



# DEAN & ASSOCIATES

# OUR SERVICES

### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



We help clients navigate complex political and regulatory environments through strategic advocacy and effective communication. Our team creates customized campaigns to influence policy and build essential relationships for impactful outcomes.

### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



We offer tailored stakeholder engagement services that connect leaders with key influencers and groups affecting your business. Our expertise enhances public engagement, advises executives, and improves employee relations, providing valuable solutions.

### **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**



We integrate government relations with business strategies to enhance connections with local and state governments, advocate for favorable policies, and prepare clients to effectively tackle challenges.

### **BUSINESS CONSULTANCY**



Our advisory services help businesses overcome market challenges and achieve strategic objectives. We specialize in economic development, market research, and entry strategies, with a focus on market penetration and corporate social responsibility.

# **OUR TRACK RECORD**

























# MATA + DA OVERVIEW







RFP for Legislative Advocacy released

MATA Board awards contract to Dean & Associates

### 2021

Multi year RFP issued for Legislative Advocacy

MATA Board awards contract to Dean & Associates

### 2022 -23

Expanded strategy to increase federal advocacy.

### 2024 - present

Renew support for local, state and federal initiatives that align with MATA's strategic objectives, aiming to strengthen its position in the midst of change and extreme uncertainty.





DA has successfully built direct relationships with the mayor's office and city council members to ensure that MATA's message is effectively conveyed. By addressing past negative perceptions, champions within the council have emerged, positively influencing funding and the agency's reputation. Since the city serves as MATA's funding body and chartering agency, strengthening this relationship has been vital for overall success with other levels of government.

### STRATEGIC FOCUS

**Empowering Local Leadership Through Education** 

**Fostering Trust** 

**Fiscal Sustainability** 



Increased local funding

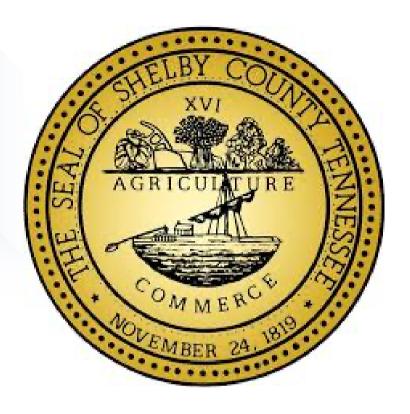


Improved Relationships and MATA knowledge



Enhanced connections with city departments.





Shelby County Government, while not required, has become more involved in funding transit through increased advocacy and relationship efforts. The county mayor and some commission members support transit funding, though opinions on levels vary. An approved joint ordinance aims to add a seat to the board based on county funding that has yet to be determined.

# STRATEGIC FOCUS

Regular and Continuous Engagement Focused on Securing Increased Funding

**Empowering County Leadership Through Education** 

**Fostering Trust** 



Maintaining MATA funding within the County's annual budget.



Improved Relationships and MATA knowledge



Maintain County
Engagement and Focus
on Transit Needs





Navigating changing legislation presents challenges.

MATA has strengthened its relationships with the

Tennessee Department of Transportation, the governor's

office, and the legislature through consistent

communication and timely reporting. This engagement

has evolved, focusing on bus and rail decisions, leading

to meaningful long-term state efforts despite the pace.

### STRATEGIC FOCUS

Enhancing Trust: Reestablishing communication within the department with key officials at TDOT.

**Continued grant funding** 

New funds for operations



Strengthened relationships



Heightened levels of engagement



More engaged in evolving communications



# FEDERAL AGENCIES



At the federal level, we have gained support from Congressional representatives and Senators who endorse MATA's primary priorities. Our advocacy focuses on long-term capital projects, such as expanding the bus fleet, electrification of vehicles and the development of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems, which are crucial for MATA's growth and service enhancement. Moreover, our participation in federal regulatory and fiscal discussions positions MATA to take advantage of infrastructure funding opportunities at the national level.

# STRATEGIC FOCUS

Responsiveness to grant funding opportunities

Improved relationships with DOT and FTA

**Increase Opportunities for Connectivity** 



Strengthened relationships



Heightened levels of engagement



Inclusion in national issues related to transit and mobility.



# THE JOURNEY



- 1 Administration and City Council Annual Budget Commitments 2020-2024
- Created Successful Engagement Strategies that Increased Communications between MATA and the City Council, Mayor, County Mayor, and County Commision
- Increased Visibility at the Federal Level with Congressional Delegation from TN and AR as well as others on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- Improved the Relationship between TDOT and MATA
- Commission Support of Capital Dollars in Annual CIP Budget to Support Transit FY 2020-2023
- Commission Support of Annual Operating Funds
  FY 2023-2025

- 7 Grant Award to Support Bus Rapid Transit
- 8 Supported Legislation to Create Joint Agreement of City and County to add Expiring PILOT Funds to Support Transit Vision
- 9 Garnered City Mayor and Council Support for Annual Discretionary Funding in Federal Budget
- Supported the Addition of a Transportation

  Committee of the City Council that Provided More

  Focus on Transit Needs
- 11 Grant Awards to Fund New Bus Maintenance Facility
- 12 Grant Awards to Fund Bus Electrification

# THE PATH FORWARD



# THANK YOU