



# MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR TIM BURCHETT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Mayor announces dates for East County Sector Plan public meetings**

*Meetings will allow true public input on Midway proposal*

*Knoxville, Tenn.* — Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett announced today the dates for two planned meetings to gather public input on the portion of the East County Sector Plan dealing with the Midway Road business park development proposal.

“It’s time for a new approach to this discussion,” Mayor Burchett said. “I’m hopeful that the parties involved can find some common ground and finally agree on a plan for this property.”

The first meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 16, from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Carter High School. The second meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 18, from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at West High School. Mayor Burchett also established a webpage on the County’s Web site where interested individuals can submit comments or suggestions over the internet.

The meetings, which were modeled after TVA’s land-use public hearings process, will maximize public input by allowing attendees to offer comments and suggestions, either handwritten or electronically submitted, regarding the Midway proposal. Representatives from all sides of the discussion will be set up at information tables to explain their respective positions to citizens.

“In 2006, Knox County invested nearly \$10 million to purchase the Midway property, and we need to be certain that this investment supports community goals,” Mayor Burchett said.

The goal of the meetings is to allow the mayor to facilitate a discussion between stakeholders and the public, as well as to collect information from citizens that will help Knox County commissioners make a decision on whether to move forward with the East County Sector Plan as proposed by the Metropolitan Planning Commission.

Anyone interested in submitting a comment or suggestion regarding the Midway proposal can do so by visiting <http://www.KnoxCounty.org/MidwayInput>.

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