



Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Nashville MTA Participates in National Transit Salute to Rosa Parks on 50th Anniversary *Commemorative plaques to be installed on buses*

NASHVILLE – On Thursday, Dec. 1, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., the Nashville MTA will hold a special ceremony dedicating the first seat on several of its new buses in memory of Rosa Parks on the 50th anniversary of her courageous act on a Montgomery bus in the mid 50s.

The special ceremony will take place at the site of the future home of Nashville's African American Museum near the Farmers Market at the Bicentennial Mall, near 8th Avenue and Jefferson Street.

After brief remarks by Mayor Bill Purcell, Vice Mayor Howard Gentry, Dr. T.B. Boyd and other members of the Nashville community, one of the special plaques will be unveiled as the Nashville MTA salutes the woman credited with changing the course of U.S. history and triggering the modern day Civil Rights Movement.

Attendees will be invited to board the bus to witness the unveiling. Prior to the event, a Nashville MTA bus will travel down historic Jefferson Street to pick up several community leaders, including representatives from Tennessee State University, Jefferson Street Missionary Baptist Church, Fisk University, the NAACP, Urban League, and others for a symbolic bus ride to the ceremony.

Members of the press are encouraged to attend the event and/or board the bus for the symbolic ride. The bus will leave Tennessee State University (at 33rd Avenue and John A. Merritt Blvd. near the jet plane) at 1:15 p.m., stop at Jefferson Street Missionary Baptist Church (2708 Jefferson Street) at approximately 1:20 p.m., Fisk University (near the corner of Jefferson Street and D.B. Todd Blvd.) at approximately 1:27 p.m., and the NAACP (1308 Jefferson Street) at approximately 1:34 p.m.

Departure times may vary slightly depending on the number of guests boarding at each stop, but guests are urged to arrive at the stops early if they plan to ride. All of the MTA buses are fully accessible for people with disabilities.

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Editor's Note: To request this information in an alternative format, please call 862-5950 and ask to speak with MTA's ADA Coordinator.