

## South Nashville Speedway Redevelopment Opposition Statement

January 3, 2023

This letter and our opposition to the proposed agreement is endorsed by the boards of neighborhood associations for three neighborhoods in immediate proximity to the Nashville Fairgrounds. Collectively, our neighborhood groups represent communities that include over 10,000 constituents. If other community members or groups have questions, or would like to join our letter in opposition of the proposal, we can be contacted through our websites listed below.

Nashville is a fabric of neighborhoods made up of people who deeply care for our community. After reviewing the details of this proposal, we believe this agreement would be so detrimental to the quality of life for our neighborhoods that we cannot support it. Our main concerns revolve around the financial and operational aspects of the proposal that will adversely affect our neighborhoods and leave our communities even more vulnerable if revenue projections are not met. Financially, we believe aggressive projections have a very likely chance of resulting in taxpayer money from Metro's general fund being used to cover revenue shortfalls. Our view is also supported by the independent study included within the proposal. This comes at a time when the City has lacked funding for various preventative community impact measures for the current 30,000 seat venue at the Fairgrounds. Operationally, we believe a number of loopholes around events, coupled with the before mentioned financial concerns, will put the City and our communities in a position of having to make even further racing concessions that will further impact and damage our quality of life. This proposal would drastically change current Speedway uses and handcuff us to a 30-year deal that would adversely affect South Nashville for decades to come.

We want to be clear – we are not asking for the end of racing at the Fairgrounds. We are asking the Fairgrounds and City for the following:

1. Reject this proposal that drastically changes current Speedway uses and limits the future growth of South Nashville.
2. Use the \$25 million in funds that have already been budgeted for Speedway improvements to renovate the track and facilities in a way that supports local racing.
3. Work with surrounding communities through the renovation process to make the Speedway an asset for all residents in Nashville while respecting neighborhood impact.

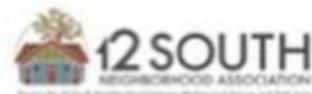
Residents have fought hard to keep the current impact of Speedway activities on our communities manageable so that both can reasonably coexist. There are other avenues the Fair Board and City can explore in order to bring the Speedway up to the standards needed to hold great racing events, while also meeting the requirements of the 2011 Charter, without putting everyone in a long-term position we will come to regret. This process should and can be done in a much more responsible financial and operational manner given the unique location of this Speedway being in the middle of so many residential neighborhoods. The growth and quality of the neighborhoods in South Nashville are what is going to fuel the success of the Fairgrounds and the City in the long-term – not this proposal. The responsibility here is great for everyone to make the right decision and prioritize the quality of life for Nashvillians so that we continue to grow South Nashville as a desirable place for families and businesses to live and operate.



**SNAP (Wedgewood Houston)**  
snaptn.org



**TAG (Chestnut Hill)**  
chestnuthill.info



**12 South**  
12south.org