

Smithville Highway

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"Safety, congestion and economic development, in that order, are the criteria" the department uses in determining where and when to spend its construction funds, which derive from state and federal

gasoline and diesel taxes, Schroer told WCPI Radio. "If you have all three you're going to get something down."

Political considerations, he emphasized, do not intrude on those calculations.

"We're going to do what's right for

Tennessee. Highways don't have R's and D's on them," said Schroer. "Our decisions are not political. Not once has the governor asked me to do anything political."

On the matter of traffic deaths, Schroer said Tennessee averages

about three fatalities a day.

However, highway design rates are far behind distracted driving, impaired driving and drowsy driving in the death toll on the nation's roadways.

In fact, 94 percent of fatalities nationwide are

due to driver error, Schroer said. But he sees hope for the future in automotive technology, including self-driving vehicles. Even before fully autonomous cars hit the highways in big numbers, newer cars will be able to talk to each other, greatly

reducing the risk of collisions.

Another traffic issue affecting the commute between Warren County and Murfreesboro, the two-lane passage through downtown Woodbury, remains a question seeking an elusive answer.



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Home invasion

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It is not known why Malone grabbed the elderly man and why he entered the home, although it appears he was not thinking clearly.

"Malone made several statements about people following him and trying to hurt him and he needed a safe place to hide," said police officer Austin Edwards in his report. "Malone stated he took the man inside to protect him from the people."

Police determined Malone committed the offense of aggravated burglary when he entered the residence without the homeowner's permission. The event,

which happened nearly two weeks ago, was brief but it has made a lasting impact, according to Fredia.

"My home, my safe place, was compromised," she said. "You don't expect someone to just come barging in your home. I'm terrified when I hear a noise. My dad can't go out without someone with him, and never out front. ... I wake up from a nightmare every night."

She continued, "So please be careful. We have several people in our town who are whacked out of their mind for whatever reason. I don't want the next victim to be you. I wouldn't wish the fear I have on anyone."

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WHO IS WES WILLIAMS? REGISTER OF DEEDS 2018

A Christian,
Husband,
Father, Son,
Farmer,
Little
League
Coach and
Public
Servant.



Pictured above are: Front Row left to right: Kate Williams, Wes Williams, Kirby Williams and Connor Williams. Second Row left to right: Jim Tollison, Mary Tollison, Bettye Hill Williams and Calvin Williams.

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