

# CITY OF KNOXVILLE

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**Economic and Community Development**  
W. Harold Cannon, Jr., PE  
Chief Economic Development Officer

September 27, 2022

Mr. Paul Degges, P.E.  
Deputy Commissioner  
Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Suite 700 – James K. Polk Building  
505 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, TN 37243

**SUBJECT:** TDOT Concurrence on James White Parkway Urban Wilderness Corridor Study

Dear Mr. Degges:

The City of Knoxville has been working with TDOT to review conceptual plans to modify the James White Parkway corridor as outlined in the James White Parkway Urban Wilderness Corridor Study.

The City has met with TDOT on a number of occasions and has been diligent to address the comments and requests received from TDOT. A meeting was held on March 2, 2022 at which time the City presented our final technical report to TDOT. On April 22, 2022, the City was provided guidance in an email from Michael Gilbert that “We [TDOT] have coordinated with several within the Department and our direction is that the City of Knoxville can select their preferred alternative; however, this will need to be reviewed and approved by the Excess Land Committee.”

The City has spoken with the Excess Land Office and was informed that all they require from the City is a set of final plans that will be circulated for approval within the region prior to any work proceeding.

The City of Knoxville respectfully requests concurrence from the Department that the City may proceed with developing final construction plans for the roadway improvements based on the conceptual plans and design guidelines detailed in the James White Parkway Urban Wilderness Corridor Study dated February 24, 2022.

My apology for the delay in your receiving this letter; this was supposed to have been forwarded the latter part of May.

Please contact me, or Director Tom Clabo, Engineering, if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Cannon, Jr.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

W. Harold Cannon, Jr. P.E.  
Chief Economic Development Officer