

Brentwood City Update

Fall 2017

Your Official City of Brentwood, TN News Source



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Inside:
Brentwood's High Tech Traffic Tools

Kirk's Corner

Why I became a City Manager...

Like many in my generation, my career choice was influenced somewhat by my parents and where I grew up. In my case, my original exposure to local government came through my father who was the city treasurer for my small hometown in Illinois back in the 1970s. The mayor appointed this position, so I still have fond memories of painting election signs in our garage and riding around in the back of a pickup truck to put signs in front yards to help the mayor's reelection campaign. In addition, my dad was always very involved in various community service groups and had a profound impact on our little town even though he was a very simple man who never made much money or appeared on the front page of the newspaper.

While I had always kept those memories with me, I am not sure I truly appreciated how much they influenced my life and career until a few months ago when my father passed away and I had to sit down and prepare a eulogy. It is easy to recite dates and names when trying to recall a person's

life, but for my siblings and me, the essence of my father was his love of country and community. To the day he died, my father never let you forget he was a retired United States Marine, and he never stopped trying to make my hometown a better place. It was his example of community service and volunteer spirit that guided me to a career where I now, in some small way, work to make Brentwood a better place.

While each of us may not be able to have much impact on what happens (or does not happen) in Washington these days, we can all still have an impact locally. I realize it is more difficult these days than back in the 1970s given how much more transient people are today. Still, there are plenty of opportunities to give back through churches, neighborhood groups, civic groups, schools, etc. At the City, we are always looking for new members on advisory boards or you can join our citizen police or fire academies to learn more about what our men and women do every day to keep you safe and secure.

In 2019, Brentwood will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its incorporation as a City. Back then, a group of dedicated community volunteers came together to do the hard work of creating a new city.



While only a few of those original founding citizens are still around today, I think all of them would be proud to see what Brentwood has become. What Brentwood will be like at its centennial celebration a little more than fifty years from now will depend on the community service we do today and the example we set for our children and grandchildren who will lead this community tomorrow.

Holiday Events

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Morning with Santa | December 2 9am-noon <small>BRENTWOOD LIBRARY</small> |
|  | Christmas Tree Lighting | December 4 5:30pm <small>BRENTWOOD LIBRARY</small> |
|  | Neighborhood Lights | December 9 6pm <small>BRENTWOOD NEIGHBORHOODS</small> |

Have you been counted?

2018 Special Census

In 1960, our city population was 1,065...57 years later, we are conducting a #specialcensus to know what our accurate population is now. Please be counted!

www.brentwoodtn.gov/2018census



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Franklin Road Groundbreaking with TDOT and Governor Bill Haslam Sept 5, 2017

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) began its widening project on Franklin Road in September. You have probably noticed all the downed trees between Concord Road and south of Moores Lane. That is the first step in the project, followed by establishing the project limits and clearing the land. In the coming months, TDOT will begin building retaining walls and grading.

The project is expected to take three to four years to complete. The planned improvements include widening the roadway from its current two/three lane configuration to a five-lane configuration with two north and south bound through lanes and a center turn lane. The project will also include a multi-use path on the east side.

Sunset and Ragsdale Road

The realignment project is underway at Sunset and Ragsdale Roads. This project is needed to eliminate the dangerous curve and will include widening the road into three-lanes with curbs and gutters. There will also be a center turn lane and intermittent raised median, as well as a 10' bike/pedestrian path behind a 5' grass strip.

Over the next few months, crews will be working on constructing a new bridge on Sunset Road over Owl Creek and placing fill for the new road alignment.

Construction should be completed by late 2018.

Be sure to keep up to date on these projects on our website:
www.brentwoodtn.gov/construction



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Crockett Road and Green Hill Blvd. Roundabout

Construction started in October on a new roundabout at the intersection of Crockett Road and Green Hill Blvd/Raintree Parkway. Civil Constructors, LLC won the low bid with their \$955,025 contract. The roundabout will replace the existing four-way stop and was selected over other alternatives following extensive analysis. Mike Harris, Brentwood's Engineering Director explained, "given the backup that currently occurs at the four-way stop during peak times, we had to look at ways to improve the flow of traffic. A traffic signal or a roundabout would perform equally well during heavy volume, but the roundabout significantly outperformed the signal during off-peak times and was considered the best option," Harris added. The roundabout also has the advantages of lower operating cost, less impact to adjacent properties, and a higher capacity to accommodate future growth in traffic volume. Also included in this project is the relocation of a City of Brentwood water line.

Construction is expected to last for six months depending on weather.

Why a Roundabout Design?

Roundabouts are safer because speeds tend to be lower and the potential for head-on collisions or side impact crashes are virtually eliminated. Accidents that do occur tend to be less severe with far fewer injuries. A University of Wisconsin study of 24 intersections that were converted to roundabouts found a 52% reduction in "severe crashes" after the conversion and a 9% reduction in the number of crashes.

The City has several other roundabouts and this one was designed to mirror the earlier roundabout completed in 2016 at Crockett Road and Arrowhead. The City's first roundabout was installed at Town Center Way.

Check out our YouTube video online for tips on how to drive through a roundabout.



Employee Spotlight

Debbie Hedgepath

The city looks back fondly on the 28 years Debbie Hedgepath has served the Brentwood Community as she approaches her retirement. Through the late 80s and 90s she was in our Finance Department and Water and Sewer billing. She was promoted to Executive Secretary in 1996 and in 2006 another promotion led to her current position as City Recorder.

Debbie is a member of TAMCAR (Tennessee Association of Municipal Clerks & Recorders) in which she was a past Treasurer and she received her Master and State Certified Municipal Clerk certifications. But that says so little about her value to the city. So, we'll let the ones who know her best do the talking...

From City Attorney Roger Horner

I take full responsibility for Debbie being here. Way back when I was Brentwood's Finance Director, Debbie came in to interview to be the City's receptionist. We didn't hire her! Not initially, anyway. We had someone else in mind who we had already interviewed, but Debbie was a late applicant and we decided to interview her in case our other choice didn't work out. Well, our "someone else" had a brief tenure in Brentwood, so I called Debbie to see if she was still interested in the receptionist job. Debbie was a quick learner, a good worker, and kept everyone in Finance laughing. After I had transitioned from Finance Director to lawyer, the City's executive secretary retired and Debbie, being a jack of all trades, moved up into that position. That was when she started attending City Commission and Planning Commission meetings, taking minutes, and providing all kinds of administrative support (and laughter) to the City Commissioners, City Manager and the "Legal Department" (i.e., me.)...

The City of Brentwood won't be the same without Debbie.

From City Manager Kirk Bednar

Debbie is always very upbeat and positive. In her position, she inevitably has to serve as a sounding board of sorts for me, and I can always count on her to brighten my day and bring some levity to the office, even during stressful times. Debbie is very social and other employees gravitate to her because she is such a kind and fun person. Her personality and laugh will be greatly missed here at City Hall.



From former City Manager Mike Walker

While most people in Brentwood are reasonable and level headed, it was not unusual to receive irate calls in the City Manager's Office. I have never known anyone as calm as Debbie in talking to people, helping them find the right person to address their concerns, etc. She never lost her cool in situations where most people would have been justified to do so. Plus, she was always competent and efficient in everything she was responsible for. She is a true public servant and I wish her the very best in retirement.

From Commissioner Anne Dunn

I first met Debbie over a punch bowl at Brentwood Middle School. We were both room mothers and were working the refreshments table.

I don't think she remembers that meeting but I do because I liked her instantly. She was so friendly and warm. We have worked many a punch bowl since that day.

In addition to being City Recorder her help over the years as administrative assistant to the City Manager and City Commissioners has been invaluable. She is the glue that holds it all together and she never forgets anything. She really keeps us organized. I like to tease her about how carefully she doles out pens and pencils to each of us—on an as needed basis only. One quality that I treasure is her professionalism.

I will miss her tremendously. Her optimism is infectious. It is hard to imagine going in there and not seeing her cheerful smile and hearing her welcoming words.

From Commissioner Regina Smithson

I met Debbie in 1989 as an employee of the City when I became a City Commissioner. With her promotion to our Administrative Assistant in 1996, we got to know each other in a more personal way. There are many qualities that describe Debbie such as loyal, dependable, professional, organized, and always well prepared for meetings. She never let us down. In her job there have been situations that require confidentiality and I never heard that she has ever broken that trust.

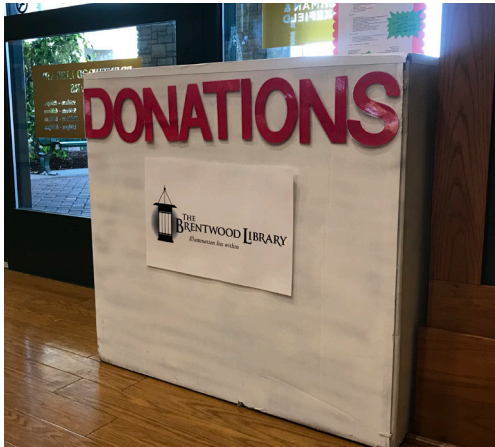
She has a great sense of humor and we have laughed many times together. I will miss her positive attitude, experience, integrity and her love for the City of Brentwood. I want to thank Debbie for her dedicated service and wish all the best for her life ahead.

Brentwood Police Detective Attends FBI Academy



Captain David O'Neil was one of two hundred and twenty-eight graduates from the FBI's National Academy Program at Quantico, Virginia this year. This ten week fitness, communication and leadership training course is offered to a select group of experienced, professional officers.

Brentwood Library Collaborating with Charities



Each month The Brentwood Library partners with a different charity from Nashville or the Middle Tennessee area. Past partners have included Walden's Puddle, ShowerUp, Thrift Smart, Project C.U.R.E. and others. A big thank you to all the Library members and our community who also give. Each month the number of donations received continue to grow and so too does the positive impact we have in our community.

If you would like to participate, there will be a large bin next to the front doors inside the front entrance of the library. All items go directly to the charity at the end of each month. Toys for Tots is the upcoming charity for November and December.

Video Technology Helps Create Annual Paving List

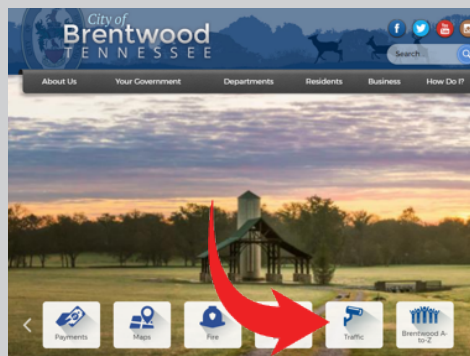


Each year, the City creates an annual roadway re-surfacing priority list by driving on city streets for hours to visually evaluate all city streets. Next, crews manually enter the information and then, after budget approval, recheck about 100 streets on the priority list.

As part of the FY 2017 Capital Improvement Program, \$100,525.00 was allotted for a comprehensive video condition assessment of all City-maintained streets using the latest technology. During the summer of 2017, a specially equipped vehicle collected video and other sensor information for each street's condition. Engineering Director Mike Harris said, "this video assessment process not only documents and prioritizes resurfacing needs, but it also captures sidewalks and curb ramps around the City." This information will be used later to develop a federally required ADA Transition Plan.

\$2.2 million is recommended for the 23.7 lane miles (11.8 road miles) of city streets to be repaired and resurfaced in FY 2018.

Check Out Our LIVE Traffic Cameras Online



Traffic Signals & Tech

Ever pulled up to an intersection and wonder why it takes the traffic light so long to change from red to green? Well, it might have something to do with that big white line painted across the road, known as the stop bar. It serves as the visual spot where your vehicle must stop, but it also does so much more. Around the stop bar, in some cities you have probably noticed loops cut into the road. These wires send signals back to the traffic signal controller, which signals the light to turn green. Brentwood's Traffic Operations Manager, Martin Yates, advises, "If you pull past the stop bar there is a good chance you will never get a green."



In the City of Brentwood, we use both video cameras and loop detectors on city streets, but Yates explains, "We prefer video detection. When a road is repaved or a water line is repaired, the loops often are torn up during construction. Snow and cold winter weather also takes a toll on the loops." Yates's job does not stop when he leaves the office for the day. He repeatedly checks the city's CCTV cameras from his mobile devices, looking for irregular traffic backups. "When I see something that doesn't look right, I remote into my work computer and look at the traffic software to make sure the controller timing is running correctly," Yates explains. When there is a crash on the interstate, an emergency plan is implemented to adjust timing on city streets, which often become heavily congested.

Flashing lights in school zones are also controlled remotely with the web-based software. When school is closed for weather or summer break, Yates adjusts the schedule allowing traffic to pass through at regular speed. And when the power goes out altogether, don't worry, many of Brentwood's traffic signals have battery backup systems so they continue to operate and allow traffic to safely pass through the intersection.

Brentwood Fire & Rescue's Swift Water Team

Hurricane Relief in Houston



The Brentwood Fire & Rescue Department Swift Water Team returned from Houston, TX following a six-day deployment to help with rescue efforts post Hurricane Harvey on September 5th. The Brentwood Fire team was one of 91 Tennessee teams that created the Tennessee Task Force led by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) and the Tennessee Association of Fire Chiefs' Mutual Aid Network.

During the first two days of the deployment, the task force worked in an area southwest of Houston to provide support to rural areas and was staged at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds where they were required to be completely self-sufficient. Williamson County and TEMA provided communication and logistical needs throughout the deployment. Later Brentwood joined efforts with local partners

like the Franklin Fire Department, Knoxville Fire Department, and Williamson County Sheriff's Office to form Strike Team 15. This specialized group checked several homes and structures for damage. The teams documented residents who chose to stay and remain sheltered in place, and evacuated individuals by boat from flooded subdivisions and apartment complexes.

For the remainder of the deployment, the Tennessee Task Force broke into two teams and conducted several welfare checks and performed evacuations of residents on the west side of Houston. Rescue boats and crews from Tennessee were in water for the majority of the day assisting residents.



Read more online:

<http://www.brentwoodtn.gov/hurricanerelief>

Final Phase of the Heritage at Brentwood Approved

The developer plans to break ground on the final phase of the Heritage at Brentwood this fall. In June, Brentwood Planning Commission voted to approve the final phase of the Continuing Care facility located at 900 Heritage Way. The approved plan includes a total of 259,287 square feet of new or refurbished building area, which includes underground parking.

Improvements include:

- Three-story independent living building
- 97 units
- Underground parking garage with 107 spaces
- Dining room, kitchen and laundry expansions
- Auditorium
- Maintenance building
- Wellness center
- Assisted living wing



Photo: white buildings indicate new improvements.

Fall Clean-up Dates

2017

Hours:

8:00 am to
4:00 pm



OCTOBER 21ST

Granny White Park
610 Granny White Pike

OCTOBER 28TH

Safety Center East
1300 Sunset Road

NOVEMBER 4TH

Granny White Park
610 Granny White Pike

Fall Clean-Up

Bring your used and old, worn out, ready to get rid of items. We will be accepting items large and small. If you have been waiting for that moment to finally get rid of that old fridge and sofa, we'll take it! Even old lawn mowers, dressers, mattresses, luggage, etc.

We will not accept:

- Hazardous materials
- Paint
- Computers
- Printers
- Medication
- Oil
- Gasoline
- Liquids
- Batteries

2019 Brentwood Golden Anniversary



Want to be a part of the planning for Brentwood's 50th Anniversary celebration events? Please email Deanna.Lambert@brentwoodtn.gov and include why you are interested.

City Update

Published semi-annually by the City of Brentwood, 615-371-0060. Comments and suggestions should be directed to Deanna Lambert, Community Relations Director, or by e-mail at deanna.lambert@brentwoodtn.gov. Don't forget - you can always keep up with city news on our website or social media! [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [YouTube](#)

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Service Center.....615-371-0080

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