

JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER



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Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

Where did the summer go? We have only seen one or two hummingbirds so far. Wishing my fabulous grandson a happy August birthday, when he turns six. Hard to believe! Some dates in August are: First day of school for students is the 1st; US Coast Guard Birthday the 4th; National Navajo Code Talkers Day the 14th; National Nonprofit Day the 17th; National Senior Citizens Day the 21st. August is also National Back to School Month. Welcome back teachers and students, have a fantastic school year.

NEW BUSINESSES:

The Roasted Coconut has opened a location in MJ at 11998 Lebanon Road.

Dutch Bros Coffee is set to open the end of August, or first of September. They are located at 101 Sunset Drive. Watch for announcements.

UPCOMING

1) 2025 Bikers for Bikes: On Saturday, August 2nd, there is an all-day fundraiser event to benefit MJ Noon Rotary Projects and Wilson Rides. This is a scenic motorcycle ride through Wilson County. The registration entry fee is \$25 and will begin at 8:30 am at Kat's Bar & Grill for breakfast, located at 2037 NMJRD. To see the itinerary, auction items, and registration link, you can [click here](#).

2) Ava's Splash Pad: Beginning August 4th, Ava's Splash Pad in Charlie Daniels Park will only be open on Saturdays from 11 am - 6 pm, and on Sundays from 1-5 pm. The last day of the season is Sunday, August 31st.

3) BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee): The Annual Community Greenway Walk is scheduled for Thursday, August 14th at 6 pm. We will meet at the Trailhead parking lot (restrooms) at the signal on Golden Bear Gateway and Athletes Way, and walk 2.75 miles through the industrial park along GBG. Please bring a friend and join us for this free kid-friendly evening event, sponsored by the MJ BPAC. The rainout date is scheduled for August 28th. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

4) August 21st Planning Commission: *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](#).*

- **Rezone:** A Rezone request has been submitted for 43 E. Caldwell Street. To see the map, [click here](#).
- **Rezone:** A Rezone request has been submitted for 47 E. Caldwell Street. To see the map, [click here](#).

- **Rezone:** A Rezone request has been submitted for 3336 NMJRD. To see the map, [click here](#).
- **Plat on E. Division Street:** A Plat request to consolidate four lots on 12 acres into one, and dedicate ROW, has been submitted, located at 1401 E. Division Street (in the county). To see the rendering, [click here](#).
- **Charlie's Place PH3:** A Preliminary (PMDP) Plan and Rezone request for mixed-use on nine acres has been submitted for PH3 of Charlie's Place, located at 2250 NMJRD. To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **Waterford Park PH4:** A Final Plat has been submitted for PH4 (southern section) of Waterford Park, located on S. Rutland Drive. To see the map, [click here](#).
- **Boho Beauty:** A Site Plan Modification, located at 330 W. Division Street, has been submitted to reverse the removal of sidewalk Variance. To see the plan, [click here](#).
- **Courtyards at McFarland:** An age-restricted Preliminary (PMDP) Plan has been submitted for LUA/REZONE/ANNEX located at 5025 OLDRD. The MJ BOC approved the LUA at 1st Reading. To see the plans, [click here](#).

5) Veterans Memorial Wall: The new 2025 name submissions are due by Friday, August 29th for the Veterans Memorial Wall, honoring local veterans with connections to Mt. Juliet. The cost for the veteran's name is \$3 per letter. To sign up, please [click here](#). After you submit your form, please call 615-758-6522 for payment. The Wall is located near the Clock Tower on E. Division Street. The next opportunity to have your local veteran name(s) added will be August 2026.

6) 1st Annual Geezer Gallop: This week-long virtual 5k Walk/Run fundraiser kicks off on Sunday, September 1st and ends on Sunday, September 7th. Registration is \$60 per person and benefits Old Friends Senior Dog Sanctuary located on Nonaville Road. To register, you can [click here](#). Registration ends August 31st.

7) CraftFare Before Christmas: MJ Craft & Vendor Fair presents [CraftFare Before Christmas](#) that benefits the nonprofit [Give A Little Christmas](#) on Saturday, September 6th from 10 am - 4 pm. There will be food trucks, craft vendors, kid games, goody bags for the first 100 guests, door prizes, live music, and Santa and Mrs. Claus. Bring the family to the MJ Community Center, located in Charlie Daniels Park. This is a toy drive, so please consider bringing a new unwrapped toy as a donation for local children during Christmas.

8) 3rd Annual Live Like Ambria Day: Bring the family to Charlie Daniels Park on Saturday, September 20th beginning at 8 am. This non-profit family fun day benefits Ambria's Oasis. Whether you prefer the 5K Walk/Run (8 am), Pickleball Open Play (8 am), or Volleyball Tournament (10 am), more activities start at 11 am that includes food trucks, vendors, face painting, foam party, petting zoo, inflatables, live music and more. The Closing Circle wrap-up will take place at 3 pm. To find out more information and to register for the event(s), 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.

9) Pickleball tournament benefiting MJ Animal Shelter: MJ Parks is hosting the 3rd Annual CedarStone Bank Pickles for Pups Pickleball Tournament, benefiting the MJ Animal Shelter, on Saturday, October 4th. The tournament will begin at 8 am in Charlie Daniels Park. The entry fee per person is \$50 for one event only. Food trucks, music and prizes will be available. For registration, 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. The funds raised go toward veterinary expenses for animals in their care.

UPDATES

1) Community Food Drive: If you would like to help feed those that are locally unhoused, Jesus Provisions Ministries is collecting non-perishable food items for those in need. In addition, if you are looking for an opportunity to serve and would like to volunteer your time, you can [click here](#). JPM is a non-profit Community Outreach based in MJ.

2) MJ Help Center: The MJ Help Center takes weekly donations to help those in need. To see the current list of items needed, you can [click here](#). The MJ Help Center is dedicated to providing temporary and emergency food, utility, and clothing assistance to families in western Wilson County, and they are located at 3425B NMJRD.

3) Where in the World is Norman?: Each month, a very large cat will appear somewhere around MJ encouraging you to come eat/shop at that location. A portion of the proceeds go to True Rescue, which is a nonprofit animal rescue shelter, located at 12110 Lebanon Road. To find out more of their needs, you can [click here](#).

4) MJ City sales tax revenues: Revenues from FY25 sales tax was up by 11% over FY24, however, they came in under budget expectations by 1.35%. 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.)

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, currently in survey and design.
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in planning/design.
- 136 Sunnymead Drive, in planning/design.

Beckwith Road: The consultant is currently working on preliminary design for the full corridor. NEPA studies are complete, pending approval by TDOT. **Preconstruction is 20% complete.** This area of Beckwith Road is between I-40 and south to the four-way intersection at S. Rutland Road/Posey Hill Drive. In addition, design for the Quick Start Project at the four-way intersection is complete. ROW acquisition is complete for the Quick Start Project, and we are waiting for the relocation of utilities. Construction for the quick-start improvements is expected after utility relocation. 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. The road will have to be completed prior to occupancy. **The road project has encountered some issues with the water utility, but it is hopeful to be completed within a couple of months.** To review the plan, you can [click here](#).

Beckwith Station: **Land clearing began but has stalled, however, construction should resume shortly.** This is for a gas station, office, and eatery on the southwest corner of Beckwith Road and Summit Blvd. across from the ER. If you would like to view the layout, you can [click here](#).

SMJRD widening: 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 on the part of the city. The TDOT ROW acquisition and utility relocation phases will take around three years to complete. Per our agreement with TDOT, the City is required to fund all engineering for the project. So far, the City has spent \$1,452,832.52 on engineering. The estimated total cost for engineering is \$2,043,741.35 for this project. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction to be funded in the year 2032. **The City is working with TDOT to get the construction moved up earlier.**

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. Per our agreement with TDOT, the City was required to fund the preliminary engineering/NEPA phase of the project. Also, the City agreed to contribute an additional \$25 million towards the project. The City funded \$2,409,922.84 for the preliminary engineering/NEPA phase. No other funding is needed to complete that phase. The City has funded \$5 million of the \$25 million thus far. Therefore, the City has an outstanding balance of \$20 million. Total project commitment is \$27,409,922.84. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction to be funded in the year 2031. **UPDATE: MJ will receive a Federal BUILD Grant in the amount of \$24,666,750 for the interchange project. This project will complete the**

engineering design, ROW acquisition, and construction. The City is working with TDOT to get the construction moved up to 2029.

Central Pike widening:

This TDOT widening project to five 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. Per our agreement with TDOT, the city is required to fund all engineering and ROW acquisition for the project. The City has spent \$243,808 thus far on engineering. The estimated total cost for engineering is \$2 million for this project. The estimated total cost for ROW acquisition is \$4 million for this project. Therefore, the estimated total cost for the City is \$6 million. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction to be funded in the year 2030. [The City is working with TDOT to get the construction moved up earlier.](#)
- 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 is complete, pending TDOT approval. 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 3rd Phase of the TCT has begun that will extend from S. Greenhill Road to Mt. Juliet Elementary School, [including a trailhead parking lot](#). Currently in final design, and NEPA studies are complete. [The MJ BOC just approved an amendment to the engineering and inspection agreement for current fee rates. This phase of work will be paid for with Federal construction grant funds with 20% local match.](#) Project is 90% 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 begin this [fall](#).

MJRD ADA upgrades Phase 2: This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and

OLDRD. It is currently 80% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design. NEPA has been approved by TDOT, and waiting for them to obligate funds for final design.

Signal improvements Phases 2 & 3:

- Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division is undergoing improvements in [Phase 2](#). Construction (materials ordered) has begun, and is currently 10% complete. Completion is expected in 2026. Project includes installing fiber optic communication between each of the 13 signals (Central Pike to Division) that will connect to City Hall. The project 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 90% 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. Construction plans have been finalized, and acquiring permits from TDOT.

GBG/Beckwith Road Interchange Lighting: Contract between MJ City/TDOT to improve lighting at the interchange was finalized and TDOT has begun design. Bids are expected to go out in January and begin construction early 2026. It is funded 50% by TDOT and 50% by the city, with a portion city's being funded by development near the interchange. Project is 75% complete with preconstruction activity.

FDMJ Station #3: The new fire station under construction on Old Lebanon Dirt Road is ahead of schedule. Targeted completion is the end of this year. This location will replace the current Station #3 on E. Hill Street.

MJPD Headquarters: The new police headquarters is nearing the end, located on Charlie Daniels Pkwy. Plans to move-in are expected to occur this summer/early fall.

Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening: Project is 95% complete with preconstruction activity and ROW acquisition. Estimated construction is Spring 2026. Utility relocation has begun and is expected to complete in the Spring of 2026. Construction will follow and will take about two years to complete. The primary purpose of this project is safety improvements and not roadway capacity improvements. This widening project seeks to correct these issues and decrease the crash rate along the corridor. The limits of the first phase of the project are from Moreland Drive to Chandler Road. Other components of the project will include providing a 10-foot trail on one side of the road for multimodal transportation options, improving poor drainage and flooding along the corridor, and extending sanitary sewer along a portion of the project. Therefore, this project is a road widening, multimodal, stormwater, and sanitary sewer project all in one.

Lebanon Road widening (Park Glen to GBG): Project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity. 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. Per our agreement with TDOT, the City is required to fund all engineering for the project. So far, the City has spent \$855,473.17 on engineering. This project is currently on hold because TDOT has not chosen to fund the ROW acquisition phase or the Construction Phase yet. Once those phases are funded by TDOT, the City will be required to resume engineering expenses. The estimated total cost for engineering is \$2 million for this project. TDOT is constructing a safety plan improvement in front of West Elementary to add a center turn lane. Project will complete by August 2026.

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. NEPA is complete, pending TDOT approval. The ROW design is estimated to be completed mid-year. 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 90% complete with preconstruction activity. ROW acquisition is complete, and waiting on utility relocation. Construction is estimated to begin during 2026.

E. Division Street widening: NEPA is complete, pending TDOT approval. In addition, a Quick Start Project is in design for 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: Design is complete, This project is 75% with preconstruction activity, and working with utilities on relocation.

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.

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 MJ BOC meetings in August are on the 11th and 25th 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 slockett@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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