



**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 15, No. 4 – Tuesday, February 1, 2022

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2022-2-1>

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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. Neighborhood Advisory Council To Meet With Mayor**

The [Neighborhood Advisory Council](#) (NAC) meets next Wednesday, Feb. 9, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Canler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St.

Mayor Indya Kincannon will speak to the group on the search for the Knoxville Police Department's new Chief of Police and what qualities and qualifications the new Chief should demonstrate. In the past several weeks, the Mayor has met with former City mayors, police chiefs, City boards and committees, and community groups to discuss

the search and its importance to our city. PERF is conducting the [job application process](#); the deadline for applications is Feb. 20. Community feedback is being accepted online at [KnoxvilleTN.gov/chiefsearch](https://KnoxvilleTN.gov/chiefsearch) and via email at [chiefsearch@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:chiefsearch@knoxvilletn.gov).

All are welcome to attend. As a matter of procedure, we allow the NAC members to voice their input first. If there is time at the end, audience members may be allowed to give input as well.

NAC members are appointed by the Mayor to do the following:

- Give advice and feedback on the programs and policies of the Office of Neighborhoods
- Bring neighborhood issues and concerns to the attention of the Mayor and City Administration
- Propose to the Administration responses and solutions to address these concerns
- Serve as a sounding board for City initiatives and proposals affecting neighborhoods

The NAC advises and provides input only to the Mayor and the City Administration. It does not advise Knoxville City Council, Knoxville-Knox County Planning and other elected and appointed bodies; however, they may speak on behalf of their neighborhoods or as individuals.

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 Tatia M. Harris at [tharris@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:tharris@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-2831. 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.

## **2. ONE Announces Neighborhood Small Grants Program Workshop Dates**

Neighborhood groups wishing to apply for the Neighborhood Small Grants Program (NSGP) **must** send a representative to ONE of three pre-application workshops on **Saturday, Apr. 23, Tuesday, Apr. 26, or Wednesday, May 4.**

Even if your group is doubtful you will apply, it is good to send someone to one of the workshops anyway. It could help you learn how to apply in the future or it could ensure that you have met this requirement to preserve your right to apply in this 2023 round.

Pre-Application Workshop A

Saturday, April 23, 1:30 p.m.

Pre-Application Workshop B  
Pre-Application Workshop C

Tuesday, April 26, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 4, 6 p.m.

The NSGP is designed to strengthen neighborhoods in the City of Knoxville by supporting a wide range of community-led and community-based initiatives through grants and technical assistance.

If a neighborhood representative absolutely cannot attend any workshop, please call Hayley Howard at 865-215-2113.

For more information about the NSGP, please visit [ONE's website](#).

### **3. The Neighborhood Conference is Coming Together**

The itinerary has been created. Workshops have been confirmed. And booth reservations are rolling in. The 2022 Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, April 2, is shaping up to be a fantastic experience for Knoxville neighbors!

This year's conference will offer an abundance of information and recognition. Four workshops will present topics that include neighborhood leadership succession, community safety, navigating local government, and affordable housing. You will be able to visit a vast number of information booths to learn what services and organizations are available to you locally. And, of course, door prizes will be given throughout the day.

The Networking and Awards Luncheon will feature a guest speaker, a ceremony to honor neighborhoods for their achievements throughout 2021, and the presentation of the 2022 Good Neighbor of the Year Award.

As always, the conference is free, and lunch is included.

Registration for the 2022 Neighborhood Conference will open on Tuesday, Feb. 15. Be on the lookout for the newsletter article that day for more information. We hope to see you there for an inspiring and action-packed day.

### **4. Knoxville Area Transit Seeks Input to Improve Services**

[Knoxville Area Transit](#) (KAT) and the [Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization](#) (TPO) are taking a fresh look at transit in Knoxville and the region. Their goal is to make sure that transit is operating effectively in providing access to opportunities for everyone in Knoxville and the region.

The overall project is composed of three parts:

1. The KAT Comprehensive Operational Analysis. This study looks at KAT's current service and how KAT can make it better, balancing the area they cover with how well they cover that area.

2. The Regional Coordination Study. In addition to KAT, [Knox County CAC](#) provides transportation services within the city and county, and [East Tennessee Human Resources Agency \(ETHRA\)](#) also provides service within and beyond Knox County. This study aims to look at these three organizations and ways they can work together more effectively.

3. Regional Transit Study. The metropolitan area of Knoxville is growing rapidly, and many people commute between counties for work, shopping and more. This study aims to look at how transit can provide a regional solution to a variety of challenges, from carbon emissions to congestion.

Project status: Right now, a consultant team is collecting background research on KAT's current situation. They expect to have the first round of public engagement meetings beginning in March.

Do you want to stay informed on upcoming community engagement events or provide feedback? [Contact KAT](#) for more information.

## **5. What is the Tree Board?**

Did you know that the City has a Tree Board? Do you know what they do? The purpose of the City Tree Board is to formulate a master street tree plan for all municipal property.

The Board assists in disseminating news and information regarding the selection, planting, establishment, and maintenance of trees. Members also advise City Council on desirable legislation concerning the City's tree program.

The Tree Board has several duties:

- To study the problems and determine the needs of the city in connection with its urban forestry program in order to maintain Tree City USA status through the Arbor Day Foundation and to report from time to time to the governing body of the city as to desirable legislation concerning the urban forestry program and related activities for the city. The City Tree Board shall recommend for approval by the City Council such rules and regulations as the board shall deem advisable and necessary in order to perform its duties as set forth herein.
- To assist the properly constituted officials, as well as City Council and city residents, in the dissemination of news and information regarding the selection, planting, establishment, protection, and maintenance of trees within Knoxville's corporate limits. The Tree Board shall make recommendations from time to time

to the City Council relative to desirable legislation concerning the tree program and tree-related activities on City property.

- To provide regular and special meetings at which local, tree-related issues may be discussed by members of the Tree Board and, when requested by the Tree Board, city officers and personnel, and other persons interested in the tree program. The board shall also adopt procedures, as it may deem necessary for holding and conducting its regular and special meetings.

This is what the Tree Board does throughout the year:

- Conducts education and outreach about the importance of trees
- Hosts an Arbor Day Celebration each year involving elementary school children
- Works with the Knox Planning to develop a Street Tree Planting Plan

For more information about the Tree Board and its members, go to the [City's website](#).

## **6. Sports Authority Meets Next Week**

The Sports Authority will meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, at the Knoxville Museum of Art, 1050 World's Fair Park Drive.

At this meeting, the Sports Authority is expected to vote on a proposed development agreement and a proposed lease agreement and discuss financing documents for a publicly owned, multi-use stadium. The stadium will be financed, built on property just east of the Old City, and managed by the Sports Authority.

In addition to hosting minor league baseball games, the stadium is being designed to accommodate soccer matches, concerts, festivals and other public events.

The total economic impact of the stadium and surrounding private development is projected to be nearly \$480 million over 30 years. More than 400 full-time jobs are expected to be created.

The City and County's anticipated payment toward the stadium debt would be about \$240,000 for each of the city and county governments annually for the first 10 years. At that point, according to an independent economic impact analysis, the project has the potential to pay for itself.

For more information about the proposed project, including meeting agendas and minutes, visit <https://www.visitknoxville.com/knox-sports-authority/>. For FAQs, go to [www.knoxvilletn.gov/stadium](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/stadium).

## **7. Bike Walk Knoxville Hosts Training**

Bike Walk Knoxville is hosting a training for drivers who want to learn how to share the road safely with cyclists and pedestrians.

The training will take place on Monday, Feb. 7, from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Community Room of the Public Works Service Center, 3131 Morris Avenue.

This program is free and open to the public, thanks to a grant from the Tennessee Highway Safety Office.

The program will help to explain:

- Why cyclists “take the lane” and how drivers can best react to that situation
- How to pass cyclists and pedestrians safely
- What different active transportation infrastructure around our community means
- Common collisions in Knoxville
- How everyone can contribute to making our streets safer will also be discussed

More information and registration for the training can be found on the [Bike Walk Knoxville](#) website.

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

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

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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 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*