

NOVEMBER 2024  
NEWSLETTER



**CONTACT:**  
(615) 393-4356

**WEBSITE:**  
[JenniferMilele.com](http://JenniferMilele.com)

**EMAIL:**  
[jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov](mailto:jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov)



# Jennifer Milele

## Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

Winter and Christmas are almost here! Dates in December are: Beginning of Advent the 1<sup>st</sup>; Giving Tuesday (charities) the 3<sup>rd</sup>; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day the 7<sup>th</sup>; National Guard birthday the 13<sup>th</sup>; Bill of Rights Day the 15<sup>th</sup>; Space Force birthday the 20<sup>th</sup>; first day of winter the 21<sup>st</sup>; Christmas Day and the beginning of Hanukkah on the 25<sup>th</sup>; Kwanzaa begins the 26<sup>th</sup>; National Pledge of Allegiance Day the 28<sup>th</sup>; followed by New Year's Eve on the 31<sup>st</sup>. The month of December is also National Giving Month. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy 2025.

### **NEW BUSINESSES:**

**FiliChateau** is a specialty Filipino-French Café & Patisserie, opening the middle of December, and is located at 1097 Weston Drive.

**Burger King**, located at 11547 Lebanon Road, will hold a Ribbon Cutting to celebrate their grand reopening on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. All are welcome.

**Honky Tonk Creamery** (Formerly Sweet CeCe's) is renovating with a new name and concept, located at 1720 NMJRD. They are also expanding into the former pizza space next door. I do not have a timeline, so watch for announcements.

### **UPCOMING**

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

- **Christmas Lights Walk** is Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm. Bring the family for a magical night walking through Willoughby Station off S. Greenhill Road. We will meet in the parking lot at 1326 Sydney Terrace, have music, snacks, and hot chocolate before the walk. The community is welcome to join the walk and festivities. The rainout date is December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**2) \*New\* Christmas in the Park (repeat/update):** This new event will feature beautifully decorated Christmas trees along the walking trail at Charlie Daniels Park, sponsored and decorated by local businesses, schools, and individuals. The display will open for viewing on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will remain up through January 2<sup>nd</sup>. For further details, you can [click here](#).

**3) Christmas Across Mt. Juliet Contest:** Get your Christmas lights and decorations out because the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas/Holiday lights contest is on. Registration is free and takes place from December 1<sup>st</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. Participants will submit pictures and videos (including sounds if any) of their outside decorations as soon as possible. Winners will be selected by the MJ Parks Board who will present gift cards and yard signs on the evening of December 12<sup>th</sup>. A current list of participants will be posted to the City's website and Facebook. The contest is sponsored by

Hutsenpiller Insurance. For category details and registration, you can [click here](#).

**4) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony:** The Christmas Store invites you to their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas tree lighting event on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm located at 2250 NMJRD. Fun giveaways will be from 9 am - 9 pm.

**5) MJ Christmas Parade:** The 2024 MJ Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm. The theme this year is "A Musical Christmas," and the rainout date is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>. The route this year will begin at West Wilson Middle School and end at MJ Middle School/Charlie Daniels Park. **NOTE:** If you are driving a vehicle/float in the parade, there is a mandatory driver's meeting on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the MJ Community Center in Charlie Daniels Park. The 2024 Christmas parade is sponsored by Two Rivers Ford. For the Grand Marshals, you can [click here](#).

**6) December 19<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](#).*

- **Lakewood Estates:** A Preliminary Plat has been submitted for Lakewood Estates, located at 1006 Guill Road. This single-family residential project is in the county. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Mt. Juliet Church of Christ:** A Plat has been submitted for a 2-lot subdivision on a portion of the church property, located at 1940 NMJRD. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Golden Bear Place:** A Preliminary Plat has been submitted for Golden Bear Place, located at 4515 Beckwith Road. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Nichols Vale Phases 9&10:** A Preliminary Plat has been submitted for Phases 9&10. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).
- **Lillian R. Beretta property:** A Final Subdivision Plat has been submitted to subdivide three lots, located at 855 Pleasant Grove Road. To see the plans, you can [click here](#).

**7) Daddy/Daughter Dance:** Tickets will be available for purchase on Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8 am. The 2025 Daddy/Daughter Dance will be Saturday, February 8, 2025. Tickets go fast, so watch for the link to purchase tickets from MJ Parks.

## UPDATES

---

**1) MJ Parks Activity Center:** The BOC recently approved the construction contract to begin renovations. The center is located on Charlie Daniels Pkwy. next to the MJPD Headquarters, and will have teen activities, etc. Completion is expected sometime this month. It is also the location for the new toddler park for ages 3-5.

**2) Veterans Memorial Wall:** The new Veterans Memorial Wall has been placed at the MJ Clock Tower, located at NMJRD/E. Division Street. If you have a local veteran connected to MJ and would like to add their name for \$3 per letter, you can [click here](#). Submissions will be engraved on the wall August 2025.

**3) LED lights on MJRD:** MJ is receiving an upgrade on poles along MJRD thanks to MTE. This will allow us to place lighted Christmas decorations on the poles through the holiday season. We hope more can be added in the future.

**4) MJ City Park restrooms:** All MJ City Park outdoor restrooms and water fountains are now closed for the winter, with the exception of Hamilton-Denson, Mundy, and football restrooms in Charlie Daniels Park.

**5) Pickles for Pups:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pickles for Pups Pickleball Tournament in October, raised \$5,180 for the MJ Animal Shelter. The tournament is sponsored by CedarStone Bank in MJ. A special thank you to Bob Jacobs for his support and all who participated.

**6) Robinson Park:** Robinson Park has been closed for the past several months due to sewer installation, and it is expected to reopen this month. Robinson Park is located behind Dairy Queen on Old Lebanon Dirt Road.

**7) Christmas trees:** The City Grapple truck(s) will pick up Christmas trees again this year during their normal routes after Christmas. Please note, only real trees, stripped bare will be picked up.

**8) MJ City sales tax revenues:** Revenues from city sales tax continue to stay above average by 13.5% over this time last year. Keep shopping local and you help fund MJPD, FDMJ, road improvements/projects, and much more.

## **STATUS REPORT: PROJECTS/CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENTS**

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

**Belinda City stormwater system:** There are three culverts to be upsized/rehabilitation around Belinda City through the Storm Water Utility (SWU) master plan. The MJ BOC just approved the engineering contract.

- Culvert under Belinda Pkwy., as part of the Mundy Park detention pond project, high priority, **bidding to come**.
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in planning/design.
- 136 Sunnymeade Drive, in planning/design.

**Providence Parkway:** **Milling and paving will begin on Providence Parkway on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> between SMJRD and Central Pike.**

**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, [is under construction](#). It consists 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 in 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 in 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. 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. If you would like to see

a map of Phases 1&2 with the new trailhead Park Glen, 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 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 Phase 3:**

- [Phase 3](#) will be between Nonaville Road and Green Hill High School and is 99% complete with preconstruction activity. ROW, NEPA and final design are complete. Waiting on TDOT construction fund obligation. Construction is expected to start this winter.

**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 sidewalk project on Woodridge Place, connecting to GBG, is 50% complete. [Completion should be in the next few weeks.](#)

#### **Signal improvements Phases 2 & 3:**

- Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division will be undergoing improvements in [Phase 2](#). The City received authorization to begin construction. Bid documents are being revised and are expected to go out soon. Contract is expected to be on the December BOC agenda for approval, and have 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:** The signal project is 80% complete with preconstruction activity, which will include some widening. Design is complete and currently acquiring ROW and utility coordination. MJ Traffic Coordinator is also working with USPS for needed easements. [The BOC was able to acquire \\$25,000 toward the cost of the signal from another project.](#)

**Traffic signal on GBG and Volunteer Blvd.:** This signal is in operation.

**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 75% complete. Currently, the contractor has installed conduit, wiring, and pole foundations, and is waiting for the signal cabinet, signal poles, and mast arms to be delivered. Estimated completion is by the end of December.

**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 77 out of the 90 tracts. Estimated construction is fall 2025, depending on utility relocation, and the project will 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. 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. There are 28 tracts for ROW, and 13 are complete. 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.

**Weston/Clearview Drives drainage:** The planning and design phase has begun to alleviate flooding from an undersized swale/culvert system. This project is part of the Storm Water Utility (SWU) engineering master plan.

**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: Phases 3&4 has an expected November/December completion. It is preparing to cross Old Lebanon Dirt Road (OLDRD). Phase 5 received the start notice and is expected to begin in January.
- 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**

**There will only be one MJ BOC meeting in December, which will be on Monday, the 9<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 Luckett 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.

**Jennifer Milele**  
**MJ City Commissioner District 4**  
**(615) 393-4356**

website: [JenniferMilele.com](http://JenniferMilele.com)

email: [jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov](mailto:jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov)

---