



CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

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John Johnson, President
English Meadows Neighborhood Association
2196 Cornwall
Germantown, Tennessee 38138

Dear John:

As you are undoubtedly aware, there is a substantial effort underway to consolidate Shelby County Government with the City of Memphis. The proponents are a combination of Memphis elected officials, some county commissioners and business leaders. A 15-member Charter Commission, appointed by Mayor AC Wharton, is hard at work to develop a metro government charter. The plan is to put it on the ballot in November this year.

Although Germantown and the other five suburban communities would undoubtedly choose to remain autonomous, the conversion to a metro government would have considerable negative impact on our residents and citizens of unincorporated areas. Several weeks ago, the Germantown Board of Mayor and Aldermen went on record in opposition to the consolidation of Shelby County government with the City of Memphis. The attached resolution identifies some of our major concerns with metro government. We are communicating those issues to the Charter Commission through the lone suburban official serving on it, Mayor Hodges of Millington, and to the lone citizen appointee from Germantown.

The proponents are intense in their commitment to metro government. They have publicly and privately avowed to spend upwards of \$1 million to urge voters to vote yes on the November ballot. It is imperative that you, your neighbors and all the voters of Germantown have complete, factual information about metro government and its implications for you as a taxpayer and for the City of Germantown.

As mayor, I've always welcomed invitations to meet with homeowner or neighborhood associations or their boards to report on the state of the city or answer questions. Because this is the most critical threat to confront Germantown in years, I am writing to ask for an opportunity to meet with your membership and/or boards to talk about all aspects of consolidation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 757-7201 or by e-mail at mayor@germantown-tn.gov. Or you can directly secure a meeting date on my calendar by calling Michele Betty at my office at the same telephone number.

Sincerely,

Sharon Goldsworthy
Mayor