

SEPTEMBER 2026
NEWSLETTER



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Can you believe it is Fall already? Some dates in October are: US Navy Birthday the 13th; Columbus Day the 12th; National Medical Assistants Day the 21st; National Tennessee Day the 26th; National Civics Day the 27th; National First Responders Day the 28th; Halloween the 31st; Fire Prevention Week 4-10th; National Health Education Week 18-24th; National Red Ribbon Week 23-31st; Adopt a Shelter Dog Month; Fire Prevention Month; and Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Happy fall everyone.

NEW BUSINESSES:

Rock N Roll Sushi is now open, located at 1913 NMJRD.

Waffle House is now open, located at 12085 Lebanon Road.

UPCOMING

1) Movie in the Park: The final Movie in the Park of the summer will be Friday, October, 2nd at 6:55 pm, featuring "Hook." Bring the family, blankets, chairs, and bug spray to Charlie Daniels Park for the last movie of the season. The movie is free, and concessions available for purchase. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

2) Meet & Greet events with Jennifer: I am holding two Meet & Greet events for City District 4 to sit down and hear what is on your mind—growth, traffic, what matters most to you, your vision for MJ's future, or anything else you would like to talk about. Come meet with me and grab a coffee or a bite.

- Tuesday, October 6th from 10-11:30 am at Just Love Coffee at 63 Belinda Pkwy. Coffee is on me. [Click here for the flyer](#).
- Thursday, October 8th from 6-7:30 pm at M.L. Rose Neighborhood Pub at 401 S. Mt. Juliet Road. Finger foods on me. [Click here for the flyer](#).

3) Early voting for November 3rd Election: The third and last election of 2026 is for Federal & State General and Municipal (local) Elections. Early voting begins on October 14th and ends October 29th. The last day to register for this election is October 5th. To register, [click here](#). Remember, if you live inside the city limits of MJ, you will decide on the "Repeal of the Home Rule Charter," as well as decide on "MJ City Commission seats for Districts 2 & 4." Please early vote, it matters.

4) October 15th 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](#).

- **327 Glenwood Drive:** A Rezone request has been submitted from RS-40 to CRC. To see the map, [click here](#).

- **58 Hatcher Lane:** A Final Plat has been submitted for re-subdivision. To see the draft, [click here](#).
- **2053 Sanford Drive:** A Final (Combined) Plat has been submitted. This property is in the county. To see the initial submittal, [click here](#).
- **Stonehollow PH 6&8:** A Final Plat has been submitted, To see the initial submittal, [click here](#).
- **2425 Nonaville Road:** A Final Plat has been submitted for re-subdivision. This property is in the county, To see the initial submittal, [click here](#).
- **Courtyards at McFarland:** A preliminary plan amendment has been submitted, located between Old Lebanon Dirt Road and E. Division Street. To see the plan as amended, [click here](#).
- **420 Providence Pkwy.:** Final Plans and Site Plans have been submitted as a part of Providence Central, known as Traditions. To see the FMDP/Site Plan, [click here](#).

5) 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, sponsored by MJ Breakfast Rotary Club. [Tickets are \\$20 each for a delicious spaghetti dinner. You can get your tickets at 1021 Charlie Daniels Pkwy.](#) or call 615-758-9114. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

6) Distracted Driving is Scary Event: Kyler's Impact Foundation in partnership with MJPD will host a fundraising event on Saturday, October 17th, beginning with a Community Awareness Walk at 10 am. This free family-friendly event will have police cars, public safety education, fire trucks, community and vendor booths, food, pumpkin and face painting, costume contest, scavenger hunt, candy and more. No tickets or registration required. Bring the family for a morning of fun. The event ends at 1 pm and donations appreciated. Kyler's Impact Foundation helps support distracted driving awareness, roadway safety education, and community prevention initiatives all while spreading kindness in our community. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

7) Halloween in the Park: One of MJ's biggest events will be on Saturday, October 24th from 11 am - 3 pm in Charlie Daniels Park. Wear your best costume for the contest. There will be food trucks, hayrides, petting zoo, inflatables, haunted house, vendors, and lots of candy. Bring the family for a day of free spooktacular fun. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

8) MJSAC Indoor Yard Sale: On Saturday, October 24th, the MJ Senior Center will hold their annual Indoor Fall Yard Sale from 8 am - 1 pm at 1021 Charlie Daniels Pkwy. Open to the public.

9) 5th Annual Sips & Sounds: Wilson Rides Inc. will hold their 5th Annual Sips & Sounds on Thursday, October 29th 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 singer-songwriters with multiple #1 hits and great food. Wilson Rides Inc., a 501c3 non-profit, provides seniors (55+) with transportation in Wilson County who no longer drive or seldom drive. For tickets [click here](#).

10) Sweet Tooth Auction: The 21st Annual Martin Cummings Sweet Tooth Auction will be held on Thursday, October 29th with a light breakfast beginning at 8:30 am. Auction begins at 9 am, located at Crye-Leike 1285 NMJRD. Proceeds benefit local United Way Charities, MJ Help Center, and MJ Senior Activity Center. Bring your sweet tooth and your bidding spirit. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

11) Mt. Juliet Farmer's Market: The farmer's market in Charlie Daniels Park will continue for the season through Saturday, October 31st. Vendors will be on-sight each Saturday in October from 8 am - 1 pm. Please support these local farms and vendors.

12) 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. For tickets, [click here](#).

UPDATES

1) Mt. Juliet City Burn Ban: FDMJ issued a Burn Ban for the City of MJ in September that is still in effect until further notice. NO outside burning and this includes bonfires, recreational fires, and open-flame fire pits. MJ Fire Department is asking everyone in our community to help reduce the risk of preventable fires and protect our homes, property, neighbors, and first responders. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

2) Repeal of MJ "Home Rule" Charter (repeat/update): Voters in MJ City will have the opportunity on November 3rd (early voting October 14-29) to decide "[Shall this municipality repeal the adoption of Home Rule?](#)" If you are confused on the wording, a "yes" means you choose to return to the city's General Law Charter we had prior to 2006; whereas a "no" means you choose to remain under a Home Rule Charter. The City has three remaining public townhall meetings left to help educate the voters, so that you can be fully informed prior to voting. What does it mean? What will not change? Why Now? [Click here to see the meeting schedules](#). The one in my District 4, was held on September 22nd at Providence Church and the video is available for viewing. [Click here to watch the meeting](#). Please find one of the three remaining townhalls that is convenient for you. Make plans to attend and bring your questions. [This is a very important decision for the future of MJ.](#)

3) 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.

4) Adopt a Shelter Dog Month: If you are considering adopting a dog, October is a good time since October is Adopt a Shelter Dog Month. Please consider the Mt. Juliet Animal Shelter, and in addition, look at the wish list of items that can be donated. Mt. Juliet Animal Shelter, located at 115 Industrial Drive, helps provide homes for abandoned, lost, and stray animals that are in their care, as well as educate the community in humane treatment of animals, and maintain a low euthanasia facility. To find out more, you can [click here](#).

5) Remaining MJ BOC meetings in 2026: There are only three meetings remaining in 2026: October 26th, November 9th, and December 14th because of holidays.

6) E-bike & e-scooter education (repeat/update): 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](#).

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

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](#). *Note: This project did warrant a signal at this location and they are required to complete it within nine months of receiving their Certificate of Occupancy (CO).*

(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 Nonaville 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/October](#) 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 [making good progress](#). 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. *The city was awarded a federal grant. NEPA and preliminary design to begin.*

E. Hill Street: E. Hill Street is part of the Lynnwood Station development project, paid for by the developer. It will extent 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, *so it should start soon.* To see the design, [click here](#).
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in final design. Construction is expected Summer '27.
- 136 Sunnymede 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

There will only be one MJ BOC meeting in October due to Columbus Day, which will be on the 26th 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.

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