



STATEMENT

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FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Nashville MTA mourns the loss of former Board Member Lewis Lavine

NASHVILLE – Sadly, Nashville lost a community leader and friend in public service this week when Lewis Lavine passed away on Tuesday.

Lewis' reach was wide and esteemed, as the former chief of staff to Governor Lamar Alexander, Chairman of the Ingram Group, and most recently served as President of the Nashville-based Center for Nonprofit Management, among many other roles he held throughout life and the community.

But at Nashville MTA, Lewis was a respected, beloved, and long-time member of the Board of Directors, serving from 2000 until 2017, and a passionate advocate of public transportation and the vital role it plays in serving people from all walks of life in Davidson County.

"Lewis Lavine, our friend, our MTA colleague, our community colleague, his character, his intellect, his brilliance, his wit, and his smile will be greatly missed," said Nashville MTA Board Chair Gail Carr-Williams. "We all saw the many incredible things that he did for the community around him, but it was those the public didn't see him do that we who had the honor of knowing him will miss so much. Rest in peace, my friend."

"Lewis was one of those truly unique individuals whose touch could be found on more civic efforts in Nashville than anyone can imagine," said Nashville MTA CEO Steve Bland. "With respect to the MTA, he spent an enormous amount of time and personal energy to promote the mobility needs of all Nashvillians. Long before transit became such a hot topic in Middle Tennessee, Lewis understood how important it was – both to the lives of thousands of individuals, but also to the overall vibrancy of our region. On a personal note, as someone who came to Nashville from another part of the country, I could not have imagined a better tour guide of the civic infrastructure of the City. He knew everyone – and everyone knew him. He also knew how things could get done, and why they didn't. For me, he was a friend and mentor and I miss him terribly already."

Thank you, Lewis, for everything you've done for Nashville. You will be missed beyond measure.

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