

## JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER



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# Jennifer Milele

## Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

Our second brood of bluebirds have successfully fledged. Some dates in August are: First day of school for students August 2; US Coast Guard Day August 4; National Navajo Code Talkers Day August 14; National Nonprofit Day August 17; National Back to School Month. Have a fantastic school year.

### **NEW BUSINESSES:**

**Alloy Personal Training** is now open. They are located at 4118 NMJRD.

### **UPCOMING**

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#### **1) August 1<sup>st</sup> Wilson County Election. Polls close at 7 pm.**

- *(Federal & State Primary / County General Election)*
  - Wilson County School Board seats, Zones 1, 3, 5, & 7
  - Wilson County Assessor of Property
  - U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress Districts 5 & 6
  - State Representatives Districts 40 & 46 & 57

**2) Ava's Splash Pad:** Beginning August 5<sup>th</sup>, Ava's Splash Pad in Charlie Daniels Park will only be open on Saturday's and Sundays. The last day of the season is September 1<sup>st</sup>. To see the hours, you can [click here](#).

**3) August 15<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission, 6:30 pm:** *Note: There are other items submitted as well, and there could be more added before the final deadline. You can watch for the agenda to be posted closer to the meeting date by [clicking here](#).*

- **Elders Ace Hardware:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Elder's Ace Hardware to be located at 10645 Lebanon Road. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Earheart Storage:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Earheart Storage to be located at 9461 Lebanon Road. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Golden Gateway:** Mass Grading Plans have been submitted for Golden Gateway located at the corner of Golden Bear Gateway and Volunteer Blvd. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Odum Springs:** A Preliminary Plat has been submitted for Odum Springs consisting of six lots on the east side of John Wright Road just north of Central Pike. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **LC Mt. Juliet II:** Plans have been submitted for a multi-family mixed-use development to be located at 7800 Central Pike. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Tomlinson Pointe:** A Major PUD Plan Amendment has been submitted for Tomlinson Pointe located just south of Lebanon Road between Beckwith Road (north) and Curd Road. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).

#### **4) 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebrate Mt. Juliet Day:**

On Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, MJ Parks will host the City's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebrate Mt. Juliet event in Charlie Daniels Park from 4-9 pm. There will be plenty of activities for kids, lots of vendors, live music, food trucks, and car show. Bring the family for a day of fun. [Click here](#) for details and watch for updates. Deadline for sponsors and vendors is August 7<sup>th</sup>.

**5) Fall Community Yard Sale:** Mt. Juliet Parks is hosting the 2024 Fall Community Yard Sale on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 8 am - 12 pm at Charlie Daniels Park. Registration for vendors is open at \$20 per booth and will end on August 14<sup>th</sup>. To register for a booth, you can [click here](#).

#### **6) MJ BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee):**

This year, rather than Walk/Run/Roll, MJ BPAC will host a [StoryWalk](#) scheduled for Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm in Mundy Park, located at 300 Mundy Memorial Pkwy. Bring the kids and meet under the pavilion. The featured book will be Sally the Stone and Friends. The rainout date is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The MJ BPAC is dedicated to promoting a healthier lifestyle in through physical activity and family togetherness. The BPAC not only has several events throughout the year, but actively pursues monetary grants to be used for parks and greenways, sidewalks and biking infrastructure.

**7) Live Like Ambria Day:** On Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 8 am - sunset, there is a non-profit Family Fun Day planned to benefit Ambria's Oasis. Whether you prefer the 5K Fun Run, Volleyball Tournament, or Pickleball Tournament, all events will be held at Charlie Daniels Park including food trucks, vendors, face painting, foam party, inflatables, and live music. To find out more information and to register, you can [click here](#). The mission of Ambria's Oasis is to provide a place of restoration and renewal for parents/children experiencing grief over the loss of a child/sibling, as well as raising awareness and promoting road safety with proper signage, guardrails, etc.

**8) Pickleball tournament benefiting MJ Animal Shelter:** MJ Parks is hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CedarStone Bank [Pickles for Pups](#) Pickleball Tournament, benefiting the [MJ Animal Shelter](#), on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The tournament will begin at 7 am in Charlie Daniels Park. The entry fee per person is \$50 for one event only with a cap of 150 players. Food trucks, music and prizes will be available. Registration will open the first of September, so follow Mt. Juliet Parks & Recreation on Facebook, or you can [click here](#). The MJ Animal Shelter, located at 115 Industrial Drive, has a non-profit 501C.3 called MJ Animal Shelter Volunteer Organization and you can find out more information by [clicking here](#). The funds raised go toward veterinary expenses for animals in their care.

## **UPDATES**

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**1) Mundy Park playground OPEN (repeat/update):** The playground expansion in Mundy Park is now open. It is located at 300 Mundy Memorial Drive.

**2) Future of Wilson County Survey:** Wilson County is in the process of making changes to its future land use plan. They have provided a survey for public input regarding many different areas of concerns, including growth and green space. Please take a moment to complete it and make your voices known before September when they hope to wrap it up. If you live in Wilson County and haven't completed the survey yet, you can [click here](#).

**3) MJ Parks Toddler Park:** Equipment is in the process of being installed in the new Toddler Park, along with fencing and turf. The new toddler park is located in Charlie Daniels Park, just before the Farmer's Market location.

**4) Roadway resurfacing:** If you would like to see the list of 2024/2025 road resurfacing projects that was approved in this budget cycle, you can [click here](#). With the exception of Belinda Pkwy., all these projects are scheduled to be completed this fall.

**5) MJPD Guardian Shield/Automated License Plate Recognition readers:** (ALPR). July: 3 stolen vehicles/plates/wanted persons alerted that lead to 2 arrests/apprehensions. All vehicles were from out of county/state.

**6) MJ City sales tax revenues:** Revenues from June sales tax is above average by 1.57% over the same time as 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.)*

**Three-way stop at Providence Trail/S. Rutland Road:** Final paving is complete with the exception of some striping, which is supposed to be done before school starts. Your patience during this long process has very much been appreciated.

**Providence Pkwy.:** The portion of Providence Pkwy., west of Creekside Apartments to Central Pike will be widened to five lanes. There are two developers responsible for the widening of Providence Pkwy. to Central Pike. I do not have a timeline.

**Beckwith Road:** The consultant is currently working on preliminary design for the full corridor. In addition, design for the quick start project at the four-way intersection to make temporary turn lane improvements is complete. The City has begun ROW acquisition on the quick-start improvements. NEPA studies and planning report are underway. This area of Beckwith Road is between I-40 and south to the four-way intersection at S. Rutland Road/Posey Hill Drive. Currently, all pre-construction phases are being funded by the city and are 10% complete. The City plans to apply for grant funding to cover 80% of the construction costs, when they become available. Construction for the quick-start improvements is targeted for 2025. To see a closeup of the quick start plan, you can [click here](#).

**S. Rutland Road Annexation:** MJ Public Works has applied for annexation of S. Rutland Road at the city limits to include the full Beckwith Road/Posey Hill four-way intersection. The reason is to take ownership in preparation for the quick-start improvements at and around the intersection.

**Beckwith Point:** The Beckwith Point project on 75 acres between Belinda Pkwy. and I-40, has pulled land disturbance permits to begin construction and they have started laying sewer. It will consist of three distribution warehouses with a road connecting from Beckwith Rd. to Belinda Pkwy., across from Meadowview Drive. The road will have to be completed prior to occupancy. To review the plan, you can [click here](#).

**Beckwith Station:** Land disturbance permits have been issued for Beckwith Station. This is for a gas station, office, and eatery on the southwest corner of Beckwith Road and Summit Blvd. across from the ER.

**SMJRD widening:** The MJ BOC approved the consultant contract to start the design process. TDOT ROW is in the early stage of acquisition, and utility relocation coordination. Field work has begun for survey, with ongoing environmental phase, final design, and engineering. This TDOT project is 80% complete with preconstruction activity. The TDOT ROW acquisition and utility relocation phases will take around three years to complete. TDOT announced in December, this project is 100% funded over their 10-year plan. TDOT construction is estimated to align with the interchange project.

**I-40/Central Pike Interchange:** TDOT phase is in surveying, environmental, engineering, and finalizing design. Project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity. ROW acquisition is set to begin in 2026. TDOT announced in December, this project is 100% funded over their 10-year plan.

**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. TDOT has budgeted to begin NEPA and preliminary engineering phases.

- **Phase 1** is between I-40 and SMJRD and is **10%** complete with preconstruction activity. A consultant firm was approved by the MJ BOC to begin design for Phase 1. The City funding the engineering/ROW acquisition will likely save many years on the ultimate completion of Phase 1.
- The **Phase 2** TDOT project will be from I-40 to OHB and is **5%** complete with preconstruction activity. TDOT announced in December, construction will be 100% funded in their 10-year plan, and they will manage the ROW acquisition. TDOT construction is estimated to align with the interchange project.

**Cedar Creek Greenway Phase 2:** Phase 2 will connect Charlie Daniels Park to Lebanon Road, and the grant was approved. Currently, a consultant has been chosen and approved, and is in design. NEPA and preliminary engineering is underway. Project is **10%** complete with pre-construction activity. If you

would like to see a map, including the Phase 1 connection to Golden Bear Gateway (GBG), you can [click here](#).

**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. Currently in final design, and NEPA studies are complete. Project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity.

**Town Center Trail Phase 4:** The City received approval from the Nashville and Eastern Railroad Authority (NERA) and RJ Corman for an easement to install a greenway trail in the railroad ROW. This trail will be installed by the Lynwood Station developer from the Train Station east to Clemmons Road. Then, the trail will follow alongside Clemmons Road to the Lynwood Station site. To see a map, you can [click here](#).

**Lebanon Road sidewalks Phases 2 & 3:**

- **Construction is substantially 100% complete.** 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 99% complete with preconstruction activity, and is currently in ROW acquisition phase. NEPA and final design are complete. **Waiting on TDOT fund obligation.** Construction is expected to start in 2024.

**MJRD Phase 2 ADA upgrades:** This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and OLDRD. It is currently **50%** complete with preconstruction activity and in final design. NEPA has been approved by TDOT, and waiting for them to obligate funds for final design.

**Woodridge Place sidewalks:** Construction of the Ph2 sidewalks on Woodridge Place connecting to GBG will begin this summer. Completion should be by the end of the year.

**Signal improvements Phases 2 & 3:**

- Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division will be undergoing improvements in Phase 2. Waiting for RJ Corman to approve agreement to cross the railroad, and for construction fund obligation from TDOT/FHWA. Phase 2 is estimated to begin construction this spring with a fall 2025 completion. Project includes installing fiber optic communication between each of the 13 signals (Central Pike to Division) that will connect to City Hall. The project is 100% complete with preconstruction activity, and will take about 18 months to complete.
- Phase 3 is in final design, which will extend from Curd Road to Lebanon Road, covering six signals. This project is **75%** complete with preconstruction activity, and in final design. NEPA was approved. Phase 3 is estimated to begin construction in fall 2025.

**Traffic signal at NMJRD and Curd Road:** In March, the BOC approved moving a signal from E. Hill Street to Curd Road and NMJRD, that will include with a small amount of widening. After

months requesting approval for the Post Office to add a back exit onto Curd Road, the Post Office decided to not approve it.

**Traffic signal on GBG and Volunteer Blvd.:** The contractor is in the process of ordering signal components and equipment. Project is 10% complete with construction.

**Traffic signal at E. Division/GBG:** Installation for this (Amazon contribution) signal is nearing completion at 90%. The poles and mast arms have been installed.

**Traffic signal at W. Division/S. Greenhill Road:** Signal is being upgraded to steel poles and mast arms with signal equipment and railroad safety components. Project is 10% complete. A contractor was selected who is in the process of ordering signal components and equipment. Estimated completion is between the end of 2024 and early Spring 2025.

**GBG/Beckwith Road Interchange Lighting:** Contract between MJ City/TDOT to improve lighting at the interchange was finalized and TDOT has begun design. Project is 15% complete with preconstruction activity.

**Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening:** Currently in process of appraisals for ROW acquisition and utility coordination. The City's sewer consultant is currently preparing design and drainage plans. Project is 90% complete with preconstruction activity. The City has closed on 75% of the tracts. Estimated construction is fall 2025, depending on utility relocation, and take about two years to complete.

**Lebanon Road widening (Park Glen to GBG):** Project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity, waiting for TDOT to fund the ROW phase. The City has applied for the Statewide Partnership Program and allocated \$3 million toward the ROW Phase to get TDOT to fund the remaining cost for ROW. Total cost for ROW is estimated around \$15 million. In the TDOT announcement in December, this project was not included in their funding plan. We do not know, or understand the reasons.

**Pleasant Grove Road widening and realignment:** 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, and performing preliminary design and NEPA phases. A new consultant has been approved and hired. The ROW design is estimated to be complete by July 2025. To see a map, you can [find it here](#).

**Golden Bear Gateway widening (Eastern Connector Phase 2):** The widening on GBG between the Cedar Creek bridge and Palermo/Curd Road is 80% complete with preconstruction activity. Utility relocation and ROW acquisition have begun. Construction is estimated to begin during 2026.

**E. Division Street widening:** The consultant, along with performing environmental technical studies, has collected the survey data and traffic data, and is currently developing the planning report for the whole corridor, which determines what

the roadway typical section needs to be based on future traffic projections. In addition, they are currently designing a quick start project at the intersection of NMJRD and E. Division Street, which includes turn lane improvements. The project is 20% complete with preconstruction activity, and will include a 4-lane median divided roadway with multi-use paths on each side, from NMJRD to just east of GBG.

**Western Connector:** The BOC Resolution deciding where the connection will begin and end has been deferred indefinitely. Project is 10% complete with preconstruction activity.

**Sunset Drive widening:** This project is 75% with preconstruction activity, and working with utilities on relocation. Design is complete.

**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 has an expected August/September completion. It is preparing to cross Old Lebanon Dirt Road (OLDRD).
- Timber Trail Pump Station Rehab project is 10% complete with construction. Once contractor receives materials, construction will begin.
- Old Lebanon Dirt Road (OLDRD) West Pocket Plan project is 100% complete with preconstruction activity, which will install sewer along OLDRD and Page Drive. Design phase is complete and ROW acquisition is being finalized. Construction will coincide with the widening project.
- John Wright Pocket Plan project is under construction.
- EQ Basin on OLDRD will be the biggest sewer project the city has seen since the late 70s/early 80s. Currently, this project is preparing for construction bidding.
- City-wide sewer manhole rehabilitation is underway and ongoing.

**Project note:** To save you the time and effort, I provide a list of various updates for your convenience. The information listed is reflected on the city website and is updated each month, as referenced here [Capital Projects Selector](#) and [Development Tracker](#).

## **MJ BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS**

**The two MJ BOC meetings in August will be on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at MJ City Hall.**

**NOTE:** The public is welcome to come and speak and/or submit comments/questions to Sheila Lockett until 4 pm prior to the meeting at [sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov](mailto:sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov). 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 the agenda, 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 option to do so on my website. It is an honor serving you and being your citizen advocate.

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