MEDIA RELEASE

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Knox County to Improve Safety at Dangerous Maynardville Hwy Intersection

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Knox County's Engineering and Public Works department is working to improve safety for drivers and pedestrians at a dangerous intersection on Maynardville Pike near Halls High School.

“At the intersection of Maynardville and Ledgerwood Road, there have been several severe accidents here,” said Jim Snowden, Director of Engineering and Public Works. “We’ve been part of a team effort with TDOT and Knox County Schools to make this safer for people driving and pedestrian traffic.”

Snowden joined Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and County Commissioner At-Large Justin Biggs at the intersection to outline construction plans that should get underway in September or October and finish by the end of 2021.

The plan will install a new traffic signal, build new vehicle access to businesses on the east side of the intersection, and build crosswalks for pedestrians.

“The Maynardville Highway is actually a state road. People travel at a pretty high rate of speed. It is a dangerous intersection at a busy location where you have Halls High School and several businesses," said Mayor Jacobs.

“Unfortunately, a student was struck at this intersection before. We realized there was a need. This is going to slow the traffic down to the point you won't have to be concerned,” said Biggs.

Along with the new traffic signal and crosswalks, the county will build a sidewalk along Ledgerwood Road between Maynardville Pike and Halls High School.

“We’re going to install a five-foot sidewalk from the intersection all the way to the school entrance. Then the school system is going to tie onto that sidewalk and take it to the school building itself,” said Snowden. “You'll be able to come out of Halls High School and walk all the way to the Cuban Cafe (across Maynardville Pike) and do so in a safe manner.”

You can see a video on YouTube for more on the plans to improve safety at the intersection.

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