PITTSBURGH NAMED FINALIST FOR NATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC) and Siemens Corporation announced that Pittsburgh is one of nine finalists for the 2011 Siemens Sustainable Community Award, Mid-size Community category. Now in its fourth year, the Siemens Sustainable Community Awards honors communities around the country for taking tremendous steps to improve quality of life, achieve economic soundness, be a steward of the environment, and increase the ability to sustain a successful community for generations to come.

“Over the last 30 years, Pittsburgh has undergone an economic, environmental and quality of life transformation,” Mayor Ravenstahl said. “As the eyes of the world look at Pittsburgh’s accomplishments, this latest recognition by the U.S. Chamber and Siemens is further evidence of our City’s turnaround.”

Pittsburgh’s application for the award focused on the reclamation and redevelopment of numerous contaminated brownfield and riverfront sites; the Pittsburgh Climate Initiative and the City’s commitment to purchasing renewable energy; Pittsburgh’s rich history in pioneering the “green” movement; and the region’s diversified economy that includes companies focused on creating green technologies.

“We appreciate the recognition of the City of Pittsburgh and its surrounding region as a finalist for the 2011 Siemens Sustainable Community Award. The people of our region are all about collaboration. Over the past 65 years we’ve worked together to clean up our air and water, reinvest in our riverfronts, redevelop our brownfields, and position Pittsburgh as a green building leader. More recently, we have set goals for improving the sustainability of our community and we are committed to making it happen,” said Barbara McNees, president, Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce.

In the 2011 nomination season, more than 80 communities – representing 40 states – applied for the award. The 2011 committee selecting nine finalists comprised:

- Donald J. Borut, Executive Director of the National League of
Cities
- Alan Greenberger, Acting Deputy Mayor, Planning and Economic Development, Philadelphia
- Professor Leonard Lodish, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
- Joel Makower, Chairman and Executive Editor of GreenBiz Group Inc.
- Joe Sibilia, Chairman of CSRwire.

The winner in each category (Small, Mid-size and Large Community) will be announced on April 13 at the Chamber BCLC’s National Conference on Corporate Community Investment, held in Philadelphia. Full information about the Siemens Sustainable Community Awards is available at http://sustainablecommunity.uschamber.com