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Quality Growth in the Cumberland Region and Tennessee

by *Dr. Bridget Jones*
Executive Director,
Cumberland Region Tomorrow

The Cumberland Region of Middle Tennessee and Tennessee as a whole is one of the most diverse and beautiful parts of our country. This diversity and beauty are two of our most important assets, whether we consider them from an economic, cultural, environmental or livability perspective. Tennessee is where we live, share an economy, a transportation network, sports and cultural activities, places to work and shop, as well as environmental resources.



Dr. Jones


In the global economy, it is our **region and state** that are competing for new growth and better jobs.

At Cumberland Region Tomorrow, we believe that our ten-county region and Tennessee's tremendous quality of life is one of our most important attributes that has created and will sustain our long term economic vitality. We also believe that we can preserve the unique communities and beautiful landscapes which are the basis of our quality of life and accommodate rapid growth in our region and state. To do so will require proactive growth planning and collaborative action among many key groups to determine the best locations and approaches for future-growth and development. These same

groups must then work together to make this so.

But just exactly how do we do this? Cumberland Region Tomorrow (CRT) is a private, non-profit, citizen-based regional organization working with many public and private sector partners, dedicated to planning for the future livability and economic vitality of the 10-county region around Nashville in Middle Tennessee. Since 2000, CRT has been working to support and encourage quality growth through improved planning, with emphasis on land use, transportation, and preservation of the rural landscape and character of the region's communities. Currently, we are developing our Quality Growth Toolbox as the lead resource for our region to create quality growth and organizing the Quality Growth Training Institute through which we will offer training and technical assistance. We are also hosting one of two national Clinics for Regional Collaboration, on May 24, 2006, to help us determine how to develop both a process to develop a Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan and identify the roles and responsibilities and funding sources to accomplish it.

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Tomorrow**
Collaborative Action for Quality Growth

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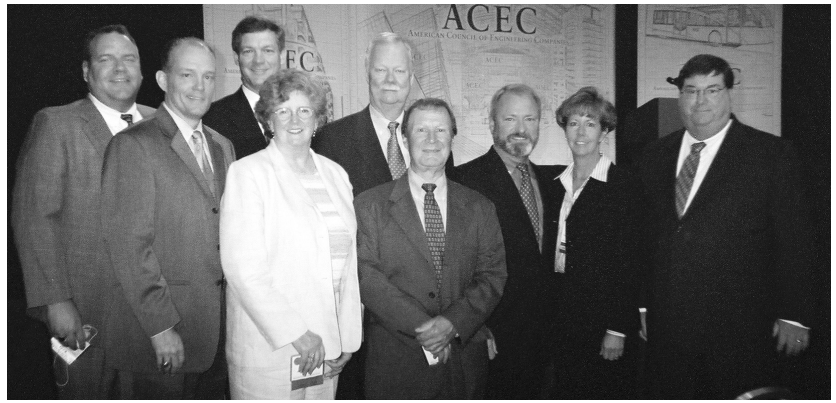
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Tennessee Represented in D.C. at Conference

President George Bush was one of the speakers at the national ACEC Annual Conference and Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. in early May. Engineers from all areas of Tennessee were there to learn, network with engineering associates, and visit the state's Senators and Representatives.



Members of ACEC of Tennessee's delegation visited with Congressman Jimmy Duncan, who represents the Second Congressional District in East Tennessee. Pictured left to right are David Harrell (Vaughn & Melton, Knoxville), Candy Toler, Robert Campbell (Robert G. Campbell & Associates, Knoxville), Rep. Duncan, and Angie and Harold Cannon, (Cannon & Cannon, Knoxville).

▲ From left to right: Robert Campbell (Robert G. Campbell & Associates, Knoxville), David Harrell (Vaughn & Melton, Knoxville), Steve Lane (Smith Seckman Reid, Nashville), Candy Toler (ACEC of Tennessee Executive Director), Everett Cowan (Gresham Smith & Partners, Nashville), Carlton Norris (Arcadis, Chattanooga), Harold and Angie Cannon (Cannon & Cannon, Knoxville), and Bill Johnson (Arcadis, Chattanooga). Also attending the Conference and Legislative Summit were Mark Askew (Askew, Hargraves, Harcourt, Memphis), David and Delores Davidson (Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon, Nashville), Lamar and Mary Ann Dunn (Lamar Dunn & Associates, Knoxville), Wayne Robertson (Vaughn & Melton, Greeneville), and Jerry Stump (Wilbur Smith Associates, Nashville).

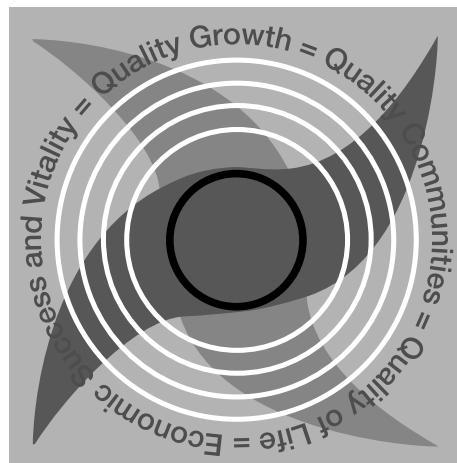
Quality Growth (continued from page 1)

And what exactly is quality growth? It is an approach to planning and development that creates quality places of the past and for the future. Quality growth, in many ways, means returning to the way we used to build our communities and neighborhoods: places where people could walk to school or the corner drugstore, pursue recreational activities at a nearby park or open spaces, or just sit on the front porch and get to know their neighbors. It means balancing development and conserving critical open land, water and natural resources. It means creating a range of housing choices and opportunities. It means using design to protect and enhance our region's diversity of community character. It means guiding

public and private investment to capitalize on pre-existing infrastructure and developed land and integrating land use and transportation planning as an integrated framework to guide growth and development.

It has been said that you can't have it both ways, but the CRT view is that we must work to have it both ways when it comes to a choice between quality growth and economic development. Our approach must seek balance. We live and work in a spectacular part of this country. At CRT, we believe with education

and hard work we can maintain and enhance the great region and state that we know today. To find out more, contact us at 615-986-2698 or www.cumberlandregiontomorrow.org.



The Tennessee Engineering Foundation

by Dr. Ronald B. Cox, Chairman
Tennessee Engineering Foundation

The Tennessee Engineering Foundation (TEF) serves and represents the engineering community of the State of Tennessee. The Board of Trustees sets the policy, establishes the financial requirements, and administers the programs of the Foundation. Representatives of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers and ACEC of Tennessee serve on the TEF Board. Your current board consists of Ron Cox, P.E.



Dr. Cox

(Chairman and President); Mack McCarley P.E. (Vice Chairman and Vice President); Richard Dix, P.E. (Treasurer); Raymond White, P.E. (Secretary); George Barnes, P.E. (Special Programs); Russ Walker (Attorney); and Candy Toler (*ex officio*).

Although the Foundation has a broad operating agenda, at the time of its founding in 1988 the principal focus was on the attraction of highly motivated students to engineering as a profession and to their pursuing an engineering degree. The methods chosen to accomplish this were:

- (1) to provide financial support to the MATHCOUNTS program in Tennessee,
- (2) to provide scholarships (typically four per year) to deserving Tennessee students entering an accredited engineering program of study, and
- (3) to provide speakers around the state to discuss engineering issues with various audiences.

Today, the TEF Board is considering expanding the agenda. Some of the considerations go to the Foundation becoming more visible and more influential on broad engineering and social issues. This could include the expression of opinions (pro and con) on such matters as: the impact of globalization on the practice of engineering, the relevance of traditional engineering education in the world of the future, the requirements of Tennessee's employers for professional engineers, the importance of alternative energy sources in today's world, etc.

The TEF could become a "focal point" for addressing ideas and issues confronting both employers and employees in the engineering arena. To help grapple with such matters on a broader scale, your board is considering the addition of a couple of board members from outside the engineering profession. Such individuals may come from the ranks of senior scientists or senior-level corporate leaders.

Change is occurring all around us. The board is attempting to assess a reasonable role for the Foundation and to pursue it. Anything that is done will, of course, require funding. The Foundation receives direct contributions from individuals and corporations. Such gifts may be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, or property (land, buildings, art, etc.)

Your thoughts, ideas, encouragement and financial support are welcomed. You may contact me at 423-425-5206 and rbcox@bellsouth.net.

Ronald Cox, Ph.D., M.B.A., P.E., is Professor & Burkett Miller Chair of Excellence, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

CALENDAR

**MAY
25**

Engineering
Foundation Trustees
Meeting

Information:
rbcox@bellsouth.net

**JUNE
8**

Annual Golf
Tournament
8 a.m. shotgun start,
Forrest Crossing
Golf Course
Franklin, TN

**JUNE
8 - 9**

ACEC of TN / TSPE
Annual Meeting
Franklin Marriott
Cool Springs
Information:
nbeal@tnc.org

**SEPTEMBER
18 - 21**

ACEC Fall Conference
Charleston, SC

MEMBER NEWS

- Dan M. Brown, P.E., CPESC, has joined Pennoni Associates, Inc. as Regional Manager for the firm's Southern Region. Brown will be based in the Knoxville office of Pennoni Associates. The company, which is ranked as an *Engineering News Record* Top 500 consulting engineering firm, is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

Team Tennessee Goes to National MATHCOUNTS Competition

Students from Oak Ridge and Nashville represented Tennessee at the National MATHCOUNTS competition in Virginia, May 11 - 14. Team members were (left to right) Ryan Liu, Jefferson Middle School (Oak Ridge); Ben Alan White, Nashville Homeschool Team (Nashville); Ron Cox, Tennessee Engineering Foundation President; Rosa Faulkner, Coach, Jefferson Middle School (Oak Ridge); Russ Walker, MATHCOUNTS State Coordinator; Catherine Backus, Robertsville Middle School (Oak Ridge); and Denis Liyu, Jefferson Middle School (Oak Ridge). The MATHCOUNTS program in Tennessee is sponsored by the Tennessee Engineering Foundation.



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Tennessee

Tennessee Engineering Center
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Thank You for Your Support

In early March, ACEC of Tennessee completed another successful *Engineers' Day on the Hill*. We again had record numbers of engineers in Nashville to visit with state legislators and emphasize those legislative efforts important to our industry. As a part of this effort, ACEC of Tennessee also hosted its annual Legislative Reception in downtown Nashville. We had a great turnout of both engineers and legislators and enjoyed a great evening together. We have received many compliments and thanks from our state legislators on the reception.

I thank all of those that were involved in staging this very important event. The reception was the result of a joint effort involving the state organization and each of our regional chapters (Nashville, Memphis, East Tennessee, and Chattanooga). I also thank our ACEC of Tennessee Nashville Chapter Board and our ACEC of Tennessee executive staff (Candy Toler and Nicole Beal) for their great work in coordinating the details for this event.

Jerry Stump, P.E.
President, Nashville Chapter
ACEC of Tennessee

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Annual Meeting in June Presents Opportunity

by Candy Toler
Executive Director, ACEC of Tennessee

The Annual Meeting is just around the corner – June 8 and 9 in Franklin. Some interesting professional development seminars are planned, like a 3-hour session on *Ethics* presented by Art Schwartz, NSPE Deputy Director. Back by popular demand, Crow Friedman will also be presenting a 3-hour session on a variation of the *Client Expectations* seminar offered last December. In all, we expect to offer 10 PDHs for those folks who are not playing golf in the TEF Tournament. It is tough when you have to chose between professional development and golf, isn't it?

2006 is an election year, and that means we need to raise money for the Engineers' Political Action Committee. We need your help . . . what will you offer for the Auction? Or

would you rather just write a personal check to the PAC and be done with it? Either way, your PAC needs your contribution. Everett Cowan (PAC Chair) is looking forward to hearing from you!

I am hearing from many of you that business has been great and that is certainly a good thing. I was pleased with the number of people who carved out time to participate in ACEC's Annual Conference in Washington earlier this month – more than 20 members and spouses! We took the opportunity to meet with Tennessee's Senators and Congressmen to discuss our concerns about the status of our state's infrastructure and encourage more federal support for our water and wastewater needs. I hope you will consider participating in the 2007 Annual Conference; it will be April 22-25 in Washington, D.C.

ACEC is a volunteer-driven organization of engineering firms. I encourage you take every opportunity to participate in meetings, forums, seminars, and committees.



Candy Toler