



NEWS RELEASE

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Music City Central continues to take shape *Station located in area of rich musical history*

NASHVILLE – Music City Central, the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority’s (MTA) new downtown transit station, is looking more like the station that will serve up to 20,000 passengers each weekday.

Construction remains on schedule and the building continues to take shape daily as the construction crew and its subcontractors move toward completion of some of the building’s exterior elements.

“Music City Central will provide our current riders, and others who are now taking a serious look at public transportation due to high fuel prices, with a state-of-the-art, climate-controlled facility to meet their transportation needs,” Nashville MTA Chief Executive Officer Paul J. Ballard said. “Those who pass by the construction site can clearly see that each day we move closer to opening this long-awaited facility.”

As of today, Balfour Beatty Construction and its team of subcontractors have completed the limestone exterior of the building; installed and begun painting the perforated metal panels covering the pre-cast openings of the parking garage space on the third, fourth and fifth floors; and continued to install the glass and entryways that enclose the climate-controlled waiting areas. Inside the building, the crew is laying the intricate terrazzo flooring and painting the freshly hung drywall.

“The facility is on schedule, within budget and on track to open for buses, passengers and retailers this fall,” said Otho Webster, division vice president for Balfour Beatty Construction.

The limestone cladding on the exterior of the structure was selected by Everton Oglesby Architects for its consistency with the surrounding municipal buildings.

“We selected limestone for the building’s lower levels to convey a sense of quality and permanence similar to other nearby municipal buildings,” said Gary Everton, Principal of Everton Oglesby Architects and MCC designer. “Located in the Nashville Central Business District, this transit hub will represent both the strength and vitality of our city for decades to come.”

The developments come after nearly 15 months of scheduled construction and several years of careful planning by many groups, including the Nashville MTA Board of Directors; the 29-member Music City Central Steering Committee; transportation consultants TranSystems, Everton Oglesby Architects, Balfour Beatty Construction; bus riders; area residents and many others.

The site where MCC is being built is near what was once home to world-class music and entertainment. Next door to what is now MCC sat the Adelphi Theatre, which when it opened in 1850 was the nation’s second-largest theatre with 2,500 seats. The *Republican Banner*, the city’s newspaper, called the Adelphi “...one of the prettiest and best establishments of the kind in the West or South.” The following year, the famed Jenny Lind, known as the “Swedish Nightingale”, came to Nashville to sing at the Adelphi.

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In the 1870s, ownership changed, and the Adelphi became the Grand Opera House until the structure was gutted by fire in 1902. In 1904, the facility was rebuilt and reopened as the Bijou. It closed in 1913, but reopened three years later as the Bijou Theater, a venue for movies, vaudeville shows, concerts and boxing matches. In 1957, the Bijou Theater was demolished to make way for Municipal Auditorium.

The MCC grand opening is scheduled for October 24 and bus service will begin two days later. In addition to the grand opening ceremony, there will be contests and live music events leading up to the grand opening.

MCC is being built with mostly federal funds (80 percent) and the remaining are state and local dollars. Nashville-based architect Gary Everton of Everton Oglesby Architects is the architect of the project. He leads the TranSystems/EOA team in Nashville. Balfour Beatty Construction is the construction manager for the project.

About Music City Central

Music City Central (MCC), the Nashville MTA's new downtown transit station, has been in development since 2004. Construction will be complete and the facility will open on October 26, 2008. The state-of-the-art, climate-controlled transit station is located at 400 Charlotte Ave., between 4th and 5th Avenues North in downtown Nashville's Central Business District. It replaces the outdoor Transit Mall on Deaderick Street. MCC, with 434,314 square feet of space, has two levels to serve bus riders, multiple ticketing locations, retail space, passenger restrooms and bus notification signage. MCC provides the necessary infrastructure to improve bus frequencies and create greater regional transit efficiencies advancing the objectives of slowing congestion growth, combating air pollution and reducing road-building costs.

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