

Discover a Healthy Life

KANNAPOLIS

MATTERS



WILMER MELTON APPOINTED AS KANNAPOLIS CITY MANAGER

Wilmer Melton has been appointed as the next Kannapolis City Manager by the Kannapolis City Council. Melton has been employed with the City of Kannapolis for 25 years serving as the Director of Public Works and an Assistant City Manager for the past six years.

A native of Kannapolis, Melton graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management and completed the Municipal Administration Certification from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. He has served on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Drinking Water Advisory Council as a Special Government Employee, which advises the Administrator on matters and policies related to drinking water quality and public health protection. He was also a member of the National Rural Water Association representing the State of North Carolina.

He has served in numerous professional and civic organizations, including Immediate Past President and former National Director of the North Carolina Rural Water Association, a Gubernatorial appointee to the Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Board of Directors, Past Vice-President of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cabarrus County, Past President of Cabarrus County Habitat for Humanity, Cabarrus County Meals-on-Wheels, Past President of the Kannapolis Rotary Club and a former Paul Harris Fellow.

Prior to his service with the City, Melton had extensive experience in the construction and land development industry. He officially assumed the new role of City Manager on January 12 at an annual salary of \$270,000.

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Melton succeeds Mike Legg, who has served the City with distinction for 31 years – 21 of those years as City Manager. In October, Legg announced his intention to retire on April 30, 2026. To ensure a smooth and seamless transition, Legg will remain with the City in a consulting capacity for the next few months providing continuity, institutional knowledge and strategic support as Melton steps into the position.

Mayor Doug Wilson praised both Melton and Legg, noting the strength of the transition plan. "Wilmer Melton brings a proven record of results-oriented service to our City," Mayor Wilson said. "His commitment to citizen-centered service and operational excellence makes him the right choice to guide our City into its next chapter. We are equally grateful to Mike Legg for his years of dedicated service and for his willingness to support this transition. This is a moment of both stability and momentum for our community."

Melton expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity to continue his service to the community. "I am honored to be selected as City Manager and look forward to working closely with the Mayor and City Council, our dedicated staff and our residents," he said. "I am committed to building on the strong foundation already in place."

Legg shared his support for the transition. "It has been the privilege of a lifetime to serve this City, and I am very proud to have worked among the most talented group of employees that one could ever ask for," he said. "I am pleased to assist Wilmer and the organization during this period of transition."

SHOW US YOUR ARTISTIC ABILITIES!

The City of Kannapolis Police Department is hosting its fourth annual children's coloring contest. Children between the ages of 4 and 10 are encouraged to enter the contest by 5 p.m. on March 15, 2026. Children may use anything (crayons, markers, paint) to color the Kannapolis Police Department's uniform patch. The top three winners as well as a "Chief's Choice" entry will receive gifts.

Submit your entry by delivering it in person to the Kannapolis Police Department (401 Laureate Way). The police department lobby is open 24/7. You may also mail it to Kannapolis Police Chief Terry Spry, 401 Laureate Way, Kannapolis, NC 28081 or you can email it as an attachment to tspry@kannapolisnc.gov. You must be a Kannapolis resident between the ages of 4 and 10 years old.



Download the coloring page by scanning the QR code. Your submission must include the child's name, age, and a contact telephone number and email address. You may attach this information or include it on the back of the coloring template.

CITY OF KANNAPOLIS GIVES BACK



This holiday season, employees of the City of Kannapolis gave back to the community in many meaningful ways. The Kannapolis Police Department hosted their annual "Cops Target Kids" program, which provided dozens of Kannapolis City School students with Christmas presents, clothes, shoes and other necessities from Target.

The Kannapolis Youth Council partnered with City Hall staff to collect Christmas gifts for students who are considered housing fragile throughout our community. Students were given Christmas gifts, clothing, a warm coat and hygiene products.



The Kannapolis Police Department also hosted a coat drive, collecting and handing out another 127 coats to K-12 Kannapolis students. Coats were donated by the public, and this effort would not have been possible without your kind donations.



Thank you to everyone who helped to support these incentives in 2025!



2026 RUN KANNAPOLIS 5K SERIES RETURNS

We are excited to announce the 2026 Run Kannapolis 5K Series. There will be eight races with many of your favorites returning along with a new race – the Towel City Tavern 5K.

Runners and walkers of all ages and abilities are invited to participate in this fun series featuring the best 5K runs/walks in the City. Each is held in Kannapolis and most include a one-mile fun run. Proceeds from the runs benefit area non-profits.



Runners/walkers are encouraged to participate in the entire series of eight races for unique prizes from the City of Kannapolis. Register now by scanning the QR Code or by visiting www.runkannapolis.com. Sign up for all eight races and save 25%.

Run Kannapolis is part of the City of Kannapolis' Discover a Healthy Life brand. Good luck with the 2026 Run Kannapolis series and we hope to see you at the finish line!

2026 Run Kannapolis Series

March 28	Strides for Stoke 5K
April 11	Robert Tucker 5K
May 16	Towel City Tavern 5K
May 30	Gaelic Alley Pub Run
August 15	Cannon Ballers
	Shooting Star 5K
September 26	Flints Fabulous 5K
October 24	5K Race for Peace
November 7	Old Armor 5K for Heroes

Host Organization

Atrium Health
Shoe Show Inc., Half-Moon Outfitters, LLC
Towel City Tavern
Gaelic Alley Pub
Cannon Ballers
Leashes of Valor
S.T.U.D.I.O.
Old Armor Beer Company



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www.kannapolisnc.gov/customer-service



Garbage/Recycling Information

**Recycling is collected every other week
on your garbage collection day.**

Visit kannapolisnc.gov/recycling or download the **free CARTOLOGY App** to find your collection schedule for garbage, recycling, yard waste, loose leaf, electronic waste, and bulky waste. You can also schedule reminders and search what can/cannot be recycled.



RECYCLE ONLY THESE ITEMS:

Wide-Mouth Plastic Containers & Lids
Rigid Plastic Containers & Small Hard Plastic Toys
Milk & Juice Cartons, & Juice Boxes
Aluminum Cans
Metal Food Cans & Lids
Glass Bottles & Jars
Cereal & Food Boxes
Cardboard Boxes Flattened
Mixed Paper, Newspapers with Inserts, & Junk Mail
Paperback Books
Magazines & Phonebooks
Spiral Paper Cans (with plastic lids detached)



For more information, visit:
kannapolisnc.gov/recycling
or call: 704.920.4444



DO NOT RECYCLE:

Clothes | Dirty Pizza Boxes | Plastic Bags*
(*recycle bags at participating stores)

FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

- Bag your garbage.
- Do not bag your recycling. (Plastic bags are clogging the machines at the recycling facility, causing a mess!)
- Recycling items need to be CLEAN and DRY.
- Put your garbage and recycling carts at the curb the night before your scheduled collection.
- Remove carts from the curb after they have been emptied.
- Grey lid cart is for garbage and the yellow lid cart is for recycling.
- Please do not put trash in the recycling carts – you will contaminate the entire truckload.
- Place carts for collection with wheels facing your home.
- Keep carts 5 feet from one another and 5 feet from parked cars, mailboxes, etc.
- Do not block sidewalks with carts.

THANK YOU TO OUR ADOPT- A-STREET VOLUNTEERS

The Adopt-A-Street program helps promote civic responsibility and community pride while enhancing Kannapolis' quality of life through clean streets and beautiful neighborhoods. It's easy to sign up and get involved in this free program. We provide all the supplies you will need.



Thank you to ELK (Eliminate Litter in Kannapolis), Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church, Beaver Pitman Post, Saunders Family, First Baptist Church, Completely Clean Property Maintenance and the A.L. Brown Latino Student Union for their participation in the Adopt-A-Street program in 2025.

If you or your organization would like to adopt a street, please visit www.kannapolisnc.gov/adopt-a-street.

THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS

401 Laureate Way | Kannapolis, NC 28081
704.920.4444
www.kannapolisnc.gov



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