



Advisory Council on Traffic Safety

# ACTS NEWSLETTER

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON TRAFFIC SAFETY

*Marty Haynes - Chairman; Hamilton County Commission*

*Clarence Shattuck - Vice-Chairman; Sessions Court Judge*

*Monica Baker - Coordinator; Highway Safety Education*

Save the Date ... April 27 12:00 NOON

ACTS LUNCHEON.... Golden Corral on Gunbarrel Rd.

TOPIC: - Questions? 209-8204

April  
2016

## Multiple lanes to stay open during four-year upgrades to U.S. 27

The \$126 million construction project will be implemented in four phases.

Source: Matt Pulford, Nooga.com, published January 8, 2016



A bird's-eye view of U.S. 27. (Photo: Lawson Whitaker for Tennessee Department of Transportation)

Except for extenuating circumstances, two lanes in each direction will stay open at all times during the day throughout the four year I-24 and U.S. 27 construction project, [Volkert Inc.](#) officials said at a Thursday meeting of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce's downtown council.

The commitment to keep these two lanes open will mean more nighttime work, which might sometimes result in a lane closure after dark, Volkert officials said.

## Commissioner's Corner



Commissioner Marty Haynes, District 3

While no one likes dealing with construction, hearing from Jim Floyd at this quarter's ACTS meeting will at

least prepare us for the next few years, and let us know the timeline and ultimate vision that Volkert and TDOT will achieve. We know they do great work from the Signal Mountain exit project, and I'm looking forward to seeing how they transform Hwy 27 from the AT&T field to I-24 to better serve our regional transportation needs.

Julie Alcántara, Volkert field operations administrator, said the 2.3 mile project would be completed in four phases until expected completion on July 31, 2019.

The first phase is focused on constructing a new Main Street exit ramp, working on northbound bridges and beginning a retaining wall at [Cameron Hill](#), officials said.

The second phase, which will begin this year, will usher in work on Olgiatti Bridge, officials said. Traffic will also be shifted over while construction begins on the medians, and work will continue on the retaining wall at Cameron Hill.

The third phase will begin in 2017. At this point, work will begin on southbound bridges, officials said. The projects on Cameron Hill and Olgiatti Bridge will continue.



James Floyd, Volkert assistant vice president, explains the details of the project to locals. (Photo: Matt Pulford)

The fourth phase, which will begin 2018 until early 2019, will see the completion of the Cameron Hill and Olgiatti Bridge projects, as well as the finished northbound M.L. King Boulevard and 4th Street ramps, officials said. Final asphalt paving will take place at that time, and [the lighting will return](#).

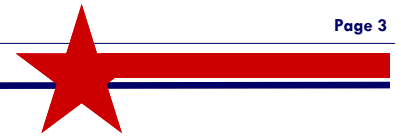
Alcántara said she thinks the most difficult aspect of this project will be the Cameron Hill retaining wall.

"[Cameron Hill] is such a large area, and it's a complicated wall," Alcántara said. "It's supposed to take two years just for that piece of the project."

She said the retaining wall will be used to hold up the hill and will be approximately 1,500 feet long and 60 feet high.

"The [Tennessee Department of Transportation] wanted to try to minimize the footprint of the roadway instead of acquiring additional land, so the only way to do that is to build a retaining wall."

Volkert officials said this project will cost an estimated \$126 million.



## Our Speaker: Jim Floyd, Volkert Assistant VP

Jim Floyd is the Assistant Vice President of Volkert, the engineering firm responsible for the US 27 Reconstruction in Downtown Chattanooga, including widening the Olgiati Bridge over the Tennessee River.

Volkert was also responsible for the US 27 Signal Mountain Road project, which was nominated for an [2016 Silver Anniversary Engineering Excellence Awards](#), the "Academy Awards" of the industry,

presented by the [American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee](#).

Mr. Floyd will discuss the current project, timelines, and some of the safety challenges that construction crews face when working on the side of the road.

Special thanks to Commissioner Haynes for lining up this great speaker!

## CDC Walkability Action Institute

In response to the Surgeon General's Call to Action on Walking and Walkability, the CDC created the Walkability Action Institute to bring cross-discipline teams from Metro areas together to create concrete, action driven plans to improve walkability in their areas. The Chattanooga team is one of ten selected from across the country!

Monica Baker, the Highway Safety Coordinator at the Chattanooga– Hamilton County Health Department is serving on the Chattanooga team, along with representatives from the Metropolitan Planning Agency, Chattanooga Department of Transit, Chattanooga Police Department, CARTA, and the Chattanooga City Council. For more on the CDC Walkability Action Institute, click [here](#).

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Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department



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# 2016 Choices Matter Teen Maze

