

Tennessee's Backroads Heritage



March 2022

Amtrak's Vision: Atlanta — Chattanooga — Nashville



Station locations and routing are illustrative. Light blue lines denote proposed new corridors, dark blue lines denote existing Amtrak service, with the route discussed on this page highlighted in yellow.

This new corridor connects two large business and population centers in the Southeast while increasing travel options through the communities along the Atlanta – Nashville corridor, with several corridor connections at Atlanta plus Amtrak's Crescent. Station locations and routing are illustrative. Light blue lines denote proposed new corridors, dark blue lines denote existing Amtrak service, with the route discussed on this page highlighted in yellow.

Economic Impact

The new and improved Amtrak service proposed to connect with Atlanta is projected to generate a combined \$464 million in annual economic impact in the region and nearly \$20 billion in economic activity from one-time capital investments.

Corridor Growth

Just 250 miles apart, the sweet spot for intercity passenger rail service, Nashville and Atlanta have not been connected by rail since 1971. All Amtrak service to Nashville was discontinued by 1979. Nashville has the 36th largest metropolitan area population with nearly 2 million residents, making Nashville the third-largest metropolitan statistical area without Amtrak service.

Nashville and Atlanta are both home to some of the fastest growing populations in the United States, growing by 18% and 14% in the past decade, respectively. Atlanta is the

ninth largest metropolitan area in the United States, with over six million residents. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, since 2000, Nashville has added over 350,000 jobs to the economy and Atlanta has added 750,000 in the same period. Nashville and Atlanta are also both music and entertainment hubs, with Nashville home to Music Row and the Country Music Hall of Fame, and Atlanta known as one of the country's hip-hop capitals. In the 2010s, Georgia overtook California as the filming location for the most top 100 highest-grossing feature films released at the U.S. box office.

The Atlanta metropolitan area is currently only served by the once-daily Crescent service. New proposed corridors would make it Amtrak's hub in the Southeast United States, with connections to Macon, Savannah, and Montgomery, and increased service to Charlotte and Birmingham. The Crescent offers continuing service to New York and New Orleans.

Proposed Stations

- Nashville, TN (NEW)
- Nashville International Airport (NEW)
- Murfreesboro, TN (NEW)
- **Tullahoma, TN (NEW)**
- Bridgeport, AL (NEW)
- Chattanooga, TN (NEW)
- Dalton, GA (NEW)
- Cartersville, GA (NEW)
- Marietta, GA (NEW)
- Atlanta, GA

Environment and Transportation Equity

As Nashville, Chattanooga, and Atlanta continue to grow, residents and visitors are demanding faster and more efficient transportation alternatives. People traveling between the three cities must either drive on the I-24 and I-75 highways, or fly.

According to INRIX's 2019 scorecard, the average Atlanta resident spends 82 hours per year in traffic, wasting over 40 gallons of fuel and costing \$1,800 per driver. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the busiest airport in the country, is running out of room to expand. In 2019, Nashville experienced a 21% increase in traffic congestion year over year and Nashville International

al Airport welcome a record number of passengers in 2019.

New rail connections between cities and towns in the corridor and Nashville and Atlanta would improve mobility for underserved communities, connecting residents to new education and employment opportunities in the region.

Connections to Higher Education

Atlanta — Chattanooga — Nashville Amtrak service would create new connections between major metropolitan cities, medium-sized cities, and colleges and universities along the corridor. Students, their families, faculty, and staff will be able to take advantage of frequent Amtrak service to avoid traffic between destinations and to enjoy greater productivity or relaxation while they travel. New corridor service would also offer comfortable travel for college game days, like Vanderbilt football games against Georgia or Middle Tennessee versus University of Alabama at Birmingham. Colleges and universities served by the Atlanta — Chattanooga — Nashville corridor include:

- Vanderbilt University (Student Population: 13,000)
- Belmont University (Student Population: 8,000)
- Lipscomb University (Student Population: 4,000)
- Tennessee State University (Student Population: 9,000)
- Middle Tennessee University (Student Population: 22,000)
- Lee University (Student Population: 5,400)
- University of Tennessee – Chattanooga (Student Population: 11,000)
- Georgia State University (Student Population: 32,000)
- Georgia Institute of Technology (Student Population: 27,000)
- Emory University (Student Population: 15,000)
- Spelman College (Student Population: 2,100)
- Morehouse College (Student Population: 2,200)
- Atlanta Clark University (Student Population: 4,000)

Capitol Hill Signs In on Possible AMTRAK Tennessee Link

Several state lawmakers hope a study about commuter rail could mean Amtrak connects Atlanta to Nashville.

The plan is to have Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) study the cost and feasibility of such a line in Tennessee.

Nashville Democratic Rep. Jason Powell announced a bill on Tuesday morning, February 22nd, that calls for the study. Not only would it allow the state to see how the rail could work but it would create a regulating body for the commuter rail.



"There is unprecedented momentum right now for rail and passenger rail here in the state of Tennessee because of the \$1 trillion dollar infrastructure bill that's recently passed with \$66 billion dollars allotted for rail," Powell said during a press conference.

Powell displayed a map of what the rail could look like, connecting Atlanta to Nashville, with a notable stop in Chattanooga.

He said he believes the whole state would benefit from a commuter line. That includes rural areas the track passes. "The line that's being proposed, the "connect us" line, has stops in Nashville, the Nashville Airport, Murfreesboro, Tullahoma and Chattanooga," he said.

The plan is receiving bipartisan support, even in its early stages. Bristol Republican Senator Jon Lundberg said his interest stems from the city's connection to Virginia. There could be an Amtrak line that connects to the border of Tennessee.

"The town of Bristol is literally split in two," said Lundberg. "Half of it is in Virginia, half of it is in Tennessee. Virginia has invested both time and dollars to extend theirs from Washington, D.C. to Christiansburg to Roanoke and now they want to go to Bristol which makes perfect sense. But I want to make certain that when it gets to Bristol, it doesn't stop at the Tennessee border, it can come on through."

Lundberg said the tourism benefit would be huge for the area. He also imagined the line could connect through Knoxville to Nashville.

While the plan may encounter some resistance due to the potential cost, Powell said the use of federal dollars could help.

Speaker Cameron Sexton's office also released a brief statement. While not openly supporting the plan, they did suggest railway travel could benefit Tennessee.

"Speaker Sexton favors finding ways to increase railway travel in Tennessee, which will allow more of our citizens to connect with communities across the nation," said a spokesperson for his office.

The bill was to be heard for the first time in committees during the last full week of February.

(Reporter: Kyle Horan, WTVF, Nashville, TN, February 22, 2022)

Backroads Heritage Visitors Guide Deadline Extended

Updated information for listings and advertising were mailed out several weeks ago. The deadline for receiving your updated information and advertising has been extended to March 18, 2022.

The new guide which will be released in late spring needs to have the most current information in it so travelers will not be disappointed in the business or attractions, etc. they are visiting. I need to hear from you with an update on your listing/updated ad. Your membership must be current. If I do not hear from you, your listing will be printed as it appears in the current Backroads Heritage Visitors Guide. Please make sure that you email or snail mail your updates for your listing in the guide. Mailing information is: tnbackroads@bellsouth.net or Attn: Dianne Murray, TN's Backroads Heritage, 8032 Regency Drive, Nashville, TN 37221. If you have already mailed in your information/advertising – thank you. If you have misplaced your information please call the Backroads Office at 615-613-5627.



Happening at the Tullahoma Fine Arts Center...

MARCH 5-26, 2022

DEE FOSTER FINE ART

OPENING MARCH 5, 2022
(1:00pm-5:00pm)
www.TullahomaArt.org

DR. SEUSS
SPRING ART CAMP
March 14-18, 2022
2nd - 8th grade
CLICK HERE TO SIGNUP!

April 23, 2022
SUPPORT THE ARTS
FUNDRAISING GALA
Keep The Dream Alive
www.TullahomaArt.org

Tullahoma Fine Arts Center
401 South Jackson Street
Tullahoma, Tennessee 37388

Bedford County Fair Spring Fling

Spring Fling
CRAFT SHOW & FLEA MARKET
SATURDAY, MARCH 19 9:00AM - 4:00PM
BEDFORD COUNTY AG CENTER
2119 MIDLAND RD. SHELBYVILLE, TN 37160

Craft Show & Flea Market

For more information - bedfordcountytfnair.org

PLANT A FLOWER DAY
Saturday March 12th
10:00 - 5:00
Join the Hands-On Science Center in
planting flowers around our facility,
and take home your own!

Tullahoma Fine Arts Center
401 South Jackson Street
Tullahoma, TN 37388
931-455-1234

Coming to South Jackson Civic Center...

About The Becky Buller Band

Becky Buller is a multi-instrumentalist, singer, and songwriter from St. James, MN, who has traversed the globe performing bluegrass music to underwrite her insatiable songwriting habit. Her compositions can be heard on records by Ricky Skaggs, Rhonda Vincent and Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, to name just a few.



Becky has written songs for Grammy award-winning albums. She is the recipient of 10 International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) awards. She tours extensively with the Becky Buller Band and has released three albums on the Dark Shadow Recording label, including Distance and Time, which was a nominee for the 2021 IBMA Album Of The Year.

Equally passionate about bluegrass music education, Becky has 20 years of experience teaching fiddle, singing, and songwriting at workshops and camps around the world. She currently serves on the board of the IBMA Foundation.

If you are a bluegrass fan, this is an absolutely "cannot miss it" show. High energy is guaranteed!

March 12, 2022

Saturday - 7 pm



New **Waltz Dance Classes**
for Adults
Focusing on the Waltz and the progression to perfect the dance
Monday nights at 6:30-7:30pm



March 7, 14, 21 & 28
\$10 a class — Must be 16 years and older
Pay in advance at www.southjackson.org



Adult Ballroom Dance classes now available!! This next round of classes will focus on the Waltz. All levels of dance experience are welcome to take one or all of the classes. \$10 per class. Must be 16 years or older.

TEDx Tullahoma – Micro: The Power of Small

Saturday, March 12th
at 10AM

We are excited to bring TEDx Tullahoma to the Mainstage at South Jackson Performing Arts Center. Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Auditorium with us. Tickets are limited so plan now!



In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TED Talks video and live speakers combined to spark deep discussion and connection. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

Tickets go on sale Friday, January 14th at 10AM. Tickets are \$30.



George Casey, Irish Comedian

March 17, 2022

Thursday at 7pm

South Jackson Civic Center
404 South Jackson St
Tullahoma, TN 37388
931-455-5321

Milky Way Farm Plans Spring Events



Milky Way Farm Spring Tour

March 26 and 27 - 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Milky Way Farm Manor House

Celebrating Spring in the Country with Stories, Tours, & Dessert at Milky Way Farm that started with a dream and a delicious candy bar.



Annual Milky Way Farm Easter Egg Hunt

April 3, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

The annual Milky Way Farm Hayride Easter Egg Hunt is Sunday, April 3, 2022 from 1-4 pm with the Hunt beginning at 2 pm. \$15 per person for Sundaes, Hayride, Tour, Visit with the Animals, & Activities. Call/Text reservations 931-808-2281. It's a fun filled afternoon searching for candy treasure.

Milky Way Farm
520 Milky Way Rd
Pulaski, TN 38478
931-808-2281

needs a lot more help on the home front than she's getting from her husband, Gibby. Lately, nurturing his marriage of twenty-seven years hasn't been the highest priority for Gibby, but pretty soon he'll wish it had been. Beth Bailey, Suzannah's newly-hired assistant, a gregarious, highly-motivated daughter of the South explodes into the Hayden household and whips it into an organized, well-run machine. As Suzannah's dependence on Beth grows, Beth decides that Gibby must go, and Gibby sets out to save his marriage.

The Fly Arts Center
204 South Main Street
Shelbyville, TN 37160
931-684-8359

MARCH

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March

Month of March

Live Music – Every Friday Night (BBQ Caboose – On the Square) – Lynchburg

Tea Time (Monday – Saturday Between the Tea Hours of 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – Closed on Sunday – The Celtic Cup Coffee House) - Tullahoma

March 1

General Membership Luncheon (Hosted by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce – Manchester-Coffee County Conference Center) – Manchester

March 3-6

Fabulous 50's Show (Lincoln Academy) - Fayetteville

March 5

Weed Wrangle Volunteer Day (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Night Hiking at Stone Door (South Cumberland State Park) - Monteagle

Demolition Derby (Calsonic Arena) - Shelbyville
Exhibition – Opening of Dee Foster Fine Art - 1 – 5 p.m. (Tullahoma Fine Arts Center) – Tullahoma

Rappelling (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

Weed Wrangle 2022 (Tims Ford State Park) - Winchester



March 5-26

Exhibition – Dee Foster Fine Art (Tullahoma Fine Arts Center) – Tullahoma

News from the Fly Arts Center

The Fly Arts Center is finally reopening its doors!

Thank you to all of our volunteers & patrons who've kept our mission and spirits alive as we've dealt with the effects of the pandemic.

The Fly Arts Center Family

Til Beth Do Us Part

March 18, 19, 25, 26
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

March 27
2:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Career-driven Suzannah Hayden



March 6

Sunday Morning Stroll (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

March 8

Day Loop Hike (South Cumberland State Park) – Monteagle

March 9

Art in the Park – Textured Sunflowers (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

March 10

Kennel Club Dog Show (Calsonic Arena) – Shelbyville

March 10-12

Fabulous 50's Show (Lincoln Academy) – Fayetteville



March 12

Overnight Backpacking Excursion (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Elk Valley Crafters (Lincoln County High School) – Fayetteville

“Plant a Flower Day” (Hands-On Science Center Grounds) - Tullahoma

TEDx Tullahoma: Micro: The Power of Small (South Jackson Civic Center) - Tullahoma

The Becky Buller Band (South Jackson Civic Center) – Tullahoma

Rappelling (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester



March 13

Workshop: Concealed Carry & Home Defense (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Walking in Their Footsteps: Guided History Tour (Old Stone Fort State Park) – Manchester

March 14-18

Dr. Seuss String Art Camp (Tullahoma Fine Arts Center) – Tullahoma

March 17

Comedian George Casey (South Jackson Civic Center) – Tullahoma

March 17-19

Walking Horse Trainers Association (WHTA) Spring Show (Calsonic Arena) – Shelbyville

March 18

Women's History Hike (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Full Moon Night Hike to the Great Stone Door (South Cumberland State Park) – Monteagle

TN Day Tree Pick Up (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

March 18-19

“Til Beth Do Us Part” (Fly Arts Center) – Shelbyville

March 18-20

Southern Equine Show (Miller Coliseum – 304 West Thompson Lane) – Murfreesboro

March 19

Daffodil Day – Bell Buckle

Spring Hike Along the Spring Creek Trail (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

6th Annual Spring Craft Fair (Family Life Center-First Presbyterian Church) – Lewisburg

Spring Hike 2022 (Old Stone Fort State Park) - Manchester

Spring Fling Craft Show & Flea Market (Bedford County Ag Center) – Shelbyville

Rappelling (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

Spring Hike (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

TN Tree Pick Up Day (Tims Ford State Park) - Winchester



March 20

Snakes of TN (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Industrial Archaeology at Old Stone Fort (Old Stone Fort State Park) – Manchester

Sunset Boat Tour (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

TN Tree Day Tree Planting (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

March 24

Building our Community Awards Celebration (Fly Arts Center) - Shelbyville

March 25

Fourth Friday Fest (Shelbyville Square) – Shelbyville

Celebration City Region Car Club Cruise-In (Shelbyville Square) – Shelbyville

Spring Chamber Classic (Lakewood Golf and Country Club) – Tullahoma

Forged at the Ford (Tims Ford State Park) - Winchester

March 25-27

“Til Beth Do Us Part” (Fly Arts Center) – Shelbyville

March 26

Earth Hour (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Owl Pellet Dissection (Henry Horton State Park) – Chapel Hill

Spring Nature Day – Wildflower Hike (Old Stone Fort State Park) - Manchester

Airport Fly-In Breakfast (Shelbyville Airport) – Shelbyville

Monster Truck Wars (Calsonic Arena) – Shelbyville

March 26-27

Milky Way Farm Spring Tour (Milky Way Farm) - Pulaski

March 27

Sunset Board Tour (Tims Ford State Park) – Winchester

March 30

Hamburger Day on the Hill (Hosted by the Fayetteville-Lincoln County Chamber – Held at the TN State Capitol) - Nashville



March 31-April 2

Walking in the Smokies – Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association International High Point Show (Smoky Mountain Indoor Arena) - Sevierville

April 23

Support the Arts Fundraising Gala (Tullahoma Fine Arts Center) – Tullahoma

April 30

WHOA Gallatin Classic (Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association International High Point Show – Sumner County Fairgrounds) – Gallatin
Spring Cruise-In (Marshall County High School - 597 West Ellington Parkway) - Lewisburg



Membership

New Members

Cowan Railroad Museum, Cowan
Jason Boshers, Mt. Pleasant

Renewals

Barbara Blanton, Shelbyville
Kay Howard, Lewisburg
Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce, Manchester
Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, Shelbyville

APRIL

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April

Month of April

Live Music – Every Friday Night (BBQ Caboose – On the Square) – Lynchburg

Tea Time (Monday – Saturday Between the Tea Hours of 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – Closed on Sunday – The Celtic Cup Coffee House) - Tullahoma

April 3

Milky Way Farm’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt (Milky Way Farm) – Pulaski



April 9

Bell Buckle Local Art Pop-Up Show (Downtown Pavilion) – Bell Buckle
Spring Fling Market with the Easter Bunny (Big Creek Winery Tasting Room) - Christiana
Main Street Easter Festival - Cornersville



April 16

Slawburger Festival (Downtown Square) – Fayetteville

April 19 – 23

Southern Saddlebred Spring Fling (Calsonic Arena) - Shelbyville

Let's Celebrate!

March 17, 2022



Tennessee's Backroads Heritage
P. O. Box 52, Tullahoma, TN 37388
(615) 613-5627

www.tennesseebackroads.org • e-mail: tnbackroads@bellsouth.net
Promoting Tourism in Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Lincoln, Marshall, Moore Counties
& the Monteagle Mountain Area & Businesses of Our Neighbor Members

TBH Board Members
Barbara Blanton, President – Shelbyville, Dianne Murray, Executive Director, Sharon Bateman – Lynchburg, Jason Boshers – Columbia, Walter Chism – Lewisburg, Debbie Christian – Lynchburg, Carolyn Denton - Fayetteville, Carolyn Duke – Manchester, Judy Gambill – Shelbyville, Kay Howard - Lewisburg, Angie Kimbrough – Fayetteville, Mark McGee – Shelbyville, Blossom Merryman – Wartrace