# NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



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# Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

I am honored to continue serving the next four years as your MJ City Commissioner of District 4. Thank you for your support. This month, on December 7<sup>th</sup> we remember all the victims from the devastating surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, "A date which will live in infamy." December 15<sup>th</sup> is a day to fly the US flag and reflect upon the significance of our Bill of Rights on Bill of Rights Day. And most importantly, we get to celebrate the birth of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, who is the reason for this season. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, and Happy New Year.

# **NEW BUSINESSES:**

Wash N' Roll Car Wash is now open at 73 Belinda Pkwy.

**Jeremiah's Italian Ice** announced an opening date of December 6<sup>th</sup>. They are located at 2236 NMJRD.

#### **UPCOMING**

- 1) Holiday Lights: Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 5-7 pm, Providence Marketplace will hold their Holiday Lights event with singing and the lighting of their tree at 5:15 pm. The gathering will be in Cinema Circle with hot chocolate and costume characters. Please bring a new or gently used pair of mittens/gloves to donate to our neighbors in needs.
- 2) Western Connector Public Work Session: Public Works will hold a public work session to further discuss the Western Connector study on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. The location will be at MJ Community Center in Charlie Daniels Park at 6 pm, room B. This project will connect Central Pike (north of I-40) to Lebanon Road.
- **3)** Christmas Across Mt. Juliet Contest (repeat/update): This year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas/Holiday lights contest will have some changes. Only homeowners/businesses within the city limits will be eligible, and the new changes would require that all participants send in pictures and videos of the outside decorations. Registration has been extended to December 5<sup>th</sup>. All winners will be announced on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. For more information and registration, you can <u>click here</u>. You will also find a current list of participants.

4) BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee) (repeat/update): BPAC's last event of the year will be the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Lights Walk on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. All are welcome. We will meet at the HOA parking lot in Willoughby Station, located at 1326 Sydney Terrace, for cookies and hot chocolate prior to the walk. In addition, The Packard

Family Strings will perform a selection of Christmas music. The walk begins at 6:30 pm and will last between 1-2 hours, with MJPD escorts. You are welcome to bring a flashlight. Rainout date is scheduled for Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

- **5) Blood Assurance BloodMobile:** Blood Assurance will be back on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 am 2 pm, in the train station parking lot, which is hosted by MJ Chamber. To schedule your appointment, you can <u>click here</u>.
- 6) 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Lighting & Community Sing (repeat/update): The official lighting of the Christmas Tree will take place on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm, at the train station parking lot. This lighting ceremony is provided by Shiloh Baptist Church. Please bring a family ornament to hang on the tree. Winners of the Christmas Across Mt. Juliet Contest will also be announced.
- 7) MJ Christmas Parade (repeat/update): The MJ "Golden" Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. The 2022 theme will be "A Golden Christmas" in honor of MJ's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary. The route will be the same as last year, beginning at the baseball/softball fields on Lebanon Road, now known as Two Rivers Ford League. As always, a special thank you to Two Rivers Ford for providing their beautiful new trucks for dignitaries in the parade. Rainout date is scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>.

## 8) December 15th Planning Commission, 6:30 pm:

- Smartt property: (SW Cook Road off Central Pike) Land Use Amendment, Annexation and Rezone for mixed-use development that would include (for sale) 213 townhomes and 180 single-family homes on 110 acres, currently in the county. You may view the proposed plan here.
- Providence Central Mixed-use: This is a PUD Amendment request from the developer to build a mixed-use community in the northeastern section of Central Pike and Providence Pkwy., within the Providence Central development. If you would like to see the plan location, you may <u>click here</u>.
- **9) Cedar Creek Greenway Ribbon Cutting:** The official opening for the Cedar Creek Greenway will be celebrated with a Ribbon Cutting at 12:30 pm on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> in Charlie Daniels Park. All are welcome. The 10-foot wide greenway will extend from Charlie Daniels Park to Golden Bear Gateway and connect to Park Glen and Tuscan Gardens.
- **10) Townhall meeting:** I am looking to hold a townhall meeting on Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm, regarding a mixed-use development proposal within the Providence Central development. It would be located in the northeastern section of Central Pike and Providence Pkwy. Location of the townhall meeting is 201 Belinda Pkwy. (Grace Baptist Church). This meeting would be pending a positive recommendation to the BOC from the Planning Commission on December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **11) Expansion of MJ Urban Growth Boundary (UGB):** The city of MJ will hold a public meeting regarding the expansion of its UGB

on Wednesday, January 11 from 5-8 pm, at the MJ Community Center in Charlie Daniels Park. The Wilson County (Growth Plan) Coordinating Committee (WCCC) has met several times over the past few months and mutually agreed upon this expansion proposal. To view the map, you may click here.

**12) MJPD Headquarters Work Session:** The next public work session regarding cost estimates for the new MJPD Headquarters has been scheduled for Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15 pm, prior to the regular BOC meeting.

#### **UPDATES**

- 1) MJPD Headquarters: Concept pricing was presented at the BOC Work Session held on November 28th for the new proposed Mt. Juliet Police Headquarters. The estimated price range is around \$28M. The next step is to start design, which will give a more realistic estimate, that would be presented to the BOC for a budget amendment. If you would like to watch the video you can click here, or to see the PowerPoint presentation, you can find that here.
- 2) Mundy Park Walking Trail (repeat/update): The upper portion of the walking trail has been closed again because of a pipe issue. This section is above the playground to the trailhead entrance on Belinda Pkwy. The remaining portion remains closed until the detention pond upgrades are completed, which is estimated to be the end of December. The entire trail will reopen at this point.
- **3) MJ to create a downtown:** Recently the BOC passed (4/1) a zoning amendment to pave the way for a downtown district in the city, centered around Division and NMJRD. While I am not opposed to creating a downtown, I cast a no vote because of my stance against reducing the 20-acre minimum for multifamily. Any future projects in this area will be submitted separately for approval, as this vote was only to change the zoning regulations.
- 4) Beckwith Point update: Some have been asking about the status of the Beckwith Point project, which includes the three warehouses on 75 acres between Belinda Pkwy. and I-40, that will connect Belinda Pkwy. to Beckwith Road. They did their land surveys and submitted their site plan, which I provided in previous newsletters. In this current phase, that is critical prior to construction, is for the TDEC stream credits to become available. They anticipate this to take place late spring/early summer in '23.
- **5)** MJPD Guardian Shield/Automated License Plate Recognition readers: (ALPR). November: 9 stolen vehicles/plates/wanted persons alerted that lead to 11 arrests/apprehensions. All but one, were from out of county or out of state.
- **6) MJ City sales tax revenues:** Revenues from city sales tax continue to stay above average by 6.97% over this time last year. Keep shopping local and you help fund MJPD, FDMJ, road improvements/projects, and much more. Keep it local.

## STATUS REPORT: PROJECTS/CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENTS

(Note: updated information since last month is in color.)

Will Sellers South Park: The dog park bid contract, located at 151 SE Springdale Drive, was awarded for the intermediate (large) dog course. New dog apparatus to come within 6-8 weeks, including provisions for shade in each section. NOTE: trees will not be planted inside the fences, but MJ Parks will be planting some on the outside. PLEASE do not let dogs urinate on these trees because it kills them. That is the reason they will not be planted inside the fences. For an idea of what the new intermediate course might look like, you can click here.

Three-way stop Providence Trail/S. Rutland Road: There will be a three-way stop intersection coming soon at Providence Trail and S. Rutland Road to be constructed by the Waterford Park development. If you see the stakes, that is what they are for. I do not have a timeline as of yet, but if you would like to see a rendering (although not final) with added turn lanes, you can click here.

**Providence Pkwy. new turn lane:** Providence Pkwy. on the west side of SMJRD between Walgreens and Regions Bank, now has a new EB left turn lane onto SMJRD heading north with signal modifications.

**(NEW) Adams Lane:** Construction for the new Adams Lane rerouting, including a second left turn lane, is estimated to be completed by early spring '23, depending on weather. The second turn lane will be at the intersection of Adams Lane/SMJRD (facing WB next to Waffle House).

**Beckwith Road:** This area of Beckwith Road is between I-40 and south to the four-way intersection at S. Rutland Road/Posey Hill Drive. Widening is on the city's radar, however, it is likely to happen sooner from potential future developments. The city project would likely take around eight years and cost around \$23.2M. There are plans to apply for grant funding to cover 80% of the construction costs. Currently all pre-construction phases are being funded by the city. Performing consultant procurement process.

**SMJRD widening:** ROW plans are being finalized, with ROW acquisition anticipated to begin this winter. Field work has begun for a survey, with ongoing environmental phase, final design, and engineering. This TDOT project is 70% complete with preconstruction activity. The BOC approved a Resolution amending the initial agreement with TDOT to add ROW and construction, to be paid for by TDOT. ROW acquisition and utility relocation will take three years to complete.

**I-40/Central Pike Interchange:** TDOT phase is in surveying, environmental, and preliminary design and engineering. Project is 30% complete with preconstruction activity. It is expected to coincide with the Western Connector which is a five-year project.

Central Pike widening: This TDOT widening project to 5 lanes extends from SMJRD to Old Hickory Blvd., and currently TDOT has finalized and approved the transportation report. The planning document is underway. The city is attempting to get Phase 1 funded for NEPA and preliminary engineering. Phase 1 is between I-40 and SMJRD. Project is 5% complete with preconstruction activity. The Providence Central development will be responsible for widening a portion of Central Pike with turn lanes at Providence Pkwy. which is underway and should be completed soon.

**FDMJ north firehall:** Still under construction, however, it is hopeful they can take occupancy after the holidays. The location is next to Green Hill High School and is 90% complete with construction.

**MJPD new headquarters:** Please see notes above under Upcoming and Updates.

**Cedar Creek Greenway Phase 1:** Project will be completed prior to official opening on December 16th. The 10-foot wide greenway will extend from Charlie Daniels Park to Golden Bear Gateway and connect to Park Glen and Tuscan Gardens. The Ribbon Cutting on the 16th is at 12:30 pm in Charlie Daniels Park. If you would like to see a map of where it will connect, including a Phase 2 grant the city/BPAC is applying for, you can <u>click</u> here.

**Town Center Trail Connector:** This greenway extension will run along S. Greenhill Road from W. Wilson Blvd. to Town Center Trail on W. Division. Project is 5% complete with construction activity. This project will be constructed along with the S. Greenhill Road roundabout.

**Town Center Trail Phase 3:** Design for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase of the TCT has begun that will extend from S. Greenhill Road to Mt. Juliet Elementary School. The project was approved for a federal grant that covers 80% of design, ROW, and construction. The survey has been completed and currently performing NEPA studies along with preliminary engineering. Project is 5% complete with preconstruction activity.

**Hamilton-Denson Park:** The specs of the restrooms (Phase 2) are being prepared to be sent out for bid. A Ribbon Cutting is planned for Spring '23.

**Lebanon Road sidewalks Phases 2 & 3:** Currently, Phase 2 is finalizing construction bid documents and is 95% complete with preconstruction activity. Construction is expected to begin this fall/winter. This includes both sides of Lebanon Road from NMJRD to Park Glen, including a portion of Park Glen. Phase 3 will be between Nonaville Road and Green Hill High School and is 70% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design. Environmental (NEPA) was approved. Construction is expected in 2023.

**MJRD Phase 2 ADA upgrades:** This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and OLDRD. It is currently 20% complete with preconstruction

activity. The consultant is working on NEPA studies and preliminary design. The survey has been completed.

Signal improvements Phases 2 & 3: Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division will be undergoing improvements which is Phase 2. The project is 95% complete with preconstruction activity and is finalizing construction documents. Construction is expected to begin early winter, and will include installing fiber optic communication between each of the 13 signals that will connect to City Hall. The project will take about 18 months to complete. Phase 3 is 5% complete with preconstruction activity, which will extend from Curd Road to Lebanon Road, covering six signals. This project has the consultant performing data collection and NEPA documentation.

**Traffic signal on Providence Pkwy.:** Everything is ready to go with the exception of the signal cabinet, which is on backorder. Therefore, completion has been delayed by a month or so. This traffic signal on Providence Pkwy. will be located between Kroger and Providence Commons.

**Traffic signal at NMJRD/Curd Road:** Design has been finalized. ROW acquisitions will follow. Coordination is underway with the federal post office on options to close their northern driveway and provide a new exit on Curd Road. Project is 95% complete with preconstruction activity, but has been paused due to potential redevelopment in this area.

**Traffic signal on GBG and Volunteer Blvd.:** This signal project on Golden Bear Gateway is 95% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design stage, awaiting final approval from TDOT to approve bid documents. Construction is set to begin this winter.

**S. Greenhill Road roundabout:** The BOC just approved the construction contract which should begin December/January. An estimated timeline would be 15-18 months (spring '24) to complete. If you would like to see a map of the final layout, you can click here.

**Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening:** Currently in process of appraisals for ROW acquisition and utility coordination. Along with this project will be sewer expansion and flood mitigation. The City's sewer consultant is currently preparing design and drainage plans. Project is 75% complete with preconstruction activity.

**Lebanon Road widening (Park Glen to GBG):** Currently this TDOT project is in preliminary design and finalizing environmental documents with TDOT. ROW plans are being developed, and project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity. Once the NEPA (environmental) is approved, the project will be eligible for ROW funding in next year's TDOT budget. TDOT did not approve any additional funding in their recent budget.

**Pleasant Grove Road widening and realignment:** Design alternatives were introduced at the recent public work session. The widening will be a 4-lane median divided roadway from Old

Pleasant Grove Road to Central Pike with multi-use paths on each side. Project is 10% complete with preconstruction activity. In addition, the developer of Village at Pleasant Grove has agreed to improvements at Central Pike/Pleasant Grove Road. There will be a signal here as well. If you would like to see the PowerPoint presentation from the Work Session, you may find it here.

**Golden Bear Gateway widening:** The widening on GBG between the Cedar Creek bridge and Palermo/Curd Road is 70% complete with preconstruction activity. Currently in design, ROW plans are being developed along with utility coordination. ROW acquisition is expected to begin this fall/winter.

**E. Division Street widening:** The BOC just approved an agreement with consultant to begin planning and design phases. The BOC previously approved an updated agreement with TDOT for this project to include a 4-lane median divided roadway with multi-use paths on each side, from NMJRD to just east of GBG. Development funding toward this project is at \$8M from Amazon and Project Jolene (GBG).

**Western Connector:** The consultant will present design options during a Public Work Session on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Please see notice above under Upcoming.

**Sewer upgrade projects:** There are/will be maintenance and upgrade projects being performed on sewer lines around the city.

- Belinda City lateral lining project. They are working in different areas off of Belinda Pkwy. and project is 75% complete with construction.
- Stoner Creek Interceptor Upsizing project should begin construction the end of December.
- Timber Trail Pump Station Rehab project should begin construction anytime and be a quick turnaround.
- Old Lebanon Dirt Road (OLDRD) West Pocket Plan project is 80% complete with preconstruction activity, which will install sewer along OLDRD and Page Drive. Design phase is complete. Construction will coincide with the widening project.
- John Wright Pocket Plan project is finalizing the bidding phase and will install a sewer force main extension along John Wright Road.

**Project note:** If there is a project you are interested in and don't see it listed, you may contact me and I will get you the information, or you can find any of these and many others on the <u>Capital Projects Selector</u> or <u>Development Tracker</u> on the city website. To save you the time and effort, I provide a list of various updates for your convenience. The information listed above is reflected on the city website and is updated each month.

## MJ BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

The next MJ BOC meeting will be Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at City Hall. This will be the only BOC meeting in December.

**NOTE:** The public is welcome to come and speak and/or submit comments/questions to Sheila Luckett until 4 pm prior to the meeting at <a href="mailto:sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov">sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov</a>. The meeting is also aired live on MJTV (Comcast channel 3 or TDS channel 6) and on the city's website as well as YouTube. It is too early for agendas, therefore look for notices prior to each BOC meeting.

If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, comments, complaints, or just something to share, please let me know. If you would like to sign up for my monthly email newsletters, you will find the options to do so on my website. You can also send me your email address and I will add it to the newsletter/updates list.

It is an honor serving you and being your citizen advocate.

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