

## **2016 CONNECT Congress Resolutions**

### **Resolution 16-01      **ADOPTED 4.21.16****

WHEREAS the CONNECT Executive Committee recommends the change of the CONNECT by-laws to add two new Officer positions; and

WHEREAS the proposed by-law changes have been distributed to the full Executive Committee for review and comment two weeks in advance of this legislative session recommending the addition of a Municipal Manager representative, and representative of the Office of the Allegheny County Executive to the Officer slate.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Congress acts on the recommendation of the Executive Committee to accept the by-law change, thereby establishing two new Officer positions to include:

- 1- A representative of the Office of the Allegheny County Executive
- 2- A manager of an active CONNECT municipality

### **Resolution 16-02      **ADOPTED 4.21.16****

To hear and act on the report of the Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee recommends the Congress elect the following Officers:

To elect as chair for a term of one year.

Mark Sampogna, President of Council, Borough of Green Tree.

To elect as first vice chair for a term of one year.

Marita Garrett, Vice President of Council, Borough of Wilkesburg.

To elect as second vice chair for a term of one year.

JR Henry, Mayor, Borough of West View

To re-elect as secretary/treasurer for a term of one year.

Mary Ellen Ramage, Manager, Borough of Etna.

To appoint as immediate past chair for a term of one year.

William Peduto, Mayor, City of Pittsburgh.

To elect as the Allegheny County Representative for a term of one year.

Rich Fitzgerald, Executive, Allegheny County.

To elect as the Manager Representative for a term of one year

Tim Rogers, Manager, Township of Shaler.

### **Resolution 16-03      **ADOPTED 4.21.16****

Whereas the boroughs of Churchill and Heidelberg requested membership in CONNECT; and

Whereas the boroughs of Churchill and Heidelberg meet the criteria set in the “Policy on inviting new municipalities to join the Congress of Neighboring Communities” that was accepted by the CONNECT Executive Committee in February of 2015.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Churchill Borough and Heidelberg Borough are accepted as member municipalities by the Congress of Neighboring Communities.

**Resolution 16-04            ADOPTED 4.21.16**

WHEREAS CONNECT passed resolutions 13-02 that endorsed the transfer of the conveyance and wet weather control structures to ALCOSAN and has been an active partner in a multitude of efforts to improve the governance of our regional sewage and storm water collection system to ensure affordable, comprehensive and cost-effective responses to regulatory municipal consent orders; and

WHEREAS CONNECT passed resolutions 09-21, 13-03, and 15-05 that advocated for changes to the composition of the ALCOSAN board to better reflect municipal representation and promote a more cooperative relationship between municipalities and ALCOSAN; and

WHEREAS CONNECT played an integral role in the convening and management of the Sewer Regionalization Implementation Committee (SRIC) and passed resolution 15-06 which endorsed the findings of the SRIC that committed to working with ALCOSAN to facilitate the transfer of intermunicipal conveyance lines, other trunk lines and upstream wet weather facilities to ALCOSAN.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CONNECT establishes the conveyance and governance changes as our highest priority initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT reiterates our commitment to working with stakeholders and partners, and calls on all parties to move as expeditiously as possible towards regionalization in coordination with the facilitation of a change to the composition of the ALCOSAN board to better represent its municipal customer base.

**Resolution 16-05            ADOPTED 4.21.16**

WHEREAS Transit Oriented Development (TOD) projects increase public transportation ridership and reduce automobile congestion, providing value for both the private and public sectors; and

WHEREAS CONNECT is committed to supporting equitable mixed-income and mixed-use communities built around transit in member municipalities and has indicated its support for TOD projects as far back as 2011 as noted in Resolution 11-18; and

Whereas in 2016 the Port Authority of Allegheny County released TOD Guidelines that detail best practice standards for TOD based on local and national research and stakeholder input, including that of CONNECT; and

WHEREAS the Port Authority has committed to work with local governments where possible to facilitate these best practices;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CONNECT endorses the TOD Guidelines put forth by the Port Authority of Allegheny County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT member municipalities will work with the Port Authority when appropriate to implement the standards outlined in the TOD Guidelines, and support TOD that fosters economic development efforts within CONNECT municipalities and meets PAAC’s TOD goals which include but are not limited to: an increase in transit

ridership; optimization of the value of assets and the generation of long-term investment revenue; improved quality of life around PAAC stations; the creation and promotion of equitable mixed-income and mixed-use communities around transit; and ensuring that existing plans are respected and stakeholders are engaged.

**Resolution 16-06      ADOPTED 4.21.16**

WHEREAS following the passage of enabling legislation for the incorporation of a land bank, Pennsylvania Act 153, CONNECT passed Resolution 13-06 resolving to research land bank best practices, develop protocols, and conduct outreach to bring together partners to develop a multi municipal land bank; and

WHEREAS the members of the Tri-COG Collaborative, the Steel Rivers COG (formerly Steel Valley COG and Three Rivers COG), and the Turtle Creek Valley COG took the lead on this effort and conducted extensive research on land bank best practices, developed a multi-faceted and comprehensive Tri-COG Collaborative Land Bank Business Plan, and conducted a widespread outreach effort to municipalities and school districts throughout Allegheny County; and

WHEREAS the Center for Community Progress conducted an independent evaluation of the Tri-COG Collaborative Land Bank (TCC Land Bank) Business Plan that was a comprehensive assessment of the plan that stated “the proposed TCC Land Bank could serve as a key component within a more comprehensive and coordinated blight prevention strategy as well as a model of success on how to enact regional collaboration, build consensus around a shared vision, and coordinate actions and investments by multiple levels of government to achieve healthier, safer, and more vital communities for all;” and

WHEREAS 15 municipalities and four school districts have signed resolutions indicating their intent to become members of the TCC Land Bank and a number of additional CONNECT communities are considering membership.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CONNECT endorses the Tri-COG Collaborative Land Bank.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT calls on the taxing jurisdictions to move as expeditiously as possible to pass resolutions to become members of the land bank so the TCC land bank can begin operations.

**Resolution 16-07      ADOPTED 4.21.16**

WHEREAS many CONNECT municipalities currently lack coordination with utility companies in regards to infrastructure repair and pavement planning; and

WHEREAS this lack of coordination often leads to the duplication of construction, unnecessary expenses, and inconvenience to residents; and

WHEREAS CONNECT identified this as a policy area of concern and has researched current practices and hosted two Utilities Summits with CONNECT members and Utilities representatives to discuss current efforts and the potential of coordinated planning; and

WHEREAS the desire for improved communication with utilities as well as the desire for a common data platform that would allow for coordinated planning has emerged.

THEREFORE be it resolved that CONNECT commits to serve as the convener and to partner with the Utility providers, as well as the City of Pittsburgh’s Department of Public Works, and Allegheny County to engage in a process to select and procure a common data platform that would allow for coordinated planning, both between municipalities and the utilities, and across municipal borders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT commits to holding regular meetings for member municipalities and utilities representatives to promote collaboration and discussion around construction plans.

**Resolution 16-08      ADOPTED 4.21.16**

WHEREAS issues of health including aging, environmental health, and access to services have been identified by the CONNECT Executive Committee as priority areas of concern to CONNECT municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Office of County Executive Rich Fitzgerald in partnership with The Allegheny County Health Department has established the Live Well Allegheny initiative that aims to improve the health and well-being of Allegheny County residents through a collaborative effort that involves multiple stakeholders, partners, and residents and asks municipalities to become Live Well Communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT CONNECT endorses Allegheny County Health Department's Live Well Allegheny initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT encourages its member municipalities to become "Live Well Allegheny Communities" by indicating their intent to work with Allegheny County to accomplish the goals of the campaign and identifying action steps that they commit to taking to promote health in their municipality.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT will compile a report to present at the 2017 Congress demonstrating participation and impact.

**Resolution 16-09      ADOPTED 4.21.16**

WHEREAS in 2015 the Allegheny County EMS Council (ACEMS) conducted the "EMS Agency Survey" that evaluated the operations and funding of EMS providers in Allegheny County and assessed areas including financials, demographics, employee wages and benefits, training, and call data;

AND WHEREAS among other findings, the survey reiterated the serious financial situation facing the majority of agencies that was articulated in Pittsburgh Controller Michael Lamb's 2010 report, "Critical Condition: The EMS Crisis in Pittsburgh and its Neighboring Communities," with 75% of agencies reporting a financial loss over the last three years.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CONNECT member municipalities endorse the results of the Agency Survey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT recommits to working collaboratively with the ACEMS and other partners including UPMC's Center for Emergency Medicine to develop a strategy to address this funding crisis.

And FURTHER RESOLVED that CONNECT encourages its EMS agencies to consider utilizing the funding available through CONNECT to determine if consolidation would be beneficial for the long-term agency sustainability.