



To the Honorable Mayor James Mayberry
Mayor Pro-Tem R.J. Crawford
Councilman Art Gernt
Councilman Rob Harrison
Councilman Scot Shanks

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Crossville (TCAT Crossville) has a long history of training entry level skilled workers, as well as providing specialized training to existing industry. The TCAT has since its beginning, been a strong partner in recruiting efforts to attract additional business to the city and county. We have also volunteered our services to many projects with the city and county through the years and remain open to these projects as they offer real skills to our students.

The campus has grown to point that we now serve a consistent average of 400 students as well as an average of 180 dually enrolled high school students. Of the students that start programs, the completion rate averages 90% completion with 96% of those students going into the workforce. The average of the student enrollment that are Cumberland County residents stays steady at 85 percent. This accounts for a substantial contribution to the economy of Crossville and Cumberland County. There is one negative to all this growth, we are far exceeding capacity.

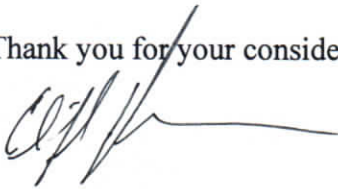
The TCAT Crossville has reached a point in which there is no room for expansion. We are in the process of a satellite campus in Bledsoe County, which will help with overcrowding at the main campus and allow more enrollment for Cumberland County residents. Another option is the expansion to the Interchange Drive property that the city has allowed us to use for our truck driving program. Commercial truck driving is our largest output program. We average 58 graduates annually from that program alone. This number can be doubled with an expansion to the program. Truck driving completion is 98 percent with 100 percent placement with an average of 83 percent of the students being from Cumberland County. The remainder are the immediate outlying counties. Truck driving is a very well-paying occupation with our records showing average salaries at \$67,000 per year. I am confident the bulk of the salaries are spent here in Cumberland County.

We are extremely grateful for the partnership with the city allowing us to use the lot. I do feel that we could do far more with it if you all as a governing body could donate the property to the TCAT Crossville. We have the funds to do improvements to the lot. Governor Lee has made a substantial investment in increasing and expanding truck driving with the TCATs. There is money for equipment and lot improvements, but not for purchase of property.

Being that the lot is located within an industrial park, what better way to market it than have a TCAT on site? If gifted, we would immediately begin improvements, such as paving and frontage. We spend an average of \$8,000 a year on gravel and dressing the lot. So, paving would be a significant improvement and add appeal to the site. We would immediately propose a building to be built utilizing the space for expansion of the TCAT Crossville. I envision the building being industry-related programs with a space that is large enough to allow training and meeting space similar to the room on the main campus.

I completely understand the lot having a marketing aspect to industrial development. It is my belief that, if gifted, an expansion to that site from the TCAT Crossville would contribute as much to the economy as a comparable sized industry that would fit on that site. As stated previously I also believe that a TCAT campus on that site would help market the Interchange Business Park. I respectfully submit this proposal and I will be available for any questions.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cliff Wightman', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Cliff Wightman
TCAT Crossville President