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*To protect, interpret, and make accessible Tennessee's surviving  
Civil War Battlefields for the benefit of present and future generations*

July 20, 2017

The Honorable Megan Barry

Office of the Mayor

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

1 Public Square, Suite 100

Nashville, TN 37201

Dear Mayor Barry,

On behalf of the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Tennessee's Civil War battlefields and contributing landscapes, I write to express our concerns about the proposed redevelopment of the Greer Stadium site. Yes, we share the concerns of many about the potential loss of archeological sites related to Fort Negley's historic landscape surrounding the largest inland stone fortification constructed during the Civil War, compromising the Fort's context, and the loss of needed urban greenspace. As you consider the future of the Fort Negley Park, we hope you'll address these concerns.

We urge you to revisit the 2007 Supplement to the 1996 Fort Negley Master Plan as a guide, even a model, for developing the Fort Negley/Greer Stadium site. This Metro Parks planning effort included a diverse group of stakeholders and is consistent with the original intent of the land. This plan clearly and comprehensively addresses a way to preserve the historic fort and archeological resources, interpret them in a powerful way, and create needed greenspace.

A plan for this site that promotes the preservation and interpretation of historic resources, and conservation and recreation values could easily launch Nashville's Fort Negley Park as a destination site, accommodating visitors from across the Nation, as well as citizens in the community. What a great opportunity to better share the story of the Fort, its role in the defense of Nashville, and the more than 2,700 African Americans who labored to build the fort and the many who died doing so. What a great opportunity to provide much coveted greenspace within the urban setting for the community and its visitors.

While we recognize the need for redevelopment in areas throughout the inner city, history has already put Fort Negley on the map with no options to locate elsewhere. We understand the process for the redevelopment of the Fort Negley park area is well along. We hope that you, the Metro Council, and the Cloud Hill Partnership will reengage a broad group of stakeholders in considering other options for the future of Fort Negley Park.

Sincerely,

C. Anthony Hodges, D.D.S.

President

P.O. Box 148535 Nashville, TN 37214 [www.tcwpa.org](http://www.tcwpa.org)