

ANNUAL REPORT

08



ALLEGHENY CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ITS AFFILIATES

GREATER PITTSBURGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY LEAGUE OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

PITTSBURGH REGIONAL ALLIANCE

pittsburgh
imagine what you can do here.™

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Founded in 1944, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development is one of the nation's leading economic and community development organizations. Combining strong private sector leadership with commitment from public sector partners, we work to stimulate economic growth and improve the Pittsburgh region's quality of life. Our strategic focus is on creating a more competitive business climate and marketing the Pittsburgh region for investment and job creation. The Conference relies upon the Regional Investors Council – leaders of more than 300 companies and organizations – to provide time, talent and resources to advance our agenda.

Three affiliated organizations, each staffed by the Conference, provide research and analysis, advocacy and marketing to realize the vision of the Conference leadership.

The **PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY LEAGUE OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA** provides public policy research and analysis on the most critical issues for our region's competitiveness.

The **GREATER PITTSBURGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**, working with private and public sector partners, serves as our region's chief advocate at all levels of government to secure public sector investment and legislative and regulatory improvements to our business climate.

The **PITTSBURGH REGIONAL ALLIANCE (PRA)**, a 10-county regional economic development partnership, markets southwestern Pennsylvania to companies across the region and around the world to attract capital investment and stimulate job creation.

THE PITTSBURGH REGION



FROM THE 2009-2011 CHAIR



The Pittsburgh region has made real and important progress in recent years, from billion-dollar-plus corporate investments to the positive national and international media attention inspired by Pittsburgh 250, the yearlong celebration of our region as a center of both world-changing history and world-changing innovation.

I want to thank James E. Rohr, chairman and CEO of PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., for his leadership as Conference chair for 2006-2008 and as chair of the Pittsburgh 250 Commission. Jim led the effort to refocus the Conference agenda; he brought an unparalleled passion and commitment to promoting and improving our region. I look forward to building on these achievements, assuring our region's continued prosperity and working with you to make it a reality.

We have many worthy assets to recommend the Pittsburgh region. Home to "America's Most Livable City," our region boasts a diverse, high-tech economy; a dedicated and skilled workforce; affordable cost of living; and an enviable quality of life, from world-class arts and culture to championship sports teams. Let's leverage our many assets to tackle our challenges from a position of strength.

To fully unlock the potential of our region, especially in difficult economic times, we must make greater strides to improve the competitiveness of our business climate and be aggressive in opening doors to opportunity for our children and grandchildren.

Our 2009-2011 Agenda is focused on the priorities that sustain and nurture that competitiveness. We are fighting to keep the business climate competitive by staving off tax increases; making continued progress toward simpler, more cost-effective governance; pushing for infrastructure projects that will improve logistics and access for regional employers; and urging those employers and talented workers to imagine – and prepare for – a bright future here.

I'm honored and humbled to serve as the 2009-2011 Conference chair and look forward to working with all of our partners to tackle our challenges and create opportunities.

Sincerely,

John P. Surma

Chair, Allegheny Conference on

Community Development

Chairman & CEO, United States Steel Corporation



FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



As I prepare to transition back into the private sector, looking back on this past year has particular significance for me – not only because of the successful culmination of Pittsburgh 250, the creation of thousands of new jobs and the achievement of several critical business climate improvements, but also because the close of 2008 marks five years since my tenure as CEO began.

When I came to Pittsburgh five years ago, having advised economic development organizations all over the nation, I was particularly intrigued by this opportunity because of the innovative model I'd be helping to implement. While the Conference organizations had been working in partnership for many years, our region's private sector leadership felt we could do better by bringing together our organizations' civic and economic development functions. A more cohesive structure would better enable us to address the needs of our "customers," existing regional employers, those considering expansion and relocation, and their current and prospective employees.

Thus, our continuous improvement model was created – and it sure is working. Through this national best practice model, we capitalize on the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance's acclaimed marketing and project management expertise, the Chamber's fierce advocacy, and the Economy League's comprehensive research and analysis, all under the umbrella of the Conference, which has focused on the pressing civic and economic issues of the day for 65 years. We work together to enhance the region's economic prosperity and quality of life with our Regional Investors at the center of all that we

do. These private sector leaders provide the time, talent and resources that keep our continuous improvement "wheel" turning.

On page 5, you'll read about how the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance has exceeded its three-year project win goal, having assisted 105 companies in creating more than 26,000 jobs. Furthermore, the amount of annual capital investment since 2006 has increased more than 10-fold – from \$120 million to \$1.5 billion. This is a testament to our continued and enhanced focus on the competitiveness improvements and economic development opportunities with the greatest regional returns. While we had the historic Westinghouse Electric Company headquarters expansion in 2007, we welcomed a landmark alternative energy manufacturing expansion by German-owned Flabeg in 2008. Plus, Pittsburgh 250 provided a global spotlight for these exciting developments and many more.

Former Pennsylvania Community and Economic Development Secretary Dennis Yablonsky will succeed me as CEO of the Conference. I offer him my best wishes as he takes the helm of one of our nation's premier civic leadership organizations.

Thank you for helping us to build an ever-better Pittsburgh region.

Sincerely,

Michael Langley

Chief Executive Officer

Allegheny Conference on Community Development

2006-2008 PROGRESS

Strengthened by a 65-year history and propelled by today's leading employers, the Conference is focused on five goals that trigger regional transformation:

Stimulating new business investments.

- As a 10-county economic development hub, we are nationally recognized for our global outreach and project management expertise.

An improved business climate.

- We create the solutions for the tax and regulatory challenges that inhibit our region's employers – and advocate for change at all levels of government.

Targeted transportation and infrastructure investments.

- We open doors to growth by convening strategic partnerships and pushing long-term projects to fruition.

Simpler, more cost-effective governance.

- We roll up our sleeves and work with elected officials to streamline our government, reducing duplication and improving its responsiveness.

Positioning the region as an attractive workplace for a diverse workforce.

- We are focused on creating a skilled future workforce while pooling regional resources to attract today's top-notch talent.

*** SPECIAL INITIATIVE: Pittsburgh 250** See page 11.



*Pittsburgh Regional Alliance :
"2007 Top U.S. Economic Development Group"
– Site Selection, May 2008*

*Pittsburgh 250 Ambassador Tour of Europe:
"2008 Excellence in Economic Development Award"
– International Economic Development Council (IEDC)*

*Southpointe II business park is home to
national energy leader CONSOL Energy Inc.'s
new LEED-certified world headquarters facility.*



STIMULATING NEW BUSINESS INVESTMENTS

The Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA), the marketing affiliate of the Allegheny Conference, has recently strengthened its business development efforts in two key areas: **regional partnership and collaboration** and **expanded worldwide outreach**.

Partnership: Three Years, 100+ Wins, \$2.2 Billion Invested

From 2006-2008, the PRA worked with its 50-member partnership across 10 counties to directly assist more than 100 companies in expanding or locating in the Pittsburgh region – resulting in commitments to create or retain more than 26,400 jobs and invest \$2.2 billion (compared to \$432 million invested in 2003-2005).

The PRA set out to double its 2003-2005 average annual win count of 20 by the end of 2008. Not only did it exceed this goal (with 41), but annual capital investment reached record levels during 2006-2008, exceeding \$1.5 billion in 2008 alone.

Worldwide Outreach: Regional Marketing, Global Scale

The PRA has refined an effective and unique business development mission model that engages regional stakeholders in the marketing process. 2008 initiatives included: the *Pittsburgh 250 Ambassador Tour of Europe*, in partnership with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra* (PSO); Opportunity China; Opportunity India; Opportunity Alberta, Canada; and a Stockholm, Sweden mission in partnership with Ericsson and the Pittsburgh Penguins.

** Key connections were made during the Tour, the second successful PRA/PSO partnership, that later led to establishing nonstop regional air service to Europe. See page 7.*

The PRA Mission Model:

- Create a delegation inclusive of local companies, economic development organizations and other partners.
- Leverage, when relevant, an extraordinary regional quality-of-life asset (i.e. the PSO or Pittsburgh Penguins) to promote economic development interest.
- Hold individual and group meetings with corporate relocation/expansion prospects.
- Foster export opportunities and promote other connections for corporate delegates.
- Bolster existing international relationships (i.e. regional alumni, in-country companies with regional ties, 'sister' city partners, U.S. Embassies).

	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Located PRA Projects	29	35	41	105
Created	1,940	3,007	5,343	10,290
Jobs Retained	1,414	5,692	9,064	16,170
Total	3,354	8,699	14,407	26,460
Capital Investment (\$mil)	\$120.1	\$552.1	\$1,547.2	\$2,219.4

ENERGIZING A BIG DEAL: Long-Term Partnership Leads to \$30 Million Alternative Energy Investment, 300 New Jobs



Germany-based Flabeg, a global glass processing leader specializing in high-tech glass and mirror applications, is creating up to 300 new jobs and building its first U.S. parabolic solar mirror manufacturing facility at Clinton Commerce Park, the 240-acre site near Pittsburgh International Airport. Solar mirrors produced at the \$30 million, 209,000-square-foot facility will support electricity generation worldwide. The project reinforces our region's position as a global supply chain leader in clean energy solutions, an enhancement of our historic strengths in coal, natural gas and commercial nuclear energy.

This project – the largest start-up manufacturing operation secured in the region this decade – may never have happened without the ongoing

work of the Conference organizations and their public sector partners.

In 2003, the Conference helped bring together an unprecedented coalition – the Tri-County Airport Partnership (T-CAP) – to collaboratively tackle airport area problems that were stalling regional economic growth. Staffed by the Conference and headed by the Allegheny County Airport Authority and elected leadership from Allegheny, Beaver and Washington counties, T-CAP secured the infrastructure investment needed to bridge transportation links and lay critical water and sewer lines, with instrumental assistance from the Commonwealth's Business in Our Sites program. In 2001, the Conference advocated for a "Business in Our Sites" approach to then-candidate and now Governor Edward G. Rendell. After his election, Governor Rendell supported implementation of the program and it has been an important element in state economic development policy ever since.

Today, more than 1,500 acres of business sites are either shovel-ready or under development in the airport area to accommodate company expansions and relocations to the region. Innovative partnerships and strategic public sector investment have led Flabeg – and many other companies aided by the PRA's individualized project management – to grow and invest in the Pittsburgh region.

"We're pleased to add to the region's thriving green technology and advanced manufacturing industries and to keep the company of some 350 foreign-owned companies already here. Our location decision was simplified by generous and cooperative assistance from the PRA and county and state officials, as well as the existence of pad-ready parcels near the airport."

– Axel Buchholz, CEO, Flabeg Group

AN IMPROVED BUSINESS CLIMATE

How Competitiveness Improvements have Laid the Groundwork for Billions in Investment

United States Steel Corporation and Allegheny Technologies Incorporated have each announced plans for billion-dollar-plus investments, the largest of their kind in the region since the construction of Pittsburgh International Airport. The Allegheny Conference helped to make these projects possible by removing barriers that stood in their way.

U. S. Steel and Allegheny Technologies are not alone. Other major recent expansions include Westinghouse Electric Company; MEDRAD, Inc.; American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.; Respiroics, Inc. (now Philips Home Health Care Services); Eaton Corporation; and Flabeg, which recently broke ground on a major new manufacturing facility (see page 5).

Energy Cost Structure Improvement

Due to unintended effects of electricity deregulation, Pennsylvania has been at a major disadvantage to competitor states for investment projects. In 2006, research by the Economy League revealed that the inability of large industrial electricity consumers to secure long-term, fixed-rate contracts with providers of their choice was a major impediment to increased industrial investment in the region.



Fighting for a More Competitive Tax Climate

As a founding member of the statewide CompetePA coalition, the Conference has worked to improve two of the most uncompetitive aspects of Pennsylvania's Corporate Net Income tax – the cap on net operating loss carryforwards and the sales factor apportionment. We've also fought to maintain the previously legislated phase-out of the capital stock and franchise tax. And we helped to see that no new taxes were placed on employers by the Commonwealth. These efforts amounted to \$1 billion in tax reductions for employers during the past three years.

The Conference works closely with the CompetePA coalition to enable Pennsylvania employers to speak with one voice about priorities for change and the negative impacts of new taxes on our region's economic prosperity.

Visit www.CompetePA.com for more information.

In early 2007, the Chamber began laying the groundwork for change by educating lawmakers and lobbying for passage of legislation that would create a more competitive electricity rate environment.

For a company like U. S. Steel, energy is a large operating cost. The company was suffering from fluctuating prices in an unregulated market (despite the company's consistent use levels), and the energy costs at its Mon Valley Works were among the least competitive of its nationwide operations.

As for Allegheny Technologies, Chairman, President and CEO Pat Hassey publicly announced in July 2007 that a failure to pass legislation to address this problem would "at a minimum chill and perhaps even kill capital investment, lead to reductions in industrial operations and accelerate manufacturing job losses across Pennsylvania."

Legislators finally heard the call and passed The Electric Generation and Customer Choice Act, clearing the way for large industrial users to negotiate long-term, fixed-rate contracts with the provider of their choice and removing a potential roadblock to our economic prosperity.

Improved Air Quality Permitting

Unlike those in much of the Commonwealth, manufacturers in Allegheny County must secure air quality permits from the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) rather than the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Economy League research revealed that some projects were being delayed months, even years, by inefficient ACHD permitting operations. In April 2008 – with input from the Allegheny Conference, industrial employers and numerous environmental organizations – Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato announced a comprehensive overhaul of the ACHD air quality permitting function to eliminate a backlog of permits and update air monitoring

technology and regulations. While the effort will take time, the County's commitment to improving the process is clear.



U. S. Steel: *Leading manufacturer of steel for the automotive, appliance and construction industries.*

Regional Employees: 4,500

Recent Investment: *\$1.2 billion in its Clairton Plant to enhance its environmental performance and to help ensure the long-term viability of the U. S. Steel Mon Valley Works.*

Results: *Cleaner air for Mon Valley residents; security for thousands of company employees and their families; the creation of 600 new construction jobs.*

Allegheny Technologies: *Its advanced metals – titanium and specialty alloys – are used in the aerospace and defense, chemical process, oil and gas, electrical energy and medical markets.*

Regional Employees: 2,900

Recent Investment: *\$1.16 billion expansion of local operations (construction of a new hot rolling plant and consolidation of its Natrona and Brackenridge electrical steel melt shops).*

Results: *Increased production at the new facility could eventually spur growth beyond the construction jobs that will be created.*

TARGETED TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Airport Area Continues to Take Off

More than 1,500 acres of shovel-ready sites are under development or ready for investment near Pittsburgh International Airport. And the Tri-County Airport Partnership (T-CAP), staffed by the Allegheny Conference, brought together the elected leadership of Allegheny, Beaver and Washington counties and the Allegheny County Airport Authority to help make it happen.

The ribbon has been cut on another project championed by T-CAP, the \$67 million “missing ramps” project linking Interstate 79 and the Parkway West (I-279/Route 22/30), with improved traffic flow and access to airport area business sites. This key connection for development efforts was deemed “the region’s highest transportation priority” by a national panel of Urban Land Institute experts in 2003.



Access and infrastructure are growing at Pittsburgh International Airport

Regional Partnership Opens “Gateway to Europe”



“The region is celebrating the return of nonstop European air service at Pittsburgh International Airport. It’s more than a Delta Airlines flight to Paris; it re-opens a critical gate-

way to European destinations for our region’s strong global business base and enhances our ability to attract new investment. Accomplishing this longstanding goal was made possible only through an innovative regional partnership in which I, as an Allegheny Conference Regional Investor and leader of a global firm, was proud to play an active role.

In 2004, we lost nonstop overseas service as a result of tumult in the air industry. The

Allegheny Conference responded by convening and staffing the Regional Air Service Partnership, a one-of-a-kind national best practice model in economic development, which I was honored to chair. The Partnership – made up of the Conference, the Allegheny County Airport Authority and Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato – performed market analyses that demonstrated the high demand for nonstop European service.

That research strengthened our case as we approached airline executives worldwide. We ramped up focus in 2008, partnering with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra on the Pittsburgh 250 Ambassador Tour of Europe to meet with Northwest and KLM airlines in Amsterdam.

It took a few months, but those meetings paid off. In mid-September, Delta called. The company was in the process of acquiring Northwest and had heard of our desire for international service. Because the Partnership

was already in place, we were able to craft an agreement in a matter of weeks that shared the risk with Delta on an investment that is critical to the region’s future. Now that non-stop service to Paris’ Charles de Gaulle airport will begin this June, the Partnership, under the leadership of Peter Kalis, is working to promote the new service and plan for the inaugural flight.

I’m looking forward to taking a seat on the first flight! But, more importantly, I’m pleased to know that our sustained engagement on the issues that matter most to our region’s businesses has helped to improve our connections to the global economy and has contributed to the long-term prosperity of the place we call home.”

– Daniel I. Booker, Partner, Reed Smith LLP



The Conference and its partners worked to secure air service to Europe – Begins June 3, 2009

SIMPLER, MORE COST-EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE



Tax Reform Could Reclaim \$237M Annually, Eases Business Burden

Earned income tax (EIT) collection reform was passed into law in summer 2008, benefiting employers, workers, municipalities and school districts across the Commonwealth, while creating a new opportunity to attract business investment. Act 32 of 2008 streamlines and standardizes EIT collection practices, reducing the number of collectors from more than 560 to 69 and potentially recouping up to \$237 million in lost revenues annually. This reform began with the research and analysis of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and the Economy League. It succeeded thanks in large part to the coalition building and advocacy efforts of the Chamber, along with strong private sector engagement and partnership with DCED and others.

Progress for Streamlined Government: City and County Consider Consolidation

Having researched government operations and consolidation models for many years, the Conference supported the Citizens Advisory Committee on the Efficiency and Effectiveness of City-County Government as an ongoing source of research and analysis on consolidation issues. The 2008 release of the Committee's report recommended that the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County:

- further intensify existing functional cooperation;
- formalize that cooperation by signing a "cooperation compact;" and
- put the issue of structural consolidation before voters at the earliest appropriate time.

The Conference supports these recommendations, provided testimony at subsequent legislative hearings, made presentations and continues to take an active part in this regional conversation.

Working Against a Pending Pension Crisis

While underfunded public pensions are a pressing issue across the nation, one-quarter of the country's public employee pension plans are actually located in Pennsylvania. The Economy League has been conducting research and analysis to develop strategies for municipalities to make good on their employee retirement promises while continuing to deliver services. In 2008, the Economy League made recommendations based on its findings to the Pennsylvania Senate; it is educating other stakeholders and mobilizing a statewide coalition around the issue. Meanwhile, the Economy League is also a member of an Institute of Politics (IOP) subcommittee, pooling its independent research with the IOP's to continue investigation into possible solutions.



"It is rewarding to have had a personal hand, as an Allegheny Conference Regional Investor, in bringing accountability and efficiency to the statewide earned income tax process, a great example of how we

can reduce the fragmentation of our local government. As a national firm with offices across the state, our new ability to file just one claim with one collector lifts a significant administrative burden and allows us to focus on the more pressing issues of our business."

— Thomas L. VanKirk
CEO, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

POSITIONING THE REGION AS AN ATTRACTIVE WORKPLACE FOR A DIVERSE WORKFORCE



pittsburgh regional compact
connecting employers + students

Pittsburgh Regional Compact Helps Build Tomorrow's Workforce

To address the persistent issue that regional employers are struggling to find skilled applicants to fill their job openings while students believe they cannot find jobs in our region, the Conference officially launched the Pittsburgh Regional Compact in November 2007. The initiative is a coordinated approach across the region's 10 counties to prepare our students for tomorrow's jobs in the region through creating partnerships among employers, educators and students.

In its first year, the Compact worked with 130 employers reaching more than 32,000 students in more than 50 school districts, enhanced and assisted by Compact partners – employers, school districts and workforce development organizations – across the region.

Visit www.PittsburghRegionalCompact.org for more information.

New Job Posting Web Site Launched

To enhance access to and publicize available career opportunities, the Allegheny Conference launched www.ImagineMyNewJob.com. The Web site automatically retrieves all job postings in the region – from big search engines to individual company site postings – and makes them available in a single place. This allows anybody in Pittsburgh or around the world to discover nearly all of the avail-

able jobs in the region and connects them with information about southwestern Pennsylvania as an attractive place to live and work.

During its first month, ImagineMyNewJob.com attracted more than 8,000 visitors. An outreach campaign to encourage workers in other areas to come to Pittsburgh included outdoor billboards, direct mail, media relations, podcasting and social media tactics.



"I'm passionate about the Pittsburgh Regional Compact because it answers the critical question: 'where is the next generation's workforce going to come from?' The Compact is connecting employers and educators to provide career education ... real world career education that makes students aware of the range of jobs and careers in the region and shows them how to prepare for these opportunities. It's win-win. Compact partners' efforts across all 10 counties are preparing a talent pool to fill tomorrow's workforce pipeline. At the same time, young people have the chance to actually imagine – and create – their futures here."

– David J. Malone, CLU CHFC
President & CEO, Gateway Financial Group, Inc.



celebrate

CELEBRATING A REGION

Pittsburgh 250 set out to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the naming of Pittsburgh by changing perceptions; providing lasting legacies to future generations; and, most important of all, encouraging a shared sense of past, present and future among the people of 14 counties of southwestern Pennsylvania.

In 2005, The Allegheny Conference agreed to facilitate the initiative in partnership with the Senator John Heinz History Center and VisitPittsburgh at the invitation of the Allegheny County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh.



"What an amazing year! Through Pittsburgh 250 we celebrated yesterday, today and tomorrow. We asked everyone to "imagine what you can do here" and raised the visibility of our region (with more than 1 billion media impressions worldwide) as a great place to visit, live, work and play.

An estimated 1 million people participated in Pittsburgh 250 signature events and projects. From a big-time international bike race (the American Eagle Outfitters® Tour of Pennsylvania, Presented by Highmark Healthy High 5®); to a community trail ride (The PNC Legacy Trail Ride); to the Pittsburgh 250 Festival of Lights; Reunion 2008; Pittsburgh 250 & Fit; 100 Community Connections projects celebrating pride and progress; and a refurbished Point State Park and Great Allegheny Passage trail for the next generation, Pittsburgh 250 showcased all that our wonderful region – home of America's Most Livable City – has to offer.

We've shed our smoky image for green leadership, high-tech and high-art, while retaining a distinct sense of community and place. We're proud of where we came from, but we can't wait to see what the next 250 holds!"

– Pittsburgh 250 Commission Chair James E. Rohr
Chairman & CEO, The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.



250 pittsburgh

Imagine what you can do here.™

A Celebration with Lasting Regional Impact: Signature Projects

Pittsburgh's story began with George Washington's trails to our region and his destination, the Forks of the Ohio, today's Point State Park. The Pittsburgh 250 signature projects commemorate that history, bring Washington's experience to the present day and provide important legacies to future generations.



A Great American Trail

"With the support of Pittsburgh 250 and the Allegheny Conference, we worked hard with the Allegheny Trail Alliance to secure all but a half-mile of the missing nine miles of right-of-way of the Great Allegheny Passage – the 335-mile trail that connects Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. The Great Allegheny Passage, which follows Washington's first trail to Pittsburgh, never reaches more than a 2-percent grade, making it 'the most accessible great trail experience in the world.' Through the collective Pittsburgh 250 effort, the Allegheny Trail Alliance has completed four new miles of trail, with the balance under construction. Best of all, we've paved the way for a unique recreational experience for all ages and generations to come."

– Linda McKenna Boxx, President, Allegheny Trail Alliance

Pennsylvania History in Action – and Print

"French & Indian War, Inc. published Pennsylvania's Forbes Trail: Gateways and Getaways Along the Legendary Route from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, a unique heritage driving guide to the Commonwealth, commemorating the Forbes expedition of 1758 that led to the naming of Pittsburgh. It features one of the best collections of historic sites, outdoor recreation, travel amenities and family destinations in the nation. It's been very well received – 7,000 of the 10,000 copies first published were sold in the first five months. The guide is available for purchase at www.ForbesTrail.org."

– French & Indian War 250 Inc. Chair C. J. Queenan, Jr.
Senior Counsel, K&L Gates, LLP



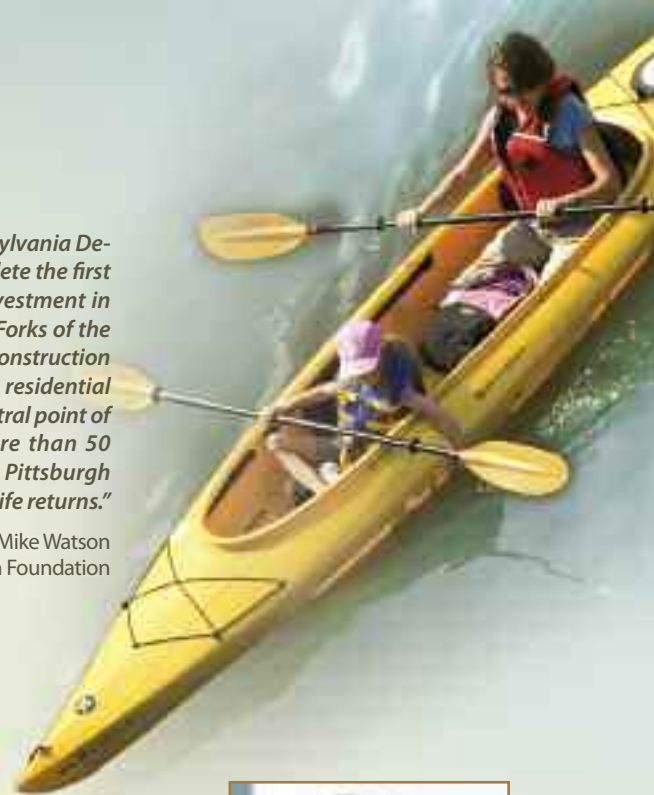
CELEBRATING A REGION



Point State Park: A Revitalized “Front Yard”

“The Riverlife Task Force has worked closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to complete the first phase of the Point State Park project, the largest park investment in Pennsylvania history, and Washington’s destination, ‘The Forks of the Ohio.’ Funding for the second phase has been secured and construction is under way to provide a new ‘front yard’ for the growing residential neighborhood of downtown Pittsburgh. Having been a central point of revitalization during the region’s first Renaissance more than 50 years ago, transforming Point State Park to reflect today’s Pittsburgh region is a fitting historic tribute with long-term quality of life returns.”

– Signature Projects Committee Co-Chair Mike Watson
Senior Vice President, Richard King Mellon Foundation



Connecting Communities Across 14 Counties

“I am honored to have co-chaired Community Connections along with Cathy Lewis Long (Executive Director of The Sprout Fund) and George Miles (Conference Regional Investor and board member, President and CEO of WQED Multimedia). Through this unprecedented initiative, administered by The Sprout Fund, we awarded grants for 100 small-scale, community-based projects in 14 counties totaling \$1 million, while engaging more than 270 citizens in a broad and comprehensive community decision-making process to select grantees among some 500 proposals. Those selected supported ‘Pride and Progress’ in southwestern Pennsylvania, through everything from historical fortification and contemporary art to environmental heritage and the ‘neighborliness’ of Pittsburgh. But the most important – and inspiring – outcome of the initiative are the seeds now planted across 14 counties from which new regional relationships have already begun to grow. That groundwork will be instrumental in making great things happen here throughout the next 250 years.”

– Community Connections Co-Chair Aradhna M. Dhandra
President and CEO, Leadership Pittsburgh Inc.





THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE PROGRESS

We extend our profound appreciation for the engaged leadership, dedication and hard work of our Board members, Regional Investors and other regional partners. Your time, talent and resources advance our agenda, improve our regional economic competitiveness and enhance our quality of life.

Because of your partnership and commitment, our children and grandchildren can imagine a bright future here.

Join the following group of regional changemakers.

Contact us today to become personally involved in improving southwestern Pennsylvania.

ALLEGHENY CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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