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The next 60 to 90 days will feature new leadership and new funding for the East Bank, the stretch of Nashville riverfront land poised for transformational development.

Also in that window, the public will have a chance to view several options for the [central "spine" boulevard](#) planned through the heart of the 550-acre area opposite downtown and Germantown.

Metro officials set those expectations at a pair of public meetings on Jan. 22, one of which marked the debut of the East Bank Development Authority. That new government agency convened at Nissan Stadium, as construction of its [\\$2.2 billion successor](#) continued next door and [fresh uncertainty](#) about the potential presence of a new Tennessee Performing Arts Center lurked in the background of the conversations.

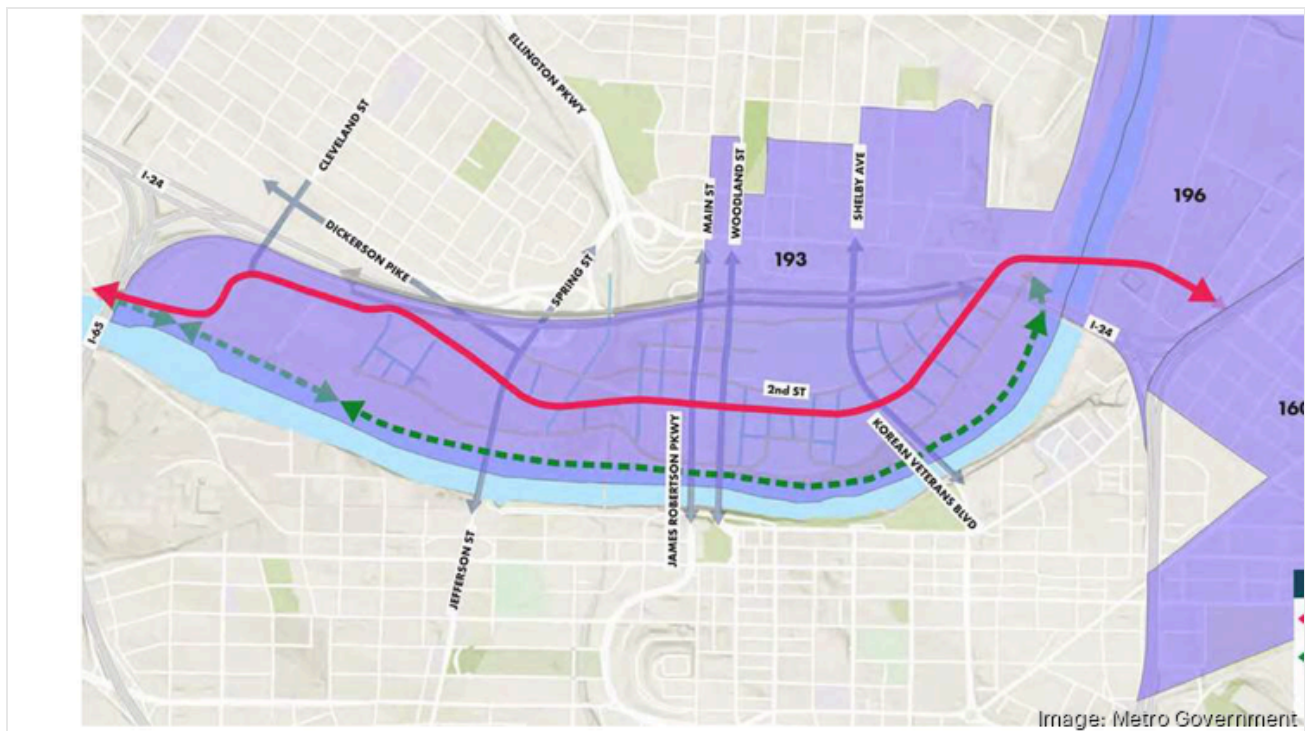
*Here's what is coming up:*

**New leadership:** The newly created development authority has [all nine board members](#), but no CEO yet. The law that created the body gave that selection to Mayor Freddie O'Connell, who is aiming to hire someone by March, Metro Chief Development Officer Bob Mendes told the authority.

**New lawyers:** Mendes advised the authority to hire its own legal counsel, to negotiate an agreement with Metro Government that will establish what assets, personnel and operating funds the authority will have. That formally named "intergovernmental agreement" will need approval from Metro Council.

**Fresh funding:** "Ten years from now, when there's multiple high-rises paying rent," Mendes said, that money will fund the authority's operations. In the meantime, Metro will finance the group's operations, including the salary of its employees and payment of its outside counsel. Those are some of the details to be spelled out in the formal agreement expected this spring – before O'Connell proposes his budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year (which would need to account for the authority's funding).

**Roadwork ahead:** In February or March, Metro will hold a federally required public meeting to show four or five options for the roughly 3.1-mile-long [East Bank Boulevard](#) that will run from [Oracle Corp.](#)'s campus site in the north down to Korean Veterans Boulevard.



The proposed East Bank Boulevard would be roughly 3 miles long, following the general route depicted in red.

METRO GOVERNMENT

Specifically, discussion will center on what to include or exclude from the road. It could be as much as 140 feet wide – comparable to the width of West End

Avenue by Centennial Park – if it includes features such as wider-than-usual sidewalks, protected bike lanes and a lane dedicated just for buses.

"There is fundamentally a trade-off of, if we do enough width to have everything including bike lanes, it's going to feel grossly wide," Mendes told Metro Council's East Bank committee on Jan. 22. "If we skinny it down ... then the bike lanes may have to go.

"No decisions have been made. That's the trade-off that will fundamentally be shown at the public meeting: width to get everything uncomfortably wide, or narrowing it and not getting everything," Mendes added. "Part of the reason we're trying to have bike lanes on every other street up there is if we end up collectively making the choice to not have bike lanes on East Bank Boulevard ... you can be on a protected bike lane everywhere else."

## T H E L I S T

# Largest General Contractors in Nashville

Construction billings 2023

Rank	Prior Rank	Name/Prior rank (*not ranked)/URL
1	1	W.G. Yates & Sons Construction Co.
2	2	JE Dunn Construction
3	3	Turner Construction Co.

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