



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ALOM, Fitzgerald Designate 31 Municipalities as 2014 Banner Communities

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM) officials, along with Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, today announced that 31 municipalities have been selected as 2014 Banner Communities, indicating that those municipalities implement best practices in all aspects of their operations and that govern in an inclusive, collaborative manner. Of these municipalities, 18 are receiving re-designation and 13 will receive the honor for the first time.

“The Banner Community Program is designed to recognize municipalities that implement best practices, and this year’s designees have done just that,” said County Executive Fitzgerald, who is also the current Chairman of the ALOM Board. “These 31 communities have set a standard of how government should function and have proven themselves as models through their commitment to effective and efficient government principals, which are also accountable to the residents. The League has a long history of supporting local government and I am thankful for their leadership and guidance in our region.”

The new Banner Communities for 2014 are Baldwin Borough, Bethel Park, Castle Shannon Borough, East McKeesport Borough, Heidelberg Borough, Millvale Borough, Mt. Lebanon, O’Hara Township, Pine Township, Port Vue Borough, Scott Township, Sharpsburg Borough, and South Park Township. The 2014 re-designated Banner Communities are Collier Township, Etna Borough, Hampton Township, Indiana Township, Leetsdale Borough, McCandless Township, Moon Township, North Fayette Township, Ohio Township, Reserve Township, Richland Township, Ross Township, Sewickley Borough, Tarentum Borough, Upper St. Clair Township, Whitehall Borough, and Wilkins Township in Allegheny County and Cranberry Township in Butler County.

In order to be eligible for consideration for the Banner Communities Program, the municipality’s elected and appointed officials must:

- Participate in educational or training programs through ALOM, the Local Government Academy or the PA Department of Community & Economic Development or participate in a governing mentoring program
- Be active members in good standing with ALOM and the county municipal associations, and have a representative attending at least a minimum of 50% of county association meetings
- Be active members in good standing in a COG and attend COG meetings, participate in a COG cooperative purchasing program and participate in at least one shared municipal service
- Conduct a Local Government Week activity by conducting a local activity promoting local government or communicating with the community about delivery of services
- Conduct an effective Citizen Communication Program by offering a municipal newsletter or web-based communication effort, and participate in a class discussion on local government or conducting a shadowing program for junior or senior high school students
- Promote and implement long term sustainable governing practices by earning certification through Sustainable Pittsburgh, managing employee pensions at funding levels of 90% or above, participating in the annual ALOM Wage and Salary Survey Program, and implementing goals of

an up to date Municipal Comprehensive Plan

“The success of this region begins with the work of our local governments and ALOM is excited to recognize this year’s Banner Communities. The dedication and professional services these communities have displayed improves the quality of life for their residents and visitors,” said Richard Hadley, Executive Director of ALOM. “This year a new requirement of promoting sustainable government practices was added to the Banner Community designation and we are extremely pleased by the positive response of our local leaders. Our municipalities continue to impress and lead by example.”

The Allegheny League of Municipalities is a 501(c)(6) non-profit, umbrella organization of municipalities in Western Pennsylvania. Founded in February 1963, the organization began in response to a request made in the 1960s by the Allegheny County Commissioners which resulted in the Allegheny Seminar. While recognizing the tradition of statutory municipal independence and self-government, the League was established to coordinate the needs of the area’s local government officials.

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