initiative. To learn more about the new Office of Outdoor Recreation [visit this link](#).

Tennessee's July unemployment rate remained at a record-low of 3% for the third consecutive month. According to new data from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (TDLWD), employers across the state added 2,000 new nonfarm jobs to their payrolls between June and July. The construction sector accounted for most of the new jobs. The healthcare and social assistance sector was responsible for the next highest amount of job growth, followed by the wholesale trade sector. In the past year, Tennessee's statewide unemployment rate dropped 0.2 of a percentage point, from 3.2% to 3%. Comparing year-to-year job growth, Tennessee has 22,600 additional nonfarm jobs. The largest increase in employment was in the education and health services sector, followed by the mining, logging, and construction sector, and then the trade, transportation, and utilities sector.

Middle Fork Bottoms has become the newest Tennessee State Park. Located between Jackson and Three Way, the park spans approximately 860 acres and is part of a floodplain restoration project boasting more than 200 acres of restored wetlands, two miles of revitalized streams, and 250,000 newly planted hardwood trees. The new park was created as part of a collaboration between The Nature Conservancy, the West Tennessee River Basin Authority, and the Ten-

nessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Additionally, the park offers four fishing areas, waterfowl habitats, paddle craft access to the Middle Fork Forked Deer River and five miles of walking trails.

The U.S. Department of Justice has joined a bipartisan antitrust suit against RealPage brought by the state of Tennessee and seven other states. The company sells software to landlords that collects nonpublic information from competing landlords and uses that combined information to make pricing recommendations. The suit alleges that the software uses non-public, sensitive information and allows landlords to manipulate, distort, and subvert market forces, "driving up rental prices unfairly. Particularly, use of RealPage has been seen to violate antitrust rules in housing in cities including Bartlett, Collierville, Germantown, Memphis, and Nashville. Tennessee Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti said his office has been investigating RealPage since 2023 following allegations the company kept rents artificially high. The other states joining Tennessee and the DOJ in the suit include North Carolina, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington. Read the [full suit from Tennessee here](#).

More than \$41 million in state grants have been awarded to foster relationships between TCATs, community colleges, and local industries as part of the Governor's Investment in Vocational Education (GIVE) program. Gov. Bill Lee announced the third round of the grant program, which will provide funds to 23 projects statewide and is estimated to impact 47 counties, including six economically distressed and 13 at-risk counties. Since creating GIVE, Gov. Lee's first legislative priority, he has invested \$91.5 million into the program to support rural workforce development through technical education. The first and second rounds of GIVE funding in 2019 and 2021 served an estimated 15,500 students. The purpose of the program is to prioritize learning opportunities in rural counties and enhances career and technical education statewide. For more information on the GIVE program and to see a complete list of grantees and project descriptions, [click here](#).

TDEC announces 24 cities to share in \$21M in Local Parks and Recreation Fund grants

More than \$21 million will go to 24 municipalities as part of 27 Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF) grants recently announced across the state.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Office of Outdoor Recreation announced the \$21,017,000 in funds, which will be matched by local government investments for recreation projects and the purchase of land for parks, natural areas, greenways, and recreational facilities. All grant projects must be on publicly owned land.

Arlington will receive \$500,000 for Forrest Street Park. Bartlett will receive \$750,000 for Shadowland Park.

Bean Station received \$125,000 for City Park. Blaine received \$75,000 for City Park. Dandridge received \$500,000 for Field of Dreams Playground.

Erin received \$50,000 for Betsy Ligon Park and Hensley Park. Harriman received \$300,000 for improvements at the Community Center as well as improvements at Riverfront Park.

Hendersonville earned \$3.38 million for Heritage Park. Kingsport received \$2.9 million for investments at Brickyard Park as well as Bays Mountain Park.

Lebanon will receive \$350,000 for Don Fox Park. McMinnville will receive \$115,000 for Barren Fork at Rocket Park.

Tennessee to receive \$813M for broadband investments from federal BEAD program

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) announced the approval of Tennessee's initial proposal for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program.

The department has been allocated \$813 million as part of its initial proposal for the BEAD Program, which the state will use to locate high-speed broadband internet to all remaining unserved and underserved residential and business locations in Tennessee by 2028. Receiving this approval by the U.S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) allows TNECD to begin deploying the allocated funding.

During Gov. Lee's Administration, TNECD has invested over \$715M in state and federal



broadband funding to bridge the digital divide in Tennessee. Prior to 2021, more than 20% of Tennessee lacked access to high-speed internet. That total is less than 5%, according to the Federal Communications Commission.

TNECD submitted its initial proposal in December 2023, and prior to submission, the department conducted listening sessions with internet service providers and community stakeholders statewide to ensure that industry and stakeholder feedback was included in the proposal.

TNECD anticipates opening the grant round for BEAD funding in November, pending approval of TNECD's [challenge process](#) results by NTIA. Eligible applicants are those authorized to provide retail broadband in the state of Tennessee.

A Notice of Intent Form and

lion for the renovation of an armory into a multipurpose community center, baseball field renovation and parking lot resurfacing. Trenton received \$553,000 for the Revitalization Phase 1 at Shady Acres Park. White House received \$65,000 for Municipal Park.

Other awards included \$200,000 for Houston County, \$911,000 for Madison County, and \$2.173 million for Williamson County.

For more information about the LPRF program and how to apply, [click here](#). To see full details on each winning program for the recent round of LPRF grant winners, [click here](#).

the published eligible locations are available on [TNECD's website](#) until October 9, 2024. Submission of the Notice of Intent Form is a requirement of TNECD's BEAD funded grant program and allows the state to verify NTIA's required gating criteria for applicants.

In addition, program eligibility maps with designated grant boundaries will be publicly available in late August on TNECD's [broadband website](#).

Following the BEAD funded grant round, TNECD is required to submit all proposed awards to NTIA for approval in the form of a final proposal. Once approved, TNECD will begin disbursing grant funding to awardees.

To learn more about Tennessee's broadband initiatives or apply for these programs, please visit [here](#).

Tennessee's July revenues \$119.3M above estimates

Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration Commissioner Jim Bryson announced revenues for July were \$1.7 billion, which is \$51.2 million more than July of last year.

The total growth rate for the month was 3.10%.

"July total tax revenues grew more than expected in the final month of the fiscal year," Bryson said. "Sales tax receipts, motor vehicle registration fees, fuel tax, gross receipts taxes, and franchise and excise tax collections all contributed to the monthly revenue gains."

"Due to healthy collections in the final quarter, the state will meet the revised budget estimate for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Total taxes

exceeded the forecast by \$206.8 million, and general fund tax collections were \$119.3 million higher than the November estimate."

On an accrual basis, July is the final month in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Final reported revenues will be subject to accrual accounting adjustments that may increase or decrease the recorded cash amounts on an audited basis.

General fund revenues were less than the original budgeted estimates set on July 2023 in the amount of \$35.3 million and the four other funds that share in state tax revenues were \$2.5 million less than the original estimates.

Sales tax revenues were \$48.4 million less than the estimate for

July but 0.88% more than July 2023. For the year, revenues were \$187.3 million less than estimated with an annual growth rate of 1.62%.

Franchise and excise tax revenues combined were \$1.4 million greater than the monthly budget estimate and the growth rate compared to July 2023 was 7.47%. However, for the year, revenues were \$326.3 million less than the original estimate and the year-to-date growth rate was negative 5.55%.

Gasoline and motor fuel revenues for July increased by 6.02% compared to July 2023 and were \$1.5 million more than the budgeted estimate of \$111.7 million. For the year, revenues were more than estimates by \$8.3 million.

Motor vehicle registration revenues were \$0.1 million less than the July estimate, and on a year-to-date basis, revenues were \$6 million more than the estimate.

Tobacco tax revenues were \$0.8 million less than the July budgeted estimate of \$18.6 million. For the year, they were \$23.7 million less than the budgeted estimate.

Privilege tax revenues were \$16.7 million less than the July estimate, and on a year-to-date basis, August through July, revenues were \$133.7 million less than the estimate.

Gross receipts taxes or bottlers tax revenues were \$20.4 million more than the July estimate, and on a year-to-date basis were \$31.7 million more than the budgeted estimate.

Business tax revenues were \$5.3 million more than the July estimate of \$13.8 million. For the year, revenues were \$31.8 million more than the budgeted estimate.

Mixed drink, or Liquor-by-the-drink, taxes were \$1.1 million more than the July estimate. For the year, revenues were \$3.5 million more than the budgeted estimate. All other tax revenues were less than estimates by a net of \$1.5 million.

For the year, revenues were \$593 million less than the original budgeted estimate. The general fund recorded \$600.9 million less than the budgeted estimate and the four other funds were \$7.9 million more than estimated. To see the complete budget, [click here](#).

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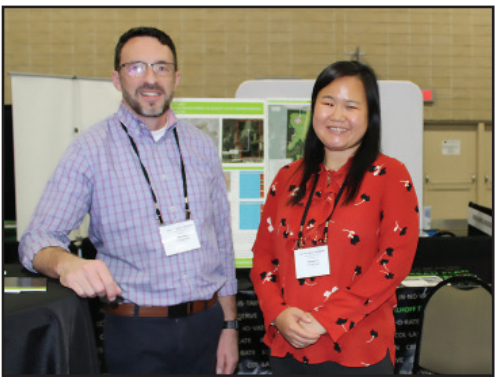
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TDEC Office of Outdoor Recreation



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No loan is too large or too small



The City of Madisonville recently closed a \$700,500 note issued to finance the purchase of a new fire truck. The city has used the TMBF loan programs seven times since 1999. Seated L to R are: City Recorder Sherri McCrary and Mayor Scott Hunt. Standing is Steve Queener, TMBF Marketing Representative.



The Town of Tiptonville has used the TMBF loan programs three times since 1998. The most recent was for a \$1,000,000 fixed rate loan through the Clarksville Public Building Authority to renovate the Reelfoot Lake Armory Building to use as a community center for the town. A portion of the funds will also be used to renovate the town's baseball complex. Seated L to R are: City Recorder Fran Hearn and Mayor Cliff Berry. Standing is Justin Hanson, TMBF Marketing Representative.



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