

## 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:

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## Music City Star Construction Begins

Thursday, November 18, 2004 was a milestone day for the Music City Star East Corridor Commuter Rail project, as the first shipment of rail was delivered and off-loaded between Lebanon and Mt. Juliet in Wilson County. Roughly 80,000 feet of rail were delivered and laid out along the existing track in 1,600-foot segments. This delivery was the first of two shipments of rail, with the second shipment expected in early 2005.

All of the rail and tie plates for the Music City Star East Corridor were purchased through the L.B. Foster Company, under an awarded contract for \$3.4 million. Other upcoming construction activities

include the beginning of signal work in Davidson County and the replacement of rail ties, both expected to begin before the close of 2004. Phase I construction contracts have all been awarded by the RTA for the purchase of rail materials as noted previously, the rail rehabilitation contract to Queen City Railroad Construction Inc. in the amount of \$7.6 million, and the signal work contract to Stansell Electric Company Inc. in the amount of \$3.1 million.

"This is great progress for the Music City Star," stated Lebanon Mayor Don Fox. "It is a tremendous step forward for transportation in our community and places us on a new level in mass transit." ■



## Rail Cars Being Prepared for Music City Star

In a cooperative agreement with Metra, the rail transit agency in Chicago, the RTA has acquired 11 used passenger rail cars for Music City Star's East Corridor service. The cars were acquired by the RTA at virtually no cost, since the Federal Transportation Administration allowed Metra to transfer its

interest in the vehicles to the RTA.

The bi-level Gallery type cars were manufactured in the U.S. by the Pullman Standard Corporation and had been in use on several of Metra's commuter line routes in and out of Chicago until earlier this year. Four of the 11 cars are Cab Cars, which will be used in the STAR's push/pull configuration, eliminating the need to turn the train around to run both directions. Two former Amtrak F40 locomotives were also purchased by the RTA for the STAR's engine power.



These cars underwent extensive rehabilitation between 1995 and 2001, making major refurbishment by RTA unnecessary. Typically these rail cars undergo regular annual and semi-annual inspections and have complete brake system rebuilds performed at intervals no greater than four years.

Modifications will be made to each of the cars to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The RTA has worked extensively with the area's mobility-impaired residents to ensure that the Music City Star is accessible to all residents in the community.

RTA Board Members had an opportunity to inspect and tour the cars following their regularly scheduled Board Meeting on October 20. The cars, painted white with blue and red stripes, will carry the Music City Star logo and be ready for service in late 2005. ■

## Music City Star Logo is Unveiled



A new, progressive logo for the Music City Star was unveiled and unanimously approved by the RTA's Board of Directors at the September 15 meeting. "This new logo creates a great system-wide identity for the Music City Star and the communities which provide support to the project," stated RTA Chair and Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell.

The logo was designed by The Ingram Group, a statewide consulting firm, and will be used as the system identity on each of the STAR's railcars and locomotives. The logo was recently used on a scale-model of the Music City Star Commuter Rail at the Adventure Science Center in November. ■



## Regional Transportation Authority

501 Union Street, Sixth Floor  
Nashville, TN 37219-1705

# Music City Star Notes



## Message from RTA Board Chair, Mayor Bill Purcell

One of the marks of a great community is strong neighborhoods that offer residents easy access to jobs, schools, parks and entertainment. I believe, as RTA Board Chair and Mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville/Davidson County, that an efficient transportation network creates that kind of access in our communities.

In the past few months we have made significant progress toward that goal. An operating name for the new commuter rail service

has been chosen and a new logo designed. The Music City Star is on track to begin service late next year and will offer residents along the Lebanon to Nashville corridor a new way to get to work. Passenger rail cars and locomotives are already on site and modifications will soon begin. The State Historic Preservation Office has given its approval to stations under review. Phase I construction contracts have been awarded, the first shipment of rail has been delivered, and RTA is in the process of procuring an operator for the STAR.

Because of our region's geography and location in Middle Tennessee, transportation has always played an important role in the development and success of this rich and diverse area. The Music City Star continues that tradition by offering economic growth and revitalization opportunities in the communities which it will serve.

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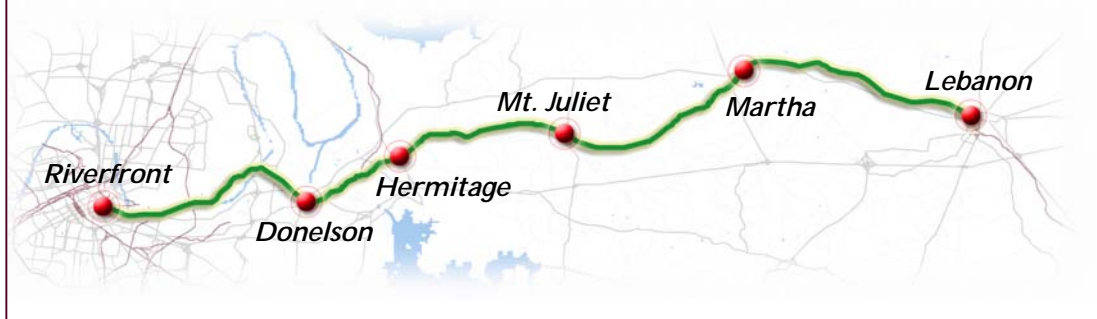
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## Music City Star East Corridor Commuter Rail Station Map



## Mt. Juliet Station at the Heart of City's Vision

The location of the new Mt. Juliet Music City Star Commuter Rail Station suits Mt. Juliet city officials and business leaders just fine. In fact, they envision the station serving as a catalyst for well-planned growth to meet the needs of residents in this fast-growing community.

The station will be located on East Division Street at the intersection with Mt. Juliet Road on a four-acre site. The site is bounded by the U.S. Post Office to the north and the Wilson Bank & Trust building to the south.

"The station will be in the middle of the city's 'Town Center' area and will provide synergy for private and public/private development plans that will enhance Mt. Juliet's lifestyle," said Rob Shearer, city manager.

Some of those plans are already in discussion including the potential for development of space

for small retail businesses and professional services near the station in a potential public/private partnership. The entire area will benefit from the improvements underway in conjunction with the widening of Mt. Juliet Road, such as five-foot wide sidewalks and bicycle lanes tying into the Music City Star station.

Across the street from the station site, the Wilson County School Board is actively marketing the sale of the 12-acre site of the former Mt. Juliet Elementary School. There is an additional 20-acres adjacent to the station that is also available for development.

"Everything connected with the Music City Star Commuter Rail Station provides our community with potential opportunities," noted Shearer. "When the STAR arrives at the Mt. Juliet Station, it will bring with it an exciting new perspective on how our city will look in the future."

## Music City Star Clears Historic Hurdles

Two station sites under review have received the go-ahead from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) clearing the way to begin construction at these sites. Initial work at Riverfront and Lebanon station sites had been halted due to the discovery of historic artifacts at both sites and the remains of a foundry at the Riverfront site. RTA asked that a

determination of the historical significance of these finds be made before continuing construction preparation efforts. Early this fall SHPO issued findings that neither site contained resources eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Station construction is set to begin after the first of the year.



## First Glimpse Of Music City Star In Action Comes At Annual Whistlestop! Weekend

An N-scale model of the Music City Star East Corridor Commuter Rail was put into action for the annual Whistlestop! Weekend event held November 11-14 at the Adventure Science Center in Nashville. The model was built by Kenneth Herrell and Mike Curtis of the Nashville N-Trak group in cooperation with the Tennessee Central Railway Museum.

According to the Adventure Science Center, over 5,000 people attended the Whistlestop! Weekend and were able to view the replica of the Music City Star inside the N-Scale Model Display.



The Adventure Science Center plans to have the Music City Star model on display through mid-January 2005.

Members of the East Corridor Oversight Committee were given the opportunity to view the display at their November 16 meeting, held at the Science Center.



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