

TN

TDOT  
Department of  
Transportation

Hispanic Heritage Month

MES DE LA HERENCIA HISPANA

September 15 to October 15



The Civil Rights Division Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month



**Natalie Gutierrez**

## Employee Spotlight



**Right-of-Way Agent; Region 2 (Chattanooga)**

**Hobbies:** I enjoy running, paddle boarding, and spending time with people I love.

**Joined TDOT:** January 2021

### **Tell us what Hispanic Heritage Month means to you and why?**

Hispanic Heritage Month is important to me because it spotlights the faces of my culture and our presence in this country.

### **What customs and/or traditions in your culture are important to you and why?**

There are so many beautiful traditions in Mexican culture, however, La Feria De San Marcos holds a special place for me and my family. The “Palenque” is held in Spring, and it consists of musical performances, comedy shows, rodeos, bullfights, regional cooking and craft exhibitions, as well as a host of fair attractions.

### **Describe an initiative that you feel can promote and engage others to participate in DEI efforts?**

I think having small events throughout the year as we do in Region 2 really motivates people to participate yearly. I also have personally been impacted by having two women of color (Naomi Alicea & Jessica Bowerman) as my colleagues. I believe their presence and mentorship aid me in my success as a State Employee.

