

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

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RAAC Receives Funding for 14 Projects from Commonwealth Financing Authority

PITTSBURGH – Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald announced today that the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC) has received more than \$3.4 million in gaming funds from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for community and economic development initiatives throughout the county.

“We are extremely fortunate to have so many community and economic development initiatives in the county that have received funding through GEDTF. Whether improving a business, facility, program or park, each of these projects plays a part in building a strong, stable region,” said Fitzgerald. “The funding available through casino revenues allow for projects with significant regional impacts to move forward that may not have otherwise been able to advance so quickly.”

The funds originate from the Pennsylvania Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund Program (GEDTF) which funds community and economic development projects in Allegheny County through revenues generated from all casinos. The GEDTF Program provides grants for single-year and multi-year projects that promote development including economic, infrastructure and community improvements, job training, public safety, and public interest.

The 14 projects include:

- Stemmion, Inc. (City of Pittsburgh): \$500,000 to expand its facilities to include a commercial-scale, biological manufacturing facility from which it will launch its first clinical project; the funding will be assist in covering activities related to the schematic designs of the facility. When complete, the project will create 496 new full-time jobs.
- The Woodlands Foundation, Inc. (Marshall Township): \$200,000 to provide for a multi-purpose building on the campus that is technologically current and would accommodate program and administrative staff under the same roof, provide additional residential housing, as well as conference and meeting space.
- North Fayette Township: \$162,570 to construct a new North Fayette Community Center and LifeSpan Senior Resource Center including gymnasium space, an indoor track, a party/program rooms, children’s programming rooms, a banquet room, an indoor play structure, parks and recreation department offices, a fitness area and public space for meetings and relaxation. Funds will also be used to update the infrastructure of an existing building into which the LifeSpan Senior Resource Center will locate.
- Allegheny River Towns Enterprise Zone, Inc. and ACTION-Housing, Inc. (Boroughs of Millvale, Etna, Sharpsburg): \$100,000 for the construction and rehabilitation of vacant lots and blighted property into sustainable housing, targeting areas of market opportunity and investment need in the three communities. Up to 15 units of housing will serve qualified low-moderate income households and provide housing in an LMI census tract in Sharpsburg.

- InVision Human Services (Pine Township): \$400,000 to expand an existing facility to provide for a new Outpatient Mental Health Program with adequate therapy and office space for staff and clients utilizing the program.
- Allegheny Land Trust (Franklin Park Borough): \$250,000 to acquire 178 wooded acres in Franklin Park Borough for the preservation of green space to abate flooding, enhance storm water absorption, preserve nearby trout fishery and promote indigenous recreational opportunities.
- Municipality of Bethel Park: \$465,000 to support three projects proposed for Bethel Park community parks to enhance the quality of life including (1) a sports court in Millennium Park; (2) a “pickleball” court in Simmons Park; and, (3) playground equipment at Village Green Park.
- Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre (City of Pittsburgh): \$50,000 to construct three new dance studios including a performance space with dressing rooms, storage space, offices and a gallery/reception area. The expansion will allow the Theatre to expand their programming and enrollment.
- The Historical Society of Mt. Lebanon (Mt. Lebanon): \$200,000 towards the purchase and renovation of the historic former McMillan House to an ADA accessible location for the Mt. Lebanon History Center, programming and archives facility.
- Pittsburgh Symphony, Inc. (City of Pittsburgh): \$360,000 to assist in a multi-year renovation to its facility, Heinz Hall; specifically, funding will be used for accessibility and energy efficiency projects. Twenty-seven temporary construction jobs will be created by this project.
- Borough of West Mifflin: \$200,000 to construct 850 feet of new retaining and slope walls along Curry Hollow Road to ameliorate stream erosion, including related roadway and guide rail repairs and replacement.
- Innovu, LLC (City of Pittsburgh): \$155,000 to expand a cloud-based software solution for employers to better control their healthcare costs, while improving the health outcomes of their employee base.
- Allegheny Valley North Council of Governments/Cheswick Borough: \$75,000 to remove 22 existing catch basins along Pillow Avenue and replace them with precast 3’ x 2’ catch basins with the requisite remedial paving, line striping, road reconstruction and maintenance of relevant appurtenances.
- Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (City of Pittsburgh): \$100,000 to reconstruct a historic fountain from 1868 and restore approximately 7.5 acres of the surrounding promenade in Allegheny Commons, listed in the National Register of Historical Places.

The Commonwealth Financing Authority was established in 2004 as an independent agency of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to administer Pennsylvania’s economic stimulus packages.

Established in 1950, the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County assists in the generation, stimulation and management of economic growth. The Authority also reviews and makes submissions on behalf of County projects to GEDTF.

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