



A weekly selection of issues and activities relevant to local planning in Nashville and Davidson County

## We're in the top fifty

Nashville's [number 40](#) in Sustainlane.com's annual ranking of the most sustainable cities. Portland, Oregon's first; we're ahead of, among others, Indianapolis, Tulsa, Las Vegas, and Memphis.

## Out of the car, off the airplane... onto the bus

High gas prices aren't the only reason that new, [low-cost intercity bus lines](#) are attracting new customers - and, in some cases, taking them away from discount airlines. Over shorter distances, the American Public Transportation Association says that [light rail](#) is the fastest-growing mode for commuter trips.

## Grocery stores are getting smaller

This could be another sign that we're moving to human-scale, more walkable neighborhoods - the Food Marketing Institute says the [average size](#) of a US grocery store actually fell slightly in 2007, after twenty years of steady growth.

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*The Metropolitan Planning Department publishes this weekly digest to inform members of the Planning Commission, Metropolitan Council, Board of Zoning Appeals, and other interested parties about planning and growth issues in other communities which could apply to the Nashville region. Particular attention is given to sustainable development, smart growth, multi-modal transportation, and other information which will help us build a sustainable future and a more livable city.*