



**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 15, No. 24 – Tuesday, June 28, 2022

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*Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.*

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### **1. No Newsletter Next Week**

A newsletter will not go out next week, but we will be back on Tuesday, July 12, with information, updates, and fun events and activities.

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) for updates in the meantime!

## **2. City Celebrates National Night Out In August**

The City of Knoxville will celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 2, in accordance with the national date.

The City had been celebrating during the alternate date—the first Tuesday in October—but has opted with the national date this year.

If your group has already started planning and wants to keep your celebration on Tuesday, Oct. 4, that is okay; we can still be sure that KPD officers are there to celebrate with you.

For the rest of you, if you are ready to celebrate in a few weeks, it is time to start planning. It might be hot, so some folks might want to plan for an inside location, a place in the shade, an ice cream social, etc.

Please send the following information to both Officer John Morgan at [jmorgan@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:jmorgan@knoxvilletn.gov) and Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov).

- Neighborhood Name
- Neighborhood Contact Name
- Contact Name's phone number
- Contact Name's email address
- Location of Event
- Date/Times of Event
- Type of Event

We look forward to seeing what you all plan for this national celebration.

## **3. KAT Announces Proposed Route Reductions**

Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) is proposing additional service reductions due to continuing and worsening workforce shortages.

The Knoxville Transportation Authority (KTA) will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 7, to review and vote on the proposed changes. If approved, the additional service reductions will take effect on Monday, Aug. 29.

“This is a completely unprecedented situation,” Isaac Thorne, Director of Transit for the City of Knoxville, said in a statement. “We currently have 156 operators out of the 200 needed to operate our pre-COVID service levels. Our bus operators are working hard to try to provide this current level of service to the community, but we must step back for a while with our service levels while we continue to redouble our hiring, training and retention efforts.”

Recognizing the negative effect this could have on residents using KAT for work-related transportation, KAT and Knox County CAC Transit are collaborating to provide work-related transportation to fill in the gaps left by these reduced service levels. KAT passengers who need transportation in the evenings and on Sundays where KAT service is reduced can call CAC to check availability. Knox County CAC will do their best to work with passenger schedules to provide work-related trips. More information on this program will soon be available on KAT's website, [katbus.com](http://katbus.com) or by calling 865-637-3000.

The proposed service reductions are as follows:

- Elimination of Routes 10 – Sequoyah and 19 – Lakeshore/Lonas
- Reduction of all Sunday service schedules, with the last downtown departures at 5:15 p.m.
- All weekday and Saturday evening service ends earlier, with the exception of core routes 11, 12, 22, 31 and 41 continuing through an 11:15 p.m. line-up.
- Reduced hours on Route 13 – Beaumont
- Reduced weekday frequency on Route 42 – UT/Ft. Sanders Hospitals
- Reduced frequency on Orange and Green Line trolleys

In addition to these service reductions, two route changes are proposed:

- A new proposal to serve West Town Mall (outbound only) via Gleason Drive
- A proposal for a route change on Route 12 – Western to use Fifth Avenue to University (rather than Arthur and Boyd) through the Mechanicsville area

The full details of these proposed changes are posted on KAT's website, [www.katbus.com](http://www.katbus.com) or at the Knoxville Station Customer Service Counter and at the downtown library reference desk.

#### **4. City Offices Closed for Holiday**

City of Knoxville offices will be closed Monday, July 4, for the Independence Day Holiday.

**The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment will be closed Monday, July 4-Friday, July 8.** We will be back in the office on Monday, July 11.

Waste Connections will run residential garbage and recycling routes on Monday, July 4. As a general reminder, Thanksgiving and Christmas are the only days of the year when residential curbside trash and recycling are NOT picked up as scheduled. Downtown trash and recycling will also run on the regular schedule throughout the holiday weekend.

The City's recycling centers will be open for recycling use; the Goodwill attendant will not be available for household goods donations on Monday, July 4.

The City's Solid Waste Facility located at 1033 Elm Street will be closed from Saturday, July 2, through Monday, July 4 and will reopen on Tuesday, July 5. Due to the holiday, Free for City Residents Day at the Solid Waste Facility will be held on the second Saturday of the month, July 9.

If you need to report a neighborhood issue to 311 over the holiday weekend, you can use the [MyKnoxville app](#), available for Apple and Android devices.

## **5. Burlington Streetscape Project Gets Follow Up Meeting**

The City of Knoxville will host a follow-up meeting on the Burlington Streetscape Project on Monday, Aug. 1, at 6 p.m. at the Greater Warner Tabernacle AME Zion Church, 3800 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave.

City officials met with community members in February to get input on several streetscape designs. At this meeting, officials will present updated plans based on that input.

About five years ago, the East Tennessee Community Design Center created a strategic plan for the Burlington area. Neighbors and stakeholders are encouraged to attend these meetings, see the updates and provide additional feedback as plans become finalized for construction.

All are welcome to attend.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

To request language translation services, contact Diversity and Inclusion Officer Charles F. Lomax, Jr. at [clomax@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:clomax@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-2536.

For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at [scook@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:scook@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

## **6. BBB and POH Do Not Meet This Month**

There will be no June 30 Better Building Board nor July 1 Public Officer Hearing this month. Their next hearings will be on July 28 & 29, respectively.

## **7. Register to Vote Before July 5!**

Tuesday, July 5, is the last day to register to vote before the upcoming Federal/State Primary and Knox County General elections being held on Thursday, Aug. 4. In order to vote in both of these elections, you must be registered to vote before July 5. Early

voting begins Friday, July 15 and continues through Tuesday, July 30. The final day to request an absentee ballot is July 28.

In Tennessee, voters must vote in person at least once before they can vote with an absentee ballot. To request an absentee ballot, go to the [Knox County Election website](#), fill out the Absentee Ballot application, and email the completed form to [absenteeballot@knoxcounty.org](mailto:absenteeballot@knoxcounty.org). You must meet certain qualifications to vote by absentee ballot.

If you are unsure whether you are registered to vote, check your status at the [Tennessee Secretary of State website](#). This website will also provide your polling location, district information, and Election Day information. Due to recent redistricting legislation, your district may have changed. To see who is on the ballot, go to the [Knox County Election website](#) and click on the sample ballots.

If you have any questions or want additional information, visit the [Knox County Election website](#) or call 865-215-2480.

“There is no such thing as a vote that doesn’t matter. It all matters.” – President Barack Obama

## **8. Health Department Offers Free Diabetes and Heart Health Classes**

The Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is offering several free diabetes and heart health classes in July and August. See below for information about times and locations.

In-Person classes:

- Diabetes Management Series: Thursdays, July 14, 21, and 28, 6-7 p.m. at the Knox County Health Department
- Diabetes Management Series in Spanish: Tuesdays, July 12, 19, and 26, 6-7 p.m. (Location TBA)
- Heart Health Series: Tuesdays, August 9 and 16, 6-7 p.m. at the Knox County Health Department

Online classes:

- Diabetes Prevention Program: (12-month lifestyle change program) New cohorts launch monthly. Residents interested in participating should take this [eligibility survey](#). Space is limited. Please note: this program is limited to those who live and/or work in Knox County.

Additional class dates and registration links can be found at the Knox County Health Department website, linked [here](#).

If you have any questions or would like additional information, contact Kaela McIver at 865-215-5297 or [mikaela.mciver@knoxcounty.org](mailto:mikaela.mciver@knoxcounty.org).

## **9. KCDC Hosts Community Clean-Ups**

KCDC (Knoxville's Community Development Corporation) is seeking community partners and enthusiastic volunteers to help support beautification efforts in and around their family housing.

Three Community Clean-ups are scheduled at these locations:

- July 6: Northridge Crossing – 712 Breda Dr. – 9 a.m.-12 noon
- July 12: Montgomery Village – 4539 Joe Lewis Rd. – 9 a.m.-12 noon
- July 19: Western Heights – 1621 Jourolman Ave. – 9 a.m.-12 noon

The clean-ups will focus on properties that need the most support for litter and trash pick-up. Even something as simple as litter pick-up can empower communities and protect local wildlife! By volunteering, you will positively impact the community spirit in KCDC neighborhoods!

Organizers hope to get at least 20 volunteers for each event. Volunteers should wear long pants, closed-toe shoes, and bring gloves and drinking water.

Everyone is welcome to join in making Knoxville's green space pristine and free from waste that contributes to environmental degradation.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, contact Riley Douglas at 954-303-1005 or [rdouglas@kcdc.org](mailto:rdouglas@kcdc.org).

## **10. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar** (click link for online calendar)

Call 865-215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

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### **Other Calendars**

Additional online calendars that cover events outside the neighborhood realm include:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Parks and Rec Community Programming](#)

***About This Newsletter***

*\*\* This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.*

*\*\* Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.*

*\*\* Deadline for news & calendar items: 12 p.m. Fridays.*

*\*\* May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood email lists and newsletters.*

*\*\* See past issues at our website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>*

*\*\* Don't have internet access? Call 865-215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*