



April 8, 2025

Honorable Freddie O'Connell
Historic Metro Courthouse
1 Public Square
Suite 100, Mayor's Office
Nashville, TN 37201

Dear Mayor O'Connell:

The City of Nashville and Davidson County has been the scene of over ten thousand years of history which has left an extensive, rich, and layered archaeological legacy. As Nashville develops, this heritage is increasingly under threat. The preservation of these sites and conducting archaeology are not obstacles to development but are necessary steps in developing a more inclusive and dynamic city.

Currently, Nashville does not have an ordinance regulating review of archaeological resources on Metro property or Metro undertakings. The majority of archaeological sites can be quickly and efficiently documented ahead of development, preserving the information and allowing the city to continue to grow without impeding construction. Unlike other major cities in the United States and globally, Nashville does not have comprehensive protection for archaeological resources on Metro property. The result has been the destruction of several important archaeological sites and with them, the loss of an irreplaceable record of many of the people who have called this area home.

We ask you to protect archaeological resources in Metro Nashville/Davidson County property by supporting legislation to establish an archaeological review process for Metro property and Metro undertakings. The archaeological resources of Nashville are a priceless resource for the city as well as for the entire country.

Sincerely,

Rich Veit

Richard Veit
President

