

## RESOLUTION 12-12

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SPRING HILL IN OPPOSITION OF THE PROPOSED CHARTER TO CONSOLIDATE AND FORM THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF COLUMBIA AND MAURY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spring Hill is a municipality, a portion of which is located in southern Williamson County, Tennessee, and a portion of which is located in northern Maury County, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 7-2-101(4), the Mayors of the City of Columbia and Maury County appointed a Metropolitan Government Charter Commission (Charter Commission) with a purpose to draft a Charter to Consolidate and Form the Metropolitan Government of Columbia and Maury County, Tennessee (Charter); and

**WHEREAS**, the Charter Commission has completed its work and filed the proposed Charter with the Maury County Clerk on December 8, 2011, to be on a referendum for a vote by Maury County residents on March 6, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spring Hill encourages all citizens to read the Charter and understand the effect consolidation would have on all areas of Maury County; and

**WHEREAS**, upon consolidation, the City of Spring Hill Urban Growth Boundary adopted in 2004 by Maury County and each of the municipalities in Maury County, would no longer exist and the City of Spring Hill would not be permitted to annex territory beyond the existing corporate limits of the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005 the City of Spring Hill completed annexation of Kedron Rd from Port Royal Rd to the overpass at Interstate 65 and completed improvements to the roadway, including repaving in 2008, at a cost to all citizens of the City of Spring Hill, regardless of the county they live in, of approximately \$1.2 Million, with consideration to future growth and annexation in the Urban Growth Boundary along the Kedron Rd corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, the City of Spring Hill completed the McCutcheon Creek Sewer line extension, a capital improvement at a cost to all citizens of the City of Spring Hill, regardless of the county they live in, of approximately \$1.5 Million, with consideration to future growth and annexation in the Urban Growth Boundary west of Beechcroft Rd; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, the City of Spring Hill began the construction of an expansion to the Waste Water Treatment Plan that will double the capacity of the plant, a capital improvement project at an estimated cost to all citizens of the City of Spring Hill, regardless of the county they live in, of approximately \$16 Million, with consideration to future growth and annexation in the Urban Growth Boundary; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spring Hill completed a comprehensive study of Water and Sewer Rates in 2010 that included future growth and expansion of the Water and Sewer Services within the Urban Growth Boundary as a critical factor in the determination of rate increases that have been realized by all residents of the City of Spring Hill, regardless of the county they live in; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spring Hill believes that all citizens, regardless of the county they live in, will be adversely effected by the proposed consolidation of Maury County into a Metropolitan Government because the costs to complete the aforementioned capital improvement projects completed in anticipation and contemplation of the natural growth and expansion of the city, will no longer be recovered by future growth in the Urban Growth Boundary; and

**WHEREAS**, although it is contemplated that consolidation of public services would reduce costs and provide greater efficiencies in providing the services, a Fiscal Impact Study of the effect to all citizens of Maury County has not been completed to demonstrate what fiscal benefit, if any, would be realized by consolidation into a Metropolitan Government for Maury County; and

**WHEREAS**, a study conducted by the University of Georgia found that “Very few studies have examined the impact of city-county consolidation, and what little evidence does exist suggests that costs will actually increase in the short term.” (*Coleman and Selden, 2000*); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spring Hill believes that if Maury County were to consolidate, property tax rates would increase for citizens without additional services being provided than what are currently being provided to citizens in the Cities; and

**WHEREAS**, in a public opinion poll of Metropolitan Nashville residents taken in 1974, suburban residents generally indicated a greater sense of satisfaction with public services than citizens within the newly created Metro government (*Rogers and Lipsey, 1974*); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spring Hill believes that all critical objectives in Maury County can be addressed through cooperation, not consolidation; and

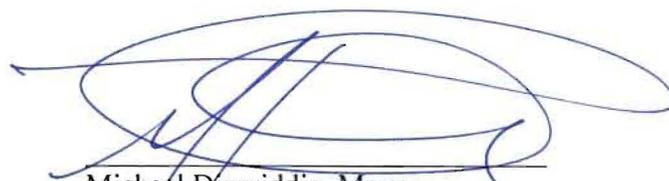
**WHEREAS**, it is our considered judgment that it is in the best interest in health, safety and welfare of all citizens of the City of Spring Hill, regardless of the county they live in, to formally oppose such consolidation.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Spring Hill, Tennessee opposes the proposed Charter to Consolidate and Form the Metropolitan Government of Columbia and Maury County, Tennessee; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Spring Hill, Tennessee, recognizing the importance of success for Maury County, hereby pledges our full support of cooperation, but says “no” to consolidation; and

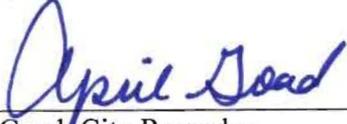
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Spring Hill, Tennessee call on all citizens of Maury County, Tennessee to “Vote No to Metro” on Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Spring Hill, Tennessee on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.



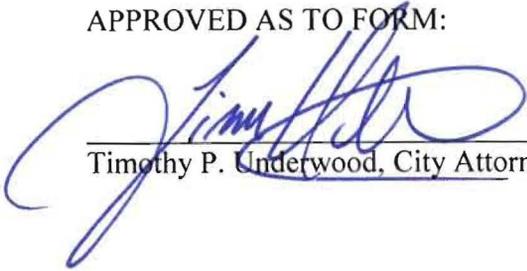
Michael Dinwiddie, Mayor

ATTEST:



April Goad City Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Timothy P. Underwood, City Attorney