



## **BOROUGH OF MT. OLIVER**

*(INCORPORATED NOVEMBER 9, 1892)*

150 Brownsville Road Pittsburgh, PA 15210

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www.MtOliver.com

### **Manager's Report**

*October 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024*

#### **Administration & Finance**

- Routine data entry and reporting.
  - Communications with Council, Engineer, and Solicitor.
  - Reviewed and responded to emails, phone calls, and service requests.
  - Reviewed budget, payroll, and other routine financial reports.
  - Oversee monthly sewage and refuse billing activities.
  - Monitor collection activities related to Business Privilege, Delinquent Real Estate Tax, and Delinquent Sewage & Refuse collections.
  - Prepared for and attended weekly Staff Meeting with Borough staff.
  - Prepared for and attended monthly Staff Meeting with Engineers.
  - Prepared for and attended the Council Regular Meeting.
  - Continued 2025 Budget preparation activities; Prepared for and attended Budget Workshop #1
  - Continued 2025 insurance renewal activities.
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#### **Board & Commissions**

##### Civil Service Commission

- Applications for full-time police officer are being accepted until August 1<sup>st</sup>; The position was advertised on Monster, Indeed, the Post-Gazette (as required), Facebook, Instagram, and the Website
- (3) Applicants applied for the position; (1) Applicant completed the Physical Agility and Written Examination on August 13<sup>th</sup>, along with the Oral Examination on September 27<sup>th</sup>; The applicant must now successfully complete a comprehensive background check and psychological examination to continue moving forward in the Civil Service process.

##### Planning Commission

##### Zoning Hearing Board

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#### **Code Enforcement**

See **Code Enforcement Report**.

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#### **Community & Economic Development**

- Prepared for and attended committee meetings of the Brashear Association.
- Prepared for and attended Board Meeting and committee meetings of the Hilltop Alliance.
- Prepared for and attended committee meetings of the HEDC.

- Attended bi-weekly meetings with Director of Economic Development.
  - Attended meetings with commercial and residential real estate investors.
  - Event planning activities for the Halloween Walk and the Cookie Tour.
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#### **Misc.**

- Working with the Western PA Conservancy (WPC) to install a permanent garden on the vacant lot that the Borough recently acquire at Stamm & Walnut. Planting is schedule for 11/14.
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#### **Projects & Grants**

##### Allegheny Together

- The Allegheny Together Program has additional funding to update the Mt. Oliver Strategic Action Plan for the Business District. I attended a meeting with Fourth Economy to review the scope of work. They have been gathering data over the past month and developed a survey for public input. The survey has been shared on social media, through direct mail, and with neighboring community groups. Fourth Economy also popped up at the Hilltop Harvest Fest on 9/14 with the survey.

##### Main Street Matters

- The Borough is working with Gateway to prepare a Main Street Matters grant application for Façade Improvements in the 100-300 blocks of Brownsville, as well as Hays in the amount of \$100,000. The application deadline is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

##### LSA Grant (Paving Program)

- The Borough was awarded an LSA grant in the amount of \$423,934 for paving Borough, Brandon, and Hamel Way, along with the reconstruction of the 100-block of Stamm.
- Contract documents are being finalized and it is anticipated that the project will go out to bid in late-January 2025.

##### LSA Grant (Public Works Vehicle)

- The Borough is working with Gateway to prepare an LSA grant application to purchase a new salt truck. The application deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>.

##### Transverse Park Master Plan

- Mt. Oliver was awarded \$25,000 from the PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) for the development of a Master Site Plan for Transverse Park. This planning firm specializes in parks and recreation as well landscape architecture. They have completed a number of comparable projects in the City of Pittsburgh and surrounding Boroughs and Townships.
- A kick-off meeting with the consultant team and the steering committee was held on 3/21; Working with committee to identify key stakeholders interviews; Review draft survey for community members (and key locations to distribute copies)
- Prepared for and attended the Public Outreach “Open House” on 5/2 on The Deck
- Reviewed feedback received from surveys, outreach, and focus groups with the consultant team
- Attended committee meeting on 7/8 where the consultant team presented the several concept maps for the committee to react to; Based on feedback, the consultant team made revisions and popped up at the Hilltop Harvest Fest on 9/14 to seek additional input.
- Attended committee meeting on 11/4 to finalize the concept map based on public feedback. A final presentation will be scheduled in late-January 2025 with Borough Council and the public. It is important that the plan is adopted by mid-February to apply for the next round of DCNR implementation funds.

#### Multimodal Transportation Fund

- The Borough and Gateway submitted a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant application in the amount of \$133,538.64 for sidewalk and ADA improvements on Church and Ottillia Street, otherwise known as the Safe Routes to School Program.

#### ALCOSAN Grow Grant

- The was awarded an ALCOSAN Grow grant application in the amount of \$94,700 for pipe lining throughout the Borough which will reduce inflow and infiltration into the Sanitary Sewer System and satisfy much of Borough's obligations in the new Phase II Consent Order.

#### TreeVitalize

- The Borough submitted a grant application to the TreeVitalize Program for (30) street trees on Hays, Ormsby, and Penn for Fall 2024 & Spring 2025 plantings.
- The Borough is also working with Tree Pittsburgh for additional canopy tree plantings in Ormsby Park and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy on a demonstration project at 200 Stamm.
- Attended a site meeting on 6/6 with the W. PA Conservancy to confirm locations for tree plantings; Added an additional five (5) trees to the application above for a total of (35) trees.
- The Borough has been awarded (25) trees for the Fall 2024 planting; Planting is scheduled for Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9a to Noon; Approximately (30) volunteers are recommended.

#### Act 152 Allegheny County Blight Removal Program

- The Borough and Gateway submitted an application in the amount of \$61,200 for the demolition of 110 Locust Street and 210 Elizabeth Street.

#### DEP MORE Program

- The Borough was awarded a DEP MORE grant in the amount of \$50,000 for an energy audit of the Borough Building. The energy audit cost is around \$5,000, but the Program Officer encouraged Mt. Oliver to apply for the full amount of \$50,000 that can also be used for project design and a rate buy down if the Borough should choose to proceed with implementation based a cost analysis. However, there is no obligation to use all of the funds. The Borough can also use the energy audit findings to potentially leverage additional grants in the future.

#### 2024 Pavement Maintenance Program (closed out)

- Attended a meeting the Gateway to discuss the 2024 Pavement Maintenance Program. We do not have any mill and pave projects planned this year, but we will be crack sealing many of the streets that we have paved over the past few years.
- Crack sealing is approx. \$0.50 to \$1.00 per foot and is one of the most affordable ways to prolong the life of a road, in addition to rejuvenator which we will be incorporating into our plan for next year.
- The Borough solicited bids for crack sealing and the low bidder was Russell Standard in the amount of \$11,300.
- Attended the pre-construction meeting on 5/29 with work completed on 5/31.

#### 2025-2030 Pavement Maintenance Plan

- Working with Gateway Engineers to develop a multi-year, best-practice Pavement Maintenance Plan with a focus on preventative maintenance. It is anticipated that the plan will be complete and ready for review and approval in the fall.

## Utility Projects

### *Columbia Gas - Locust, Stamm, Sherman, et al. (2021-2022)*

- All restoration work has been completed, except for the 100-block of Stamm due to a pre-existing drainage issue; This is expected to be completed in 2025 in conjunction with the LSA grant award.

### *Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) – Quincy, Onyx, Fulton (2024) **(closed out)***

- Attended pre-construction meeting with PAWC for the Quincy, Onyx, and Fulton water line project
  - Work to replace the main line began in April and likely last through May and the trenches will be restored with hot mix asphalt
  - The service line installation and lead line replacements occurred during the month of August. The contractor performed permanent restoration on the ditch lines during the month of September, with paving and line striping occurring in October.

## Sanitary & Storm Sewer

### *O&M Projects*

- Gateway prepared quantities and mapping for the 2024 CCTV contract. Six bids were received with the low bidder being Razor Lake Materials in the amount of \$31,000.00
  - The contractor began work on 4/30 and has completed approx. 75% of the planned CCTV; The remaining sewer segments are in remote overgrown locations and they will return in the fall to complete once the growth has died off.
- Gateway has prepared a list of potential repairs for the 2024 O&M Repairs contract based on 2023 CCTV data; This included (2) excavation repairs on Giffin Ave; All work has been completed and there are no other repairs scheduled for 2024. Gateway will review the 2024 CCTV data when complete and develop this list of potential O&M repairs for 2025.

### *Stamm Ave Drainage Project*

- The Borough received an LSA Grant in the amount of \$423,934 for the reconstruction of the 100-block of Stamm to permanently resolve the drainage issue.

### *Phase II Consent Order*

- The Borough received a grant from the ALCOSAN Grow Program in the amount of \$97,400 for the I&I reduction that is required in the Phase II Consent Order.
- The Borough is exploring other funding options, including additional grants and low-interest loans through the DEP's Pennvest Program. The total project cost is approx. \$400,000.

### *ALCOSAN Regionalization*

- Council adopted the Regionalization Transfer Agreement and we are working with ALCOSAN on next steps.

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## **Public Works**

See **Public Works Report**.