

WHEREAS, a central theme of the North Nashville Transit Center will be in honor of the Freedom Riders; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transit Authority seeks to name the new North Nashville Transit Center to be located at 2521 Clarksville Highway at 26th Avenue North in honor of Ernest "Rip" Patton; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patton was a member of the Nashville Freedom Riders, a former student at Tennessee State University, and long-time North Nashville resident who passed away on August 24, 2021 at the age of 81 years old; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patton pursued the desegregation of interstate transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, he spent 40 days in jail at the Mississippi State Penitentiary and was expelled from TSU, which was then called Tennessee A & I, for his civil rights activities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patton along with other Freedom Riders, was granted an honorary doctoral degree from TSU in 2008; and

WHEREAS, further it is fitting and proper that the new North Nashville Transit Center be named in honor of Mr. Patton; and

WHEREAS, following community meetings and a recommendation by participants in the North Nashville Transit Center Advisory group, the Board of the Metropolitan Transit Authority unanimously recommends to the Metropolitan Council of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County the adoption of an ordinance naming the North Nashville Transit Center the Ernest "Rip" Patton North Nashville Transit Center.

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

Section 1. That the North Nashville Transit Center to be located at 2521 Clarksville Highway at 26th Avenue North under the operation of the Metropolitan Transit Authority be named the Ernest "Rip" Patton North Nashville Transit Center.

Section 2. The biographical information for Ernest "Rip" Patton is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A in accordance with Section 13.26.020 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

Analysis

This ordinance names the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) North Nashville Transit Center, to be located at 2521 Clarksville Highway at 26h Avenue North, as the "Ernest 'Rip' Patton North Nashville Transit Center".

Mr. Ernest "Rip" Patton was a member of the Nashville Freedom Riders, a former student at Tennessee State University, and long-time North Nashville resident who passed away on August 24, 2021 at the age of 81 years old. Mr. Patton pursued the desegregation of interstate transportation facilities. He spent 40 days in jail at the Mississippi State Penitentiary and was expelled from TSU, which was then called Tennessee A & I, for his civil rights activities. He, along with other Freedom Riders, was granted an honorary doctoral degree from TSU in 2008. The Board of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, upon the recommendation of participants in the North Nashville Transit Center Advisory group, unanimously recommends naming the North Nashville Transit Center in honor of Mr. Patton.

Section 13.26.010 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws provides that no building or structure of the Metropolitan Government may be named except pursuant to an ordinance duly adopted by the Metropolitan Council.