

moving forward

transit solutions for our region

Friday, March 9, 2018

What happens if Nashville votes “against transit” on May 1st?

There are some folks who say that a defeat for the [Let's Move Nashville plan](#) on May 1 wouldn't be the end of the world. These people believe, somehow, we could simply vote again on another--presumably better--transit plan next year. You can bet there are some hardcore transit opponents who say the same thing but know perfectly well, it will be 6-10 years before Nashville gets to start work on a new transit plan. And by then, the damage to our community and quality of life will have started.

What will need to happen to bring a new transit plan up for a vote

Why will it take that long to have another transit plan vote?

- First, the state law that allows us to vote on a transit plan and dedicated funding source says a community must wait one year before holding another transit referendum. So, 2019 is the earliest we can even begin thinking about another vote.
- But, there will be a mayoral election in August 2019, so nothing will happen before that election. The political realities of a failed transit referendum this May means it will take a new mayoral administration in office to bring a second transit plan back to the voters.
- Once a new mayoral administration is in place, there will need to be a new, year-long planning and public input process underway to create a new transit proposal. Once a new transit plan is created, you can add another three months for the required independent financial analysis by a CPA firm, with approval by the State Comptroller. There is no realistic way for all of this to happen before the November election in 2020.
- Then, you'll have to spend 1-2 years reassembling a coalition of willing transit plan supporters and raising several million dollars for a professional campaign.
- You're now looking at a potential transit referendum during the Congressional mid-term election in 2022 or, if the mayor believes a presidential election turnout is more favorable for the plan, the 2024 election.
- Once the referendum is successful, there will be another couple years of project-specific planning, engineering and community input before construction begins on any high-capacity transit corridors.

Wonder what our traffic congestion and quality of life will be like during these 6-10 years that we needlessly kicked this can down the road?

What other people are saying

In case you missed it, former Nashville [Mayor Bill Purcell also addressed this question recently on WKRN News 2](#). Purcell told the reporter that the process would have to start all over again if the vote fails on May 1: "if you start again by the time you get there, it's years later and it's more expensive and you have gone through the pain and the suffering of the people during the time in which there is no significant improvement in our conditions."

Orrin Ingram didn't hold back when he talked about the cost of doing nothing in a [recent Tennessean op-ed](#). "The growing problem of worsening congestion won't solve itself," Orrin wrote. "Our peer cities, which are making investments in new transit systems, are not going to slow down while we wait to catch up. If we don't work towards fixing transit quickly, we risk losing our competitive edge."
(Credited to Ralph Schulz, Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce)

So, what is your plan to vote?



You can now register to vote in the state of Tennessee online!

If you want to vote in the May 1st election and are not registered to vote OR need to update your address, the deadline to register or update is **April 2, 2018**.

April 2, 2018: Deadline for voter registration

April 11 – 26, 2018: Early Voting period * hours and locations below

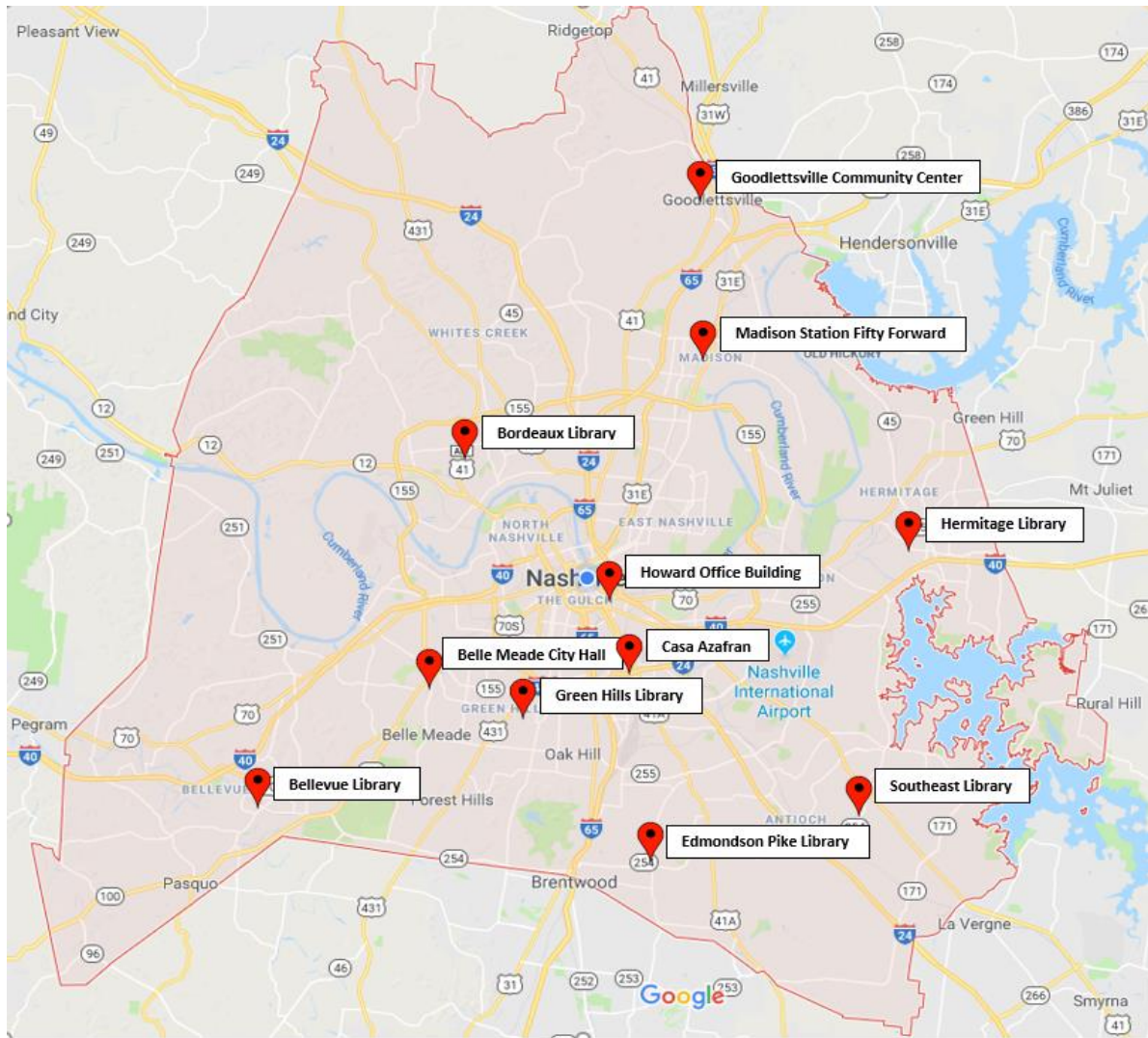
May 1, 2018: Election Day

Register to Vote

Where are YOU going to vote?

Early Voting Locations

Belle Meade City Hall	4705 Harding Pike, Nashville, TN 37205
Bellevue Library	720 Baugh Road, Nashville, TN 37221
Bordeaux Library	4000 Clarksville Pike, Nashville, TN 37218
Casa Azafran Community Center	2195 Nolensville Pike, Nashville, TN 37211
Edmondson Pike Library	5501 Edmondson Pike, Nashville, TN 37211
Goodlettsville Community Center	200 Memorial Dr., Goodlettsville, TN 37072
Green Hills Library	3701 Benham Ave., Nashville, TN 37215
Hermitage Library	3700 James Kay Lane, Hermitage, TN 37076
Madison Station Fifty Forward	301 Madison Street, Madison, TN 37115
Howard Office Building	700 2 nd Ave S, Nashville, TN 37210
Southeast Library	5260 Hickory Hollow Parkway, Antioch, TN 37013



When are the polls open during Early Voting?

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	12 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	13 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	14 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
15	16 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	17 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	18 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	19 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	20 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	21 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
23	23 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	24 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	25 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	26 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	27	28

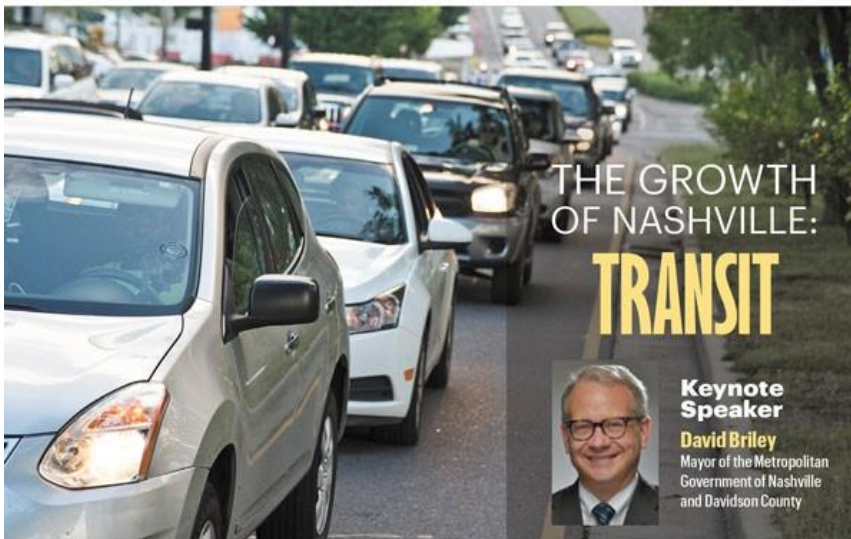
The Transit for Nashville Campaign's First Television Ad

The Transit for Nashville Campaign unveiled its first television ad. Unlike the opposition's doom-and-gloom [attack ad](#), the Transit for Nashville videos contain real people sharing why they are voting FOR Nashville's transit plan on May 1. Be on the lookout for additional Transit for Nashville TV ads in the days and weeks ahead.

[Click here to view the ad!](#)



Nashville Business Journal – Growth of Nashville: Transit Panel



At the Nashville Business Journal's upcoming *Growth of Nashville: Transit* panel, they'll dive into Nashville's proposed \$5.4 billion mass-transit plan. Mayor David Briley will give a keynote presentation on the plan. You'll also hear from a panel of business leaders - including those who support Barry's plan and those who believe there are better alternatives. Moving Forward's chair Gary Garfield and Moving Forward Routes, Network and Modes former chair Bert Mathews will be on the panel. Tickets to attend are \$65.

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Omni Nashville Hotel

[Register Here](#)



Have you heard about Project Register?



About Project Register

Tennessee has one of the lowest voter participation rates in America. In the last midterm election, we ranked 40th in voter registration and 50th in voter turnout. U.S. Representative Jim Cooper and Tennessee State Senator Steve Dickerson are making a nonpartisan push to spread awareness about new online voter registration in Tennessee. Project Register encourages Middle Tennessee-area businesses and non-profits to share the new online registration tool with their employees. Last December, they officially launched Project Register. The news of Project Register was welcomed with positive community support and praises in the media, and over 100 employers and organizations have jumped on board. Consider joining the effort by [signing up here](#).

In the news:

Vanderbilt U: [Vanderbilt Poll results – Nashville wants transit overhaul; unsure about mayor’s plan](#)

Channel 5: [Group marches against transit plan](#)

NBJ: [David Briley lays out his road ahead after becoming Nashville’s new mayor](#)

NBJ: [Who takes Barry’s place as mass-transit’s top advocate?](#)

WPLN: [After A Whirlwind Day, Here’s What Nashville’s New Mayor Wants To Do First](#)

WPLN: [Will Transit Vote Go Forward With Nashville Mayor’s Resignation? Both Sides Say It Should](#)

Channel 5: [What is the fate of Barry’s transit plan after her resignation?](#)

Tennessean: [Nashville transit boosters launch TV ad blitz through May 1 referendum](#)

NBJ: [Here’s the next transit ad you’ll see on TV](#)

WSMV: [David Briley signs first legislation as mayor of Nashville](#)

Channel 5: [New Mayor: What’s next for Nashville transit plan](#)

Williamson Source: [7 ways the Transit Debate affects you](#)

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