Presentation at the Federal Transit Administration Ridership Symposium Luncheon



Nashville MITA: Smart Going Presented by Paul J. Ballard, MITA Chief Executive Officer *May 28, 2008*

MITA Operating Budget



Metropolitan Transit Authority

	Budget FY2002	Budget FY2003	Budget FY2004	Budget FY2005	Budget FY2006	Budget FY2007	Budget FY2008
Self-Generated Revenue	\$8,023,439	\$7,497,579	\$8,380,415	\$8,556,650	\$8,176,600	\$8,709,484	\$9,309,003
Metro Gov't Operating Assistance	8,677,066	9,877,100	11,720,408	12,320,445	16,429,106	17,829,100	19,329,100
State Operating Assistance	3,715,650	4,039,320	4,049,371	4,181,770	4,262,802	4,327,806	4,789,974
Federal Assistance	4,321,350	6,204,330	6,240,600	6,240,600	5,538,600	5,794,200	5,998,500
	\$ 24,737,505	\$ 27,618,329	\$ 30,390,794	\$ 31,299,465	\$ 34,407,108	\$ 36,660,590	\$ 39,426,577

Note: A small portion of the Federal funds are provided through Metro's Capital Budget as matching funds to MTA's Federal Grants

MTA Ridership



Fiscal Years 2002 – 2008*



* 2008 Projection based on ten months of actual data

AccessRide Monthly Passengers

Nashville

MTA



Partnerships



Vanderbilt University

- MTA's Easy Ride program provides transportation services to faculty and staff as an employee benefit.
- Staff swipe their magnetic-striped ID badges through the fare boxes for trips to and from work.
- Information recorded by fare boxes and university is billed each month.
- There has been over a 125% increase since this overwhelmingly successful program began in July 2004.





Vanderbilt Monthly Ridership July 2004 – March 2008



*Program began July 2004

Partnerships



Belmont University

- Entered into a contractual agreement in August 2005
- Provide transportation services to faculty, staff and students
- Use Belmont employee and student ID cards
- Information recorded by fare boxes and university billed each month
- Steady increase since this program began



Belmont Monthly Ridership



August 2005 – March 2008

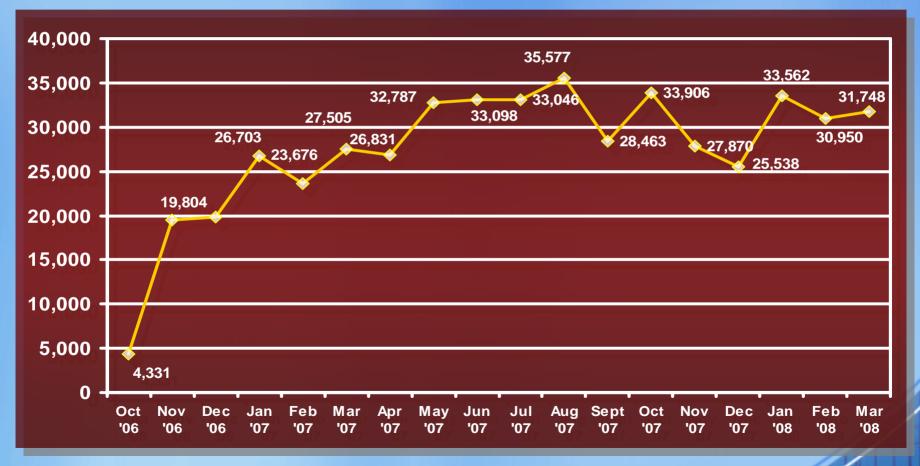


State Easy Ride



State of Tennessee now offers Easy Ride transit benefits to state employees effective October 2006

October 2006 – March 2008



Nearly 597,000 total passenger trips have been logged.

Improvements: New Buses





- Low floors
- Fully accessible
- Superior HVAC
- Automatic stop announcements
- Bike racks
- 100 new buses since 2004
- More fuel efficient
 - Emit 60 to 80 percent fewer emissions

Improvements: Suburban Bus



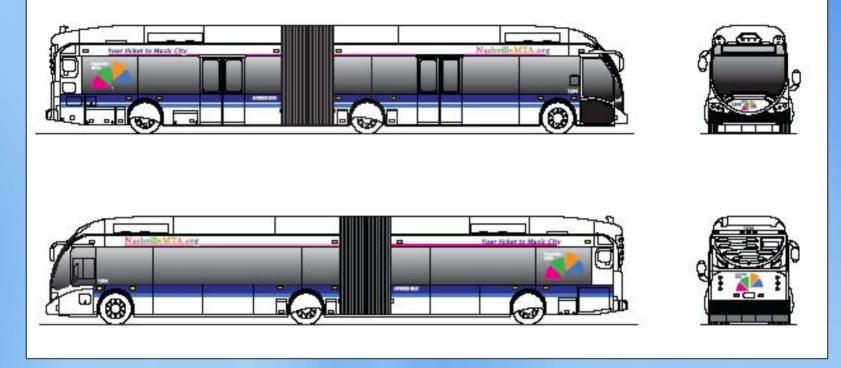


Features

- High-Back Seats
- Reading Lamps
- Overhead Luggage Racks

Hybrids on Order





Next Steps:

- Have ordered 60-foot Articulated Hybrids
 - More Fuel Efficient
 - Environmentally Friendly
 - Capacity to carry more people to address "standing-room only"

Customer Care Center



• Merger of Fixed Route and Paratransit Call Centers on April 1, 2007





- Improved service to customers
 - Less wait time
 - Increase in hours of operation
 - Decrease in transferred calls
- Upgrade of phone system
 - Introduced Interactive Voice Response System
- Improved Customer Comment process
 - Each comment is investigated by supervisor
 - Customers receive response to their feedback
 - Employees receive recognition for commendations

Fare Cards



Adult Passes



Change Card and **All Day Pass**

\$4.00



\$18.00

\$65.00

\$24.00 \$33.00

\$1.35



\$11.00

\$2.50

All-Day Youth Pass

ISER

\$2.50

\$32.50



\$42.00

Youth Passes for youth 19 and under

Discounted

and older

and people

disabilities

for seniors 65

Passes

with



\$45.00

RTA express rides for bus transportation into and out of Metro Nashville and **Davidson County**

> **Basic Adult Fare** is only \$1.35

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MasterCard & Visa



A New Product for Customers





The Nashville MTA invested in new fare box technology and now accepts both MasterCard and Visa as payment on its buses and vans

- Offers more convenience for customers.
- Allows MTA to attract new customers, who often do not carry cash.
- The Nashville MTA is the only transit system in the country accepting credit cards at the fare box for its entire bus fleet.

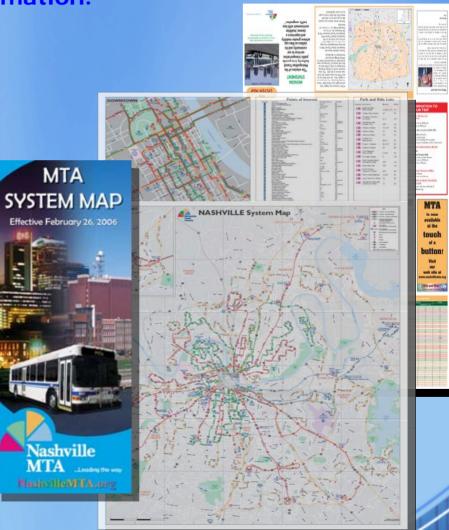


Improved System Map



In August 2003, the Nashville MTA system map was redesigned. It is now packed with information.

- More prominent street signs and landmarks
- Color-coded bus routes
- Frequency chart
- Colleges and universities
- Government offices and shopping malls
- Major tourist attractions



New Pocket Schedules



In February 2004, the Nashville MTA route pocket schedules were redesigned.





General Information

Improved Web Site



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Bus Schedules

<u>www.nashvillemta.org</u>

First Public Transit System in the State to offer online tickets





Improved Customer Signage







- NextBus display signs have been installed to provide information on arriving buses.
- Currently, 9 signs are
 located in the downtown
 area and at other selected
 locations.



Voice reader box with button

New Downtown Central Station





- Central hub for MTA bus activity
- Climate-controlled waiting areas for customers
- MTA ticket sales and information center
- Restroom facilities
- Will include some retail tenants such as a coffee shop, newsstand, etc.
- To be located on Charlotte Avenue between 4th and 5th Avenues North in the Central Business District

Why Music City Central is Needed









- Clogged city street serves as
 Transit Mall too many
 buses and motorists in busy
 city block
- Safety Small area, not pedestrian-friendly with large number of passing motorists
- Customers must wait outside during inclement weather for connecting buses
- No restrooms for MTA customers

Music City Central



\$52m Facility Opening in October 2008





Main entrance of Transit Center





Interior View – 4th Avenue North



Comments from visitors to Music City Central Web site at www.nashvillemta.org/centralstation

"This venue is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT to the city of Nashville. I think that it is a wonderful idea and long overdue...Good work!"

-John A.-





Platform and Retail Areas

"Well-developed mass transit is integral in any town of significant size." -Michael V.-

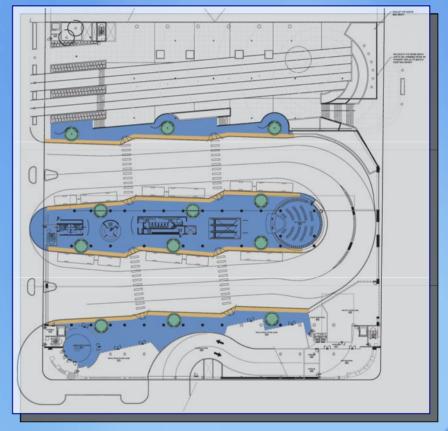
> "A much needed facility." -Dave M.-





More than 16,000 people will use Music City Central each weekday





4th Avenue North

5th Avenue North

Capacity to handle up to 24 buses

Public Transit: Smart Going



Public transit is safe, environmentally friendly, minimizes congestion and provides a greater sense of community.

Check out our Web site at www.NashvilleMTA.org

or Call Nashville MTA Customer Care at (615) 862-5950











