



BOROUGH OF MT. OLIVER

(INCORPORATED NOVEMBER 9, 1892)

150 Brownsville Road Pittsburgh, PA 15210

Ph: 412-431-8107 Fax: 412-431-0184

www.MtOliver.com

Manager's Report

August 1, 2026 – August 31, 2026

Administration & Governance

The following administrative functions are performed on an ongoing basis to ensure the effective operation of Borough government:

- Direct day-to-day municipal operations and support Borough staff.
- Conduct daily staff coordination meeting.
- Oversee payroll, purchasing, accounts payable/receivable, cash receipts, utility billing, tax collection, budget monitoring, contract administration, financial reporting, and records management.
- Coordinate with the Borough Engineer, Solicitor, professional consultants, regulator agencies, and partner organization.
- Provide administrative support to Borough Council and the Borough's Board and Commissions, including the Planning Commission, Civil Service Commission, and Zoning Hearing Board.
- Prepare for and attend Council meetings, including agenda preparation, research, and follow-up implementation.

Projects & Initiatives

STAFF & OPERATIONS

Organization Vision & Strategic Planning

The Borough Manager and staff have initiated a long-term organizational visioning process to establish a shared direction for municipal operations and community development. Through a series of staff workshops, seven strategic domains were identified to organize the Borough's work: Staff & Operations, Housing & Neighborhoods, Business District, Parks & Public Spaces, Infrastructure & Mobility, People & Community Wellbeing, and Community Identity & Pride.

August Update:

Continued refining the Strategic Implementation Matrix while balancing other time-sensitive administrative priorities. Developed an internal one-page summary of the Borough's organizational values to provide staff with a clear and accessible reference for the principles guiding municipal operations and decision-making.

The draft values document was forwarded to TrailBlaze Creative for branding and design. The draft 10-year Community Change Plan was also provided to TrailBlaze to begin developing a consistent visual format for the final strategic "playbook." Work on the Implementation Matrix remains ongoing, including refinement of projects, responsibilities, timelines, and performance measures.

Fleet & Equipment Replacement

The Borough maintains a long-term fleet replacement program to ensure Public Works has safe, reliable, and efficient equipment necessary to provide essential municipal services, including snow and ice control, street maintenance, and emergency response. As part of this effort, the Borough was awarded a \$119,124 Local Share Account (LSA) grant to purchase a replacement Public Works salt truck.

August Update: Continued preparations for the replacement of the Borough's 2003 Ford F-550 by listing the existing vehicle for sale through Municibid. The replacement salt truck remains on order and is being outfitted to the Borough's specifications, with delivery anticipated in fall 2026.

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

Housing Study

Council authorized a comprehensive Housing Study utilizing the Borough's professional consultants and staff to evaluate existing housing conditions and develop strategies to reduce blight, increase homeownership opportunities, and strengthen neighborhoods throughout the Borough.

August Update: Held a project coordination meeting with the consultant team on August 5 to review the current status of the Housing Study and discuss next steps. No significant additional project work was completed during the remainder of the month, and the study remains in progress.

Redd Up Days

The Borough's Red Up Days program is a community engagement initiative designed to foster neighborhood pride, encourage resident stewardship, reduce litter, and enhance the appearance of residential neighborhoods through recurring volunteer clean-up events.

August Update: Continued the monthly self-paced Redd Up Days series by providing cleanup supplies to participating residents and coordinating collection of debris by the Public Works Department.

BUSINESS DISTRICT

Business Recruitment & Retention

The Borough works with the Hilltop Economic Development Corporation (HEDC), the Hilltop Alliance, property owners, and entrepreneurs to recruit new businesses, support existing businesses, reduce commercial vacancies, and strengthen the Brownsville Road business district.

August Update: No significant new business recruitment or retention developments occurred during August. The Hilltop Revitalization Collaborative (HRC) continues to market 100 Brownsville Road for lease as part of ongoing efforts to attract a complementary retail use to the business district.

Commercial Property Redevelopment

The Borough partners with the Hilltop Revitalization Collaborative (HRC) to acquire, rehabilitate, and lease strategic commercial properties that support long-term revitalization of the Brownsville Road business district. HRC has acquired seven commercial properties in the 100 and 200 blocks of Brownsville Road, including the former Mike's Lunch building at 200 Brownsville Road. That property was awarded a \$162,156 Main Street Matters Grant for renovation into a new neighborhood restaurant.

August Update:

Continued refining the scope of work for the former Mike's Lunch redevelopment project and holding bi-weekly coordination meetings to advance design, financing, and implementation. HRC also continued discussions regarding financing for the required grant match.

The restaurant consultant completed an evaluation of the existing commercial kitchen equipment and determined that none of the equipment is suitable for reuse. The project scope will therefore include full replacement of the kitchen equipment. The project remains generally on track with the current schedule, which anticipates completion in spring 2027.

Façade Improvement Program

The Borough was awarded a \$100,000 Main Street Matters Grant to implement a Commercial Façade Improvement Program for eligible properties located in the 100–300 blocks of Brownsville Road and along Hays Avenue. The program provides financial assistance to commercial property and business owners for exterior building improvements that enhance the appearance of the business district, encourage private investment, and strengthen the overall image and vitality of Mt. Oliver's commercial corridor.

August Update:

Prepared and advertised a Request for Quotes (RFQ) for the initial façade improvement projects. The solicitation was advertised in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and on the Borough's website and was also distributed directly to contractors that have previously completed similar work for the Borough.

Quotes are due September 10, after which submissions will be reviewed and next steps coordinated with the participating property owners.

Business District Events & Activation

The Borough coordinates events and programming to increase visitation, support local businesses, and promote Brownsville Road as a community destination.

August Update:

Successfully completed the 2026 Summer LIVE Music Series, which concluded on August 22 with a performance by Totally 80s. We are compiling final attendance, vendor sales, sponsorship, and other program statistics and preparing the closeout report required for the Main Streets Allegheny grant.

Continued planning for the Hilltop Harvest Fest, scheduled for September 26 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at The Deck. Held a coordination meeting and continued developing event logistics, programming, vendors, marketing, sponsorships, and other planning activities in partnership with the Hilltop Urban Farm and the Hilltop Alliance.

Participated in the kickoff meeting for the Borough's Trunk-or-Treat, scheduled for October 24 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Transverse Park. Councilmember Gail Pawloski has agreed to chair the event, and a planning committee has been established. The Borough Manager is supporting the transition by providing administrative assistance, historical event information, and guidance to the committee.

Developed standardized planning packets for the Borough's major community events to document timelines, responsibilities, vendor coordination, sponsorships, marketing, logistics, and other recurring planning needs. These materials are intended to support broader committee participation, improve

continuity from year to year, and reduce the amount of event planning that must be managed directly by Borough staff.

Coordinated with the Mt. Oliver Fire Department to confirm initial logistics and operational details for Light Up Night in advance of convening the full planning committee.

PARKS & PUBLIC SPACES

Transverse Park Master Plan

The Borough was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to develop a comprehensive Master Site Plan for Transverse Park. Throughout 2024, a Council-appointed committee worked with the consultant team to guide the planning process, including extensive public engagement and stakeholder outreach. Council adopted the Master Site Plan in March 2025, establishing a long-term vision for improvements to the Borough's largest park. Following additional Council-directed revisions, the consultant developed updated plan alternatives to refine the layout and priorities. Upon adoption of the revised Master Plan, the Borough will begin pursuing grant funding and other financial resources to implement the improvements in phases.

August Update: Received updated cost estimates from the consultant team for the two Master Plan alternatives previously identified by Borough Council. The estimates will be reviewed at the September Council meeting to help Council compare the anticipated implementation costs and select a final preferred layout.

INFRASTRUCTURE & MOBILITY

Roadway and Sidewalk Improvements

The Borough continues to implement a comprehensive roadway and sidewalk improvement program focused on pedestrian safety, ADA accessibility, and long-term asset preservation. The Borough was awarded a \$138,538 Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant for the Safe Routes to School Program, which includes sidewalk and ADA improvements along Church Avenue and Ottillia Street. The construction contract was awarded to Michael Facchiano Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$87,716.68, and is in the construction phase.

The Borough has also implemented a preventative pavement maintenance strategy through its 2025–2030 Pavement Maintenance Plan to maximize the life of Borough streets while minimizing long-term costs. The 2026 program includes crack sealing and pavement rejuvenation (sealcoating) projects. The 2026 Crack Sealing Program was completed by Russell Standard in the amount of \$9,352.04, while the 2026 Pavement Rejuvenator Program was awarded to Pavement Tech, Inc. in the amount of \$23,125.00, with work scheduled for completion in late summer.

To advance future roadway improvements, the Borough has submitted Local Share Account (LSA) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications to resurface Margaret Street (Hays Avenue to the terminus) and Park Road, including associated ADA curb ramp upgrades. Award notifications are pending.

August Update: Prepared and submitted the final reimbursement request for the Safe Routes to School project following completion of the Church Avenue, Ottillia Street, and supplemental Fremont Street sidewalk and ADA improvements. Once reimbursement is received, the Borough will complete final grant and contract closeout.

The 2026 Pavement Rejuvenator Program has been fully paid and is now closed out.

Sanitary Sewer Operation & Maintenance

The Borough maintains a comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Program to preserve the integrity of the sanitary sewer collection system, reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I), and comply with Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requirements. As part of the program, approximately 10% of the Borough's sanitary sewer system is inspected by closed-circuit television (CCTV) annually, with identified defects addressed through pipe lining, point repairs, or excavation as necessary.

The Borough also completed a major Phase II Consent Order project to reduce inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. The project was supported by a \$97,400 ALCOSAN GROW Grant and Pennvest loan, with construction completed by Wilson Excavating under a contract totaling \$314,961. The Borough continues to administer grant reimbursement and loan closeout activities associated with the project.

The 2026 CCTV inspection contract was awarded to Razor Lake Materials in the amount of \$29,150, and the scope of the 2026 sewer lining and point repair program is being finalized based on inspection results.

The Borough continues to coordinate with ALCOSAN on implementation of the approved Regionalization Transfer Agreement, which provides for the transfer of select regional trunk sewer lines while the Borough retains ownership and responsibility for the local collection system.

August Update: Razor Lake Materials completed the 2026 CCTV inspection program. Gateway Engineers is now reviewing the inspection data and video to identify system deficiencies and prioritize recommended repairs and rehabilitation needs. The findings will be used to help develop the Borough's 2027 Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Program.

Utility Coordination

The Borough coordinates with public utility providers to facilitate infrastructure improvements, review and issue permits, minimize impacts to residents, and ensure that streets, sidewalks, and other public infrastructure are properly restored following construction activities. Current coordination efforts include projects by Columbia Gas and Pennsylvania American Water.

August Update: No significant changes this month. The Borough continues coordinating with Columbia Gas and Pennsylvania American Water regarding ongoing utility work, restoration, and outstanding punch list items.

PEOPLE & COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Animal Friends Vaccine Clinic

The Borough partners with Animal Friends to host an annual low-cost pet vaccination and licensing clinic, providing residents with convenient access to preventative veterinary care while promoting responsible pet ownership and public health. Due to the program's continued growth, the event has been relocated to Transverse Park to better accommodate participants and reduce traffic congestion. This year's clinic will serve dogs only, with plans to explore a separate cat clinic at an indoor venue in the future.

August Update: Received final service data from Animal Friends for the July 31 vaccine clinic held at Transverse Park. A total of 297 dogs were seen and 711 vaccines were administered. Animal Friends also distributed 173 leashes, harnesses, and collars, while microchips and flea/tick preventatives were made available to participating pet owners.

In addition to veterinary services, community service agencies provided resources and information to 160 dog owners, further expanding the event's value as a broader community resource.

COMMUNITY IDENTIFY & PRIDE

Future initiatives will be added to this strategic domain as they are identified through the Borough's ongoing strategic planning process.