

Discover a Healthy Life KANNAPOLIS MATTERS

KANNAPOLIS PARKS BOND WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 3 BALLOT

Kannapolis voters will have the opportunity to vote for up to \$40 million in General Obligation Bonds for several priority parks and recreation projects this November.

The bond projects include constructing the new Eastside (1100 Midlake Avenue) and Westside (Davidson-Concord Road – NC 73) Parks; constructing the Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway Phases 2 & 3 and Rocky River Greenway; the new Glenn Avenue Park athletic fields; and the Gem Theatre Phase III renovations.

Kannapolis has not built a traditional park or new athletic fields in more than 20 years. The properties for the Eastside and Westside park projects have been purchased and master plans completed. The City has received a \$500,000 grant to help defer the total cost of the Eastside Park and \$245,000 to help defer costs of the Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway.

Kannapolis has never had a General Obligation (GO) Bond. A General Obligation Bond is a way for the City to borrow money to pay for major capital projects. Construction of the projects could begin immediately on a staggered basis and must be completed within seven years. The possible property tax rate increase for the next seven years, if the GO Bond is approved, could be \$0.046 cents.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 2 Fire Truck Parade, Food Drive & Blood Drive** | 6 p.m. | City Hall
- 10 Shred Event** | 9 a.m. | Village Park
- 23 Capture the Flag** | 7 p.m. | Village Park | *Registration Required*
- 24 Run Kannapolis: 5K Race for Peace** | 8 a.m. | NCRC

NOVEMBER

- 6 Mystery Dinner Theatre** (*Tickets Required*) | 5:30 p.m. | City Hall
- 7 Run Kannapolis: Old Armor 5K for Heroes** | 8 a.m. | Downtown Kannapolis
- 13 Tree Lighting & Fireworks** | 6:30 p.m. | Village Park
- 14-30 Celebration of Lights & Winterland Express** | 5:30 p.m. | Village Park
- 26-27 City Hall Closed for Thanksgiving**

*No pets or smoking, please.
More at kannapolisnc.gov.*



PARK AND RECREATION PRIORITY BOND PROJECT DETAILS

Eastside Park – Construction of a 33-acre park on the City-owned Midlake Road property with Lake Fisher frontage. This park would include a dog park, splash pad, walking trail, fitness stations, restrooms, paddleboats, picnic shelters and a playground.

Westside Park – Construction of a 55-acre park on City-owned land with frontage on Highway 73 (Davidson-Concord Rd.). This park would also have playgrounds, access to the Rocky River Greenway, softball/baseball fields; multi-use rectangle fields for soccer/football/lacrosse, restrooms and picnic shelters.

Glenn Avenue – 76-acre site for the development of athletic fields and other passive park features.

Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway Phase 2 – Construction of approximately one mile of greenway from Rogers Lake Road to Highway 3.

Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway Phase 3 – Construction of a greenway (3/4-mile) from Highway 3 to Pine Street near Fred L. Wilson Elementary.

Rocky River Greenway – Construction of a greenway west from an existing parking lot at Shiloh Church Road to the Mecklenburg County line and South from the current stub out to Highway 73 at the bridge.

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCT 9
LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE

OCT 15
EARLY VOTING BEGINS

NOV 3
GENERAL ELECTION

Gem Theatre Renovations Phase III – Expanded concessions and lobby area, and second floor improvements.

For more information, visit: www.kannapolisbonds.com.

RODGERS FAMILY HONORED BY CITY COUNCIL

The Rodgers family has been honored by the Kannapolis City Council for their commitment to the Kannapolis School System and the Kannapolis community.

The Kannapolis City Council has designated the athletic field at Kannapolis Middle School as Rodgers Field. The designation is made to acknowledge the family's many decades of care and commitment to the education of children in the City.

The Rodgers family has lived in the Kannapolis community since the 1900s. Property located at Kannapolis Middle School was part of the Rodgers family farm. It was sold to the Kannapolis City Schools in the early 2000s and became part of the Kannapolis Middle School campus.

Many members of the Rodgers family have and still serve in the school system as teachers, coaches and administrators, including Meredith Johnson Spry, Hope Johnson Beam, Travis Rodgers, Elizabeth Rodgers, Grachy Rodgers, Caroline

Rodgers, Mackenzie Rodgers, Kaleb Spry and Rachel Spry.

Additionally, Delinda Rodgers served as a mathematics teacher for 32 years and a cheerleading advisor. Scott Rodgers, the current Director of Operations for the school system, has also served as a teacher, and a coach for varsity football and softball

and middle school football and baseball.

Other family members such as Jann Rodgers Johnson, who retired from Cabarrus County Schools, have continued the family tradition of serving in educational careers.



LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION BEGINS NOVEMBER 2

The City of Kannapolis loose leaf collection will begin November 2, 2026, and will end January 15, 2027. Please help us make the collection of leaves go smoothly by following the do's and don'ts listed below.

Loose Leaf Collection Do's & Don'ts:

- Leaves must be placed at the curb or along the ditch line – not in ditches – in rows parallel with the street.
- Place leaves at the curb by 7 a.m. on the day of collection.
- Leaves mixed with limbs, other yard waste, gum balls, gravel, glass or other solid matter will not be collected.
- Leaves in garbage containers will not



be collected.

- Leaves must be clear of water meters and fences and placed on the street side of retaining walls.
- Leaves must be clear of sidewalks/street.
- Keep the area around the leaves clear of

vehicles and other items so the loose leaf vacuum trucks can easily access the leaves. If access to the leaves is blocked, the leaves will not be collected.

During the Loose Leaf Season, there will be no loose leaf collection on the following holidays observed by the City: Veteran's Day (Nov. 11), Thanksgiving (Nov. 26 and 27), Christmas (Dec. 23-25) and New Year's Day (Jan. 1).

From now until November 2, loose leaves need to be bagged. After January 15, we request that you bag any loose leaves you have and place them at the curb for yard waste collection.

STEP INSIDE HISTORY: DISCOVER THE SWANEE THEATRE

Located in downtown Kannapolis, the Swanee Theatre has been a community landmark since opening in 1940.

Originally built as a movie theatre, the Swanee has been restored and transformed into a modern entertainment and event venue while preserving its historic character.

Today, the Swanee hosts concerts, comedy shows, classes, workshops and community events. The theatre is also available to rent for weddings, parties, corporate meetings, banquets, fundraisers and other special occasions.

The venue offers flexible event spaces, modern audio and visual capabilities,

catering options and its iconic lighted marquee, which can be personalized for special events.

More than 85 years after opening its doors, the Swanee Theatre continues to add new chapters to its history. From its beginnings as a movie theatre for textile workers and families to its role today as an entertainment and event venue, the Swanee remains a place where Kannapolis residents and visitors can make lasting memories.

Located at 200 West Avenue, the Swanee puts guests in the heart of downtown Kannapolis, within walking distance of restaurants, businesses and other attractions.



Plan your visit or event at www.swaneetheatre.com. For rental information, contact swanee@kannapolisnc.gov.



ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY KICKS OFF CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS IN KANNAPOLIS



the popular song. This magical experience is one you do not want to miss – you will add it to your annual holiday traditions list.

Attendees will also be able to ride the **Village Park Double Decker Carousel**. Manufactured in Italy, it features 1,800 lights, Brazilian oak decking and charming hand-painted Venetian murals that are sure to get you into the spirit of the holidays.

A Kannapolis Christmas returns this holiday season with events that have become treasured family traditions in North Carolina. Families return annually to celebrate with us and create their favorite family memories in the City.

The official kick-off to the holidays will be the **Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony & Celebration of Lights**, 6:30 p.m., Friday, November 13, Village Park, located at 700 West C Street.

Following the lighting of the tree, there will be a fireworks display, live musical performances and more. **The Celebration of Lights and Winterland Express will then run through December 30.**

The annual tradition of the **Celebration of Lights** includes hundreds of thousands of twinkling lights in dozens of displays throughout Village Park. Adults and children are welcome to ride one of our two Winterland Express trains and count down the 12 Days of Christmas as you view unique holiday light displays from

The carousel and trains accommodate adults, children and are ADA accessible. **Santa Claus arrives during the Tree Lighting Ceremony** and will be at the park every evening for children of all ages to visit him and have their photo made for free. Bring your phones and cameras for plenty of selfies.

Maestro Leonard Bearstein and the famed Leonard Bearstein Symphony Orchestra are back this year, spreading their holiday magic in Kannapolis. The 18 animatronic bears will delight children and adults alike with their witty banter, inspiring instrumental pieces and traditional favorite holiday songs! Visit the Leonard Bearstein Symphony Orchestra inside the Village Park Multi-Purpose Room throughout the Celebration of Lights.

The Celebration of Lights also features performances from our very own

Kannapolis Singing Bears – the Chuckles Quartet – who will entertain you with a Christmas Carol performance. The Chuckles Quartet is housed outside in Village Park. Both sets of Christmas Bears have an impressive line-up filled with holiday banter, music and fun.

Food and drink are available for purchase at the concession stand. Enjoy the fire pit, making s'mores and much more.

Admission to the park and viewing of the lights and bears is free; tickets are required to ride the carousel and train. Purchase carousel tickets onsite at Village Park. They will be available on a first-come basis each evening.

Reserve your seat on the Winterland Express, Sunday through Thursday, by purchasing tickets online at www.kannapolisnc.gov/Christmas. Walk-up onsite tickets will be available if space allows. During the Tree Lighting Ceremony and every Friday and Saturday, tickets may be purchased onsite at Village Park on a first-come basis for the Winterland Express.

Tickets are \$2.50 per person for the train and \$2.50 per person for the carousel. (Train tickets go on sale October 14.) No reservations are available for the train on Fridays and Saturdays; walk-up tickets are available nightly. Reservations are not available for the carousel. Walk-up carousel tickets are available daily onsite.

THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS

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