



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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Fitzgerald Announces Funding Available Through Active Allegheny Program

PITTSBURGH – County Executive Rich Fitzgerald announced today that a third round of funding through the Active Allegheny Grant Program is now available. The program’s purpose is to provide financial assistance to communities to develop plans and design transportation projects that will, when implemented, provide bicycle and pedestrian connections to important local destinations and transportation systems and increase residents’ opportunities for physical activity. A small amount of funding also is provided to carry out educational activities, develop stakeholder outreach and materials, and conduct events that promote active transportation.

“We are thrilled to again offer funding through this vital program,” said Fitzgerald. “Allegheny County remains committed to improving the health of our residents. By banding together, we are greatly enhancing opportunities for recreation and physical activity while also increasing transportation options that are integral to better connecting our communities and neighbors throughout the region.”

The Active Allegheny Grant Program (AAGP) is managed by the Redevelopment Authority (RAAC) in partnership with the Health Department (ACHD) as part of *Live Well Allegheny*. Last year, Aspinwall, Bethel Park, Braddock, Etna, Monroeville, and Shaler were awarded grants, and overall, 14 individual projects have been funded in 17 municipalities through the program.

County municipalities and Councils of Government are eligible to apply for funding through the program. Multi-municipal applications are allowed and strongly recommended, but only one grant application is considered per municipality. The maximum allowable request per applicant is \$50,000 for planning and engineering projects. However, RAAC will consider applications that exceed \$50,000 for projects that will significantly improve opportunities for physical activity, connect to major systems, and/or represent multi-municipal efforts. Additionally, RAAC staff will help grantees access the appropriateness of different programs to obtain funding for subsequent phases of project implementation, if necessary.

“I’m excited to see the great project ideas that our communities propose this year,” RAAC Chairman Bill Brooks said. “Work done through this program helps promote fitness, improve transportation, and make this area an even better place to live, and I’m proud to be a part of it.”

The AAGP seeks to implement projects that are identified in or consistent with [Active Allegheny](#), the county’s active transportation plan, and the transportation element of [Allegheny Places](#), the county’s comprehensive plan. By providing resources for the design and integration of active, safe, and walkable and bikeable spaces into neighborhoods, this effort also implements recommendations identified in [Plan for a Healthier Allegheny](#), the guide for health improvement in the county.

“Creating new opportunities for active transportation is part of creating healthier communities for residents,” said Dr. Karen Hacker, ACHD Director. “The efforts of participating municipalities can make a big difference in the overall health of residents. We are very enthusiastic to see what new and unique benefits come from these endeavors.”

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation supporting *Live Well Allegheny* efforts to enhance food access by eliminating food deserts and by expanding opportunities for physical activity through built environment changes. *Live Well Allegheny* is a

comprehensive, innovative strategy on wellness that embraces a broad concept of living well to include physical health, mental wellness, personal and community safety, prevention and preparedness, and much more.

Learn more about *Live Well Allegheny* at www.livewellallegheny.com and about the Active Allegheny grant at www.alleghenycounty.us/AAGP.

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