



The latest news, events and announcements

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Welcome New Members

Welcome Wes Carpenter

Where are the projects?

October 10, Clay Shoot
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OPEN

Member Benefits

PLA's = Bad Public Policy

www.nucaETN.com

NUCA East TN Addressing Industry Issues with our State Legislators and Senators



Stephen Williams, Scott Thompson, Wade Sexton, Sen. Becky Massey, Trey Goethals, and Ed Everett

\$3 billion to TDOT but where are the projects?

TDOT received \$3 billion from the general fund as part of the Transportation Modernization Act (TMA) for projects and TDOT released it's \$15 billion 10 year plan in December but where are the projects? Continued on page 6.



PLA's = Bad Public Policy

The Biden Administration's expansion of government-mandated project labor agreements on federal and federally assisted construction projects is detrimental to the construction industry. Continued on page 7.



We Are Thrilled to Welcome Our Newest Members:

Welcome!

NEW MEMBER



Aerotek

Contact: Cierra Bussard, Account Manager

Phone: 360-473-7006

Email: cbussard@aerotek.com

Website: www.aerotek.com

Aerotek is committed to meeting their clients where they need them. With over 40 years of partnership in the construction industry, Aerotek and Cierra have the expertise and solutions to place the skilled workers where you need them in your company. Together they will deliver the personal you need to exceed your business goals.

Welcome!

NEW MEMBER



ExpoQuip

Contact: Jorge Sanabria, President

Phone: 865-219-8133

Email: jorge@expoquip.com

Website: www.expoquip.com

Expoquip is a dynamic organization with a dedicated team of skilled professionals, technicians and equipment consultants that cater to local, national and global customers. They deliver comprehensive solutions to a wide spectrum of clients from private sectors to government entities within the construction, earthmoving and mining industries. Their seasoned team provides an extensive range of spare parts and components tailored for heavy equipment, both on and off the highway.

Welcome!

NEW MEMBER



The Trust Company

Contact: Kevin S. Fillers

Phone: 865-202-7007

Email: kfillers@thetrust.com

Companies are frustrated by the time they spend dealing with 401(k) complexities. Kevin will work with you to remove the hassle so you can focus on what you do best.

As discretionary trustee, The Trust Company handles all aspects of your retirement plan for you and your employees. Our bundled services include investment selection and oversight, compliance, record keeping, customer service, plan design and employee advice. Reach out to Kevin today to learn more about what The Trust Company can do to help you.



We Are Thrilled to Welcome Our Newest Members:

Welcome!

NEW MEMBER



Utilities Employees Credit Union

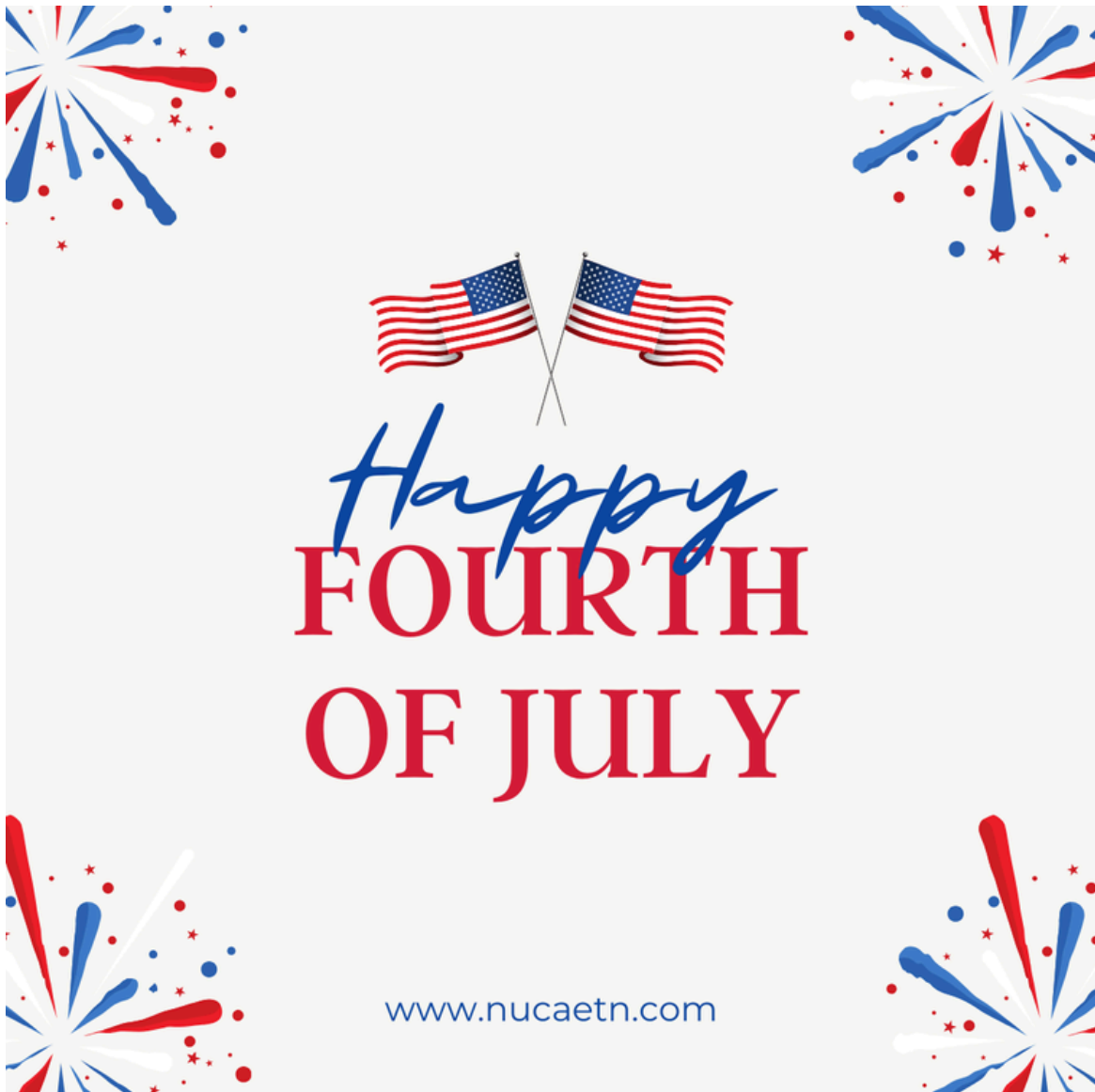
Contact: Lisa Reynolds

Phone: 214-663-4471800-288-6423 x 7502

Email: lreynolds@uecu.org

Website: www.uecu.org

Utilities Employees Credit Union (UECU) was originally chartered in 1934 to serve gas and electric utility employees residing on the East Coast. Formed as a cooperative organization where workers could save and borrow from their collective financial resources, UECU gradually grew into a full-service credit union for utility and energy workers nationwide.



www.nucaetn.com



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- Advance Drainage System
- Aerotek
- Assignar
- Athens Insurance
- Blue Tank & Pump Rental
- Blue Water Industries
- Brabston Trucking
- Branz Technology
- Brown Construction Consolidated
- Cannon-Cannon
- Chattanooga Trailer & Rentals
- Chris Haggard Plumbing
- Cleary Construction
- Colliers Engineering & Design
- Commercial Credit Group
- Consolidated Pipe & Supply
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- Erosion Solutions
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- Marsh & McLennan Agency
- Joe Johnson Equipment
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- LB Foster / CXT Products
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- Loyston Quarry, LLC
- Martin Contracting
- Martin Marietta Materials
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- PIRTEK Knoxville
- Powell Clinch Utility District
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- Rodefer Moss & Co.
- Service One, Inc.
- Southern Constructors
- Southpoint Risk
- Stansell Electric
- Star Construction
- Stowers Machinery
- Sunbelt Rentals
- Surveying & Mapping
- Talley Construction
- Tennessee 811
- TIS Insurance Services
- Trilec Products
- United Rentals
- Utilities Employees Credit Union
- Utility Staffing Group
- Vermeer Heartland
- Vulcan Materials
- West Knox Utility District
- Westfield
- Xylem



**84 MEMBERS
STRONG
& GROWING**



NUCA East TN Welcomes Wes Carpenter to Board of Directors



Wes Carpenter, Vice President,
Southern Constructors

On June 19, 2024, Wes Carpenter, Vice President of Southern Constructors, Inc., was nominated by NUCA East TN President Wade Sexton, Knox HydroVac, to the open Knoxville Contractor Seat for the NUCA East TN Board of Directors. The motion was carried through a unanimous vote.

“ Wes has been a dedicated supporter of NUCA East TN from the very beginning. He is highly respected in the industry, and his expertise is sure to make a significant impact at NUCA East TN. - Wade Sexton, NUCA East TN President ”

Wes Carpenter is a Vice President of Southern Constructors, Inc., where he focuses on estimating and project management for heavy civil construction, utility construction, and more recently, water and wastewater facilities for the past 9 years. With over 22 years in the industry, Wes started his construction

career as a Geotechnical Engineer for TDOT and then transitioned to project management. His diverse portfolio has allowed him to develop a proven track record of effectively managing projects of various types. NUCA East TN is excited to welcome Wes to the Board of Directors and we look forward to what is knowledge and experience will bring to the table.

July 2024 Toolbox Talks



Basic Electrical Safety –
The Most Abused
Device on the Job

OSHA’s
Lockout/Tagout
Standard – Before
You Get Started

Working in Hot
Environments

We all remember the famous Wendy's commercial from the 80s of the little old lady picking up the hamburger bun and screeching, "Where's the beef?" fast forward several decades, and the same exasperation is felt when discussing TDOT and where are the projects!





Wendy's commercial from 1984
"Where's the beef?"


\$3 billion was released from the General Assembly to the general funds for TDOT and TDOT released it's 15 billion, 10 year plan in December, the industry got excited believing that we had a lot of work coming our way. However, the money is spread over 10 years and there are several factors that impact the flow of these projects.

1 Inflation: Projects were estimated at 3% - 4% inflation and it has gone up 11% so the funds automatically get a little tighter

2 Flow of Projects: TDOT has delivered 90% of the projected projects in the last two years of the three year plan.

3 In years past if a project was listed for construction and for some reason did not go to construction those funds were reallocated to other projects but with the 90% completion rate there are less projects not getting completed therefore less projects to be funded through reallocation.

4  TDOT has indicated that the size of the projects will be bigger therefore:  Projects

5  The \$3 billion = \$750 million per region and when you spread that over a 10 year time frame and when a third of it is set-aside for projects that could take years to happen, it's not as big as we thought.

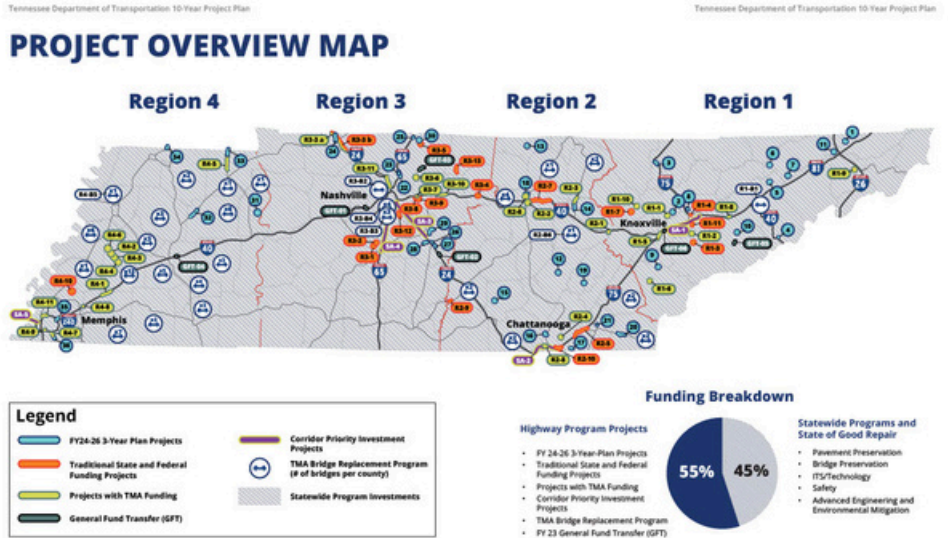
GOOD NEWS!

TDOT let a record \$1.7 billion go in 2023 and anticipate letting another \$1.7 go in 2024. Stay tuned for more update from TDOT for our NUCA East TN Members later this fall.

TDOT's 10 Year Plan

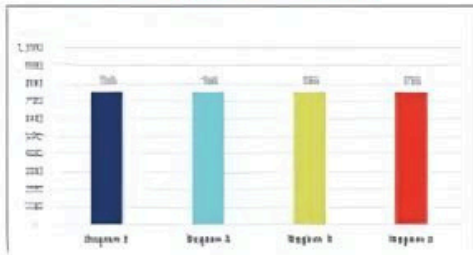


Click on picture to download full 10-Year Plan

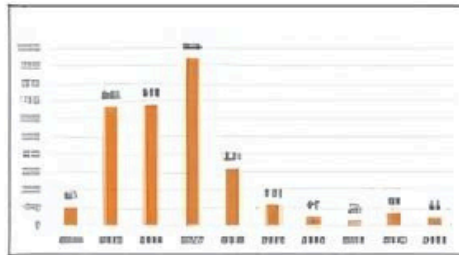


A New Road Forward

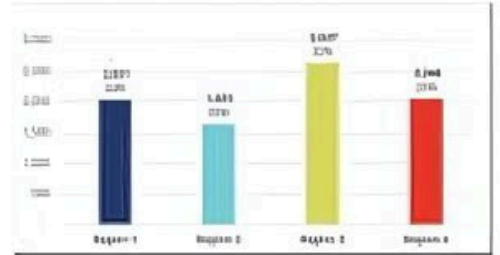
TMA Expenditures (Projects, Programs, 3-Year Plan Backfill) (\$M)



TMA Expenditures by Year (\$M)



TOTAL Expenditures - Traditional Fed/State + TMA (\$M) (does not include statewide program spending)



\$3 Billion Total
Allocated to State Transportation Projects

\$750 Million for EACH Region

- IMPROVE Act Acceleration
- Rural Interstate Widening
- Major Urban Congestion Projects
- Statewide Partnership Program Projects
- Safety and State of Good Repair Acceleration
- Economic Development Projects

Tennessee Department of Transportation 10-Year Project Plan Region 1

REGION 1

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

URBAN CONGESTION PROJECTS

Knoxville Interstate 40 (I-40) Corridor Priority Investment

MAP LOCATION: SA-1

The area where I-40 and I-75 are joined from the I-75 interchange to the SR 158 interchange is one of the most heavily traversed areas of Tennessee. TDOT has engaged in Traffic and Revenue studies and has been meeting with private sector partners to determine the feasibility of Choice Lanes on this corridor. At this time, after consultation with industry, the construction of additional lanes in partnership with the private sector would require a significant public contribution. To ensure taxpayers receive the most transportation benefits for their investment, TDOT will continue conversations with the industry to determine interest. Should there not be any interest, TDOT will engage in a traditional state-funded expansion in the years to come.



By adding capacity to this heavily traveled roadway, operations are expected to improve in this major growth area. Choice Lanes provide another option for motorists to bypass congestion allowing motorists to maintain consistent travel times. The Choice Lanes would be new, optional lanes designed, built, financed, operated and maintained by a private-sector partner through a Public-Private Partnership.

Additional Urban Congestion Projects

- Blount State Route 162 Extension: Extends Pellissippi Parkway and completes the SR 33 interchange
- Blount State Route 115 (Alcoa Highway) Relocation: Will complete a significant investment over a number of years
- Anderson State Route 170 Widening - Section 1: Intended to improve travel time reliability and reduce crashes

RURAL INTERSTATE WIDENING

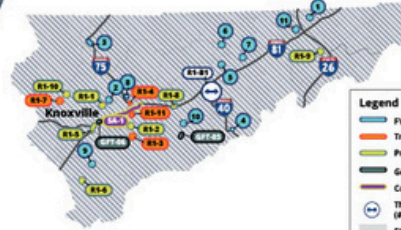
Loudon Interstate (I-75) Widening

MAP LOCATION: R1-5

At least one rural interstate widening was prioritized for each TDOT region. For Region 1, the Loudon Interstate 75 Widening, an IMPROVE Act project, is receiving TMA funds to advance due to the safety enhancements and crash reductions the project would bring. Additionally, the project will help address congestion on this important rural interstate and support growing truck volume.



Tennessee Department of Transportation 10-Year Project Plan Region 1



Legend

- FY24-26 3-Year Plan Projects
- Traditional State and Federal Funding Projects
- Projects with TMA Funding
- General Fund Transfer (GFT)
- Corridor Priority Investment Projects
- TMA Bridge Replacement Program (# of bridges per county)
- Statewide Program Investments

Additional Regional Highlights



Replacing the existing I-40 bridge over the French Broad River



Modifying the interchange on I-75 at I-640/I-275 as part of the Knox I-75 interchange at Sharp Gap

TMA SPENDING IN REGION 1 OVER TIME



[To see full image and document click HERE](#)

Tennessee Department of Transportation 10-Year Project Plan Region 2

REGION 2

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

URBAN CONGESTION PROJECTS

Chattanooga Interstate 24 (I-24) Corridor Priority Investment

MAP LOCATION: SA-2

Chattanooga is one of the urban areas TDOT assessed in initial congestion studies to determine the financial viability of adding Choice Lanes. Traffic on I-24 in the Chattanooga region and anticipated growth indicate this corridor may be suitable for private investment in the future. TDOT has commissioned Traffic and Revenue studies and is conversing with private sector partners to further investigate the feasibility of Choice Lanes on this corridor. At this time, after consultation with industry, the construction of additional lanes in partnership with the private sector would require a significant public contribution. To ensure taxpayers receive the most transportation benefits for their investment, TDOT has set aside funding for further studies and will continue private sector conversations annually to determine interest. Should there not be any interest, TDOT will engage in a traditional state-funded expansion in the years to come.



By adding capacity to this heavily traveled roadway, operations are expected to improve in this major growth area. Choice Lanes provide another option for motorists to bypass congestion allowing motorists to maintain consistent travel times. The Choice Lanes would be new, optional lanes designed, built, financed, operated and maintained by a private-sector partner through a Public-Private Partnership.

Additional Urban Congestion Projects

- Hamilton State Route 317 Widening: Improves safety, reduce crashes and improve the level of service on Bonny Oaks Drive
- Hamilton Interstate 24 Widening from East of Brown's Ferry to US-27: Provides safety enhancements, greater travel time reliability and more capacity for growing truck volume through the Moccasin Bend segment of I-24

RURAL INTERSTATE WIDENING

Putnam Interstate 40 Widening

MAP LOCATION: R2-7

At least one rural interstate widening was prioritized for each TDOT region. For Region 2, TDOT will add a truck climbing lane on I-40, in the area of Monterey Mountain. This is a project that was identified as part of our statewide interstate corridor studies. It will add capacity, address safety concerns, and serve freight movement to a section of rural interstate that can be difficult for trucks to navigate.

Tennessee Department of Transportation 10-Year Project Plan Region 2



Legend

- FY24-26 3-Year Plan Projects
- Traditional State and Federal Funding Projects
- Projects with TMA Funding
- General Fund Transfer (GFT)
- Corridor Priority Investment Projects
- TMA Bridge Replacement Program (# of bridges per county)
- Statewide Program Investments

Additional Regional Highlights



Widening I-75 in Hamilton and Bradley counties from north of SR 2 to near SR 311



Replacing 16 bridges across eight counties as part of the TMA Bridge Program for the region

TMA SPENDING IN REGION 2 OVER TIME





PLAs - Bad Public Policy Continued:

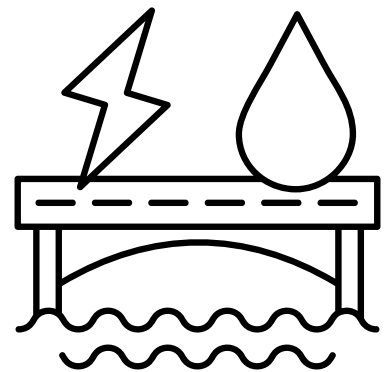
These PLA mandates and preferences discourage experienced contractors and their nonunion employees from competing for taxpayer-funded contracts and hinder the rebuilding of their communities.

It is estimated that PLAs will unnecessarily increase the construction costs by up to 20% and result in fewer infrastructure projects and jobs created by the federal investing in America's roads, bridges, schools, and water & energy infrastructure.

Our industry members must take a proactive role in this advocacy. We would like you to contact your local U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate lawmakers and let them know about any solutions that will work.

- The Fair and Open Competition Act (FOCA), H.R. 1209/S. 537 FOCA protects federal and federally assisted construction contracts from government PLA mandates and preferences, allowing merit shop contractors a fair chance at competing to rebuild America.

The Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval, H.J. Res. 132 nullifies the Biden administration's PLA final rule on federal construction projects. It helps create a level playing field for contractors bidding on taxpayer-funded projects, encouraging competition from all qualified contractors, including small and minority-owned businesses.



TN House of Representatives who voted Yes to STOPPING PLA's:

- Rep. Diana Harshbarger, District 1
- Rep. Tim Burchett, District 2
- Rep. Scott DesJarlais, District 4
- Andrew Ogle, District 5

TN Sen. Representatives who voted Yes to STOPPING PLA's:

- Sen. Marsha Blackburn
- Sen. Bill Hagerty

To learn more about PLA's and upcoming federal policy: [Click HERE](#)



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OCTOBER 10, 2024

AM FLIGHT 9:00AM

PM FLIGHT 1:00PM

Teams Registered: Stowers CAT, McCoy Construction & Forestry, Hurst Excavating, Brabston Trucking, Cleary Construction, Contractor's Machinery, Chris Haggard Plumbing, Erosion Supply, PRI of East TN, Cannon-Cannon, TN 811, ADS, Foley Products & Tracer LLC.

Registration is OPEN!

Only 5 slots left for the AM Elite Teams of 4: \$1200

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1 AM Big Shot Sponsor to Co-Sponsor with Stowers CAT: \$5000

Includes: 3 teams and loads of marketing benefits

2 AM Silver Sponsors: \$2500

Includes: 1 team in morning flight and loads of marketing benefits

Click Here to Register





Benefits of NUCA East TN Membership

Our Commitment:

To building **ONE** united voice for the utility and excavation industry while raising awareness of economic and political issues that impact our members.



Key Benefits Of Membership:



United One Voice:

There is strength in numbers and united we can accomplish more together.



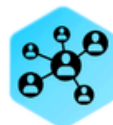
Cost Savings Programs:

Save money with customizable programs, national programs, and exclusive local member discounts.



Build The Next Generation:

Through strategic partnerships we are actively creating pathways to introduce today's youth into a career exclusively with our NUCA Members.



Professional Connections:

Bring members together, to enhance professional relationships that lead to the further success of each member.

Our Focus:

1

Advocacy:

We are vigilant to report and respond to issues and policies that impact the interest of our Members.

2

Workforce Development:

The skilled workforce is constantly shrinking and through key partnerships and programs we are leading the charge to change that.

3

Safety & Damage Prevention:

Through targeted trainings and programs we are working to ensure that everyone makes it home safe!

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EAST TENNESSEE CHAPTER

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CONSTRUCTION**

- Must be resident of TN
- Open to construction related curriculum only
- \$250 - \$1000 award range

FOR MORE INFO

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- You will have 25 wristbands for invites

Beverage Sponsor: \$1500

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- Wristbands, posters, and postcards will have your company logo
- You will have 25 wristbands for invites
- Costs cover bartender and drinks

Chick Fil-a Sponsor: \$1500

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- Wristbands will have your company logo.
- Company logo is listed on Postcards that will go out to over 1000 industry friends.
- Company logo list on display posters
- Company logo is displayed at the food station
- You will receive 25 wristbands for invites

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- Company logo list on display posters
- Company logo is displayed at the food station
- You will receive 25 wristbands for invites

Email:
wendi@nuca.com

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Steven Williams
 865-805-8056 | steven.williams@marshmma.com
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 865-558-1767 | cathy.mcmillan@marshmma.com

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Steven Williams

☎ 865-805-8056 ✉ steven.williams@marshmma.com

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- Open to only qualified NUCA members

Brian Dowling,
bdowling@mcgriff.com

Michael Larsen,
michael.larsen@mcgriff.com



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- Open to all members

Theresa Dixon,
Tdixon@memberfy.com,
804-767-1912



- In partnership with FCCI Insurance Group - can be written by any FCCI agent/brokerage firms
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- Local claim support, Surety Bond discounts (25% off!) and equipment discounts
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- For more information, [click here!](#)

Courtney Hart
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NUCA STAR

SAFETY TRAINING AWARENESS RECOGNITION



All NUCA members want to send their people home safely every night. By participating in the NUCA STAR program you can reach those safety goals and raise the bar on safety best practices in the utility construction industry over time.

The STAR Program has been developed as a tool to aid NUCA members in evaluating, updating, and recognizing their safety program and practices. Companies who volunteer to participate in the evaluation process should see lower incident rates and accidents across the board.

KEY EVALUATION AREAS

Leadership + Culture + Procedures + Records & Database Management

For more information contact:
Mike Flowers - Director of Safety, Education,
& Training mike@nuca.com |
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#WeDigAmerica | #WeDigSafety





TUCA PAC

Who We Are:

In today's regulatory and legislative environment, it is more important than ever that our association does all it can as an industry to work with the various local and state elected officials that impact our outcomes. TUCA PAC will be an instrumental vehicle we can utilize to help educate and promote our association and build industry champions within the government arena.

What We Do:

- support significant relationships with pro-infrastructure representatives
- represent your interest and our industry
- build a better infrastructure in your community & state

Join Us: Sign Up

Recent Meetings:



Trey Goethals, Brent Wilson, Travis Smith, Stephen Harris, Rep. Dennis Powers, Matt Paul, Steve Croley and Robin Hunley



Kevin Mowery, Travis Smith, Jason Robertson and Rep. Greg Vital

Upcoming meetings:

- Rep. Justin Lafferty, Chairman of Higher Education Subcommittee, July 17, 2024 @9:30am.
- Rep. Elaine Davis, July 25, 2024

Meetings are open to all TUCA PAC Members and NUCA East TN Members that live or work in the counties represented.

If you are interested in joining us at a meeting or have an issue you would like us to address at the meeting please contact: Wendi@nuca.com



Jason Robertson, Maj. Leader Mark Cochran and Kevin Mowery



2024-2025

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Board Meetings

All Board Meetings are open to NUCA East TN Members in Good Standing

Every 2nd Wednesday of the Month
July 17, 2024
Aug 21, 2024
Sept 18, 2024
Oct 16, 2024
Nov 20, 2024
Dec 18, 2024

Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings are open to anyone from the Utility Excavation Industry

Safety & Education Meeting
First Thursday of the Month, 12 -1pm
Zoom

Government Affairs & Advocacy
Second Monday of the month
12noon - 1pm
Zoom

Membership Recruitment
Bi-Monthly

Member Companies:

