

moving forward

transit solutions for our region

April 17, 2017

Dear Mayor Barry:

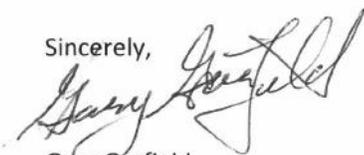
Moving Forward is a group of business and community volunteers whose purpose is to ensure the creation of a regional transportation solution through a cohesive community effort. Launched in August 2015, Moving Forward has set five goals for our region, including breaking ground on the first new mass transit project by 2020. While we are all working with the Tennessee General Assembly to pass legislation allowing local governments in our region to create local dedicated funding for transit projects, we cannot wait until this dedicated funding is in place if we are to meet the 2020 goal.

Moving Forward supports an aggressive and substantial increase in MTA's operating and capital budget in fiscal year 2017-2018. Increasing the span (\$3.1m operating) and frequency (\$42m capital) of the existing MTA bus service is critical to boosting ridership in advance of constructing new mass transit infrastructure. In addition, a number of items in MTA's \$10m proposed increase in the operating budget and \$105m proposed increase in the capital budget for fy2018 were identified Moving Forward's first report, issued in August 2016. These items include:

- Completion of the Advanced Fare Collection System (\$7.3m in capital in fy2018) [Moving Forward 2016 Report, pgs 21, 23]
- Integration of MTA real-time app with rideshare services (\$30k operating and \$300k in capital in fy2018) [Moving Forward 2016 Report, pg. 23]
- Extending Music City Circuit service to Jefferson Street corridor & TSU (\$542k operating and \$1.8m in capital in fy2018) [Moving Forward 2016 Report, pg. 16]
- Design/construct transit priority corridor through downtown (\$5m in capital in fy2018) & design/acquisition/construction of secondary SoBro transit hub (\$500k in capital in fy18; \$13m in capital in fy19) [Moving Forward 2016 Report, pgs. 8, 9, 16]
- NMotion program management and engineering staff (\$1.5m in capital in fy2018)
- Planning & design for high capacity corridors (\$2m in capital in fy2018) [Moving Forward 2016 Report pgs. 16-17]
- RTA project: Cheatham County Rail Authority right of way acquisition (\$300k in capital in fy2018)
- Autonomous shuttle demonstration project (\$700k in capital in fy2018)

We ask that you make every effort to fund initiatives in the proposed MTA operating and capital budget in 2017-2018 that will position our community to accelerate implementation of the nMotion plan once local, dedicated funding is secured.

Sincerely,



Gary Garfield
Chair, Moving Forward



Pete Wooten
Vice Chair, Moving Forward

CC: Members of the Metropolitan Council