



Regional Council to Host Public Hearing on Draft Area Plan on Aging for Middle Tennessee

Agency is seeking public input on strategies to invest in programs and services to support older adults across the mid-state

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nashville, Tenn. - The Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC or Regional Council) has scheduled a public hearing to present a draft of the federally required *Area Plan on Aging and Disability* (Area Plan) to community members, elected officials, and regional stakeholders. The Area Plan outlines how the region will deploy federal and state funds to provide services to older adults and those with disabilities across 13 counties in Middle Tennessee. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 8, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the FiftyForward Knowles Center in Nashville. The agency is seeking review and comment prior to its scheduled adoption by area mayors and county executives of the Regional Council on March 16.

GNRC is recognized by the U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL) and the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD) as an Area Agency on Aging and Disability (AAAD). In this role, the organization convenes local elected officials and other community leaders to prioritize federal funds made available to address the needs of older adults and to coordinate the implementation of a range of services to support aging Middle Tennesseans and their caregivers. The planning area includes the counties of Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, and Wilson.

The federal Older Americans Act, which provides funding to GNRC through TCAD, requires a major update to the Area Plan every four years. The Plan identifies the region's approach to delivering services and support programs through a network of community partners and service providers. The public hearing provides an opportunity for residents, their caregivers, and the general public to comment on the Plan's ability to address their needs related to in-home services, transportation, nutrition, and other important determinants of quality of life. The Area Plan also identifies funding for area senior centers and other programming aimed at reducing social isolation.

Following the public hearing, a draft copy of the Area Plan will be made available online before its formal presentation to the GNRC Executive Board on March 16. The meeting is open to the public. Attendance is encouraged for those interested in understanding the impact of the region's aging population and how GNRC's aging and disability services are coordinated with other state and federal planning processes. For more information, visit

GNRC.org/calendar. For those who cannot attend the public hearing, presentation materials and an online survey will be made available at **GNRC.com/AreaPlan**.

- **What:** Area Plan on Aging Public Hearing
- **When:** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2022
- **Where:** FiftyForward Knowles Center, 174 Rains Ave, Nashville, TN 37203
- **Why:** To present the draft Area Plan on Aging for public review and comment

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About the Greater Nashville Regional Council: GNRC is established by the TN General Assembly as the regional council of governments for Middle Tennessee. The Regional Council convenes more than 60 area mayors with state and federal officials for cooperative policymaking and to prioritize public funding for infrastructure projects and social services. It is federally recognized as the region's lead transportation planning organization, economic development district, and area agency on aging and disability. More info at GNRC.org.

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