



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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Mayor Jacobs Talks KCS' Elevate, a New Behavioral Center, and More

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— During his Weekly Update, which will post about 3 p.m. today, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs talks about Knox County Schools' new Elevate Program, a ceremony to honor emergency services personnel, and Read City USA.

The Mayor also focuses on a plan to convert the former Women's Pavilion at the Old St. Mary's Hospital Complex into an urgent behavioral health facility. The proposal – which has city and county support – calls for diverting folks who are suffering behavioral health issues away from area emergency departments and into the new facility where their needs can be better served.

“The result will be alleviating pressure on our hospital systems, providing better care and, ultimately, saving taxpayer dollars,” said Mayor Jacobs, adding that if all goes as planned then the facility could be up and running within two years.

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