

# The CENTER



A newsletter from Mt. Oliver Borough

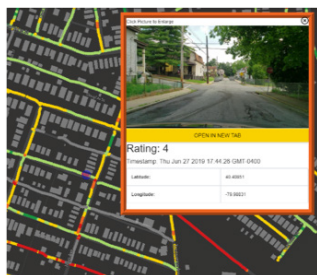


## Manager's Minute

In 2015, the Borough conducted a comprehensive assessment of pavement conditions to develop a 5-Year Pavement Maintenance Plan. I remember walking each street with a pen and paper trying to record surface defects and assigning a rating. While this method certainly got the job done, it's incredibly time consuming and somewhat subjective. In June of this year, Mt. Oliver teamed up with RoadBotics, a Pittsburgh-based company and industry leader in road assessments, to conduct an assessment of the Borough's roadway network for the next five year plan. Using a standard passenger vehicle equipped with a windshield-mounted smart phone, RoadBotics collected video data for 11 miles of roadway. After the field data is collected, they use a cutting-edge, machine learning technology that views the entire video data and is able to identify road defects and distress indicators in order to produce an interactive map.

I think one of the biggest advantages with RoadBotics as opposed to the old methodology is that they deliver point-level data. We're not just getting an average rating for a long segment. Instead, we can see a true rating about every ten feet, in addition to a time-stamped photograph. This is really going to change how we develop paving plans. For example, I foresee doing more spot repairs as a preventative maintenance measure to help preserve the integrity of what would otherwise be rated a good or fair street, which will also help to prevent more severe structural problems for arising in the future. This will also allow us to better target our crack sealing program and rejuvenator program.

At the end of the day, I'm really excited about this product because it's another tool in the toolbox to help residents, save resources, and make more improved and data-driven decisions.



## Upcoming Trash Collection

The following dates are upcoming trash collection dates and changes due to holidays:

Sep 24	Regular Collection
Oct 1	Regular Collection
Oct 8	Regular Collection
Oct 15	Regular Collection
Oct 22	Regular Collection
Oct 29	Regular Collection
Nov 5	Regular Collection
Nov 12	Regular Collection
Nov 19	Regular Collection
Nov 26	Regular Collection
Dec 3	Regular Collection
Dec 10	Regular Collection
Dec 17	Regular Collection

Trash must be placed curbside between 6:00 p.m. the day before and 6:00 a.m. the day of scheduled pick-up. Residents may put out up to 15 bags and no more than 2 bulky items. For specific questions or service issues, please contact Waste Management at 1-800-866-4460.

**Please note that TVs and other electronics are never accepted.** For these and other hard to dispose of items, contact Evolution E-Cycling at 412-390-3450.

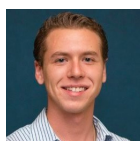


## Mt. Oliver Planning Commission Seeking New Members

Mt. Oliver Borough is now accepting letters of interest for Planning Commission Member. This is a volunteer position that meets monthly to review applications for conditional use in accordance with the Zoning Ordinance, as well as oversees the implementation of the community development objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.

### Act Now! Here's how....

Submit letters of interest to Rick Hopkinson, Borough Manager at the Municipal Building, 150 Brownsville Road.



**Rick Hopkinson**  
Borough Manager  
Mt. Oliver Borough



## Brashear Association Receives \$1 Million in RACP Funding for Hilltop Project

In a meeting with Senator Jay Costs and Representative Harry Readshaw on August 1, representatives from the Brashear Association received news that the South Pittsburgh social service non-profit was awarded \$1 Million from the state's Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) for their Hilltop Community Center.

After advocating for and working with families throughout the Hilltop neighborhoods for years, Brashear endeavors to better serve all members of the community within a new 40,000 SF facility built on 6 contiguous sites along the 300 block of Brownsville Road in the Knoxville neighborhood and within the Mt. Oliver Business District. Senator Costa believes that "this facility will be a focal point for the South Pittsburgh Hilltop community as well as a catalyst for continued economic development along the Brownsville Road corridor."

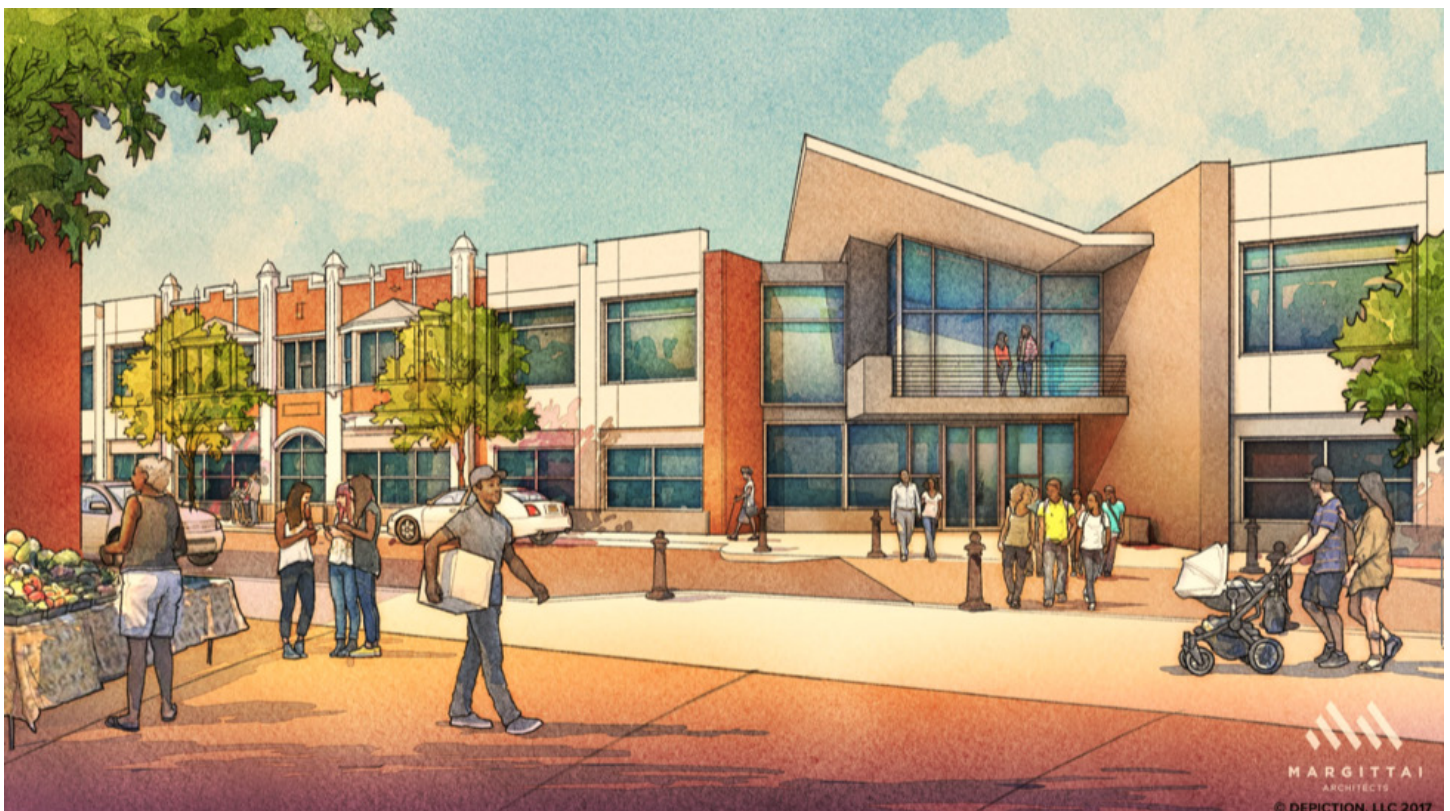
The Hilltop Community Center will allow Brashear to expand its services as well as strengthen existing and create new community partnerships. In a key partnership with LifeSpan, a non-profit which provides critical support for seniors and currently occupies a portion of the building site, Brashear envisions the facility as an all ages, social service hub for the entire community. Brashear's programming for children and families through tangible assistance, education, employment, and case management services will be complemented by LifeSpan's senior services, including a commercial kitchen and Meals on Wheels program. In addition to Brashear and LifeSpan, the building will house the offices of the Birmingham Foundation, also a

partner and supporter of the project.

Brashear recognizes that this award represents support for their project at the state level, but also locally from Senator Costa and Representative Readshaw. As champions for Brashear's mission, this award demonstrates their commitment and dedication to the people who live and work in South Pittsburgh. "Brashear's work has long provided important services to residents in my district and I'm thrilled to see that scope expand with this project," says State Representative Harry Readshaw.

To ensure the new facility best serves the community, Brashear is developing a Program Steering Committee with representatives from each of the 11 South Pittsburgh neighborhoods it serves. The Program Steering Committee will meet monthly to discuss the needs of the community and provide insight and direction for the programs and services available in the new facility. "Community engagement is the cornerstone of success for program development. It gives community ownership, which is needed for long-term success," states Brashear's new Executive Director, Andrea Matthews.

Over the next few months, Brashear will launch a Comprehensive Campaign to raise the estimated \$15 Million needed to support construction and programming for the new facility, anticipated to open its doors in 2022. Reflecting on the project's process, Board President Kristi Rogers shares that "our Board spent many years planning for and anticipating this important expansion to Brashear services and the opportunity to better serve our clients. Having established the groundwork, recently hiring a new Executive Director, and receiving RACP support as part of our fundraising, we are now poised to bring the project to fruition. We are all very excited about the future of the Hilltop and the important role Brashear will play in it!"







## Business Corner

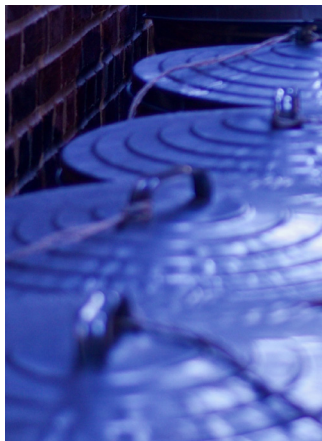
### R. Davis Mechanical

This issue's spotlight is on R. Davis Mechanical, owned and operated by Rob Davis. Rob was born and raised in Mt. Oliver. He started R. Davis Mechanical in October of 2016, providing heating, air conditioning, boiler and water heater services, sales and maintenance where customer service and fair pricing are a priority. "We also try to do our part to give back by donating at least one furnace a year to a veteran in need," says Rob. Follow them on facebook at [www.facebook.com/R.DavisMechanical](https://www.facebook.com/R.DavisMechanical) and the next time you're in need, keep things local and call R. Davis Mechanical at 412-370-0464.



## Property Maintenance

Please remember if you store your trash outside throughout the week (rather than in your garage or basement) it must be kept at the side of your house or behind your house. Most importantly, your trash must be in cans with lids that are kept tightly sealed at all times.



## FAQs: Do I Need a Building Permit?

According to Pennsylvania's Uniform Construction Code (UCC) a building permit is required when "an owner or authorized agent intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish, or change occupancy of a residential building and when installing, altering, or replacing electrical, gas, mechanical, or plumbing systems regulated by the UCC."

Examples of when a permit is needed:

- Additions of new rooms or stories
- Deck construction or repair if more than 30" above ground
- Demolition
- Construction or repair of any garage or carport attached to the house, or any detach garage, carport, or shed greater than 1,000 SF
- HVAC installation, Plumbing, and Electrical wiring installation or repair
- Porch construction or repair
- Retaining walls greater than 4' in height
- Fences greater than 6' in height (Note: A Zoning Permit is required for any fence, regardless of height)
- Roof construction or repair, except for minor patching
- Stairway construction or repair
- Structural interior alterations
- Hot tubs, swimming pools (including inflatable type) that have a water depth of 24" or more
- Enclosing a patio or porch, or installing a sunroom or "three-seasons room"
- Windows and doors when the size of the opening is changed or structural alterations are needed

Examples of when a permit is not needed:

- Nonstructural minor repairs
- Replacement of windows and doors when no changes to the opening are made
- Painting or wall covering
- Repairing minor damages to drywall or plaster finishes

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. You are encouraged to contact the Borough Offices with specific questions when planning your project. Failure to obtain a building permit as required by the UCC can result in fines up to \$1,000 per day.



## Police Blotter

Mt. Oliver Police are urging residents to lock their vehicles following a rash of break-ins. Police received reports of four suspects going through unlocked vehicles throughout the Borough and taking items. Mt. Oliver officers were able to apprehend two of the four suspects responsible for the break in's thanks to residents calling 911. Police ask that you make sure you lock your vehicles, windows are up and valuables are not left inside the vehicle. If anyone sees any suspicious activity please call 911.



## Mt. Oliver Fire Department Seeking Volunteers

The Mt. Oliver Fire Department and the American Red Cross are looking for help from enthusiastic volunteers with a passion to make their community safer to take part in the 2019 Mt. Oliver Smoke Detector Blitz.

On November 9th, Mt. Oliver Fire Department is teaming up with the American Red Cross to provide and install smoke detectors free of charge for any Mt. Oliver Borough resident in need. Volunteers are needed to help the crews go door-to-door to help identify households in need and assist with installations. No experience is required. Interested volunteers should meet at the firehouse at 120 Brownsville Road at 9:30 AM on November 9th. The event will run from 10am-3pm.



## Upcoming Events

### Council Meeting

3rd Monday at 7:30 PM

Municipal Building – 150 Brownsville Road

### Fall Fest

Saturday, 10/5 from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Food | Music | Craft Beer | Axe Throwing

Chili Cook-Off | Fall Market | Activities for Kids

Transverse Park

### Trunk-or-Treat

Saturday, 10/26 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Music | Refreshments | Haunted Selfie Station

Giffin Avenue Parking Lot (Near the DEK Hockey Rink)

### Trick-or-Treat

Thursday, 10/31 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

### Small Business Saturday

Saturday, 11/30

Enjoy FREE parking all day as “thank-you” for shopping small

### Light Up Night

Friday, 11/22 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Tree Lighting | Holiday Cheer | Movie Showing

Fire Pit and More

100-200 Blocks of Brownsville Road

### Cookie Tour

Saturday, 12/7 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Holiday Market | Pictures with Santa |

Activities for Kids | Toys for Tots Drive

100-200 Blocks of Brownsville Road

A newsletter from Mt. Oliver Borough | Fall 2019

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150 Brownsville Road  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15210

**Mt. OLIVER**