



## NEWS RELEASE

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**Contact:** Rob Ikard  
(615) 390-0502

**Infrastructure Alliance Releases Second in Series of Analyses**  
*Air Infrastructure Analysis Touts Value of Air Facilities to TN Communities*

Nashville – The Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance today released the second in a series of six in-depth analyses of various components of Tennessee’s extensive infrastructure system. Tennessee Air Infrastructure Analysis is a study of how Tennessee’s network of airports serves the state’s communities, and of the challenges and opportunities that face its air transportation infrastructure.

“Tennessee’s airports are a vital component in the state’s infrastructure system,” said TIA Chairman Pete DeLay. “From the massive cargo facility at Memphis to the private landing strip in Pigeon Forge, these airports offer our communities access to economic opportunity, safety and quality of life.”

The almost 60-page study offers detailed information on the economic impact of the state’s airports, taking into consideration factors such as the amount of money spent by air travelers and the number and quality of jobs in the Memphis area attributed to the FedEx hub located at Memphis International Airport. It also points out how air infrastructure contributes to safety and health.

“Ask anyone whose life was saved by emergency air transport, and they will tell you how important good air infrastructure is to the well-being of our citizens,” said DeLay. “Our mission at TIA is to communicate to our policy makers how vital infrastructure is to our communities. For them, this study is a must-read.”

The report also details in financial terms the maintenance and improvement needs facing Tennessee’s air infrastructure in light of growing demands and year-to-year wear and tear. Considering recent federal cutbacks in airport infrastructure grants highlighted in the study, Tennessee’s air infrastructure system could be facing significant setbacks.

*Air Infrastructure* is the second in a series of six analyses of the various components of the state's infrastructure systems. It comes on the heels of the release of a study on water and wastewater infrastructure. Forthcoming volumes will detail information about navigable waterways, rail, mass transit and roads and bridges.

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*The Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance is a not-for-profit association of Tennessee business and community leaders and organizations dedicated to educating policy makers on infrastructure issues and advocating for adequate and consistent funding for infrastructure maintenance and improvement. For more information, visit TIA's website at <http://www.tninfrastructure.org>*