Title IV and ADA Compliance
The Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, creed or disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. This policy applies to applicants for employment and current employees as well as sub-recipients and subcontractors of the GNRC that receive federal funding. Complaints should be directed to Grant Keller, Non-Discrimination Coordinator, 220 Athens Way, Suite 200, Nashville, Tennessee, 37228, phone number 615-862-8828. For more information, please visit www.GNRC.org/legal-notices.
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Dear Fellow Council Members and Regional Partners,

As I look back on this first year as your president, I find myself in awe of the impact of the Greater Nashville Regional Council. When I took the gavel from Sumner County Mayor Holt in September of 2020, we were roughly seven months into the COVID-19 pandemic and unsure of what the immediate future would hold for the organization. Little did I know then just how pivotal the organization would become in guiding many of us to the critical resources necessary to lift up our communities in an incredible time of need.

I am proud of our agency’s work to ramp up new programs and to execute on the various waves of state and federal funding aimed at keeping our nation, communities, and households afloat during the pandemic. This year has not been an easy one for any of us, and I commend the commitment of each of our members and that of the GNRC staff as we continue to push forward, together, to support the needs of Middle Tennesseans.

As you read through this annual report, I have no doubt that you too will be impressed by the tremendous work of your Regional Council. Over the last year, we have continued to invest in ourselves by deploying new accounting, payroll, and human resources systems and upgrading the tools and resources provided to our agency staff. We also have invested significantly in our communities by securing or programming billions of dollars for regional infrastructure, economic and community development projects, and social services.

Our work continues though. Nearly all of our communities are feeling the effects of change, be it from the impacts of a local disaster, the growing pains of rapid growth, or the lingering pandemic. There has never been a more important time for us to lean on each other for inspiration and support as we prepare a more resilient region. As we move into 2022, I encourage each of our members to reengage in our programming and to take full advantage of the unique forum provided for the cross-jurisdictional collaboration that will ensure a bright future for Middle Tennessee.

Respectfully,

Paige Brown
Mayor, City of Gallatin
We are a regional forum for policymakers.

GNRC facilitates cooperative policymaking and collaboration among local and state elected leaders to prioritize investments in social services and public infrastructure.
The Tennessee General Assembly established the Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC) under the Tennessee Development District Act of 1965. GNRC operates as a council of governments representing a 13-county area that includes Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, and Wilson counties.

We provide a regional forum where elected officials, industry experts, community leaders, and community members can come together to discuss issues and share ideas to help solve local challenges. This setting allows for candid conversations about Middle Tennessee’s future and connects communities with resources and investments to help achieve their vision.

**OUR MISSION**

The mission of the Greater Nashville Regional Council is to assist local communities and state agencies in the development of plans and programs that guide growth and development in the most desirable, efficient, and cost-effective manner while ensuring the continued long-term livability of the region.

In carrying out this mission, GNRC convenes elected officials and local practitioners to brainstorm strategies for improving quality of life, facilitates cooperative policymaking to prioritize state and federal investments into area social services and public infrastructure, and provides a public forum for Middle Tennesseans to shape regional decisions.

**AT OUR CORE**

**Community Focused**

GNRC responds to the grassroots needs of communities on a local and regional level, developing solutions, and creating opportunities to meet those needs head-on.

**Strategic**

GNRC thoughtfully and responsibly develops plans and programs that are custom tailored and grounded in information and analysis.

**Collaborative**

GNRC fosters collaboration among its local and state partners to identify and accelerate investments into Middle Tennessee communities.

**Comprehensive**

GNRC provides comprehensive expertise and resources to ensure citizens and leaders stay connected with information and a wide variety of programs and services.
The Greater Nashville Regional Council is one of nine development districts established by the Tennessee General Assembly. The Council is governed by city and county mayors/executives, state legislators, appointments representing business/industry, and appointments representing minority populations.
THIRTEEN COUNTIES

FIFTY-TWO CITIES AND TOWNS

NINETY-THREE COUNCIL MEMBERS

2,000,000+ MIDDLE TENNESSEANS
MAJOR PROGRAMS

Designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, GNRC serves as the region’s Economic Development District and prepares the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) on behalf of local officials, Chambers of Commerce, and private sector investors.

GNRC is designated by the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability as the Area Agency on Aging and Disability (AAAD) to provide care, nutrition, transportation, and other services to older or physically disabled Middle Tennesseans.

GNRC is designated by the Bureau of TennCare to function as the single point of entry to Medicaid-reimbursed long-term services for senior adults, and adults over age 21 with a physical disability.

GNRC participates as a member of the Tennessee State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), serving as Middle Tennessee’s primary source of unbiased Medicare counseling.

GNRC convenes the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus in support of regional collaboration around the development of legislative priorities.

GNRC provides administration and professional staffing support to the federally-designated Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), responsible for implementing regional transportation planning and programming, and serving as a member of the Clarksville Urbanized Area MPO and the Middle Tennessee Rural Planning Organization.

GNRC offers a variety of local planning and economic and community development services to communities across the mid-state including grant-writing, administration and technical assistance related to land use and zoning, solid waste, historic preservation, and housing.

GNRC staffs the Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation (MADC) which administers a variety of lending programs available to small businesses, including the SBA 504 program through the U.S. Small Business Administration.

GNRC staffs the Middle Tennessee Tourism Council which provides tourism marketing and other promotional activities to its membership comprised of chambers of commerce, area attractions, local governments, and convention and visitor bureaus.
CHEATHAM COUNTY

2020 POPULATION
41,072

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲ 5%

2019 GDP
$1,076,529

GNRC VOTING SEATS

CUMBERLAND STREET

DAVIDSON COUNTY

2020 POPULATION
715,884

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲ 14%

2019 GDP
$64,615,968

GNRC VOTING SEATS

CUMBERLAND RIVER FRONT
We are cities and counties working together.

GNRC is a regional policymaking body made up of local and state government officials tasked with working together to make Middle Tennessee a better place to call home.
A 24-member Executive Board meets monthly to conduct business on behalf of the full Regional Council. The current membership of the Executive Board is defined by state law and includes the council officers, a small city representative, a large city representative, two state legislators, a city or county representative from each of GNRC’s counties, and the minority representatives from the four counties within GNRC with the highest minority populations.

In addition to the Executive Board, the GNRC programs are supported by various boards and committees including the Aging Advisory Council, the Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation, the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus, the Middle Tennessee Tourism Council, and the Transportation Policy Board.

REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Mayor Paige Brown
CITY OF GALLATIN

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Mayor Anthony Holt
SUMNER COUNTY

VICE PRESIDENT
Mayor Bob Rial
DICKSON COUNTY

SECRETARY
Michael Skipper
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TREASURER
Mayor Joe Pitts
CITY OF CLARKSVILLE
Aging and Disability Advisory Committee
Don Ames, Chair
Representing Sumner County

Monroe Gildersleeve, Vice Chair
Representing Montgomery County

Transportation Policy Board
Billy Vogle, Chair
Robertson County Mayor

Chaz Molder, Vice Chair
City of Columbia Mayor

Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus
Ken Moore, Chair
Mayor of Franklin

Jessie Wallace, Vice Chair
Humphreys County Executive

Transportation Coordinating Committee
Glenn Harper, Chair
City of Columbia Engineer

Andy Barlow, Vice Chair
City of Mt. Juliet Public Works Director

I.T. Directors Roundtable
Keith Durbin, Co-Chair
Metro Nashville Chief Information Officer

Mary Beth Ippich, Co-Chair
City of Hendersonville, IT Director

Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation
Mark Beeler, President
Representing Trousdale County

Scott Bagwell, Vice President
Representing Sumner County

Jerome Terrell, Treasurer
Representing Cheatham County

Middle Tennessee Tourism Council
Karin Landers, Chair
Humphreys County Tourism

Solid Waste Directors Roundtable
Mac Nolen, Chair
Rutherford County Solid Waste Director

Joey Smith, Vice Chair
City of Murfreesboro Solid Waste Director

Roster as of August 1, 2021
DICKSON COUNTY

MONTGOMERY BELL STATE PARK

2020 POPULATION
54,315

10-YEAR GROWTH
9%

2019 GDP
$1,768,940

GNRC VOTING SEATS

HOUSTON COUNTY

HOUSTON-BENTON FERRY

2020 POPULATION
8,283

10-YEAR GROWTH
2%

2019 GDP
$140,963

GNRC VOTING SEATS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MEMBERSHIP

CHEATHAM COUNTY
County Mayor Kerry McCarver
Ashland City Mayor Steve Allen
Kingston Springs Mayor Tony Gross
Pegram Mayor John Louallen
Pleasant View Mayor Bill Anderson
Hadley Williams, Minority Rep.

HOUSTON COUNTY
County Mayor James Bridges
Erin Mayor Paul Bailey
Tennessee Ridge Mayor Stony Odom
Lori Taylor, Minority Rep.
Howard Spurgeon, Business Rep.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY
County Mayor Bill Ketron
Eagleville Mayor Chad Leeman
LaVergne Mayor Jason Cole
Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland
Smyrna Mayor Mary Esther Reed
Darlyn Green, Minority Rep.
Patrick Cammack, Business Rep.

DAVIDSON COUNTY
Metropolitan Mayor John Cooper
Belle Meade Mayor James Hunt, Sr.
Berry Hill Mayor Greg Mabey
Forest Hills Mayor Lanson Hyde
Goodlettsville Mayor Rusty Tinnin
Oak Hill Mayor Dale Grimes
Antoinette Lee, Minority Rep.
Courtney Pogue, Business Rep.

HUMPHREYS COUNTY
Executive Jessie Wallace
McEwen Mayor Brad Rachford
New Johnsonville Mayor David Cagle
Waverly Mayor W. B. (Buddy) Frazier
Taomasine Hill, Minority Rep.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
County Mayor Jim Durrett
Clarksville Mayor Joe Pitts
Rene Llanos, Minority Rep.
Buck Dellinger, Business Rep.

RITCHER COUNTY
County Mayor Robin Brandon
Cumberland City Mayor Gary Vaughn
Dover Mayor Lesa FitzHugh
David Dunlap, Minority Rep.

DICKSON COUNTY
County Mayor Bob Rial
Burns Mayor Landon Mathis
Charlotte Mayor William R. Davis
Dickson Mayor Don L. Weiss, Jr.
Slayden Mayor Diane Zwingle Harrison
Vanleer Mayor Jason Weaver
White Bluff Mayor Linda Hayes
Dwight Haynes, Minority Rep.
Darrell James, Business Rep.

ROBERTSON COUNTY
County Mayor Billy Vogle
Adams Mayor Mary Mantoosh
Cedar Hill Mayor Tom Richards
Coopertown Mayor Becca Werner
Cross Plains Mayor Barry Faulkner
Greenbrier Mayor Lanny Adcock
Orlinda Mayor Ricky Stark

STEWART COUNTY
County Mayor Robin Brandon
Cumberland City Mayor Gary Vaughn
Dover Mayor Lesa FitzHugh
David Dunlap, Minority Rep.

SUMNER COUNTY
Mayor Anthony Holt
Gallatin Mayor Paige Brown
Goodlettsville Mayor Rusty Tinnin
Hendersonville Mayor Jamie Clary
Millersville Mayor Tim Lassiter
Mitchellville Mayor Bobby Worman
The Regional Council governing body is made up of 93 members and includes 13 county mayors and executives, 52 mayors of cities or towns, two members of the Tennessee General Assembly, and 26 appointments representing the interests of the business community and minority populations.

The full Council is charged with electing officers, certifying the executive board, and adopting the annual work program and budget.

Portland Mayor Mike Callis
Westmoreland Mayor Jerry Kirkman
White House Mayor Mike Arnold
Darryl D. Eubanks, Minority Rep.

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Representative Susan Lynn
Senator to be appointed

TROUSDALE COUNTY
County Mayor Stephen Chambers
Mae Wright, Minority Rep.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY
County Mayor Rogers Anderson
Brentwood Mayor Rhea Little
Fairview Mayor Debby Rainey
Franklin Mayor Ken Moore
Nolensville Mayor Derek Adams
Spring Hill Mayor Jim Hagaman
Thompson’s Station Mayor Corey Napier
Juanita Patton, Minority Rep.
Kel McDowell, Business Rep.

WILSON COUNTY
County Mayor Randall Hutto
Lebanon Mayor Rick Bell
Mount Juliet Mayor James Maness
Watertown Mayor Michael Jennings
Patrick Johnson, Minority Rep.

Regional Council roster as of August 1, 2021
Members listed in orange serve on the Executive Board
We are experts, professionals, and public servants.

GNRC staff support the activities of the Regional Council and provide additional capacity to state agencies and local governments working to improve quality of life.
Executive Office and Administrative Support

Michael Skipper, Executive Director
Michelle Lacewell, Deputy Director
Kristen Scuderi, Special Projects Coordinator
Rebecca Nofi, Volunteer Coordinator
Rachel Solava, Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator
Shannon Lewallen, Creative Services Manager

HR and Office Support
Amanda Evilcizer, Human Resources Manager
Angie Hutchison, Office Manager
Lou Edwards, Senior Administrative Assistant
Sherry Cosby, Administrative Assistant

Legal Department
Candi Henry, Chief Legal Counsel
Grant Kehler, Compliance Officer

Finance Department
Megan Nelson, Finance Director
Jovia King, Finance Manager
Dorothy Olszewski, Finance Officer
Nathan Wade II, Finance Officer

Policy and Government Affairs
Peter Westerholm, Policy Director
Shelly Hazle, Senior Policy Advisor

Research and Analytics
Max Baker, Director of Research and Analytics
Ashleigh Reeves, Senior Research Analyst
Elham Daha, Senior Research Analyst
Haryono Prawiranata, Senior Research Analyst
Joanna McCall, Research Analyst
Samuel Williams, Research Analyst

Community and Regional Planning

Jessica Hill, Director of Community and Regional Planning

Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager
Anna Emerson, Principal Planner
Bryan Collins, Senior Planner
Carson Cooper, Senior Planner
Mary Turner, Associate Planner
Daniel Capparella, Associate Planner
Kealan Millies-Lucke, Associate Planner

Economic and Community Development

Angela Hubbard, Director of Economic and Community Development

Matt Von Lunen, Chief Economic Development Officer
Rasheedah Pardue, Community Development Programs Manager
James Dean, Housing Coordinator
Donald Anthony, Senior Administrator
Amy Napoli, Senior Administrator
Gwen Schaefer, Small Business Lending
Rhonda Smith, Small Business Lending

Staff Roster as of August 1, 2021
Aging and Disability Services

Sara Fowler, Director of Aging and Disability Programs

Aging and Disability Support
April Merritts, Aging Support Specialist
Ruth Childers, Aging Support Specialist

Quality Assurance and Monitoring
Marilyn Wade, Program Manager
Jennifer Meade, Quality Assurance Analyst
Christy Earheart, Quality Assurance Analyst

Medicare Counseling (SHIP)
Christine Mather, Senior Medicare Counselor
Shea Northfield, Associate Counselor

Data Management
Cynthia Balfour, Program Manager
Linda Murphy-Esmond, Data Processor

Information and Assistance
Diane Schlaufman, Program Manager
Mark Singer, Lead Counselor
Carole Russell-Griffin, Counselor
Vonda Jenkins, Counselor
Jessica Rame, Counselor
Alexandra Seward-Beynen, Counselor

Public Guardianship
Keisha Harris, Public Conservator
Patience Cohee, Assistant Public Conservator
Susan Gilliam, Assistant Public Conservator
Teresa Gamble, Fiscal Specialist

Family Caregiver and Veterans Support
Johnna Neel, Senior Counselor

TennCare CHOICES Intake Program
Fredna Neas Hodge, Program Manager
Misty Donaldson, Senior Counselor
Lisa Brooks, Financial Coordinator
Kara Tillery, Counselor
Melody Choate, Counselor
Venus Johnson, Counselor
Margaret Wolf, Counselor
Janie Jewell, Community Living Supports Ombudsman

Service Coordination/Options Program
Earlean Chenault, Program Manager
Pamela Williamson, Lead Counselor
Angela Reeves, Counselor
Anthony Anderson, Counselor
Deborah Carson, Counselor
Faye Head, Senior Counselor
Breanna Browder, Counselor
Jenny Calvillo, Counselor
Tammy Cooper, Counselor
Illisa Gay, Counselor
Tonya Johnson-Lee, Counselor
Quenteena Baldwin-Jarrett, Counselor

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

L-R: Keisha Harris, Susan Gilliam, Kim Hale, Michelle Poss, and Teresa Gamble.

Kim Hale retired in 2021 after serving more than 21 years as GNRC’s Public Conservator. Thank you, Kim, for all your hard work and dedication to those in need.
HUMPHREYS COUNTY

2020 POPULATION 18,990
10-YEAR GROWTH ▲2%
2019 GDP $703,038
GNRC VOTING SEATS

CUBA LANDING MARINA

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

2020 POPULATION 220,069
10-YEAR GROWTH ▲28%
2019 GDP $4,972,614
GNRC VOTING SEATS

CLARKSVILLE RIVER FRONT
Agency Investments

Outreach and Advocacy
In FY21, GNRC hired its first outreach and advocacy coordinator to support Aging and Disability Services. By investing in this role, GNRC is committed to expanding its partnerships with other organizations that support the aging population in Middle Tennessee and broaden awareness of resources to those in need.

Financial Management
GNRC invested in Sage Intacct®, a cloud-based financial management system that will support the agency’s growing needs. The system will provide automation to importation processes, reduce redundancy, and provide staff leadership and Regional Council members with greater visibility into real-time organizational performance.

Talent Retention and Attraction
In tandem with the move to Sage Intacct, GNRC implemented a new Human Resources Information System, Paycom. Paycom centralizes the core functions of HR of employee data management, payroll and expense reporting, and recruitment efforts. Once fully implemented Paycom also serves as GNRC’s training platform and performance tracking for all staff members.

Partnerships and Programs

Regional Transportation Plan
In GNRC’s role as the lead facilitator of regional transportation planning, the agency coordinated efforts among local governments, state and federal agencies, and stakeholders to develop the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This multi-year process concluded in February 2021, with Middle Tennessee mayors adopting a 25-year plan allocating more than $10.5 billion in federal, state, and local funding for transportation programs and projects. More information about the RTP can be found on page 35.

Tennessee Serves Network
GNRC became a partner with Tennessee Serves Network, a statewide collaboration of volunteer centers dedicated to bringing people and the community together through an easily accessible online portal, first launched by Volunteer Tennessee and Tennessee’s first lady Maria Lee. This partnership has provided GNRC the resources to make its Volunteer Portal available to organizations in its 13 counties to recruit and manage volunteers. More information about the volunteer program can be found on page 38.

Economic Development Advisory Committee
Throughout FY21, the Economic and Community Development team facilitated an update to the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Through this process, GNRC reestablished its Advisory Committee of Mayors, business leaders, and state officials to cooperatively develop a strategy to align policy and infrastructure investments with the region’s shared vision for economic growth. More information about the CEDS can be found on page 33.
COVID Response

In response to the global pandemic, the U.S. Congress has made additional funding available to states and local communities through a series of COVID relief acts and supplemental appropriations. Across the various programs, more than $15 million has been entrusted with GNRC as the federal government empowers regional leaders to prioritize important investments in recovery.

Support Services for Older Adults
Through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the CARES Act, and supplemental appropriations, GNRC has received more than $4 million in grant funds to support older adults during this time of need. The majority of the funding is being directed to home-delivered meals and the delivery of groceries. Investments also are being made in area senior centers, legal aid programs, and in-home support services.

Reinforcement of Economic and Community Development Initiatives
Through the CARES Act the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration has made two separate grants to GNRC totaling more than $3 million. Of that amount, $2.74 million is being invested in a revolving loan fund program to help small and local businesses sustain their operations through the pandemic. EDA also provided $400,000 to help GNRC update the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy with additional guidance for creating a more resilient economy. The CEDS is adopted every five years by GNRC’s governing body and serves as a gateway for local partners to access millions in federal grants for economic development projects and programming.

Transportation Infrastructure Investments
Through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act of 2021, Congress provided supplemental appropriations via the U.S. Department of Transportation to support local recovery through infrastructure investments. GNRC is leading the effort to award nearly $8 million to local transportation projects through its Transportation Policy board.

*Includes total funding allocated to GNRC for use in FY 2021 and subsequent years. Not all funding has been expended.
In the fiscal year 2021, GNRC leveraged its $15 million budget to improve the lives of thousands of Middle Tennesseans to support the local initiatives of dozens of communities.

This map depicts the location of grants and infrastructure investments, planning assistance, and aging and disability services administered by GNRC during the fiscal year. The following section highlights the major accomplishments of each program area.

The map series on the following pages depict the local impact of specific program areas within GNRC.

Maury County is a member of the South Central Tennessee Development District but participates in various programs and activities of the Greater Nashville Regional Council.
PROGRAM REACH
ACROSS THE REGION

Aging and Disability Services

Serving as the Area Agency on Aging and Disability for thirteen counties, GNRC plans and coordinates a range of programs and services which focus on improving the quality of life for older adults and those with disabilities across Middle Tennessee. Each dot represents a location where services or programs have been provided.
As the Economic Development District for northern Middle Tennessee, GNRC is responsible for developing the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to guide federal investment into projects that help retain and create jobs. Each dot represents a location of investment through ECD grants and programs.

At the local level, GNRC's planning team works directly with communities on matters related to land use, zoning, and design guidelines. At a regional scale, the team coordinates the production of infrastructure plans and capital investment programs.

Each dot represents the location of a planning project, technical assistance contract, or direct investment in the transportation system through the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.
AGING + DISABILITY SERVICES

GNRC’s Aging and Disability Services empower older adults and adults with physical disabilities to maintain a high quality of life in their homes and communities for as long as possible by providing them with information and supports.

**Information and Assistance**
GNRC’s Information and Assistance Helpline offers easy access to information about resources available in the region for various needs and challenges faced by older adults, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers.

7,500+ Middle Tennesseans received information or screening services.

**Medicare Counseling**
Through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (TNSHIP), GNRC provides Medicare beneficiaries with the resources they need to make informed decisions about Medicare that optimize their access to care and benefits.

19,000+ Individuals received assistance with Medicare.

**Meal Programs**
Through nutrition programs, GNRC provides balanced meals to older adults with nutritional risk. These meals are delivered to individuals’ homes by trained volunteers or shared among peers in congregate settings.

630K+ Meals provided to more than 4,000 older adults.

**Caregiver Support**
The National Family Caregiver Support Program is focused on preventing burn-out and social isolation for caregivers of older adults through the provision of respite services.

200+ Caregivers received over 20,000 hours of relief.

**In-Home Services**
The Options for Community Living program provides a connection to services that assist older adults and adults with physical disabilities with everyday activities.

43K+ Collective hours of in-home services provided to 429 individuals.

**Long-Term Care Services**
Through TennCare’s CHOICES intake program, GNRC assists individuals who require nursing home-level care to remain at home with the needed supports as appropriate.

1,000+ Individuals assisted through the CHOICES intake process.
Public Guardianship
Public conservators are appointed by the courts to provide conservatorship to individuals who are unable to safely make their own decisions regarding their person and/or property.

Number of senior adults who received conservatorship services.

96

Veterans Services
GNRC facilitates access to sources of income for caregivers for veterans and other supportive services. This program is offered through a partnership with the Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living, and the Veterans Administration.

Veterans received services and assistance from loved ones or family friends.

48

Key Partnerships
In partnership with Mid-Cumberland Human Resource Agency, Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee, The Cumberland's, and Metropolitan Social Services, GNRC funds transportation, legal, and ombudsman services for older adults and adults with physical disabilities. In addition, seventeen senior centers throughout the region receive funding to support additional programming and services for older adults.

Individuals received transportation services through GNRC partners.

1,302

PILOT GROCERY PROGRAM

GNRC received a significant amount of funding to support the needs of older adults through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

To help those who cannot or do not feel comfortable shopping for groceries and household supplies, GNRC created a Pilot Grocery Program. The program is implemented through senior centers and provides up to $125 for boxes filled with groceries and supplies to be delivered to individuals in need.

Each senior center has personalized the program to best serve local needs. The eight senior centers participating in the Pilot Grocery Program have served 268 households, a total of 1,290 grocery/household goods boxes. The program will continue until September 2022 when the CARES Act funding expires.

1,302

Individuals received transportation services through GNRC partners.

48

Veterans received services and assistance from loved ones or family friends.

27
The Economic and Community Development team collaborates with local elected leaders, area chambers of commerce, local and state economic development officials, and state and federal agencies to prioritize and invest in initiatives that increase economic prosperity and improve quality of life throughout the region.

**Grant Writing and Administration**
GNRC assists communities with planning, packaging applications and managing grants to address community needs. Support includes structuring the application, organizing target area surveys, holding public hearings, and completing the full application.

- **$64M** Total value of on-going projects administered across the region

**Small Business Lending**
The Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation (MADC) was established by GNRC as a non-profit corporation to serve the capital needs of small businesses in Middle Tennessee. GNRC staffs the program as part of its economic and community development programs.

- **$23M** Total portfolio size has supported the creation of more than 250 jobs

**Rural Tourism**
GNRC supports growing tourism revenue for rural counties through its work with the Middle Tennessee Tourism Council. These programs provide access to state and federal grant programs, and improve coordination among local governments and industry partners.

- **$58K** Awarded to local communities to support tourism activities

**Arts and Creative Placemaking**
GNRC is the designated agency to facilitate the Tennessee Arts Commission’s Arts Builds Communities grant program across eligible counties. This program supports local governments and charitable organizations to broaden access to arts experiences, address community quality of life.

- **$62K+** Awarded to support local arts projects across Middle Tennessee

**Housing Resources**
GNRC administers home repair programs benefiting low-income families, older adults, and persons with disabilities with funds from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency.

- **14** Low-income homeowners received repairs to their homes
Key Partnerships

GNRC participated in a 40-county wage and benefit survey, conducted by the Business and Economic Research Center (BERC) at Middle Tennessee State University. The purpose of this study is to provide information that would enable human resource managers to make informed decisions about the prevailing compensation structure and to enhance local economic development officials’ understanding of the compensation structure in their market as they support prospective businesses transitioning to the region.

As one of three development districts in the region, GNRC committed funding and in-kind support to the study. This effort aligned with the goals laid out in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

This data will help inform decisions on workforce development, employee retention for existing businesses, raising overall compensation levels for employees, and help set competitive wages for jobs across the region.
COMMUNITY + REGIONAL PLANNING

The Community and Regional Planning team at GNRC plays a vital role in shaping the future of Middle Tennessee. Its programs and services operate on both a multi-county, regional scale and at the neighborhood level. At the regional level, GNRC connects conversations about economic development and infrastructure planning.

Transportation Planning
Over the last year, through GNRC’s Transportation Improvement Program the agency assisted local communities with the planning and implementation of improvements to the area’s transportation system.

$1B More than $1 billion was made available through the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program.

Capital Improvements
GNRC works with local governments to identify and track upgrades or expansions to area schools, transportation systems, government buildings, and other public infrastructure.

$7.9B Dollars in infrastructure needs were identified across the region.

Community Planning
GNRC provides a range of local planning services and technical assistance to its member communities on a fee for service basis. This support includes services for local planning commissions to project-based consulting.

12 In 2021, GNRC provided staffing services to more than 12 local planning commissions.

Planning Studies
GNRC’s regional transportation studies help develop a vision for future investments and provide its members with resources to meet long and short-term planning needs.

Activities included:

Regional Smart Mobility Assessment
GNRC completed its Regional Smart Mobility Assessment in 2021. This study broadly examined how local jurisdictions could use emerging technologies around mobility to prioritize investments and maximize benefits across the various communities of Middle Tennessee.

South Corridor Study
GNRC continued its South Corridor Study to identify a series of recommendations to implement rapid transit to serve communities between Davidson and Maury Counties. The timeline of the study has been extended, in part due to the impacts of COVID-19. Throughout the year, GNRC staff and the consultant team worked to get the process back on track. GNRC staff will present the final recommendations of the effort before the end of the year.

Downtown Inner Loop Study
Throughout the year GNRC and the consultant team worked with stakeholders to develop concepts to establish a vision and recommend investments to improve mobility and safety through the Interstate 24/40/65 “loop” around downtown Nashville.
In early 2021, mayors across Middle Tennessee adopted an update to the Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan allocates more than $10.5 billion in anticipated federal grants and matching funds to improve transportation throughout a seven-county planning area that includes Nashville and the surrounding counties of Maury, Robertson, Sumner, Rutherford, Williamson, and Wilson.

Key Partnerships
In 2021, GNRC staff facilitated semi-formal coordination among groups of local planning officials and partners in several counties across the region through its Roundtable Network. GNRC’s roundtables bring together industry professionals, public-sector practitioners, and local elected leaders around specific issues of regional interest.

The roundtable structure provides opportunities for networking and a forum for collaboration and consultation to support the implementation of GNRC programs, plans, and policy initiatives.

Additionally, the agency continued to grow its strategic planning and comprehensive planning services to Regional Council members over the last year. GNRC is leading the comprehensive planning efforts for the City of Gallatin, Rutherford County, and Sumner County.

Over the last three years, GNRC has worked with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and local governments to conduct studies, public meetings, and research to inform the Plan’s recommendations. The Plan intends to help ensure coordination among existing transportation planning efforts of TDOT, transit agencies, and area cities and counties. The RTP is updated every five years to account for shifts in community issues and concerns, advancements in technologies, fluctuations in funding levels, and changes in federal regulations.

Learn more about the Regional Transportation Plan at GNRC.org/Transportation.
The Research and Analytics team is responsible for maintaining information and datasets, creating maps and other data visualizations, and performing analysis in support of the organization’s programs and local member data needs.

Creating Insights

In partnership with AgeWell and Metro Nashville Council member Joy Styles, the Research and Analytics team collaborated on the All for Antioch initiative, which aimed to identify and address the priority needs of older adults living in Antioch. Using Census data, the team gave a presentation on the demographics within zip code 37013 including population, income levels, race/ethnicity, and household status.

This data helped target specific areas where a survey of older adults could be conducted, and the potential languages needed for survey respondents. The survey was distributed to assisted living facilities, faith centers, and community centers; it was translated into Spanish, Arabic, and Kurdish. The Research team summarized the survey results and identified trends, which informed resource outreach by our network partners.

Key findings showed that most respondents turned to their faith community for help, but among Spanish and Arabic respondents, they turned to their healthcare provider. Top concerns across all respondents were food security as well as leisure activities and transportation.

Tracking Trends and Forecasting Change

Over the last year, GNRC’s Research and Analytics team continued to maintain information and datasets, create maps and other data visualizations and perform analysis in support of the organization’s programs and local member data needs. GNRC research staff include expert users of geographic information systems (GIS), travel demand forecasting tools, land use, and growth modeling applications to support the work of the Regional Council and its partners.

Monitoring Mobility During the Pandemic

Throughout FY21 the Research and Analytics Team monitored shifts in behavior across the region. Made possible by access to information from cell phone service providers the team observed unique trends in regional travel.

Smoothing of Peak Congestion

Not only was there a shift in destinations, time of day for vehicle travel was spread throughout the day as people made more trips outside of the typical morning and evening commute. Even as travel has increased, as employees return to workplaces, this trend has continued with flexible schedules.

Increase in Travel Speeds

During the “Stay at Home” orders when fewer people were traveling Middle Tennessee roadways, speed of those on the road increased 5.5% on area Interstates. The increase in speed has not reversed as more people are driving again.
MAURY COUNTY

COLUMBIA FIRE STATION

- 2020 POPULATION: 100,974
- 10-YEAR GROWTH: 25%
- 2019 GDP: $3,863,999
- GNRC VOTING SEATS*

*Maury County is a member of the South Central Tennessee Development District but participates in various GNRC programs and activities.

ROBERTSON COUNTY

DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD

- 2020 POPULATION: 72,803
- 10-YEAR GROWTH: 10%
- 2019 GDP: $2,325,754
- GNRC VOTING SEATS

- GNRC VOTING SEATS

- GNRC VOTING SEATS

- GNRC VOTING SEATS

- GNRC VOTING SEATS

- GNRC VOTING SEATS

- GNRC VOTING SEATS
The Policy and Government Affairs team supports the organization by participating in various local, statewide, and national initiatives being carried out by public agencies and non-profit organizations.

Mayors Caucus

Legislative issues for the GNRC area are discussed and prioritized by the Mayors Caucus. The Caucus was formed in 2009 to provide leadership on important issues facing a rapidly changing regional landscape.

Transportation, and particularly the pursuit of a modern regional transit system, served as the early catalyst, but in its brief history the Caucus has served as an effective forum for building personal relationships among mayors and has helped local governments support each other on state and federal legislative priorities.

The Caucus is staffed by GNRC with consulting assistance provided by Stones River Group.

MAYORS CAUCUS LEADERSHIP

Ken Moore, Chair
Mayor of Franklin

Jessie Wallace, Vice Chair
Humphreys County Executive

The work of the Policy team includes building partnerships with other organizations with a common interest in aging and disability issues, population health outcomes, affordable housing, social equity and inclusion, environmental quality, and growth and development trends. Significant accomplishments of the policy team include:

Local Officials Training Program
GNRC began development of a training program for local elected officials across the 13-county region to help improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities to serve constituents, and understand how to contribute to and engage in regional conversations. The GNRC Local Officials Training Program will focus primarily on an overview of regional issues and how local decisions affect and are affected by regional conversations.

Program Coordination
In FY21, GNRC continued to staff Cumberland Region Tomorrow, program and coordinate events, and facilitated strategic planning efforts to assist the organization’s leadership in planning for the future.

Strategic Planning Services
GNRC provided its strategic planning services to the Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee to assist the organization with evaluating its role within the region’s transit advocacy ecosystem and developing strategies to optimize its programming.
RUTHERFORD COUNTY

SMYRNA TRAIN DEPOT

2020 POPULATION
341,482

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲30%

2019 GDP
$14,643,061

GNRC VOTING SEATS

STEWART COUNTY

FORT DONELSON

2020 POPULATION
13,657

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲2%

2019 GDP
$739,742

GNRC VOTING SEATS
Annual Volunteer Appreciation

Even though the volunteers could not gather in-person to be honored for their efforts an interactive virtual event was held in April to celebrate their work.

Congratulations to our 2021 Volunteer Award Recipients:

- Volunteer of the Year Award - Nancy Parker
- Most Engaged New Volunteer Award - Thomas Wrenne
- Mentor of the Year Award - Ray Daws
- Most Valuable Player Award - Kathy Ramsay

Three new award categories were created to better represent the level of commitment to excellence our volunteers have for the programs they support.

Expanded Resources for Members

Through its partnership with the Tennessee Serves Network, GNRC has been able to make its Galaxy Digital online platform available to Regional Council members. Local governments and non-profits in all 13 counties can access the tool to recruit volunteers, manage volunteer opportunities, and improve tracking and reporting.

- Commitment to Excellence Award
  This award recognizes outstanding volunteers who are providing services with attention to detail, always consistent in their performance, and willing to help with whatever serves the mission. This award was presented to Benjin Facer, Nuha Alaw, Carol Wirth, Dee Brown, Susan Freeman, and Maureen Brunlinger.

- Silver Heart Award
  This award recognizes volunteers who are especially caring about other community members and serve for the greater good or for a specific cause. This award was presented to Mary Bryan and Angela Diaz-Valle.

- Golden Heart Award
  This award recognizes volunteers who have given a significant amount of time to serve their community and/or undeserved groups within it. This award was presented to Lane Dickens.

1,173 Total active volunteers, a 160% increase over 2020.

19,000+ Total number of volunteer hours in 2021.

$471,000+ Overall value of volunteer time contributed to GNRC in 2021.
SUMNER COUNTY

TEMPEL THEATRE

2020 POPULATION
196,281

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲22%

2019 GDP
$6,131,331

GNRC VOTING SEATS

TROUSDALE COUNTY

TROUSDALE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

2020 POPULATION
11,615

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲48%

2019 GDP
$187,100

GNRC VOTING SEATS


We are purposeful and strive to do more with limited resources.

GNRC's funding partners make its work possible. The agency’s operating budget is made up of federal and state grants, membership dues, and program revenue.
GNRC’s annual budget is largely composed of revenue from state and federal grants awarded to the organization to carry-out a variety of programs and services aimed at improving the region’s economy and quality of life through investments in planning and coordination, social services, and infrastructure. Many of those state and federal grants require local matching funds. Matching funds are provided through a combination of local membership dues, program revenue, and an allocation from the Tennessee State budget.

### BUDGETED REVENUE BY PROGRAM AREA

**AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES**
- Federal Grants: 78%
- State Funds: 17%
- Program Revenue: 4%
- Member Dues: 4%

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
- Federal Grants: 80%
- State Funds: 15%
- Program Revenue: 4%
- Member Dues: 1%

**COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING**
- Federal Grants: 71%
- State Funds: 2%
- Program Revenue: 7%
- Member Dues: 20%

### FUNDING PARTNERS

**STATE PARTNERS**
- Tennessee Arts Commission
- Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability
- Department of Economic and Community Development
- Department of Environment and Conservation
- Department of Finance Bureau of TennCare
- Department of Tourist Development
- Department of Transportation
- Tennessee Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations
- Tennessee Historical Commission
- Tennessee Housing Development Agency

**FEDERAL PARTNERS**
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Transportation
- Small Business Administration
SNAPSHOT OF
REVENUE + EXPENDITURES

$15 MILLION
FY21 EXPENDITURES

65% Federal Funds
61% Federal Grants Received Through State Contracts
1% Federal Grant Contracts

52% Program Expenditures
40% Salaries + Benefits
3% Other Direct Costs
4% Office Leases + Technology
5% Contracted Services

48% Subgrant Awards

22% State Funds
State Grants Programs 21%
State Budget Allocation 1%

16% Local Funds
GNRC Member Dues 4%
Program Dues 3%
Program Revenue 9%

AGING + DISABILITY PROVIDERS 47%
HOUSING, ARTS, TOURISM, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 1%
WILLIAMSON COUNTY

2020 POPULATION
247,726

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲35%

2019 GDP
$20,490,414

GNRC VOTING SEATS

COOL SPRINGS

WILSON COUNTY

2020 POPULATION
147,737

10-YEAR GROWTH
▲30%

2019 GDP
$4,689,565

GNRC VOTING SEATS

MITCHELL HOUSE