

From: [Delaware, OH](#)
To: [Council Clerk](#); [Sarah Dinovo](#)
Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* City Council Application
Date: Monday, January 26, 2026 1:52:12 PM

City Council Application

Submission #: 4594078
IP Address: 204.210.248.76
Submission Date: 01/26/2026 1:52
Survey Time: 8 minutes, 9 seconds

You have a new online form submission.

Note: all answers displaying "*****" are marked as sensitive and must be viewed after your login.

City Council Third Ward Seat Application Form

Read-Only Content

Name

Matthew McClellan

Address

81 Bluestone Lane
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Phone

(614) 378-1487

Email

mtthwmcclellan@gmail.com

How long have you lived in the City of Delaware?

Proud Delaware resident, with my wife Jennifer, since 2024.

Why are you interested in serving on Delaware City Council?

This is a critical moment for Delaware. Our rapid growth brings incredible opportunity—but also real challenges. Strong leadership is essential to maximize benefits, balance priorities, and protect what we love about our community. I've seen places get this wrong, and I'm committed to helping Delaware get it right—thoughtfully and responsibly—so we preserve our small-town charm while building a vibrant future. I would intend to run for a full, four-year term in 2027.

What education, skills or experience do you bring to this seat?

I've held leadership roles in the Ohio Senate, Secretary of State's office, and Department of Development, focusing on policy development and implementation, economic development, fiscal management, strategic communications, and community engagement. These experiences taught me to plan thoughtfully and collaborate effectively to deliver predictable, positive outcomes—skills Delaware needs as we grow.

Please attach a resume and any other relevant information. If you are submitting a signature form it can be

attached here, as well.

[M McClellan Resume JAN 2026.pdf](#)

Attachment

[M McClellan JAN 2026 Ward 3 Signatures.pdf](#)

Attachment

Thank you,

Delaware, OH

This is an automated message generated by Granicus. Please do not reply directly to this email.

Matt McClellan Delaware Ward 3 Questionnaire

Q: What are the challenges or issues you have identified in your ward, and what suggestions or ideas do you have to address them?

While the continued growth in Ward 3 brings opportunity, it also presents challenges that must be closely monitored and addressed in order to preserve the quality and character of our community. These include increasing demand on infrastructure with more traffic on our roads and greater utility needs, growing school enrollment, maintaining reliable city services, ensuring community safety, and keeping neighborhoods connected. As a member of city council representing the third ward, I would work to address these issues by directly engaging residents and city staff to identify solutions that are data-driven, fiscally responsible, and in the best interest of our community. Specific solutions would need to include prioritizing essential infrastructure updates, direct engagement with school leaders to shape and inform enrollment plans, working with key personnel to maintain safety and services, and proactive communication with residents before development decisions are finalized.

Q: Please explain the decision-making process you would use in evaluating a highly controversial issue brought before Council for action.

First, I would ensure I clearly understand the issue or problem. Then I would seek input from residents, staff, and subject-matter experts, listening respectfully to differing viewpoints, and weighing both short- and long-term impacts. I would also thoroughly review facts, financial implications, and legal constraints. My goal would be to reach a balanced decision that reflects community values, protects fiscal stability, and advances Delaware's long-term interests.

Q: What City of Delaware qualities do you consider to be (a) its greatest strengths, and (b) its greatest area for improvement?

Delaware possess many strengths that include strong schools, a vibrant downtown, engaged residents, thoughtful planning, and a high quality of life. Opportunities for improvement include infrastructure capacity and long-range planning to ensure growth remains sustainable, affordable, and aligned with community expectations.

Q: Please explain your understanding of the City’s capital budget challenges and share your ideas for managing these needs within limited resources.

Despite Delaware’s proactive efforts to prioritize and plan for capital projects, the City’s 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) acknowledges that deferred maintenance due to budget constraints and rising costs are making it difficult to meet demand. While this makes for a challenging situation, I don’t believe it is insurmountable. Thoughtful planning through the CIP to ensure projects are strategically prioritized and phased is important, but only part of the solution. The City needs to maximize revenue generation from economic development projects by not awarding overly generous local incentives, work to aggressively go after grant funding opportunities at the state and federal level, as well as careful consideration of possible revenue adjustments. Additionally, the City should work closely with county and state partners to identify opportunities to better coordinate capital projects for greater efficiency and to reduce overall costs.

Q: How do you think Delaware is growing today — too fast, too slow, or at the right pace?

Delaware is growing at an appropriate pace given its geographic location within Ohio and many attributes. This growth brings opportunity, but can also lead to serious issues if not properly managed. I have seen communities get this right, and I have seen communities get it wrong. I am mindful of the rate at which our community is growing, and want to do my part to help ensure it happens in a thoughtful and responsible way so that infrastructure, public safety, schools, and quality of life keep pace. Thoughtful planning, disciplined budgeting, and strong community engagement will help ensure growth remains a net positive for residents.

EST 1808
CITY OF
DELAWARE
OHIO

CANDIDATE NAME: Matthew McClellan

Signature Form for Third Ward Vacancy: One Signature Per Household

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	SIGNATURE
1. Phillips	Jennifer	81 Bluestone Ln Delaware	1/19/26	Jennifer Phillips
2. Gorka	Saidulu	75 Bluestone Ln	1/24/26	Saidulu Gorka
3. Richardson	Matthew	51 Bluestone Ln	1/24/26	Matthew Richardson
4. HOSPER	Matthew	46 Bluestone Ln	1/24/26	Matthew Hosper
5. DAVERA DAVERA	Umesh	80 Bluestone Ln	1/24/26	Umesh Davera
6. GUPTA	Amy	86 Bluestone Ln	1/24/26	Amy Gupta
7. RIED	EVAN	93 BLUESTONE LN	1/24/26	Evan Ried
8. LOMBOS	NIKKI	236 Sunstone Ln	1/24/26	Nikki Lombos
9. Nagusej	Lokesh	236 Sunstone Ln	1/24/26	Lokesh Nagusej
10. SELVARAJ	THANGANATHYA LAKSHMI	259 SUNSTONE LN	1/24/26	S. Thangam
11. ROSE	MAT	280 CAMBIE DR	1/26/26	Matthew Rose
12. VASANI	KAILASH	238 CAMBIE DR	1/26/2026	Kailash Vasani
13. SEICH	OLIVIA	237 CAMBIE DR	1/24/26	Olivia Seich
14. Leighty	Joshua	219 Cambie Dr	1/24/26	Joshua Leighty
15. Waqas	Sabir	415 Marble Slab Rd	1/24/26	Sabir Waqas
16. Habiba	HUSSEIN	447 Marble Slab Road	1-24-2026	H. Hussein
17. Kanakasabai	Devi Kalashmi	448 Marble Slab Road	1/24/2026	Devi Kalashmi
18. Chetan Phawale	chetan	606 Bald Eagle Dr	1/24/2026	Chetan Phawale
19. Nath	Priyanka	612 Bald Eagle Dr	1/24/2026	Priyanka Nath
20. KAUSHAL	Abhishek	624 Bald Eagle Dr	1/24/2026	Abhishek Kaushal
21. Cogh	Jason	149 Ruby Red Ln	1/24/26	Jason Cogh
22. Mayer	Holly	113 Ruby Red Ln	1/24/26	Holly Mayer
23. Franck	Chris	107 Ruby Red Ln	1/24/26	Chris Franck
24. Willey	Ricardo	165 Cheshire Crossing	1/24/26	Ricardo Willey
25. Trubee	Jared	172 Ruby Red Ln	1/24/26	Jared Trubee



Matthew McClellan

CONTACT



614.378.1487



mtthwmcclellan@gmail.com



Delaware, Ohio

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Coalition Building
- Crisis Communications
- Message Development
- Organizational Planning
- Process Modernization
- Project Management
- Public Policy Development & Tracking
- Public Speaking
- Strategic Negotiations

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree | 2004
 Communications & Political Science
 Otterbein University
 Westerville, Ohio

SECURITY CLEARANCE

Secret | February 2025 – Present

PROFILE

A strategic and results-driven leader with over 20 years of experience in executive-level leadership, public affairs, and strategic communications. Recognized for driving organizational success through his consistency in decision-making, fiscal prowess, and performance under pressure, Matt delivers wins, aligns diverse stakeholders around shared goals, and rallies teams to exceed expectations in dynamic, high-stakes environments.

EXPERIENCE

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Ohio Department of Development | September 2020 – Present

Provide operational and strategic leadership to 300 staff administering 90+ programs, with a roughly multi-billion budget.

Key Accomplishments

- Successfully negotiated multi-million-dollar state incentive deals with companies like Amazon, Anduril, Honda, and Intel.
- Helped secure #3 ranking for Ohio in 2024 Site Selection Magazine for total economic development per capita projects.
- Managed a 300% budget increase coupled with a 30% increase in programs administered while only increasing staffing by 20%
- Conceived, planned, and facilitated transition of a decades-old, custom built client management system to Salesforce.
- Developed and implemented a strategic plan, and employee evaluation process for administrative staff.

POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS CHIEF

Ohio Department of Development | February 2020 – September 2020

Developed and implemented policy and communications strategies for programmatic operations and public relations efforts.

Key Accomplishments

- Leveraged \$10 million budget to support the state's tourism industry during the global pandemic to help drive its rebound from \$38 billion in 2020 to \$47 billion in 2021.
- Developed the state's color-coded COVID-19 case tracker used to inform the public about number of cases per county in Ohio.
- Shaped media strategies for state initiatives that included message development, collateral design, and digital content.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION CHIEF

Ohio Department of Development | March 2019 – February 2020

Managed 100+ staff responsible for administering over \$800 million in federal and state funded programs to assist individuals and communities.

Key Accomplishments

- Represented the department before multiple statewide stakeholder groups and state entities.
- Facilitated the review and update of the division's client notification process to resolve inaccuracies and outdated information.
- Developed a call center dashboard tool to track client caseloads, improving efficiency by 15% and reducing wait times by 20%.

EXPERIENCE

MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Ohio Department of Transportation | January 2019 – March 2019

Developed and implemented strategic communications and policy plans for DriveOhio to include outreach and education efforts which promote Ohio's advanced autonomous and connected vehicle projects.

Key Accomplishments

- Strategized with state and local teams to enable greater testing and deployment of smart vehicle technologies along the state's high profile 33 Smart Mobility Corridor (U.S. Route 33).

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Ohio Secretary of State | 2015 –2019

Developed and implemented strategic communications and outreach efforts, while directing media relations, marketing, and regional services.

Key Accomplishments

- Crafted messages for public comments, news releases, columns and talking points, while branding and creating content for social media, public information campaigns and office initiatives.
- Organized grassroots campaigns that targeted specific coalitions that raised awareness and increased engagement.

ADDITIONAL CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

State Executive & Legislative Offices | **PRESS SECRETARY**

Performed spokesperson duties and developed strategic messaging to convey complex issues in an easy-to-understand manner.

AM Radio | **NEWS ANCHOR**

Wrote, edited, and delivered hourly news reports across multiple cities,

Post-Secondary Education Advocacy | **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Managed communications and government affairs efforts for Ohio's two-year colleges association, comprised of presidents and trustees.

U.S. Congress | **CASEWORK ASSISTANT**

Responded to thousands of constituent inquiries on a variety of issues including Social Security benefits, veterans' services, and immigration.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION NOMINATING COMMITTEE

DELAWARE SOUTH NEW COMMUNITY AUTHORITY

GOVERNOR'S EXPO 2050 TASK FORCE

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE WORKFORCE BOARD

OHIO HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

OHIO PUBLICS WORKS COMMISSION

OHIO TAX CREDIT AUTHORITY

OHIO THIRD FRONTIER COMMISSION

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION NOMINATING COUNCIL

THIRD-PARTY VALIDATION

"Few professionals combine vision and execution as seamlessly as Matt does.

His expertise doesn't just meet expectations, it redefines them."

Joshua Eck, Deputy Chief of Staff & Communications Director

*Office of U.S. Senator Jon Husted
202.924.3112*

joshua.eck@husted.senate.gov

"Matt is one of the most knowledgeable and responsive professionals I know. When dealing with complex issues, Matt is my first call because he cuts through the clutter and considers the larger picture, all while remaining focused on results."

*Bobby Kovey, Managing Director
The Credo Company*

614.226.5854

rjk@credocompany.com

"Matt's leadership is as steady as it is inspiring — a rare combination of expertise and composure that turns high-pressure moments into opportunities for clarity, collaboration, and success."

*Susan Restrepo, Senior Counsel
Nationwide Insurance*

508.561.9481

susanrestrepo@gmail.com

"Matt's work is a masterclass in precision, creativity, and commitment. Every project he touches becomes a benchmark for excellence."

*Alex Dorsey, Owner & CEO
The Windsor Companies*

614.778.9873

alex.dorsey@thewindsorcompanies.com

CONNECT



<https://shorturl.at/6bOoS>



<https://x.com/mmcclellan>