**ISSUE NO. 4** 



**City Overview** 

KINGSPORTTN.GOV | CITY-SERVICES | ECONOMIC-DEVELOPMENT



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# Highlights

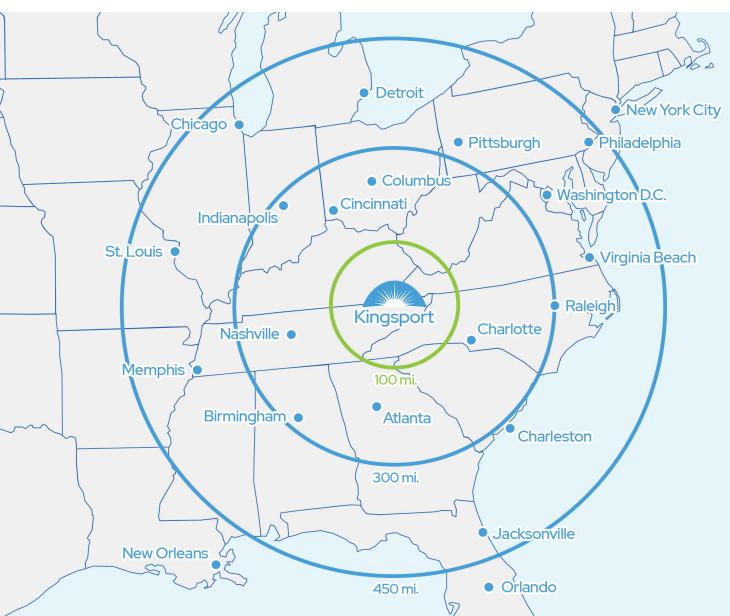
Pay's ROUNDHOUSE

It doesn't take long to fall in love with Kingsport. You'll live among the mountains, grow your business, invest in a community and experience all that our city and region have to offer.

> Kingsport's community sets it apart. From established neighborhoods to downtown living, quality opportunities for professional growth and people who care, anyone can find their niche.



# **IDEALLY LOCATED**



## **CITIES WITHIN 8 HOURS OF KINGSPORT**

- Atlanta 4.5hrs
- Birmingham 5hrs
- Charleston 5hrs
- Charlotte 3.5hrs
- Cincinnati 5hrs

- Columbus 6hrs
- Indianapolis 6.5hrs
- Memphis 7hrs
- Nashville 4hrs
- Pittsburgh 6.5hrs

- Raleigh 4.5hrs
- Savannah 6hrs
- St. Louis 8hrs
- Virginia Beach 7hrs
- Washington D.C. 6hrs



Clean water for the next **100 YEARS** 

Average Household Income: **\$64,708** 

Median Household Income: **\$43,025** 

We do not shy away from innovation. There are countless opportunities to invest in the Kingsport area.

Start a Business • Apply for New Jobs • Get a Quality Education



DEREKCRESS

Partnerships are what makes Kingsport work. Our partnerships are a testament to our sustained growth.

We are a region of hard workers. There are many opportunities in Kingsport for businesses to grow exponentially. We have land and an extremely capable workforce.

#### 5/26

# **GREAT PLACE TO LIVE**



Safe Community Internationally recognized as a Safe Community by Safe Communities America. One of only 19 International Safe Communities across the nation and the only city with the distinction in Tennessee.



#### **Low Cost of Living**

Kingsport continues to maintain the **lowest cost of living** in the region and has been recognized as the **2nd most affordable** city in the nation.





#### **Nicest Place to Live**

Named one of the "Nicest Places in America" by Reader's Digest. "This is a further indication that we live in an exceptional place," said Jeff Fleming, Visit Kingsport's relocation manager.

State of the Art Public Transit Center Cost of Living is **12.8% Lower** than the National Average

No Income Tax in the State of Tennessee

Kingsport boasts over 100 neighborhoods.

#### 6/26

# **KINGSPORT LIFE**

KINGSPORT HAS INVESTED OVER \$92 MILLION IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND QUALITY OF LIFE PROJECTS IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

A total of \$20 million was invested in the Main Street Rebuild project, which envisions an improved streetscape, roadway repairs, and enhanced ADA compliance in Downtown Kingsport.

#### HOLSTON VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER NAMED AS ONE OF THE TOP 50 CARDIOVASCULAR HOSPITALS

Kingsport offers quality living for anyone at any stage of their life. With great education systems, nationallyranked healthcare facilities, a bustling art and culture scene and a booming manufacturing industry, anyone can put down roots here.







# **RESULTS OF VISION**

## 1

## AFFORDABLE.

Tennessee is one of the lowest cost states in the nation and Sullivan County is one of the lowest cost regions in the state



#### SMART PLANNING.

Received the national Donald E. Hunter Excellence in Economic Development Award for the Brickyard Park/ Cement Hill project 2

## TOP EDUCATION.

Higher Education Initiatives receive Innovations in American Government Award from John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University



## INVESTMENT IN MAKERS.

Downtown Kingsport is home to its first ever makerspace encouraging inventors, artists, and tinkerers to further their work into entrepreneurship



## HEALTHY COMMUNITY.

City of Kingsport is the first in Tennessee to be named a Gold Healthier Tennessee Community from the Governor's Foundation



#### PROMOTES LOCAL GOODS.

Award winning Farmer's Market in the downtown Opportunity Zone bring shoppers and vendors from all over the region





# **GREAT OUTDOORS**



#### **Kingsport Aquatic Center**

The Kingsport Aquatic Center is a yearround water wonderland for the whole family. With a waterpark, indoor and outdoor pools, and swimming classes, there's something here for everyone.



#### **Kingsport Greenbelt**

With access points all across the city of Kingsport, this paved and scenic trail is 10 miles long and is a favorite destination for walkers, runners, bicycles and peaceful moments.



#### **Brickyard Park**

A 43-acre premier sports facility and community park, this smoke-free facility includes 4 fenced and lighted ball fields with electric scoreboards and bleachers. This is a perfect place to enjoy some sports and fun.



#### **Warriors' Path State Park**

The 950-acre park is home to premier boating and fishing activity, hiking trails, an internationally-renowned mountain bike trail system, an award-winning nature education program, and a nationally recognized golf course. 9/26



#### **Bays Mountain Park**

Bays Mountain Park and Planetarium features a picturesque 44-acre lake, hiking trails, a Nature Center with a state-of-the-art Planetarium Theater, and Animal Habitats featuring wolves, bobcats, raptors and reptiles.



#### **Cattails at MeadowView**

The Cattails at MeadowView is a premier golf destination with an 18hole championship course set amidst stunning natural landscapes, offering a challenging yet enjoyable experience for golfers of all skill levels.



#### **Scott Adams Skate Park**

The 10,000 sq ft concrete skatepark includes two bowls (backyard bowl and a flow bowl), a four-stair set with up-down rails, two quarter pipes, an up-down hubba ledge, a five-stair with a down rail and a pyramid, among other features.



#### **Pump Track**

Located beside the Scott Adams Skate Park, lives the Pump Track. A state-of-the-art track that will be open to skateboarders as well as bikers. The track features a unique wall that users will be able to climb up as they make a 180-degree turn.

# **EVENTS**



#### Twilight Alive Summer Concert Series

- Free Summer Concert Series
- Average attendance of 4,000
- Events include country, rock and bluegrass concerts in conjunction with evenings at the Farmers Market



#### **Racks by the Tracks**

- Free Friday Night Concert
- SPF 10k and 5k Saturday Morning
- Barbecue, beer, wine tastings, and live music from noon until 10PM



#### **Fun Fest**

- Voted as a Top 20 Event in the Southeast by Southeast Tourism Society
- Named as East Tennessee's Best Festival in the Best of Tennessee list in Tennessee Magazine



#### Kingsport Farmer's Market

- Open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7AM to 1PM
- Enjoy a variety of fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and artisanal goods

## **SPORTS** All 2024 Kingsport Sporting Events

MSC Swimming Cnference Championship AAC Swimming Conference Championship Independent South Swimming Conference Championship **Conference Carolinas Swimming Conference Championship** AAC Basketball Conference Championship **USSSA Spring Blast USSSA Spring Challenge AAU Wrestling Spring Youth Nationals Easter Classic AAU Wrestling Elementary Duals USSSA Dugout Challenge** AAC Men's Volleyball Championship **USSSA HITfest Tri Cities Diamond Classic AAC Softball Championship** AAC Baseball Championship **USSSA Under Armour Classic Overmountain Cup Soccer** Mother's Day Special

NAIA Opening Round Tennessee Super NIT Super Hero Memorial Day Classic Easton Hype Tour State Championship USSSA June Blast USSSA Hardball Classic Summer Slugfest AA World Series Tennessee Appalachian Fall Festival AAC Women's Volleyball Championship The Show



#### **Miracle Field**

Free and non-competitive, the field removes barriers that keep children and young adults with mental and physical disabilities from participating. It is the first state-of-the-art baseball field in the Appalachian Highlands.

#### **Hunter Wright Stadium**

Home of the Kingsport Axmen, this stadium hosts exciting baseball games and serves as a community hub with a family-friendly atmosphere. **With modern amenities and a picturesque setting**, it's a favorite for sports enthusiasts.

#### 12/26

# KINGSPORT EDUCATION

Dobyns-Bennett High School recognized by the Washington Post as a Most Challenging High School.

Kingsport recognized by the National Association of Music Merchants as a Best Community for Music Education.

Dobyns-Bennett High School Competitive Marching Band named Class AAA National Champions at the Bands of America Grand National competition.

The Dobyns-Bennett High School Junior Air Force ROTC was named as a Unit of Distinction for 12 consecutive years.

Newsweek Magazine named Dobyns-Bennett High School as one of the Top 5,000 STEM Schools by STEM.org

Kingsport City Schools (KCS) has achieved the top composite score of 5 in TVAAS system-wide literacy, numeracy, social students, and the overall composite.

Nation's winningest high school baseball and basketball teams.

Tennessee's winningest high school football team.

460 teachers and/or administrators hold advanced degrees and seven are nationally board certified.

Kingsport recognized by the National Association of Music Merchants as a 2019 Best Community for Music Education.





- Palmer Early Learning Center
- John Adams Elementary
- Andrew Jackson Elementary
- Thomas Jefferson Elementary
- Andrew Johnson Elementary
- John F. Kennedy Elementary
- Abraham Lincoln Elementary
- Theodore Roosevelt Elementary
- George Washington Elementary
- Ross N. Robinson Middle School
- John Sevier Middle School
- Dobyns-Bennett High School
- D-B EXCEL Program

# KINGSPORT HIGHER EDUCATION

#### NORTHEAST STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Northeast State Community College is a public community college roughly 15 miles from Kingsport in Blountville, Tennessee. It offers technical education and college transfer programs to over 6,000 students, as well as associate degrees in more than 130 programs of study.



#### EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

East Tennessee State University (ETSU) is a public university in Johnson City, Tennessee. It hosts prestigious Medical, Nursing, Public Health and Pharmacy Colleges as well as unique Appalachian Studies and Bluegrass, Old Time and Country Music programs.



#### Universities

Milligan University Lincoln Memorial King University

East Tennessee State University

Northeast State Community College



Academic Village combines the resources of our education partners and enables students to earn graduate degrees while obtaining their associate degrees.

# **KINGSPORT'S TREASURES**



#### ALLANDALE

Perfectly located, the Allandale area has plenty of opportunities for new growth, and is close to the historic Allandale Mansion.



#### **PAL'S ROUNDHOUSE**

Welcome to the home of the Kingsport Carousel, one of the region's most beloved attractions. Adjacent to Pal's Roundhouse, you will find the delightful Carousel Park.



#### **THE NETHERLAND INN**

A historic landmark that offers a glimpse into 19th-century frontier life along the Holston River. Now a museum and event venue, it offers tours and hosts community events to honor the region's history.

# DREAM, CREATE, PRODUCE, GROW

#### **KOSBE**

The Kingsport Office of Small Business Development & Entrepreneurship (KOSBE) provides support and growth opportunities for small businesses, including counseling and training for entrepreneurs and local businesses.





#### THE INVENTOR CENTER

This state-of-the-art facility is Kingsport s first makerspace that provides local creators space and classes to develop a variety of skills, as well as unique, specialized equipment they will rarely find anywhere else.

#### **CREATE APPALACHIA**

With state-of-the-art facilities, community events, and expert-led programming Create Appalachia focuses on creative entrepreneurship, supporting an environment that generates new artsbased business opportunities and jobs.



#### HOLSTON BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Holston Business Development Center is an incubator that helps businesses and startups grow by offering affordable business suites and networking guidance.





## SYNC.SPACE

Sync Space is an entrepreneur center with accelerator programs uniquely focused on support for local and recruited startups considering Northeast Tennessee as a place to grow or expand their business.

#### **LEADERSHIP KINGSPORT**

This program provides learning and development opportunities for talented people interested in guiding our community to new heights for future generations. You will build your leadership skills while you build your community in Leadership Kingsport!





#### 17/26

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## TCAT

The Tennessee Center for Applied Technology is an educational institution focused on providing practical vocational training and skills development for individuals in various industries.





## RCAM

The Regional Center for Advanced Manufacturing (RCAM) is an offsite teaching facility for Northeast State Community College. Its creation speaks to our quality partnerships working together to meet workforce development goals while promoting technical training and education.

#### **DOBYNS-BENNETT CTE**

Work-Based Learning Programs are structured educational experiences that integrate classroom learning (school-based) with productive, structured work experiences (workbased), which are related to a students career goal, program of study, and employability skills.



#### 18/26

# **CITY PARTNERS**

## **MOVE TO KINGSPORT**

The founder of Kingsport coined the phrase "The Kingsport Spirit," which describes the relentless enthusiasm of its residents to make Kingsport a great place to live through its dedication to the community.

#### **VISIT KINGSPORT**

This organization is dedicated to promoting and showcasing the attractions, events, and unique experiences that Kingsport has to offer to tourists and visitors.

#### **NETWORKS**

NETWORKS-Sullivan Partnership is the economic development organization for Sullivan County and its municipal sectors of Bluff City, Bristol and Kingsport.



The Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development helps attract investment and expansions to make TN 1# in the Southeast for high quality jobs.

#### DOWNTOWN KINGSPORT ASSOCIATION

The Downtown Kingsport Association is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to the revitalization of Downtown Kingsport.











## **KINGSPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



**Mission:** To utilize resources and focus efforts on enhancing a strong and viable business environment for the Kingsport area.

**Programs Include:** Communications & Development • Government Relations and Membership • Communications & Development • Downtown Concert Series • Downtown Kingsport Association • Education & Workforce Development • Fun Fest • Healthy Kingsport • Keep Kingsport Beautiful • Kingsport Leadership Programs (Leadership Kingsport and S.H.O.U.T.!® Youth Leadership) • Kingsport Office of Small Business Development & Entrepreneurship (KOSBE) • Move to Kingsport • Santa Train • Tennessee/Virginia Scholars • and Visit Kingsport.

The Kingsport Chamber of Commerce has nearly 1,000 members.



# INDUSTRY



#### **BAE SYSTEMS**

Spanning more than 6,000 acres, the BAE Systems Holston Army Ammunition Plant is the major supplier of explosive materials to the U.S. Department of Defense. The facility has state-of-the-art equipment and capabilities. The Kingsport facility is specifically focused on manufacturing and supplying high-performance gun systems, munitions, and related components for land, sea, and air applications. Since being built in the 1940s to support the war effort, the site has played an important role in every American conflict.



#### DOMTAR

Opened in 1916, the Domtar pulp and paper mill is a stand-alone energy source, which reuses up to 100 percent of its manufacturing waste. Domtar Kingsport is now adjusting to market demand to become the first packaging facility for the company. The mill will produce and market about 600,000 tons of high-quality recycled linerboard and corrugated medium annually, making it the second-largest recycled containerboard machine in North America.







#### EASTMAN

A global specialty materials and chemical company that manufactures and supplies a wide range of products for industries such as transportation, construction, healthcare, and consumer goods.

#### **PALMEX USA**

Palmex USA is investing over \$16 million to move into the former Anita's Snack Foods location in Gateway Commerce Park. This investment will revitalize the facility and create over 100 new jobs in the area.



#### SILGAN CLOSURES

As the industry leader in food and beverage closure solutions, Silgan Closures focuses on coatings and liners, removal torque, and tamper evidence. They provide high-end containment products and a large workforce for the community.



#### LECLERC

Leclerc U.S. headquarters opened in Kingsport in 2008. This year, Leclerc Foods is said to invest \$3.4 million, and create 48 new jobs in Sullivan County. This full-sized production plant creates a variety of food goods.

# DOWNTOWN



Discover the heart of Kingsport in its historic downtown. Grab some lunch, try a local brew, or hunt for antiques in Kingsport's charming downtown.



**EAT & DRINK** Over 30 restaurants, distilleries, and bakeries



**ENTERTAINMENT** Live music, festivals, and so much more!



SHOPPING Over 35 unique boutiques and stores

#### **2024 NEW BUSINESSES**

Urban Brews & Creamery Queensport Salon The Reserve Inspire Wine Bar 6ix Grist & Grind Brewhouse Dapper Dudes Gentleman's Parlor Hudson's General Store and Antiques Cancun Family Mexican Restaurant Gellyball of East TN Latin Love Kitchen Shooters Billiards King City Distillery

# **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**



## FORT HENRY MALL

Conveniently located at the intersection of Fort Henry Drive and Memorial Boulevard, the Fort Henry Mall serves as the area's only enclosed shopping mall.

## **KINGSPORT PAVILION**

Kingsport Pavillion is a premiere shopping destination in the Tri-Cities area of Eastern Tennessee.





#### **GREEN ACRES**

The Green Acres Shopping Center is located a few blocks away from the Fort Henry Mall. This center boasts around 10 shops ranging from restaurants to clothing stores.

# INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### **BROOKSIDE PARK**

Brookside Park is an industrial park located off of Stone Drive. This area is perfect for many types of businesses.

### KINGSPORT REGIONAL SERVICE PARK

Popular business industrial setting located within 1 mile of 126- at Wilcox Drive Exit 4 in Kingsport. Also within 5 miles of major interstate interchange of 126 and 181.

## **PHIPPS BEND**

Previously used for agriculture, there are now 300 industrial acres available for development.

## **AEROSPACE PARK**

Whether importing, exporting, or distributing domestically, everything is in place to ensure your supply chain keeps operating efficiently.

## GATEWAY

Easy access to I26 and I81. Multiple opportunities available.

#### **NE TN BUSINESS PARK**

Located right next to the Tri-Cities Airport and home to multiple businesses. Also, just minutes away from I81- and Northeast State Community College.

## **TECHNOLOGY PARK**

This certified site is located three miles from I 26 and is adjacent to the entrance of the Holston Army Ammunition Plant.

#### 25/26

# Our strengths are **community**, **innovation**, and **unity**.

Kingsport has a strong and proud industrial heritage spanning over 100 years. As we look to the future, we are diversifying our industrial roots with progressive technological innovations. One of our city's founders, J. Fred Johnson, said,



"Frequently we are asked what motivating spirit has been most apparent in the building of this city of industries, schools, churches and homes. Were I to undertake to define the spirit underlying every step in the growth and development of Kingsport, from the days of its humblest beginnings until now, I could not avoid the assertion that the spirit, if it be a spirit, is one of mutual helpfulness and a willingness to submerge selfish interests beneath the individual effort to assure the greater good for the greater number."

Today, J. Fred's words are as true as ever. From an amazing Chamber of Commerce to our industry and community partners, the Kingsport Spirit is thriving as we proactively grow our community. Kingsport is a professional city that values innovation, education, hard work, and supporting our families and community.





## **City Overview**

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