

# CASE SUMMARY

**APPLICATION TYPE: ROW CLOSURE**

KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY

**M P C**  
METROPOLITAN  
P L A N N I N G  
C O M M I S S I O N

T E N N E S S E E

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Knoxville, Tennessee 37902  
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**File Number:** 8-F-15-SC                      **Related File Number:**  
**Application Filed:** 6/26/2015              **Date of Revision:**  
**Applicant:** UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

## PROPERTY INFORMATION

**General Location:**  
**Other Parcel Info.:**  
**Tax ID Number:** 108 F C 003                      **Jurisdiction:** City  
**Size of Tract:**  
**Accessibility:**

## GENERAL LAND USE INFORMATION

**Existing Land Use:**  
**Surrounding Land Use:**  
**Proposed Use:**    **Density:**  
**Sector Plan:** Central City                      **Sector Plan Designation:**  
**Growth Policy Plan:** Urban Growth Area (Inside City Limits)  
**Neighborhood Context:**

## ADDRESS/RIGHT-OF-WAY INFORMATION (where applicable)

**Street:** Volunteer Blvd  
**Location:** Between Todd Helton Drive and Cumberland Avenue  
**Proposed Street Name:**  
**Department-Utility Report:** The City of Knoxville Department of Engineering has submitted the attached letter (dated July 28, 2015), indicating that they object to this proposed street closure.  
**Reason:** This City street traverses through the core of the campus and is contained within the defined institutional zone. Implementation of the Campus Master Plan provides an opportunity to implement several capital improvement projects, which includes an extensive streetscape project along this specific street. The University assuming control of this section of the boulevard affords an opportunity to expedite the projects and standardize design guidelines. This shall continue to be a major road through the campus, which also serves the public and mass transit.

## ZONING INFORMATION (where applicable)

**Current Zoning:** O-2 (Civic and Institutional)  
**Former Zoning:**  
**Requested Zoning:**  
**Previous Requests:**  
**Extension of Zone:**  
**History of Zoning:**

**PLAN INFORMATION (where applicable)**

Current Plan Category:

Requested Plan Category:

**SUBDIVISION INFORMATION (where applicable)**

Subdivision Name:

No. of Lots Proposed: No. of Lots Approved: 0

Variances Requested:

S/D Name Change:

**OTHER INFORMATION (where applicable)**

**Other Bus./Ord. Amend.:** This City street traverses through the core of the campus and is contained within the defined institutional zone. Implementation of the Campus Master Plan provides an opportunity to implement several capital improvement projects, which includes an extensive streetscape project along this specific street. The University assuming control of this section of the boulevard affords an opportunity to expedite the projects and standardize design guidelines. This shall continue to be a major road through the campus, which also serves the public and mass transit.

**MPC ACTION AND DISPOSITION**

**Planner In Charge:** Michael Brusseau

**Staff Recomm. (Abbr.):** RECOMMEND that City Council APPROVE the closure of a portion of Volunteer Blvd., as requested, subject to any required easements.

**Staff Recomm. (Full):** This street is paved and currently in use. UT intends to maintain this street for vehicular use, but wants to improve the pedestrian experience by adding lighting and landscaping.

**Comments:** Once closed, the right-of-way will be consolidated with the surrounding parcels. The applicant (UT) owns all of the adjacent property. The City of Knoxville Engineering Department does not object to this closure, but noted some considerations for the future in the attached letter, dated August 10, 2015.

The result of UT's proposed closures of this and five other streets/alleys within the campus will be that the University will take over ownership and maintenance of the streets from the City of Knoxville. It does not necessarily mean that the streets would be closed to traffic or that the street names would be changed, but those decisions would become the responsibility of UT.

**Action:** Approved **Meeting Date:** 8/13/2015

**Details of Action:**

**Summary of Action:** RECOMMEND that City Council APPROVE the closure of a portion of Volunteer Blvd., as requested, subject to any required easements.

**Date of Approval:** 8/13/2015 **Date of Denial:** **Postponements:**

**Date of Withdrawal:** **Withdrawn prior to publication?:**  **Action Appealed?:**

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION AND DISPOSITION**

**Legislative Body:** Knoxville City Council

**Date of Legislative Action:** 9/15/2015 **Date of Legislative Action, Second Reading:** 9/30/2015

**Ordinance Number:** **Other Ordinance Number References:**

**Disposition of Case:** Approved **Disposition of Case, Second Reading:** Approved

**If "Other":** **If "Other":**

**Amendments:** **Amendments:**

**Date of Legislative Appeal:** **Effective Date of Ordinance:**