

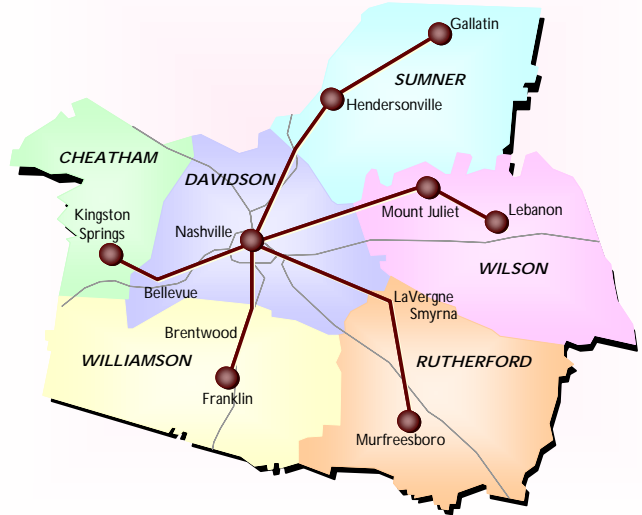
Introducing The Music City Star

Music City Star was unanimously selected by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Board of Directors on May 19, 2004 as the name of the long-awaited commuter rail service in Middle Tennessee. The Music City Star is a major step towards developing a new regional high-capacity transportation system for Middle Tennessee. The program is envisioned to create a network of transit corridors that will connect the communities where residents live with the places where they work. The East Corridor of the Music City Star, from Lebanon to Downtown Nashville, is the initial phase of this planned regional system. The completed regional network will cover five main transit corridors: the East Corridor, the Northeast Corridor (Gallatin), the Southeast Corridor (Murfreesboro), the South Corridor (Franklin), and the West Corridor (Kingston Springs). A sixth corridor between Cheatham and Davidson counties is being reviewed for feasibility.

The East Corridor service will operate on a 32-mile single track railroad currently owned by the Nashville & Eastern Railroad Authority (NERA) with freight service along the line operated by the Nashville & Eastern Railroad Corporation (NERC). Operating agreements have been reached with NERA and NERC for the commuter rail trains and significant improvements to bring the line up to passenger standards will be completed by late 2005.

Three trains will operate each way during peak morning and afternoon rush hours Monday through Friday serving stations at Lebanon, Martha, Mt. Juliet, Hermitage, Donelson and Riverfront.

Middle Tennessee Transit Network



The RTA and Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) are working together to ensure that train and bus schedules are integrated to make it easier for commuters to get to where they need to go.

Funding for the project is provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Federal Highway Administration, Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), NERA, NERC and the cities and counties along the corridor. The RTA Board is made up of city and county mayors from the nine member counties of Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Maury, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson and Wilson, the TDOT Commissioner, and six governor appointees. RTA also has a variety of partners, including the Metropolitan Planning Organization, MTA, The TMA Group, Tennessee Vans, Middle Tennessee Housing Authority, Middle Tennessee State University, The Rochelle Center, Middle Tennessee Career Advancement Center, and the Neighborhood Resource Center.

Local Governments Lead New Music City Star



From Left to Right: Eric Beyer, Executive Director of RTA; Tom Brashear, City Planner of Wilson County; Mayor Bill Purcell, RTA Board Chair; and Mayor Don Fox, of Lebanon at a recent RTA Board meeting where updates to the Music City Star project were given.

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Music City



Message from RTA Board Chair, Mayor Bill Purcell

As Board Chair of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and Mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville/Davidson County, it is with a great deal of satisfaction that I see the planning stages of a transportation network for Middle Tennessee advancing to another level with the Music City Star East Corridor. With each step, we move closer to reaching our region's goal of establishing an efficient transit system that I view as a vital part of our communities' future transportation plans.

This transportation network presents an alternative in the way we move about our community, increasing the choices, mobility, and independence of travel for each of our citizens. Such freedom and mobility offers people in cities, towns and neighborhoods a safe, efficient and environmentally friendly way to get to jobs, schools, parks and entertainment opportunities. It also provides choices for our communities' youth, elderly and others who may lack convenient access to these quality of life options.

Additional community benefits in terms of economics and revitalization opportunities represent advantages that should not be minimized. The East Corridor of the Music City Star, with timed bus connections by the MTA, provides a win-win situation for riders and the communities in which they live. I believe the implementation of the Music City Star will serve as the catalyst to create a stronger transportation system that will keep Middle Tennessee on track for years to come.

Commuter Rail Stations

Early morning train service will begin in Lebanon and make stops at four other stations along the route before terminating at Riverfront. Working with its partners, RTA has identified six station locations for the East Corridor of the Music City Star:

Lebanon Station – Bounded to the north by Baddour Parkway, west by Greenwood Street, and to the south by Hill Street, the proposed station will contain 140 parking spaces initially with the ability to expand to 360 as the need increases. Direct access to the station would be afforded from Baddour Parkway.

Martha Station – This station will be located in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of SR 109 and the new alignment of the Nashville and Eastern Railroad. The station will have 390 parking spaces for vehicles and SR 109 access from Sumner County.

Mt. Juliet Station – The station at Mt. Juliet will be constructed at the location of an existing platform off Division Street, west of the intersection with Old Mt. Juliet Road. The station will initially

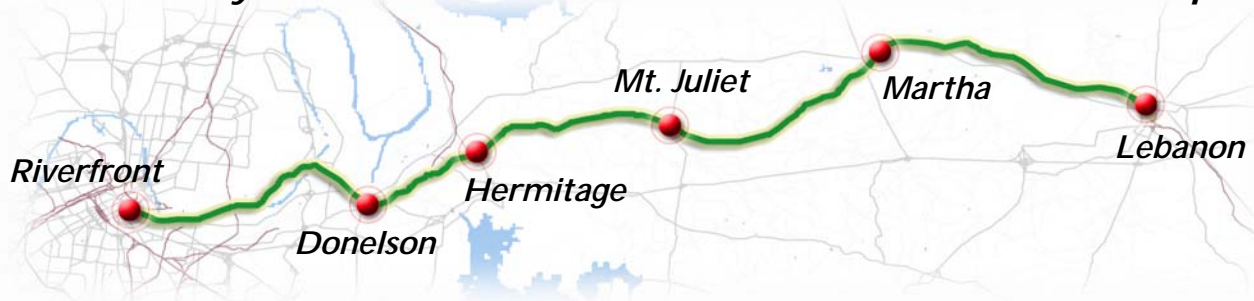
provide parking for approximately 220 vehicles, with the ability to expand to 417 vehicles. Access to the station will be provided directly off Division Street.

Hermitage Station – Bounded by Chandler Road and Andrew Jackson Parkway in Hermitage, the station will initially provide parking for 282 vehicles. Access to the station will be provided from Andrew Jackson Parkway. Future plans may include expanding the parking capacity to 402 vehicles.

Donelson Station – Located on Donelson Pike directly north of the intersection of Donelson Pike and Bluefield Avenue, the station will be adjacent to the Donelson-Hermitage Senior Citizens' Center with access provided from Donelson Pike. Approximately 231 parking spaces will be initially provided. An opportunity to expand to 487 spaces with an additional point of access and egress to Lebanon Pike is part of future plans.

Riverfront Station – Located in Downtown Nashville adjacent to the Shelby Avenue Bridge, this station is immediately off 1st Avenue. Space will be incorporated into the facility to accommodate efficient passenger exchange between rail and MTA bus service.

Music City Star East Corridor Commuter Rail Station Map



Star Notes

The Community Cares

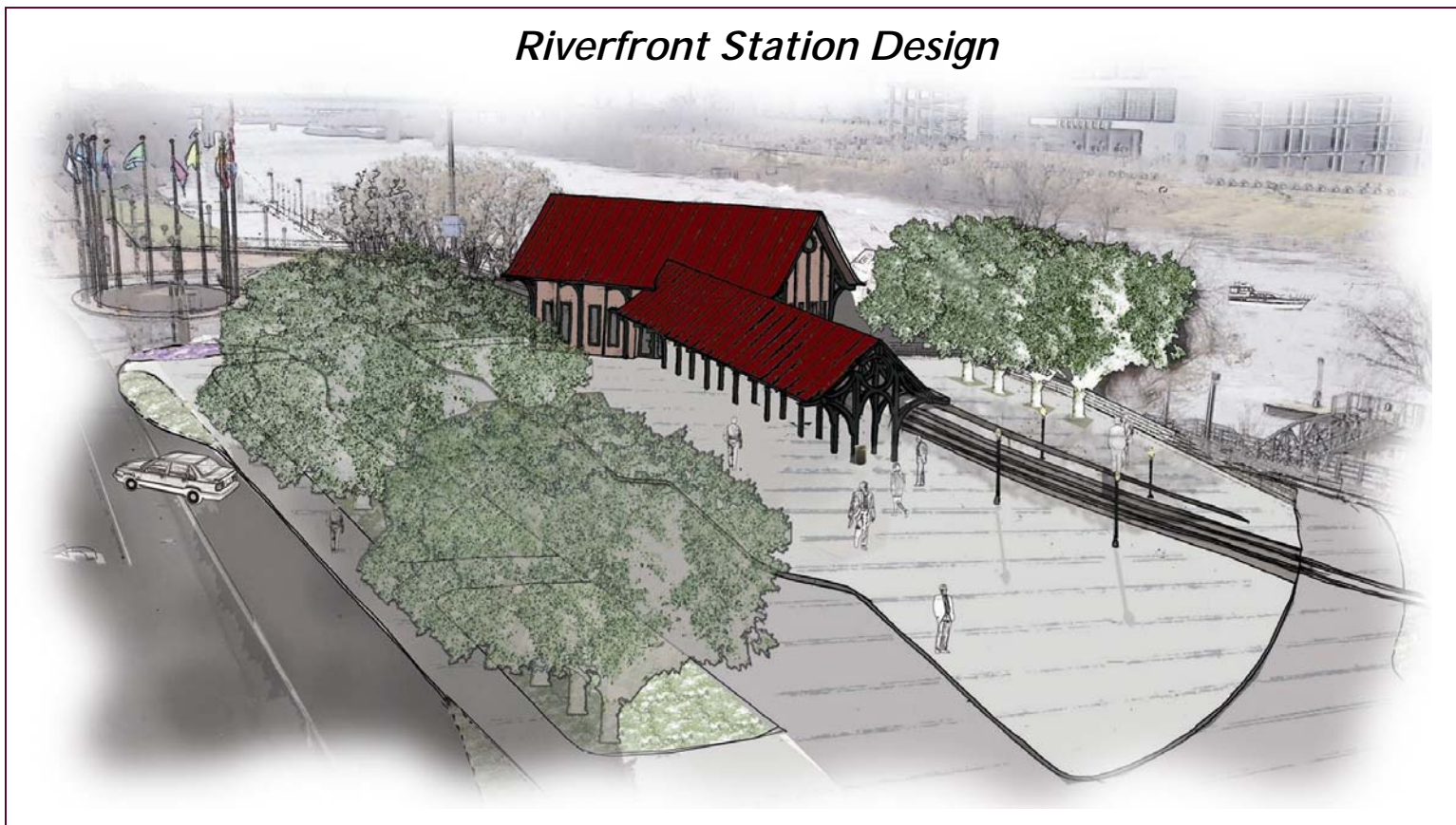
The communities along the East Corridor have been involved in the project through workshops, open houses and planning forums.

Using informational tools and breakaway groups, the RTA has presented the proposed plans and received input from residents on

what they want their rail system to look like and how it can best meet the region's increasing transportation needs.

Many decisions regarding the design and service of the commuter rail had its roots in these public meetings. For information on any upcoming meetings, contact Hanne Flippen at 615 862-8833 or via email at hflippen@gnrc.org.

Riverfront Station Design



Message from Mayor Don Fox

As Mayor of Lebanon and a member of the East Corridor Oversight Committee, I am pleased that Lebanon will be the first and last stop in Wilson County for the Music City Star commuter rail service. This service is the first step of forward thinking to meet the coming challenges of rapidly growing traffic congestion and air pollution in our community.

When the East Corridor of the Music City Star is completed next

year, the residents of Lebanon and Wilson County will have a new safe, comfortable and convenient choice of travel to and from work in downtown Nashville as well as points in between. While riding the rails, they also will be able to work on their computers, catch up on the news or a good book, and even take a quick nap before arriving at their destination.

I also believe that the benefits of having the Lebanon station in close proximity to downtown extend beyond the obvious commute benefits. For instance, located on all sides of our historic Town Square are more than 50 antique dealers, several restaurants and many other services that offer the opportunity for commuters to shop, dine and conduct business as they come and go to the station. I truly believe this is an opportunity for all of us. I hope you join me in welcoming and supporting the Music City Star Commuter Rail to Lebanon.

Community Connections

Upcoming Meetings

RTA Board Meetings

3rd Wednesday each month
9:30 a.m.

Howard School Auditorium
700 Second Avenue South
Nashville, TN

Music City Star East Corridor Oversight Committee (ECOC) Meetings

2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month
10:00 a.m.

Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Board Room
130 Nestor Street
Nashville, TN

Visit our website:

www.rta-ride.org

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