



**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 17, No. 4 – Tuesday, January 30, 2024

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2024-01-30>

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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 865-215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.*

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### **1. Save the Date: Mandatory Grant Workshops Scheduled**

The City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment has scheduled three mandatory grant workshops for folks wanting to apply for the [Neighborhood Small Grants Program](#) for 2025. Neighborhood groups need to send a representative to one of the mandatory grant workshops in order to qualify for a grant submission.

- Pre-Application Workshop A  
10 a.m. Saturday, March 16 (Zoom)
- Pre-Application Workshop B  
6 p.m. Monday, March 18 (In person)
- Pre-Application Workshop C  
5 p.m. Tuesday, March 26 (Zoom)

We will share more details in future issue of this newsletter. If you have questions, contact Hayley Howard at [hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov).

## **2. Knoxville Knox County Planning Seeks Input for One Year Plan**

Knoxville Knox County Planning's annual update of the City's One Year Plan has begun, and residents are encouraged to participate. The One Year Plan serves as the foundation for zoning decisions and is based on the land-use goals, objectives, and policies found in the City's long-range plans.

A virtual meeting is scheduled to give community members the opportunity to review and discuss recommended changes to the plan. The meeting will take place via [Zoom](#) on Thursday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m.

The meeting will begin with a presentation that covers all geographic areas of the city, followed by an open discussion. The presentation will include a general description of the One Year Plan and an overview of the changes made since the 2023 update.

To view the One Year Plan, please visit the [Knox Planning website](#).

If you have additional questions, contact Jessie Hillman at 865-215-3082 or [jessie.hillman@knoxplanning.org](mailto:jessie.hillman@knoxplanning.org).

## **3. Last Chance to Give Input on Urban Forest Master Plan**

Trees Knoxville, along with City staff, community members, and Urban Canopy Works teamed up over the last year to produce an Urban Forest Master Plan for the City of Knoxville.

The plan is in its final stages and ready for your review!

Please visit this [website](#) to review and provide any last input between now and Thursday, Feb. 1.

Feel free to share this link with folks who might like to make comments.

## **4. Empower Knox Hosts Youth Summit Feb. 10**

The City's [Empower Knox](#) initiative will hold its Youth Summit on Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Change Center, 203 Harriet Tubman St.

The Civic Action Summit will take place from 2-6 p.m., followed by pizza and skating between 6-9 p.m.

Teens are invited to attend this summit on civic education and action, where they can gain the tools and skills for their journey to becoming a leader/change maker in Knoxville! Participants will hear from City leaders and elected officials, as well as young people who are leading change in our community.

This event is free to attend, but you must [register](#).

For more information, please contact Emily Norris at [enorris@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:enorris@knoxvilletn.gov).

### **5. Keep Knoxville Beautiful to Host 45th Annual Orchids Awards**

Keep Knoxville Beautiful (KKB) will host the 45th Annual Orchid Awards on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 6-9 p.m. at the Mill & Mine, 227 W Depot Ave. To purchase tickets, visit KKB's [website](#).

Since 1979, KKB has presented the Orchids Beautification Awards to Knoxville and Knox County buildings, public art, and outdoor spaces that beautify and elevate our community. This year KKB Orchids will include new awards such as Pillar of the Community, Regreening, Changemaker, and Waste Wise.

The event will also include 5 mini-presentations by local change makers: community leader Vice Mayor Tommy Smith, tree advocate Kayla Stuart, sustainability educator Melissa Hinten, muralist Dustin Durham, and recycling expert and City of Knoxville Waste and Resources Manager Makenzie Read will speak on topics that are central to the KKB mission and will leave guests feeling inspired.

### **6. League of Women Voters Host Candidate Forums**

Elections will be held in Knox County this year for Knox County Commission, Board of Education, Knox County Law Director and Property Assessor. To enable voters to hear the candidates respond to questions about important issues in the March 5, primary election the [League of Women Voters of Knoxville and Knox County](#) is sponsoring several candidate forums with its partners.

The public is invited.

The following forums have been scheduled, and all candidates have been invited:

- Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 6:30–8 p.m., at Lennon-Seney United Methodist Church, 2084 Dandridge Ave. - **Knox County Board of Education**
- Thursday, Feb. 8, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6900 Kingston Pike - **Knox County Law Director**
- Tuesday, Feb. 13, from 6:30–8 p.m., at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6900 Kingston Pike - **Knox County Commission Districts 4, 5, 9**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues.

For more information, please contact Kathryn King at 865-621-9179.

## **7. Happy Black History Month**

Black History Month begins Thursday, Feb. 1. President Gerald Ford established the month long, nationwide recognition in 1976 to highlight the contributions Black people have made to American history and culture despite a legacy of severe injustice and systemic oppression.

It is a time to celebrate!

Here in Knoxville, the [Beck Cultural Exchange Center](#) serves as the hub for Black History Month events, attractions and exhibits. Visit their website to learn more, including their [Beck Cultural Corridor](#) initiative. There is also a list of Black-owned businesses highlighting food, shopping and more on the Visit Knoxville [website](#).

Take some time to immerse yourself in Black history: support Black-owned businesses, read Black literature, recognize Black artists, contribute to Black-led non-profits, or invest in DEI learning. Have a prosperous and successful Black History Month!

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

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

## **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](#)

The City of Knoxville requires a permit to operate a short-term rental property. Details and a list of short-term rental permits are located on the City's website [here](#).

**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.*