

CANDIDATE	 MEGAN BARRY	 CHARLES ROBERT BONE	 DAVID FOX		 BILL FREEMAN	 HOWARD GENTRY	 JEREMY KANE	 LINDA ESKIND REBROVICK
ABOUT	<p>Among the candidates for Nashville mayor, it can be argued that Barry, the two-term Metro Council member-at-large, is the most well-known.</p> <p>Voters and business leaders won't be surprised by what they would get in Barry: She's been a longtime ally of Mayor Karl Dean. She's previously run for council on a similar platform as the mayor: economic development, public safety and education.</p> <p>Her mayoral campaign revolves around affordability and quality of life. From there, she's focused on transit, education and neighborhoods.</p> <p>Barry has said she would create an office dedicated to mass transit that would combine the work of various agencies and address multiple modes — from sidewalks to bike lanes to transit services.</p> <p>A key aspect of her education platform is universal pre-kindergarten. She's also proposed creating a trust fund to address affordable housing.</p>	<p>Attorney Charles Robert Bone has a sharp eye for numbers. He can rattle off a bevy of statistics about the Nashville region — from affordable housing to average income — with ease.</p> <p>Bone has argued Nashville can afford to keep its foot on the gas, in terms of encouraging development and reeling in new corporate headquarters and regional offices. He's very much cut from the same cloth as Dean, both as an attorney and in his even-keeled temperament. Bone also has close allies within Dean's office.</p> <p>Bone's view on transit: He believes a concrete first step is needed, but it needs to be done within the context of a regional plan beyond Davidson County. As far as education, it boils down to recruiting and retaining the best teachers.</p> <p>Though he hasn't sounded as many alarm bells as David Fox in terms of Nashville's finances, Bone's said the city needs to take a hard look at its outstanding pension liabilities for workers. He's argued for streamlining the city's resources.</p>	<p>The former hedge fund operator and co-founder of Nashville Post is perhaps the biggest outlier in the slate of candidates. Fox has offered a frank assessment of Nashville's growth, making city debt, Metro schools and infrastructure his key issues.</p> <p>Fox is far more fiscally conservative than other candidates, arguing the city cannot continue to foot the bill for large-scale projects like Music City Center and First Tennessee Park.</p> <p>From this lens, Fox says mass transit cannot be accomplished by the public sector alone. He argues the private sector must be at the table. He's also less keen on using public money to incentivize corporate relocations and expansions.</p> <p>Initially city debt was one of Fox's top talking points. He's since shifted to education. Fox, former school board chairman, says Nashville should have the best school system in the South. On how it gets there, he argues charter schools need to be explored more.</p>		<p>Real estate executive Bill Freeman has thrown millions of dollars into his campaign. He's also spent more money than any of his competitors.</p> <p>Internal polling by Freeman, and polling from Gentry and Barry's campaigns, have placed Freeman at the front of the pack, with around 20 percent support.</p> <p>That said, Freeman's drawn the most criticism in this race — perhaps because of the heightened name-recognition his larger war chest has garnered with advertising.</p> <p>In the business community, Freeman's stance on corporate recruitment has raised eyebrows. He's taken a hard line on promoting economic development deals within Davidson County and not neighboring counties.</p> <p>But on transit, Freeman takes a regional view. He considers commuter spokes into Nashville from outlying counties as the top priority.</p>	<p>Howard Gentry narrowly missed the mayoral runoff in 2007. The former vice mayor was the last to throw his hat into the ring this time. Since then, he's positioned himself to be a contender.</p> <p>Gentry's brought a different posture to his campaign than his peers. He's made poverty one of the top issues of his campaign. His priority: channeling Nashville's recent economic growth to enhance social programs. Gentry has repeatedly said he wants to ensure Nashville is an "It City" for every citizen and community.</p> <p>While other candidates have put transit and education at the top, Gentry largely approaches these topics through his "social equity" lens.</p> <p>He hasn't articulated a clear vision on transportation, demonstrating a willingness to rely on transit officials and the public. On education, Gentry argues it's important to improve conditions for students outside the classroom.</p>	<p>Jeremy Kane, the founder of LEAD Public Schools, is the young gun in the race.</p> <p>He hasn't poured his own money into the race like many of his competitors. He argues that makes him different than the rest of the field.</p> <p>He's stressed his work with LEAD and the success his charter schools have had in getting students to college. Kane's pitch is that his work with LEAD at the neighborhood level, bringing in multiple stakeholders and crafting compromises, can be brought into the mayor's office.</p> <p>Kane has said transit is a proving ground for such an approach. He's been outspoken that Nashville needs to look at a transit project along Charlotte Avenue, rather than what was envisioned with the Amp along West End Avenue. Kane's view: Get transit working within Nashville's core and major neighborhoods, then move out to surrounding counties.</p>	<p>Rebrovick's key mantra: Let's use technology to transform how Metro government works and the services the city provides.</p> <p>She sees this playing out across the major issues in this race, including transportation and education.</p> <p>Rebrovick has proposed greater training in public schools for technology-related jobs. She's stressed expanding initiatives like Metro Schools' career academies as well as high-school internship programs like those offered by the Nashville Technology Council.</p> <p>On transit, she's outlined short-term ideas to address the growing flux of commuters. She wants to introduce smart traffic light signaling throughout the city to reduce the time spent at traffic lights.</p> <p>She's committed to unveiling a long-term transit plan in her first four months in office.</p>
TOP ISSUES	Education, transit, affordability	Education, transit, economic development	Fiscal conservatism, education, transit		Jobs, economic development, transit	Poverty, education, economic development	Education, transit	Technology, education, transit
AGE	51	41	53		63	63	36	59
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS	Metro Council member-at-large (since 2007); ethics and compliance officer at Premier Inc.	Attorney with Bone McAllester Norton since 2004; former attorney for the Convention Center Authority, which oversees Music City Center	Titan Advisors; co-founder of Nashville Post; former Metro school board chairman		Chairman and co-founder of Freeman Webb Cos.	Clerk of the Davidson County criminal court; former vice mayor; past CEO of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce's Public Benefit Foundation	Founder of LEAD Public Schools	President and CEO of Consensus Point; board chairman of the Nashville Technology Council; former vice president of health care sales for Dell
WAR CHEST	Money raised: \$1.1 million Personal loans/contributions: \$200,000/\$900,000 Amount spent: \$811,000 Cash on hand, June 30: \$276,000	Money raised: \$2 million Personal loans/contributions: \$927,500/\$1.1 million Amount spent: \$1.7 million Cash on hand, June 30: \$257,500	Money raised: \$1.8 million Personal loans/contributions: \$1.4 million/\$410,000 Amount spent: \$1.3 million Cash on hand, June 30: \$523,000		Money raised: \$3.6 million Personal loans/contributions: \$2.6 million/\$1 million Amount spent: \$2.7 million Cash on hand, June 30: \$944,000	Money raised: \$210,000 Personal loans/contributions: None/\$210,000 Amount spent: \$70,000 Cash on hand, June 30: \$140,000	Money raised: \$569,000 Personal loans/contributions: None/\$569,000 Amount spent: \$285,000 Cash on hand, June 30: \$247,000	Money raised: \$1.9 million Personal loans/contributions: \$1.25 million/\$650,000 Amount spent: \$1.6 million Cash on hand, June 30: \$300,000
NOTABLE ENDORSEMENTS AND SUPPORTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► <i>The Tennessean</i> has endorsed Barry for mayor. ► Metro school board member Will Pinkston has contributed \$1,500 to her campaign. ► Michael Burcham, the former head of the Nashville Entrepreneur Center and CEO of Narus Health ► Actresses Ashley Judd and Connie Britton and singer Emmylou Harris 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Among those who have hosted campaign fundraisers for Bone are Marty Dickens, chairman of the Convention Center Authority; real estate investor Mark Bloom; developer Pat Emery of Spectrum Emery; and H.G. Hill Realty Co. CEO Jimmy Granbery. ► Former Sony Music Nashville CEO Gary Overton contributed \$1,000 to Bone's campaign. ► Country music star Kix Brooks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Townes Duncan, managing partner of Nashville venture capital firm Solidus Co. ► Charlie Martin, chairman of Martin Ventures ► Connie Smith, former assistant commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Education ► Healthstream CEO Bobby Frist ► David Kloeppe, executive director of Groups360 and former president and COO of Gaylord Entertainment 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Former Metro Nashville Police Chief Emmett Turner ► Metropolitan Nashville Education Association, Metro's teacher union, and the local SEIU, which represents thousands of union Metro workers ► Tennessee State Rep. Sherry Jones ► Former Tennessee State Rep. Mike Turner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Mike Curb, founder and chairman of Curb Records, is co-chairing the Gentry campaign's finance council. The noted preservationist and his wife have each contributed \$1,500 to Gentry. ► Philanthropist Martha Ingram has given a personal contribution of \$1,500 to Gentry's campaign. ► Eddie George, the former Tennessee Titans running back, is Gentry's campaign treasurer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Nashville entrepreneur Marcus Whitney, president of JumpStart Foundry, endorsed Kane in July. ► David Ingram, chairman of Ingram Entertainment, is Kane's campaign finance chairman. ► Bob Dennis, president and CEO of Genesco Inc., has contributed to Kane's campaign. ► Jim Ayers, a longtime force in banking and health care, also has contributed to Kane's bid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► John Ingram, chairman of Ingram Content Group, endorsed Rebrovick in <i>The Tennessean</i>. ► John Tighe, former CEO of Saint Thomas Health and TennCare chief ► Saurabh Sinha, founder of eMids
STRENGTHS	Barry's strength rests in her experience in public office. With two terms on Metro Council, she is well suited to understand the workings of Metro government. She formerly chaired both Nashville's budget and education committees.	Bone's articulate, even when dishing out facts and figures. He's strongly backed by downtown coalitions. His work as the attorney for Music City Center has placed him in the center of city politics.	Fox's intellect may be unmatched in the field of competitors. His past leadership role on the school board, during a time of upheaval, also positions him to understand working with the new superintendent and school board on education issues.		Freeman has decades of business experience, running a real estate company with \$1 billion in assets. His background in real estate positions him well to address ongoing issues like affordable housing, development and planning.	Gentry's folksy style makes him one of the most approachable candidates. In mayoral forums, he stands out for his cool demeanor, friendliness and ease. He brings past experience with Metro government and holds a county-wide elected office as the criminal court clerk.	Kane is well-versed on education issues, having founded a charter school system. While other candidates might discuss ways they'd reform Davidson County schools, Kane has been on the frontline in handling controversial issues.	Rebrovick's messaging, "Building a Smarter Nashville," has been consistent. She has campaigned with her maiden name, a well-known family in Tennessee politics, which gives her added cachet among longtime Nashvillians.
WEAKNESSES	Barry's stressed her business experience. Though she's held management positions, they don't quite measure up with the type of chief executive roles held by other candidates. Barry's similarities with Dean raise some questions. Some of the mayor's key projects have faltered in the past year, and people may not be looking for more of the same from their mayor.	Perhaps more than Barry, Bone's based his campaign on carrying on the mantle of Dean. The question is whether his plank of extending the prosperity and development downtown is resonating beyond his strong support base into outlying neighborhoods.	He's not flashy. Fox's biggest strength also may be his biggest liability. During mayoral forums, his intelligence has translated into clunky answers. Fox hasn't raised much outside money, so it's unclear whether his cautious message has broad support.		Freeman is not afraid to speak his mind, but his blunt responses have gotten him in hot water during the campaign. He's told us that he's a firm negotiator, with a take-it-or-leave-it style. It's questionable how successful that style would translate into the mayor's office and Metro politics, where he'd need to compromise with various interests. He's not as well versed on education as other candidates.	Gentry argues economic development and enhancing the city's social programs are two sides of the same coin. The question is whether Gentry's social equity platform is palatable across the county's spectrum of voters. His ideas on transit aren't as crystallized as other candidates.	For Kane, it's experience. He faces an uphill climb compared to other candidates with more name-recognition or past visibility. He hasn't led a business enterprise as large as Freeman's, for instance. And though he has worked in politics, doing speech writing and other work for President Bill Clinton and former U.S. Sen. John Kerry, he doesn't have the record of Barry, Fox or Gentry when it comes to public office.	As her first bid for public office, this run for mayor is uncharted territory for Rebrovick. Mayoral debates have brought this to the forefront. Rebrovick has struggled when straying from her talking points.