

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Statement from Allegheny Conference CEO Dennis Yablonsky on the Announcement of Greater Pittsburgh as One of 12 New “Manufacturing Communities” Under the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership**

**(PITTSBURGH – July 9, 2015)** - “Greater Pittsburgh has long been revered as a region that makes things, and I suggest that includes making the most of a tremendous opportunity, such as applying for – and being awarded – designation as a manufacturing community under the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Program (IMCP), an initiative of the Obama Administration.

“We could not agree more with U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker’s comment that ‘an IMCP designation is an important signal to potential investors that these communities are a good place to spend their money ...’ For six of the past eight years, manufacturing has been the Pittsburgh region’s most active sector when it comes to business investment deals, including manufacturers locating or expanding facilities here. Manufacturing-related investment deals are creating and retaining high-wage jobs that support a robust supply chain. With the IMCP designation, our aim is to accelerate these across the greater region.

“The [Allegheny Conference on Community Development](#) is proud to stand alongside Catalyst Connection, the lead organization for this application, and other co-applicants and supportive partners from Pittsburgh, western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Dedicated work by the partners to assemble a compelling application for designation as The Greater Pittsburgh Metals Manufacturing Community allows our greater region to be formally recognized for its historic strength in the sector, in addition to our innovation acumen which has propelled manufacturing here to an advanced level. With this designation the Greater Pittsburgh Metals Manufacturing Community will be poised to receive coordinated support for our regional manufacturing strategy from eleven federal agencies.

“Metals and materials have been at the heart of Pittsburgh’s manufacturing output since the birth of the industry on the shores of our three rivers some 150 years ago. They put the region’s name and brand on products that helped to build America, not to mention the global economy.”

[Read the press release from City of Pittsburgh Mayor William Peduto here.](#)

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