

RESOLUTION NO. RS2019-____

A resolution requesting the Office of the Mayor implement a participatory budgeting program whereby residents of Davidson County are able to determine the best uses for underutilized properties owned by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County.

WHEREAS, participatory budgeting has been used to great success by other cities by empowering cities to decide together how public money is spent; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County owns many properties that may be underutilized, including surplus property; and

WHEREAS, participatory budgeting should be used to determine how underutilized properties, as determined by Metropolitan Department, could best meet the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Mayor should consider implementing a participatory budgeting program whereby members of the public could offer suggestions for how these properties could be used, in order to best address the needs and desires of the community – including keeping the property as-is or selling the property to the highest bidder; and

WHEREAS, residents of Davidson County could then rank these suggestions, with the Metropolitan Government working to make sure the community's highest-ranking proposal is put into action; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Government could provide the property for free, or as a long-term ground lease, with private parties submitting bids to carry out the community's chosen vision; and

WHEREAS, this type of program would allow the Metropolitan Government to leverage its equity in property to incentivize services that the community needs; and

WHEREAS, the community would be well-served with this type of program, which would increase transparency in the process of how Metro property is used and give residents a stake in the evolution of their neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That the Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as requesting the Office of the Mayor implement a participatory budgeting program whereby residents of Davidson County are able to determine the best uses for underutilized properties owned by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

Fabian Bedne
Member of Council