



# KINGSPORT PROGRESS



ACHIEVEMENTS



FINANCIAL HEALTH



EFFICIENCIES/  
INFRASTRUCTURE



ONEKINGSPORT



TOP PROJECTS/  
MAJOR INVESTMENTS



PARTNERSHIPS



CENTENNIAL



## ACHIEVEMENTS

### OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The City of Kingsport Water and Wastewater Collection Division was presented with the Excellence in Water Distribution Operations Award from the American Water Works Association. The award is given to recognize distribution staff across the Kentucky/Tennessee region for their exceptional performance in meeting all federal drinking water standards and overall initiative to excel at the business of producing safe water for customers. There are approximately 473 registered public water systems in Tennessee (including Nashville, Chattanooga, Memphis, etc), so receiving this award is quite an honor.

The City of Kingsport Wastewater Treatment Plant received the KY/TN Water Environment Association (WEA) Operational Excellence Award. This award is presented to wastewater treatment facilities who have achieved permit compliance during the previous calendar year by having no more than one violation of their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.



### KINGSPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCREDITED ONCE AGAIN

The Kingsport Fire Department (KFD) received its fourth consecutive designation as an accredited agency. When they first received this designation in 2001, they were 1 of 40 fire departments in the nation to receive this accreditation.

Commission of Fire Accreditation confers accredited agency status for a period of five years, during which an agency must submit four Annual Compliance Reports to demonstrate their continued compliance with core performance indicators and report on progress in executing their plans for improvement. The Commission determines if the reports are acceptable and the agency may retain its accredited status. At the end of the fifth year, an accredited agency must seek re-accreditation and successfully complete the peer review process to remain accredited.

### KINGSPORT: FIRST & ONLY SAFE COMMUNITY ACCREDITED IN TENNESSEE



The City of Kingsport and the Sullivan County area is one of only 17 accredited Safe Communities in the United States with a shared mission of preventing injuries and saving lives.

These communities examine data about the biggest threats facing residents and implement proven programs and

strategies to drive down risk. The City of Kingsport/Sullivan County, TN focused its attention on 1) Prescription Drug Abuse, 2) Senior Citizen Falls, and 3) Motor Vehicle Collisions as areas in significant need of improvement.

Being recognized as a Safe Community does not mean that a particular community does not experience any safety-related issues. It simply means that when issues arise that threaten the public welfare, the community embraces these issues head-on, and utilizes community resources and partnerships to proactively address these issues for the betterment of the community.

On March 20, 2012 the City of Kingsport, Tennessee and the encompassing Sullivan County area were officially recognized as a Safe Community by Safe Communities America, being the first community in the state of Tennessee to receive this honor. Safe Communities America is a rigorous accreditation program of the National Safety Council that supports and recognizes communities across the United States committed to decreasing injuries and deaths and improving overall safety at the local level.

The process for reaccreditation occurs every five years and will be complete in 2017.

Find out more about Safe Communities by visiting [safecommunitiesamerica.org](http://safecommunitiesamerica.org).

### KINGSPORT AQUATIC CENTER ONLY TENNESSEE INDOOR POOL FEATURED IN 50 STATES LIST

Most people think of swimming as a summer activity, but not here in Kingsport! With the Kingsport Aquatic Center open year round, swimmers and splashers can swim or slide inside when it's snowing outside.

The Kingsport Aquatic Center was recently featured in a national travel article on MSN. The article featured one indoor pool in all 50 states to help ease the winter chill. With three indoor pools at the Kingsport Aquatic Center, swimmers enjoy water aerobics classes, water therapy classes or add laps toward their own centennial swim challenge of swimming 100 miles in 2017!

The aquatic center is located in Kingsport's Meadowview district at the base of the iconic Bays Mountain. The center provides area residents and visitors with the best in health, fitness and recreation in a safety-focused environment. For more information, visit [swimkingsport.com](http://swimkingsport.com), the Kingsport Aquatic Center Facebook page or call 423-343-9758.

### KINGSPORT SENIOR CENTER: FUN BEGINS AT 50!



The Kingsport Senior Center is a community resource dedicated to enriching the quality of life for area seniors. It is reserved for those aged 50 years young and up. The National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC) accredited the Kingsport Senior Center in May of 2015. The Kingsport Senior Center joins only seven other centers in the state of Tennessee to receive national accreditation.

Check out the Senior Living Newsletter in the Times News every third Thursday of the month! It's also online at [timesnews.net](http://timesnews.net) under "special sections".

### KINGSPORT PARKS & RECREATION WINS AWARDS




The Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association (TRPA) announced their 2016 awards program for outstanding achievements to individuals, communities, and organizations during the 65th Annual Conference in Memphis, TN. Awards were presented to the Kingsport Parks and Recreation Department for the following categories:



**Four Star Award of Excellence in Marketing/Digital: Greenbelt**  
**Four Star Award of Excellence in Renovated Facility: Preston Forest Park**  
**Four Star Award for Individual Service: John McCoy**  
**Four Star Award of Excellence in Athletic Programming: Cyclo – Cross event**  
**Four Star Award for Benefactor: Jacobs Creek Job Corps**

### BAYS MOUNTAIN FEATURED IN THE TENNESSEAN

Spring is here – get outdoors and take a hike! Check out a few of the hikes that were featured in *The Tennessean*, with one from our very own Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium. These hikes are included in the list of hikes everyone should take in 2017!

-  **Lakeside Trail Hike, Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium**  
Level: Easy  
Family friendly hike of 2.3 miles with lakeside scenery and the beauty of Bays Mountain backdrop.
-  **The Honey Creek Loop, Big South Fork National Area & Recreation**  
Level: Very Difficult  
You'll need an adventurous side and some experience for this 5.6 mile hike.
-  **Fall Creek Falls Trail, Fall Creek Falls State Park**  
Level: Moderate  
Hike this 3 mile round trip hike and be rewarded with a 256-foot freestanding waterfall!

Bays Mountain has roughly 40 miles of hiking trails, with all levels of difficulty. You can pick up a details hiking trail map at the park's nature center. Rob Cole, park manager/operations coordinator, suggested a few tips for those hitting the trails.

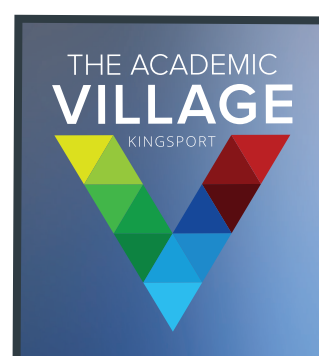
"Be sure to take your map. It will come in handy if you're not sure where your trail is heading. Take drinking water and a cell phone with you. If you happen to get lost, you can always call the nature center. And please remember, Bays Mountain is a nature preserve so respect the environment and stay on the designated trail."

For more information and to check out a trail map, please visit [baysmountain.com](http://baysmountain.com).

To view the rest of the recommended Tennessee hikes, visit [tennessean.com](http://tennessean.com)



### EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY JOINS KINGSPORT CENTER HIGHER EDUCATION



The Higher Education Commission and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved East Tennessee State University officially joining the Kingsport Center for Higher Education (KCHE).

ETSU has a long history of success in Kingsport with both the Allandale campus and Press Building campus in downtown Kingsport. Success in both locations has led to ETSU's decision to join KCHE. Go to [learnkingsport.com](http://learnkingsport.com) for upcoming classes.

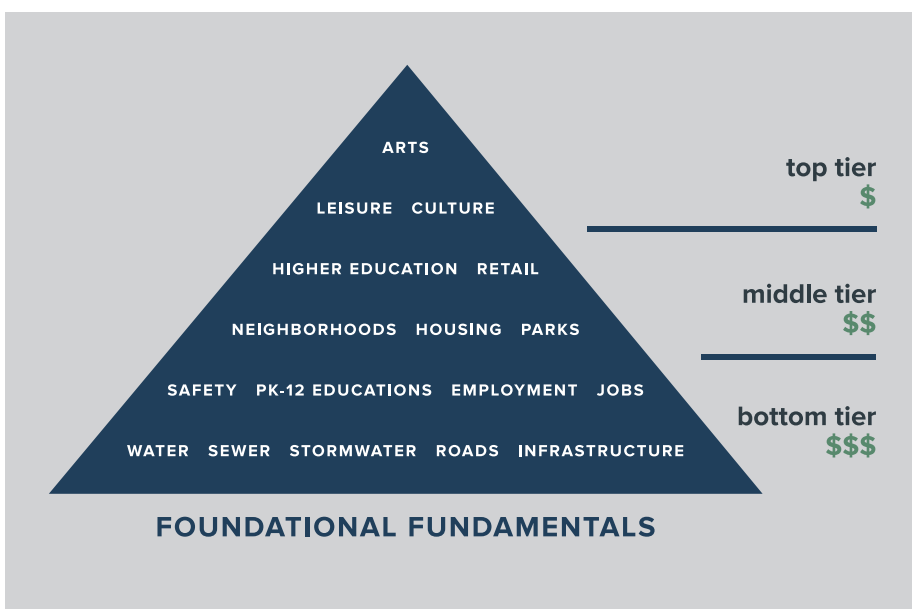
### PUBLIC WORKS RECEIVES EXCELLENCE IN OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT AWARD

Kingsport Public Works has moved away from paper to an online system called Cartegraph in an effort to improve efficiencies. Cartegraph helped to organize Public Works in the areas of maintaining wastewater transportation and water systems, thus becoming a high-performance organization. Because of this, Public Works received a Cartegraph Excellence in Operations Management Award.

The data in Cartegraph has helped the city understand the full cost of its activities and how long it takes to complete certain tasks. The team has used the data to guide its planning work – determining which projects should be contracted out, which need to be completed internally, and which can be scheduled for the future. One component of this system that helps Public Works receive information about community issues is the app 'YourGov.' This app allows citizens to report in real time on pot holes, graffiti, leaking fire hydrants and more. Check out more about this app on page 3.



# FINANCIAL HEALTH



## HIERARCHY OF NEEDS

The decision-making process in Kingsport is handled with great care.

Using a three-tiered pyramid model, city officials are able to effectively illustrate the hierarchy of needs as it pertains to Kingsport's capital budget and the priorities of maintaining our city.

The base of the pyramid, which utilizes the bulk of the allotted budget, encompasses the most fundamental public services including police, fire, education, employment, road paving and the necessary infrastructure improvements to keep Kingsport running smoothly. For example, the city now has a fully-funded sustainable paving program to maintain our streets. Check out page 3 for more information on the paving progress.

The middle tier of the pyramid includes housing and neighborhood needs, improvements for parks and higher education. The city invested \$3 million dollars for over 500 Kingsport public housing units to be redeveloped. One education goal is to double the number of students receiving higher education within Kingsport city limits from 2,500 to 5,000.

Since the opening of the higher education center, 32.5% of residents have earned an associate's degree or higher which is up from 18%. As a result, the median income has jumped from \$30,279 to over \$52,000 per year.

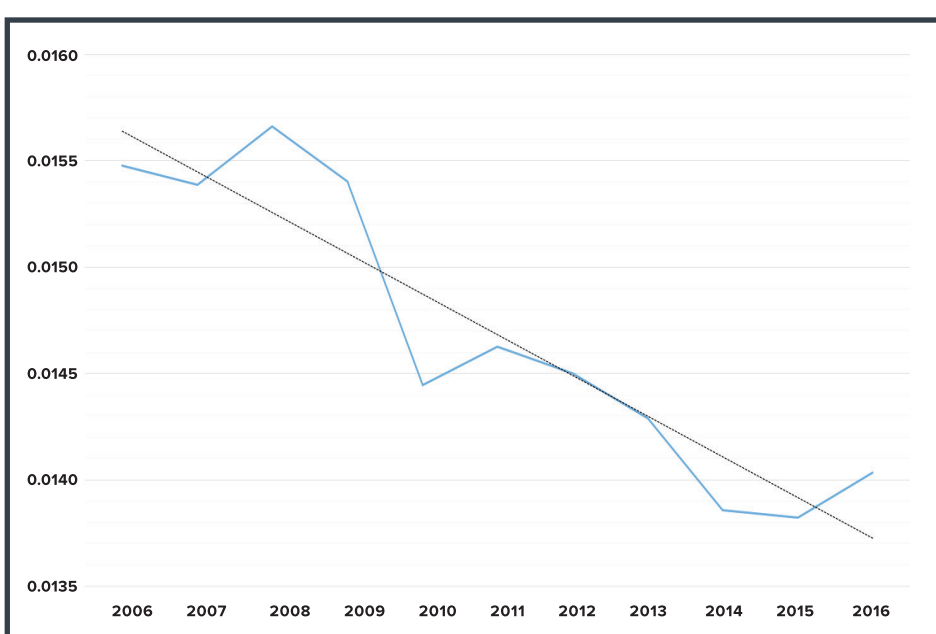
And the top of the pyramid, reserved for arts and culture and continued beautification for our city, will help create demand for Kingsport and improve overall quality of life for residents, which is a vital component of the growth plan.



## S&P REVISED CITY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FROM 'GOOD' TO 'STRONG'

Moody and S&P reaffirmed the city's high grade bond rating. The city received a strong bond rating due to financial management policies put in place by the BMA. The rating reflects the assessment of several factors of the city such as very strong budgetary flexibility.

## EMPLOYEES PER CAPITA = DOING MORE WITH LESS

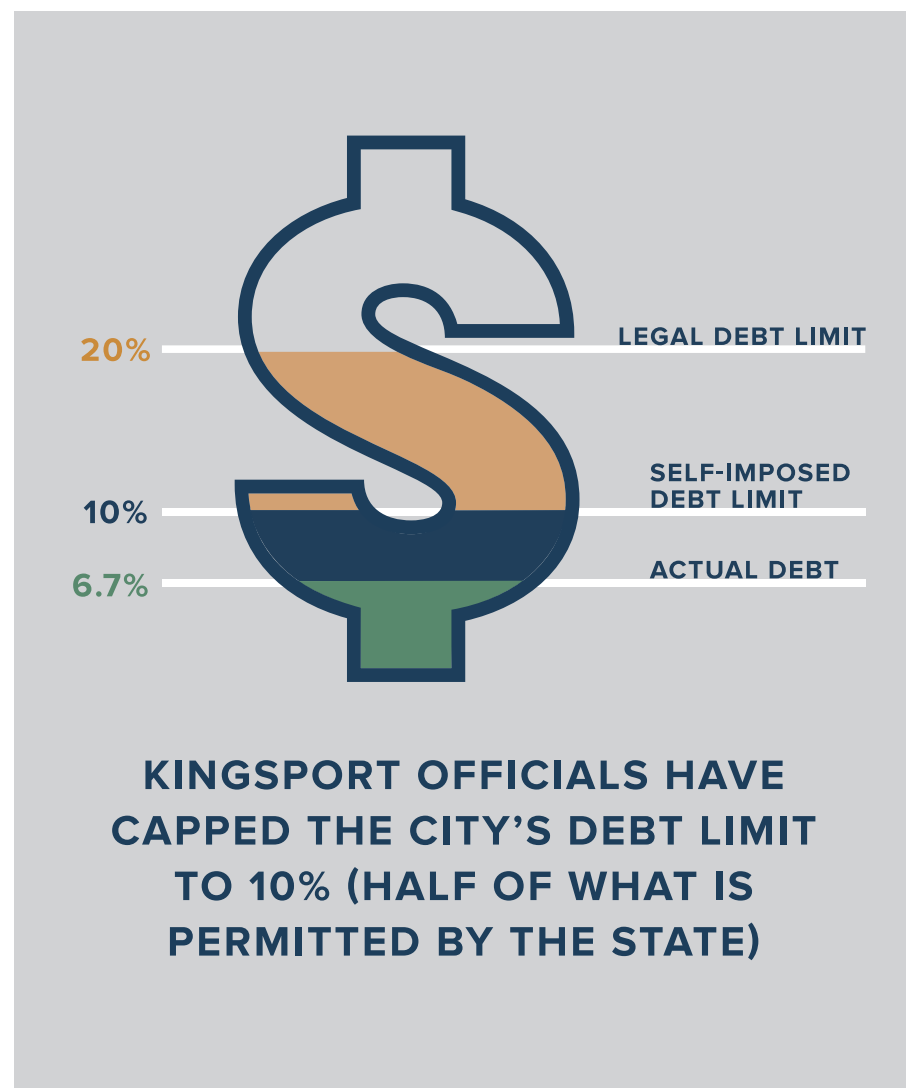


Full Time Equivalent Employees per Capita  
Source: CAFR for calendar year end

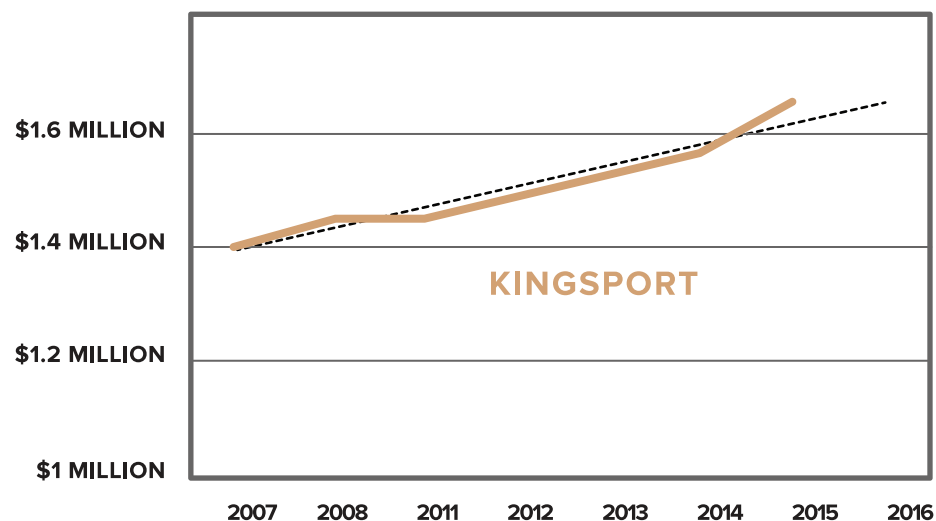
Kingsport is maintaining a downward trend of full-time employees (FTE) every year within the city, hiring only key positions to continue to meet city goals. This chart shows the city has employed fewer people over the years, but continues to do more with less.

## AFFORDABLE GROWTH/MANAGEABLE GROWTH

Tennessee state law limits any city's debt ceiling to 20%. For the benefit of its citizens, Kingsport officials have capped the city's debt limit to 10%, half of what is permitted by the state. Currently, we are at 6.7% which is a testament to our leadership's commitment to fiscal responsibility and a conservative approach to borrowing and spending.



## SALES TAX: TOTAL RETAIL SALES



**SINCE 2007, KINGSPORT'S RETAIL SALES HAVE BEEN INCREASING AT A STEADY UPWARD TREND. RETAIL SALES HAVE INCREASED \$239 MILLION FROM \$1.45 BILLION TO \$1.65 BILLION.**

SOURCE: ETSU BUREAU OF BUSINESS & ECONOMIC RESEARCH



**ONE NEW RESIDENT EQUALS \$25,000/YEAR IN CONSUMER SPENDING**

## OPERATING EFFICIENCIES

Kingsport city staff has demonstrated sustained operating efficiencies from fiscal year 2010 to fiscal year 2017.

- Kingsport's population grew 11.95% while general fund expenditures per capita increased only 10.05%.
- Bristol's population increased by 4.43% while their general fund expenditures per capita increased 19.80%.
- Johnson City's population increased by 4.55% while their general fund expenditures per capita increased 15.67%.

Kingsport is making a concerted effort to keep expenditures within its growth limits.



## EFFICIENCIES

### KINGSPORT PROPANE FLEET RECOGNIZED BY GOVERNOR

Kingsport's "Green Fleet" objective received the Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for Clean Air. This award recognizes exceptional voluntary actions taken to protect the environment and natural resources. The "Green Fleet" objective isn't just about protecting the environment. It's also about being cost effective for the citizens of Kingsport.

We have three Nissan Leafs that are 100% electric vehicles. In 2011, we began converting some vehicles to propane. This not only eliminates emission as it burns cleaner, but also is easier on the vehicle service and repair needs of the vehicles.

Since the first three propane conversions in 2008, the city has added several other propane vehicles and their own private refueling infrastructure. Today, the "Green Fleet" program has grown to over 40 vehicles that run on propane. These vehicles include police cruisers, work trucks of several types, and mowers. In addition, they have several hybrid vehicles, including one heavy-duty hybrid bucket truck.

The city is in the process of adding an additional nine vehicles for the police department. The efforts to "go green" have also been rewarded with several awards and grants.

Kingsport's Fleet is said to be the largest City Government Propane Fleet in Tennessee. The city is saving approximately \$1.00 on each gallon of propane used versus the cost of a gallon of gasoline. We may be using more fuel as our Fleet size increases, but with the fuel savings, we are actually spending less.

### YOURGOV – A TOOL TO REPORT POTHOLE, STREETLIGHT OUTAGES & MORE



YourGov is an innovative citizen request application that allows community members to conveniently report non-emergency issues and service requests using the web or a smartphone.

In just three steps, YourGov users can submit common issues — such as potholes, street light outages, and more — complete with location, details and photos. Once submitted, YourGov will automatically deliver requests to the city's public works department where they are reviewed and routed for proper handling.

Since the app was launched in Kingsport, public works departments, such as traffic, have seen a reduction in number of calls received.

YourGov is free and is available for use anytime. To visit YourGov online, go to [kingsporttn.gov](http://kingsporttn.gov) and click on the YourGov tab located on the homepage. If smartphone users would like to download the app, please visit the iTunes app store or Google Play store.

*The YourGov app is not to be used for emergency situations. If there is an emergency situation, citizens should call 911.*

### RECYCLING IS A FREE BENEFIT TO CITY RESIDENTS

Recycling is just one small way residents are able to impact their city. Not only does it help the environment and save energy, but it also reduces waste at the landfill and creates local jobs. Recycling just one aluminum can, like a Mountain Dew or Pepsi can, saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours. If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, the country would save about 25 million trees a year!

Currently, there are over 13,500 residents participating in the recycling program. The program is free to participate and a new recycling can will be delivered to your house at no cost. Your recyclables are picked up on the same day as your garbage. No sorting required. If you're interested in taking part in the recycling program, please call 423-229-9451.

### KINGSPORT REWARDED FOR VISA CARD USE

Kingsport began using procurement cards (VISA credit cards) several years ago. One of the benefits is the 'rewards' payment the city receives for using the credit card service.

The rebate the city receives annually is roughly \$30,105, which is close to the equivalent to the salary of a full-time employee. This rebate is deposited into the general fund for the city.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

### FIRST-EVER SUSTAINABLE PAVING PLAN

Over the past few years, the Board of Mayor and Alderman have worked to put in place a funding source dedicated to reinvesting in city assets, such as paving.

The funding source, known as the AEP Franchise Fee, comes from a renewed 20-year contract with Appalachian Power (AEP). Through this agreement, the board finally was able to identify the funding source that will maintain city streets at a very high level.

The City of Kingsport had a 99-year contract with AEP and since 2011, the city and AEP have worked together to formulate a plan moving forward, as the original contract ended in 2016.

Companies, such as AEP, providing residents and businesses a service in a specific geographic area that have been granted the right to serve, are able to provide a funding source back to the community through the city.

Paving is a foundational fundamental for our city, meaning it's a basic need for residents. Roads kept in excellent condition keep all residents and visitors traveling safely. Maintained roads also support and obtain economic growth and development.

In the past, paving was underfunded. Kingsport was on a 50-55 year paving cycle which is almost double the recommended cycle. With the AEP Franchise Fee as the funding source, the city will move to a 20-25 year paving cycle.

To get objective data about the streets, Kingsport used a data driven system to assess every street in Kingsport. Using ground-penetrating radar, the city received an industry standard rating for all streets.

The data collected shows Kingsport to have 58% of roads 'at or above fair' rating. While this percentage is positive, it means 42% of roads are 'rated as poor and below.' These roads will receive paving attention first to bring them up to satisfactory standards.

Kingsport's goal is to manage a resurfacing effort that maintains streets 'at or above fair' rating over a 20 year period. The plan to enact this effort is a blended approach.

The city will take care of the lowest scoring roads and neighborhood roads first. Neighborhood roads are the foundation of the paving program.

Annual funding for paving breaks down into two segments. The first 90% of the funding is for asphalt maintenance. This includes repair of lowest scoring roads in neighborhoods, heavily traveled roads and isolated lowest scoring roads. The remaining 10% funds concrete roads in Kingsport. This includes concrete maintenance, such as concrete streets and sidewalk repair.



### KINGSPORT HOUSING UPDATE CONSTRUCTION VALUES UP \$23 MILLION IN 2016

Housing is the fundamental building block of a community. New housing is critical to support employers who seek to recruit a talented and globally-competitive workforce. It also provides consumers who drive sales, which support the state's primary source of revenue – sales tax. Recently, housing in Kingsport, like many communities, is facing 'the perfect storm.'

First, the mortgage crisis of 2007-2009 created fundamental shifts in lending policy. Next, Tennessee made sweeping changes to its longtime annexation laws and severely hampered cities' ability to grow geographically (which forced strategies to infill, redevelop and increase the density of housing options). And finally, the millennials – now 24% of America's population – prefer urban dwelling, mixed-use lifestyle choices, and many are long-term renters.

In 2016, Kingsport responded well to these new realities. The annual building statistics for 2016 show Kingsport added a diverse portfolio of multi-family and single family housing options. In addition, there is a renewed interest in infill construction, remodeling, and redevelopment. The top five new commercial permits illustrate the diversity of Kingsport's economy, with investments made in education, healthcare, industry and banking.

The most significant multi-family figures for the calendar year 2016 are below:

- Multi-family**
- Total of 36 buildings for \$27,905,905
- 22 buildings for Riverbend Villas totaling \$13,061,538 (265 units)
- 7 buildings totaling \$9,520,367 for Overlook at Indian Trail (168 units)
- 2 buildings at Bloomingdale Terrace totaling \$1,245,000 (24 units)

A total of 88 permits were issued for new single-family dwellings, an increase of 12 permits from 2015, with a total construction value of \$22,290,687. Compared to the previous year, the total value for single-family housing starts increased \$3,330,046; while the average cost per home increased from \$249,482 to \$253,303. Over half of the homes permitted had a construction cost between \$200,000 and \$400,000.

Housing is one of the main initiatives for the city of Kingsport. In addition to housing growth, the city has looked to expand housing developments through cost reduction options.

Through an investment of \$3 million over the next 20 years, over 500 public housing units will be redeveloped and improved. Public housing redevelopment is set to start in 2017 with project completion expected in 3-5 years. The return on investment for the city is over \$50 million.

To compliment the public housing improvements, three apartment complexes, The Retreat at Meadowview, Overlook at Indian Trail and Riverbend Villas, have construction underway. These complexes have over 500 units combined to accommodate future residents in Kingsport.

The newest 'game changing' housing complex coming to Kingsport is Town Park Lofts at West Sullivan. A Georgia developer, Crossgate Partners, is investing \$32 million in a four-story apartment complex. More than 260 units designed in a horseshoe shape will spread over seven acres located at the corner of Sullivan and Clinchfield Street. This housing project is the largest residential investment in Kingsport's history.

City staff continue to work with developers and builders on appropriate incentives for new construction opportunities and to market our existing new home communities. We have a beautiful setting and quality, dependable builders are waiting to make your dream home a reality!

### GOING GREEN – CUSTOMER SERVICE

Did you know you can enroll to have your water/utility bill emailed to you every month?

In response to residents requesting to go paperless for their monthly water/utility bill, the City of Kingsport is pleased to now offer residents this service. Not only is the paperless service more convenient for customers and environmentally friendly, it is also helping the city cut costs.

Each month, roughly 35,000 residents receive a paper bill costing the city \$17,000.

If just 25% of city residents signed up for the paperless billing, it would save the tax payers over \$52,500 a year.

If you're interested in signing up for paperless billing for your water/utility bill, you can do so in three ways:

1. Sign up through your 'Click2Gov' account.
2. Sign up over the phone by calling the Customer Service Department at 423-245-1019.
3. Sign up by visiting the Customer Service Department at City Hall, located at 225 West Center Street.










For more information on paperless billing for your water/utility bill, please call

**423-245-1019**



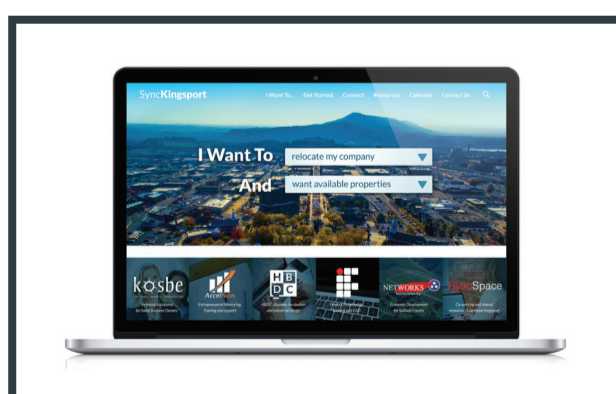
# ONEKINGSPORT

## COMPLETED PROJECTS (BY JUNE 30, 2017)

WORKGROUP	PROJECT	RESULT
 Job Creation & Entrepreneurship	Economic Development Portal	SyncKingsport is a new online portal for entrepreneurs and small business owners. The purpose of SyncKingsport.com is to help people get started if they are interested in opening a business, growing a business, relocating a business and more. The portal identifies programs based on need and connects people with resources in Kingsport. SyncKingsport.com serves as a collaborative tool to enhance economic development in Kingsport.
 Destination City Investments	Resources for Landscaping & Maintenance	The beautification of gateways into Kingsport helps to enhance and increase appeal to current residents and visitors. A pleasant community appearance adds to home values, helps attract businesses and organizations and improves our city's reputation.
 Arts & Entertainment, Downtown Revitalization	Public Mural Program	The first of many murals to come in the Public Mural Program, Joe Maye's 'Grow' mural, is located on the side of Now or Never Gallery on East Market Street. It features a Woodhouse's Scrub Jay bird because of its high level of intelligence as well as the characteristic of planning ahead for the future. The word "GROW" was used to signify change, being comprised of wood branches with falling leaves. Currently, three more murals are in the works, including a giraffe mural located at 300 E. Main Street being painted by Payton Miller.
 Housing	Improve Code Enforcement	With increased man power and a joint effort from the Kingsport Police Department, it allowed a shift from reactive to proactive code enforcement. Over 1,000 cases were issued in 2016.
 Downtown Revitalization, Higher Education Innovation	Downtown Master Plan/ Academic Village Plan	The Downtown Master Plan will be a unified plan that addresses all of the current needs and growth opportunities for revitalization. Many plans exist to assist downtown, such as the Model City Coalition, and now, with the new plan, progress will be implemented into new growth strategies. The Academic Village plan is a component of the Downtown Master plan, given its location, and will focus on the interest in growing enrollment and services at the Kingsport Academic Village.
 Downtown Revitalization, Higher Education	Kingsport Center for Higher Education Parklet	Through tactical urbanism (low-cost, temporary changes to the environment intended to improve local neighborhoods and city gathering places) and a grant opportunity, a parklet for the Kingsport Center for Higher Education has been designed and is awaiting construction estimates. The parklet will be located across from the main entrance at KCHE and serve as a gathering place for students as this type of social space does not currently exist.
 Downtown Revitalization	Downtown Uplighting	Broad Street trees will receive a new lighting treatment at a much lower cost than previously estimated. New uplighting is expected to be completed by spring 2017. The aesthetic appeal will make downtown more attractive at night as people go to plays, restaurants and other events.
 Destination City Investments	Bays Mountain Infrastructure	Bays Mountain is one of the city's crown jewels in Kingsport. In an effort to provide a good experience and allow more visitors to benefit, infrastructure improvements are desperately needed. Dam repair and additional parking are just a few of the basic needs to improve this asset. Infrastructure must be completed prior to additional enhancements (which will require funding) such as updates to the nature center, amphitheater and trail maintenance. Bays Mountain Park Road maintenance and stabilization are complete.
 Health & Wellness	Access Points to Healthy Infrastructure	The city is working towards a coordinated signage effort to direct residents and visitors to healthy outdoor activities such as the Kingsport Greenbelt. The design concept is under contract.
 Housing	Redevelopment of Public Housing	Through an investment of \$3 million dollars, over 500 Kingsport public housing units will be redeveloped. This investment yields a \$50 million in construction return on investment. This project is expected to be completed by 2018.
 Job Creation & Entrepreneurship	Product Creation Center	A contract is underway for the creation of a center for innovation and technology with the required facilities and equipment. A private partner is interested in Kingsport as a location to launch this effort and take advantage of the synergy between industry and education that exists in our community.
 Arts & Entertainment, Destination City Investments	Outdoor Performance Venue (General Shale Property Plans)	A concept plan for the General Shale Property has been contracted with a local designer. Purchase discussions are continuing with owners and the Kingsport Economic Development Board. Enhancing the appearance of the General Shale Property (Cement Hill) remains a significant factor in any plans for connection to downtown and an entertainment or attraction. An outdoor performance theater is one of the first projects expected for the land. It was the top idea coming out of the ONEKingsport summit as it would provide a regional benefit considering another location of this magnitude is nearly 200 miles away.



Landscaping – Located off Willcox Drive



SyncKingsport – Economic Development Portal



'GROW' – By Joe Maye, Public Mural Program

## IN PROGRESS

WORKGROUP	PROJECT	GOAL
 Destination City Investments	Riverfront Development	The riverfront area is another asset Kingsport enjoys. The development of that area has the potential for additional economic development and the creation of an extended downtown. Recently, a new coffee shop and a rafting business have joined the area, and the goal is to continue to spark private investment to create a lively area near the river for residents and visitors to enjoy. Several related projects are currently under consideration.
 Housing	Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program	The Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program has evolved to include several options for both new and existing lots with the goal of more new single family construction. Currently, the city is reviewing the appropriate measures to maximize the value of the program.



## TOP PROJECTS / MAJOR INVESTMENTS

### CURRENT PROJECTS

**PROJECT:** Reedy Creek Sewer Trunkline

**TIMELINE:** In progress; Completion date of February 2018

**DESCRIPTION:** The Reedy Creek Sewer Trunkline is an underground pipeline that collects flow from smaller lines and feeds into one main pipeline. It's one of the crucial pieces to having a well-functioning sewer system.

The initial phase will begin at the Wastewater Treatment Plant with a tunnel under the railroad to West Center Street. Various sections will be replaced along Center Street and will eventually cross over to the old Fairway Ford property.

It will then travel along Reedy Creek until it comes out on Sullivan St near the triangle intersection, crossing Sullivan St. It will then run along Reedy Creek again and tie in above Lovedale Sewer Lift Station, thereby eliminating the outdated station.

The majority of the trunk line is 48" diameter that will be 18 to 20 feet deep in most places with some places being deeper. This trunk line will replace the previous trunk line that has been in place since the 1950s.

Construction will cost roughly \$6.6 million.

**PROJECT:** Centennial Park

**TIMELINE:** In progress; Completion date of June 2017

**DESCRIPTION:** Kingsport Community Foundation is collaborating with the City of Kingsport Centennial Commission to accomplish the Centennial Park Project. Celebrating the Kingsport Spirit, Kingsport's Centennial Park will provide a unique destination and link to downtown Kingsport that commemorates the community's past, present and future.

**PROJECT:** Colonial Heights Phase II, III & IV Sewer and Water

**TIMELINE:** In progress; Completion date of December 2017

**DESCRIPTION:** Starting in January of 2015, the City of Kingsport began performing upgrades and improvements in the Colonial Heights area.

The construction has occurred over several phases, totaling up to eight separate contracted projects. Projects include sanitary sewer installation and improvements, waterline improvements, fire hydrant installations, stormwater catch basins, road improvements and asphalt paving.

The total installed, contracted utilities are expected to be approximately:

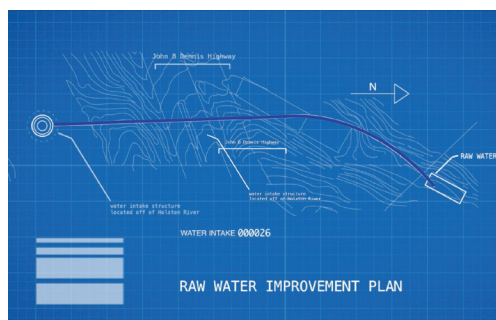
- 83,000 feet of gravity sanitary sewer lines
- 8,500 feet of sanitary sewer force main lines
- 14,700 feet of water line
- 1,700 feet of stormwater line
- 89 fire hydrants
- 2 sanitary sewer lift stations

At the conclusion of the improvement work, a separate paving and road improvements project will focus on the clean-up paving of the streets adjacent to the work sites. The expected total amount of contracted work is approximately \$14.5 million dollars.

**PROJECT:** Raw Water Intake

**TIMELINE:** In progress; Completion date of July 2017

**DESCRIPTION:** Water is a precious resource needed by all living things. Kingsport is lucky to have such a great water source right here in our city and it's our job to make sure it stays clean for years to come. One way our city is ensuring this is through the Raw Water Intake project.



The purpose of the Raw Water Intake Project is to ensure a safe, reliable and continuous supply of drinking water to meet the needs of our current customers and for generations to come. It includes construction of a new raw water tunnel and a new raw water pump station at the water treatment plant, eliminating of the use of existing pumps and transmission lines.

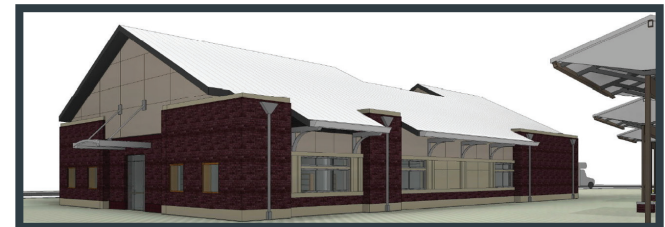
Our drinking water comes from the South Fork Holston River. The intake is located approximately two miles below the dam and upstream from John B. Dennis Highway. Water is pumped through raw water pumps and then flows through three transmission pipes to the water treatment plant for treatment.

The existing pump station was built in 1970. The three current transmission pipes were installed in 1928, 1946 and 1977 respectively. The transmission pipes run vertically up an 85 foot rock bluff and are exposed to all the elements, such as snow, rain and summer heat. The configuration of the pipes also has potential for single points of failure. The age, layout and condition of these pipes are what makes this a critical project.

The \$13.7 million project is funded through a 1.78 percent low interest Tennessee State Revolving Loan and a \$1.5 million EDA grant. It has a 20-month construction schedule. Construction on the project began last fall and the tunnel is nearly complete. Both tunnel and new pump station will be completed summer of 2017.

The Water Treatment Plant is Kingsport's only water treatment facility. It will remain the primary source of drinking water for the area for many years to come. Therefore, its continued reliable operation is both necessary and vital for protection of human health and continued growth and sustainability for this region.

### UPCOMING PROJECTS



**PROJECT:** Transit Center – Kingsport Area Transit Services (KATS)

**TIMELINE:** 2015-2019

**DESCRIPTION:** With KATS ridership numbers increasing, the need arose for a new facility to not only accommodate the rise in riders but also provide storage for buses. Two years ago, the city started the process of designing, funding and securing a location for the new transit facility. The new transit facility includes a waiting area, administrative offices and space for loading and unloading passengers.

A needs assessment and feasibility study has been completed, which identified the property located at the corner of Main Street and Sullivan Street as the ideal site for the new facility. The property was purchased from the Kingsport Economic Development Board.

City staff have worked to leverage partnerships, securing \$4.1 million in federal funding and \$515,000 in state funding for the transit center. The remaining funds for the project will come from the city. Funding has been secured for phase 1, which includes drawings, a total cost estimate and basis of design report. Phase 2 included a garage located behind the new transit facility.

Environmental studies are set to begin for the site. Design development is at 60%. The final design and cost estimate submission is expected in May with construction starting soon after.

**PROJECT:** MeadowView Conference Resort & Convention Center

**TIMELINE:** March-May 2017

**DESCRIPTION:** An upcoming \$3 million renovation of its original meeting/convention space has begun. New carpet, paint, room dividers, light fixtures, restroom remodel and technology upgrades are helping keep MeadowView a crown jewel in our region. The global-award winning conference center and resort held more than 1,000 meetings and conventions last year, generating more than \$30 million in economic impact.

#### TOP 14 NEW CAPITAL PROJECTS (EXCLUDING WATER & SEWER)

1. MeadowView renovations (20th anniversary) \$ 3,500,000
2. Indian Trail Drive extension \$ 3,300,000
3. Street Resurfacing (Paving) \$ 1,350,000
4. Centennial Park (match private) \$ 851,400
5. Facilities Maintenance – Schools \$ 750,000
6. Local match for new Transit Center \$ 376,300
7. Bays Mountain dam repair \$ 370,000
8. Citywide park improvements \$ 350,000
9. Citywide aesthetics/beautification \$ 350,000
10. Facilities Maintenance – City Buildings \$ 330,000
11. Technology Infrastructure \$ 330,000
12. Bays Mountain road stabilization \$ 320,000
13. Library Renovations (phase 2 of 5) \$ 250,000
14. Lynn View site improvements \$ 200,000

#### TOP 13 EXISTING CAPITAL PROJECTS

1. Rebuild raw water intake \$ 13,500,000
2. Rebuild Rock Springs Road to Cox Hollow \$ 7,500,000
3. Reedy Creek Sewer Trunkline \$ 6,600,000
4. Indian Trail Drive extension \$ 3,300,000
5. Colonial Heights Water/Sewer Ph II \$ 3,200,000
6. Colonial Heights Water/Sewer Ph III \$ 2,500,000
7. Systemwide water upgrades FY15 Ph 2 \$ 1,900,000
8. Colonial Heights Water/Sewer Ph IV \$ 1,850,000
9. Main Street rebuild \$ 1,700,000
10. Demolition Land II \$ 1,000,000
11. Kingsport Greenbelt – eastern extension \$ 940,000
12. Colonial Heights Sewer Lift Stations \$ 830,000
13. ARC sewer system upgrade \$ 790,000

### KINGSPORT BEAUTIFICATION EFFORTS SHOWING SUCCESS

Kingsport is striving every day to enhance and increase appeal to current residents and visitors. Through departments like code enforcement, the city is working to keep our city looking good.

Code enforcement is responsible for handling all types of code violations such as un-mowed lawns, unsightly junk on property or a dilapidated house. In 2016, there were over 1,000 cases of city code violations that were addressed.

A pleasant community appearance adds to home values, helps attract businesses and organizations and improves our city's reputation. The city wants to support and enhance property values through effective enforcement while working to keep aging buildings and properties from becoming unsafe.

City code enforcement is also for the safety of our residents. Enforcing fundamental codes, such as property standards, is essential to the provision of safe and healthy living conditions for all members of the community.



### CODE ENFORCEMENT: WHAT IS IT AND WHY DO WE HAVE IT?

Code enforcement is a form of beautification that works to keep our neighborhoods looking good.

When citizens typically hear 'code enforcement,' they think it is something the police department handles. While this is correct at the department level, the Code Enforcement Officer also works closely with the planning department, public works and building development.

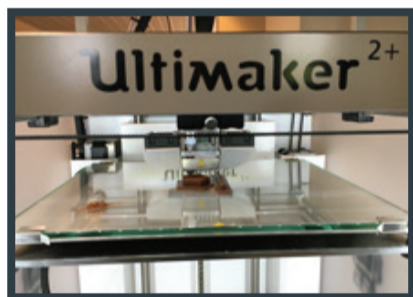
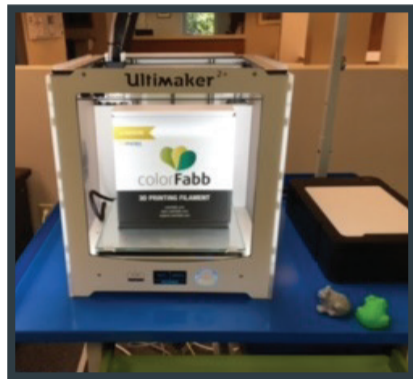
We encourage citizens to report violations to the City of Kingsport's Code Enforcement Officer Melanie Adkins at

**423-224-2633**

or email [melanieadkins@kingsporttn.gov](mailto:melanieadkins@kingsporttn.gov)



# PARTNERSHIPS



## MAKE YOUR IDEA A REALITY NEW TECHNOLOGY AT KINGSPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

The makerspace at the Kingsport Public Library is growing. Through a \$5,000 Community Grant from the Best Buy Foundation, the library created a Teen Tech Club and expanded their makerspace resources.

The Teen Tech Club, led by library staff, conducted a Coding Class, the first of a series of eight-week maker classes for teens. Participants who complete these classes will be provided with leadership opportunities to help organize and conduct makerspace classes for adults.

The library also holds open labs in the makerspace once a week for anyone to use the resources there. While anyone can submit print job requests for the 3D printer, library staff actually print the items.

The library's makerspace includes a 3D printer, scanner, laptop with 3D Simplify, iMac, Raspberry Pi, Cubelets, Snap Circuit, Makey Makey and LegoWeDo 2.0. The library is also adding a green screen and camera equipment for video production.

Libraries have always been places where ideas can be explored through books, but with the makerspace movement, libraries have become places where ideas can be discovered. This grant has helped the library provide technology that hasn't been widely available to area teens and has provided opportunities to Kingsport teens to take their untapped skills and knowledge and unleash them in a makerspace.

## RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT

The Recreations Trails Program (RTP) is a federal grant program designed to help cities meet public demand for recreational trails. Through the \$120,000 grant, a boardwalk that overlooks a wetlands habitat and connects to the Greenbelt near East Stone Commons will be developed. The boardwalk will allow visitors to view an active wetlands and promotes environmental protection. The project is in progress and is expected to be completed by the end of 2017.



## REINVESTING IN BORDEN PARK

Located on the west side of Kingsport, Borden Park is going through a transformation. Securing funding through the Project Diabetes grant, the park will receive improvements over the next three years. The Project Diabetes is funded through a community grant from Tennessee Department of Health. Grants are awarded to community partners with goals of reducing overweight and obesity risk factors, both of which are areas of focus for Kingsport.

The park will be updated in three phases. Phase 1 is expected to be completed in June. It includes:

- Repaving basketball court and plaza
- Repaving current trails
- Creation of a new trail
- Water refill station

Phase 2 is expected to be completed in 2018. The first part of a children's playground will be installed. Phase 3 is expected to be completed in 2019. Additional playground equipment will be installed.

Other park enhancements will be completed over the next few years. Those include renovated parking lots, picnic shelter replacement, renovated tennis courts, outdoor bathroom addition and addressing park drainage problems.

Through this grant, there is not a required match from the city. The total amount the city received from the grant for the park will be \$450,000.

Borden Park is located at 901 Lamont Street in Kingsport.

## ENHANCING KINGSPORT THROUGH SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE CITY

- Children's Advocacy Center
- Downtown Concert Series
- Downtown Kingsport Association
- First Tennessee Development District
- First Tennessee Human Resource Agency
- Healthy Kingsport
- Holston Business Group
- Keep Kingsport Beautiful
- Kingsport Ballet
- Kingsport Conventions & Visitors Bureau
- Kingsport Housing & Redevelopment Authority
- Kingsport Theatre Guild
- KOSBE
- Move to Kingsport
- NETWORKS
- Symphony of the Mountains
- SBK Animal Control Center (Future Petworks)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT  
[KINGSPORTTN.GOV](http://KINGSPORTTN.GOV)

## WOODLAND WONDERLAND COMING TO KINGSPORT LIBRARY



The Kingsport Public Library was awarded a \$100,000 library construction grant to renovate its children's area.

The children's area of the Kingsport Public Library has begun its transformation into a woodland wonderland inspired by Bays Mountain Park, a 3,500 acre nature preserve in Kingsport. The library's 15 reading therapy dogs will finally have their own room where children can read aloud, one-on-one, to them. This room will double as a study area. New technology will include an AWE Literacy Station for elementary aged children and an interactive virtual table with preloaded educational software. The popular Thomas the Train table will return from his "vacation" with new friends.

Construction should be completed by mid-June. All children's programs have continued uninterrupted and the children's collection has been temporarily relocated to the fourth floor.

This remodel is the first of several "small steps" of remodeling the library will be undergoing over the next several years in anticipation of an expansion in 2022. The cost of this project is \$402,166 with \$100,000 coming from a construction grant from the Tennessee State Library & Archives and the remaining funds coming from the City of Kingsport.

## CENTENNIAL

### START OF OUR CITY

1800s

**KING'S PORT: COL. JAMES KING SETTLES ON THE HOLSTON RIVER AND CONDUCTS HIS SHIPPING BUSINESS, KING'S MILL STATION. THE AREA CAME TO BE KNOWN AS KING'S PORT.**

1917

**CITY OF KINGSPORT INCORPORATED.**

1928

**DOUGLASS SCHOOL FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS WAS BUILT.**

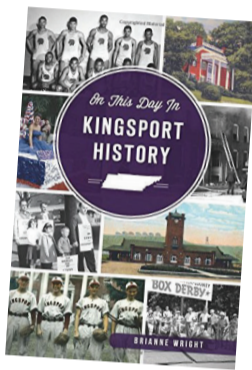
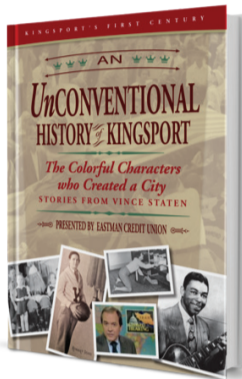
1914

**J. FRED JOHNSON SELLS 1200 ACRES OF LAND THAT IS NOW BAYS MOUNTAIN TO KINGSPORT WATERWORKS CORP. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE DAM TO BE USED FOR THE CITY'S POPULATION.**

1922

**KINGSPORT PRESS ESTABLISHED WITH JOHN B. DENNIS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD.**

[WWW.KINGSPORT100.ORG](http://WWW.KINGSPORT100.ORG)  
FOR MORE HISTORY



### OFFICIAL KINGSPORT CENTENNIAL PUBLICATIONS

#### An Unconventional History of Kingsport

This hardbound coffee-table book is written by Vince Staten, noted Kingsport historian and storyteller. Through 192 pages, tells Kingsport's truly unique history like no other. The book takes the reader through the years with amusing, amazing, interesting stories of real people who played their parts - delightful, unconventional accounts of colorful characters and a growing city.

Learn about special happenings in Kingsport's history such as a visit from Elvis, a spy who allegedly stole secrets from Holston Ordinance during WWII and a high school prank involving John Palmer and the FBI.

To purchase your copy of the official centennial publication, call 423-246-8121 or 1-800-251-0328 to order, or order online at [www.timesnews.net/historybook](http://www.timesnews.net/historybook). The book is also available at multiple Kingsport locations: Kingsport Times-News (701 Lynn Garden Drive), I Love Books Bookstore (Kingsport Town Center), Wallace News (205 Broad Street) and Up Against The Wall Gallery (316 E. Market Street).

#### On This Day In Kingsport History

An illustrated book with a story for each day, City of Kingsport Archivist Brianne Wright brings to life the significant places, people and happenings of Kingsport.

From its early days as a boatyard to the modern day Kingsport, the city's history was shaped through exciting and sometimes frightening occurrences.

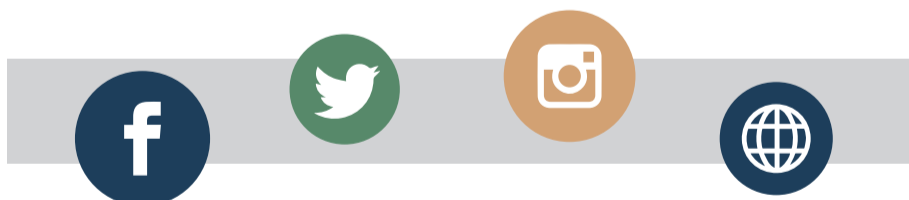
*Charley Grubb, charged with forgery, evaded his prison sentence when he slyly escaped from the courtroom during the jury deliberations in 1929.*

*In June of 1936, the Rotherwood Bridge collapsed, nearly claiming five lives.*

*After four decades, the State Theater officially aired its last film on March 26, 1978.*

*Kingsport's first 'Fun Fest' was held on a single day, August 8, 1981, aimed to bolster community unity.*

Kingsport's history was shaped one day at a time by colorful characters and lively events. Pick up your copy of 'On This Day In Kingsport' at the Kingsport Public Library, I Love Books Bookstore or online at Amazon.com.



### KINGSPORT 100 SOCIAL MEDIA

**Kingsport 100's website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram will be capturing all the moments during the centennial year!**

The Kingsport Centennial website is a great way to get involved in all things centennial. The website has information on the events, history and memories of Kingsport. Make your mark on the centennial by submitting memories, important moments to the timeline and other centennial events. Visit [kingsport100.org](http://kingsport100.org) to get started.

The Kingsport 100 Facebook is your go-to for 100 years' worth of stories and pictures of Kingsport. Get all the information on the four signature centennial events, updates, big news stories and more.

The Kingsport 100 Twitter will be sharing the "What's Your 100?" pledges of local businesses, organizations and Kingsport residents. These pledges give Kingsport citizens a way to celebrate and give back to our community.

The Kingsport 100 Instagram is set up to see the Centennial and Kingsport through the eyes of its citizens. Scroll through pictures of Kingsport in its early days all the way up to pictures of centennial celebrations.

The Kingsport Centennial year is here and 2017 will be a celebration involving many events, experiences and stories of Kingsport. The centennial is about celebrating how far Kingsport has come, and where it's going. Take part in this special year through our website and social media.

For more information on the Kingsport 100 site or social media, please visit [www.Kingsport100.org](http://www.Kingsport100.org).



### CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL

Kingsport Centennial Park will serve as a community gathering place and destination, located adjacent to Main Street Historic District, in downtown Kingsport. The park design includes a historic brick walkway, a water feature, public art and a large central greenspace.

Centennial Park is a destination project of enduring value, celebrating the Kingsport Spirit for the city's 2017 centennial and positively impacting the people of Kingsport for many years to come. The park is currently under construction and is estimated to be completed by June 2017.

**CENTENNIAL MERCHANDISE IS ON SALE AT YOUR KINGSPORT CHAMBER, LOCATED AT 400 CLINCHFIELD STREET.**



**JULY 4  
DOWNTOWN KINGSPORT  
7 PM**