



HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MAYOR
WESTON WAMP

For Immediate Release

Contact: Haley Burton, 423-619-5311

HamiltonCountyPress@hamiltontn.gov

Hamilton County Invests in Lookout Valley Families and Visitors with New Splash Pad

HAMILTON COUNTY, TN (January 22, 2026) — The Hamilton County Commission unanimously approved funding for a new splash pad at the John A. Patten Community Center in Lookout Valley. Built alongside the center's existing playground, the splash pad will create a central gathering place that brings local families together while welcoming visitors exploring the Incline Railway, Ruby Falls, and other nearby historic Chattanooga attractions.

The project reflects County Mayor Weston Wamp's focus on reinvesting budgeted hotel-motel tax revenue into family-friendly community amenities that serve local neighborhoods and support the visitor economy. With Lookout Valley generating hotel-motel tax revenue, the splash pad returns visitor dollars to a community that helps produce them.

“We’re focused on making smart, thoughtful investments in places that matter to families,” said Mayor Wamp. “Lookout Valley is one of Hamilton County’s most family-friendly communities, and it also welcomes thousands of visitors each year. This splash pad creates a place where families can gather, kids can play and stay cool during hot summers, and hotels in Lookout Valley will be gaining a new asset to attract visitors.”

The splash pad also honors the legacy of Jimmy Long, longtime manager of the John A. Patten Community Center, whose decades of service helped shape and strengthen the Lookout Valley community.

“My friend Jimmy Long dedicated his life to serving families and building community at the Patten Center, and we worked side by side to bring this splash pad forward for Lookout Valley,” said District 11 Commissioner Joe Graham, who represents Lookout Valley. “I’m grateful to Mayor Wamp for prioritizing this project and helping deliver something that will bring joy to many families while honoring the work Jimmy devoted his career to.”

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation will lead the project, with completion expected later this year.

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