



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2018

MEDIA CONTACT:
Michelle Lacewell
615-862-8855 ext. 1013
mlacewell@gnrc.org

MAYORS ACROSS MIDDLE TENNESSEE SEE “LET’S MOVE NASHVILLE” AS FIRST STEP FOR REGIONWIDE TRANSIT

Nashville, Tenn. — This morning mayors and county executives from across the area reaffirmed their commitment to expanding transportation options in Middle Tennessee by endorsing Davidson County’s “Let’s Move Nashville” as the first major step in constructing a regional transit system. The plan is up for consideration by Metro Nashville voters on May 1. The endorsement follows years of collaboration among regional leaders who serve on the Greater Nashville Regional Council (Regional Council) and its Transportation Policy Board (TPB). The TPB convenes mayors from across seven counties with transportation officials and is responsible coordinating regional plans and programs.

“We believe that successful implementation of a regional transit system begins with key investments in Nashville,” said Franklin Mayor Ken Moore, who serves as the president of GNRC. “Along with my colleagues around the region, I realize how significant this vote is to move the region forward after years of planning and coordination. The Regional Transportation Authority’s transit master plan, “nMotion,” along with the authority granted by the IMPROVE Act, has Middle Tennessee positioned to take the first step toward our future.”

Erin Hafkenschiel, director of transportation and sustainability for the Office of Nashville Mayor David Briley, presented the Regional Council members with an overview of the plan, process of development and funding proposal. This provided an opportunity for members to better understand the levels of improvements planned and connection to future investments possible across the region.

“Middle Tennessee has for a long time lagged behind its peers when it comes to investing in transit options. This vote provides local residents an opportunity to point us towards real solutions to address the mounting traffic congestion that’s come along with our rapid growth,” said Smyrna Mayor Mary Esther Reed, TPB chair. “By Nashville taking the lead, and building transit from the core, the surrounding counties will now be able to determine next steps for future expansion.”

Following the May 1 vote, the Regional Council will work closely with the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) as detailed studies are carried out along each corridor to determine the how the identified improvements will be constructed. These next steps will provide opportunity for significant public input to refine the implementation of the plan.

The Greater Nashville Regional Council serves as the primary forum for collaboration among mayors and county executives from 52 cities and 13 counties across Middle Tennessee. Its programming includes economic and community development, regional policy and planning, and aging and disability services. Since 2017, the GNRC has served as staff to the federally-designated regional Transportation Policy Board of the Nashville Area MPO, which is responsible for developing a regional transportation improvement program that allocates federal grants to roadway and transit projects.

For more information on the Greater Nashville Regional Council’s role in transportation planning visit NashvilleMPO.org. For information about GNRC, visit GNRC.org.

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