



To CONNECT Supporters, Partners and Sponsors:

For eleven years, CONNECT has worked with local governments in Allegheny County's metropolitan core, bringing together the City of Pittsburgh and 30+ municipalities to identify shared public policy challenges and advocate for the collective interest of these communities. We have not pursued this work in a vacuum, but rather have partnered with other governmental, non-governmental, and private sector organizations that have shared our members' interests and helped to advance this cross-boundary work. Without our partnerships, support, and sponsorships, CONNECT's convening and regional problem-solving work would not be possible.

We would like to ask you to consider becoming a 2021 Annual Sponsor of CONNECT. You will find the sponsorship packages on the following page, outlining CONNECTed (\$4,000), CONNECTed Nonprofits (\$3,000), Leading (\$2,500), and Friend (\$1,000) sponsorship options. Since 2019, rather than soliciting event-by-event sponsorships, our financial partners can expect a longer timeline of the entire calendar year.

The support of our sponsors has allowed us to convene and build the strong relationships we all need with our municipal members and make major headway on issues that have been identified as top priorities by our membership for years. With very high virtual engagement, we have been coalition-building around major policy projects in each of our cross-sector three working groups: Infrastructure & Utilities Coordination; Public Safety & Health; and Economic & Environmental Development. This would not be possible without funds generously given to support our agenda-setting and relationship-building events. Our sponsors' financial support over the years has been instrumental to our growth, and we look forward to where it takes us.

Included in this packet is more information about sponsorship options. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you so much for your time, we look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lydia S. Morin".

Lydia Morin
Executive Director, CONNECT

- Allegheny County
- Aspinwall
- Bellevue
- Brentwood
- Carnegie
- Castle Shannon
- Churchill
- Clairton
- Collier
- Crafton
- Dormont
- Duquesne
- Edgewood
- Etna
- Forest Hills
- Fox Chapel
- Green Tree
- Homestead
- Ingram
- Jefferson Hills
- McKees Rocks
- Millvale
- Mount Lebanon
- Munhall
- Oakmont
- Pittsburgh
- Ross
- Shaler
- Sharpsburg
- Swissvale
- West Homestead
- West Mifflin
- West View
- Wilkins
- Wilkinsburg



Your organization's annual sponsorship of CONNECT helps sustain and enhance the needed governmental collaboration for our region. **Join our work!**

Benefits:

Recognition in remarks at mid-year legislative session retreat and a covid-safe fundraiser

Featured in 2021 CONNECT video

Featured story in newsletter once a year

Social media 4 times a year on all platforms

Logo in each monthly newsletter

Logo on CONNECT's sponsorship webpage for the full year

Annual Sponsor Packages

Become a 2021 Sponsor of CONNECT and enjoy the following benefits:

CONNECTed
\$4,000
(3 slots maximum)

CONNECTed
Nonprofits*
\$3,000

Leading
\$2,500

Friend
\$1,000

X

X

X

X

X

X

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X

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X

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X

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X

X

X

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X

X

**Nonprofit organizations that are community-based, community-centered, and/or have budgets under \$250,000 are offered a discount for the CONNECTed-level sponsorship!*

About CONNECT

What is CONNECT?

The Congress of Neighboring Communities is a nonpartisan initiative that convenes neighboring municipalities, including the city of Pittsburgh, that share borders, challenges, and opportunities in Allegheny County, PA. We provide resources, research, relationships, and opportunities to work together. The CONNECT network serves as both a policy think tank and membership organization, housed by the Center for Metropolitan Studies based in the University of Pittsburgh's nationally-ranked policy school, the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.

Why CONNECT?

Southwestern Pennsylvania is a very fragmented region; we have the country's most local governments per capita. Immersed in the latest best practices and cutting edge research for governments, we collaborate across sectors and political boundaries in public and private partnerships to co-develop well-informed models and decision making processes built on strong relationships and trust.

What will our sponsorship go towards?

CONNECT sponsors solely contribute to our **special events**, which are open to our municipal members, partners, and friends. We have various events throughout the year, and typically two annual events: **The Legislative Session & Reception** where our municipal members vote on new resolutions and policies for the year, and our **Friendraiser** which is a more informal networking event to celebrate all that CONNECT's network does together. (As the 2020 Legislative Session was pushed back to September from April, our next one will be in April 2022 but we will host a mid-year 2021 Legislative Session retreat.) These are fantastic opportunities to build relationships across the region and are critical to the culture of collaboration within our organization. Everything we do is possible because we have learned to trust each other and share knowledge and resources. We rely heavily on these events to provide positive experiences for all so that our members are open to working with new corporate, NGO and with other municipalities.

This year, sponsorship will also go towards our **Skill Share pop-up events**. CONNECT Skill Shares are an evolution of the Zoom happy hours we started holding in March that have served well for information-sharing and problem-sourcing, leading to excellent follow-up and innovation. The Skill Shares, which are specific to just one topic at a time, "stack the room" with experts and encourage all to participate in sharing concerns, inspiration, and resources. These have evolved with the need to rapidly adjust to the changes COVID-19 has necessitated.

So far, we have held Skill Shares about communicating remotely with your constituents, new census outreach strategies for when you can't go door to door, preparing for the municipal revenue crisis, and more.



October 24, 2019 | CONNECT's [6th Annual Friendraiser](#) in McKees Rocks



September 17, 2020 | CONNECT's [11th Annual Legislative Session](#) featuring items from our porch-delivered swag bags. Hanging onto some remnants from everyone's usual favorite part, the reception.



May 8, 2020 | Our first municipal revenue crisis meeting which developed into a [Skill Share](#) series – “thumbs up if we should meet to talk more about this soon”

Annual Sponsorship Form



Company Name:

Company Address:

Primary Contact Name & Title:

Telephone:

Email:

Secondary Contact Name & Title:

Telephone:

Email:

Sponsorship Package Selected:

CONNECTED (\$4,000)

Leading (\$2,500)

CONNECTed Nonprofit (\$3,000)

Friend (\$1,000)

Payment:

Make your check payable to the University of Pittsburgh and put "CONNECT sponsorship" in the memo line. You may either mail check to:

CONNECT
3922 Posvar Hall
230 S. Bouquet St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

(there will be a small delay in the deposit as we are working remotely)

OR

mail directly to Tess De Jong for immediate deposit. Email tessdejong@pitt.edu or call 412-648-2282 for address.

Thank you for your sponsorship! A CONNECT staff member will reach out for your digital company logo and any other information needed. If you have any questions concerning this sponsorship, contact Tess De Jong.

CONNECT is a program of the University of Pittsburgh and falls under the University's 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Educational Institutional Status (EIN 25-0965591).