



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Knox County Announces Hardin Valley Road Widening Project**

*KNOXVILLE, Tenn.*— The Knox County Engineering and Public Works Department on Monday announced that construction crews are putting plans in place to begin a road widening project at one of the busiest intersections on Hardin Valley Road.

“We all know the Hardin Valley area faces some serious challenges when it comes to congestion,” Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs said. “I’m really happy about this project because it’s a cost-effective way of greatly improving traffic flow in this area, which is good for the people of Hardin Valley and all of Knox County.”

Work on the roughly \$2 million project is expected to start next summer, said Jim Snowden, the department’s senior director. The project should take between one and two years to complete and will cost considerably less than most comparable road projects that often take between five to 10 years to wrap up and cost upward of \$20 million.

“My team identified a project to take this three-lane section of road and convert it to five lanes,” Snowden added. “That way we can essentially double our capacity and still maintain our center turn lane for safety.”

Knox County Commissioners echoed the mayor's sentiments, emphasizing the project's importance to support growth and improve the overall quality of life for Hardin Valley residents.

For example, at-large Commissioner Kim Frazier noted: “We’re going to continue to work hard to get that supportive infrastructure in the Hardin Valley community and hopefully ease the pressure of that growth and development.”

The board’s other at-large commissioner, Larsen Jay, said: “This is exactly the type of project we should be spending Knox County taxpayer dollars on, and I appreciate the work the mayor, his administration and my Commission colleagues put into making it happen. Our economy thrives when local government works to support the free flow of goods, services, and, more importantly, people within our community.”

County Commission Chairwoman Terry Hill added: “We are working hard making sure that Hardin Valley becomes a more mobile and transportation friendly community.”

More information about the project can be found on a video posted at the county and Mayor Jacobs' social media sites. The video also will be played during the Commissioner's meeting tonight, which begins at 5:00 p.m. The video, which includes drone footage of the current roadway and design plans can be found [here](#).

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