

AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER



CONTACT:
(615) 393-4356

WEBSITE:
JenniferMilele.com

EMAIL:
jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov



Jennifer Milele

Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

This year is flying by. I would like to just say how blessed we are to live in Mt. Juliet. It is a wonderful city and we have so much to be thankful for. There are a lot of new businesses coming. Stay tuned. Some dates in September are: Labor Day the 7th; 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 15th. VFW Day the 29th; September is also National Suicide Prevention Month. Please make sure you are registered to vote, and have a great Labor Day.

NEW BUSINESSES:

CocoPilla is now open and serving gelatos in Charlie's Place at 2234 NMJRD.

Casa Mezcal Mexican Grill is now open after a long-awaited time. They are located at 11804 Lebanon Road.

Good Clean Fun is planning for their Grand Opening over the Labor Day Weekend beginning Saturday, September 5th. The Family Entertainment Center is located at 1241 NMJRD.

UPCOMING

1) 2026 Team Hope Walk TN (repeat/update): A fundraiser for Huntington's Disease awareness will take place at Charlie Daniels Park on Saturday, September, 5th beginning at 11 am, hosted by the Huntington's Disease Society of America TN Chapter. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

2) Ava's Splash Pad (repeat/update): Ava's Splash Pad is only open this Saturday 11 am - 6 pm, and Sunday 1-5 pm. The last day of the season is September 6th.

3) 9/11 Memorial Event: The community will gather at the train station (clock tower) at 8:30 am on Friday, September 11th to pause, reflect, and honor the lives lost and the heroes who gave everything. All are invited. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

4) MJ Fall Community Yard Sale (repeat/update): On Saturday, September 12th at Charlie Daniels Park from 8 am - 12 pm, MJ Parks is hosting the annual fall yard sale and is currently taking reservations for vendor spots. Spots are 20'x20' for \$20 each. To reserve your spot, [click here](#). Registration ends September 9th at 5 pm. The ARC Truck will also be on-site for donations of unsold items.

5) MJ Market Night: Bring the family to Charlie Daniels Park on Tuesday, September 15th from 5:30-8 pm. MJ Parks is bringing back their MJ Market Night, which is a great opportunity to support local businesses and food trucks. There also will be a foam party and music. If you are a local small business looking for a fun way to promote your business, you can get a vendor

booth for \$10. The deadline to register is September 10th. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

6) September 17th 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](#).

- **1402 Fairview Drive:** A Subdivision Plat for two lots has been submitted for the Kolshi property on 4.87 acres. To see the layout, [click here](#).
- **578 S. Greenhill Road:** An Annexation request has been submitted.
- **11233 Lebanon Road:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Lightbridge Academy. To see the SP, [click here](#).
- **Silver Springs Church addition:** A Site Plan Modification for an addition and parking has been submitted for 9938 Lebanon Road. To see the SP, [click here](#).
- **80 Belinda Pkwy.:** A Concept Plan has been submitted for Nashville MotorCars. To see the CP, [click here](#).
- **12440 Lebanon Road:** A Final Plan/Site Plans have been submitted for Ballard's at Elliot Reserve (commercial). To see the FMDP, [click here](#).
- **Mt. Juliet Cheerville:** An Site Plan has been submitted at 235 Bear Crossing in Legacy Pointe. To see the SP, [click here](#).
- **6235 Central Pike:** A PUD Amendment has been requested by the Tillman project to waive two Public Works conditions regarding a signal and turn lane at Pleasant Grove. To see the request, [click here](#).
- **Providence Central – Town Center:** A Final Plan has been submitted for Area B1 on Providence Pkwy. West. To see the FMDP, [click here](#).
- **1271 E. Division Street:** An Annexation/Land Use Amendment/Rezone/Plan on 12 acres have been submitted for East Division Street Industrial (Logistics). To see the PMDP, [click here](#).
- **3336 NMJRD:** A Site Plan has been submitted for Greypoint Commons on 1.37 acres for retail/office. To see the SP, [click here](#).
- **Property Rezones for Downtown Overlay:** Rezone requests have been submitted for Commercial Town Center (CTC). To see the properties and zoning maps, [click here](#).
- **Construction Plans for Golden Bear Gateway:** Mass Grading Plans have been submitted on 9.89 acres at Volunteer Blvd. To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **8025 Ritter Drive:** A Preliminary Plat has been submitted for Reserve at Whispering Meadows on 17 acres for 14 single family homes. There is no indication of annexation request that I can see. To see the PP, [click here](#).

7) 4th Annual Live Like Ambria Day: Bring the family for a day of fun to Charlie Daniels Park on Saturday, September 19th. This non-profit family fun day benefits Ambria's Oasis. Whether you prefer the 5K Walk/Run (8 am) or the Pickleball Bash open play (8 am - 12:30 pm), more activities will follow from 10 am - 2 pm and include food trucks, vendors, live music and excitement for kids. To see the flyer, [click here](#). To register for the event(s), [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.

8) Walk 4 PICS Nashville/MJ: You are invited to Charlie Daniels Park on Saturday, September 26th for the Annual Walk 4 PICS event. The 5k starts at 8 am, and the walk program is at 10 am. You can walk any distance to challenge your body while raising awareness of this complicated syndrome. Of those who survive critical illness, many experience Post-Intensive Care Syndrome (PICS)—a collection of new or worsening impairments in the cognitive, physical, or mental health realm after a stay in the ICU. For additional information about the event, [click here](#).

9) Spud & Butter Fundraiser (repeat/update): Now through September 30th, every desert makes a difference. Eat dessert and give back. Spud & Butter is located 2059 NMJRD.

- Every brownie purchased helps support [Friends of MJ Animal Shelter](#), benefiting the animals of the shelter.
- Every banana pudding purchased helps support [The MJ Help Center](#), serving neighbors in our community.

10) Pickleball tournament benefiting MJ Animal Shelter (repeat/update): MJ Parks is hosting the 4th Annual Pickles for Pups Pickleball Tournament, benefiting the MJ Animal Shelter, on Saturday, October 3rd, beginning at 8 am. First Financial Bank is the featured sponsor and registration is now open. [Click here](#) to reserve your spot. 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.

11) November 3rd Election: The third and last election of 2026 is for General and City Elections. Early voting begins on October 14th and ends October 29th. Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd. The last day to register for this election is October 5th. To register, [click here](#).

12) Jacque Benton Memorial Spaghetti Days (repeat/update): The MJ 55+ Senior Activity Center is holding their annual fundraiser on Thursday, October 15th and Friday, October 16th. Details have not been posted yet so watch for announcements. You can call for questions at 615-758-9114.

13) Cheers to Giving Event: A fundraiser to benefit the MJ Help Center will be held at Circle P Ranch on Saturday, November 7th from 1-4 pm. There will be games, live music, tastings (eats/alcohol), and a silent auction. All proceeds will benefit the help center. Circle P Ranch is located at 563 E. Main Street. Tickets go live on September 1st, to get yours, [click here](#).

UPDATES

1) Repeal of MJ “Home Rule” Charter: Voters in MJ City will have the opportunity on November 3rd to decide whether or not to repeal the Home Rule Charter. The City will hold five public townhall meetings beginning in September, so that residents can be fully informed. What does it mean? What will not

change? Why Now? [Click here](#) to see the meeting schedules. The one in my District 4, will be on Tuesday, September 22nd from 6:30-7:30 pm at Providence Church on S. Rutland Road. Please find one that is convenient for you. Bring your questions. This is a very important decision for MJ.

2) U-turns in MJ: I sponsored an Ordinance Amendment that has now passed 2nd Reading, because most people did not know that U-turns were illegal in the city, even though signage was not posted. That was not fair in my opinion. Now, they are legal and line up with State law. MJPD and Public Works will take some time to evaluate certain areas and then make determinations of whether or not to place signage making U-turns illegal in select areas. Signs will not be placed citywide.

3) Microchip Scanning Stations: MJ now has five Pet Microchip Scanning Stations to help lost pets find their way home. One quick scan could be the difference between a lost pet and a happy reunion. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

- Charlie Daniels Park (near football field)
- Will Sellers Bark Park on SE Springdale Drive
- MJ Fire Station #1 on Belinda Pkwy.
- MJ Fire Station #2 on N. Greenhill Road (next to high school)
- MJ Fire Station #3 on Old Lebanon Dirt Road

4) E-bike & e-scooter education: There has been a lot of confusion on whether or not e-bikes/scooters are allowed on public sidewalks, greenways, and streets. Simply put, Class 1 & 2 e-bikes/scooters are allowed on public greenways and streets, just like traditional bicycles. On public sidewalks however, the electric motor must be turned off. This also will be a discussion item on the BPAC agenda tonight. NOTE: The trail along Providence Trail is privately-owned by the HOA where e-bikes/scooters are NOT allowed. There are two places of information shared by MJPD, [click here](#) and [here](#).

5) Dropbox for Retired U.S. Flags: There is now a waterproof drop-off box for worn American flags, located outside the MJ Community Center. This was a project built by MJ Eagle Scout, Ethan Ollis (17). The community center is located in Charlie Daniels Park. Thank you Ethan for noticing the lack of flag disposal options in MJ and making this your Eagle Scout project.

6) Fall paving schedule: If you would like to see the fall paving schedule inside the city limits, [click here](#).

7) Belinda Pkwy. PH2 Sidewalk Grant (repeat/update): The MJ Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) and the MJ BOC approved applying for another grant opportunity for Phase 2 of the Belinda Pkwy. sidewalk expansion project. It would begin at the Mundy Park Trailhead (on the northside of Belinda Pkwy.) to S. Rutland Road and connect to the existing trail on the Providence Church property. This is the second grant applied for on this expansion project. MJ was not awarded the first grant for PH2 three years ago. It will take months, if not longer, to find out whether or not MJ is awarded this grant.

8) MJ City sales tax revenues: Sales tax revenues were up last month by **7.77%** over the same time in FY25. 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: Construction is underway. This is for a (BP) gas station, office, and Tim Horton's, 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)

Sidewalk on SE Springdale Drive: The sidewalk connection from Belinda Pkwy., along Will Sellers Park (Bark Park), to the walking path behind Rutland Elementary is **close to completion**.

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 40% 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:** Construction has begun. 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. Project is **10%** complete and completion is expected within 12 months.
- **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 Nonville Road and Green Hill High School on both sides and is 100% complete with preconstruction activity. The Federal construction grant funds have been secured. **Construction is expected to begin in September and be completed in approximately eight months.**

MJRD ADA upgrades Phase 2: This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and OLDRD. **Project is out for bid, and construction is expected to begin by the end of the year.**

(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 90% 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.
- [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 in 2026.

Traffic signal at NMJRD and Curd Road: Construction for road widening is underway and 20% complete. The entire project is expected to be completed by the [end of the year](#).

GBG/Beckwith Road Interchange Lighting: Contract between MJ City/TDOT to improve lighting at the interchange was finalized. [Bids have been sent out and estimated construction is this fall](#). 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 30% complete. This area of Beckwith Road is between I-40 and south to the four-way intersection at S. Rutland Road/Posey Hill Drive. Development south of I-40 is likely and will help speed up the capital widening project. 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](#).

I-40/Central Pike Interchange: TDOT phase is in surveying, environmental, engineering, and finalizing design. Project is 80% complete with preconstruction activity. ROW acquisition is set to begin in 2026. The City will contribute \$25 million towards the project. The City has funded \$5 million of the \$25 million thus far. MJ will receive a Federal BUILD Grant in the amount of \$24,666,750 for the interchange project. TDOT announced the Central Pike interchange project has moved up by two years for construction, from 2031 to 2029. This also helps secure the \$24.6M federal grant. [Construction is expected to be three years](#).

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. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction. TDOT announced SMJRD was moved up by one year for construction from 2032, to 2031.

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.

- [Phase 1](#) is between I-40 and SMJRD and is 60% complete with preconstruction activity. The MJ BOC just approved \$600,935 for the design of PH1, that is to be spread out over the next two to three years to complete the final design phase of the project. Construction is set to begin in 2032.
- The [Phase 2](#) TDOT project will be from I-40 to OHB and is 5% complete with preconstruction activity. Waiting on TDOT to budget the project.

Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening: Construction is underway. [The speed limit has been reduced](#), so please use caution during this two-year project. 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 safety initiative project is a road widening, multimodal, stormwater, and sanitary sewer project all in one.

Lebanon Road widening (from Park Glen): The City was just awarded \$12M in Federal grant money to fund the ROW acquisition of this project. This also means that the project is guaranteed to receive Federal funding for the construction phase when the time comes. The City has approximately two years remaining to complete the engineering phase. [Preconstruction activity is 50% complete](#). The ROW acquisition is expected to start in late 2028/early 2029. [NOTE: This project is inside the city limits. Beyond city limits is the jurisdiction of Wilson County/TDOT.](#)

Pleasant Grove Road widening and realignment: The widening will be a 3-lane roadway from Old Pleasant Grove Road to Central Pike with multi-use paths on each side. Project is [30% complete with preconstruction activity](#). [NEPA was approval. In final design with ROW plans.](#)

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. [Utility construction relocation is estimated to begin during 2026. The city was awarded a federal grant to implement safety improvements between Lebanon Road and Curd Road.](#)

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 whole project is 20% complete with preconstruction activity, and [currently doing NEPA technical studies](#). We expect to gain significant road improvements through development(s).

Sunset Drive widening: Design is complete. This project is 75% with preconstruction activity, and working with utilities on relocation.

E. Hill Street: E. Hill Street is part of the Lynnwood Station development project, paid for by the developer. It will extend east and connect to Clemmons Road. The connection must be completed by the 100th Certificate of Occupancy (CO). Currently they are at the 56th.

(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., is part of the Mundy Park detention pond project. This project is in conjunction with the project in Clearview. The BOC just approved the construction contract. To see the design, [click here](#).
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in final design. Construction is expected Summer '27.
- 136 Sunnymeade Drive, in final design. Construction is expected Summer '27.
- The entire water drainage basin in this area is being studied and is in engineering.

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 September will be on the 14th and 28th 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. 7 years of service. A record of results.

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

website: JenniferMilele.com
email: jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov
