



Director's Office Report

Barbara Nightingale, MD

Deputy Director, Bureau of Clinical Services
Allegheny County Health Department

Board of Health Meeting

September 6, 2023





Program updates

- Food safety
 - Over the past 3 months, registered 29 temporary events and farmers markets
 - During that same period, completed more than 160 inspections of food vendors participating in the events
- Housing and community environment
 - Treated 10,290 catch basins for mosquitoes throughout the City of Pittsburgh
 - Five mosquito sprays throughout the county
- Overdose prevention
 - Hosted second annual Overdose Awareness Day event with City of Pittsburgh
- Workforce development
 - Recruited 11 new National Health Corps. members



Program updates

- Environmental health
 - A new/updated PM2.5 monitor was installed at the Liberty monitoring site
 - New dashboard/website that will help to direct residents to facilities for hard to recycle item, such as metal, paint and electronics
- Data, reporting and disease control
 - Substance abuse during pregnancy, 2006-2020
 - Maternal morbidity in Allegheny County, 2019-2020
 - A guide to the control of infectious diseases in schools and child care centers
- Communications
 - Press releases: 31
 - Social media posts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram): 400+
 - GovQA inquiries: 4,300+
 - Allegheny Alerts: 120





Medical Director's Report

Barbara Nightingale, MD

Deputy Director
Bureau of Clinical Services
September 6, 2023





Outline

- School immunizations
- Respiratory viruses
 - Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
 - COVID-19
 - Influenza

Vaccine-preventable diseases

Community Health Priorities

Physical Health

Goal 3. Decrease disparities in life expectancy and chronic diseases in Allegheny County.

3.1. Reduce the racial disparity in infant and maternal mortality.

3.1.1. Reduce the infant mortality rate for Black children from 16.2 per 1,000 live births (2019) to 10 per 1,000 live births (2027).

Source: PA Death Certificate

3.1.3. Reduce the disparity in 5-year average death rates among people who gave birth within the past three years.

Source: PA Death Certificates and Child Review Team (5-year average, pending baseline data)

3.3. Reduce the disparity in life expectancy.

3.3.1. Increase life expectancy for Black residents from 71.4 years of age (2018-2020) to 74 years of age (2025-2027).

Source: County Health Rankings

3.3.2. Reduce premature mortality rates for Black residents from 660 per 100,000 (2018-2020) to 620 per 100,000 (2025-2027).

Source: County Health Rankings

3.3.3. Increase life expectancy for all residents from 77.9 years of age (2018-2020) to 79 years of age (2025-2027).

Source: County Health Rankings



School immunizations

Allegany County requirements

- All students (grades K-12)
 - Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP)
 - Hepatitis B
 - Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
 - Polio
 - Varicella
- Students in 7th grade
 - Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)
 - Meningococcal (MCV4)
- Students in 12th grade
 - Additional dose of MCV4

Additional recommended vaccines

- COVID-19
- Haemophilus influenzae type B
- Influenza
- Hepatitis A
- Human papillomavirus
- Pneumococcal
- Rotavirus



School immunizations

- Impact in Allegheny County
 - 95.1% of school-age children met requirement for 2022-2023
- Steps residents can take
 - Get immunized
- ACHD's role
 - Vaccination at Immunization Clinic
 - Marketing to promote vaccinations
 - Annual surveys of schools for immunization status

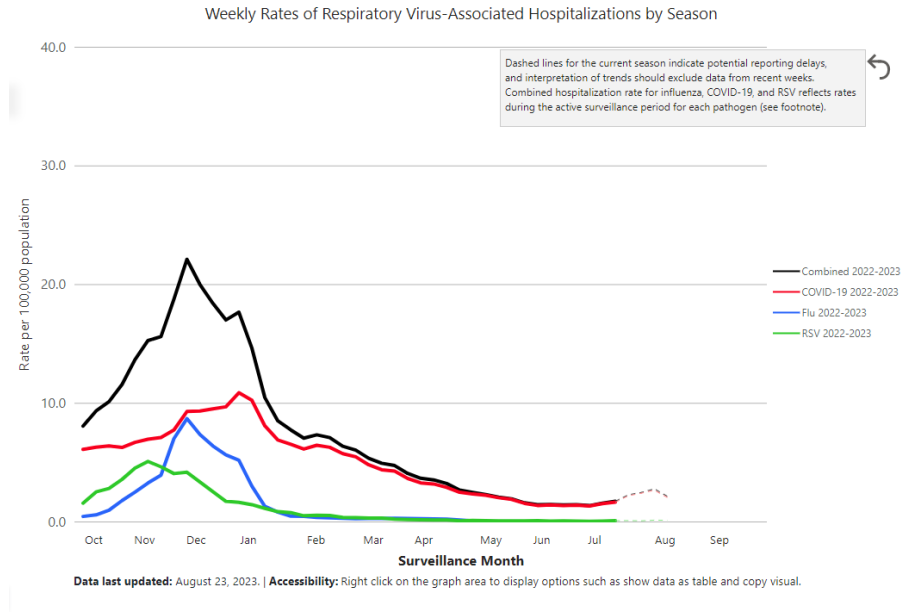


Respiratory viruses

- Respiratory illness hospitalizations mostly due to:
 - COVID-19
 - Influenza
 - Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) → leading cause of hospitalization for infants
- Symptoms vary, often mild, but can be severe
- Highest risk
 - Young children
 - Adults 65+
 - Pregnant people
 - People with chronic medical conditions
- Vaccines available

Respiratory viruses

- COVID-19
 - Continual transmission, likely winter peaks
 - Antiviral treatment available
- Influenza
 - Annual outbreaks (fall/winter peak)
 - Antiviral treatment available
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
 - Annual outbreaks (fall/winter peak)
 - Supportive treatment

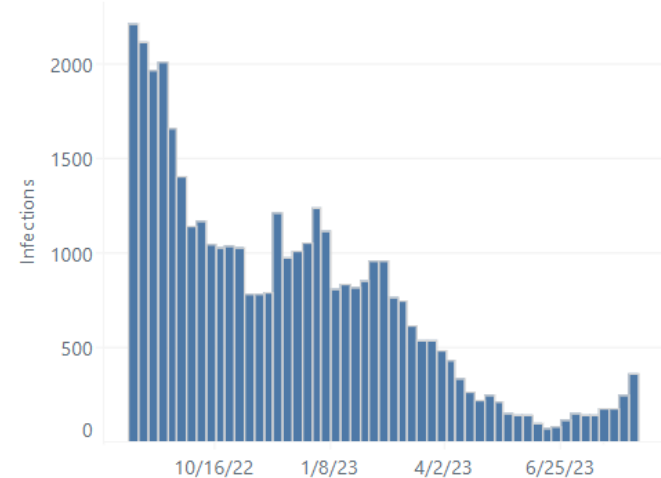


<https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/resp-net/dashboard.html>

COVID-19 in Allegheny County

- Infections (August 2022-July 2023)
 - 25,527 cases
 - 2,578 hospitalizations
 - 363 deaths

COVID-19 Infections
Weekly Trends (8/14/2022 - 8/19/2023)



ACHD Covid-19 Dashboard

COVID-19 in Allegheny County

- Vaccination rates
 - 21.2% with bivalent booster (7.5% to 51.9% by locality)

Coverage by Race

Asian or Pacific Islander people with bivalent booster: 22.5%

Black people with bivalent booster: 14.1%

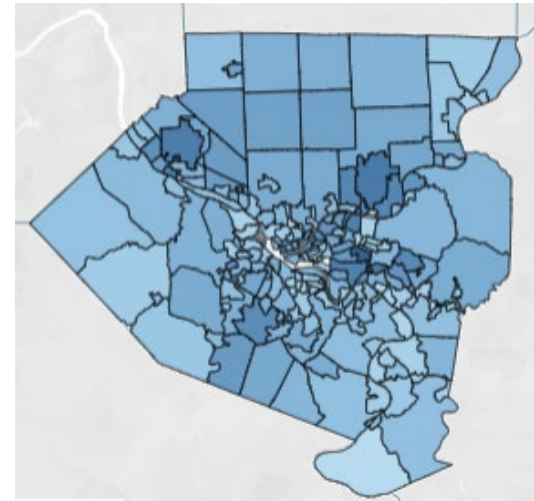
Native American people with bivalent booster: 27.3%

White people with bivalent booster: 23.3%

Coverage by Ethnicity

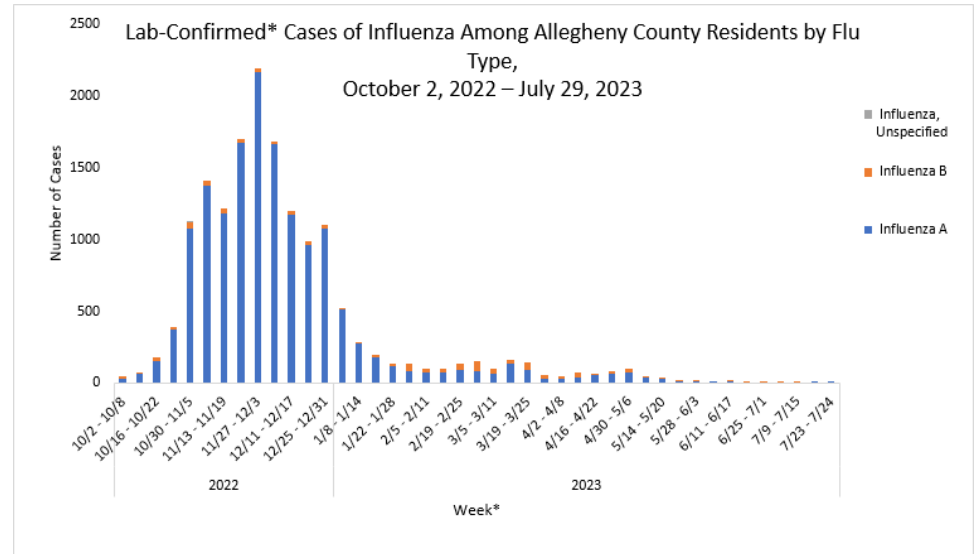
Hispanic (All Races) people with bivalent booster: 15.7%

Not Hispanic (All Races) people with bivalent booster: 21.2%



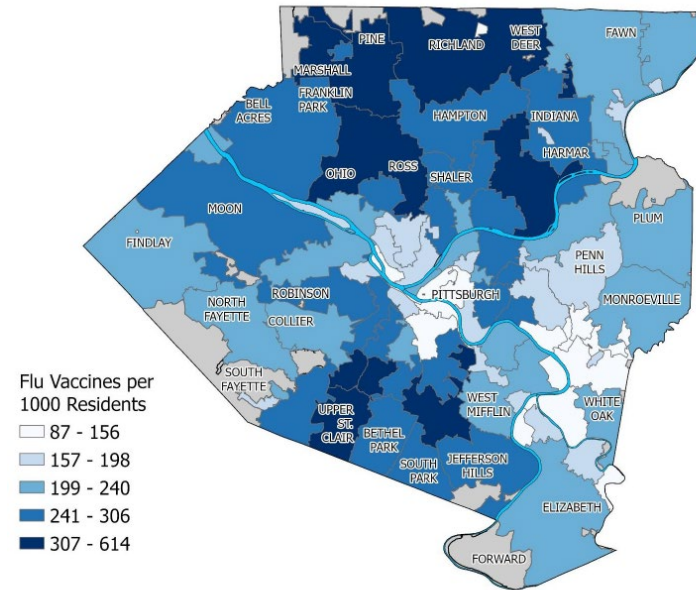
Influenza in Allegheny County

- Infections (2022-2023 season)
 - 16,118 cases
 - 80 hospitalizations
 - 24 deaths



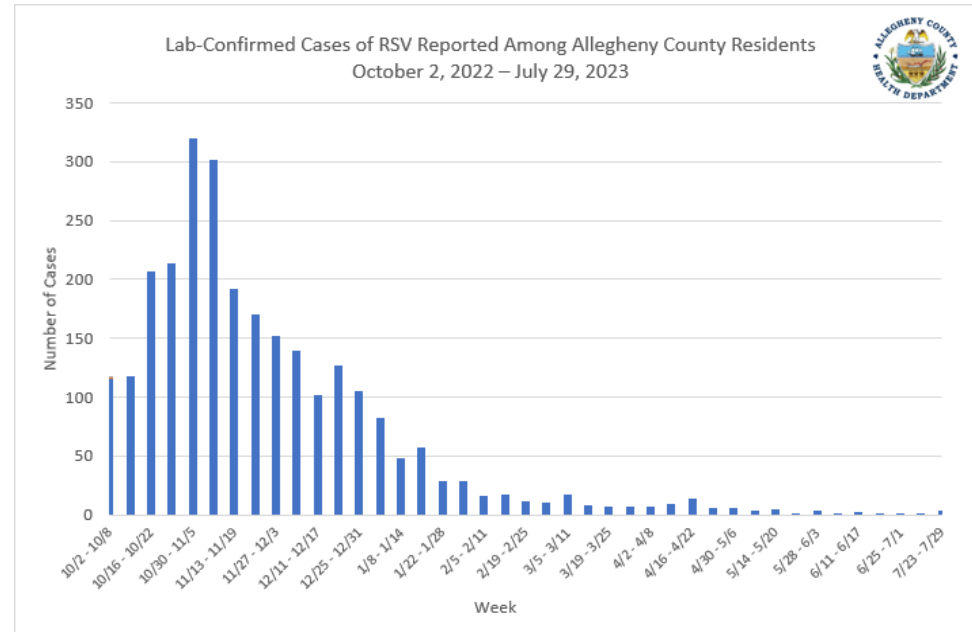
Influenza in Allegheny County and Pennsylvania

- Vaccinations (2022-2023 season)
 - 61.4% of children in PA
 - 51.6% in adults in PA
 - Disparities exist



RSV in Allegheny County

- Infections (2022-2023 season)
 - 2,658 cases
 - 28 hospitalizations
 - 4 deaths





What to Do

- Steps residents can take
 - General hygiene during cold-like illnesses
 - Ask primary care provider about treatment options
 - Stay up to date with vaccine recommendations, including annual shots
- ACHD's role
 - Vaccination at clinic, senior high rises and community
 - Updates for outpatient providers, hospitals and long-term care facilities
 - Surveillance
 - Outbreak investigation
 - COVID-19 investigation of cases in 65 years and older



New COVID-19 vaccines

- New monovalent vaccine targeting Omicron variant
- Likely to be available late September/early October
- New recommendations anticipated from CDC in September regarding annual COVID-19 vaccination



New Injections for 2023-2024 RSV season

- Vaccines (Arexvy and Abrysvo)
 - Single dose
 - 60+ years old at high risk for severe RSV (shared decision with medical provider)
 - Pregnant individuals at 32-36 weeks of pregnancy, to prevent RSV in infants
 - Abrysvo FDA-approved, will be discussed by ACIP in October 2023
- Long-acting monoclonal antibody (Nirsevimab)
 - Single dose
 - Infants aged <8 months entering their first RSV season
 - Infants 8-19 months at increased risk for severe RSV infection





Bureau of Community and Family Health

Dannai Wilson

Deputy Director

Bureau of Community and Family Health





Bureau Updates

Chronic Disease

- CDC Building our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) grant awarded (1.85 million for five years)

Family Child Health & WIC

- Launch a mobile app partnership to improve breastfeeding rates for 1,000 parents enrolled in ACHD home visiting or WIC

Injury Prevention

- New grant awarded Community Traffic Safety Program (CTSP) from PennDOT



Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) Grant

- Allegheny County is the second oldest county of the 40 largest counties. Palm Beach, FL is oldest.
- 11.9% of residents have Alzheimer's Dementia (PA 11.5%)
- \$1.85 million five-year grant
- Will fund ACHD to build infrastructure for those with Alzheimer's and related dementias
- First in the state to use grant to build a dementia infrastructure

Allows the Health Department and its community partners to further the goals it laid out in the [*Plan for a Healthier Allegheny, 2023-2027.*](#)

Key partners

- Department of Human Services, Area Agency on Aging
- Jewish Healthcare Foundation
- Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh
- Alzheimer's Association

Improving Breastfeeding Rates

- The Office of Family Child Health and Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) collaborated to launch a partnership with Pacify a 24-hour virtual lactation service offered through an app
- **Why Pacify?**
 - Pacify in collaboration with public health partners has helped to improve overall breastfeeding rates by up to 23%
- **Why an app?**
 - The aim is to improve breastfeeding retention, particularly for those who lactation support is unavailable or too expensive. Especially those who:
 - Need assistance after business hours
 - Need assistance with transportation
 - Insurance does not cover lactation support

Pacify

Available on the App Store | Get it on Google play

Allegheny County WIC now offers **free** memberships to Pacify for **unlimited video visits** with breastfeeding experts!

Pacify also connects you directly to your local WIC clinic, right through the app!*

*Calls to the WIC button are phone call only and live answer is only guaranteed during regular business hours.

Start getting support today!

Activate your account today - it's easy! Just download the Pacify app and ask WIC for your sign-up code!

Answer time of 3 minutes or less | Unlimited calls | Services available in English & Spanish | 24/7 support

@pacifyapp | www.pacify.com

WIC Mobile Van

- Visited the Allegheny County Breastfeeding Friendly Awards Ceremony on August 7
- Additional planned stops throughout the county at events
- Official launch in October 2023





Thank you!







Food Safety Program Overview

Amanda Mator

Food Safety Program Manager





Article III: Staff training

- Monthly trainings began September 2022
- Topics
 - Food facility classification
 - Section number reorder
 - Equipment standards
 - Food donations
 - Shared kitchens
 - Self-service food facilities
 - Change of ownership

Article III: Food facility classification and fees

- Classification and fee schedule changes



7,793 letters sent



210+ phone calls



Monthly invoice reviews

- Beer distributor registration or permitting

Article III: Updated resources

- [Donating food safely](#)
- [Open air style dining requirements](#)

Open Air Style Dining Requirements

All permanent food facilities are required to protect food, food contact surfaces, and premises against pests and environmental contaminants with properly installed windows and doors that minimize the entry of pests. **Facilities that offer, or seek to offer, open air style dining (unscreened openings to their premises, such as large garage doors in a dining area) must take steps to prevent contamination of food/food contact surfaces and pest entry/infestation.**

All food facilities will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis after review of the facility's construction, active managerial control of pests, and standard operating procedures. See the below requirements. **If a facility with open air style dining has pest activity (including rodents, insects, birds, etc.), the facility shall be required to change their practices and enact protective measures (such as screening the opening or ceasing to use the open-air dining feature) to correct the issues.**

Pest Control

Food facilities allowed to have unscreened dining and bar service rooms will be required to:

1. Routinely inspect incoming shipments of food and supplies for evidence of pest activity.
2. Cover all indoor garbage and refuse containers in any area of the facility that has open-air dining.
3. Store outdoor garbage receptacles away from open-air dining areas

HOW TO DONATE FOOD

There may be a food pantry or soup kitchen near you that would be able to receive your donation. If you don't know where to go, check out the "Rescue" section of the City of Pittsburgh's Food Waste page at: pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/food-waste.



These resources were developed as part of participation in the Natural Resources Defense Council's Food Matters Cities Project.

SAFE FOOD HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

Foods requiring time and temperature control for safety (TCS foods) must meet the following temperature requirements:

- Cold food must be kept at 41°F or below
- Hot food must be kept at 135°F or above



Cool cooked foods quickly by spreading in thin layers, adding ice, using an ice bath or ice wand, or by cutting large roasts into small pieces 4 lbs. or smaller.

1. TCS foods include: meats, poultry and seafood; eggs and dairy products; cut raw tomatoes, melons, or leafy greens; and most cooked fruits and vegetables.
2. Food must be cooled from 135°F to 70°F in under 2 hours; and from 70°F to 41°F within 4 more hours for a total cooling time of 6 hours or less.

FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

ACHD offers food safety certification classes that cover many safe food handling requirements. For more information, visit bit.ly/ACHDFoodCertification.



FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM

2121 Noblestown Rd., Suite 210
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 578-8044
foodsafety@alleghenycounty.us

ARE YOU PUTTING GOOD FOOD INTO YOUR DUMPSTER?

Help Others and Reduce Your Waste: Donate Foods That Have Been Handled Safely.

WHAT CAN BE DONATED?

1. Whole, unprocessed produce
 - Donated or frozen within 7 days of being made
 - Held at safe temperatures
2. Prepared foods:
 - Never served to customers (including buffets)
3. Packaged foods:
 - Unopened
 - In good condition
 - Held at safe temperatures
 - Within "sell by" date



LABELING FOOD FOR DONATION

Name of food	→ Pasta in Marinara Sauce
Source of food	→ Fictional Restaurant
Use by date	→ Use by mm/dd/yyyy

If food is frozen, mark how many days food has left after being thawed

Use within 8 days of thawing including thaw time
--

HOW DO I CALCULATE THE USE BY DATE?

PREPARED FOODS KEPT REFRIGERATED:
Use within a maximum of 7 days including prep date

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Made on						Use By

PREPARED FOODS THAT HAVE BEEN FROZEN:
Use within a maximum of 7 days not counting time spent frozen.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	(Days 6 & 7)
Made on				Frozen on	Use within 2 days of thawing including thaw time

Article III: Permits and registration website update

- Permits and Registration webpages



New Construction and Remodel



Change of Ownership



Mobile Food Facilities



Shared Kitchens

→ New



Temporary and Seasonal Food Facilities



Event Organizer Registration



Limited Food Establishments



Renew an Existing Permit



Article III: Permitting resources available

- Permit application updates
- Requirements by food facility classification
- Scaled drawing tool
- Site map examples
- Mobile food facility resources
 - Operating requirements
 - Mobile operation form
 - Commissary agreement form
 - Commissary visit log

Minimum Construction and Equipment Requirements				
Requirement	Class 4	Class 3	Class 2	Class 1
Approved plumbing*	X	X	X	X
Approved water supply	X	X	X	X
Approved sewage disposal	X	X	X	X
Mop (service) sink	X	X	X	X
3-compartment sink	X	X	-	-
Grease interceptor (trap)	X	X	-	-
Food preparation sink	Operation dependent		-	-
Handwashing facilities**	X	X	-	-
Employee toilet room***	X	X	X	X
Public toilet room	Required if customer seating is provided			
Garbage storage	X	X	X	X
Grease waste disposal	Operation dependent		-	-
Pest protection	X	X	X	X
Refrigerated storage	X	X	X	-

Food Safety in Numbers ([StoryMap](#))



[Table of Contents](#) | [Letter from the Deputy Director](#) | [Article III](#) | [Food Safety Program Overview](#) | [Permits](#) | [Inspections](#) | [Complaints](#) | [Enforcement](#) | [Food Safety Team](#) | [Conclusion](#)

Table of Contents

1. [Letter from the Deputy Director](#)
2. [Article III](#)
3. [Food Safety Program Overview](#)
4. [Permits](#)
5. [Inspections](#)
6. [Complaints](#)
7. [Enforcement](#)
8. [Food Safety Team](#)
9. [Conclusion](#)



Staffing

- Budgeted positions:
 - 5 administrators
 - 3 environmental health supervisors
 - 3 clerk typists
 - 30 inspectors



Questions







Bureau of Environmental Health

Geoff Rabinowitz

Deputy Director

Bureau of Environmental Health

Kim Joyce

Deputy Director

Bureau of Administration





Requesting approval for Clean Air Fund projects

1

Applicant	Equipment / Tree Information	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Steel River COG	Electric Street Sweeper for use in 11 Mon Valley Municipalities	\$748,000	\$748,000
	Staff Administration and Training	\$2,000	\$2,000
West Mifflin Borough	Electric Refuse Hauler	\$625,700	\$625,700
	Supporting Infrastructure	\$122,639	\$122,639
Swissvale Borough	Two electric Peterbilt 220 or equivalent trucks for refuse and recycling hauling	\$330,000	\$660,000
	Supporting Infrastructure	\$40,000	\$40,000
Tree Pittsburgh	Tree Planting: Woodland Hills One Tree per Child	\$46,000	\$46,000
Tree Pittsburgh	Tree Planting: Steel Valley One Tree Per Child	\$46,000	\$46,000
TOTAL			\$2,312,086



Fleet electrification project for 32 Mon Valley Air Episode Rule municipalities

- Used to either replace diesel fuel vehicles with zero-emission equivalents and/or to purchase infrastructure to support a zero-emission fleet
- Funds may also be used for administrative costs, staff training, equipment and supplies, if needed
- Will only consider projects located in and benefiting the residents of the 32 municipalities identified in the Mon Valley Air Episode Rule
- Must provide verification that diesel engines have been scrapped



Urban pollution corridor tree planting

- To obtain, plant, and maintain planted trees
- Funds may also be used to support for administrative costs, staff training, equipment and supplies, if needed
- Proposed projects must prioritize areas with low percentage of tree canopy that provide an in-depth cost-benefit analysis through the i-Tree Benefit Analysis, and maintenance plan for sustaining the project for a minimum of 5 five years
- Proposed projects must be located on public land located near pollution sources/pollution corridors and utilize tree species that are native, drought tolerant and provide maximum pollution reduction



Project Timeline

- May 15, 2023 → Notice of funding opportunity
- July 21, 2023 → Application due
- August 14, 2023 → Presented to Air Pollution Advisory Committee
 - All five projects recommended to Board of Health for approval
- September 15, 2023 → Applications selected and applicants notified
- October 15, 2023 → Contracts finalized
- November 8, 2023 → Funds dispersed

Requesting Board of Health approval to fund these five projects out of the Clean Air Fund.



Thank you!







Request Permission To Go To Public Comment



Public Comments

- Commenters will be allowed 3 minutes each to address the Board