



NEWS from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

Lee Harris, Mayor

Vasco A. Smith, Jr., Administration Building
11th Floor, 160 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

MEDIA ADVISORY

JUNE 2, 2023

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**LEADERS FROM HISTORIC ORANGE MOUND AND FRAYSER HUDDLE WITH
MAYOR LEE HARRIS AND SHELBY COUNTY OFFICIALS AHEAD OF BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS' VOTE FOR MASSIVE FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS AND
COMMUNITIES**

The approval of the proposed FY24 budget by Shelby County Commissioners would mean a new high school in Frayser and set up \$200 million in available funding for schools and neighborhoods.

WHO: Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris, Orange Mound and Frayser community leaders, education advocates, Shelby County students

WHAT: Briefing about long-term community impact of FY24 budget

WHEN: TODAY, June 2, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Vasco A. Smith, Jr County Administration Building, 160 N. Main St., Memphis, TN, 38103, 11th Floor

Shelby County, TN – Today, Shelby County Mayor Lee, along with education advocates, students, and community advocates from Orange Mound and Frayser, will meet to talk about major investments in education and communities proposed in Shelby County Government's FY24 budget. In the proposed FY24 budget, Mayor Harris has identified new funding sources that would

more than double the capital improvement budgets of Shelby County's public school systems, including \$80 million to support Memphis-Shelby County Schools' commitment to build a brand new high school in Frayser.

Those funding sources would also help support the rebuild of Regional One Health and create employment opportunities for our local workforce. Mayor Harris has made it a condition that the community's neighborhoods experiencing the most poverty are not left out of what is expected to be nearly \$2 billion in economic activity spurred by the construction of a new public hospital. He has outlined several objectives for Regional One to focus on the growth of local diverse (including Black-owned) firms during this construction project and to prioritize the workforce in the six zip codes with the highest concentration of poverty, including 38127 and 38114.

Mayor Harris will meet with education leaders, community advocates, and students today, ahead of Monday's Shelby County Commission meeting. During the meeting he will brief them about the budget process so far and how they can make their voices heard on Monday. With the Shelby County Board of Commissioners' approval, M-SCS has said it can break ground on the site of the new Frayser High School within 12-14 months, and cranes would be up in Midtown Memphis for the Regional One project soon after.

Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris: "This budget gives us the opportunity to build more state-of-the-art schools, create more Black millionaires, and give our next generation the promise of premier public services in Shelby County. True community activism starts at the grassroots level and the momentum for new schools, investments in Black communities, and accessible healthcare is thanks to our local advocates. Now, it's up to Shelby County Government to move these projects across the finish line. I believe there's no better time than now."

(End of Release)