



TENNESSEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

For Immediate Release

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Danielle Hagewood, Region 3 Program Projects Manager, TDOT, Receives TEDC 2023 Professional of the Year Award

NASHVILLE, TN - The Tennessee Economic Development Council (TEDC) was pleased to honor Danielle Hagewood, Region 3 Program Projects Manager at the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), with the 2023 Professional of the Year Award. This award recognizes Danielle for her achievements and contributions within the economic development industry and her own community, particularly through the State Industrial Access (SIA) Program.

Danielle Hagewood has been with TDOT for 27 years and has held various roles associated with economic development. Over the last decade, she has actively helped shape industrial recruitment projects, and since 2013, she has been responsible for all project and fiscal management of the SIA Program. This program is the State of Tennessee's primary tool to provide transportation access to companies relocating or expanding in Tennessee. Additionally, Danielle is an active member of the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development's Site Development Grant Committee.

Under Danielle's leadership, the SIA Program has funded 28 road projects in 2022-2023 across the state. These projects created 3,652 jobs with approximately \$167 million in wages and \$1.863 billion in capital investments. In 2020-2021, she authorized 33 projects that supported 8,970 jobs and \$8.27 billion in capital investments. The way the State of Tennessee grants funding and technical assistance for highway access through the SIA Program has been notably shaped by Danielle's flexible, creative problem solving and vision for impacting distressed counties with positive industrial development.

During her first seven years of managing the SIA Program, Danielle did so alone, managing both the program and the public-facing aspects of meeting with prospective companies. She rose to the challenge of traveling across all 95 counties and met the growing need to provide her expertise to local partners and stakeholders across the state.

She also played a significant role in meeting the stringent requirements of Ultium Cells, one of the largest industries to land in Spring Hill, TN. She diligently collaborated with multiple TDOT offices to ensure each phase of design, development, and road construction was accelerated to meet the needs of the incoming industry. This project alone represents a \$2.3 billion investment and 1,700 jobs in Maury County.

"Danielle's continuous effort to serve communities throughout the state in their efforts to recruit industry has helped create thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of economic growth for the state," said Tintin Czach, Transportation Manager for SIA and Economic Development. "Her not-one-size-fits-all approach to development has created a broad and lasting impact on the state's cities and rural developments alike."

The Fred H. Harris Professional of the Year Award is presented annually to a member of the Tennessee Economic Development Council for outstanding achievement in economic development. It is given in recognition of the contributions the recipient has made to his or her own community as well as to the State of Tennessee. The award is given in honor of Fred Harris, a nationally recognized economic development professional.

TEDC is the statewide professional organization for people involved in economic development. The awards ceremony was held during the TEDC Annual Fall Conference which was held in Franklin, Tennessee this year.

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