

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 16, 2023

FURTHER INFORMATION: Eric Melcher eric.melcher@nashville.gov

WeGo celebrates apprentice mechanic signing

NASHVILLE – WeGo Public Transit hosted a ceremony earlier today for its latest group of mechanics joining the WeGo Mechanic Apprenticeship Program. It combines training with a full-time salary and benefits, including health insurance.

"I've always been interested in fixing stuff myself, but I didn't really have any mechanical background. This is an opportunity to learn a trade and make a living," said Brandan Moss, a second-year mechanic apprentice.

"WeGo mechanics keep our buses on the road. This program helps us grow skilled heavy-duty mechanics with expertise in bus mechanical systems," WeGo CEO, Steve Bland, said, "That puts the graduates in a solid position for advancement."

The goal is to advance people into a starting mechanics position at WeGo, offering better pay and room for further advancement. It's a hands-on program taught in the WeGo maintenance facilities with participants working on active fleet buses. WeGo recruits a new mechanic apprentice class once a year. To join, applicants must be 18 or older, submit a resume, pass a mechanical aptitude test, and complete an interview process. The program is a joint effort of the 1235 Amalgamated Transit Union and Davidson Transit Organization/WeGo Public Transit.

Applications for the next class will be accepted July 1 through August 10. Applicants can get started today by signing-up with the WeGo <u>Talent Community</u> page at wegotransit.com.



The signing, front left to right. Apprentice signees: Diego Alvarez, Remington Stewart, David Goodlow, and Mathew Cordova. Back row: Vince Malone Chief of Staff and Administration; Steffany Daniel, Apprenticeship Specialist, Apprenticeship TN; Kym Tucker, WeGo Director of Administration; and Steve Bland, WeGo CEO. Apprentices not pictured: Daniel Model and Hunter Burnette.

The Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (Nashville MTA) and the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) are operating bodies of WeGo Public Transit, which serves 26 local bus routes, eight regional bus routes, and one train serving Davidson and Wilson Counties. Visit WeGoTransit.com