



# McCandless Town Crier



**Duncan Heights Cemetery is getting much-needed TLC via  
an Eagle Scout project**

**We want your input in our zoning modernization project**

**Community Day on Sept. 10! National Night Out on Aug. 2!  
Save those and other dates!**



# TOWN OF MCCANDLESS

## Zoning Modernization



Town of  
**McCandless**  
PENNSYLVANIA

*Join us for an Open House!*

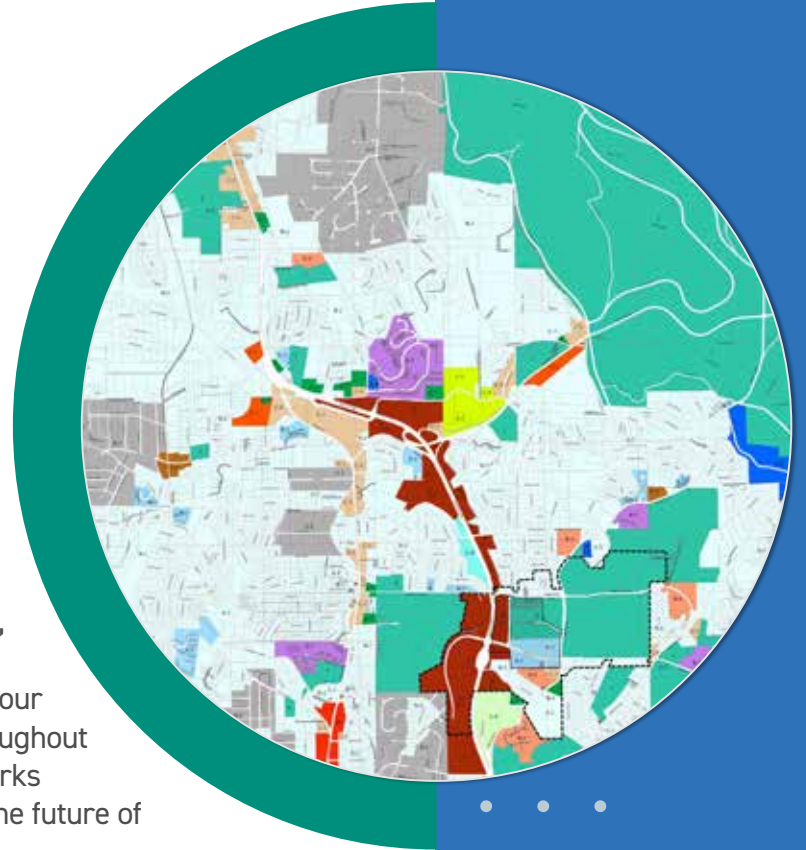
**June 23, 2022 4-8pm**

[More details on next page](#)

The Town of McCandless is undergoing a full overhaul and modernization of the Town's zoning and land development ordinances to better suit the needs of the community. The updated ordinances will build on the community's goals of sustainable planning and smart redevelopment identified in A McCandless Conversation, the Town's 2019 comprehensive plan.

A year-long process is underway to analyze, evaluate, and update the current ordinances. The core team of town staff, a Task Force of community members, and our consulting firm Michael Baker seeks public input throughout the process to learn how you use your town, what works and doesn't work, and what you would like to see in the future of McCandless.

A **project page** has launched on the **McCandless and Me** website, which has information on the project's status and ways to get involved. We urge all McCandless residents to participate and follow along as we proceed. Check back often for blog posts, participant activities, in-person meeting dates, and more!



### **Preserve, Enhance, Change!**

Visit the McCandless and Me project page to share your ideas on the interactive mapping activity:



TAKE ME TO  
THE MAPPING  
ACTIVITY

### **A McCandless Conversation**

Want to know more about community planning and goals? Find the Comprehensive Plan online here:



READ THE  
PLAN HERE



Questions? Please contact:

**RJ Susko, Planning and Development Director**  
[rsusko@townofmccandless.org](mailto:rsusko@townofmccandless.org)  
412-364-0616 x121

## Your community, your vision.

Resident input is welcome and invited in the coming months as we prepare changes to zoning districts, definitions, permitted uses, and more - the updated zoning code needs to reflect and enable the future that you envision for the Town of McCandless. Public engagement will be phased and ongoing, including online updates as well as in-person meetings in June and in late fall 2022.

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*Join us for an Open House!*  
**June 23, 2022 4-8pm**  
**McCandless Town Hall**

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### Stations

#### What is Zoning? Purpose & Impact:

Zoning language can be technical and dry. Get an understanding of what zoning does, how it works, and what a modernized zoning code can do for McCandless.

#### Current & Future Zoning Districts:

Review a draft district map, talk about what each district can allow, and share your input.

#### Definitions and Uses:

Read about key terms that may change in your zoning code and see visual graphics that show how those definitions change what can be built.

#### Community Visions:

See illustrations that show what updated zoning can allow at key areas and intersections where the community has indicated a desire for change.

#### Presentation:

The presentation will be available to view at any time throughout the evening.

#### Mapping exercise:

Share your thoughts & input on a large map, or visit the project website to find an online version of this activity available now.

**4:00**

#### Open House begins

The project team will be on site at stations to discuss the project, review draft concepts, and seek your input.

**4:30**

#### Presentation

The project team will lead a formal presentation on the timeline, goals, and status as of June.

**5:00-8:00**

#### Station visitation

Residents are welcome to drop-in at any time.

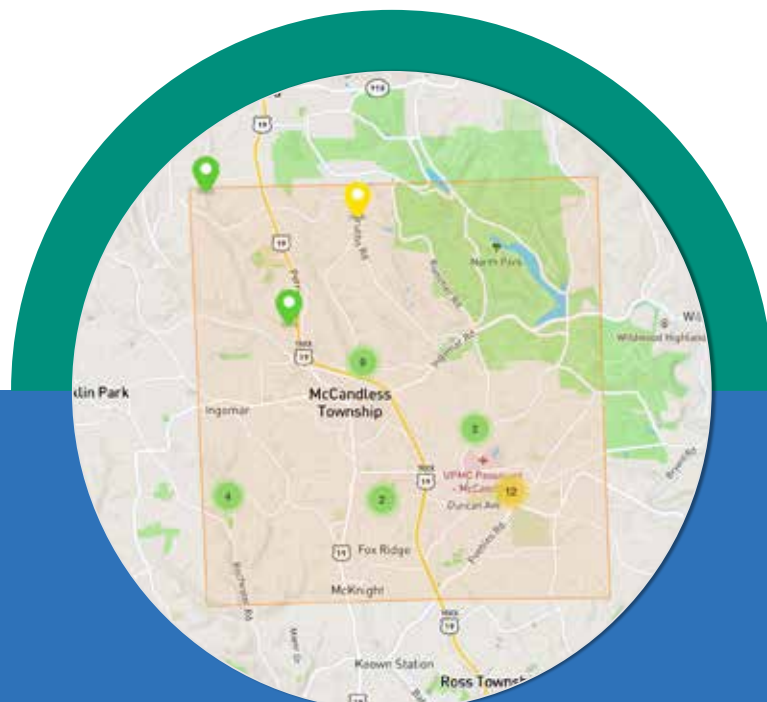
*Following the Open House, a summary of the station contents will be shared to the project page hosted on the McCandless and Me website.*

# TOWN OF MCCANDLESS

## Zoning Modernization

For more updates, visit:

[mccandlessandme.com/zoning-saldo-modernization](https://mccandlessandme.com/zoning-saldo-modernization)



# New Councilmembers sworn-in, officers selected



New Ward 2 Councilman Jack Casey and new Ward 4 Councilman Jason Singer, along with reelected Ward 6 Councilwoman Carolyn Schweiger were sworn-in January 3 by District Judge William Wagner.

Ward 3 Councilman Mike Tarle was elected Council President and Councilwoman Schweiger was reelected Council Vice President.

Additionally, Town Manager Bob Grimm was reappointed Town Secretary, and Ward 7 Councilwoman Trish Cloonan and Assistant Town Manager Trisha Greathouse were reappointed Assistant Town Secretary.

## Paving plan for 2022

Town Council has approved the following streets to be either partially or fully paved in 2022:

- Bellcrest Road
- Blazier Drive
- Connor Court
- Corporate Drive
- Forest Meadows Drive
- Forest Oaks Drive
- Foxgrove Lane
- Foxhunt Road
- Foxwood Drive
- Glen Manor Drive
- Guildford Drive
- Harding Road
- Harrison Street
- Hillvista Drive
- Moreland Road
- Old Perry Highway # 3
- Old Perry Highway # 4
- Parkway Road
- Taft Place
- Tanglewood Road
- Tyler Street
- Valleyview Court
- Victory Road
- Winchester Drive

## Town named a Banner Community



The Town of McCandless has once again been recognized as a 2022 Banner Community by County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM). This marks the tenth year of the program which recognizes municipalities that show a commitment to professional development, prudent fiscal management, transparency, accountability, and proactive communications to engage community stakeholders. The Town is one of 80 organizations recognized this year.

“Recurring recognition as a Banner Community really speaks to our success in what we endeavor to do.” said Council President Michael Tarle. “Town Council sets the tone through low taxes and using best practices to run the municipality. Town staff really puts this philosophy into action. It’s great to be recognized for our success.”



# How can I help with stormwater as a resident?

**Stormwater is an important part of the Town's infrastructure system. Residents can help to support and enhance the efficiency of the system with some simple observations and tasks.**

Catch basins, inlets, storm manholes, headwalls, street basins, road inlets, all of these are various terms used for a collection device of stormwater. Most of these are found on roadways within the town. Some can be found outside of the roadway in low-lying areas. The importance of these are they serve as the entry point for storm water into the system. Some are part of the town owned system, and some are private that lead to the town system.

Residents can help make the system work more efficiently by making sure the openings are clear of debris and trash. This is the first step in allowing stormwater to enter the system and is an easy way to help prevent flooding at a local level.

**Storing items near streams, creeks, and water runoff can lead to backing up of infrastructure.**

Log piles, grass clippings, leaf piles, yard waste, outside furniture, children's toys, are all items that typically are found downstream of a water course after high water events. These items when stored outside near water flows tend to float downstream and cause added problems. Although that firewood pile might not seem like it is causing harm at the edge of a stream, it can lead to backups and overflows if it enters the stream system. Please refrain from storing these items near water flow areas.

**Storm ponds, detention basins, stormwater retention basins, are all terms used for a stormwater management area for neighborhoods or commercial properties to hold back and release stormwater.**

Many neighborhoods and commercial properties have storm water management basins. These basins need maintenance over time, trash and debris can accumulate, overgrowth of vegetation, and standing water all are signs that the basin might need to be maintained. A resident can help

by making sure the trash and debris are removed, that the trees and brush are not getting too large, and that the water is draining within a reasonable period (approx. 72 hours after last rain event).

Any added concerns and or questions can be reported to the town through the town's website and the Contact Us page.



Manager's Coffee, June 9  
from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. at  
Cafe Connigo

West View Park with Mike  
Funyak, June 14 at 7:00  
p.m. at Heritage Center

Zoning Modernization  
Open House, June 23 from  
4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

History of Ross Park Mall,  
July 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Heri-  
tage Center

National Night Out, August  
2

Community Day, Septem-  
ber 10

Winterfest, December 3



# Duncan Heights Cemetery getting spruce up for Eagle Scout project



Eagle Scout candidate Ralph Abdel-Massih's service project this summer will focus on the old Duncan Heights Cemetery. This long-abandoned cemetery on Duncan Avenue near Thompson Run Road (founded so long ago that some Civil War veterans are buried there) has suffered from flooding for decades and — with its ownership being unknown — has had very limited upkeep over the past half-century. The project entails cleaning up the property and the installation of a rain garden to help resolve the flood issues. The Town is proud to support this effort!

## PROPERTY AND PER CAPITA TAX INFORMATION

### Real Estate Tax Highlights

On December 13, 2021, Town Council approved the 2022 Town Budget keeping the Town millage rate of 1.236 mills (\$123.60 per \$100,000 of assessed value) for the sixth consecutive year. The North Allegheny School District (NASD) millage is 19.1408 mills for the 2021-22 fiscal year which runs from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

The Town of McCandless and North Allegheny School District real estate taxes are billed together and will be mailed on or about July 1. It is the responsibility of the property owner to notify the tax office in the case of mortgage refinance, payoff, or other situation that would change the mailing address for the tax bill. All real estate taxes are due on or before the established due dates regardless of whether a tax bill is received by the property owner. If you do not escrow and you do not receive a tax bill by July 15, 2022, please contact our office immediately at 412-364-0616 and we will send you a new bill.

Please note that in January 2021 Town Council appointed Maiello, Brungo, & Maiello, LLP as the delinquent tax collector for the Town of McCandless. All existing delinquent property tax accounts have been turned over to the delinquent collector. In the future, Town of McCandless and North Allegheny School District taxes that remain unpaid after December 31st each year must be turned over to the delinquent collector.

### Programs available that may help reduce your real estate tax taxes:

#### Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion

Taxpayers who have applied for and been approved for the Allegheny County Act 50 Homestead/Farmstead exclusion as of April 30th, qualify for a homestead credit on their North Allegheny School District real estate taxes. Also, these qualified homeowners may also choose to pay their Town of McCandless/North Allegheny School District real estate taxes in three installments. Contact Allegheny County or visit the Allegheny County website for the Homestead/Farmstead application and/or to check the current Homestead status of your property.

#### Act 77 Senior Citizen Tax Relief

Taxpayers who have applied for and been approved for the Allegheny County Act 77 Senior Citizen Tax Relief Program are also eligible for a 30% reduction in their Town assessed value. Information and applications are available through Allegheny County Real Estate for homeowners who have owned and occupied a primary residence in Allegheny County continuously for the past 10 years and who meet other age and income requirements.

#### PA Department of Revenue Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

Pennsylvania also offers a Property Tax/

Rent Rebate Program providing rebates on property tax or rent paid the previous year by income-eligible seniors and people with disabilities. Homeowners/renters must apply annually and meet certain age and income eligibility criteria. This program is managed by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. Forms and assistance are available online and at no cost from the Department of Revenue district offices, local Area Agencies on Aging, senior centers, and state legislators' offices.

### What is Per Capita Tax?

This is a North Allegheny School District Tax that applies to any person over the age of 21 who resides in the Town for even 1 day during the school district fiscal year (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022). The tax is \$10 per year. For property owners who reside at their property, this tax is a line item on your real estate tax bill that reflects the assumption that there are 2 adults residing at your home. If you have only one resident in your household over the age of 21, please contact us immediately so that the adjustment can be made. Additional adults in each household, and renters over the age of 21 receive a separate Per Capita Tax bill. **If you own rental property in the Town,** you are required to provide the names of any individuals living at your property. A Landlord-Tenant Listing form can be found on the Town's website, [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org) or by calling 412-364-0616.

# CONTACT SHEET

## Town Council

**Kimberly K. Zachary – Ward 1**  
ward1@townofmccandless.org  
412-600-6415

**Robert “Jack” Casey – Ward 2**  
ward2@townofmccandless.org  
412-463-3763

**Michael J. Tarle – Ward 3, President**  
ward3@townofmccandless.org  
412-573-9557

**Jason Singer – Ward 4**  
ward4@townofmccandless.org  
412-463-4665

**Kathleen M. Roppa – Ward 5**  
ward5@townofmccandless.org  
412-713-2745

**Carolyn L. Schweiger – Ward 6, Vice Pres.**  
ward6@townofmccandless.org  
724-316-7998

**Patricia A. Cloonan – Ward 7**  
ward7@townofmccandless.org  
412-213-8680

## Town Hall Hours (Mon-Fri, except holidays)

Administration/Tax Office ..... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Building/Zoning/Fire Marshal ..... 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Public Works ..... 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Police Administration ..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
(NOTE: An officer can be reached 24 hours a day)

## Town Hall Contacts

### Main Number

412-364-0616  
412-364-5066 (fax)

### Extension list

Administration ..... Ext. 0  
Building/Fire Marshal ..... Ext. 128  
Heritage Center ..... Ext. 118  
Manager’s Office ..... Ext. 120  
Planning and Zoning ..... Ext. 129  
Public Works ..... Ext. 184  
Trash and Recycling ..... Ext. 110  
Tax Office ..... Ext. 127

### Police Administration

412-369-7992

*(Please note, if you have an emergency or require the response of an officer, you **MUST** call 911)*

### E-mail addresses

**administration@townofmccandless.org**

*For general inquiries*

**eac@townofmccandless.org**

*For the Environmental Advisory Committee*

**firemarshal@townofmccandless.org**

*Questions for the Fire Marshal*

**heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org**

*For McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center*

**ms4@townofmccandless.org**

*For Municipal Separate Storm Sewer questions*

**policeadministration@townofmccandless.org**

*For non-emergency Police questions*

**public.works@townofmccandless.org**

*For Public Works questions (i.e., plowing, paving, etc)*

**recycleit@townofmccandless.org**

*For residential recycling questions*

**taxoffice@townofmccandless.org**

*For tax-related questions*

**zoning@townofmccandless.org**

*For building and zoning questions*

**Web:** [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)







PRESORTED  
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Permit No. 2599

9955 Grubbs Road  
Wexford, PA 15090

A photograph of two white-tailed deer in a lush green field. One deer is in the foreground, facing the camera, while the other is in the background, facing away. The text "Seeing too many for comfort?" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Seeing too many for comfort?

Want to participate in the hunt? Or volunteer your property to be used for hunting? Reach out to Suburban Whitetail Management at [suburbanwhitetailpa@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanwhitetailpa@gmail.com)