

GDOT & the General Assembly owe McCaysville

How can I say that Georgia's state government doesn't give a damn about McCaysville's decades-old flooding crises?

Simple: I looked.

McCaysville has suffered four major catastrophic floods in modern history; 1951, 1964, 1990, and now 2026.

- March 29, 1951: Crested at 9.83 feet;
- October 4, 1964: Crested at 9.42 feet;
- February 16, 1990: Crested an historic 17.75 feet;
- August 2026: Crested a 9.3 feet after the Toccoa River overflowed, directly tied to drainage issues caused State Highway 5 construction.

And yet, NOT ONE emergency funding bill or any pre-planned repair/prevention bills from the Republican-controlled General Assembly.

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/search?k=MCCAYSVILLE&s=7&p=1>

From January 1, 2000 through August 10, 2026, the General Assembly has NEVER proposed or passed any legislation targeting McCaysville for:

- Flood-control or flood-mitigation infrastructure;
- Storm water/drainage improvement;
- Toccoa River riverbank stabilization;
- Floodwalls, retention facilities, culvert enlargement, or similar flood-prevention construction.

There has never even been a bill for McCaysville disaster-recovery appropriation following any of these floods. Not one. EVER.

Georgia's "leaders" have never taken ANY action whatsoever to deliver a state-funded project specifically intended to protect downtown McCaysville from flooding. This utter lack of concern isn't just a dismal failure of governing, it borders on criminal malfeasance.

The city desperately needs – and deserves – a new regulation requiring the Georgia Department of Transportation to install proper, expandable silt barriers and runoff controls, and river bank expansion and strengthening, so this never happens again. And they should absolutely NOT send the bill to McCaysville.