

MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER



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Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

Spring has arrived and the bluebirds have claimed the nest box! I sure do enjoy seeing them every year. Dates in April are; Tax Day the 15th, Good Friday the 3rd, Easter Sunday the 5th, and Adopt a Shelter Pet Day the 30th. April is also Child Abuse Awareness Month, Donate Life Awareness Month, and Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

NEW BUSINESSES:

Pelican's SnoBalls is now open for the season, located at 2365 NMJRD.

Compassion Coffee is a missions-based coffee house that is now open, located at 11674 Lebanon Road.

Texas Roadhouse is set to open April 6th, located at 105 Bear Crossing.

UPCOMING

1) Will Sellers (Dog Park): The Dog Park has been closed during March for maintenance, and is set to reopen Wednesday, April 1st. The location is 151 SE Springdale Road.

2) Music Matters: On Saturday, April 4th at 4 pm, Spotify will sponsor and MJ artist Que K will host this music event. Live performances will be featured from area known Spotify artist and Grammy attendant Meghan Pulles. Food and snacks provided for the free family-friendly event for the community to enjoy, and will end at 8 pm.

3) 2026 Elections: In 2026, there will be three elections **(repeat/updated):**

- **Last day to register to vote in County Primary;** April 6th
- **County Primary** May 5th, Early Voting April 15th-30th
- **Federal & State Primary/County General;** August 6th, Early Voting July 17th-August 1st
- **November General/City Elections;** November 3rd, Early Voting October 14th-29th
- For more details and to register to vote, [click here](#).

4) CASA 5K Ruck: On Saturday, April 11th from 11 am - 1 pm, a fundraiser is planned for Wilson County CASA in Charlie Daniels Park. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$20 per family. CASA supports children that have been abused and neglected in our community. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

5) Kyler's Impact Shootout: At the MJ Community Center on Sunday, April 12th from 12-4 pm, join the fun for a basketball shootout benefiting Kyler's Impact Foundation. This event is designed for everyone regardless of skill level. The MJ Community Center is located in Charlie Daniels Park. For

details/registration, [click here](#). KIF was created to honor Kyler's love for basketball, friendship, and being a great teammate.

6) April 16th MJ 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](#).*

- **Providence Central West:** A Preliminary Plat and Mass Grading Plan have been submitted, located at 7110 Central Pike as a part of the Providence Central PUD. The PP is to divide 96 acres into four lots. To see the PP, [click here](#).
- **Lockbox Self-Storage:** A Preliminary Plan has been submitted for 12337 Lebanon Road, to split zoning from CG to include I-R. To see the PMDP, [click here](#).

7) Geezer Gala Masquerade: Old Friends Senior Dog Sanctuary will hold their big fundraiser event on Friday, April 24th from 6-9 pm. This event, to be held at City Winery in Nashville, helps supports the lifelong care and medical needs of their senior dog residents. There will be live entertainment, live and silent auctions, moving stories, and a few pup appearances. To assure seating, it is encouraged to purchase tickets by April 8th. For more details and to donate and/or purchase tickets, [click here](#).

8) MJ Animal Shelter Spring Yard Sale/Adoption: In honor of National Adopt-a-Shelter-Pet Day in April, the MJ Animal Shelter will hold their annual yard sale/adoption event on Friday, April 24th and Saturday, April 25th, from 8 am - 2 pm. If you have items you would like to donate for the yard sale, please contact the shelter at 615-773-5533.

9) Walk for Life Event: This is a family-friendly opportunity to help the Pregnancy Care Center (4989 Lebanon Road) raise support and awareness. The walk is at Charlie Daniels Park on Saturday, April 25th from 9:30-11:30 am. Registration begins at 9 am under Pavilion #2. You can [register online here](#).

10) The Iron Foot 50: The Iron Foot 50 benefits the MJ Police Foundation, which directly supports our MJPD officers. On Saturday, April 25th in Charlie Daniels Park, this fundraising challenge is arranged by groups or even solo. For details, [click here](#). This isn't a race, but a chance to challenge yourself, have fun, and make a difference. To register/donate, [click here](#).

11) 2026 Bubble Walk/Run: Life Options Network is hosting its family-friendly Inaugural Bubble Walk/Run 5k on Saturday, May 2nd at 8:30 am at Charlie Daniels Park. There will be breakfast vendors available and you will walk/run through lots of bubbles. Early bird pricing through April 10th. LON, located at 15297 Lebanon Road, provides resource information for mothers and struggling families receive the help they need, such as food, clothing, childcare and shelter. For more information, [click, here](#).

12) BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee):

- **The 11th Annual BPAC Ride Mt. Juliet** is Sunday, May 3rd from 2-4 pm beginning at the Cedar Creek Trail Head in Charlie Daniels Park. We will ride bicycles (or walk) using the Cedar Creek Greenway. MJPD will hold a bike rodeo

for young kids prior to the event, and kids 12 or under can register for a bike giveaway. Rainout date is May 17th. Bring the family and join us for a great afternoon. Helmets are required. Watch for details.

13) OLDRD closure notice (repeat/update): Old Lebanon Dirt Road (east of SMJRD) has temporary closures due to construction in two phases. Work to be completed by June 30th. PHASE 1: The eastbound lane is closed through May 22nd between NMJRD and Cedar Drive. PHASE 2: Full closure will begin May 23rd to June 30th between the entrance of Valley Center (on OLDRD) to 5404 OLDRD.

UPDATES

1) One-year Moratorium: The MJ BOC approved (3/1) a pause on multifamily developments in two zonings, RM-16 (apartments) and RM-8 (townhomes/condos). This is not what you may think it is. To see my reasons for voting no, [click here](#).

2) Spring paving schedule: If you would like to see the spring paving schedule by Public Works, you can [click here](#).

3) MJ City sales/property tax revenues: Sales tax revenues were up by 5.82% over this time last year. **Property taxes collected for 2025 were \$6.1M, with \$155k delinquent.** Keep shopping local and you help fund MJP, 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 Station: **Vertical construction is underway.** 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 final 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:** Phase 3 received the notice from TDOT to proceed with the construction. It will extend from S. Greenhill Road to Mt. Juliet Elementary School, and include a trailhead parking lot. This phase of work will be paid for with Federal construction grant funds with 20% local match that was secured. Construction is expected to begin **Spring/Summer 2026**. Low bid came in \$300k under budget, TDOT is reviewing.

- [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.

[\(Signals and Lighting\)](#)

ITS & 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 50% 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: Contractor has been selected, and signal equipment is preparing to be ordered. Construction for road widening should start in [April](#).

GBG/Beckwith Road Interchange Lighting: Contract between MJ City/TDOT to improve lighting at the interchange was finalized. Estimated construction is Spring 2026. It is funded 50% by TDOT and 50% by the city, with a portion city's being funded by development near the interchange.

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

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. 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, or we lose the federal grant.**

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 60% 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: Bids just went out and estimated construction will begin in [Spring/Summer 2026](#), if low bid is accepted. 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. There is not an estimated completion on ROW design at this time. 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, is currently in easement acquisition. Bids are now expected to go out this spring. To see the design, [click here](#).
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in design. Moving forward with final design by Resolution.
- 136 Sunnymeade Drive, in design. Moving forward with final design by Resolution.

Weston Drive/Clearview Drive drainage: Currently in easement acquisition. The plan is 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 two MJ BOC meetings in April will be on the 13th and 27th at 6:30 pm, at MJ City Hall.

NOTE: The public is welcome to come and speak and/or submit comments/questions to Jennifer Hamblen until 4 pm prior to the meeting at jhamblen@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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