



Cumberland Connect

Cumberland Avenue Merchants Association and Project Archive

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TWO-BLOCK UTILITY WORK TO CLOSE ONE BLOCK OF CUMBERLAND AVENUE FOR THREE NIGHTS; ADDITIONAL WORK SCHEDULED

POSTED January 5, 2016

From 10 p.m. today (Jan. 5) until 6 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, Cumberland Avenue will be closed between 19th Street and Montcastle Street as a Knoxville Utilities Board crew installs water infrastructure across Cumberland.

The night-time closures will be repeated Wednesday and Thursday nights, with the work to be completed by 6 a.m. Friday, Jan. 8.

Westbound motorists will be detoured at 19th Street to Lake Avenue to 21st Street before reconnecting to Cumberland two blocks east of Volunteer Boulevard. Eastbound motorists will be detoured to 21st Street, White Avenue and 19th Street before reconnecting to Cumberland.

The infrastructure upgrade is part of Phase II of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland Avenue reconstruction. To be completed in August 2017, the Phase II reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections.

Phase I work on the western end of Cumberland, between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street, is completed – on time and under budget. Improving traffic flow was a key objective of the Phase I work. A dedicated turn lane onto northbound Alcoa Highway and synchronized traffic flow at Metron Center Way have lessened decades-long issues with congestion.

Meanwhile, anticipate additional lane closures this week as crews upgrade utilities throughout the Phase II project area:

- From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. today and Wednesday, Jan. 6, Progression Electric workers will be closing two lanes on 17th Street while installing mast arms for new traffic signals at the intersections at Clinch and White avenues.
- Until 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, a section of South 18th Street between Cumberland and the alley north of Lake Avenue will be closed to allow crews to install an electrical duct bank.
- Through Wednesday, Jan. 6, a section of North 18th Street, from Cumberland to the alley, will be closed to accommodate work upgrading the sewer system.

There also will be street closures this month due to work on private construction projects:

- From 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 7, a Landmark Urban Construction (LUC) crew will close all lanes on 17th Street. LUC also is requesting a closure of White Avenue between 18th and 17th streets on Friday, Jan. 8, for a concrete pour. The closures are associated with construction of The Standard, a 240-plus-unit apartment complex being built on the southwest corner of 17th Street and White Avenue.
- From 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, through 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17, White Avenue will be closed between 20th and 21st streets, and one lane of both 20th and 21st streets will be closed between the alley and White Avenue. The closures are due to the dismantling of a tower crane being used for the construction of a new East Tennessee Children's Hospital building.



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IT'S OFFICIAL: PHASE I OF CUMBERLAND AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION COMPLETED ON TIME, WITHIN BUDGET

POSTED January 6, 2016



Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero, City Council members and dozens of Cumberland Avenue merchants, stakeholders and reconstruction project partners cut an orange ribbon to officially dedicate the new and improved western end of Cumberland Avenue this afternoon.

Phase I of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland Avenue reconstruction has been completed – on time and within budget.

"We're creating a more attractive, safer, pedestrian-friendly Cumberland Avenue Corridor, and this first phase has dramatically unclogged traffic congestion between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street," Mayor Rogero said.

"We're now into Phase II – burying utility lines, upgrading infrastructure and adding left-turn lanes, medians and streetscape amenities from 22nd to 17th streets. We're excited by the merchants' enthusiasm and the \$130 million in new private-sector investments throughout the Cumberland Corridor."

Phase I work on the western end of Cumberland, between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street, focused on improving traffic flow. A dedicated turn lane onto northbound Alcoa Highway and synchronized traffic signalization at Metron Center Way have lessened decades-long issues with congestion.

To be completed in August 2017, the Phase II reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. Cumberland Avenue sidewalks are being widened and landscaped, and utility infrastructure is being relocated and improved.

Mayor Rogero urged people to continue to patronize their favorite Cumberland Avenue restaurants and shops.

"Cumberland has been open for business since this project started in April, and that's not about to change now," she said.

"Come to Cumberland Avenue. Explore what's new, and experience firsthand the energy and optimism. See for yourself how easy it is to get to your favorite stores and restaurants."





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WATER LINE WORK TO CLOSE 1 BLOCK OF CUMBERLAND AVENUE FOR TWO NIGHTS; ADDITIONAL WORK SCHEDULED

POSTED January 26, 2016



From 10 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, until 6 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, Cumberland Avenue will be closed between 19th Street and Montcastle Street as a Knoxville Utilities Board crew installs water line infrastructure across Cumberland.

The night-time closure will be repeated at 10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, with the work to be completed by 6 a.m. Friday, Jan. 29.

The infrastructure upgrade is part of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland Avenue reconstruction, to be completed by August 2017.

The reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.

The City's investment in infrastructure and streetscape upgrades will create a more attractive, safer, pedestrian-friendly Cumberland Avenue Corridor.



Meanwhile, anticipate additional lane closures this week:

- Though 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, a lane of South 19th Street is closed between Cumberland and Lake avenues.
- Starting at 6 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, and ending at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, North 20th Street will be closed between Cumberland and White avenues as crews install new storm drains.

There also will be several street closures this week due to work on private construction projects:

- Through Friday afternoon, a lane of 17th Street will be closed for work associated with construction of The Standard, a 240-plus-unit apartment complex being built on the southwest corner of 17th Street and White Avenue.
- From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, Clinch Avenue will be closed between 19th and 20th streets due to a hospital construction project.



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CUMBERLAND AVENUE MINI-MILESTONE: UTILITY WORK REACHES EASTERN EDGE OF RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

POSTED March 4, 2016



Phase II work is progressing for the Cumberland Avenue reconstruction project, with six street closures scheduled through mid-March – including a complete closure of Cumberland Avenue at 17th Street the weekend of March 12-14.

Southern Constructors Inc. will be closing the Cumberland-17th Street intersection to accommodate underground utility installation starting at 5 a.m. Saturday, March 12. The intersection is scheduled to reopen at 6 a.m. Monday, March 14.

During the closures, through traffic should use Volunteer Boulevard as an alternate route. Local traffic may detour onto White Avenue or Lake Avenue.

"This part of the project represents a small milestone, because the utility work has rolled out to the eastern edge of the Cumberland Project," said Anne Wallace, the City's Deputy Director of Redevelopment. "We are pleased that the underground utility work is on schedule and should be completed in the near future."

"The merchants are enthusiastic about the transformation taking place. We're committed to working with them to minimize road-closure inconveniences by carefully scheduling them in a way that maintains access to the restaurants and retailers. For example, the Cumberland closure was intentionally scheduled during the University of Tennessee's spring break to reduce traffic impacts."

Other closures are scheduled for next week:

- **White Avenue, between 17th and 18th streets – 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, March 7, through Friday, March 11. A contractor will be pouring concrete for construction at The Standard, a 240-plus-unit apartment complex being built on the southwest corner of 17th Street and White Avenue.**
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- **The alley south of White Avenue, between 17th and 18th streets – 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday, March 7, through Wednesday, March 9. A contractor will be doing utility work associated with The Standard.**
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- **19th Street, between Cumberland Avenue and White Avenue – 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday, March 7, through Friday, March 11. Southern Constructors Inc. will be adding stormwater infrastructure as part of the City's Cumberland Project.**
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- **The alley south of White Avenue, between 18th and 19th streets – Closed at the western end due to utility work associated with the Cumberland Project.**
-
- **17th Street, between Cumberland and White avenues – A right-hand northbound lane will be closed from Monday, March 14, through Monday morning, March 21. Southern Constructors Inc. will be installing a new water main.**

Most infrastructure upgrades throughout the Cumberland Avenue Corridor are part of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland reconstruction, to be completed by August 2017. (Improvements that are part of private construction projects are coordinated with the City project in order to minimize effects on commuters and pedestrians.)

The City's reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.

More information is available at www.CumberlandConnect.com, on the Cumberland Connect Facebook page, facebook.com/CumberlandConnect, and on the Cumberland Connect phone app.

Or text VFL to 313131 to get text messages on the most current traffic updates.



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TWO SHORT-TERM CLOSURES ON SECTIONS OF CUMBERLAND AVENUE SCHEDULED IN THE COMING WEEK

POSTED March 11, 2016



A contractor, Southern Constructors Inc., will be closing Cumberland Avenue twice next week, part of the City's ongoing reconstruction of Cumberland.

The first closure, weather permitting, will occur at 17th Street this weekend to accommodate underground utility installation. Cumberland Avenue will be closed starting at 5 a.m. Saturday, March 12. The intersection is scheduled to reopen at 6 a.m. Monday, March 14.

Through traffic this weekend should use Volunteer Boulevard as an alternate route. Local traffic may detour onto White Avenue or Lake Avenue.

Southern Constructors Inc. will then close Cumberland Avenue between 20th and 22nd streets overnight, starting at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, to install a natural gas main across Cumberland. The avenue will reopen at 6 a.m. Wednesday, March 16.

Eastbound commuters should detour using 22nd Street to Terrace Avenue to 19th Street back to Cumberland. Westbound commuters will detour onto 20th Street to Clinch Avenue to 22nd Street before returning to Cumberland.

Anne Wallace, the City's Deputy Director of Redevelopment, said the work represents a small milestone, because the utility work has rolled out to the eastern edge of the Cumberland Project.

Merchants are enthusiastic about the transformation taking place, she said. The City and its contractors, she added, are committed to working with stakeholders to minimize road-closure inconveniences by carefully scheduling them in a way that maintains access to the restaurants and retailers. For example, these Cumberland closures were intentionally scheduled during the University of Tennessee's spring break to minimize the impact.

Meanwhile, three other closures are scheduled next week in the Cumberland Avenue Corridor:

- **17th Street:** One northbound lane of 17th Street between Cumberland and White avenues is scheduled to be closed next week. Southern Constructors Inc. will be installing a new water main
- **North 19th Street:** Southern Constructors Inc. is installing a storm drain between Cumberland and White avenues. North 19th Street will be closed next week
- **Clinch Avenue:** Ascend Wireless will be parking a crane and doing work between 17th and 18th streets. Clinch Avenue will be closed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16.



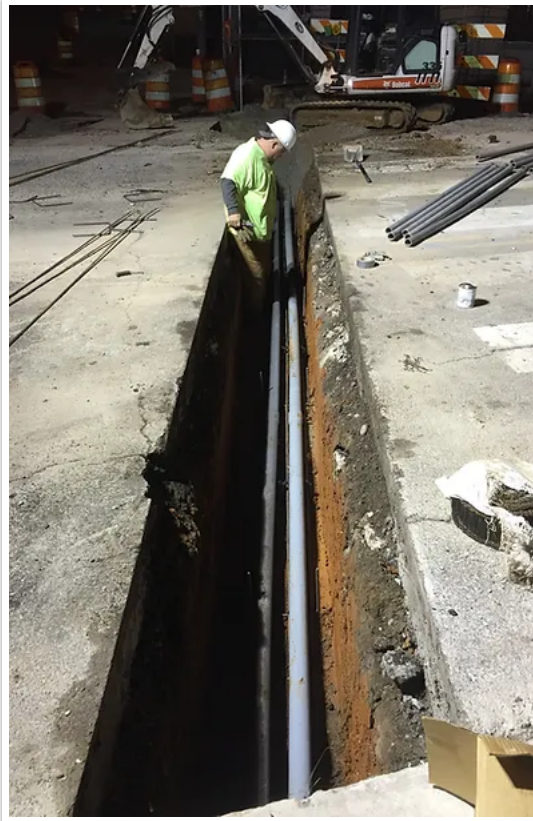
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OVERNIGHT CLOSURE OF 17th STREET REQUIRED TO CONTINUE UPGRADES TO NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE

POSTED April 6, 2016



KUB and its contractor will be closing a section of 17th Street between Cumberland Avenue and White Avenue from 10 p.m. Thursday, April 7, until 6 a.m. Friday, April 8, as work continues on the natural gas system.

East-west Cumberland Avenue motorists will not be affected by the overnight closure on 17th Street.

To access westbound Cumberland Avenue, southbound 17th Street motorists should detour right onto Clinch Avenue, then turn left onto 22nd Street to connect with Cumberland. To access eastbound Cumberland, drivers on 17th Street should detour left onto White Avenue, then right onto 16th Street to connect with Cumberland.

The infrastructure upgrades are part of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland Avenue reconstruction, to be completed by August 2017.

The reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.

The City's investment in infrastructure and streetscape upgrades will create a more attractive, safer, pedestrian-friendly Cumberland Avenue Corridor.

Meanwhile, work on an unrelated private development project will close a section of 18th Street between Cumberland and White avenues between Monday, April 11, and Thursday, April 14. The work also will reduce 17th Street to one lane in each direction.





View of Cumberland
Before Construction

2/31



April 17, 2015: Progress

Utility work associated with the City of Knoxville's Cumberland Avenue Streetscapes Project is underway, and as of April 17, traffic control measures for this ...

3/31



May 4, 2015: Progress

The photos show stone backfill being compacted where the new wastewater main has been installed between 22nd Street and Volunteer Blvd. New natural g...

4/31



May 4, 2015: Progress

The photos show stone backfill being compacted where the new wastewater main has been installed between 22nd Street and Volunteer Blvd. New natural g...

5/31



May 12, 2015: Progress
Pavement added

6/31



June 12, 2015: Progress
On Cumberland View Looking West from Metron Center Way

7/31



June 12, 2015: Progress
Brown installing gas line looking East.

8/31



June 12, 2015: Progress
On Cumberland looking East at University Commons Way

9/31



June 12, 2015: Progress

On Cumberland at University Commons way looking South

10/31



June 19, 2015: Progress

Water Quality Unit Delivery to Site. This new unit will filter storm water before it enters into Third Creek.

11/31



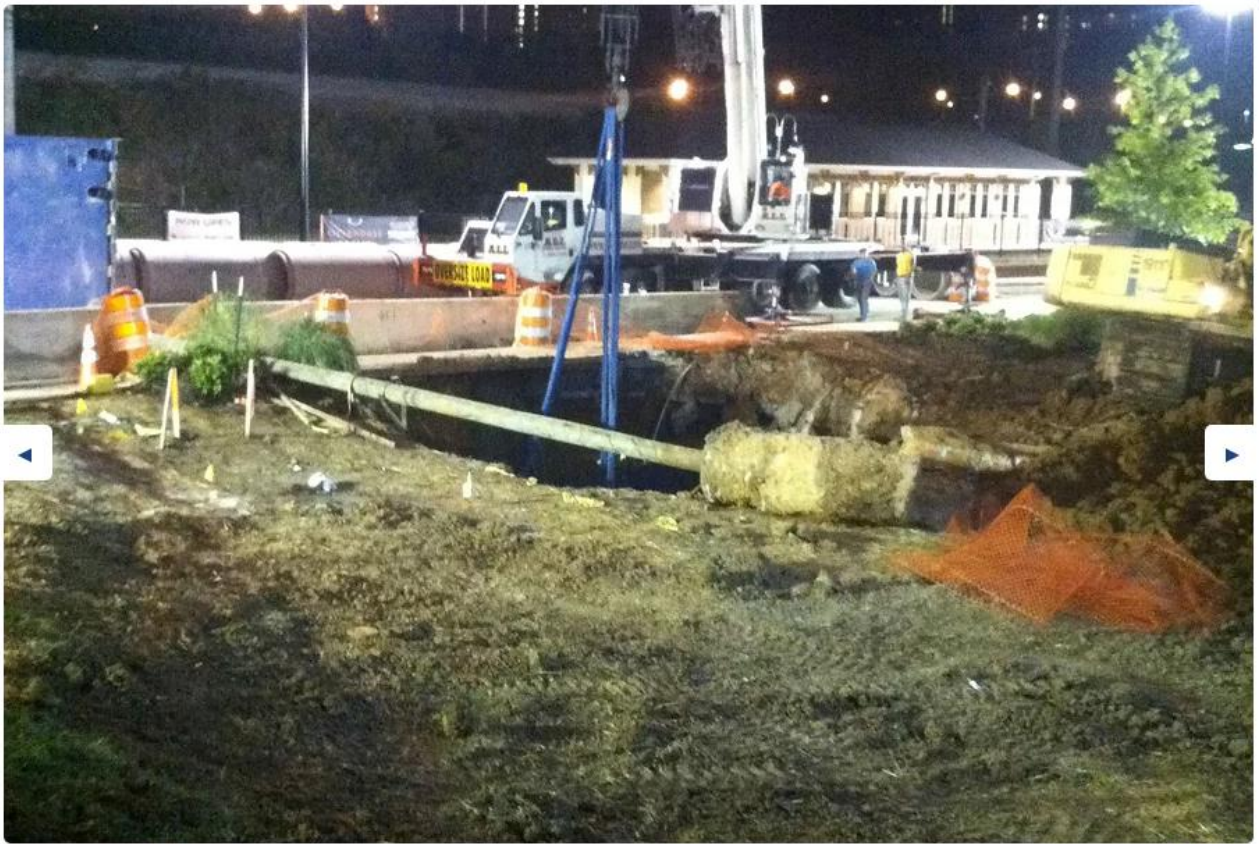
June 19, 2015: Progress
Strainer Basket for New Water Quality Unit

12/31



June 19, 2015: Progress
Water Quality Unit Installation

13/31



June 19, 2015: Progress
Water Quality Unit Installation

14/31



June 19, 2015: Progress
Water Quality Unit Installation

15/31



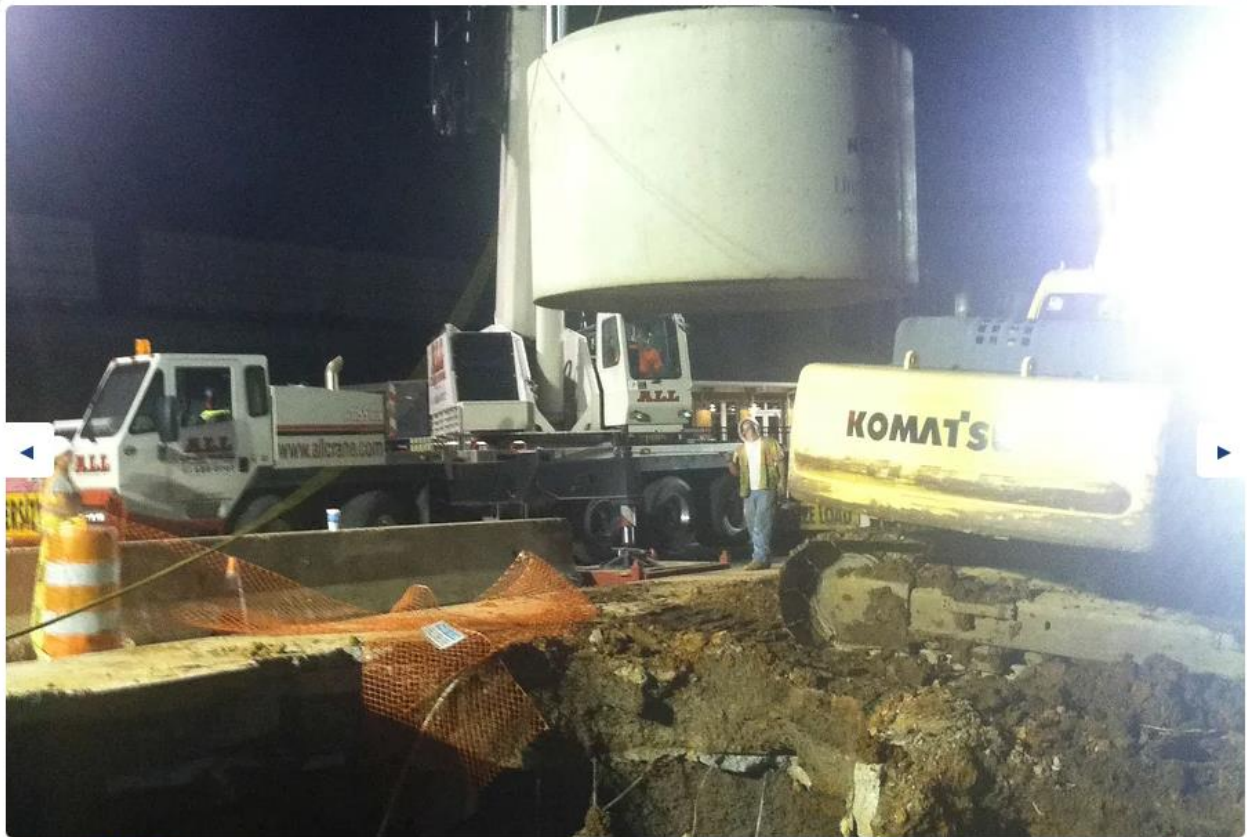
June 19, 2015: Progress
Water Quality Unit Installation

16/31



June 19, 2015: Progress
Water Quality Unit Installation

17/31



June 19, 2015: Progress
Water Quality Unit Installation

18/31



June 19, 2015: Progress
New Storm Sewer Junction Box

19/31



June 28, 2015: Progress

20/31



June 28, 2015: Progress

21/31



June 28, 2015: Progress

22/31



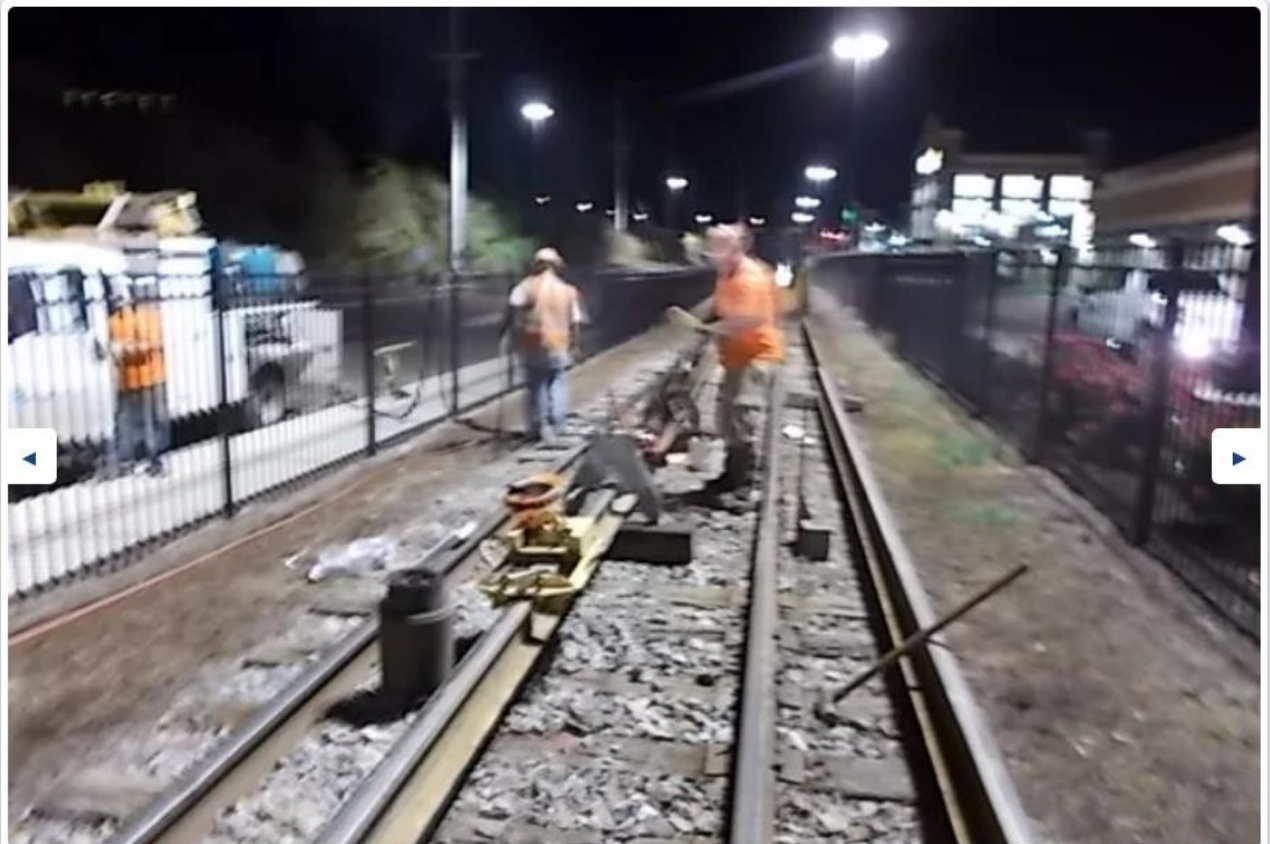
June 28, 2015: Progress

23/31



June 28, 2015: Progress

24/31



June 28, 2015: Progress

25/31



June 29, 2015: Progress

26/31



June 28, 2015: Progress

27/31



June 29, 2015: Progress

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June 29, 2015: Progress

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June 29, 2015: Progress

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OVERNIGHT FORT SANDERS LANE CLOSURES SCHEDULED

POSTED May 3, 2016



Knoxville Utilities Board electrical system upgrades to support construction of a large apartment complex in Fort Sanders will require overnight street closures, starting tonight (Tuesday, May 3) and continuing through Friday morning, May 13.

The Standard is a 240-plus-unit apartment complex being built on the southwest corner of 17th Street and White Avenue.

For the next week and a half, motorists should anticipate the closure of North 18th Street between Cumberland and White avenues nightly, from 6 p.m. until 6 a.m. the following morning.

Similarly, two lanes will be closed nightly on 17th Street, between Cumberland and Clinch avenues, from 6 p.m. until 6 a.m. the following morning.

The alley between 18th and 17th (north of Cumberland and south of White) will not be accessible during the overnight construction.

Most infrastructure upgrades throughout the Cumberland Avenue Corridor are part of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland reconstruction, to be completed by August 2017. (Improvements that are part of private construction projects are coordinated with the City project in order to minimize effects on commuters and pedestrians.)

The City's reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.



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OVERNIGHT CLOSURE OF CUMBERLAND FOR UTILITY UPGRADE

POSTED May 16, 2016



KUB and its contractor will be closing Cumberland Avenue for overnight installation of new water infrastructure on three consecutive nights, starting at 10 p.m.- Monday, May 16.

Southern Constructors Inc. crews will be installing water lines across Cumberland Avenue, closing the avenue between 17th and 19th streets from 10 p.m. today until 6 a.m. Tuesday, May 17. The closures will repeat Tuesday and Wednesday nights, with Cumberland reopening at 6 a.m. on Thursday morning, May 19.

Westbound motorists will be detoured during the closure onto Melrose Place, then along an alley running parallel to Cumberland, then onto 19th Street before reconnecting with Cumberland Avenue. Eastbound motorists will be detoured onto 19th Street to Clinch Avenue to 17th Street before reconnecting to Cumberland Avenue.

Meanwhile, a temporary no-parking zone will be in effect on the west side of Melrose Place, between Cumberland Avenue and Lake Avenue, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, May 17-18. New infrastructure is being installed to service an existing KUB customer. Two-way traffic on Melrose Place will remain in effect.



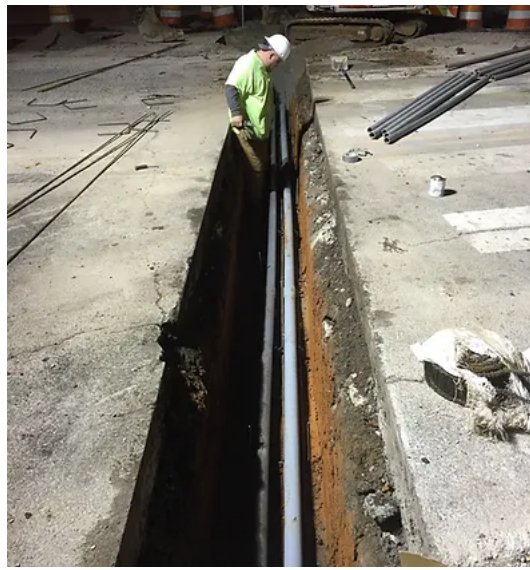
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SECTION OF 17th STREET TO BE CLOSED

POSTED May 23, 2016



Beginning Monday, May 23, anticipate overnight closures of a section of 17th Street and the continuous closure of one block of an east-west alley south of Cumberland Avenue as part of the reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue.

From 10 p.m. Monday, May 23, through 6 a.m. Tuesday, May 24, Southern Constructors Inc. crews will be installing electrical duct banks across 17th Street, between Cumberland and White avenues. The overnight closures will be repeated Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Southbound motorists on 17th Street will be detoured onto White Avenue to 16th Street to connect with Cumberland Avenue. Motorists wishing to access northbound 17th Street from Cumberland will be detoured onto 16th Street, then onto Clinch Avenue.

Meanwhile, Southern Constructors Inc. will be closing a section of South Alley (the alley running parallel with Cumberland and Lake avenues) between 18th and 19th streets from 6 a.m. Monday, May 23, through 6 p.m. Thursday, May 26 to perform maintenance work on the sanitary sewer system.



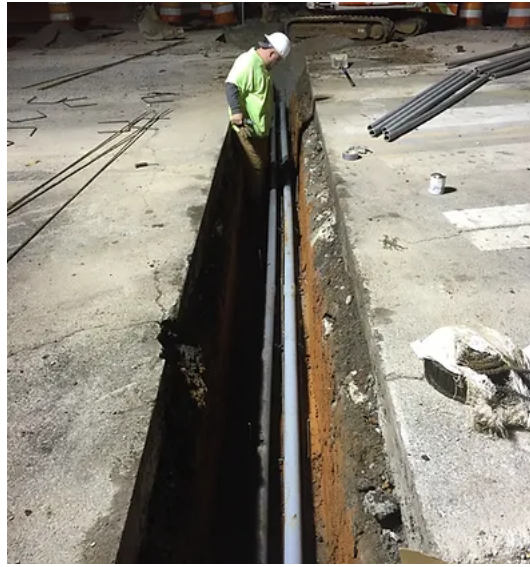
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CITY'S CUMBERLAND AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION, UT STEAM LINE UPGRADE TO CLOSE SECTIONS OF STREETS IN COMING WEEKS

POSTED June 6, 2016



This week, storm drains will be installed across 17th Street by a City contractor, prompting four overnight closures, while a major University of Tennessee upgrade to its steam line infrastructure will reduce lanes on a section of Cumberland Avenue.

17th Street

Starting at 10 p.m. today (Monday, June 6), 17th Street will be closed overnight between Cumberland and White avenues. The street will reopen at 6 a.m. Tuesday, June 7. The closures will be repeated each night through Thursday night, June 9, with the work completed and 17th Street reopening on Friday morning, June 10.

Southbound motorists on 17th Street will be detoured onto White Avenue to 16th Street to connect with Cumberland Avenue. Motorists wishing to access northbound 17th Street from Cumberland will be detoured onto 16th Street, then onto Clinch Avenue.

The storm drain installation is part of the City of Knoxville's \$17 million Cumberland Avenue reconstruction, to be completed by August 2017.

The reconstruction will change the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.

Cumberland Avenue

Motorists over the next 5½ weeks should anticipate Southern Constructors Inc. crews working on the upgrade to UT's steam line, which will be installed across Cumberland Avenue. The installation will reduce the number of east-west traffic lanes from four to two between James Agee and 17th streets through Wednesday, July 13. During this time, one eastbound and one westbound lane will remain open.

The university's steam plant provides heating and hot water for more than 150 buildings using about 11 miles of underground steam pipes. The steam line project is a continuation of plant upgrades for UT eliminating the use of coal by transitioning to natural gas, which will lead to decreased emissions of pollutants and more efficient fuel delivery.

Also as part of the steam line upgrade, four metered parking spaces on the east side of 16th Street, between Cumberland and White avenues, will be unavailable through Aug. 15. Southern Constructors will be using the spaces for storage of pipe and other materials.

Alley south of Clinch Avenue

Knoxville Utilities Board crews, as well as electric contract crews, will be performing electric upgrade work requiring a month-long closure of an east-west alley south of Clinch Avenue, between 17th and 18th streets, starting Tuesday, June 7, and scheduled to end Friday, July 1. Crews will be working overnight 6 p.m.-6 a.m., with some daytime work necessary to complete the project. This work is to support current customers as well as new development in the area.



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BACK-TO-BACK OVERNIGHT UTILITY INSTALLATIONS TO CLOSE SECTIONS OF 17th STREET, CUMBERLAND AVENUE

POSTED June 29, 2016



Two overnight utility installations in the Cumberland Avenue Corridor will close sections of 17th Street and Cumberland Avenue on consecutive nights, but the duration of the work is being shortened, and the scheduling adjusted, to better accommodate a business on The Strip.

Starting at 10 p.m. today (Wednesday, June 29), a section of 17th Street between Cumberland and White avenues will be closed as crews install a street lighting duct bank across 17th Street. The street will reopen at 6 a.m. Thursday, June 30.

Northbound motorists on 17th Street will be detoured from Cumberland Avenue onto 16th Street and then onto Clinch Avenue before reconnecting with 17th Street. Southbound motorists on 17th Street will be detoured onto White and 16th streets.

Then, starting at 10 p.m. Thursday, June 30, a contractor will be installing a new water line across Cumberland Avenue, prompting a closure of Cumberland between 17th and 19th streets until 6 a.m. Friday, July 1. The work originally had been scheduled to be done over three earlier nights, but the project was rescheduled and condensed into one overnight shift at the request of a business.

Westbound motorists on Cumberland Avenue will be detoured onto Melrose Place to Lake Avenue to 19th Street before reconnecting to Cumberland. Eastbound motorists on Cumberland Avenue will be detoured onto 19th Street to Clinch Avenue to 17th Street before returning to Cumberland.

Meanwhile, underground utility upgrades have been completed on 19th Street north of Cumberland. Crews today will be repaving that section of 19th Street, but the street will remain open during the repaving.

"We understand that the City's \$17 million reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue directly affects businesses and their customers, and that's why we're constantly talking with one another and figuring out creative ways to lessen any inconveniences," said Anne Wallace, the City's Deputy Director of Redevelopment.

"A lot of the underground utility work is being done during the summer months, when many University of Tennessee students are gone and traffic is lightest. Our contractor has been working on many projects at night, and in the case of the two jobs being done this week, we've compacted the work into a single-night road closures.

"The bottom line is: Cumberland Avenue has been and will remain open for business. I think visitors are surprised by the relative ease of getting to their favorite restaurants or retailers."

The City's reconstruction project is scheduled to be completed by August 2017. The existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets is being remade into a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.

"We appreciate the patience of the merchants and their customers," Wallace said. "The City's investment in infrastructure and streetscape upgrades will create a more attractive, safer, pedestrian-friendly Cumberland Avenue, and the merchants are enthusiastic about all the great things happening throughout the Cumberland Corridor."



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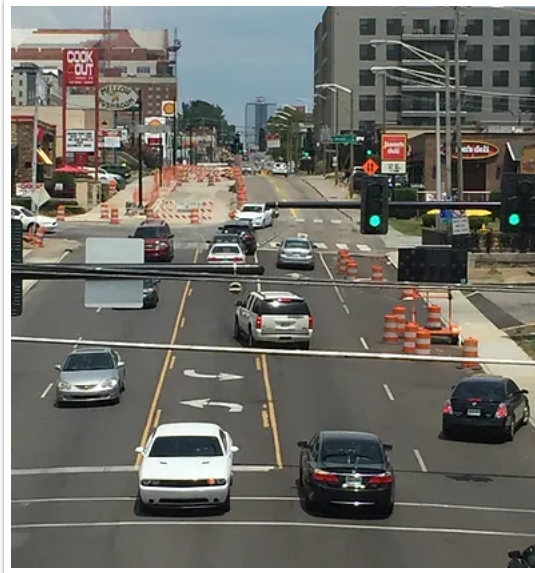
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ALERT for AUGUST 2-5

OVERNIGHT PAVINGS SCHEDULED ON 3-BLOCK SECTION OF CUMBERLAND AVENUE

POSTED August 2, 2016



A series of overnight pavings along a three-block section of Cumberland Avenue, starting at 9 p.m. today (Tuesday, Aug. 2), will establish the roadway at its correct new height while providing better access to the entrances of businesses.

The carefully-sequenced series of pavings – involving the future westbound lane of Cumberland and closures of one-block sections of 19th, 20th and 21st streets north of Cumberland – will take place over three consecutive nights. The paving work is the latest development in the City's \$17 million reconstruction of the seven-block main stretch of Cumberland Avenue.

The first closure begins tonight. From 9 p.m. today until 6 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, North 21st Street between Cumberland and White avenues will be closed while Southern Constructors Inc. crews pave the westbound lane of Cumberland from 21st Street east toward 22nd Street.

The side streets are being connected with Cumberland at its new elevation, so about 30 feet of North 21st Street also will be paved as the new connection is made.

North 21st Street will be closed overnight during the paving; motorists may use either 20th or 22nd streets as alternative routes. Cumberland Avenue will remain open to both westbound and eastbound traffic.

Next, the paving work will cascade eastward and follow the same pattern. From 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, until 6 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, North 20th Street will be closed between Cumberland and White avenues. Crews will pave the westbound lane of Cumberland from North 20th toward 21st Street.

A short section of North 20th will be paved as well. While North 20th is closed overnight, motorists may use 19th or 21st streets as alternative routes. Just like on Tuesday night, Cumberland will remain open to both westbound and eastbound traffic.

Finally, from 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, until 6 a.m. Friday, Aug. 5, North 19th Street will be closed between Cumberland and White avenues. The westbound lane of Cumberland will be paved from 19th Street toward 20th Street. Cumberland will remain open, and 20th and 18th streets are alternate routes.

"This paving is a small step in the overall project, but the Cumberland Corridor merchants, restaurants and their customers will definitely find it interesting," said Anne Wallace, the City's Deputy Director of Redevelopment who's managing the Cumberland Avenue reconstruction project. "While work will be continuing in these blocks, this will give people a better glimpse of what the new-and-improved Cumberland will look like.

"First of all, the new asphalt is replacing a gravel lane, so the entrances to businesses are being improved.

"Second, on the north side of Cumberland between 19th and 22nd streets, you'll be able to more easily visualize the finished streetscape – the new westbound traffic lane, the wide new decorative sidewalk, and the silva cells, where new trees will be planted next year."

The complete project will be finished in about a year. The City's investment in infrastructure and streetscape upgrades will create a more attractive, safer, pedestrian-friendly and better-functioning Cumberland Avenue Corridor.

Utilities are being upgraded from Alcoa Highway to 17th Street. The existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets is being reconfigured to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections.

An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.



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WELCOME UT STUDENTS, BE AWARE OF NEW CITY PARKING RULES

POSTED August 11, 2016



This weekend, thousands of University of Tennessee students new to Knoxville will be moving into apartments and dormitories. The City of Knoxville and Public Building Authority (PBA) officials welcome the students and remind them and their parents of new City parking enforcement regulations that took effect July 1.

As part of a comprehensive approach to managing public parking in downtown and around Cumberland Avenue, the City currently is installing more than 1,000 new parking meters, adjusting rates for on-street and City garage parking, and increasing parking enforcement. The goal is to create more turnover of on-street parking spaces in high-demand areas, which benefits merchants and restaurant owners.

For general parking information, visit <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/parking>. For information on downtown parking garages, visit <http://www.knoxparking.com>.

Meanwhile, here's a Q&A to help newcomers to Knoxville better understand the dos and don'ts on parking on City streets in the Cumberland District and in downtown:

QUESTION: How and where is parking enforced by the City of Knoxville near the UT campus?

ANSWER: City parking enforcement in the Cumberland District includes White and Lake avenues; Melrose Place; and Mountcastle, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd streets. Since July 1, PBA has assigned four PBA officers to handle parking enforcement in the Cumberland Avenue area.

PBA officers also enforce 30-minute limits for commercial vehicles only to park in designated commercial loading zones, and they also will be ticketing drivers who park vehicles illegally on sidewalks or in other non-designated areas.

QUESTION: How much does it cost to park at a metered on-street space? What are the hours of operation, when I'm subject to getting a parking ticket?

ANSWER: As the new meters are installed, the new rate for parking in an on-street metered space is uniformly \$1.50 an hour. Vehicles typically can be parked for up to two hours at a time.

Hours of operation in the Cumberland District are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. (The same hours are in effect downtown, except on Gay Street and around Market Square; on those streets, enforcement hours extend til 11 p.m.)

QUESTION: If I'm downtown, isn't it cheaper to park in a City-owned garage?

ANSWER: The downtown City garage rate is \$1 an hour – that's 50 cents an hour less than metered on-street rates. Plus, there's no time limit. Parking in City-owned garages will remain free on weekends and upon entry after 6 p.m. on weekdays.

QUESTION: If I get a parking ticket, how much would I have to pay? Can I pay it online? What if I think the ticket is undeserved and I want to talk with someone in City Court?

ANSWER: The smallest fee, for a meter violation, starts at \$11. But the penalties vary depending on the violation. Parking in a space reserved for a disabled driver, for example, is punishable by a \$50 fine.

Anyone wishing to pay a ticket for a traffic meter violation or other parking violation can do so online at <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/payticket>. Or contact City Court at 865-215-7474 or visit the court in the Safety Building, 800 Howard Baker Jr. Ave.

QUESTION: What do I do if the Knoxville Police Department has authorized my vehicle to be towed for illegally parking in a commercial zone or a fire lane?



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PLAN YOUR COMMUTE, PARKING OPTIONS FOR VOLS' THURSDAY, SEPT. 1, SEASON OPENER

POSTED August 25, 2016



With the University of Tennessee's football home opener on Thursday, Sept. 1, fans heading to the game should anticipate some logistical deviations from a traditional Saturday game.

Shuttle services to and from Neyland Stadium will be limited, and there will likely be waits to board the shuttles as kickoff approaches. City transportation planners are recommending that regular game-day shuttle commuters switch on Sept. 1 to use Knoxville Area Transit's regular bus system to get to the game.

If your favorite parking garage is full, fans are advised to have a back-up plan for where to park. (Many commuters will be parking on the periphery of downtown; the Civic Coliseum garage, for example, has more than 2,500 parking spaces, and it's just a five-minute walk to Gay Street – or cross Hall of Fame Drive to access KAT's Knoxville Station Transit Center and a bus connection on to Cumberland Avenue.)

Remember that the City's \$17 million reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue is continuing, so please follow the recommended traffic flow plans to reach garages and parking lots. And if your time-honored game-day traditions start with a meal at a Cumberland Avenue restaurant, there are recommended routes to access those businesses as well.

"We want everyone to have a great experience at the home opener," said Rick Emmett, the City's Downtown Coordinator. "To best assure a smooth, stress-free commute, fans are encouraged to arrive early, be patient if they encounter heavier-than-usual traffic congestion, and plan their parking options before driving to the game."

For normal weekday downtown commuters, garage parking will be available as usual. All monthly parking subscribers arriving before 3 p.m. on Sept. 1 will be able to access their garages. Similarly, downtown residents with monthly parking passes will be able to park in their garage as usual up until game-day parking begins.

The Vols kick off against Appalachian State at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 1. Here are some useful tips for navigating through downtown and near the UT campus:

KAT TROLLEYS AND GAME-DAY SHUTTLES

KAT will be running its regular weekday citywide bus routes. Because KAT doesn't have as many buses available on a weekday as on a Saturday, KAT will be discontinuing its downtown free trolley service at 3 p.m. on Sept. 1 and using the trolleys to shuttle football fans to and from Neyland Stadium.

With the shuttle service condensed and limited – two downtown shuttle pickup points instead of the usual four, with fewer overall seats available – wait times for a shuttle may be unusually lengthy at certain times on Sept. 1.

The trolleys will be shuttling fans to Neyland Stadium from two locations only: The City's free Jackson Avenue parking lot underneath Hall of Fame Drive, and the Civic Coliseum Garage. Shuttles begin at 4:30 p.m., and the cost is \$6 per person round-trip.

Starting with the Vols' Saturday, Sept. 17, game against Ohio University, shuttles will resume to and from Farragut High School and Market Square.

KAT BUSES

The City of Knoxville recommends – with limited football shuttle services on Sept. 1 – that riders use KAT's regular bus system to reach UT.

KAT has developed five easy-to-follow guides (attachments included) for fans traveling into downtown from the west, northwest, north, east and south. Call KAT at 865-637-3000, and a customer-service specialist will help fans plan their commute.

The one-page guides are in pdf format and are available on the City of Knoxville's website (<http://www.knoxvilletn.gov>) and KAT's website (<http://www.katbus.com>), or KAT will email a copy to anyone who calls and requests one. The guides also are available in printed form at Knoxville Station Transit Center.

Call KAT or check online about bus frequency, schedules and costs. In most cases, fans' most economical choice to get to and from Neyland Stadium on Sept. 1 is to purchase a \$4 unlimited day pass for a round-trip ride from anywhere. After 4 p.m., buses roll every 15 minutes on Route 31 (Magnolia), Route 11 (Kingston Pike) and Route 22 (Broadway). Other major routes transporting fans on Clinton Highway, Central Street and Chapman Highway roll every 30 minutes.

Payments with dollar bills and coins are accepted on buses, but not credit or debit cards.

Buses will run until 11:15 p.m., unless demand warrants extended later service.

DOWNTOWN GARAGES

The University of Tennessee has canceled classes on Sept. 1, but the City of Knoxville offices downtown will be open, as will banks and most other downtown employers. As a result, downtown parking garages that typically are empty for a Saturday home game will be in use by daytime workers.

However, parking spaces are expected to start becoming increasingly available as the afternoon progresses, and game-day parking will be sold as spaces open up, beginning in some City-owned garages at 3 p.m. on Sept. 1.

Here's a rundown on parking availability at public garages and surface lots:

- Market Square Garage – Normal daytime rates apply; free to those who enter the garage after 6 p.m.; free game-day parking will be allowed in the garage at any time but only after an appropriate number of spaces are set aside to accommodate parkers who have purchased monthly parking passes for the garage;
- State Street Garage – Normal daytime rates apply; free upon entry after 6 p.m.;
- Promenade Garage – No game-day parking due to limited spaces during a maintenance project;
- Main Street Garage – Game-day parking will begin at 3 p.m.; the cost is \$20 per vehicle;
- Locust Street Garage – Game-day parking (\$20 per vehicle) will begin at 3 p.m.;
- City County Building Garage – Game-day parking (\$20 per vehicle) will begin at 3 p.m.;
- Dwight Kessel Garage – Game-day parking (\$20 per vehicle) will begin at 3 p.m.;
- Civic Coliseum Garage – RVs allowed (\$35 for spaces without full utility hookups); game-day parking is \$10 per car.
- West Jackson Avenue lot, west of Gay Street in the Old City – Normal daytime rates; free after 6 p.m.;
- State Supreme Court site – Game-day parking begins at noon, as spaces are available;
- Poplar Street lot – Game-day parking (\$30 per vehicle) begins at noon, as spaces are available; and
- Blackstock Avenue lot – RVs allowed (\$25); game-day parking (\$10 per vehicle) begins at 3 p.m., as spaces are available.

TRAFFIC PATTERNS

Some streets will be closed or temporarily converted to one-way traffic to improve movement of large numbers of vehicles heading to the game or leaving the UT area after the game.

Fully plan your commute before you leave the house. For details, visit http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/residents/traffic_transit/game_day_traffic.

BEFORE UT GAMES:

- UT Drive – one-way south and east from Volunteer Boulevard to Lake Loudoun Boulevard;
- Peyton Manning Pass – closed approximately 2½ hours before kickoff.

AFTER UT GAMES:

- Alcoa Highway -- ramps from Alcoa Highway to Neyland Drive closed by the Tennessee Department of Transportation;
- Hall of Fame Drive – closed southbound at Summit Hill Drive; no access to James White Parkway from Hall of Fame Drive at the Cal Johnson Recreation Center;
- Kingston Pike – eastbound closed at southbound Alcoa Highway;
- Lake Loudoun Boulevard – one-way south from Volunteer Boulevard to Neyland Drive;
- Neyland Drive – one-way east from Lake Loudon Boulevard to I-40; southbound Lake Loudoun Boulevard lanes turn west onto Neyland Drive; northbound Lake Loudoun Boulevard lanes turn east onto Neyland Drive; westbound Neyland Drive closed at Walnut Street; eastbound Neyland Drive closed at Kingston Pike; eastbound Neyland Drive ramp to Hall of Fame closed;
- Phillip Fulmer Way – one-way south from Andy Holt Avenue to Lake Loudoun Boulevard;
- Peyton Manning Pass – one-way west from Phillip Fulmer Way to Volunteer Boulevard;
- 17th St – closed southbound at Clinch Avenue; all traffic detoured to westbound Clinch Avenue;

- Volunteer Boulevard West – closed at Joe Johnson Drive; all traffic will be diverted onto Joe Johnson to Neyland Drive;
- Cumberland Avenue (westbound) – closed at Henley Street;
- Clinch Avenue Viaduct between 11th Street and Henley Street – one-way eastbound traffic; and
- 11th St. (southbound) – closed at Western Avenue.

CUMBERLAND AVENUE

The Cumberland Avenue reconstruction will continue through next summer. One lane is open on Cumberland in each direction.

Last year, two-way traffic was opened up on four side streets that previously had been one-directional – 18th Street, 19th Street south of Cumberland, Mountcastle and 21st Street – between Lake and White avenues. (There always had been two-way traffic on 20th Street and on 19th Street north of Cumberland.) These permanent changes in traffic flow will give more options to motorists and enable them to more quickly reach their destinations.

However, there will be no left turns allowed off Cumberland Avenue. Motorists are encouraged to study a map and plan their commutes before heading to the area on game days.

Fans without parking passes should refrain from driving into the congested campus area and instead should park in peripheral areas, such as at downtown garages or in private lots.

City officials recommend these routes on game days, either for fans with designated parking in the UT or Fort Sanders areas, or those wishing to access downtown parking:

- Coming from the west: One option is to take Interstate 40/75 to southbound Alcoa Highway, then exit onto Neyland Drive. Once on Neyland Drive, motorists can access campus via Joe Johnson Drive, or they can continue on to parking garages downtown. A second option is to take eastbound Kingston Pike to Neyland Drive.
- Coming from the south: Take Chapman Highway and cross the Tennessee River into downtown using either the Henley Bridge or the Gay Street Bridge.

Or, drive northbound Alcoa Highway to Neyland Drive, and either access campus via Joe Johnson Drive or access City parking garages by continuing on Neyland into downtown.

- Coming from north of Cumberland Avenue: Take southbound Broadway until it turns into Henley Street downtown; then turn right onto Western Avenue (to 11th Street) or onto Clinch Avenue to access Fort Sanders, or turn left onto Summit Hill Drive or Church Street to access the downtown garages.

Or, if driving from I-40: Take southbound 17th Street to access side streets into Fort Sanders.

- Coming from the east: Get off I-40 at James White Parkway to access downtown and parking.

When leaving Neyland Stadium after the game, fans should follow the same route that they took when arriving to the game.

Meanwhile, UT fans wishing to revel in game-day traditions by visiting iconic Cumberland Avenue merchants and restaurants should follow these routes:

- To access destinations on the north side of Cumberland Avenue: Take southbound 17th Street to Cumberland Avenue; turn right onto Cumberland, then access businesses by turning right into their parking areas. Remember, there are no left turns on Cumberland.
- To access destinations on the south side of Cumberland: Take Neyland Drive to Joe Johnson Drive; turn left onto West Volunteer Boulevard; turn right onto Cumberland. Or: Take Alcoa Highway and the Kingston Pike exit; turn onto Cumberland; turn right into the business. Remember: No left turns on Cumberland Avenue.

CLICK HERE FOR A GAME-DAY PARKING MAP:

<http://www.cumberlandconnect.com/2016-ut-football-public-parking>

For special game-day promotions by Cumberland Avenue businesses, visit www.CumberlandConnect.com or the Cumberland Connect Facebook page, [facebook.com/CumberlandConnect](https://www.facebook.com/CumberlandConnect), or download the Cumberland Connect phone app. Or text VFL to 313131 to get text messages on the most current traffic updates.

ANSWER: Vehicles that are towed are taken to the City's Vehicle Impoundment Lot on Vice Mayor Jack Sharp Road in East Knoxville. The contact number for the lot is 865-215-6215.

To retrieve a vehicle from the Impoundment Lot, you'll need a government-issued photo ID, a licensed driver, and proof of ownership. The Impoundment Lot is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, but vehicles are only released between 8 a.m. and midnight. Impound fees may be paid with cash, a Mastercard or VISA credit card, a debit card with a VISA emblem, a company check, a cashier's check or a money order.

QUESTION: I'm new to town and I see red trolley buses around downtown and near UT. Really – I can park and ride for free?

ANSWER: The City's transit service, Knoxville Area Transit, operates three free trolley routes, Mondays to Thursdays until 8 p.m. (and until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays).

The Orange Line serves the UT, University Commons and World's Fair Park areas, with a trolley rolling by every 15 minutes.

The Green Line serves the Old City, Market Square and Gay Street, with a trolley rolling by every 10 minutes.

The Blue Line is KAT's Waterfront Connection, linking the Civic Coliseum parking garage to downtown and the City County Building, returning via Hill Avenue. A trolley rolls by every 7 minutes on weekdays (every 15 minutes on Saturdays), offering a direct connection on to UT campus for residents east of downtown or for parkers at the Coliseum.

QUESTION: I'm a parent, and I'm moving my child into student housing off Cumberland Avenue this weekend. Can I unload the vehicle and then go park somewhere?

ANSWER: There's a Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center surface parking lot at 19th Street and White Avenue, the most eastern of a series of parking lots in that block. It's available to UT parkers and the general public after 6 p.m. weeknights and on weekends. To be sure you're parking in the right place, pay attention to the posted signs on the lots – the signs will indicate if you're in the hospital's lot or a non-public tow-away lot.

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NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN BEGINS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

CUMBERLAND AVENUE EXCAVATION WORK: DAYTIME LANE SHIFT, NIGHTTIME DETOUR

POSTED September 2, 2016



Starting after Labor Day, a City contractor will be excavating and removing buried pre-World War II trolley tracks from the center of Cumberland Avenue – a task that will require a 10-day around-the-clock lane shift plus overnight closures of the westbound lane of Cumberland for nine consecutive nights.

Southern Constructors Inc. will begin the trolley track removal at midnight on Tuesday, Sept. 6. The job is scheduled to be completed by the end of Thursday, Sept. 15.

Along a three-block section of Cumberland, between 19th and 22nd streets, the westbound lane of traffic will be shifted. No left turns will be allowed through the three-block excavation zone Sept. 6-15, and this includes intersecting side streets with Cumberland.

Nightly, between midnight and 6 a.m., the westbound lane between 19th and 22nd streets will be closed entirely. Flag personnel will be dispatched as needed to maintain access to businesses that are open after midnight.

The eastbound traffic lane of Cumberland Avenue will remain open at all times during the project. Westbound commuters will shift to the new through lane during day and evening hours, but between midnight and 6 a.m., westbound commuters will be detoured off Cumberland to 19th Street, to Clinch Avenue and to 22nd Street before reconnecting with Cumberland.

"The decision to close a section of westbound Cumberland at night wasn't made lightly," said Anne Wallace, the City's Deputy Director of Redevelopment. "However, safety is key – both to motorists and to the construction crew. It was necessary to eliminate conflicts between heavy machinery and vehicles for this phase."

The excavation was scheduled to take advantage of a 10-day period with no University of Tennessee home football games.

Wallace cautioned that the night-time work will be noisy at times. But doing the work 24/7 rather than stopping the excavation work at night will cut by more than half the time needed to finish the project, in addition to increasing motorist safety.

The excavation work also will play a small role in the Battle at Cumberland Avenue Scavenger Hunt. The four-day Sept. 6-9 event pits registered teams against one another in posting creative social media photos tied to the Cumberland Avenue revitalization and, most importantly, Big Orange fervor along Cumberland Avenue leading up to the Sept. 10 Battle at Bristol between the Vols and Hokies.

The details of the scavenger hunt will remain under wraps until it kicks off on Sept. 6, but several of the contest criteria award points to teams that safely incorporate images of the City's \$17 million investment in the Cumberland Avenue reconstruction. (So imagine a photo of a team singing "Rocky Top" while holding a specialty food item, standing on a new section of decorative Cumberland brick sidewalk, with a Southern Constructors dump truck in the background. That would be worth a lot of Battle at Cumberland Avenue points!)

To get started, scavenger hunt teams must register at www.CumberlandConnect.com.

The City's reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue, begun with Knoxville Utilities Board infrastructure improvements in April 2015, is scheduled to be completed by August 2017; the work is past the halfway mark. The existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets is being remade into a safer, more pedestrian-friendly corridor with a three-lane cross section, a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.



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CREWS REBUILDING NORTH 22nd STREET INTERSECTION AT CUMBERLAND AVENUE

POSTED October 4, 2016



This week – taking advantage of fall break at the University of Tennessee and no home Vol football game – crews will be rebuilding the intersection of Cumberland Avenue at 22nd Street.

Between 12:01 a.m. Friday, Oct. 7, and 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10, traffic will periodically be shifted on Cumberland Avenue, but one eastbound and one westbound lane will remain open.

One lane of southbound North 22nd Street will be maintained to accommodate Knoxville Area Transit bus operations and motorists leaving East Tennessee Children's Hospital, but turns from Cumberland Avenue onto North 22nd Street will be prohibited during the four-day project.

Last week, the first phase of the intersection rebuild was completed. Crews excavated the southbound right-turn lane of 22nd Street between Cumberland and the alley just north of Cumberland. They also installed curbs and sidewalks at the northwest corner of the intersection.

The new intersection is part of the City's \$17 million reconstruction of the seven-block main stretch of Cumberland Avenue, to be finished by August 2017. Utilities have been upgraded from Alcoa Highway to 17th Street, and the existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets is being reconfigured to a three-lane cross section with a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections.

An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street. That phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.



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INTERSECTION REBUILD TO CLOSE CUMBERLAND AVENUE AT 17TH STREET

POSTED December 13, 2016



The last intersection in the City's \$17 million Cumberland Avenue reconstruction – Cumberland at 17th Street – will be rebuilt and repaved later this week, requiring detours of motorists on both streets.

The work on the intersection at Cumberland and 17th will require a full closure, starting at 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. The intersection will remain closed through 6 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19.

Southern Constructors Inc. crews will be lowering the elevation of the intersection and repaving it as part of the reconstruction of a nine-block stretch of Cumberland between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 17th Street. This is the final intersection rebuild of the project, which is more than halfway complete.

The Cumberland Avenue reconstruction project began with Knoxville Utilities Board infrastructure improvements in April 2015, and it's scheduled to be completed by August 2017. The existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets is being remade into a safer, more pedestrian-friendly corridor with a three-lane cross section, a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.

The rebuild of the Cumberland-17th intersection was strategically scheduled to take advantage of light traffic during the University of Tennessee's winter break.

Here are recommended detour routes [\(please see attached map\)](#):

- Westbound motorists on Cumberland: Turn left onto Volunteer Boulevard; right onto Melrose Place; left onto Lake Avenue; right onto Volunteer, back to westbound Cumberland.

Eastbound motorists on Cumberland: Turn left onto 18th Street; right onto White Avenue; right onto 16th Street, back to Cumberland.

Southbound motorists on 17th: Turn right onto Clinch Avenue; left onto 22nd Street to access westbound Cumberland. Or turn left onto White, right onto 16th, to access eastbound Cumberland.



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TROLLEY TRACK REMOVAL HAS FINISHED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

POSTED December 5, 2016

The intensive work to remove the last of the trolley tracks from the center of a two-block section of Cumberland Avenue has been completed - three days ahead of schedule.

A few days before Thanksgiving, the work began: Westbound commuters were shifted to the north side of the road so that a City contractor could safely remove buried pre-World War II trolley tracks from the center of Cumberland Avenue.

The removal of the heavy metal tracks was part of the City's \$17 million reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 17th Street. The abandoned tracks served no purpose, and the last remaining trolley tracks between 17th and 19th streets had to be removed so that they wouldn't poke above the lower elevation of the reconstructed street. Today, the last step in the project - restoring left turns at 18th and North 19th streets - was completed. All paving operations needed to be completed and the left turns restored by the morning of Thursday, Dec. 8 - prior to UT graduation ceremonies.

The Southern Constructors Inc. crews beat that deadline by more than half a week.

Meanwhile, the City's reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue is more than halfway completed. The project began with Knoxville Utilities Board infrastructure improvements in April 2015, and it's scheduled to be completed by August 2017. The existing four-lane Cumberland between 22nd and 17th streets is being remade into a safer, more pedestrian-friendly corridor with a three-lane cross section, a raised median and left-turn lanes at intersections. An earlier phase of work on the western end of Cumberland focused on improving traffic flow between the Alcoa Highway ramps and 22nd Street; that phase finished at the end of 2015, on time and under budget.