



**NEWS RELEASE from the Shelby County Mayor's Office**

***Lee Harris, Mayor***

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS POISED TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF FIRST  
MEMPHIS AREA LACTATION POD**

*The purchase aligns with the healthyShelby'19 campaign to support mothers and babies and promote breastfeeding.*

Memphis, TN - Shelby County Commissioners will take a final vote Monday, June 24th on the purchase of a Mamava Lactation Pod. Shelby County is working with the Grizzlies to place the pod in FedExForum so mothers have a private space to feed their babies or express breast milk. This innovative way to support mothers and babies will serve as a pilot project. The Shelby County Health Department will consider other county assets for future installations of lactation pods as part of the healthyShelby initiative.

“It is exciting to be able to support mothers and babies at FedExForum, one of our busiest attractions,” says Shelby County Commissioner Brandon Morrison. “Research shows that breastfeeding is not only the healthiest option for infants, but actually saves on future health related costs for both mother and baby.”



“It takes a village to raise a baby,” says Shelby County Commissioner Tami Sawyer. “I am thrilled to support a lactation station at FedExForum so the women of Shelby County know we’re standing with them.”

“The best health initiatives are the ones that go out to where the people are,” says Shelby County Commissioner Reginald Milton, Chairman of the Hospitals and Health Committee. “I am proud to see that we are able to make a difference for the thousands of Shelby County mothers who visit FedExForum every year.”

If approved Monday, Shelby County will work with the Grizzlies to install the lactation pod during the off-season.

The Mamava will be the first in West Tennessee and only the third in the state. Lactation Pods are becoming very popular at sporting venues around the country as more than 30% of sports fans are women. A pod was recently installed at Wrigley Field in Chicago.





### **Mamava Overview**

Mamava celebrates and supports the 21st -century breastfeeding mama with freestanding lactation pods, a mobile app to locate pumping and breastfeeding-friendly places, and engaged digital communities. Mamava has placed more than 450 suites across the United States in public and private settings.

FedExForum will install the ADA version of the lactation pod. It is Mamava's largest freestanding lactation suite designed to provide breastfeeding women with a private space to pump or nurse at work or on the go. The pod allows for 60" turnaround and includes dual grab bars, a spacious bench, a fold-down table, and power outlets. Mamava ADA pods can be located and unlocked with the free Mamava app and proprietary Bluetooth-enabled SmartLock.

(end of release)