

**Comments on August 25, 2014 Planning Commission agenda items,
received August 24-25**

32. Proposed USD Expansion of Services

(letter from Mayor Barry follows)

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



MEGAN BARRY
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201
PHONE: (615) 862-6000
EMAIL: mayor@nashville.gov

August 25, 2016

Chairman Greg Adkins and Members
Metropolitan Planning Commission
800 Second Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37219

Dear Chairman Adkins and Planning Commission Members,

Tonight, you are scheduled to hear a proposal to expand the boundaries of the Urban Services District (USD). I would ask that you please defer this item on the agenda (2016USD-001-001) until the first meeting in October in order to give members of the public a greater opportunity to review the plan and speak with their Council Members about whether inclusion in the USD is right for their neighborhood.

My administration's intention in seeking a review of the USD boundaries was to be responsive to requests from some Council Members to give neighborhoods and communities the tools necessary to ensure that their services match the needs of a growing city. Allowing the public to have a larger window in which to review these proposals and discuss the potential benefits at their neighborhood associations or community meetings is a better process for all.

Ultimately, my desire is for those areas that want to receive the benefits of inclusion in the USD will have the option to do so, while neighborhoods that prefer to stay in the GSD will have that option as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Megan Barry".

Megan Barry
Mayor

From: Skippy <gskippy@gmail.com>
Date: August 25, 2016 at 11:42:32 AM CDT
To: <doug.sloan@nashville.gov>
Subject: Came Ridge Annexation

Due to this just now being brought to our neighborhood's attention, I recommend postponing the vote until those who live in the community have ample opportunity to read and understand what the annexation means.

Thank you
William Chapman
7181 Legacy Dr

From: Margo Chambers [mailto:chambercmr@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 11:47 AM
To: Planning Commissioners
Cc: Council Members; michael.jameson@nashville.gov
Subject: Vote NO on MPC Agenda Item 32 - 2016USD-001-001 Proposed USD Expansion of Services

August 25, 2016

Subject: **2016USD-001-001** Proposed USD Expansion of Services

Dear Metro Planning Commissioners,

I am writing you concerning a request on today's Metro Planning Commissioner's Agenda to expand the boundaries of the Urban Service District in Davidson County.

After careful consideration, I request this proposal be **Disapproved** today due to:

1. The Metro Planning Commissioner's Conflict of Interest with the authority granted to the Metro Planning Commission in the Metro Charter (Chapter 5, Section 11.504) and the responsibilities serving as the fiscal agent of the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
2. Lack of public notice and public engagement prior to placing this item on a Metropolitan Planning Commission Agenda.
3. Methods used to determine inclusion or exclusion of land based on future development plans.

4. Methods used to determine inclusion or exclusion of debt already incurred by the USD, including granting property tax abatements or subsidies (P.I.L.O.T.S., Tax Credits, and Ad Valorum tax discounts).

Please only vote NO on this Agenda Item.

Thank You,

Margo Chambers

chambercmr@earthlink.net

Nashville, TN

Resident of Council District 24

From: Fabian Bedne [mailto:fabian@bedne.net]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 11:19 AM

To: Robbie Layman

Cc: Coleman, Sam (Council Member); Bedne, Fabian (Council Member); Dowell, Jacobia (Council Member); Sloan, Doug (Planning); Planning Commissioners

Subject: Re: Proposed Annexation of multiple areas into the USD on tonight's Planning Commission Agenda

Mr Layman

I sent an email to planning inquiring on how flexible the borders are, I will let you know what I learn.

By the way, in the 5 years I have been in the Council I have been asked again and again to make this change with the only opposing being the rural areas.

Thanks for your email

Thanks

Fabian Bedne

615.829.6226

(from my phone)

On Aug 25, 2016 10:49 AM, "Robbie Layman" <rlayman@thinkingahead.com> wrote:

In looking at the agenda and notes for tonight's meeting, there seems to be a very large item for the annexation of large swaths of Davidson County into the USD for the purpose of providing more fire

services. This seems like a pretty large request and looks like an attempt by our mayor (it was at her request according to the document) to drastically increase the property tax base without any debate of even being on the agenda multiple times.

Our taxes are being increased for no reason. I didn't request any additional services. I, nor my neighbors, were responsible for multiple large neighborhoods that were given planning approval over the last 10 years. If I would have been asked, I would have told anyone that would have listened that there needed to be fire stations, additional schools, and most likely a widening of Old Hickory Blvd between Bell Road and Burkitt Road (all of which probably needed to be completed years ago). Is there a way to open up specific dialogue about this as a whole, or maybe even separate it into parts, since it is such a large-scale change and affect a large number of families?

I and most of my neighbors are against this rezoning. Who else do I need to contact or e-mail to share my opinion with?

Please feel free to contact me back today if you would like to discuss it further.

Thank you for your time. Have a great day

Robert Layman

District 31 Resident

[\(615\)391-2536](tel:6153912536)
rlayman@thinkingahead.com

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From: Evelyn Gammon [mailto:Hermitagemeadows@live.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 11:14 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Cc: Rhoten, Kevin (Council Member)

Subject: Annexing to general services

I object to areas of Hermitage being added to the Urban services district. We were under the impression that we wouldn't be added if we didn't want to be.

Evelyn Gammon

187 Thistle Lane

Hermitage, TN 37076

615-917-0490

From: Robbie Layman [mailto:rlayman@thinkingahead.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 10:50 AM

To: Sloan, Doug (Planning); Planning Commissioners

Cc: Bedne, Fabian (Council Member); Dowell, Jacobia (Council Member); Coleman, Sam (Council Member)

Subject: Proposed Annexation of multiple areas into the USD on tonight's Planning Commission Agenda

In looking at the agenda and notes for tonight's meeting, there seems to be a very large item for the annexation of large swaths of Davidson County into the USD for the purpose of providing more fire services. This seems like a pretty large request and looks like an attempt by our mayor (it was at her request according to the document) to drastically increase the property tax base without any debate of even being on the agenda multiple times.

Our taxes are being increased for no reason. I didn't request any additional services. I, nor my neighbors, were responsible for multiple large neighborhoods that were given planning approval over the last 10 years. If I would have been asked, I would have told anyone that would have listened that there needed to be fire stations, additional schools, and most likely a widening of Old Hickory Blvd between Bell Road and Burkitt Road (all of which probably needed to be completed years ago). Is there a way to open up specific dialogue about this as a whole, or maybe even separate it into parts, since it is such a large-scale change and affect a large number of families?

I and most of my neighbors are against this rezoning. Who else do I need to contact or e-mail to share my opinion with?

Please feel free to contact me back today if you would like to discuss it further.

Thank you for your time. Have a great day

Robert Layman

District 31 Resident

(615)391-2536

rlayman@thinkingahead.com

From: Viv Pocek [mailto:viv.pocek@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:56 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Cc: viv@pocek.com; Glover, Steve (Council Member)

Subject: Vote no on USD expansion

I am a resident of Hermitage. I live in one of the many subdivisions off of South New Hope Road.

Please vote NOT on the USD expansion.

I know we pay for trash and recycling – and I like it that way.

Hudgin's is polite, professional and unbelievably reliable. I do not want to lose them.

Our area certainly does not need street lights, so I see no benefit to the community, only an increase in taxes.

Thank you.

Viv Pocek

Hermitage, TN

P: 615-883-8447

M: 615-513-5558

E: viv@pocek.com

From: donotreply@nashville.gov [mailto:donotreply@nashville.gov]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:48 AM

Subject: Planning Commission - Citizen Email

Name : Brandon Hutchison

Phone Number : 615-969-5811

Email Address : willbhutch@gmail.com

Good morning, In reviewing the proposed USD annexation to be discussed at today's meeting (<http://www.nashville.gov/document/ID/f611fb94-4983-40e6-8f29-24b50fec1e44/August-25-2016-staff-reports>), I'm concerned that the Annexation Costs that are provided have a calculation error. Example: I'm in District 3. Page 171 of 219 of the document at the link above states the total projected cost for ANNEXATION TRASH is \$8,600. However, the Automated Cart Pick-up - Contractor cost alone is \$34,447 per month. Shouldn't the total for the monthly cost be \$43,107 and the total estimated annual cost be \$517,284? This also changes the totals at the bottom of the page.. making the Estimated Annual Cost \$707,384 and the Variance Total \$160,692. This same calculation error appears on other District Estimations I've reviewed as well. I admit that I'm opposed to the Annexation in my district as we will not benefit from any fire suppression expansion plans, already have relatively close police precincts, I like my private trash collection AND can live without the light pollution of street lights. In any case... your decision should be based on sound numbers and facts. Thanks.

From: Sharon Yates [mailto:SharonYates33@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:54 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: USD Expansion

I vote no. I pay less for my garbage services than you will be charging.

From: lmsgreenjeans@aol.com [mailto:lmsgreenjeans@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 6:29 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: NO to USD Expansion

Dear Commissioners,

Please don't support expansion of the Urban Services District. We live in this area by choice and don't need the additional services. Our tax dollars have been spent in the Urban Core for years leaving us no benefit. I fear that this will continue, only we will lose even more money.

Louan Brown

3071 Elm Hill Pike

Nashville, TN 37214

Name : Renee Lee

Phone Number : 6155540945

Email Address : reneelee1126@gmail.com

Please do not change our service to USD, we like our community the way it is. We don't need the extras that the higher taxes (which a lot of our residents couldn't afford anyway) would bring.

From: Tim Weeks [mailto:timweeks@att.net]

Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 8:54 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: USD hearing

As President of Donelson Hermitage Neighborhood Association that represents 12 neighborhoods in this area, I can tell you that most of our constituents are opposed to USD expansion into Hermitage. Councilmen Rhoten & Glover are also opposed.

Tim Weeks

Pres., DHNA

Dhna.info

From: Tim [mailto:rymerwriter@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 5:46 PM
To: Allen, Burkley (Council Member)
Cc: Planning Commissioners
Subject: Urban Sevice District Expansion

My Name is Tim A. McMahon, and I live in Old Hickory(Lakewood),at 108 Clifton Ct. I have been informed that under a proposed USD Expansion that my property along with Hermitage ,Old Hickory and other parts of the area are within this proposal. I wanted to tell you that I am against this proposal because of the Increase of Taxes on my property and surrounding area. I along with a fair amount of retirees live in this area and of course we are on a fixed income. Furthermore, USD will not help us because we already have the amenities that USD would offer. The only thing we would gain is Higher Taxes. Once again I am Against the USD Expansion Proposal for Old Hickory(Lakewood) Area. Thanks for your attention to this problem. Tim McMahon

From: Josh Bazuin [mailto:josh.bazuin@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 5:22 PM
To: Planning Commissioners
Subject: USD expansion

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Please vote in favor of the expansion of the Urban Services District. I personally would much prefer publicly-funded services for street lighting and refuse pickup. Not only are they better value for money usually, but having a single truck pick up trash from all the houses on our streets is more environmentally efficient than multiple service providers. In addition, I hope it will reduce the amount of illegal dumping in the GSD.

I understand that some neighborhoods will not be in favor, but presumably they can be amended out if the expansion has to go through the council legislative process.

Regards,

Josh Bazuin

1341 Cheyenne Blvd

Madison TN 37115

From: Jean [mailto:jeanharris71@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 2:55 PM
To: Planning Commissioners
Subject: Against USD expansion

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a homeowner in District 11, and I would like to submit my opposition to the proposed USD expansion to include my home in the Waterford subdivision of Old Hickory.

Thank you,
Jean Harris

From: donotreply@nashville.gov [mailto:donotreply@nashville.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 1:36 PM
Subject: Planning Commission - Citizen Email

Name : Sidney Bennett
Phone Number : 6159725060
Email Address : southernes@aol.com

I am a homeowner in council district 12 and just learned that my area is being proposed for annexation into the urban services district. I am not in favor of this, I would receive no benefit that I don't have already and it would cost me more than I pay now. One of the reasons I live in GSD is for the tax break.