

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER



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Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

We have been enjoying the hummingbirds feeding outside the kitchen window. Some dates in September are: Labor Day the 2nd; Patriot Day the 11th; Constitution Day the 17th; First Day of Fall the 22nd; US Air Force/Air National Guard Day the 18th; National Voter Registration Day the 28th. September is also National Suicide Prevention Month. Please make sure you are registered to vote, and have a great Labor Day.

NEW BUSINESSES:

DoggyWorld Resort is now open at 1200 SMJRD. They provide daycare, boarding, and grooming services for dogs.

Grace & Mercy Kitchen is now open at 9574 Lebanon Road, and also features KND Cheesecakes. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 am - 6 pm.

Mia Pizza & Wine is the new name of (formerly) TJ's Pizza & Wine located in at 1722 NMJRD.

UPCOMING

1) 3rd Annual Celebrate Mt. Juliet Day (repeat/update):

On Saturday, September 7th, MJ Parks will host the City's 3rd 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.

2) Community Discussion on MJ indoor/outdoor complex: On Tuesday, September 10th from 6:30-7:30, Just Love Coffee will host the next community discussion regarding a new MJ indoor/outdoor sports and recreation center to be located on Clemmons Road. Public input is welcomed. Just Love Coffee Café is located at 63 Belinda Pkwy.

3) Fall Community Yard Sale (repeat/update): Mt. Juliet Parks is hosting the 2024 Fall Community Yard Sale on Saturday, September 14th from 8 am - 12 pm at Charlie Daniels Park.

4) MJ Community Health & Wellness Fair: Join MJ City and US Community Credit Union for a community-wide health and wellness fair on Thursday, September 19th from 4-7 pm in the MJ Community Center. There will be an array of health and wellness booths that provide valuable insights to overcome health challenges while improving physical fitness, financial well-being, and nutrition.

5) September 19th 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](#).*

- **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](#).
- **Providence Commons:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Providence Commons Ph2, located at 671-673 SMJRD on 7 acres, for commercial/retail. To see the submission, you can [click here](#).
- **4009 Beckwith Road:** A request for annexation and rezone for commercial has been submitted for 4009 Beckwith Road. To see the submission, you can [click 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](#).
- **448 Bass Lane:** A request for annexation has been submitted on 26 acres, located at 448 Bass Lane. To see the submission, you can [click here](#).
- **1030 Nonaville Road:** A plan has been submitted on 10 acres for 11 residential lots, located at 1030 Nonaville Road, known as Godfrey Subdivision. To see the submission, you can [click here](#).
- **Golden Bear Place:** A Major PUD Amendment has been submitted for Golden Bear Place located off Golden Bear Gateway/Beckwith Road just north of I-40. To see the submission, 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](#).
- **Shiloh Baptist Church:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Shiloh Baptist Church located at 1544 Pleasant Grove Road. To see the submission, you can [click here](#).
- **Texas Roadhouse:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Texas Roadhouse, located west of GBG at Rutland Drive/Bear Crossing, just north of I-40. To see the submission, you can [click here](#).

6) Sips & Sounds of September: Wilson Rides Inc. will hold their 3rd Annual Sips & Sounds on September 27th from 6-9 pm at Rural Hill Farm located at 9400 Couchville Pike. All proceeds will benefit Wilson Rides and there will be live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and more. Wilson Rides Inc., a 501c3 non-profit, provides seniors (55+) with transportation in Wilson County who no longer drive or seldom drive. For tickets you can [click here](#).

7) WC Election Institute: This free opportunity is provided by the Wilson County Election Commission designed to give citizens an inside look at how they prepare for elections. You will gain knowledge on Voter Registration, Ballot and Machine preparations, Candidate Information and the importance of Poll Workers, the Media and Community Outreach. You will learn how all of these functions are interrelated and how much detail is required when preparing and conducting elections. Having confidence in our county election process is important. The Wilson County Election Institute will be on Saturday, September 28th, from 8:30 am - 3 pm and include a lunch break. The location is 230 E. Gay Street in Lebanon. The class is limited so sign up today. For more details or to sign up for the class, you can [click here](#).

8) MJ BOC budget work session: The MJ Board of Commissioners will hold a public work session regarding the '24/25 fiscal budget on Wednesday, October 2nd beginning at 5:30 pm.

9) Pickleball tournament benefiting MJ Animal Shelter

(repeat/update): MJ Parks is hosting the 2nd Annual CedarStone Bank Pickles for Pups Pickleball Tournament, benefiting the [MJ Animal Shelter](#), on Saturday, October 5th. The tournament will begin at 7 am in [Mundy Park](#), located at 300 Mundy Memorial Drive. 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. To register, 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.

10) MJ BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee):

BPAC has rescheduled the [StoryWalk](#) for [Sunday, November 10th 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 4th Annual StoryWalk Week is November 10-16, 2024. The MJ BPAC is dedicated to promoting a healthier lifestyle 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.

UPDATES

1) MJ City Burn Ban: The Fire Marshal for the Mt. Juliet Fire Department has issued a city-wide burn ban due to ongoing drought conditions. The ban will remain in effect until further notice, which will also include bonfires and other recreational burning. The ban, that was issued on September 28th, will remain in effect until the area has received adequate rainfall. As of this writing, the ban was still in effect.

2) New City Attorney: The City of MJ has hired a new City Attorney, Samantha "Sam" Burnett, to carry on the business of the city after Gino Marchetti's departure. Mrs. Burnett comes from Howell and Fisher, our PEP attorneys. Gino is a partner at Taylor, Pigue, Marchetti & Blair, PLLC, and has served the city well for several years. We thank him for his many years of service to the city and also welcome Sam.

3) Veterans Memorial Wall: The Veterans Memorial Wall is under construction near the Clock Tower, on the corner of E. Division Street and NMJRD. MJ Parks is hopeful to have it completed by Veteran's Day. To submit a MJ military veteran's name for the wall, you can [click here](#). Military flags were also recently added and raised at the clock tower.

4) Senior Center facility: The BOC approved the agreed upon floor plan between MJ Parks and The MJ Senior Center. The current MJPD Headquarters will be the new location of the

Senior Center once the new headquarters is complete, and the current location has been vacated.

5) Beginner pickleball open play: MJ Parks has scheduled a second specified time for open play for beginners at the MJ Community Center, located in Charlie Daniels Park. Pickleball beginners can play from 5-7:15 pm on Friday nights, as well as 1:30-3 pm on Wednesdays. Note: A membership is required to participate in activities inside the community center and is only available to Wilson County residents. For more details about membership, you can [click here](#).

6) Restroom facilities closed: The public restrooms, located on Golden Bear Gateway across from Amazon, are closed. Due to ongoing issues with vandalism, illegal activities, and dumping, the city has spent a lot of time on maintenance and clean up. The city is exploring options for the site.

7) MJ City sales tax revenues: Revenues from June sales tax is above average by 2% 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: The remaining two stop signs are dependent upon whether or not the traffic study warrants them, which will be taken again at the 100th CO of Waterford Park. We are in discussions with legal to see if they could be installed earlier. Your patience during this long process has very much been appreciated.

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 20% 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](#).

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. Concrete pouring will occur twice a week beginning at 1 am over the next few weeks. 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. TDOT construction is estimated to align with the interchange project.

- [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. TDOT announced in December, construction will be 100% funded in their 10-year plan, and they will manage the ROW acquisition.
- The [Phase 2](#) TDOT project will be from I-40 to OHB and is 5% complete with preconstruction activity.

Cedar Creek Greenway Phase 2: Phase 2 will connect Charlie Daniels Park to Lebanon Road and currently, in design. NEPA and preliminary engineering is underway. Project is 20% complete with pre-construction activity. Contractor has or will begin the construction of the parking lot of the trailhead at Park Glen. 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 3rd 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 60% complete with preconstruction activity.
- [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 complete for Phase 2.** 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 ADA upgrades Phase 2: This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and OLDRD. It is currently **60%** 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 Phase 2 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 **in 2024** 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 constructing the pole foundations.** Project is **20%** complete with construction.

Traffic signal at E. Division/GBG: Installation for this (Amazon contribution) signal is near completion. **After the seven-day flash mode, the signal will be fully operational.**

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 **20%** complete.

Currently, the contractor is constructing the pole foundations and has installed all underground conduit, including boring under the railroad. Estimated completion is between the end of 2024 and/or 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 20% 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.

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 **September/October** 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 September will be on Monday, September 9th and Monday, September 23rd 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. 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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