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Communities in Sumner County are profiled in photos throughout this Annual Report in honor of GNRC’s President. Photos provided by patrons of Sumner County.

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 Laylah Smith, Non-Discrimination Coordinator, 220 Athens Way, Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37228, phone number 615-862-8863.
Dear Fellow Council Members and Distinguished Partners,

It is with great pride that I present to you the Greater Nashville Regional Council’s Annual Report for fiscal year 2019. In it, you’ll find sound evidence that our organization has never been stronger or more relevant to the mid-state. As my first term as President comes to an end, I encourage us all to pause for a moment to reflect on some of the more significant investments that made the past year one to remember.

We invested in our staff. The last twelve months have been defined as much by our organizational development as it has by our community impact. We have put considerable time and energy into ensuring the operations of the GNRC meet our current and future needs. Notable enhancements include a new human resources platform to improve the recruitment, hiring, and on-boarding of professional talent, and a new Intranet to centralize company announcements, regional news, training materials, marketing tools, and staff recognition for a job well done.

We invested in our members. A new member development training program was kicked off in 2019 as a way to better equip local mayors and city managers with the resources needed to fulfill their role as regional leaders. The program provides a deep dive into GNRC’s history, authority, programs, and responsibilities. We also rolled out a new branding and communications strategy and launched a new website at GNRC.org to better position the collective work of our membership to state and federal partners, non-profit collaborators, and interested residents and businesses across the region.

GNRC’s imprint on Middle Tennessee is felt far and wide – from city halls and county courthouses, to job sites and senior centers, to the kitchens and living rooms of those most in need of our help. I feel strongly that this past year’s investment in ourselves will pay dividends across the region for many years ahead as we strive to carry out our new motto of “Connecting Communities, Empowering People.”

Respectfully,

Anthony Holt,
GNRC President
Sumner County Mayor
About the Regional Council

The Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC) is one of nine regional development districts established by the General Assembly under the Tennessee Development District Act of 1965. GNRC, which operates as a council of governments (COG), represents 13 counties and 52 cities in Middle Tennessee. County members include Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson and Wilson counties.
Mission and Major Programs

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 leadership and local practitioners to brainstorm strategies for improving quality of life; facilitates cooperative policy-making in order 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.

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 RPO.

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 is comprised of chambers of commerce, area attractions, local governments, and convention and visitor bureaus.
By the Numbers

84 Professional Staff Members

93 Members on the Regional Council

2,000,000 Middle Tennesseans represented by the Regional Council

13 Counties

1 of 9 Development Districts in the State

104 Active Volunteers
A 24-member Executive Board meets monthly to conduct business on behalf of the larger Regional Council. The Board 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 a variety of 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.
Program Leadership

Aging Advisory Council
Patti Harris, Chair, Representing Cheatham County
Don Ames, Vice Chair, Representing Sumner County

Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation
Bruce Carter, President, Representing Sumner County
Mark Beeler, Vice President, Representing Trousdale County
Audra Ladd, Secretary/Treasurer, Representing Davidson County

Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus
Ken Moore, Chair, City of Franklin Mayor
David Briley, Co-Vice Chair, Metro Nashville Mayor
Jessie Wallace, Co-Vice Chair, Humphreys County Executive

IT Directors’ RoundTable
Keith Durbin, Co-Chair, Metro Nashville, Chief Information Officer
Jordon Shaw, Co-Chair, City of Franklin, IT Director

Solid Waste Directors’ RoundTable
Mac Nolen, Chair, Rutherford County, Solid Waste Director
Joey Smith, Vice Chair, City of Murfreesboro Solid Waste Director

Middle Tennessee Tourism Council
Karin Landers, Chair, Humphreys County Tourism

Transportation Coordinating Committee
Michael Briggs, Chair, Metro Nashville, Transportation Planning Mgr.
Glenn Harper, Vice Chair, City of Columbia, City Engineer

Transportation Policy Board of the Nashville Area MPO
Mary Esther Reed, Chair, Town of Smyrna Mayor
Rick Graham, Vice Chair, City of Spring Hill Mayor
CHEATHAM COUNTY
County Mayor Kerry McCarver
Ashland City Mayor Rick Johnson
Kingston Springs Mayor Tony Gross
Pegram Mayor Charles Morehead
Pleasant View Mayor Perry Keenan
Hadley Williams, Minority Rep.
Jerome Terrell, Industrial Rep.

DAVIDSON COUNTY
Metropolitan Mayor David Briley *
Metropolitan Mayor John Cooper **
Belle Meade Mayor James Hunt, Sr.
Berry Hill Mayor Greg Mabey
Forest Hills Mayor John Lovell
Goodlettsville Mayor Jeff Duncan
Oak Hill Mayor Heidi Campbell
Antionette Lee, Minority Rep.
Matt Wiltshire, Industrial Rep.

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

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

HUMPHREYS COUNTY
Executive Jessie Wallace
McEwen Mayor Cecil Ross
New Johnsonville Mayor David Cagle
Waverly Mayor W. B. (Buddy) Frazier
Tacomine Hill, Minority Rep.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
County Mayor Jim Durrett
Clarksville Mayor Kim McMillan
Rene Llanos, Minority Rep.
Cal Wray, Industrial Rep.

ROBERTSON COUNTY
County Mayor Billy Vogle
Adams Mayor Mary Mantooth
Cedar Hill Mayor Tom Richards
Coopertown Mayor Glen Guyor
Cross Plains Mayor Barry Faulkner
Greenbrier Mayor Bonnette Dawson
Orlinda Mayor Ricky Stark

Ridgetop Mayor Tony Reasoner
Springfield Mayor Ann Schneider
White House Mayor Mike Arnold
Herbert Barbee, Minority Rep.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY
County Mayor Bill Ketron
Eagleville Mayor Travis Brown
La Vergne Mayor Dennis Waldron *
La Vergne Mayor Jason Cole **
Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland
Smyrna Mayor Mary Esther Reed
Darlyn Green, Minority Rep.
Brian Hercules, Industrial Rep.

STEWART COUNTY
County Mayor Robin Brandon
Cumberland City Mayor Gary Vaughn
Dover Mayor Lesa Fitzhugh
David Dunlap, Minority Rep.
Madison Campbell, Industrial Rep.

SUMNER COUNTY
Executive Anthony Holt
Gallatin Mayor Paige Brown
Goodlettsville Mayor Jeff Duncan
Hendersonville Mayor Jamie Clary
Millersville Mayor Tim Lassiter
Mitchellville Mayor Bobby Worman
Portland Mayor Mike Callis
Westmoreland Mayor Jerry Kirkman
White House Mayor Mike Arnold
Darryl D. Eubanks, Minority Rep.

TROUSDALE COUNTY
County Mayor Stephen Chambers
Craig Moreland, Minority Rep.
Charly Lyons, Industrial Rep.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY
County Mayor Rogers Anderson
Brentwood Mayor Rhea Little
Fairview Mayor John Blade
Franklin Mayor Ken Moore
Nolensville Mayor Jim Alexander
Spring Hill Mayor Rick Graham
Thompson’s Station Mayor Corey Napier
Juanita Patton, Minority Rep.

WILSON COUNTY
County Mayor Randall Hutto
Lebanon Mayor Bernie Ash
Mount Juliet Mayor Ed Hagerty
Watertown Mayor Michael Jennings
Fred Burton, Minority Rep.

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Representative Susan Lynn
Senator Steve Dickerson

* Out-going members
** In-coming members

Members listed in light blue serve on the executive board.
Executive Office and Administrative Support
Michael Skipper, Executive Director
Michelle Lacewell, Deputy Director
Shannon Lewallen, Creative Services Coordinator
Kristen Scuderi, Special Projects Coordinator
Rebecca Nof, Volunteer Coordinator

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

Legal Department
Laylah Smith, Chief Legal Counsel
Grant Kehler, Compliance Officer

Finance Department
Gayle Wilson, 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
Haryono Prawiranata, Senior Research Analyst
Ashleigh Reeves, Research Analyst
Carson Cooper, Research Analyst
Samuel Williams, GIS Analyst

Special thanks to Amanda Giner who retired this year from serving as Director of Small Business Lending. We appreciate her sixteen years of service to GNRC and MADC.
Community and Regional Planning

Becky Caldwell, Solid Waste Program Manager and Interim Director of Community and Regional Planning

Ben Gramling, Environmental Planning Manager
Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager
Brad Baumgartner, Principal Planner
Tonya Blades, Senior Planner
Bryan Collins, Senior Planner
Anna Emerson, Senior Planner
Elham Daha, Senior Planner
Mary Turner, Associate Planner

Economic and Community Development

Angela Hubbard, Director of Economic and Community Development

Matt Von Lunen, Chief Economic Development Officer
Rasheeda Pardue, Community Development Coordinator
James Dean, Housing Coordinator
Amanda Giner, Director of Small Business Lending
Gwen Schaefer, Senior Credit Analyst
Rhonda Smith, Credit Analyst

Aging and Disability Services

Sarah Jane Glynn, 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, Counselor
Christy Earheart, Counselor
Susan Gilliam, Ombudsman

Medicare Counseling (SHIP)
Hardy Adham, Lead Counselor
Lori Galbreath, Counselor

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

Information and Assistance
Diane Schlauflman, Program Manager
Mark Singer, Lead Counselor
Christine Mather, Counselor
Carole Russell-Griffin, Counselor
Reisha Wardlaw, Counselor
Vonda Jenkins, Counselor

Public Guardianship
Kim Hale, Public Conservator
Keisha Harris, Assistant Public Conservator
Teresa Gamble, Fiscal Specialist

TennCare CHOICES Intake
Fredna Hodge, Program Manager
Kara Tillery, Counselor
Lindsay Rhodes, Counselor
Lisa Brooks, Financial Coordinator
Venus Johnson, Counselor
Misty Donaldson, Program Specialist

Service Coordination/Options Program
Sara Fowler, Program Manager
Earlean Chenault, Lead Counselor
Anthony Anderson, Counselor
Deborah Carson, Counselor
Faye Head, Counselor
Johnna Neel, Counselor
Josh Richardson, Counselor
Mandi Wansley, Counselor
Pamela Williamson, Counselor
Quenteena Baldwin-Jarrett, Counselor
Tammy Cooper, Counselor
Tonya Johnson-Lee, Counselor

Family Caregiver and Veterans Support
Clara Kelly, Program Manager

* Staff Roster updated as of September 2019
Year in Review

**AUGUST 2018**
Transportation Policy Board adopted the Unified Planning Work Program outlining more than $4.8 million of funding for transportation planning activities including a major update to the Regional Transportation Plan

**SEPTEMBER 2018**
Unveiled GNRC’s new brand identity and communications strategy during the annual meeting

**OCTOBER 2018**
Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus hosted gubernatorial candidates for round table discussions on key regional issues ahead of the November elections

**NOVEMBER 2018**
Implemented a new HR platform to improve hiring, on-boarding, and personnel management

**DECEMBER 2018**
In partnership with the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, GNRC released the annual *Nashville Region’s Vital Signs* at the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus meeting

**JULY 2018**
Completed work on the City of Gallatin’s first City Council approved Strategic Plan
**JANUARY 2019**

GNRC was hired by Cumberland Region Tomorrow (CRT) to assist the non-profit organization with staffing, program development, and strategic business planning.

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**FEBRUARY 2019**

First on-staff volunteer coordinator was hired to expand the agency’s volunteer program and enhance volunteer engagement.

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**MARCH 2019**

Convened local banking executives as part of an “Expert Lenders” panel to help align GNRC’s small business lending with broader economic and community development programs.

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**APRIL 2019**

Completed updates to the Area Plan to guide investments in GNRC’s Aging and Disability programs made in coordination with the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability.

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**MAY 2019**

Staff leadership participated in a peer exchange with Councils of Government from Boston, Atlanta, and South Florida to share best practices across a variety of topics.

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**JUNE 2019**

The Executive Board endorsed the first ever region-wide *Solid Waste Master Plan* for Middle Tennessee.

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**Notable Highlights**

This timeline shines a spotlight on one notable activity for each month of the fiscal year. The following section provides additional highlights across GNRC program areas.
*Some locations are approximated based on zip codes in order to protect consumer privacy.*
In fiscal year 2019, GNRC leveraged its $15 million budget to affect the lives of thousands of Middle Tennesseans and to provide direct support to dozens of local communities.

The map to the left depicts the location of grants and infrastructure investments, planning assistance, and aging and disability services administered by the GNRC during the fiscal year. The sections that follow highlight the major accomplishments of each program area.
104 Active Volunteers

SIX Interns

FOUR Member Development Sessions focused on the Regional Council and its programs

550 Volunteer Hours (average per month since January 2019)
Agency Highlights

Last year, GNRC completed its relocation into two new office spaces. To improve communication across the multiple locations, GNRC invested in Microsoft Office 365. The tools provided through this platform have allowed team members to work seamlessly regardless of location. In addition, the GNRC intranet portal launched in late 2018 has been a helpful tool used to provide easy access to important company announcements, updates on regional news, and essential tools, documents, and training resources. The intranet portal has become a valuable time-saving resource and place for staff to interact with one another, improving workflow and efficiency.

Staff spent significant time improving processes and products related to core programs. Three new staff members joined the Community and Regional Planning team to better serve our local planning communities, support the on-going South Corridor Transportation Study, prepare for the development of the new Regional Transportation Plan, and complete the first Regional Solid Waste Master Plan.

While GNRC has always provided volunteer opportunities within its programs, there has not been a staff member dedicated to overseeing this effort. To increase its outreach capacity, GNRC hired its first volunteer coordinator. By investing in its volunteer program, GNRC has grown volunteer participation from about 50 active members to more than 100. Volunteers have saved the agency an estimated $12,500 based on the value of a volunteer hour in Tennessee.

Lastly, the agency launched a rebranded website that provides better access to resources and information about GNRC’s various programs. Visit GNRC.org to learn more about the services and resources available.
42 local agencies and organizations receiving sub-grants from GNRC to deliver services to senior or physically disabled adults

7,000+ Middle Tennesseans receiving information counseling or screening services

430,000+ meals provided to nearly 4,000 senior adults

GNRC hosted the 6th Annual Senior Brain Games to bring awareness to the importance of brain health. Seven teams of senior adults competed in the district competition.
Aging and Disability Services include information and assistance counseling, support for caregivers of senior adults and veterans, legal aid and ombudsman services, in-home and community-based care, public guardianship services, and evidenced-based education and training to help senior adults maintain a high quality of life.

Throughout the year members of the Aging and Disability Services team promoted, screened, and coordinated a variety of home and community-based services on behalf of state and federal funding programs. These programs empower seniors, disabled adults, and other targeted populations to remain independent in their home and/or community for as long as possible.

To showcase aging and disability programs and services, GNRC participated in the annual Parking Day in Downtown Nashville. Staff transformed an on-street parking space into a parklet that offered interactive activities for attendees to learn more about various programs. One of the highlights of the parking space was a picnic table, custom built by staff, designed for individuals who use wheelchairs. The table was donated to the City of Gallatin’s new Miracle Park after the event.

SNAPSHOT OF IMPACT ACROSS THE REGION
Map depicts locations of GNRC program activity
SIX
SBA 504 Loans made to support small businesses

$77 Million
Total value of Economic and Community Development grants supported by GNRC in FY19

$52,500
Invested through grants and staff support to enhance local tourism marketing

$34,000
Awarded through grants to promote arts in local communities

The City of Portland received the Tennessee Development District Association Rebuild Tennessee Award for the Moye-Green House revitalization.
Economic and Community Development

The Economic and Community Development team at GNRC works in partnership with local elected leaders, area chambers of commerce, local and state economic development officials, and state and federal agencies to prioritize and make investments in site-readiness, community infrastructure, workforce training and development, and strategic planning to grow the regional economy.

In 2019, GNRC launched Greater Nashville Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZ) partnership with Nashville Area Chamber and local governments. Greater Nashville QOZ provides an interactive web-based tool to match potential investors with local projects in Opportunity Zones across Middle Tennessee.

Over the last year, GNRC convened a group of banking experts to evaluate its Small Business Lending program. The group assisted in the review of current practices and opportunity for change with the goal of setting a strategy to better align lending programs to economic and community development initiatives.

Additionally, staff has worked to overhaul the administration of home repair grants from Tennessee Housing and Urban Development. Improvements to the application process and contractor recruitment are focused on streamlining program management and hopefully allow for more homeowners to access assistance.

SNAPSHOT OF IMPACT ACROSS THE REGION
Map depicts locations of GNRC program activity

LEGEND
- ECD Grants
- Housing Grants
- Arts Grants
- Tourism Grants
- Small Business Loans

* One dot represents one client
The City of Gallatin expanded its partnership with GNRC to update its comprehensive plan. This effort builds off the city’s Strategic Plan that was developed for the city in 2018.

1000+
Participants during the first two rounds of public meetings and activities related to the South Corridor Transportation Study.

Mayors, Representatives from TDOT, WeGo Public Transit, Middle Tennessee Transit Alliance, and chambers of commerce held a press conference for the South Corridor Transportation Study.
Community and 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 as well as at the neighborhood level. On a regional level, GNRC convenes conversations on economic development and infrastructure planning.

In 2019, the Solid Waste Directors’ RoundTable led the development of Middle Tennessee’s first region-wide Solid Waste Master Plan. Endorsed by GNRC’s Executive Board in June, the plan lays out a framework for continued collaboration and coordination among municipalities, service providers, and the state to address the growing challenges of solid waste management. This effort was funded in part by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

The IT Directors’ RoundTable hosted a “Design Spark” event in coordination with the on-going Regional Smart Mobility Assessment. This event brought together local leaders from the cities of Nashville, Franklin, Brentwood, Spring Hill, Columbia, Thompson’s Station, Mt. Juliet, Lebanon, Murfreesboro, LaVergne, Smyrna, Gallatin, Hendersonville, and Springfield to examine smart mobility applications across the GNRC region and assess priorities for implementing future technology investments.

GNRC was invited to participate in a year-long Healthy Regions Planning Exchange hosted by the Regional Plan Association of New York. The nationwide learning exchange brings together organizations from 11 regions across the country to discuss policies and strategies that promote healthier and more equitable regions.
623,023 Structures analyzed for various planning activities

8.75 Billion Square footage of buildings analyzed for planning activities

393 Miles of bike lanes and routes mapped

758 Miles of trails and greenways mapped
Research and Analytics

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.

Significant accomplishments this year include:

- Developed a publicly accessible online Open Data Portal to showcase hundreds of digitized data and map files associated with GNRC planning activities and research projects.

- Assisted local governments, the State of Tennessee, and the U.S. Census Bureau in preparation efforts for the 2020 Census by verifying every address in Middle Tennessee.

- Began work on land cover remote sensing to provide current and historical data of impervious surfaces, tree canopy, crop land and scraped surfaces across the region.

- Developed county profiles for solid waste generation and disposal across Middle Tennessee.

- Began work on a new regional land development forecasting model to predict where future population and jobs will be located across Middle Tennessee.

Additionally, the research team began the transition of their tessellation methodology from grid to hexagonal tiling which uses hexagons to tile a flat surface. This allows for a more realistic visualization of aggregated data that provides a better reference for peer comparison, and increased scalability.

GNRC’s data portal can be found online at data-gnrc.opendata.arcgis.com
40
Mayors and County Executives actively participate in the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus

TWO
State legislators serve on the Executive Board of the Regional Council, Representative Susan Lynn and Senator Steve Dickerson

GNRC hosted former Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley for a round-table discussion on transportation, land use, and regional policy.
Policy and Government Affairs

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. This work 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.

A significant part of the team's activities center around the review and analysis of proposed policies, rule-making, or legislation that could have an impact – for better or worse – on GNRC programs, clients, and local member communities. GNRC monitors activities within the Tennessee General Assembly and U.S. Congress to inform local elected leaders on bills that may impact their community or the region.

Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus

Chair

Ken Moore
City of Franklin Mayor

Co-Vice Chair

David Briley
Metro Nashville Mayor

Co-Vice Chair

Jessie Wallace
Humphreys County Executive

Legislative issues for the GNRC are discussed and prioritized by the Middle Tennessee 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.

Policy and Legislative Priorities

In 2019, the top priorities identified by the annual Caucus poll included continued support for solving Middle Tennessee’s ongoing transportation challenges, new regional capacity to help solve emerging solid waste issues, and expanding workforce training programs to better prepare for incoming jobs.
$15 MILLION
FY 2019 ANNUAL BUDGET

59% Federal Funds
58% Federal Grants Received Through State Contracts
<1% Federal Grant Contracts
25% State Funds
State Grants Programs 24%
State Budget Allocation 1%
16% Local Funds
GNRC Member Dues 4%
Program Dues 4%
Program Revenue 8%

63% Program Expenditures
49% Salaries + Benefits
5% Other Direct Costs
5% Office Leases + Technology
4% Contracted Services

37% Subgrant Awards
Aging + Disability Providers 35%
Housing, Arts, Tourism, and Community Development Grants 2%
Fiscal Year 2019

GNRC’s annual budget is largely comprised 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. Membership dues are paid by city and county governments at a rate of 31 cents per capita based on recent U. S. Census population estimates.

State Funding Partners

- Tennessee Arts Commission
- Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD)
- Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD)
- Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)
- Department of Finance Bureau of TennCare
- Department of Tourist Development
- Department of Transportation (TDOT)
- Tennessee Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR)
- Tennessee Historical Commission
- Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA)

Federal Funding 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
Photo Acknowledgements

Cover  Sumner County Administration Building
Page 1  Lock 4 Recreation Area, Old Hickory Lake
Page 2  Downtown Gallatin
Page 4  1) Downtown Nashville John Seigenthaler Pedestrian Bridge
Page 7  2) Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus Meeting with Gov. Bill Lee, 3) L-R: Mayor McFarland, Mayor Hunt, and Mayor Briley during the annual presentation of Nashville Region’s Vital Signs, 4) Regional Council Executive Board meeting, 5) L-R: Mayor Brown, Mayor Moore, Mayor Durrett during the Mayors Caucus tour of Bi-County Solid Waste Facility, 6) TCC Chair Michael Briggs during monthly meeting
Page 9  7) Transportation Policy Board meeting
Page 12  Downtown Nashville Skyline on Cumberland River
Page 16  8) Staff and volunteers during Senior Brain Games, 9) Staff participating in United Cerebral Palsy fundraiser, 10) GNRC Staff Picnic
Page 18  11) Staff at Parking Day in Downtown Nashville to promoting Aging and Disability services and programs, 12) Ali Hulten and Rebecca NofI promoting Medicare counseling services at the Williamson County Senior Fair, 13) Gayle Wilson and Susan Gilliam presenting certificate to participant at the “Living Well with Chronic Conditions” Training, 14) Participants of the 2018 Senior Brain Games
Page 20  15) GNRC staff leading an Assets Based Planning training program in Humphreys County, 16) Announcement of Mayor Briley’s Executive Order on Affordable Housing, 17) L-R: Michelle Lacewell, Denise Geminden, Commissioner Bill Geminden, Matt Von Lunen, and former Mayor Ken Wilber
Page 22  18) Gallatin Lawn Party to kick-off Plan Gallatin, 19) “Design Spark” event held as part of the Regional Smart Mobility Assessment, 20) Press conference promoting community engagement for the South Corridor Transportation Study
Page 24  21) Max Baker and Ashleigh Reeves speak to news reporter about population projections
Page 26  22) Annual Governor’s Address: L-R: Mayor Briley, Mayor Hutto, Mayor Reed, Mayor Rial, Gov. Bill Lee, Mayor Moore and Mayor Holt, 23) Mayors Caucus members and community leaders during tour of Bi-County Solid Waste Facility, 24) Members of the Mayors Caucus meeting with Lt. Gov. McNally to discuss legislative priorities of the region, 25) Round table discussion with Gov. O’Malley
Page 30  26) L-R Mayor Anthony Holt, Nathan Wade, Vonda Jenkins, Peter Westerholm and Ben Gramling at GNRC Holiday Party, 27) Staff and aging partners participate in TN Aging Federation Day on the Hill, 28) Rochelle Carpenter with co-presenters at Rail-Volution conference, 29) GNRC staff delivering City of Gallatin with wheelchair accessible picnic table