

**MINUTES OF THE PENNYRILE ADD  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
Monday, December 1, 2025 at 10:00 AM (CT)

**ATTENDING:**

**Voting Participants**

Jenny Clark	Rachel McCubbin	Matt Cartwright
Brock Thomas	Perry Newcom	Mack McGehee
Jerry Gilliam	Dylan Ashby	Leslie Cornette
Nikki Steger	Jack Whitfield (V)	Todd Mansfield
Brian Ahart	Michael Williams	Arthur Green
Tom Britton	Jaime Green-Smith	Scott Marshall
Taylor Hayes	Travis Cobb	

**Advisory Members (Non-Voting)**

JR Knight	Jon Dietzel
Jim LeFevre	Catherine Everett
Marc Lewis	

**KYTC Staff**

Austin Hart	Christopher Walden
Deneatra Henderson	Matt Hughes
Nick Hall (V)	Joe Plunk

**Elected Officials**

Rep. Walker Thomas	Alex Caudill
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**PeADD Staff**

Amy Frogue	Melissa Thompson
Angela Herndon	

**AGENDA**

**WINTER STORM ADVISORY BRIEFING**

The meeting began with a weather briefing led by Pennyrile, who discussed an upcoming winter storm affecting parts of Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana. The forecast included a mix of snow, freezing rain, and ice, with potential travel impacts expected. Pennyrile emphasized the need for caution and preparedness, mentioning that the advisory area might be expanded. The meeting then transitioned to a regular session, starting with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Meeting could not be called to order at the beginning of the meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

### INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Judge Newcom led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was followed by the Invocation which was led by Mayor Thomas.

### WRAP UP OF SHIFT/SHIFT STATUS

The Planner explained that the SHIFT process was complete as it relates to the responsibility of the RTC. The information compiled through the sponsoring and boosting processes would be used by the Cabinet to create the Draft Highway Plan which will be provided to the Governor. Following a review and any changes the Recommended Highway Plan would then be forwarded to the Legislature for approval prior to the beginning of FY27. She reminded the RTC members that if they ever had any questions regarding projects or project status they should reach out for the Planner.

### RURAL CONSULTATION SURVEY AND RESPONSE

The Planner reminded the RTC of the Rural Consultation that had been sent out several times over the past few months for them to complete. She explained that the Cabinet is required to consult with and consider the concerns of the RTC in their Statewide Transportation Planning and Programming processes. The Cabinet surveys non-metropolitan officials regarding the effectiveness of the consultation process, suggested modifications, and report the findings every five (5) years. The Rural Consultation Report was last completed in February 2021. The Planner went over the results of the survey that had been provided by the Cabinet. The committee received positive feedback on the survey. The Planner noted several ideas in the response to the Cabinet for ways to improve communication, delivery of information to the public, and transparency. Ideas included KYTC education sessions on the CHAF and SHIFT processes, education on the quarterly deliverables, Community Spotlight presentations at each meeting, adding all mayors to the meeting notices, adding the RTC meetings to the You Tube channel.

### UPCOMING DELIVERABLES

The Planner noted that there are several upcoming deliverables that are due between the December Meeting and the next meeting which will be in February. For the month of December, the Quarterly Report, Quarterly Invoice, and the 1st Part of Annual Assessment are due. The Planner provided the relevant sections of the Annual Work Program that explains the three (3) deliverables. For the month of January, the List of Contacts/Resources and the Regional Transportation Committee Membership are due. The Planner provided the relevant sections of the Annual Work Program that explains the deliverables. Also included in the meeting packet of information was a two-page document out of the annual work program that puts all of the deliverables submitted to KYTC each month during the program year.

### SS4A UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Adam Kerr provided an update on the Safe Streets and Roads for All program, highlighting the focus on low-cost systemic measures to improve road safety.

### QUORUM

Angela Herndon reviewed the sign in sheet and a quorum was established.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Judge Newcom asked everyone to review the minutes from August 27, 2025 of the RTC that were included in the packet. Mayor Arthur Green made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Masfield. All Ayes. Motion carried.

#### District 3 Highway Project Update

District 2 was moved up in the agenda to allow for the KYTC personnel to leave for another meeting. Ben Hunt, representing KYTC District 3, provided an update on the US-79 widening project, also known as project 3-8001.1. This project will widen the roadway to three lanes and improve intersections along the commercial portion of Guthrie, beginning at the Tennessee state line. Construction is expected to begin in the next few weeks and is scheduled for completion in the fall of next year.

#### District 1 Highway Project Update

Austin Hart, from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District 1, provided updates on several ongoing projects. The spokesperson began the meeting by noting that the commitments made in prior meetings were largely being fulfilled as the year neared its end. Most of the projects scheduled for completion have, in fact, been wrapped up.

The meeting heard the announcement that the Lyon County bridge project is now complete and open. Another project, near Crittenden County, is also reported to be very close to completion. Although a firm date was not provided, the goal is to have it open by the end of the year, with Christmas being cited as a possibility, contingent upon no further delays.

Regarding future initiatives, the study on I-24 continues to advance. A key team meeting is scheduled for December 18th, where the consultant will present various build alternatives. For District 1, the focus will be concentrated on the Paducah area, specifically the segment around the mall exit within the first 70 miles. This area sees heavy congestion during afternoon peak hours due to local McCracken County commuters, often pushing the four lanes to capacity.

An update was also provided on the Caldwell County rehab project. This \$34 million contract was awarded to Jim Smith Contracting in October. Work is scheduled to begin in the spring and will involve a full-depth asphalt replacement, which includes removing all existing concrete, mirroring previous work done in Trigg County.

Addressing ongoing construction, the contractor for the Cerulean Road overpass on the Interstate is expected to return this week or next. They will continue working until Christmas to finalize the bridge repairs, noting that the timeline was extended due to the discovery of additional areas requiring repair once the work began.

Finally, Harper Contracting is focused on crucial concrete slab replacement on the eastbound lane of the Interstate, starting at the Cadiz exit and moving toward Christian County, with work scheduled until Christmas. Following the completion of the interstate slab work, the contractor will move on to address smaller bridge repairs on Donaldson Creek Road.

In summary, the update for District 1 was light, as efforts are centered on wrapping up all outstanding projects discussed earlier in the year.

#### District 2 Highway Project Update

Deneatra Henderson, with KYTC District 2, began by noting that construction activities were being wrapped up in preparation for the winter season. The big news of the day was that pre-treating operations were underway, with Districts 1 and 3 also having counties on the list. The speaker humorously confirmed that the sight of the white salt lines indicates that winter weather is imminent.

Regarding the I-24 update, the next project team meeting is scheduled for December 18th. It was noted that the plan itself has not yet been shared with the team, but the meeting will provide the next opportunity for an update.

In contrast to the focus in District 1, the primary focus for the I-24 study in District 2 is near the Tennessee state line, specifically around the Oak Grove area, where the heaviest traffic congestion is located. She noted that a significant project letting is scheduled for December which is the I-24 overpass interchange at Kentucky 115. This letting will cover the structure only portion of the bridge. The district is continuing to work with Buc-ee's regarding the proposed service station at that interchange. Buc-ee's is responsible for building three roundabouts (one at each exit ramp and one at their entrance) using their own contractor and funding, which will be executed via an encroachment permit. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), including staff like Adam Kirk, reviews these plans for roundabout compliance. It was stated that the timeline for starting the roundabout construction is now dependent on Buc-ee's. The bridge structure being let in December is a counterpart bridge to the existing overpass on KY 115. The purpose is to build a similar structure to increase capacity at the interchange before the Buc-ee's station opens, prioritizing the time-consuming bridge construction ahead of the commercial development.

#### District 3 Highway Project Update

Mr. Joe Plunk, with KYTC District 3, began the update for Todd County by highlighting the biggest ongoing project which is US 79. Mr. Plunk note the project is moving forward, with good news to report. Bids for the first phase, spanning from the state line to Novella, were opened in July. A pre-construction meeting was held with Scotty's in August for the three-mile, \$8 million construction project. A follow-up pre-construction meeting occurred on November 15th, and work is expected to commence in December. This phase includes significant utility work, which is anticipated to be finished by March. The speaker cautioned that there will be traffic impacts throughout the year due to the road widening, with an expected completion date of November 15th of next year.

Regarding the next section of US 79, covering 17 miles toward Russellville, it is currently in the design phase. Preliminary engineering is complete, but final design authorization has not yet been granted. The district is hopeful that this next phase will be authorized either in the next highway plan or potentially sooner.

#### Bridge and Resurfacing Projects

The status of the Highway 848 bridge (Pincham Road over Spring Creek) was discussed, noting that its current 3-ton weight limit significantly impacts local and agricultural traffic. This bridge is part of a statewide effort to address such structures. Consultants are currently working on the design, having just held scope verification meetings in the field in October. The objective is to complete the design and development work so that the project will be ready for construction once funding is authorized, hopefully in the next biennium. While there is no estimated timeline for construction to start, the design process is underway.

In terms of resurfacing, bids were opened two weeks prior for the Greenville Road project, which covers six miles in North Todd (from Highway 507 to 107), with a projected completion date in June. Additionally, a rural

secondary project reported in March on Highway 507 (Pilot Rock Road) in Highland Lake should have just been completed.

#### Other Announcements

A final announcement was made regarding the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). This program, which funds bicycle and pedestrian projects like sidewalks, has opened its application window. The deadline for applications is January 19th. Communities were strongly encouraged to apply and to seek guidance from their highway districts for assistance with cost estimation and assessing project feasibility.

#### Public Comment

During the public comment section, Judge Newcom invited public comments. The Judge recognized Representative Walker Thomas, thanked him for attending, and offered him an opportunity to provide comments. Representative Thomas briefly mentioned the ongoing budget process and the meetings taking place to discuss important transportation projects in the region.

#### Adjournment

Judge Newcom asked if there was a call for adjournment, Judge Gilliam made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Scott Marshall. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes Drafted & Submitted By:

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Angela Herndon, Regional Planner

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Date

Minutes Approved By The Transportation Committee:

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Judge Perry Newcom, Chair

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Date