

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



CONTACT:
(615) 393-4356

WEBSITE:
JenniferMilele.com

EMAIL:
jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov



Jennifer Milele

Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

Remember Daylights Savings Time ends on November 2nd; Other dates in November are: USMC Birthday the 10th, Veterans Day the 11th, Thanksgiving the 27th; Small Business Saturday the 29th; November is Veterans and Military Family Month, and Child Safety and Protection Month. Keep those non-profits in mind for Giving Tuesday on December 2nd. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

NEW BUSINESSES:

Brass Dragon Games is now open, located at 11908 Lebanon Road. They have all kinds of games, accessories, collectibles, and gifts.

Bed Bath & Beyond Home is now open in Providence Marketplace (previously Kirkland's).

Tim Hortons is estimated to have a late November opening located at 10576 Lebanon Road.

UPCOMING

1) 13th Annual Home for the Holidays: On Saturday, November 8th, MJ's largest and longest running holiday vendor and craft fair will hold their 13th annual event at the MJ Community Center from 10 am - 3 pm. There will be live music, food trucks/vendors, plenty of vendor booths, and more. MJ Community Center is located in Charlie Daniels Park.

2) MJ Veterans Wall unveiling #2: On Monday, November 10th at 2 pm, the MJ Veterans Wall will have its second unveiling with the latest names added over the last year since its initial unveiling. The wall is located behind the clock tower on the corner of E. Division and NMJRD. All are welcome.

3) MJ Christmas tree lighting: Join us for the lighting of the Christmas tree to kick off the season on Tuesday, November 18th at the MJ Clock Tower located at the corner of NMJRD/E. Division Street. Bring the family for this exciting event, presented by Shiloh Baptist Church, that will begin at 5 pm. Santa pictures will be available from 5-6 pm. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

4) November 20th 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](#).*

- **E. Division Business Park:** LUA/Rezone/Annex/Plan has been submitted on 47 acres for a business park off E. Division Street (1940, 2062, 2106, p/o 1800 & 1830, and 535 Hunting Hills Drive). To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **Victory Nissan MJ:** A Site Plan has been submitted at 505 Pleasant Grove Road. To see the plans, [click here](#).

- **Fifth Third Bank MJ Central:** Construction Plans have been submitted at 1901 NMJRD. To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **Golden Bear Wine & Spirits:** Final plans and Site Plans have been submitted at 6300 Golden Bear Gateway. To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **Cedar Creek Estates:** A Plat has been submitted for 11 residential lots at 1030 Nonaville Road. To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **Providence Central:** A PUD Amendment has been submitted to add a usage. To see the letter, [click here](#).
- **115 Oakmont Drive:** A Rezone for a Major Subdivision Layout on 10 acres has been submitted. To see the plans, [click here](#).

5) 4th Annual Sips & Sounds: Wilson Rides Inc. will hold their 4th Annual Sips & Sounds on Thursday, November 20th from 6-9 pm at Farm Bureau Expo Center located at 945 E. Baddour Pkwy. in Lebanon. Funds raised will go directly to Wilson Rides and there will be live music by Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriters and food. To see the flyer, [click here](#). 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](#).

6) Thanksgiving Food Drive: Jesus Provisions Ministries is holding their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for those in need. JPM is needing donated items for this holiday food drive and you can [click here](#) to see the flyer with details. JPM is a MJ ministry where 100% of donations goes back in the community. To find out more, you can [click here](#).

7) Christmas in the Park: MJ Parks will once again hold their decorating of the walking trail in Charlie Daniels Park with Christmas trees. The trees are sponsored by local businesses and individuals. Decorating takes place on Saturday, November 29th and Sunday, November 30th. Public viewing of the trees will begin Monday, December 1st. Participation costs \$100 and is open to various groups and individuals for decoration purposes such as advertising, honoring a loved one, or showing school spirit. There will be cash prizes, so reserve your tree at the MJ Community Center. Sponsors of this fundraising event are Lynda and Carl Senkbeil, with proceeds benefiting Give A Little Christmas and Big Brothers of MJ. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

8) Christmas Across Mt. Juliet Contest: The 6th Annual Christmas/Holiday lights contest is in the planning stage with the MJ Parks Board. Get your lights and decorations ready and watch for announcements. Entries will begin Sunday, November 30th.

9) MJ BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee):

- **Christmas Lights Walk** is scheduled for Monday, December 15th 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 22nd. To see the flyer, you can [click here](#).

UPDATES

1) **MJ Help Center: If you are aware of someone and/or a family in need due to the suspension of SNAP benefits, the MJ Help Center is prepared to assist with your food needs during November, thanks to donations. Also, if you would like to donate, you can find the needs list from this week by [clicking here](#). The MJ Help Center is located at 3425B NMJRD. For county-wide food banks, you can [click here](#).

2) New MJPD Chief and Deputy City Manager: The MJ BOC approved to create a new position of Deputy City Manager. Former MJPD Chief Michael Mullins has been hired to fill this position. In addition, former MJPD Deputy Chief Tyler Chandler has been named the new MJPD Chief. Congratulations to both.

3) TBI investigation: As media has reported, the director of our IT Department, along with another employee, have been terminated. Evidence for theft was turned over to DA Jason Lawson, and then went to TBI. I personally don't know details so cannot comment until the investigation is complete. We all have questions and want full transparency. We will receive a copy of the investigation once complete.

4) **Candy during the Christmas Parade: The MJ Christmas Parade Committee has decided **NOI** to allow candy to be thrown from the vehicles and/or floats going forward. If participants of the parade decide to give out candy, they **MUST** walk down the sidewalk and **HAND IT OUT**. This year's Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 13th. There is a new route this year that is shorter, that will begin at West Wilson Middle School on NMJRD and end on E. Division Street at the train station. I wanted to go ahead and get the candy notice out as soon as possible. Please watch for any further details regarding the candy if this changes.

5) Results for pickleball tournament benefiting MJ Animal Shelter: The 3rd Annual Pickles for Pups Pickleball Tournament raised over \$11k for animal expenses at the shelter. This is phenomenal! A special thank you for the title sponsor CedarStone Bank, as well as all the other sponsors that jumped on board, On behalf of the animal shelter and the animals in their care, THANK YOU! To see list of sponsors, [click here](#).

6) Remaining MJ BOC meetings in 2024 (repeat/update): There are only **three** meetings remaining in 2025: November 10th, November 24th, and December 8th. We will not meet on December 22nd because of Christmas.

7) MJ City sales tax revenues: Revenues from FY25 sales tax was up by **4.22%** over this time in FY24. 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.*)

(Various in my District)

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. **Turn lanes are complete and should be in operation soon. This road was paid for by the developer.** To review the plan, you can [click here](#).

Beckwith Station: Land clearing has resumed. 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](#).

(Trails and Sidewalks)

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:** Final design for the 3rd Phase of the TCT is in process that will extend from S. Greenhill Road to Mt. Juliet Elementary School, including a trailhead parking lot. This phase of work will be paid for with Federal construction grant funds with 20% local match that was just secured. Project is 99% complete with preconstruction activity. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2026.
- **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. The Federal construction grant funds have been secured. Construction is expected to begin **Spring 2026**.

MJRD ADA upgrades Phase 2: This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and OLDRD. It is currently 95% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design. NEPA has been approved by TDOT, and waiting for them to obligate funds for final design. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2026.

(Signals and Lighting)

Signal improvements Phases 2 & 3:

- Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division is undergoing improvements in [Phase 2](#). Construction has begun, and is currently 30% 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 is expected to be completed by August 2026.](#)
- [Phase 3](#) extends from Curd Road to Lebanon Road, covering six signals. This project is 90% complete with preconstruction activity. [Final plans were approved by TDOT.](#) Phase 3 is estimated to begin construction [Spring/Summer 2026.](#)

Traffic signal at NMJRD and Curd Road: The signal project is 100% complete with preconstruction activity, which includes some widening and acquiring ROW and utility coordination. [Bids will go out November 14th. If the bids come in within budget, construction will start shortly after the new year.](#)

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 90% complete with preconstruction activity.

[\(City Capital Building Projects\)](#)

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. [This project is complete.](#)

[\(City Capital Road projects and TDOT Projects\)](#)

Beckwith Road (South): 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, the Quick Start Project is waiting for the relocation of [MTE poles. Bids will go out after utility completion, followed by construction for the Quick Start improvements, which is estimated to begin Spring/Summer 2026.](#) To see a closeup of the quick start plan, 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 60% 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 20% 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.

Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening: Project is 95% complete with preconstruction activity and ROW acquisition. **Bids expected to go out in January. If the bids come in within budget,** estimated construction will begin in Spring 2026. Utility relocation has begun and is expected to complete Spring 2026. Construction will follow and will take about two years to complete. 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.

(Storm Water Utility Projects)

Belinda City stormwater system: There are three culverts to be upsized/rehabilitation around Belinda City through the Storm Water Utility (SWU) master plan.

- Culvert under Belinda Pkwy., as part of the Mundy Park detention pond project, currently in survey and design. Bids were due to go out this fall. To see the design, [click here](#).
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in planning/design.
- 136 Sunnymeade Drive, in planning/design.

Weston Drive/Clearview Drive 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 November are on the 10th and 24th 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.

Jennifer Milele
MJ City Commissioner District 4
(615) 393-4356
website: JenniferMilele.com
email: jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov