



For Immediate Release

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The Digit Group Plays Key Role in Nashville Transit Proposal Centered Around Autonomous Vehicles and Double-Decker Highways
"Intelligent Transit for the IT City" Vision Proposed by Metro Councilman Robert Swope

Nashville, TN — The Digit Group (TDG) is pleased to be a key participant in a proposal announced this week to implement new technology to help alleviate Nashville's growing mobility problems.

Unveiled on April 10th by Nashville Metro Councilman Robert Swope and dubbed "Intelligent Transit for the IT City Nashville," the plan is centered around a fleet of autonomous vehicles (AV) operating along major freeway corridors and the construction of double-decker highways, implemented with the assistance of the State of Tennessee within the next three years. The plan will be financed in four parts: \$400 million in private dollars, \$150 million from the state, \$700 million from the federal government and \$400 million from the 10-county region.

The Digit Group plans, designs, builds and manufactures holistic smart cities, using technology solutions as the basis of its designs. The Memphis-based company creates smart cities solutions that provide greater security, increased safety, lower energy use, more efficient water management, safe and comfortable transportation and a better urban experience. Combined with its project management and master urban planning services, TDG uses a matrix of innovations such as electric, autonomous mass transit vehicles, renewable energy solutions, a proprietary urban planning software system (ORBI®) to create a holistic smart city environment.

. "A holistic public transportation system that provides a quality and inexpensive experience while saving the environment is the essence of our proposed program for Nashville," said Paul Doherty, TDG's president and CEO, who joined the press conference by telecom during a business trip to Japan. He added, "Our NextGEN autonomous vehicles are designed to grow with the wants and needs of Nashville over a long period of time. By building in obsolescence and implementing a rigorous and disciplined system of safety and security, TDG's NextGEN vehicles will provide a pragmatic, forward thinking solution for public mobility for Nashville and the surrounding area for years to come."

The Nashville transportation plan was built around three key points: Thinking of mass transit and personal transit as complementary elements, looking at the transportation needs of greater Nashville on a regional basis rather than on a county-by-county basis, and looking toward the future of mobility on a global scale. The Intelligent Transit System creates complete and total transit equality and independence by combining existing transit options with future technologies today.

"The future is now. We can be the city driving the entire country forward with the model for a modern, environmentally clean, efficient, and effective transportation ecosystem. One that reduces traffic, creates more usage green space, values the health, welfare and safety of all our constituents and, most importantly, enables total transportation equality and independence above all else," said

Councilman Swope at the press conference in Nashville this week.

With over 50 percent of the traffic congestion in Nashville coming from its surrounding counties, to reduce the traffic congestion in Nashville, the city must reduce the number of vehicles traveling to and from downtown, especially during peak travel hours. In Mr. Swope's plan, 16 AV transit centers will offer the ability for a commuter to ride from Murfreesboro to downtown Nashville in less than 30 minutes, even during peak traffic hours. The centers will facilitate the use of NextGEN buses – smooth, sleek, comfortable, affordable, electric and autonomous – delivered in 12-meter, 6-meter and 2-meter lengths.

The AV platform offers users the ability to change routing at the push of a button, without time and land-consuming infrastructure demands, and will operate on dedicated AV lanes along the inside medians of freeways, operating on a similar schedule to light rail but with greater flexibility.

The buses will be provided by TDG, which signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) last November with China's leading bus manufacturer, Beiqi Foton Motor Co., to design and deliver the world's first carbon-positive, electric vehicles (EV) and autonomous vehicles (AV) for mass transportation on a global basis.

The buses will be charged by wireless, environmentally clean, charging stations at each transit center as well as at major stops along all routes, created by the Oak Ridge National Laboratories and developed by Qualcomm.

The entire city of Nashville will be modeled in 3D providing real-time analysis of traffic patterns, and the ability to alter or change transit routes instantly. Having the ability to control traffic lights, street closures, special event management and, more importantly, the ability to direct traffic flow away from emergencies gives Fire, EMT and Police much faster response times enabling greater public safety for all.

The Nashville transit proposal is the latest in a series of high-profile announcements made by TDG in recent months. Besides the MOU with Beiqi Foton last year, TDG signed a joint venture with Beijing Gateguard Information Technology Co., a Chinese company focused on urban safety and security solutions, to provide a digital asset management solution created by TDG called VIM ORBI® for Gateguard's existing clients. This JV was signed last November in Beijing and is scheduled to go into effect this month.

Images may be found at <https://goo.gl/VuiSz6>.

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About The Digit Group: The Digit Group (www.thedigitgroupinc.com) plans, designs, builds and manufactures holistic smart cities, using technology solutions as the basis of its designs. From the tallest of buildings to the smallest of villages, TDG creates smart cities solutions that provide greater security, increased safety, lower energy use, more efficient water management, safe and comfortable transportation and a better urban experience.

TDG, a privately held U.S. company, uses a matrix of services and innovations that can include executive project management, master urban planning services, BIM development and management, technology development and the real-world implementation of the Internet of things (IoT). Its smart cities solutions are being implemented in China, Southeast Asia, India, the Middle East, Europe and throughout the U.S.

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