

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:42 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:41:58 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Peter E. Gilmore |
| Email | pgilmore.gilmore@gmail.com |
| Subject | Episodic air pollution regulation |
| Message | <p>The unavoidable fact is that too many people are dying unnecessarily due to air pollution. The equivocations and excuses of polluters cannot alter that reality. Air quality in Allegheny County is an emergency that needs to be addressed. To our shame, Allegheny County has the fourth most air-pollution-related deaths of any metro area in the nation.</p> <p>As you know, a study by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health found that in Western Pennsylvania overall, there were 14,636 more deaths from 2000 to 2008 than national mortality rates predicted, including 600 additional lung cancer deaths. Communities downwind from pollution sources showed higher mortality rates for respiratory, heart disease, and lung cancer. Here in Allegheny County, we have twice the risk of lung cancer—and in some of our communities, the cancer risk is 20 times higher.</p> <p>The unacceptably high levels of air pollution mean people are getting sicker—more and worse asthma and COPD, worsened heart disease, more lung cancer and more bladder cancer. Our sick skies mean people are sicker and dying too soon.</p> <p>Health Board's recommended air quality permit fees are a good start. More is needed. Polluters must follow the law and clean up the messes that threaten our lives.</p> |

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Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:35 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:35:28 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Clara Weibel |
| Email | clara.weibel@gmail.com |
| Subject | Board of Health Testimony |
| Message | <p>My name is Clara, I am 23 and I have been a resident of Allegheny County my entire life. I have difficulty breathing and get headaches during air inversion events due to the region's industrial pollution--even if I stay inside my apartment as the AQI data suggests during these events. Finishing college during a pandemic has tested my ability to do so--during lockdown, I had to make choices between my sanity and my lungs, as going outside would allow me to see people during lockdown while exposing myself to the PM2.5 in our air. I need episodic air pollution regulation in order to secure my future in greater Pittsburgh. Local polluters regularly lie to the public: they must be regulated and held accountable to the law.</p> <p>In addition, as our region continue's to have poor air quality, people deserve public healthcare that takes our environmental conditions into consideration. This would include Paid Sick Leave, which only makes sense for a region where we have poor air quality that makes us sick.</p> |

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Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:58 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:57:38 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Mike Boyd |
| Email | mboyd50@gmail.com |
| Subject | Mon Valley Episode Rule and Coke Oven Regulations |
| Message | <p>Dear Members of the Board of Health,</p> <p>This comment is jointly provided by Mike Boyd and Sylvia Martinelli, who both sit on the Wilkins Township Board of Commissioners (Sylvia is Board President).</p> <p>Air quality is one of the major regional issues that negatively impacts residents in Wilkins Township. We believe that our residents have a right to clean air. If adopted by the Allegheny County Health Department, the recommendations in the attached letter below that address outdated coke ovens and pollution episodes would have an immediate and direct positive impact on the health and well-being of Wilkins residents. We urge the health department to take action on both issues to make our region a safer and healthier place to live! This letter has been signed by 26 local elected officials from throughout Allegheny County.</p> <p>Best,</p> <p>Mike Boyd</p> <p>-----</p> <p>May 3, 2021</p> <p>Dr. Debra Bogen, Director Allegheny County Health Department 542 Fourth Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15219</p> <p>Dear Dr. Bogen,</p> <p>As local, county, and state elected officials in Allegheny County we are writing concerning the Allegheny County Health Department's recent proposals for new air quality regulations related to Coke Ovens and to address episodes of unhealthy air quality in Allegheny County. We applaud ACHD for taking the</p> |

| Field | Value |
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| | <p>initiative to address longstanding air quality problems that greatly impact the health of thousands of vulnerable residents in Allegheny County and especially in the Mon Valley, including children, seniors, and residents of all ages with respiratory and cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>Recent episodes of poor air quality in Allegheny County, such as the week-long period last November when state and federal clean air standards were exceeded, continue to demonstrate that we must do more to control dangerous air pollution from industrial sources, in particular from U.S. Steel's facilities which represent the single largest air pollution source in Allegheny County.</p> <p>ACHD's proposals to address this problem with new rules on Coke Ovens as well as the proposed rule to require pollution sources to take action during poor air quality episodes represent a step in the right direction. However, we are concerned that this step is not enough to provide the relief our constituents need to protect the health of their families.</p> <p>We urge ACHD to strengthen these proposed rules to ensure that the health of every Allegheny County resident is equally protected from the dangers of industrial air pollution.</p> <p>With regard to the proposed changes to ACHD's Coke Oven rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Steel's Clairton Coke Works is one of the oldest plants in the region. Some coke batteries in use are almost 70 years old, and under current rules can emit 2-3 times as much pollution as newer coke ovens. ACHD needs to require that U.S. Steel bring old batteries up to current standards over time, or replace them. Such a requirement would have an enormous impact on our air quality, while ensuring major investment by U.S. Steel in our local economy and workforce. • U.S. Steel has a long history of violating ACHD air pollution rules. ACHD should require that any individual coke oven that fails multiple inspections should be idled until repairs can be made to end violations. This will protect residents from excessive pollution, while giving U.S. Steel an incentive to remain in compliance with ACHD rules. <p>With regard to the draft of ACHD's proposed new Mon Valley Air Pollution Episode rule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the current draft of this new rule requires companies in the Mon Valley to prepare plans for how they could reduce emissions during an episode of poor air quality, there are no minimum requirements for emission reductions. ACHD must require minimum emission reductions in order to ensure this rule can be effective in protecting public health during these hazardous air pollution episodes. • ACHD should provide greater specificity on its plans to notify the public of air pollution episodes. Studies have shown that pollution from the Mon Valley regularly travels throughout Allegheny County. As such, a broader geography than just the Mon Valley communities should be included. In addition to municipal governments, ACHD should also provide direct notification to school districts, state elected officials and other similar entities that can help more |

| Field | Value |
|-------|--|
| | <p>broadly disseminate the notifications. ACHD should also identify and use all available tools at their disposal for reaching the public, including but not limited to social media, Allegheny Alerts, direct contact with print and television media, reverse 911, etc. People with underlying health conditions are more vulnerable to poor air quality and deserve to be able to easily access the information they need to protect themselves.</p> <p>Poor air quality has become a major issue that our constituents are concerned about, whether at the local, county, or state level. We are looking towards ACHD to carry out its mandate to fully protect the public's health from this significant problem for our region. This is not a question of getting to legal federal minimum standards, but a question of whether our children can go outside without worrying about asthma attacks or our parents won't suffer from another heart attack or stroke. We urge ACHD to look to solutions that ensure all Allegheny County residents, no matter what neighborhood they live in, or what their health condition is, will not have to worry about the air they breathe.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Bethany Hallam Allegheny County Council, At-Large Olivia Bennett Allegheny County Council, District 13 Emily Marburger Mayor of Bellevue Melanie Hughes-Holcomb Mayor of Ben Avon Chardae Jones Mayor of Braddock Nickole Nesby Mayor of Duquesne Frank Porco Mayor of Forest Hills William Peduto Mayor of Pittsburgh Marita Garrett Mayor of Wilkinsburg Summer Lee State Representative, District 34 Heth Turnquist Aspinwall Borough Council Jodi Cerminara Bellevue Borough Council Jillian Edmondson Bellevue Borough Council Jeff Stuncard Bellevue Borough Council Kara Roggenkamp Ben Avon Borough Council Kate Abel Dormont Borough Council Daniel Lenz Emsworth Borough Council Jiang Li Franklin Park Borough Council Charles Dizard Harrison Twp. Commissioner Corey O'Connor Pittsburgh City Council, District 5 Deborah Gross Pittsburgh City Council, District 7 Erika Strassberger Pittsburgh City Council, District 8 Christin Allen Sewickley Borough Council Brittany Reno Sharpsburg Borough Council President Michael Boyd Wilkins Twp. Commissioner Sylvia Martinelli Wilkins Twp. Commissioner</p> <p>Cc: Board of Health members</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:57:38 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:19 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:19:05 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Myron Arnowitt |
| Email | marnowitt@cleanwater.org |
| Subject | Mon Valley Episode Rule |
| Message | <p>Dear Members of the Board of Health,</p> <p>Allegheny County residents have lived and worked with U.S. Steel for over a century now. And if there is one thing we have learned in that time it is that U.S. Steel looks first to their own interests, and not to either the community's or their worker's interests.</p> <p>The recent announcement by U.S. Steel is causing fear and anxiety throughout the region that the company may fully abandon the Mon Valley. It is more critical than ever that ACHD move forward with strong air quality protections in both the Mon Valley Episode Rule and the revisions to the Coke Oven Regulations.</p> <p>U.S. Steel must invest in their Mon Valley plants to ensure that residents are protected from hazardous emissions, and to keep their workers on the job. The closure of the 1950s era batteries is an important step towards cleaning up the plant, but is still two year away. Without continued investment by U.S. Steel in the Mon Valley Works to fix their plant, clean air and good jobs will vanish.</p> <p>Both the Episode Rule and the Coke Oven Regulations are important steps to require real investment by U.S. Steel in cleaning up their operations, and ending the well documented harmful effects on nearby residents. However, to have this kind of impact, they need to clearly require set pollution reductions when air quality is at dangerous levels. We hope that ACHD will be open to improvements suggested in the public comment period.</p> <p>We strongly encourage ACHD to continue to move forward with their clean air efforts and thank you for your attention to these comment.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Myron Arnowitt Pennsylvania Director</p> |

*agenda re AQ alerts
read before bathrooms*

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:15 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:15:28 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Alex Downing |
| Email | downingjalex@gmail.com |
| Subject | Air Quality |
| Message | <p>Thank you for implementing the Mon Valley Air Quality alert system. It is a vital resource for the community that treats the region's air pollution as it should be -- as an emergency. Hopefully these alerts will be further developed to include broader Air Quality concerns across the region that aren't part of the current requirements. It is important for county residents to know when the air is not safe for children, the elderly, and those with respiratory issues to breathe. More important, though, is holding the companies accountable that cause these conditions so that they will not impact residents' health in the future. I hope that as further protections are discussed, it is understood that people have been dying from the activities of a few companies for far too long. It is up to the board to create policies that make these companies either clean up their emissions or shut down portions of their operations until they are compliant. We should not be at a constant risk of emergency levels of air pollution because the punishment for doing so does not fit the severity of the crime. Please continue developing relations that treat this like an emergency because for thousands of residents it is.</p> |

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Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 4:44 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Thursday, April 29, 2021 8:43:54 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Michael Miller Yoder |
| Email | michaelmilleryoder@gmail.com |
| Subject | Support for all-gender restrooms in plumbing code |
| Message | <p>I am writing to ask the ACHD implement to change the code and ordinance to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- All single stall/access restrooms should be designated All-Gender.- All facilities/buildings/businesses should have the ability to construct All-Gender multi stall restrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals. <p>Being able to go to the bathroom is a basic human right. The current code denies non-binary and gender-non-conforming people that right, and must be changed.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Thursday, April 29, 2021 8:43:54 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 5:51 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:50:58 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Katie |
| Email | kghart@andrew.cmu.edu |
| Subject | Improved Bathroom Access |
| Message | Hello, I believe that all single stall/access restrooms should be designated All-Gender. Further, all facilities, buildings, and businesses should have the ability to construct All-Gender multi stall restrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals. We should make these facilities a space for everyone, regardless of identity. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:50:58 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 12:01 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 4:00:40 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Joseph Amodei |
| Email | j.amodei@chatham.edu |
| Subject | ACHD Board of Health |
| Message | <p>My name is Joseph Amodei and my pronouns are they/them and I am an artists and educator living in Allegheny county. I would like to voice my encouragement for the ACHD to implement change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and allows for the implementation of multi-stall all-gender restrooms. As a genderqueer person living in Allegheny county this is personally important to me, but also as a teacher --I think my trans and gender nonconforming students would very much appreciate more options for where to use the restroom (and for building and organizations in the county to be able to make such changes). In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 4:00:40 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 12:49 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 4:48:47 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Laura Nelson |
| Email | lsnelson31@gmail.com |
| Subject | trans and gender non-conforming resident supports changes to plumbing code |
| Message | As a gender non-conforming resident of Allegheny County, I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposed changes to the plumbing code that will support the creation of more inclusive single and multi-stall facilities. These slight changes will make a world of difference in equitable access to bathrooms, and I urge the ACHD to pass and enforce these changes in the code. Respectfully submitted. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 4:48:47 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 1:18 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 5:17:58 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Sawyer Sidelinger |
| Email | Sesidelinger4@gmail.com |
| Subject | Public bathroom policy change |
| Message | Businesses should be able to accommodate all gender bathrooms. Current proposed health code changes regarding the are welcome, but not enough. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 5:17:58 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 2:32 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 6:31:55 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Claudia Mihm |
| Email | mihmclaudia@gmail.com |
| Subject | Expand access to all-gender restrooms |
| Message | <p>I'm writing today to encourage the ACHD to expand gender-inclusive bathroom access across Allegheny County. Going to the bathroom should not ever limit where someone feels safe or able to go, and for so many of our fellow Pittsburghers, the lack of gender-inclusive bathrooms keep them from feeling safe in our city. I love Pittsburgh, and all the amazing spaces it holds, and I have the privilege to enter a public bathroom without fear, and in a way that feels aligned with my identity. By expanding all-gender restroom options, you will allow our trans and nonbinary siblings to have safer access to one of the most basic spaces. In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 6:31:55 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 3:02 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 7:02:02 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Aliord Richman |
| Email | tdtqyqzgqvdmkltwy@upived.online |
| Subject | |
| Message | Hello, Many folks I care about would benefit from an all-gender bathroom. I urge ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 7:02:02 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 3:14 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 7:13:43 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Mel Packer |
| Email | melpacker@aol.com |
| Subject | all gender rest rooms |
| Message | <p>As a 76 yo male who has lived in the Pgh area for most of my adult life, I have for many years wondered why we even bother to label restrooms/bathrooms with a gender designation. It makes no sense, must increase building costs, and often winds up creating long lines at "female" bathrooms while we men casually saunter in and out with little delay. I have, in fact, on more than one occasion, held the "men's" door open and encouraged (with great support) women standing in line to use the "men's room" . Frankly, it's a silly custom that deserves to die. Change whatever laws and building codes that need to be changed and make restrooms/bathrooms available to all when needed, as needed, and without gender designation. This is 2021, not 1921. It's time to make that change.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 7:13:43 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 3:50 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 7:49:42 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Tony Buba |
| Email | tonybuba@comcast.net |
| Subject | All-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern: I am writing this note to encourage ACHD to implement change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and allows for the implementation of multi-stall all-gender restrooms. For those of us who have been lucky enough to travel know this is not a problem or issue in most countries. It is time for Allegheny County to catch up with the rest of the world. It is time for Allegheny County to move into the 21st century. So I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Tony Buba</p> |

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Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 4:48 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 8:48:24 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Janice L McMannis |
| Email | mcmannisjan@comcast.net |
| Subject | Revised plumbing codes |
| Message | <p>I am writing in support of ACHD implementing codes and ordinance changes to achieve the following: all single stall/access restrooms should be designated all-gender and all facilities, buildings, businesses should have the ability to construct all-gender multi-stall restrooms. I support these changes because they not only are more inclusive and less discriminatory than gendered bathrooms, but they allow caregivers of a different gender to accompany the person who needs help; allow young children to be accompanied by a parent or caregiver of a different gender. These changes improve access and safety for everyone. I have used all-gender restrooms in other countries and cities and the floor to ceiling stalls feel so safe and private. I would think those who use enclosed urinals would also feel more comfortable.</p> <p>Pittsburgh wants to be progressive and inclusive. Let's update our dated plumbing codes, leave Victorian values behind and enter the 21st century.</p> |

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Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 8:53:43 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Suzie Silver |
| Email | suziesilver@cmu.edu |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>I'm a gender non-conforming person and a Professor at Carnegie Mellon University. When I'm on campus it is difficult for me to find a comfortable place to pee. I often get yelled at by people in women's restrooms telling me I don't belong there because I look like a man and if I go into a men's restroom I am told I don't belong there because I am sometimes read as female. Please change the plumbing code so that all single stall bathrooms are labeled as All-Gender. Also, more importantly for my (and so many people with similar experiences) work comfort and safety, allow the implementation of multi-stall All Gender restrooms.</p> |

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Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 5:00 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 9:00:08 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Scott Andrew |
| Email | Art@scottandrew.com |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>To: ACHD Board of Health To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I'd like to encourage ACHD to implement change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and allows for the implementation of multi-stall all-gender restrooms. This is a health and safety issue for my trans and non binary friends and students that must be addressed.</p> <p>In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 9:00:08 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 5:05 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 9:05:22 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Megan Rivas |
| Email | meeegan@gmail.com |
| Subject | All-Gender Restrooms |
| Message | Please update the Allegheny County Plumbing Code to support all-gender restrooms in every way. All-gender restrooms benefit everyone. Restroom access is a basic human right for all citizens, and should not be reduced in any way for our trans and gender non-conforming citizens. All-gender restrooms also make the important work of caregiving easier, as an individual with a physical or mental disability may need their caregiver's assistance. Thank you for making this policy better for ALL our citizens by supporting all-gender restrooms universally. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 9:05:22 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 5:19 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 9:19:16 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Emma Cordray |
| Email | ecordray@andrew.cmu.edu |
| Subject | All-Gender Bathrooms |
| Message | I am writing in supports of the movement for all-gender bathrooms in Allegheny County. I hope to see more inclusivity here in PA. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 9:19:16 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 7:44 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Friday, April 30, 2021 11:43:54 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Symone Saul |
| Email | Wrldsonfire@gmail.com |
| Subject | Hearing on all gender restrooms |
| Message | As a cisgendered woman, I think it is absolutely necessary to make restrooms accessible to trans and nonbinary people who should not be forced to fit in the confines of two genders. Anyone who feels it is a safety issue should deeply investigate why they would make such a prejudiced conclusion. Thank you. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Friday, April 30, 2021 11:43:54 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Saturday, May 1, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Saturday, May 1, 2021 12:44:34 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | James Gallicchio |
| Email | jamesgallicchio@gmail.com |
| Subject | Plumbing Code Revisions: All-Gender Restrooms |
| Message | <p>I have trouble understanding why anyone would oppose such common-sense revisions to Allegheny County's plumbing code. If businesses, schools, or any other establishment want to remove gendered designations from their bathrooms, why should we prevent that?</p> <p>The plumbing code aims to maintain safe and sanitary conditions, nothing more. Gender should not be mistaken as a factor in maintaining safe and sanitary bathrooms. Gender has NEVER been a factor in maintaining safe and sanitary bathrooms. Regulate plumbing, not people.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Saturday, May 1, 2021 12:44:34 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Sunday, May 2, 2021 8:47 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Sunday, May 2, 2021 12:47:12 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Brandi Hollee |
| Email | brandihollee@gmail.com |
| Subject | Gender neutral bathroom |
| Message | <p>I am writing because I was informed that the board of health would be considering the issue of labeling public restrooms as gender neutral or gender inclusive. I full support ALL single stall restrooms being labelled in such a way and further I support multi-stall gender neutral restrooms. I believe that gender neutral restrooms are good for public health specifically preventing UTIs or kidney issues for people who do not feel safe in a bathroom labelled either "men" or "women". I also believe that it will over all reduce the time necessary for any one individual to have to stand in line at crowded events. In visiting other states that have gender neutral bathrooms, I have had no negative experiences and hope that Allegheny country can follow those examples.</p> <p>In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county.</p> <p>Thank you Brandi Hollee</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Sunday, May 2, 2021 12:47:12 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Sunday, May 2, 2021 10:01 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Sunday, May 2, 2021 2:01:07 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Lauren |
| Email | Laurenburge@msn.com |
| Subject | Bathroom codes |
| Message | Hello, Please make necessary updates so that it can be easier for business owners to accomodate a genderless bathrooms. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Sunday, May 2, 2021 2:01:07 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Sunday, May 2, 2021 4:09 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Sunday, May 2, 2021 8:08:31 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Ryan Frank |
| Email | ryanchristopherfrank@gmail.com |
| Subject | Gender-Neutral Bathrooms - May 5 Meeting |
| Message | There is no logical reason for restrooms to be segregated by gender. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Sunday, May 2, 2021 8:08:31 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Sunday, May 2, 2021 4:12 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Sunday, May 2, 2021 8:11:49 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | gabriel gryffyn |
| Email | gabriel.gryffyn@gmail.com |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>In advance of your upcoming meeting to discuss the county plumbing code, I would like to express my concerns that you haven't gone far enough to ensure accessibility and safety for Pittsburgh's gender-diverse population, parents of small children, and disabled people and their caregivers.</p> <p>I urge you to propose and implement changes that not only allow but require all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender. In addition, these changes should allow the multi-stall all gender restrooms. This could be made very simple with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals.</p> <p>These actions would have overwhelmingly positive impacts to our community and prove a commitment to supporting and retaining our diverse population. I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county</p> <p>Thank you --gabriel</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Sunday, May 2, 2021 8:11:49 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Sunday, May 2, 2021 6:11 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Sunday, May 2, 2021 10:10:39 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Payton Downey |
| Email | Pdowney@andrew.cmu.edu |
| Subject | TIN restroom access |
| Message | <p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Payton Downey and I am a student at Carnegie Mellon University. I am speaking today for you to adopt the following measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- All single stall/access restrooms should be designated All-Gender.- All facilities/buildings/businesses should have the ability to construct All-Gender multi stall restrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals. <p>It is important that all Tran, Intersex, and Non-binary individuals have gender affirming access to restrooms. Restroom access is a basic human right that should not be limited to cisgender people. I urge you to keep this in mind in your decision making.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Sunday, May 2, 2021 10:10:39 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Sunday, May 2, 2021 6:39 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Sunday, May 2, 2021 10:39:21 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Amy Sharon Kreger |
| Email | amy.s.kreger@gmail.com |
| Subject | All Gender Restrooms |
| Message | To: ACHD Board of Health Subject: Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms To whom it may concern: In order to provide equal access to all I ask that the ACHD enact code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county. Sincerely, Amy S. Kreger |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Sunday, May 2, 2021 10:39:21 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:29 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 2:29:14 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Drew Medvid |
| Email | dmedvid@pitt.edu |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern: I'm writing today as a resident of Allegheny County to urge you to change ACHD's stance on restroom access by allowing all single-stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and by allowing facilities to install multi-stall all-gender restrooms. Under the current code, businesses are severely limited in what they can do, preventing them from creating restroom spaces that are more inclusive and welcoming to their employees, customers, and anyone else who visits their facilities. I encourage the ACHD to implement practical and accessible code and enforcement that will expand restroom facilities across our county.</p> <p>This is an important issue to me as a transgender resident of Allegheny County who often finds inadequate or unsafe restroom facilities due to the current plumbing code. However, all-gender restrooms are beneficial to many, including families with young children, people with disabilities and their caregivers.</p> <p>The ACHD has the power to make restroom use safe and accessible to all county residents. I ask you to act boldly and urgently to address this public health issue.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Drew Medvid Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 2:29:14 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:38 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 2:37:42 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Nica Ross |
| Email | icannica@gmail.com |
| Subject | Revisions to Article XV: Restroom Fixture Counts |
| Message | <p>I would prefer to read the following myself if possible.</p> <p>I am a non-binary gender non-conforming resident of Allegheny County. I have struggled with participating in public society my entire life due to gender assigned bathrooms.</p> <p>I do not believe the revisions to Article XV Restroom Fixture Counts are enough and the Board of Health needs to demand more from the Health Department. I ask the Board of Health to join municipalities such as Philadelphia, Seattle, Berkeley, Santa Fe, Austin, New York and many more in providing all gender restroom access to their residents. I am asking for two things: 1. All single stall restrooms must be available to all genders and marked as such 2. Building owners should be able to build multi-stall all gender restrooms with privately enclosed fixtures.</p> <p>These practical changes will increase the safety and well being of county residents. Currently gender non-conforming people are at risk of violence, police intervention, health issues and limited access to public society due simply to plumbing code. The Allegheny County Health Department needs to do more to protect the health and well being of transgender, gender non-conforming, intersex, disabled people with differently gendered caretakers and the thousands of people who require all gender restroom access every day. Do more and do it now.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 2:37:42 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:59 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 2:58:40 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Megan Massanelli |
| Email | meganmassanelli@gmail.com |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing today as a resident of Allegheny County to urge you to implement change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and allows for the implementation of multi-stall all-gender restrooms.</p> <p>All-gender restrooms are beneficial to many, including families with young children, people with disabilities and their caregivers, as well as people who's gender identity and/or presentation make gendered restrooms unsafe for them. As a gender-conforming cis woman with a trans partner, I have witnessed first-hand the harassment and intimidation that takes place in gendered restrooms. I believe that implementing all-gender restrooms would make a big, positive difference in the safety and health of my family as well as my community</p> <p>In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county.</p> <p>Thank you, Megan Massanelli Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 2:58:40 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 7:27:11 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Mark Cato |
| Email | mark.d.cato@gmail.com |
| Subject | Broader all-gender restroom code changes |
| Message | <p>As the Board of Health is considering revisions to the plumbing code, I'd encourage permission for single-occupancy and single-stall restrooms to be designated as all-gender. In addition, businesses and buildings should be free to construct mutli-stall restrooms which are designated as all-gender, with floor-to-ceiling stalls for privacy.</p> <p>Various members of our community do not feel comfortable or safe with the current binary options of men's and women's rooms, and sometimes take great pains to find facilities where they will not fear confrontation. This can happen in their schools, places of work, and going through the otherwise mundane tasks of life. Lack of all-gender facilities, even when businesses and organization would like to adopt them, negatively impacts students I've worked with, friends, and family.</p> <p>Thank you for considering more inclusive practices and support for all-gender restrooms throughout the county.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 7:27:11 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 3:36 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 7:35:48 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Katrina Keane |
| Email | katrinakeane@gmail.com |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am a resident of Allegheny Co and I urge you to impment a change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labeled as all gender. I also urge you to implement multi-stall all gender restrooms.</p> <p>This change will enable people of any gender to help disabled friends and family members in the bathroom, parents to freely help their children of any age in the bathroom, as well as anyone who needs to use the restroom regardless of gender to be able to use the restroom easily and safely.</p> <p>The ACHD has the power to make restroom use safe and accessible to all county residents. I ask you to act boldly and urgently to address this public health issue.</p> <p>sincerely,</p> <p>Katrina Keane Allegheny Co resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 7:35:48 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 3:45 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 7:45:12 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Pamela V Jones |
| Email | Pj-a@comcast.net |
| Subject | Gender inclusive bathrooms |
| Message | <p>I'm writing today as a resident of Allegheny County to urge you to change ACHD's stance on restroom access by allowing all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and by allowing facilities to install multi-stall all-gender restrooms. Under the current code, businesses are severely limited in what they can do, preventing them from creating restroom spaces that are more inclusive and welcoming to their employees, customers, and visitors their facilities. I encourage the ACHD to implement practical and accessible code and enforcement that will expand restroom facilities across our county.</p> <p>All-gender restrooms are beneficial to families with young children, people with disabilities and their caregivers, and those for whom gendered restrooms are not safe.</p> <p>I am not a transgender person, but I know transgender people in my own community who have experienced harassment and sometimes violence in gendered restrooms.</p> <p>As a resident of Allegheny County, I move through many different public spaces with my trans and non-binary friends and I see the inequitable impact on them. Let's face it, public bathrooms aren't a fun place for anyone, but for me I only need to find a place with a restroom and I'm assured a place to relieve my</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|--|
| | <p>bladder without being harassed because of my gender. I adamantly believe this should be true for everyone.</p> <p>The ACHD has the power to make restroom use safe and accessible to all. It's the correct and humane thing to do.</p> <p>Sincerely, Pamela V Jones</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 7:45:12 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 4:39 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 8:39:27 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Ginger Brooks Takahashi |
| Email | positivepersistence@gmail.com |
| Subject | May 5, 2021 meeting public comment RE: Plumbing Code |
| Message | <p>Dear Board of Health,</p> <p>As an Allegheny County resident and educator who works with trans and non binary young people, I ask that the upcoming revisions to our plumbing code include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- All single stall/access restrooms should be designated All-Gender.- All facilities/buildings/businesses should have the ability to construct All-Gender multi stall restrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals. <p>We need to make it easier for everyone to use public restrooms and easier for facilities constructing new restrooms to create all gender restrooms.</p> <p>Looking forward to the future of All Gender Restrooms in Allegheny County!</p> <p>Ginger Brooks Takahashi</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 8:39:27 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 4:51 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 8:50:41 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Amelia Deacon |
| Email | skisicsmalone12@gmail.com |
| Subject | Allegheny County Restrooms |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I'm writing today as a resident of Allegheny County to urge you to change ACHD's stance on restroom access by allowing all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and by allowing facilities to install multi-stall all-gender restrooms. Under the current code, businesses are severely limited in what they can do, preventing them from creating restroom spaces that are more inclusive and welcoming to their employees, customers and anyone else who visits their facilities. I encourage the ACHD to implement practical and accessible code and enforcement that will expand restroom facilities across our county. All-gender restrooms are beneficial to many, including families with young children, people with disabilities and their caregivers, and those for whom gendered restrooms are not safe. As a person with transgender loved ones and others who would benefit from these changes, I have heard first hand accounts of the discomfort many people feel when the only options they have available to them are binary single-gendered restrooms. Our current regulations must be changed in order to accommodate these residents.</p> <p>Sincerely, Amelia Deacon Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 8:50:41 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 5:37 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 9:37:08 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Carrie Chisholm |
| Email | carrie1iz@gmail.com |
| Subject | Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms |
| Message | <p>To: PublicHealthComment@AlleghenyCounty.us Subject: Take real action to expand all-gender bathrooms</p> <p>To whom it may concern: As a resident of Allegheny County, I encourage the ACHD to implement change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and allows for the implementation of multi-stall all-gender restrooms. The current code is very limiting to businesses and establishments that want to provide inclusive and welcoming spaces to their employees, customers and anyone else who visits their facilities. I encourage the ACHD to implement practical and accessible code and enforcement that will expand restroom facilities across our county.</p> <p>All-gender restrooms are beneficial to many people, including families with young children, people with disabilities and their caregivers, and those for whom gendered restrooms are not safe. I myself am nonbinary, but am able to "pass" well enough to not be questioned in a multi-stalled, gendered restroom. However, nearly every time I need to use a public restroom, I am faced with making a choice that does not affirm who I actually am. I may not be in physical danger, like so many of my gender diverse friends and colleagues are, but it does take a toll on my mental state, as I am constantly reminded that I do not "fit" in a predominantly and unnecessarily binary society.</p> <p>As an employee of Carnegie Mellon University, I have been able to see how the current plumbing code negatively effects the many gender diverse members of our campus community, particularly the students who have to spend too much of their valuable time and effort simply to exist (and pee) on our campus. Many of these students have come to CMU from other cities, and they will leave our campus and Allegheny County when they graduate to seek a more welcoming and inclusive</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | <p>location. The county and the city of Pittsburgh will not be able to retain economic potential of the talented graduates of our universities unless we make real changes, starting with the plumbing code.</p> <p>In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact real code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender restroom access across the county.</p> <p>Sincerely, Carrie Chisholm Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 9:37:08 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 7:14 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 11:13:57 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Deirdra Harris Glover |
| Email | Birdofparadox@gmail.com |
| Subject | Gender Neutral single restrooms help everyone love Pittsburgh |
| Message | My kid is trans and I am gender non-conforming. There has always been danger in them participating in men's activities, and I've lived a life of using first available single-use restrooms, at subject of harassment and threats of violence. Everyone needs to pee. I should not have to state my gender or be required to undergo exam to use facilities. Please make it more accessible to be in public while trans. |

Email "Notification: Online-Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 11:13:57 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 11:30:12 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Brandon Bohrer |
| Email | bjbohrer@gmail.com |
| Subject | Expand all-gender restroom access - comment for May 5th meeting |
| Message | <p>As an Allegheny County resident, I'm writing to encourage you to make the following changes to the plumbing code:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Designate all single stall and single access restrooms as All-Gender.- Allow all facilities to multi-stall All-Gender restrooms with floor-to-ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals. <p>These changes are important to me as someone with many connections to gender-diverse members of the community. On the one hand, bathroom access is an important everyday issue: I know many people who gain stress and lose time from their day, just looking for a place to go, which is often in a different building and requires asking someone for access.</p> <p>Not only that, but gender-diverse people have been significant targets in recent times, so every change we can make in favor of their inclusion also sends a message that they are welcome in our community. As a community that tries to come together to stand against hate of all kinds, that's an important message to send. Not only that, but by providing inclusive bathrooms, we directly help keep our community members safe from any harassment or other mistreatment that may currently happen in gendered bathrooms.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 11:30:12 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 8:57 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:57:29 AM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Katy Rank Lev |
| Email | katy@katyranklev.com |
| Subject | All gender restrooms |
| Message | <p>Hello! I understand the county is exploring updated plumbing codes. I'd like to support members of my community pushing for equitable access to bathrooms.</p> <p>I request that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Make all single stall bathrooms All-Gender- Allow buildings to construct All-Gender multi-stall bathrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:57:29 AM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:15 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:14:51 AM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Amy Ergler |
| Email | amy.ergler@gmail.com |
| Subject | Public bathroom code |
| Message | Please revise the public bathroom code to allow businesses and institutions to accommodate people of diverse gender identities, disabled people, and families. All-gender bathrooms and family bathrooms don't infringe upon anyone's rights and offer maximum flexibility for county residents and visitors. Everyone should have safe and comfortable bathroom access, whoever they are! |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:14:51 AM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:42 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:41:36 AM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Vincent Zeng |
| Email | hvincent@modgethanc.com |
| Subject | Public Comment May 5th BoD: Take Action to Expand Bathroom Access |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am a resident of Allegheny County, and I am writing with an urgent demand that ACHD take a stance on expanding bathroom access so that everyone in the county can have safe, equitable access to public spaces, businesses, schools, workplaces, etc.</p> <p>Bathroom access is a health concern; all-gender bathrooms are necessary for the health of trans, non-binary, and gender non-confirming people who cannot use a single-gendered bathroom without risk of assault, harassment, or psychological harm. They also provide equitable access to families and people with disabilities, allowing caregivers to accompany someone to use any bathroom.</p> <p>I am a gender nonbinary individual, and I am deeply affected in my ability to fully participate in public spaces, enter businesses, or perform my duties at work, because many spaces either do not provide bathrooms that I can safely use, or those facilities are so sparse that I have to add considerable travel time to reach them. During the pandemic, this has made it especially difficult to maintain frequent handwashing.</p> <p>Please follow in the footsteps of other cities across the country (Philadelphia, New York, Seattle, Austin, etc.) and adopt plumbing code standards that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Immediately change all single-stall bathrooms to be all-gender, with signage clearly indicating this2. Allow building owners to built multi-stall, all-gender bathrooms with fully enclosed fixtures. <p>Sincerely, Vincent Zeng Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:41:36 AM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:10 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:09:35 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Rachel |
| Email | racitelejacobson@gmail.com |
| Subject | Gender-neutral bathrooms |
| Message | Hello, I am writing as a resident of Allegheny County to encourage action towards making all single-stall restrooms in the county all-gender and expand the availability of multi-stall all-gender restrooms. This would benefit families with small children, people with disabilities, and people undergoing gender transition. Please consider enacting this change. Rachel Jacobson Allegheny County Resident |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:09:35 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:00 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:00:20 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Luca Salerno |
| Email | Lucavalcade@gmail.com |
| Subject | Comment on proposed revisions to Plumbing Code Article XV |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am writing as a visibly transgender resident of Allegheny County, and as a gay male parent with a daughter, to urge the Board of Health to go farther with revisions to Article XV. Many individuals in the county are adversely impacted by bathrooms segregated on the basis of gender. This deprives us of equal access to sanitation, which is listed as a human right by the United Nations, and makes it challenging to engage in public life in Allegheny County.</p> <p>When I travel places with my three-year-old daughter, our choice of destination is limited by lack of access to all-gender restrooms. The plumbing code limits our family's access to major cultural institutions because it is currently illegal for public spaces to accommodate our family's toileting needs. Similarly, I must carefully plan my own outings around the projected capacity of my bladder. This situation is an insult to our human dignity and forces me to do most of my spending online when I would rather put my paycheck back into the local economy.</p> <p>I urge the Board of Health to adopt common-sense resolutions opening all single-occupancy restrooms to be designated as all-gender restrooms, and to permit building owners to create all-gender restrooms with multiple stalls</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | including floor to ceiling dividers and enclosed urinals. Yours sincerely, Luca Salerno |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:00:20 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:08 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:08:12 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | City of Pittsburgh LGBTQIA+ Commission |
| Email | lucasalerno.lgbtqia+@gmail.com |
| Subject | LGBTQIA+ Commission responds to proposed changes in Plumbing Code Article XV |
| Message | <p>Pittsburgh's LGBTQIA+ Commission ("The Commission") must offer comment on the Allegheny County Board of Health ("The Board") proposed meeting agenda item scheduled for discussion on May 5, 2021: "Article XV: Site Work and Restroom Fixture Counts". The proposed alterations to the plumbing code are a step in the right direction. However, these changes do not go far enough. The revisions expand the criteria under which single-occupancy bathrooms may be designated as open to all genders. However, single-occupancy bathrooms will not be required to be open to all genders, and no provision is made for all-gender bathrooms with multiple stalls.</p> <p>The proposed changes will not ensure equal access to sanitation for all County residents, many of whom have circumstances that make it inconvenient, uncomfortable, or even dangerous to use restrooms that are only open to one gender. In addition to many members of the County's LGBTQIA+ community, single-gender restrooms disadvantage parents with young children, and disabled individuals with caregivers of a different gender. When sanitation facilities are not equally available to all members of the public, a discriminatory environment is created in which some individuals are able to engage fully in public life, and other individuals may only engage in public life at short intervals, based on the limitations of</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | <p>their continence.</p> <p>In addition to discriminating against many community members, the current situation has the potential to economically harm County residents and businesses. As Representative Dan Frankle has previously pointed out, "The County rightly bars discrimination against individuals on the basis of their gender identity or expression, but then also bars the owners of buildings - potentially, their employers - from accommodating them." County businesses are currently forced to break laws when it comes to bathroom access: either they must discriminate against trans, nonbinary, intersex, gender-nonconforming, and/or disabled employees, or they must violate the plumbing code. It is incumbent upon the Board to propose realistic changes to the plumbing code that permit building owners to treat all County visitors and residents with equal respect and human dignity.</p> <p>The Commission would also like to remind the Board that access to sanitation is a human rights issue, and to express dismay that, to our knowledge, the Board has not sought input on this issue from the many organizations, government offices, and commissions devoted to the local promotion of LGBTQIA+ rights, disability and accessibility, gender equity, and human rights. Accordingly, the Commission urges the Board to promptly and transparently draft a revision to Article XV that mandates single-occupancy, family, and assisted-use restrooms to be open to all genders, and that permits building owners to create all-gender restrooms with floor-to-ceiling divided stalls and enclosed urinals.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:08:12 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:17 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:16:36 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Gabriella N Giotto |
| Email | gabnicole19@gmail.com |
| Subject | Revising Public Bathroom Code |
| Message | It is imperative that when revising the public bathroom code you make all single stall bathrooms All-Gender and allow buildings to construct All-Gender multi-stall bathrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:16:36 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:24 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:24:27 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Daryl Weinert |
| Email | dweinert@cmu.edu |
| Subject | Expanding all-gender restroom access |
| Message | <p>Carnegie Mellon University, like many Pittsburgh employers and institutions, operates in a highly competitive global market for talent. It is critical that the Pittsburgh region does all it can to create a welcoming and safe environment for all.</p> <p>While there are many considerations in continuing to make Allegheny County a welcoming region for diverse talent, an important and often over-looked need is fair and equitable restroom access. Unfortunately, current plumbing codes do not provide the flexibility for employers to readily create this more inclusive restroom environment. At Carnegie Mellon we have been designing for and adding all-gender restrooms for nearly a decade, despite them not being factored into current plumbing code fixture counts. By instituting the following code changes and flexibility, the County would allow institutions to more efficiently use their resources and more equitably and effectively provide safe and convenient bathrooms within our built environment.</p> <p>We support the following updates to plumbing codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All single stall restrooms should be required to carry an All-Gender designation and contribute to overall fixture counts.• Facility owners should have the flexibility to design and construct All-Gender multi-stall restrooms with floor to ceiling stalls that afford privacy and security. Such restrooms should contribute to overall fixture counts. <p>We greatly appreciate the Allegheny County Health Department's consideration and support as we partner and advocate for a more inclusive and competitive Pittsburgh region.</p> <p>Daryl Weinert Vice President & Chief of Staff Carnegie Mellon University</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:24:27 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:52 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:51:36 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | John LaVaccare |
| Email | jlavaccare@gmail.com |
| Subject | ACHD plumbing code—in favor of all-gender restroom provisions |
| Message | <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am writing to strongly encourage ACHD to adopt a plumbing code that makes all-gender restrooms as available as possible, including allowing all single stall restrooms to be labeled all-gender and allowing for the implementation of multi-stall all-gender restrooms.</p> <p>By allowing for the establishment of all-gender restrooms across Allegheny County, ACHD can continue to establish Allegheny County as a region that is inclusionary to all of our residents and visitors, including members of the LGBTQ+ community. This change would also enhance business freedom in Allegheny County by allowing private businesses to choose trans-inclusionary restroom arrangements.</p> <p>Sincerely, John LaVaccare Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:51:36 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:38 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:38:11 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Hannah Berg |
| Email | hannahtromansberg@yahoo.co.uk |
| Subject | All gender restrooms |
| Message | <p>Hello!</p> <p>I'm emailing to encourage the ACHD to implement change that allows all single stall restrooms to be labelled all-gender and allow for the implementation of multi stall all gender restrooms. This would help all bodies in Allegheny County as restrooms would be more accessible to people of all genders and would even reduce bathroom wait times. Often at restaurants as a cis woman I am impacted by the gendered restrooms because I have to wait for my "designated" restroom. It also makes an exclusionary environment for anyone who does not fall within one of the binary gender identities.</p> <p>In closing, I urge the ACHD to enact code and enforcement changes that allow for all-gender accessible restrooms across the county!</p> <p>Sincerely, Hannah</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:38:11 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:51:56 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Fernando Soriano |
| Email | fsoriano.publicalliespgh@gmail.com |
| Subject | All Gender Restroom |
| Message | <p>I would like to declare my support for the creation of all-gender accessible restrooms for Allegheny County. All people have a need to use restrooms and there is no need to obfuscate, complicate, and gatekeep restrooms by enforcing or maintaining arbitrary limitations related to binary gender and/or biological sex.</p> <p>Opponents to this change would argue that this would lead to increased harms to cisgender individuals and youth, but I do not believe there is evidence of such claims and this is a common talking point for opponents who stake claims on fearmongering and ignorance.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online-Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:51:56 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:56 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:55:32 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Mayor William Peduto |
| Email | tiffini.simoneaux@pittsburghpa.gov |
| Subject | Proposed changes to plumbing code |
| Message | <p>As you consider an overhaul to the Allegheny County Health Department's plumbing regulations, I am writing to urge you to update the code in order to allow for gender-inclusive restroom facilities. I am supportive of proposed code changes and request ACHD to consider further changes that would allow for single stall restrooms to be designated as All-Gender and to allow facilities and businesses to construct All-Gender multi stall restrooms with floor to ceiling stalls and enclosed urinals.</p> <p>Pittsburgh is home to transgender, gender non-binary, gender queer, and other gender-diverse residents who deserve to feel safe and welcome in public spaces. Nationwide and in our own city, our gender-diverse neighbors face bigotry, hostility, and aggression, simply because of who they are and how they express themselves. As Pittsburgh continues to grow, it is imperative that marginalized Pittsburghers feel welcome in their workplaces, on college campuses, and in other public venues. Now is the time to implement changes in local plumbing regulations to ensure that developers, institutions, and organizations that wish to provide gender-inclusive toilet facilities for employees, residents, visitors, and students can provide these safe spaces. Sections of the 403.1.1, 403.1.2 and 403.2 of the 2021 International Plumbing Code (IPC) offer a design option for restroom facilities for our gender-diverse neighbors, and we strongly encourage the Board of Health to adopt these measures.</p> <p>These changes to the plumbing code mean the difference between a stressful situation and a safe one for LGBTQIA+ individuals as well as for other individuals such as caregivers for the elderly, parents of young children, and individuals with disabilities. Our universities, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and other entities want to provide inclusive toilet facilities, and the Allegheny County Board of Health has the opportunity to show that our region is welcoming to all by allowing them to do so.</p> <p>As hatred and violence against transgender, gender non-binary, gender queer, and other gender-diverse people are on the rise in our country, the Pittsburgh</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | <p>region can be a leader in allowing safe public spaces for all. Again, I urge the Allegheny County Board of Health to consider these critical communities as you are overhauling local plumbing regulations.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration. If I can assist in these efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:55:32 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:06:06 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Katherine |
| Email | kathy_kidd47@hotmail.com |
| Subject | All-gender bathrooms |
| Message | I want to write in support of increased access to all-gender bathrooms, both single stall and enclosed multi-stall. Single stall bathrooms in particular are crucial for trans, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people who just need to pee safely. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:06:06 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:11 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:11:21 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Kelli Ireland |
| Email | kireland@gmail.com |
| Subject | All-gender bathrooms should be common |
| Message | <p>The city's requirements for bathrooms should be updated to allow for all-gender restrooms to meet the toilet count requirements. Every single-room, single-toilet bathroom in the city should be designated as an all-gender bathroom.</p> <p>Not only individuals of every gender, but also families and people with caregivers would benefit from such a change.</p> <p>From a personal perspective, I remember having to explain to a young child in my care that she had to wait in line and couldn't use the open, available, single-toilet restroom because it was the "men's room". We owe ourselves, our neighbors, and our visitors the dignity of available restrooms. Improving access to all-gender restrooms in existing and new construction should be a priority.</p> <p>Thank you, Kelli Ireland Allegheny County Resident</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:11:21 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: james conway <jimconway2202@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 1:25 PM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Paid Sick Leave legislation

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

HelloTodd,

here is my submission for comment during the Health Department hearing (May 5th) on Paid Sick Leave. It is 3 minutes long when read aloud.

My name is James Conway. I've worked in the restaurant industry in Allegheny County for more than four decades. I'm immensely proud of the hard work I've put in and the career I've built in the industry I love. But throughout my 40-year career, I've struggled with the same frustrating, deeply unjust problem: not having access to any paid family or medical leave.

I know I'm far from alone. Four out of five workers in the United States don't have access to paid leave through their employers. That's a structural problem that puts workers like me in impossible situations.

In 1988, while my father was battling cancer, my mother was rushed to the hospital with a ruptured appendix. They were in the same hospital for about a week, and they both needed significant follow-up care.

It was a terrifying, incredibly difficult situation for them and for me. I needed to visit them in the hospital, to look after their house and to help them with day-to-day tasks once they were discharged. But I couldn't, because I had no paid leave, and if I had taken unpaid leave from my job, I couldn't have paid my bills. No one should be put in a situation like that.

Little has changed in all these years. The U.S. still doesn't guarantee workers like me paid family and medical leave or paid sick days. In fact, we are one of only two developed nations in the world without a paid leave policy.

That's a huge burden for workers, and it's a threat to public health, too. Whenever restaurant workers start feeling sick, we face an impossible choice: Lose much-needed income, or risk our health and that of our customers and co-workers. One reason COVID-19 spread so fast is our lack of paid leave.

I am 64 years old and, once again this year, I couldn't access the paid leave I desperately needed. That's why, when the pandemic hit, I made the tough choice to stop working because I am high-risk for the virus and it just wasn't safe. That's caused major financial challenges for my family.

It's long past time lawmakers found a solution and guaranteed paid leave for all. I support Allegheny County's Health Department legislation to address paid sick leave for all county workers.

What workers like me really need is a comprehensive, permanent paid family and medical leave and paid sick days policy that covers the full range of caregiving needs — whether that's welcoming a new child, caring for a sick loved one, or recovering from illness or a serious medical condition.

That sort of policy would help working families like mine make ends meet, make our country healthier and boost our economy. To truly recover from the pandemic and “build back better,” as President Joe Biden promised on the campaign trail, lawmakers must make passing paid leave a top priority.

Thank you,

James R. Conway

Former worker at The Olive Garden Monroeville, PA

...at Houlihan's Station Square

...at The Red Bull Inn Carnegie and Monroeville

Emily Cleath, communications coordinator at Just Harvest:

Just Harvest is a nonprofit organization that has worked to address the root causes of hunger in Allegheny County and beyond for more than 30 years. In 2015, Just Harvest supported Pittsburgh City Council passing a paid sick days law. The city did, recognizing it was critical to the physical and economic well-being of those who dine and work in Pittsburgh.

Tens of thousands of workers in Pittsburgh had employers who didn't allow them even a single day off with pay when they fell ill. At the time — and these numbers are likely comparable for the county — they comprised 40% of Pittsburgh's private sector workforce, and 77% of its service workers, particularly food service and healthcare. They were either going to work sick or losing their jobs whenever serious illness struck.

Well, serious illness has struck on an epic scale. The end of this historic pandemic, despite the production of powerful vaccines, is not clearly in sight. It's possible that tens of thousands of Allegheny County workers will be sick with COVID in the years before it declines in severity to something more like the common cold or flu. What's definite is that 100% of the county's workforce will catch some kind of contagious illness at some point. A sick employee is costly enough. It's well documented that employees who spread sickness at work cause even greater hits to productivity and morale and greater economic loss. Forcing them to stay home without pay or firing them just shifts those costs to their families and communities.

The residents of this county who live outside of Pittsburgh need the basic job and public health protections that a county paid sick days ordinance would provide. Low-wage workers are most likely to lack paid sick days; they are disproportionately women and people of color. The Health Department has a responsibility to address those disparities. Paid sick days addresses the harm done to workers forced to choose between spreading their infection at work or staying home and losing income.

Any change to a workplace is difficult. But all the changes won by the labor movement in the 20th century — a 40-hour workweek, fair wages, equal opportunity provisions, health and retirement benefits — built this country's middle class and also improved public health. Those who opposed them were on the wrong side of history and of economics. A healthy thriving workforce is what makes an economy, and a county, grow.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 4:49 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 8:49:14 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Erica Payne |
| Email | epayne105@gmail.com |
| Subject | Public Comments/Testimony for Paid Sick Days Hearing |
| Message | <p>Hi, my name is Erica Payne and I'm a home healthcare worker in the West End of Pittsburgh and a member of the union United Homecare Workers of PA. I care for a woman who had an accident when she was younger. She has been able to live at home rather than in a nursing home because caregivers like myself can assist her with daily living tasks such as bathing, lifting, and dressing. I also care for my mother.</p> <p>This work is hard and physical and emotional but I like the challenge and it gives me a sense of meaning and purpose. Homecare is one of the fastest growing jobs in our state, which is exciting - people want to stay at home as they age or if they have a disability, and homecare is also a very "green" and eco-friendly job, perfect for a transitioning economy.</p> <p>The problem is, it's not yet a good job. Our wages are low (I also drive Uber on weekends to help with that) and I don't get any benefits with the job. And this is after an entire year of being called a Healthcare Hero during a pandemic!</p> <p>Making sure sick days are mandatory in Allegheny County would be a big step in my field. If I get sick and can't go into work, I don't get paid. Either we go to work sick in order to make financial ends meet, putting our health and the health of our patients at risk, or we stay home and lose a couple paychecks. How do we live in a society where healthcare workers have to make this impossible choice?</p> <p>To me, mandating paid sick days is such an obvious way for Pittsburgh and Allegheny County to step up and show material support for the essential, frontline workers that got us through this past year. We appreciate the signs and the tweets and the encouragement from the past year, but it doesn't mean much when we're still having to choose between health and pay. I know Allegheny</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|--|
| | County can figure this out and can support small businesses during the transition —other cities have made it work. The flaws of the system have fallen hard on the backs of healthcare workers like myself this year, please do what's we all know is right here and ease that burden with paid sick days. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 8:49:14 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Paid Sick Time Testimony

Arielle Sloss

Before covid I could count on one hand how many times I had called off from work for being sick. My background is in customer service and there is a mindset that you must suffer through anything and everything for the sake of the job. There is also a lot of guilt placed on the worker if they call off because it forces those who can work to stretch themselves to make up for your absence.

Working in customer service obviously means dealing with people constantly. But how does that make sense to interact with them when you are contagious; especially after everything we have experienced in the past year? You are not able to perform your work responsibilities to the best of your ability; this affects the business, customer, and most importantly your health.

On top of your health and safety at risk the fear of financial security is going to keep you from calling off. I know to the exact dollar of how much I must make every paycheck to be able to pay my bills. Even if I leave an hour early, I know that it will prevent me from having peace of mind come payday. Especially since I do not make that much to begin with, I have to put my work before myself.

If I were able to have that security of paid sick days, I would be able to put my physical and financial needs first. There needs to be a change in our culture in how we view taking time off for any reason. It should not be viewed with shame or a punishment. We are seeing higher numbers of burnout amongst the workforce. If people had that option to be able to safely and securely take the time they needed to recover the results would be enormous. I am hoping that because of this pandemic there can be a change in how we treat a sick worker regardless of why

they are calling off. No customer or worker wants to interact with someone who should not be there.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: Michelle Boyle <mmhboyle@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:38 AM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Paid Sick Days Testimony

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

As a nurse it is beyond comprehension that paid sick days is not already in place. Especially while we are still contending with a pandemic that cost the lives of 1,867 people in our county. From worldwide evidence, it is known that quarantining curbed the pandemic. Quarantine is impossible when you fear losing your job if you call in sick.

Even before the pandemic workers had to choose between showing up sick to maintain financial stability, or calling in sick and losing their job. Too often, I have seen managers guilt, punish and bully workers for calling in sick. This directly leads to the public health problem of spreading communicable diseases, from the flu passed to a chemo patient enjoying a dinner out, or as seen in this past year's devastation, the loss of life of 26,000 people in Pennsylvania. We must do better. We must not punish working families when they need to call in sick. We need to protect the working families and protect the families of the public they serve.

Thank you,
Michelle Boyle BSN RN

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: Richard Gegick <rlgegick@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:00 AM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Paid Sick Leave Comment-Gegick

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

It's concerning that we're over a year into the COVID-19 pandemic and still talking about the need for paid sick leave, but here we are.

Workers in Allegheny County need access to this type of paid leave. I can tell you what not having it means. People who are severely ill will show up to work.

In my 14 years in the restaurant industry, I've worked through countless flus and illnesses including a case of highly contagious conjunctivitis in early March 2020 (I attempted to hide it with Visine). Why did I do this? I couldn't afford to take a night off work.

Paid sick leave for workers concerns the health and well-being of every Allegheny County citizen. As we witnessed this past year, deadly and dangerous diseases spread like wildfire when workers are forced to work sick. Without the stability of actual pay (not the \$7.25/hr minimum wage), workers will continue to show up and clock in sick as we reopen, and jeopardize the progress we've all made toward beating back this pandemic.

Workers can't afford that, and neither can Allegheny County businesses. I ask you to please institute a comprehensive Paid Sick Leave policy with actual hourly pay for every worker in Allegheny County.

Thank You,

Richard L. Gegick

Richard L. Gegick
(412)735-2489
1332 Liverpool St. #2
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
rlgegick@gmail.com

**Testimony of Susan Frietsche, Senior Staff Attorney, Women's Law Project
To the Allegheny County Health Department
In Support of Paid Sick Days legislation
May 4, 2021**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of paid sick days legislation. The Women's Law Project provides free legal services and advocacy on a wide range of women's rights issues, including workplace issues such as sexual harassment, pregnancy discrimination, and unequal pay.

After a devastating year of COVID-19, the public health importance of ensuring that all workers have access to paid sick days has never been clearer. Paid sick leave permits sick people to recover faster. It helps isolate the sick person and avoid workplace transmission of pathogens, which is of particular importance in the food service, childcare, education, and health care industries. It permits working parents to stay home to care for their sick children, thus preventing the transmission of contagious diseases in day care and school settings. It correlates with fewer on-the-job accidents. It minimizes emergency room visits for non-emergent medical needs. It facilitates timely health screenings and preventive care. In the event of a public health emergency, a paid sick leave provision helps ensure that employers permit workers to comply with emergency public health measures.

The lack of paid sick days protection inflicts severe distress on low-wage workers who cannot afford to lose even a single day's pay. These workers are, disproportionately, women and people of color. For families confronted with a cancer diagnosis, a sudden disabling condition, or the onset of an addiction, where caregiving responsibilities are immediate and a matter of life or death, paid sick leave is a compelling necessity.

We urge the Allegheny County Health Department to act quickly to adopt a paid sick days provision for approval by County Council. The provision should include the following features:

- Paid sick days should be available for workers in small as well as large workplaces. The 25-employee threshold should be removed, mirroring Pittsburgh's Paid Sick Days Ordinance, which applies to workplaces of any size.
- Workers should have the opportunity to frontload paid sick days.
- Survivors of domestic and sexual abuse should be allowed to use paid sick days to change locks, consult with legal counsel, find secure housing, or take other action to safeguard their health and lives from violence.
- The paid sick days provision should include a private right of action so individuals who have been harmed by a noncompliant employer have a legal remedy in court.

We are available to answer questions and can provide recommended language for these provisions. Thank you for considering this testimony.

Susan Frietsche
Senior Staff Attorney and Director, Western Pennsylvania program
Women's Law Project
428 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1710
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-281-2892
412-302-0059 (cell)
Email: sfrietsche@womenslawproject.org
Website: www.womenslawproject.org

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:44:51 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Lorraine Starsky |
| Email | lorrainestarsky@gmail.com |
| Subject | Comments on Article XXIV: Paid Sick Leave for Allegheny County |
| Message | <p>Paid sick leave is a social determinant of health that is essential to improving public health. However, the United States remains the only developed country in the world that does not require employers to provide paid sick leave. Here in Allegheny County, we have an opportunity to mandate the provision of this vital, public health benefit for thousands of residents who work in generally low-paid, public facing jobs, many of whom are women with children and many of whom are people of color.</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the dire consequences of employees without paid sick time becoming sick and coming to work anyway because they couldn't afford the loss of unpaid time off and/or feared disciplinary action for missing work. Human Impact Partners commissioned a recent report which projected that if Walmart had offered employees two weeks of paid sick leave before the pandemic, at least 7,618 fewer employees would have become sick with COVID-19 and at least 133 lives could have been saved. It was only because the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act, which went into effect on April 2, 2020, ultimately shamed Walmart into allowing employees to stay home and receive pay when they became ill that these numbers of COVID-19 illnesses and death weren't devastatingly higher.</p> <p>Whatever ordinance the Board of Health devises must contain unambiguous language that allows the use of paid sick time for taking care of a sick child and does not require getting a doctor's statement unless the employee has been off work more than three days. The burden of taking time off work for a sick child generally falls on women and they don't need the added stress of worrying about getting a doctor's statement for a two-day virus that causes a fever and then resolves on its own. I know this from personal experience as I was a single parent who had to take a lot of time off work to care for two young children who tended to tag team on illnesses.</p> <p>Additionally, the language of the ordinance must clearly prohibit retaliation against employees who use paid sick time and it must have tough, immediate consequences to inhibit retaliatory practices. When my children were little, I</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | <p>worked for a highly profitable Fortune 500 company with a slick, carefully cultivated public image. Despite my history of a spotless attendance record prior to having children, I was threatened with disciplinary action even with providing statements from my children's doctor to document my time off work, which was unpaid because paid sick time was only for their managers.</p> <p>A more current situation of employer intimidation regarding taking time off work was described in a New York Times editorial that appeared last year. The editorial stated "Managers exercise considerable power over scheduling and hours, and the researchers [Mr. Schneider and Ms. Harknett] said that workers, in interviews, often expressed concern about the consequences of requesting a sick day. Chipotle conceded in 2017 that a norovirus outbreak centered on a Chipotle in Sterling, Va., was caused by a sick employee who should have been sent home. New York sued Chipotle last year for violating worker protections, including the city's sick leave law, at five locations in Brooklyn. In February, New York fined Chipotle for firing a worker who took three sick days. 'It's not enough to have an official policy,' Ms. Harknett said. 'It has to be a policy that people feel they can use.'"</p> <p>When paid sick time is available without intimidation there is strong evidence to show that it can generate public health benefits such as encouraging more people to utilize preventive screenings. A study that appeared in the July 2017 issue of the American Journal of Nursing noted that employees without paid sick leave are significantly less likely to have recommended annual health screenings compared with those who have paid sick leave. This holds true, even when preventive screenings are free. In the case of mammograms, it has been well documented that women without paid sick time are far less likely to have this important screening.</p> <p>As for the arguments that paid sick time is prohibitively costly to smaller businesses, Dr. Stoddard-Dare, a professor in the School of Social Work at Cleveland State University, who has extensively researched this issue, has observed, "Both employers and policy makers should consider the potential cost savings associated with offering a few guaranteed paid sick days. The costs of providing sick leave benefits may be lower than employers think when taking into account the costs of workers coming to work when they are sick or performing sub-optimally "</p> <p>Furthermore, in several cities where employers are mandated to provide paid sick leave, a majority of companies polled report that implementing paid sick leave was worthwhile. Studies also have shown that paid sick leave does not depress wages.</p> <p>I urge the Board of Health to take action immediately on this crucial public health measure.</p> |

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: Larisa Mednis <larisa@pghrwa.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Public comment for ACHD board meeting on May 5th

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Hello,

I would like to submit a comment to be read at tomorrow's Allegheny County Health Department board meeting. My statement is as follows:

My employer has given me the opportunity to take a few paid sick days every quarter, which is the first time I've had access to these benefits. I'm 23 years old and have been working since I was 17, mostly at food service and restaurant jobs. Although I am young and relatively healthy, I deal with anxiety and GI issues, as well as the usual seasonal illnesses, and benefit from the ability to take a day off of work to rest and recover. Sometimes I have been able to call in sick, but sometimes I have been asked to deal with it and work because we were understaffed or busy. If I was allowed to stay home, I still had to sacrifice the wages I would have earned from that shift. Paid sick leave protects both personal and public health, as I eliminate the risk of working around others and potentially spreading illnesses to them. This is crucial during the COVID-19 pandemic when the same virus can give one person the flu and be life-threatening to another. Whether one has a serious medical condition or comes down with a cold for a few days, whether one needs two months or two days off, paid sick leave gives us the ability to live safer and healthier in the long term.

Please let me know if you need any additional information from me before tomorrow. Thank you for the opportunity to share my viewpoint.

Best,
Larisa Mednis
Advocacy Organizer
Pittsburgh Restaurant Workers Aid
412-532-8389 (work)
267-495-7775 (cell)

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: Bobbi Linskens <bobbi@rocunited.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:17 AM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Paid Sick Leave Comment for tomorrows meeting

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In 2012 I was living in New York and began to date my high school crush. He lived here. In September I left my job at a hedge fund and moved my life to Pittsburgh. I secured a job at a financial planner and felt that I was at the beginning of something new and wonderful. A few months later while on vacation with my ex I knew that it would be a matter of when – not if – the physical abuse would begin. On the way back I emailed my boss to ask for an additional day off to make arrangements to leave. I had the paid time off available and hadn't considered for a moment that this request would mean anything but a chance for me to get away. Instead, the morning I returned to work I was fired before I had a chance to put my lunch in the fridge.

When I was fired, I knew it would mean I wouldn't be able to leave. I didn't have an income, I wasn't eligible for unemployment compensation and I hadn't been in control of my own finances for longer than I was really aware. I could not afford anywhere to go.

A few months later, my ex punched me, giving me a concussion and a swollen eye just days before a promising interview. I didn't get the job. During that time I wasn't allowed to use electricity and as a punishment for trying to use the internet (to find a job), he poured a cup of water on my laptop. If I brought food into the house, it was thrown into my cat's litter box. My cat was physically hurt by him. By the end of the summer, we both lived only in the bedroom with no lights and no internet. A year later my ex would try to kill me. In the years following, I would live in two domestic abuse shelters and lose everything I owned save for my cat, my new computer (gifted to me by the Apple Store employees when they saw my black eye) and a garbage bag hastily "packed" full of sundresses and mismatched socks.

At the time I was fired, I needed somebody – one single person or institution – to show me kindness and offer a harbor in the storm. I couldn't have imagined that a victim of domestic abuse could be fired as result of simply asking to be able to escape safely.

I got out in 2016. I have rebuilt my life but not my career. Now I work in a restaurant. I want to make clear that I love my job. I love the restaurant industry and I love the people in it. We are erstwhile actors and artists. We are recent unlucky grads. We are single mothers, recovering addicts and survivors of abuse. We are an historically underinsured cohort, overlooked by even the most basic of workplace protections. If we fall ill – which we do a lot because we clear people's dirty silverware – many of us don't have paid time off. Those of us who do are paid PTO at minimum wage – a rate that is roughly 85% lower than what some of us earn.

I speak as a person who never thought it would happen to her. It can happen to any of us. We can all be knocked by another person's hand to the bottom of the heap. I've been trying for four years to get back up and I now work in a position that is simultaneously at enormous risk of exposure to COVID-19 and entirely unprotected should I become infected. I need your help. My sisters and brothers who are experiencing domestic abuse need your help. My coworkers need your help. Men and women who you don't know but who make your lives cleaner, more comfortable and more enjoyable need your help. Now is the time to help us with one of life's most basic needs – safety. Now is the time.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my story with you. I hate talking about this, but I will not let pass an opportunity to advocate for these vital protections. Thank you.

--
Bobbi Linskens
She/Her/Hers
Organizer
ROC Pittsburgh
(724) 812-6594

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:21 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:21:28 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Allegheny County Council Members Olivia Bennett, Anita Prizio, Tom Duerr and Paul Klein, and Council President Pat Catena |
| Email | jared.barker@alleghenycounty.us |
| Subject | Paid Sick Leave Regulations |
| Message | <p>Pursuant to Chief Executive Fitzgerald's communication regarding Bill No. 11481-20 (relating to paid sick leave within Allegheny County), it is our understanding that the Board of Health has been asked to begin formulating paid sick leave regulations. We are therefore operating under the assumption that discussions surrounding paid sick leave may begin as early as the Board's next regular meeting, scheduled for May 5, 2021.</p> <p>While it is not our intention at this time to revisit the provisions of 11481-20, we do wish to take this opportunity to emphasize our collective belief in the critical importance of providing paid sick leave for workers employed within Allegheny County. The deleterious effects of employees reporting to work while ill are well documented and need not be recapped, and the COVID-19 pandemic has all too clearly emphasized that communicable diseases are both opportunistic and relentless. Providing employees throughout the County with the ability to earn paid sick leave will, in our judgment, mitigate the need for working County residents to choose between their and the public's health on the one hand, and their ability to remain employed and pay their bills on the other. This will benefit all County residents and employers in both the short and long term by reducing exposure to communicable disease among employees and customers.</p> <p>With the foregoing in mind, we would like to encourage the Board of Health to address the request to develop paid sick leave regulations with all deliberate speed. In addition and based upon our own consideration of the issue, we would also like to express our collective belief that the fullest benefit of paid sick time can only be realized through a structure that renders as many employees as possible eligible for paid sick leave accrual, and that protects employees from termination and other adverse consequences for using their accrued time to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p>If we can be of any assistance to you as you proceed, please feel free to contact</p> |

| Field | Value |
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| | us, and thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this significant issue. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:21:28 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@allegHENYcounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:28 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:27:47 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | Steven Martinez |
| Email | stvnbmrtz@gmail.com |
| Subject | Air Pollution / Paid Sick Leave |
| Message | Though I do not live in the Mon Valley, I appreciate the efforts to communicate the pollution episodes experienced there, I hope that further efforts will demand more accountability from those industries that burden our county's lives, health, and image. I would also appreciate an expedited push for a county-wide paid-sick leave. The previous efforts seem to have been killed by county executives, at the time when it is most needed. |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:27:47 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Sunday, April 18, 2021 8:43 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, April 19, 2021 12:42:56 AM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Heather Neylon |
| Email | heather.neylon@gmail.com |
| Subject | Testimony of Air Quality Issues for May's Board of Health Meeting |
| Message | <p>I'm writing in as a concerned resident of Allegheny County, a home-owner in Wilkins Township, an a concerned neighbor to all those like me who suffer from the poor air quality we're subjected to by unmitigated industry air pollution. Most days, the first step I take outside in the morning is met with an offensive smell. It is my understanding that we've long known about US Steel/Clairton Coke Works's many infractions, violations, and fines for blatant disregard of environmental policy and stewardship. The easiest way to make Allegheny more livable for ALL citizens, not just those with asthma like myself, is to hold this and other corporations accountable for the corruption of our air. I strongly urge the Board of Health to pursue equity on this issue. Fines only create a payable work-around for big businesses. They must follow protocols or be shut down. Thank you for your time</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Monday, April 19, 2021 12:42:56 AM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Stephanie Kowal

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: Stephe <nehi74@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 1:41 PM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Metalico Fire

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Hi Todd,

My name is Stephanie Kowal and I live in Emsworth. I live right across the river from Metalico. This in regards to that fire that Metalico had last month. I had to pack up myself, my sister and my cat and stay at a hotel because of that horrendous toxic smoke. It gave me a massive headache. Moving my cat stressed her out. The lingering odor stayed in the house when we returned the next day. Something seriously needs to be done about them. If you want video of the toxic smoke cloud rolling right towards my house, just let me know. Thank you.

Stephanie Kowal

Angelo Taranto

May 5, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

Problems with Metalico's Operation for years leading up to the April 14, 2021 fire

Angelo Taranto, Secretary/Treasurer of ACCAN.

The April 14th fire was just the latest in a long line of incidents at Metalico. We were horrified by the fire, because of the harm that we knew it was doing to residents downwind, but we were not surprised. From years of monitoring, we knew that Metalico operated with little regard for the health and quality of life of residents in neighboring communities.

ACCAN has been monitoring the Metalico site because of complaints concerning the odors, noise, air quality and explosions emanating from the car-shredding site. For years these experiences have been degrading the quality of life of residents in nearby communities and have had, no doubt, short-term and long-term health effects.

Because Metalico has been a nuisance for so long, ACCAN created accancamera.com, in collaboration with CMU's Create Lab, for documenting problems with this company. The site contains 24/7 camera footage of the Metalico site, as well as data from monitors close to the site to capture particles, VOCs, and other air data.

On the accancamera.com blog, we have been documented 270 instances of air quality, noise, explosions, and bad smell events since August 2018. Most of these incidents have been reported to ACHD and has resulted in a few instances of fines being issued to Metalico, but these have been small and have not resulted in substantial changes in Metalico's operations.

It should be noted that complaints documented at accancamera.com often describe the odor coming from Metalico as smelling like "burning/hot plastic" and "melted plastic, metal, rubber". Metalico has always denied that these odors come from their operation. Residents used the same or similar terms to describe the odors they smelled from the April 14th fire as "burning plastic/rubber" and "burning smell like plastic".

Since the fire, ACCAN has repeatedly tried to get information from ACHD. Concerns were about what materials burned in the fire, what caused the fire, what measures would be taken to ensure that it doesn't happen again, how Metalico would be held accountable and what changes ACHD would make so that communities received proper notification after industrial incidents like this. Before ACCAN received a response, Metalico started operating their shredder again on April 19th (5 days after the fire). This was without any reassurances to the community that measures were being taken to prevent another fire.

Residents living downwind from Metalico deserve answers and better protection.

Barbara Pace

Metalico Fire Timeline – May 5, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

My name is Barbara Pace and I am an ACCAN Board member. The following is the timeline of the April 14, 2021 fire at Metalico.

April 14, 2021

- **3:56 p.m.** - Metalico's shredder stopped.
- **4:04 p.m.** – Smoke, probably from the start of the fire, appears and quickly grows in volume and gets darker.
- **4:10 p.m.** – Emsworth resident arrives home and noticed the smoke and odor from Metalico getting heavy.
- **4:15 p.m.** – Smoke erupts into a very large, dark plume blowing across the river into Emsworth.
- **4:44pm** - Resident saw flames near the shredder and heard sirens. They sent in a complaint to ACHD.
- **5:00 – 6:00 P.M.** – A lot more smoke and an ACHD inspector arrived. Their neighbor's house next door looked draped in heavy fog. The inspector said it smelled like burning tires..

The resident started to panic a bit about the odor because their lungs were getting congested and tight, and they were starting to wheeze.

- **9:00 – 10:00 pm**
- Resident and some of her neighbors decided to stay in a hotel that night, because the smell was really strong inside of their homes.

-- The smoke continues to blow into Emsworth into the night.

10:18 p.m. - Some of the hosing down of the burning pile stops and the fire departments start to withdraw their equipment.

April 15, 2021

8:08am - ACHD website showed no alerts, no notices about air quality, nothing.

April 15 – April 21: ACCAN used all available funds to purchase air cleaners that were given to six affected homeowners to help them clear odors from their homes.

April 16th – First email sent to ACHD by ACCAN reporting on the fire and making certain requests.

April 20th – Second email to ACHD from ACCAN asking why Metalico was allowed to start operating their shredder on April 19th before the cause of the fire was determined.



April 20th – Complaint sent to ACHD by Emsworth resident reporting odor coming from the operation of the shredder.

April 23rd -Third email to ACHD from ACCAN.

April 24th - Response received from Patrick Dowd, ACHD's Chief Operating Officer. . In his response he explained that the municipality was responsible for notifications and that, at some point, the public would be able to find out on ACHD website about any violations and enforcement actions against Metalico.

April 28th – April 29th A total of four complaints sent to ACHD by resident and another ACCAN member reporting smoke emissions and odor coming from Metalico's shredder.

Sonia Kowal

My name is Sonia Kowal. I live in Emsworth directly across the Ohio River from Metalico.

My home is only 1,400 feet away from Metalico. Their operations negatively impact my neighborhood and the families living here on a daily basis. The fire of April 14th was a culmination of our worst fears. For hours, smoke and acrid fumes blew across the river in clouds so thick that it was hard to see my neighbor's home less than 20 feet away. It infiltrated every floor of my house to where even wearing an N95 mask did not help. It was inescapable. By 10pm that night, the odor was still so strong that my family, and 3 other families in my neighborhood, were forced to find other accommodations for the night. This was unnerving, expensive, and beyond "inconvenient".

When I returned home the next day, it still smelled so bad that I had to open all the windows to air it out. I also found a layer of gray dust covering every surface both inside and on the exterior of my home.

I'm OUTRAGED and disturbed by the fact that your department did NOTHING to protect or warn my community about what we were breathing in, how toxic it was, and what we should do. Your department left families with toddlers, little kids, pets and people w/compromised immune systems hanging, not knowing what to do and in real fear for their health.

I'm OUTRAGED that just five days after the fire, on April 19th, Metalico was allowed to operate the shredder again. This occurred without any assurance from the Health Department that Metalico was taking measures to prevent another fire.

I'm most OUTRAGED that the numerous complaints that I and my neighbors have submitted over the years regarding Metalico have resulted in little to no change. In fact, their operations have increased over the past year. My neighborhood has experienced more days/per week of air that smells like melted plastic and metal, more emissions, and an increase in explosions. They are operating earlier in the day and it's not unusual to be awakened at 3am to the sound of scrap metal being dumped onto their property. Most disturbing of all is the SIGNIFICANT increase in the noise they generate when they load metal scrap into metal barges. The noise is extreme, regularly measuring beyond 85 decibels and lasts for hours. This often forces me and my family to rearrange our activities to accommodate it. Some days the noise is so loud that I actually have to leave my home.

This is unacceptable. Metalico should not be allowed to operate so close to a residential area. They are a public nuisance that is impacting our health and destroying our quality of life on a daily basis.

Angela Garcia

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: angela bakaysza <bakaysza@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:52 PM
To: Bogdanovich, Todd
Subject: Metalico fire experience

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

I would like to submit my comments/complaint for the Board of Health hearing regarding the fire at Metalico scrap yard..

I was working from home with our windows open on a warm spring day in the late afternoon on ~~May~~ ^{April} 14 when I noticed a smell that reminded me of burning plastic and rubber. I was on a virtual meeting as the smell got stronger. I heard our local fire company pull out and shortly thereafter heard helicopters overhead, so I knew that something significant had happened. As soon as my meeting ending, I closed our windows, but the acrid smell had already gotten into the house. I went outside and the air in our Emsworth neighborhood, located 3/4 mile across the river from Metalico scrap yard, was overpowering and nauseating. I instructed my two teenagers to stay inside while I finished a work meeting that ended at 6:30. By that time, my son and I had headaches, and although I did not know what was causing the stench, I knew it was not good for us to be breathing, so we left our neighborhood to eat dinner. Only then did we read about the cause of the fire whose smoke filled our neighborhood. We came home later in the evening, and although the smell had dissipated outdoors, we couldn't air out our house instantly and I began to wonder what the residual odor and smoke contained and how seriously and how long it would impact our health."

I am left wondering what did we breath in and how will it impact our health in the long-term. Who was responsible for this? Did anyone care that our neighborhood was filled with poisonous smoke for hours? Will anyone be held accountable for the noxious fumes and their impact on the air we breathe?

Sincerely,
Angela Garcia
Emsworth resident

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Kristine Pace

My home is located on Ohio River Boulevard directly across the River from the Metalico Plant. On ^{April} ~~May~~ 14th I was in my bedroom packing a bag to go over to my parent's house, my father had just had surgery and I was going over to care for him. It was a warm spring day and all the windows in my home were open. I began to smell an odd burning smell, like plastic was melting or an electrical fire of some sort. I frantically started looking all over my home at first thinking that something in my house was burning. After about 10 minutes of searching, I began to hear fire trucks, I looked out on Ohio River Boulevard from my windows to see which way they were headed. Although I could hear them, I never saw them on the Boulevard. I was in a hurry to get to my parents who live in the south hills, so I shut the windows and left my home.

Later that afternoon when my adult college aged children arrived back at the house, they called me all upset explaining that there was a black cloud of smoke around our home, and they were coughing and having headaches. They were also worried about our pets. They packed up our animals and went to a friend's home for the night to get away from the smoke.

When we all came back the next day the black cloud was gone however the smell of burning plastic was still inside our home. We had to keep the windows open that day to dissipate the odor.

-Respectfully submitted Kristine Pace Emsworth resident.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of Emsworth Pa, which is located southeast of Neville Island and the Metalico Plant. Due to the prevailing winds and natural course of the areas weather our air quality is often effected by plants on Neville Island.

I am deeply concerned that on ~~10~~^{April} 14th 2021, as I was walking through Ben Avon and Emsworth that I noticed what I thought was a weird weather anomaly of extremely low clouds flowing around and over houses across the valley in Emsworth. I then learned that it was smoke from an incident at the Metalico plant and some people had been inadvertently affected.

As a home owner and tax payer I have become very disappointed with how our local governments have not been holding companies responsible for the damage they due to our environment, personal health and wellbeing.

Mark Bracalielly

44 Courtney St

PGH, Pa 15202

May 5, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

MY NAME IS KATHLEEN KREBS AND I AM A RETIRED REGISTERED NURSE AND CO-FOUNDER OF ACCAN.

FACT: AN EXCERPT FROM THE NATIONALLY ACCREDITED ACHD'S MISSION STATEMENT: "ACHD STRIVES DAILY TO ASSURE QUALITY PUBLIC HEALTH BY... PROTECTING THE POPULATION FROM HARMFUL EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL HAZARDS WITHIN THE ENVIRONMENT."

FACT: NO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPORT WAS DISPATCHED TO THE EMSWORTH COMMUNITY TO ADDRESS RESIDENT IMPACT FROM THE INHALATION OF THE AIR POLLUTANTS IN THE SMOKE.

FACT: AN EMSWORTH RESIDENT PROVIDED AN N95 MASK TO THE INSPECTOR ON SITE. NO RESPIRATORY PROTECTION WAS PROVIDED TO THE EMSWORTH COMMUNITY DURING THIS PUBLIC HEALTH INCIDENT WHICH LASTED FOR MANY HOURS.

FACT: THE EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF AIR POLLUTION HAVE BEEN WIDELY NOTED IN PEER REVIEWED LITERATURE. THIS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INCIDENT ACCELERATED FEELINGS OF STRESS, ANXIETY AND FEAR IN THE EMSWORTH COMMUNITY-ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT HAD NO INFORMATION OR DIRECTION ON WHAT WAS OCCURRING. EXPERIENCES OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT WERE DIRECTLY COMMUNICATED TO ACCAN MEMBERS THROUGH CONVERSATION AND EMAIL.

SUMMATION: WE DO NOT KNOW THE SHORT AND LONG TERM HEALTH EFFECTS FOR THE EMSWORTH RESIDENTS. THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES FROM METALICO HAVE BEEN ESCALATING OVER THE YEARS. APRIL 14TH'S TOXIC FIRE WAS A PREDICTABLE MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH INCIDENT THAT SHOULD NEVER HAVE OCURED. ACCAN IS HOPEFUL THAT THIS INCIDENT WILL HELP ACHD IDENTIFY AND CORRECT THE DEFICIENCIES IN THE EXECUTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN INCLUDING A BROAD AND ROBUST NOTIFICATION SYSTEM.

KATHLEEN KREBS

Ang Hoffman

Metalico Fire Camera View and Air Data Summary

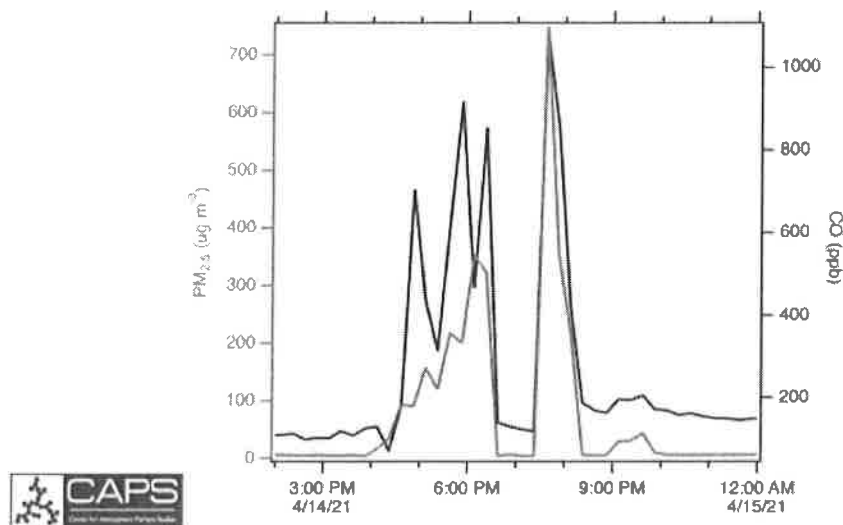
The community-owned camera trained on Metalico captured the experience of Emsworth residents living alongside the recycling plant when a pile of debris caught fire and proceeded to burn for hours. See <https://accancamera.com/#blog> to see the 270+ pollution events about Metalico documented since 2018, and check the link below to view the full day of April 14th where you can see the daily regular emissions from the shredder and then the fire that broke out in the mid-afternoon, burning through the night.

<https://thumbnails-v2.createlab.org/thumbnail?root=https://tiles.cmucreatelab.org/ecam/timemachines/accan1/2021-04-14.timemachine/&width=1280&height=720&startFrame=2189&format=mp4&fps=6&tileFormat=mp4&startDwell=0&endDwell=0&boundsLTRB=33.716614058584014,60.509678761952586,4170.064622314267,2387.2051425688414&labelsFromDataset&nframes=10122>

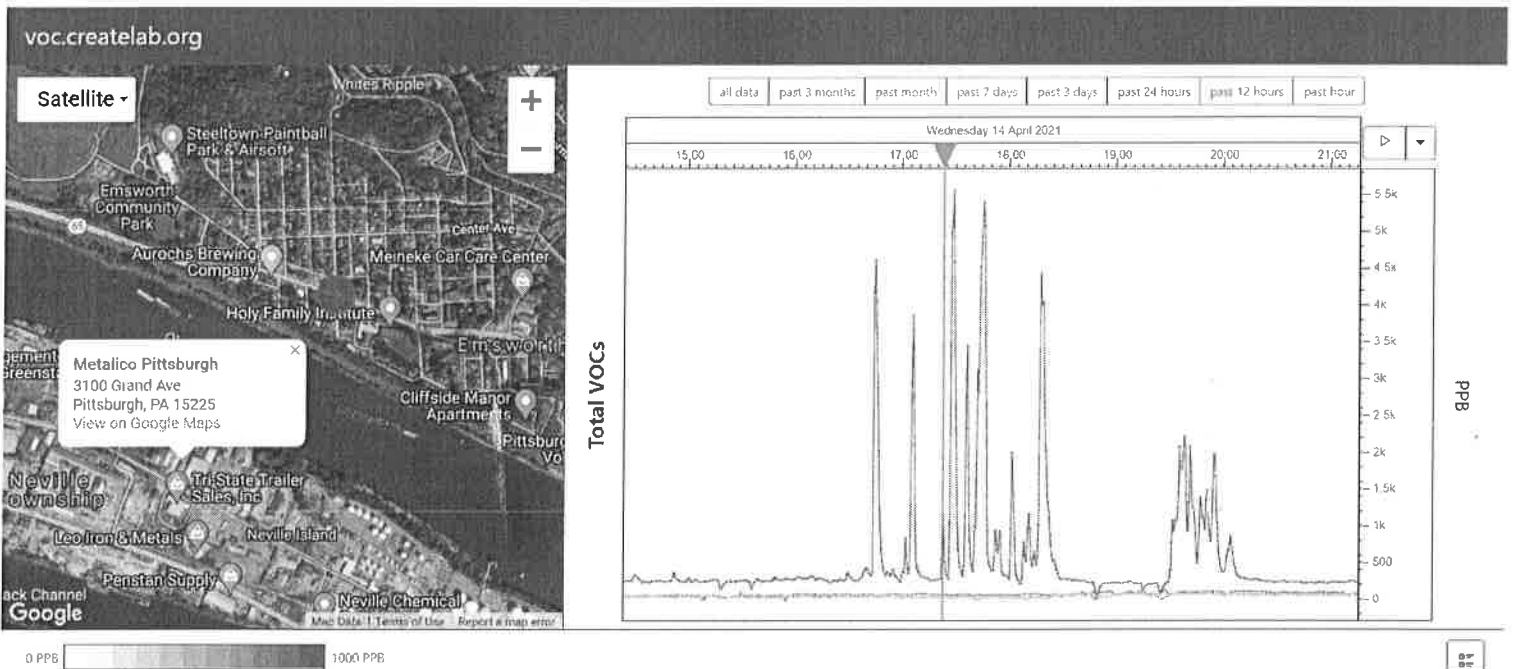


The RAMP data from the Emsworth monitoring site shows that Carbon Monoxide was at significantly high levels for the hours the debris fire burned, with the highest readings reaching over 1000 ppb of CO. The Emsworth RAMP monitor has been installed at this location across the Ohio River from Metalico (the same site as the camera) since June 2018, and the PM 2.5 readings shown below measured 30-80 times higher than the long-term average at that location during the April 14th fire, representing the highest PM readings this monitor has collected since installation in Emsworth.

PM changes are concurrent with other combustion emissions (CO, NO, and NO₂)



tVOC (total VOCs) readings from the Emsworth site also show elevated Volatile Organic Compound levels continuing for hours with readings in the thousands of ppb.

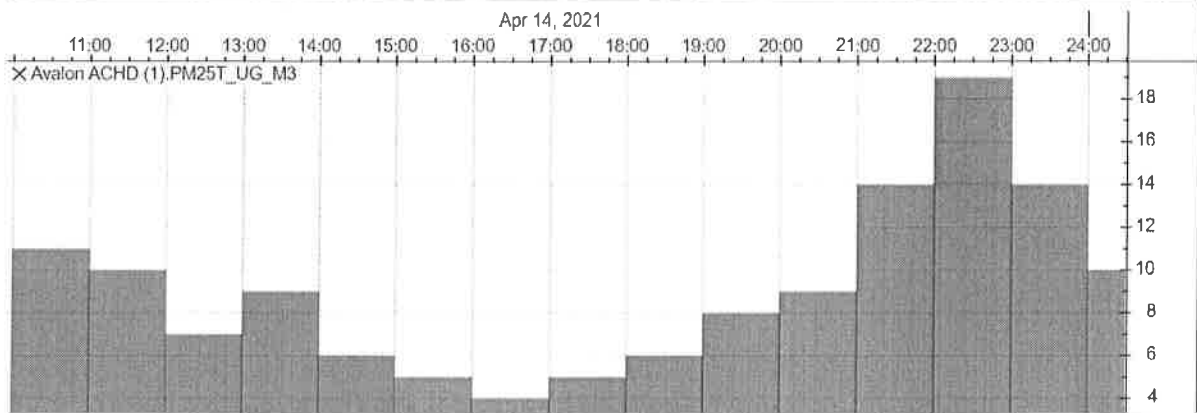


At another Emsworth resident's home, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from Metalico, a PurpleAir PM monitor recorded a hazardous air quality reading of 164 at 7:00 p.m. that evening.

The wind direction blew from the fire site into Emsworth affecting residents in the path of the plume in the North East direction from Metalico. This made it so that the single ACHD monitor in Avalon did not accurately capture the impact of this pollution event on Allegheny County residents (see bar graph at the bottom).

See the full plume video between 4pm and 12am on April 15th at the link below.

<https://aircocalc-www.createlab.org/pardumps/plumeviz/experiments/video/metalicov2.mp4>



Reference data can be explored on EnviromentalData.org as well as on ACCANcamera.com

Karen Grzywinski
k.a.b.grzy@gmail.com

My name is Karen Grzywinski and I am a resident of Ohio Township. I am a co-founder and current president of ACCAN.

ACCAN has reported pollution and explosions from Metalico to ACHD for years. Even though we have met with ACHD to discuss our concerns with Metalico, the pollution, violations, and impact on the health of residents have not been adequately addressed. The ACCAN camera and monitors have documented pollution from Metalico since 2018.

A shocking – but predictable – event occurred on April 14th, when a fire erupted at Metalico, burning plastic, tires, and other materials for more than six hours. It was the culmination of unconscionable conduct by Metalico and inaction by ACHD.

On behalf of ACCAN and Emsworth residents, I sent three emails to ACHD regarding the fire. The emails were sent on April 16th, April 20th, and April 23rd. I reported that:

- The ACCAN VOC and carbon monoxide monitors recorded extremely dangerous levels of pollution in Emsworth during the fire.
- The ACCAN camera – which ACHD and anyone can quickly access – captured pollution enveloping Emsworth homes during the fire.
- An ACHD inspector was present at the Emsworth monitor site during the fire, yet no warnings or alerts were issued to residents by ACHD.
- Emsworth residents were forced to evacuate their homes and stay in hotels or with family overnight.
- Numerous families with young children were exposed to the fire and pollution.
- ACCAN provided air cleaners to seven homeowners since the air in their homes still reeked of the fire when they returned the next day.

I asked for a response from ACHD to include:

- The cause of the fire.
- Why Metalico was permitted to resume operations five days after the fire when ACHD reported the cause of the fire was still under investigation.
- Why ACHD did not alert residents in Emsworth and surrounding communities about the dangerous pollution from the fire.
- Who residents can contact at ACHD with questions concerning their health and the health of their children due to exposure to the fire and pollution.

On April 24th, 2021, eight days after my first email and ten days after the Metalico fire, I finally received a reply email from ACHD. The response provided no answers to my questions and conveyed no concern for the health and safety of Allegheny County residents.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 12:49 PM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Monday, May 3, 2021 4:48:31 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | William Doran |
| Email | w.r.doran.76@gmail.com |
| Subject | Metalico |
| Message | <p>My name is William Doran and I am Vice President of ACCAN.</p> <p>The April 14, 2021 fire was just the latest incident in a long line of incidents at Metalico.</p> <p>We were horrified by the fire, because of the harm that we knew it was doing to residents downwind, but we were not surprised. From years of monitoring, we knew that Metalico operated with little regard for the health and quality of life of residents in neighboring communities.</p> <p>Allegheny County Clean Air Now (ACCAN) has been monitoring the Metalico site because of ongoing smell/odor, noise, and air quality complaints emanating from the car-shredding site. For years these experiences have been degrading the quality of life of residents in nearby communities and most certainly having short-term and long-term health effects.</p> <p>Because Metalico has been a nuisance for so long, ACCAN had created a specific site, accancamera.com, in collaboration with CMU's Create Lab, for documenting problems with this company. The site contains 24/7 high resolution camera footage of the Metalico site, as well as air monitoring data from monitors close to the site to capture particles, VOCs, and other air data.</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | <p>On the blog at accancamera.com, we have been documented over 270 instances of air quality, noise, explosions, and bad smell events since August 2018. Most of these incidents have been reported to ACHD and has resulted in a few instances of fines being issued to Metalico, but to date these have been small and have not resulted in substantial changes in Metalico's operations.</p> <p>Since the fire, ACCAN has repeatedly tried to get information from ACHD. Particular concerns were about what materials were burning in the fire, what caused the fire, what measures would be taken to ensure that it didn't happen again, how would Metalico be held accountable and what changes ACHD would make so that communities received proper notification after industrial incidents like this. Before a response from ACHD was received, Metalico started operating their shredder again on April 19th (5 days after the fire). This was before there was any communication about the cause of the fire and any reassurances to the community that measures were being taken to prevent another fire.</p> <p>Residents living downwind from Metalico deserve answers and better protection.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@allegHENYcounty.us from noreply@allegHENYcounty.us on Monday, May 3, 2021 4:48:31 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@allegHENYcounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@allegHENYcounty.us.

May 5, 2021 Board of Health Meeting

Answers Still Needed from ACHD Concerning the April 14th Metalico Fire

My name is Thaddeus Popovich and I am a co-founder of Allegheny County Clean Air Now (ACCAN)

What we learned from Patrick Dowd's response to ACCAN was that:

- (1) The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD), the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and local emergency responders do not have a coordinated emergency response plan that would alert residents to acute industrial incidents, such as the Metalico fire on April 14th, and that would provide guidance on how to protect their health, especially the health of the most vulnerable, during these events.
- (2) That it could be months before the Health Department (ACHD) completes its investigation and that, when the investigation is completed, the public can find out the results of that investigation on ACHD's website. Put this way, we assume that there would not be any direct communication of the results to the community or ACCAN.

What we didn't learn from Patrick Dowd's response was :

- (1) The types of materials that were burning in the Metalico fire. That information is important, because it would let the public know what types of toxics that they were breathing in during and after the April 14th fire. We assume that, even if the fire investigation hasn't been completed, the Health Department (ACHD) knows what types of materials were burning.
- (2) Whether Metalico has been required to adopt measures that will ensure that a fire of this type doesn't happen again. The public deserves this type of assurance. If Metalico hasn't made changes to prevent another fire, why were they allowed to restart their activities, specifically their shredder, on April 19th, just five days after the fire.
- (3) What changes will be made, in conjunction with DEP and local emergency responders, to make sure that communities receive proper notification and services after industrial incidents like the Metalico fire.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:03:19 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|---|
| Name | David Bertenthal |
| Email | davidmberten@gmail.com |
| Subject | Comment to Board of Health - air quality |
| Message | <p>May 4, 2021</p> <p>RE: Air Quality</p> <p>Multiple times in the past few months records posted by GASP show that we've had the worst air quality in the entire country. Our air still smells like rotten eggs / sulfur and PM 2.5 at times reach levels unhealthy to breath. I don't have the luxury of taking a break from breathing. I feel like the fish swimming in the polluted water, except it's the air.</p> <p>It's truly demoralizing and an embarrassment to talk about our amazing city and then have to preface it with the warnings about our rotten smelling air.</p> <p>Polluters have lied about the amount and dangers of their air pollution. It's making people sick. Polluters need to follow the law and clean up or be shut down. Why is it my job to filter their pollution with my lungs?</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:03:19 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.

Bogdanovich, Todd

From: noreply@alleghenycounty.us
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:08 AM
To: Board of Health
Cc: Bogdanovich, Todd; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us
Subject: Notification: Online Contact Form Submission

Data from form "Contact" was received on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:08:27 PM.

Board of Health form

| Field | Value |
|---------|--|
| Name | Michael Rhoads |
| Email | mrhoads@uss.com |
| Subject | U. S. Steel Update |
| Message | <p>Good afternoon, my name Mike Rhoads, and I am the Plant Manager of the U. S. Steel Mon Valley Works Clairton Plant. I would like to take a few minutes and comment on Mon Valley Episode Pollution rule and the recent announcements by U. S. Steel.</p> <p>U. S. Steel has been an active participant in the development of new regulations around inversions, a part of which includes air quality alerts. U. S. Steel is committed to working with ACHD and key stakeholders to develop and implement a strategy so all in the regulated community, including U. S. Steel, can do their part to address the air quality issues that result from inversions. The issue is complex and requires a multi-faceted solution. U. S. Steel will continue to work with ACHD to develop the best weather prediction tool possible for this rule.</p> <p>U. S. Steel has demonstrated by actions its willingness to do its fair share during inversions to reduce impacts of PM 2.5 in the Mon Valley area, and encourages the Allegheny County Health Department to ensure that all local and regional emissions sources including mobile sources are factored into the solution.</p> <p>U. S. Steel supports the current draft of the regulation and advancing the regulations to public comment.</p> <p>In 2019, U. S. Steel voluntarily set a 20% greenhouse gas emission intensity reduction goal for 2030. In addition, last month, U. S. Steel announced a goal to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050 and committed to sustainability standards and certification by becoming the first North American based steel producer to join the global ResponsibleSteel organization.</p> <p>In keeping with our commitment to sustainability and reducing emissions, U. S. Steel will permanently idle Batteries 1, 2 and 3 at the Clairton Plant by March 31, 2023. This timeline provides the opportunity to manage limited workforce</p> |

| Field | Value |
|-------|---|
| | <p>impacts through retirements, reassignment, and without layoffs. The permanent idling of Batteries 1, 2 and 3 will also include Quench Tower 1 and all ancillary emission units associated with the three batteries.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment today.</p> |

Email "Notification: Online Contact Form Submission" originally sent to BoardofHealth@alleghenycounty.us from noreply@alleghenycounty.us on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:08:27 PM. The following were also sent a copy: todd.bogdanovich@alleghenycounty.us; aaron.aupperlee@alleghenycounty.us.