The Propel Pittsburgh Commission

A Report to the Mayor Luke Ravenstahl's Office and City Council

October, 2012

CITY OF
PITTSBURGH
"AMERICA'S MOST LIVABLE CITY"
LUKE RAVENSTAHL, MAYOR

I. OVERVIEW

The Propel Pittsburgh Commission is dedicated to meeting the concerns and needs of the City of Pittsburgh's young adults and young professionals. Composed entirely of members aged 20-34, the objective of the Commission is to encourage greater participation in government, to identify or create programmatic or policy opportunities in issues affecting young adults and young professionals in Pittsburgh, and to inform various elected and appointed officials representing young people about issues specific to them. The Propel Pittsburgh Commission will help to give the young adults and young professionals of Pittsburgh a major role in moving the City of Pittsburgh forward.

The mission of the Commission is to encourage greater participation in government, identify or create programmatic or policy opportunities in issues affecting young adults and young professionals in Pittsburgh, and to inform various elected and appointed officials representing young people about issues specific to them. The Propel Pittsburgh Commission shall report in writing to the Mayor and City Council on its recommendations and suggestions.

The Propel Commission is comprised of fifteen (15) City of Pittsburgh residents who are between the ages of 20-34 at the beginning of their term, selected from the community at large. Members of this Commission serve in a voluntary capacity with no compensation for their time. The Commission as a whole appreciates all individuals who devote their time and effort into making this City a better, more fulfilling and prosperous place for young people to live and thrive.

II. THE PROPEL COMMISSION'S FRAMEWORK FOR ENGAGEMENT

Propel members are young City residents who are passionate about making Pittsburgh an even greater place to live and visit. Over the course of this three-year appointment, Propel members will help plan and implement both short-term and long-term initiatives that will continue to help make Pittsburgh more livable for young people. By creating and encouraging Awareness, Engagement and Action, the efforts and initiatives will address issues and concerns of young City residents and help grow and strengthen the young community. The Propel

Commission believes that through this framework the community has the opportunity to be better engaged in the Commission's actions and therefore they are better served.

Awareness

The Commission seeks to connect different groups of young people throughout Pittsburgh and help them expand beyond their current neighborhoods and networks. The Commission is tasked to make it easier for young people to familiarize themselves with current events in Pittsburgh and determine ways they can get involved and make an impact. The first step the Commission takes when addressing any item within Pittsburgh that is of interest to young Pittsburgers is to become fully aware of the entirely the item. The Commission raises its own awareness through due diligence efforts within the Commission.

Engagement

The next step that the Commission takes in its action plan is to engage the young Pittsburghers and not only raise their awareness and call their attention to the item, but also to gather input and engage the community to better figure out what is best for the City. The Commission further seeks to engage young people in local government by inviting them to discuss their needs and ideas, including how they can have a greater hand in moving Pittsburgh forward, with the Commission. The Commission also engages the Mayor's office and local City Council members, keeping them abreast of community issues and gather input on how to take these items to the next level.

Action

The next level is action. The Commission seeks to recognize and create opportunities for action among young people in the City of Pittsburgh. By identifying, supporting, and partnering with groups that already work to improve Pittsburgh, and by further connecting them with broader groups of local young people, the Commission provides valuable resources and networks to further revitalize our City. The Commission is tasked with utilizing its network and engaging young Pittsburghers, local government officials, local business leaders, and local community leaders to come up with an action plan implement that action on items of which it has become aware, fully vetted, and determined will continue to make Pittsburgh a great place for young people.

III. INTERNAL COMMISSION DEVELOPMENTS

The Propel Commission has undergone drastic changes since the appointment of the new Commissioners in October of 2011. The first task the Commission undertook was to address the performance of the past Commission. The current Commissioners noted that, despite the City's vast improvements and many accolades earned during the tenure of the last Commission, the former Commission was heavily criticized for its short comings. The current Commission decided to welcome one past Commissioner to serve in an advisory capacity to help them avoid the pitfalls and hazards encountered in previous years. The current Commission recognizes the service of Kento Ohmori, and thanks him for his contributions and his continued service in an advisory capacity. Kento Ohmori has been an essential part of the many successes accomplished by the current Commission.

The Commission first redrafted its charter and unanimously adopted new by-laws which empowered committee chair persons to better fulfill the mission of the Commission. The Commission next engaged in a brainstorming session and sought input from the community to identify the main target areas and interests of our demographic. Through these intensive brainstorming sessions, the Commission was able to identify five target areas of interest to Young Pittsburghers around which the current committee structure was formed. These committees specifically are designed to address the transportation, diversity, collegiate/young professional, environmental, and public relations concerns faced by young Pittsburghers today. We are happy to report as a Commission that all of these committees are actively engaged in efforts to make the City of Pittsburgh a better place for young adults. As we continually review our own organization and strive to figure out ways to best serve our community, we have seen an ever present and growing interest in the arts. The Propel Commission plans to establish an arts committee to help serve this important part of our growing young city population.

The committees have come up with numerous projects and implementation plans therefore, all of which have been accomplished, started, or tabled for further pursuit and development. The committee chairs are tasked with engaging the community and continuously adding to their project lists so as to further compile an arsenal of ideas for the Commission to pursue into the future. The following breakdown notes the committees as adopted by the Commission, their current leadership, and a preliminary list of projects. Please see additional supplements to the report for other ideas in the pipeline. The Commission welcomes all proposals and recommendations as we continue to find innovative ways to help move Pittsburgh forward.

1) Transportation
    Chairs: Justin Victor, Lauren Stoner
        Projects and Operations
            Transportation Education
            Policy Recommendations
            Alternative Transportation Awareness
            Cycling Safety Advocacy
            City Taxicab Availability
            Port Authority Sustainability Advocacy

2) Diversity
    Chairs: Maya Wilkerson, Ricky Moody
        Projects and Operations
            Connecting to your city/immigrant workshop outreach
            Immigrant Trade workshop outreach program
            Evaluation of socioeconomic disparities
            Comparison to other city efforts
            Foundation support and engagement
            Welcome to our school - immigrant school tutoring, education, and interaction
            "Won't you be my new neighbor" neighborhood partnerships
            Engage in dialogue with and partner with Diversity groups

3) Collegiate and Young Professional

Chairs: Zach Malone, Davonna Graham

Projects and Operations

- College Mentoring program, ServePGH
- City promotion at job fairs
- Young Professional Mentoring Program – PGH Promise
- PYP relocation assistance program- work with Visit PGH
- Upstart VC capital assistance program
- University Student Leadership Association involvement
- Coaching the coaches
- Pittsburgh Entrepreneurs Guide
- Pittsburgh Young Arts and Entertainment Calendar
- Pittsburgh Young Leadership Engagement

4) Built and Natural Environment

Chairs: Zach Walters, Jennifer Askey

Projects and Operations

- Composting (green up pgh) Policy recommendations, research, panel, discussion
- Upcycle Pittsburgh – waste management program
- Promoting Pittsburgh's neighborhoods
- Providing resources for new and current young Pittsburghers to find housing

5) Public Relations

Chairs: Tony Bellino, Chelsea Prior

Projects and Operations

- Community Service Day
- Mission Statement Development
- Elevator Speech Development
- Airport Visitor Kiosks
- Compile Contact Lists and Pro Pittsburgh Propaganda
- Website improvement
- Social Media Outreach Effort
- "Community Interviews"
- Hot Button Issue Reports

Through the first year of the new charter, the Commission has accepted the resignation of 4 original members and seen the appointment of four new members. The Commission is in the process of gathering statements regarding these individuals' departures, where applicable, and will supplement the report with such. The Commission is also going to implement a new Arts/ Culture Committee to be chaired by Ngani Ndimbie and Thomas Donahue.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Transportation

The Transportation Committee of the Propel Pittsburgh Commission works to provide policy makers with recommendations for addressing and improving the transportation needs of young Pittsburgh residents. The committee seeks to advocate for 21st century solutions for young adults and students in Pittsburgh while also encouraging government leaders to create impactful and sustainable solutions to our city's transportation needs. During the past year, 2011-2012, the Transportation Committee has been engaged in transportation education and advocacy efforts with various local organizations and officials. Specifically, the Committee has focused on two issues impacting transportation the lack of taxicab availability and the Port Authority service cuts.

From its inception, the Transportation Committee initiated meetings with various stakeholders in the Pittsburgh region, including the leadership of regional and community organizations as well as every day users of public transportation. These stakeholders included: Yellow and People's cab drivers, PUC employees, hotel concierges, a designated driver company executive, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development's transportation task force, Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group, Pittsburghers for Public Transit, and MovePGH Community Workshops. The purpose of attending these meetings was to ensure representation of the young adult voice, to gain further expertise in transportation issues impacting the region, and to forge both partnerships and dialogue in finding solutions. Through these discussions, the Committee gained a solid understanding of the current conditions of transportation in Pittsburgh and also developed action items and outputs.

To date, the two outputs which have resulted from the combined efforts of the Transportation Committee, Propel Commission, and Mayor's Office of Youth Policy are:

1. The addition of downtown cabs in response to raised awareness in the mayor's office about taxicab shortages. In conjunction with a collaboration of downtown businesses, the mayor's office and the Pittsburgh Transportation Group launched "City Cab" and the "Hail Yes" campaign. This inner-city-only taxicab format aims to be available exclusively to pedestrians who have difficulty hailing cabs downtown since cabs often favor airport trips. The Transportation Committee worked with the Public Relations Committee to call the attention of our constituents in the young community of Pittsburgh to this initiative.
2. Advocacy letters from the Propel Pittsburgh Commission to Governor Corbett and other elected officials. These letters encouraged the adoption of recommendations from the Transportation Funding Advisory Commission (TFAC) Report in order to prevent the impending Port Authority service cuts which were scheduled for September 2012.

Along with the "Hail Yes" and "City Cab" campaign, the Transportation Committee was also able to highlight a list of other internet-based transportation services in the press release. The Committee is optimistic that this list will grow as new and innovative transportation services

develop in the City of Pittsburgh, and will seek to work tirelessly to expand it.

Over the course of the next two years of the current Commission's term, the Transportation Committee will continue efforts to engage all stakeholders: both the young adult community and organizations and officials impacting all modes of transportation as it seeks to undertake future projects. Specifically, the Transportation Committee will focus its engagement and involvement efforts in the following areas:

1. Public transportation and Port Authority funding long-term solutions;
2. Bicycle and cycling safety and advocacy (to date, the Committee is in the process of meeting with BikePGH)
3. MovePGH's evolving efforts and plans;
4. Transit-oriented development (TOD) efforts in various Pittsburgh neighborhoods;
5. Light rail transit development efforts.

Moving forward, the Transportation Committee is dedicated to adding value to existing transportation programs and will continue to connect young Pittsburghers with new and innovative transportation solutions. As our region has varying challenges facing all modes of transportation, the Propel Pittsburgh Commission Transportation Committee's ongoing goal is to continue to advocate for safe and convenient travel for all, making our city one of the nation's best places for young people.

B. Diversity Committee

Mission Statement:

The Propel Pittsburgh Commission's Diversity Committee's mission is to foster cultural and ethnic awareness to make Pittsburgh a cohesive, inclusive community. The Diversity Committee seeks to provide a means for the diverse neighborhoods and ethnic groups of the city to voice their concerns and needs. Our committee will work to connect resources and people to each other, provide policy recommendations, and undertake direct service projects to enrich the diversity of our community.

The Diversity Committee worked effortlessly to become involved in as many events as possible over the past year of Propel's existence. Subsequent to its formation and the appointment of the committee chairs, Maya Wilkerson and Ximena Marinero, the Diversity Committee and Propel attended young professional events held by: University of Pittsburgh's School of Law, Public Allies Pittsburgh, and The Pittsburgh Promise.

Community Involvement:

The Diversity committee passionately worked in the community to encourage discussions to enable the increase of diverse workplaces and social engagements. Through meetings with organizations like Vibrant Pittsburgh and the Latino Family Center, the Diversity committee was able to craft a plan of action that would further support the goal of making Pittsburgh a more welcoming city for both young people and young families looking to make the region home.

Important Issues to the Diversity Committee:

The Diversity Committee has identified the following issues as areas of key importance and concern: demographic workplace diversity, housing, education, English as a second language translators, multiple language public relations information, transportation, and diverse options for social leisure. The Diversity Committee recognizes the efforts of the Mayor and City Council to address these concerns and would like to assist the Mayor and his constituents with their efforts. The Diversity Committee of the Propel Commission would like to propose that the City of Pittsburgh provides a "welcome center" for those visiting the city or moving to the city that provides information to the arts & cultural events happening in the city, fine dining to cheap good eats, Pittsburgh landmarks and attractions, events etc. in a calendar and text format (in at least three languages--the top three ethnic populations languages in the city). These efforts should also be provided online with an easy to navigate multi language system. We believe our proposal will be instrumental in generating and maintaining an environment whereby diversity can thrive which will ultimately improve the region as a whole.

C. Collegiate and Young Professional Committee

Vision Statement:

The Propel Pittsburgh Commission's Collegiate and Young Professional Committee aims to promote the advancement of young adults in Pittsburgh through networking and partnership opportunities within the collegiate and young professional space in Pittsburgh. The Committee works to engage young Pittsburgh residents through events, fundraising, outreach activities, partnerships and social media.

Events:

The Collegiate and Young Professional Committee (CYPC) was involved in many events over the last year of Propel's existence. Subsequent to its formation and the appointment of the committee chairs, Zach Malone and Davonna Grahamn, the CYPC and Propel attended young professional events held by: Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, The Pittsburgh Promise, The American Heart Association, PUMP, Vibrant Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Venture Capital Emerging Leaders Board, and The Holy Family Institute Emerging Leaders Board. The CYPC took the lead in promoting the Commission's fund raising event for the Pittsburgh Promise. The Committee contacted numerous local political and business leaders as well as reaching out to the student bodies to foster a networking opportunity as well encouraging vibrant discussion regarding our region's future. The CYPC also played a key role in spearheaded the Commission's event at PNC Park where local leaders from Young Professional organizations were invited to network, share ideas, and learn from each other how to better serve this region. In the upcoming year, the CYPC hopes to continue these efforts and find ways to better serve its constituents.

Community Involvement:

The CYPC engaged the community through reaching out to various student council leaders, raising funds for local charities, and serving the community in a volunteer capacity.

Important Issues to CYPC:

The CYPC has identified the following issues as areas of key importance and concern to its demographic: job creation and availability, transportation, diversity, community involvement and recreational activity availability. The CYPC recognizes the efforts of the Mayor and City Council to address these concerns with such resolutions as that which we brought before city council regarding the stringent of prohibitive legislation regarding mobile food vendors. the current legislation is limiting small business development in the City of Pittsburgh and we believe our proposal will be instrumental in generating and maintaining an environment whereby these unique service providers can thrive which will ultimately improve the region as a whole.

D. Built and Natural Environment Committee

Vision Statement:

The goal of the Propel Pittsburgh Built and Natural Environment Committee is to connect young adults to the neighborhood resources that make Pittsburgh one of the world's most livable cities, and to reflect the passion and concern that young adults have regarding issues affecting both the natural and built environment. The Committee aims to engage existing organizations, develop new policies, and advocate for effective programs that promote the city's ninety neighborhoods, connect Pittsburghers to housing options, and advance the sustainability of the City's buildings, businesses, and urban form. Through access to civic leaders the Committee strives to help the city, and its residents, prosper within the means of a clean and healthy environment.

Events:

As a new focus of the Propel Pittsburgh Commission, the Built and Natural Environment Committee (EC) has met with and engaged non-profits, business, advocacy groups, and government entities, which have significant roles in shaping our city's local environment and sustainability policies. Committee chairs Zack Walters and Jennifer Askey, along with fellow EC and Propel commissioners, have engaged the City's Sustainability Coordinator in an effort to establish clear channels of communication between the city's sustainability efforts and the young city residents' thoughts and expectations. Through the commission's event at PNC Park, the Environmental Committee established ties with both the AIA's Young Architects Forum (AIA YAF) as well as the Green Building Alliance's Emerging Professionals (GBA's EPs). As the commission moves forward, we hope that these interactions will promote a more fluid conversation between the city and the young architects, engineers, and designers that are helping to shape the environmental around us. Lastly, we have begun to reach out to the wealth of non-profit organizations in the city, beginning with Construction Junction. As an organization that promotes buying local, community engagement, career training, and the arts, we saw a microcosm of the city in their efforts and hope to further develop a relationship with this valuable resource. In addition to promoting sustainability within the city, the committee plans to focus its efforts for the next year on connecting young Pittsburghers with resources to help them find housing, and introducing young adults to city neighborhoods that are traditionally overlooked in their search for a place to live or play.

Community Involvement:

The EC engaged the community through their meetings and interactions with local stakeholders in sustainability, i.e. youth architects and green building emerging professional groups, and the city sustainability coordinator, and are planning future volunteer events through these organizations.

Important Issues to EC:

The EC has identified the following issues as areas of key importance and concern to its demographic: city recycling and composting and other community efforts toward a sustainable and clean environment; finding housing; increasing awareness of the diversity and resources of the ninety city neighborhoods; and the continued push toward increased green and energy-conscience buildings and neighborhood planning, with the help of both public and private entities. There is a clear need for the EC and Transportation Committee to jointly address issues regarding bicycling in the city, as it affects both environmental and transportation issues.

E. Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations Committee of the Propel Pittsburgh Commission works to communicate with Pittsburgh residents as to the Commission's activities, goals, and focus. The PR Committee focuses its communication efforts, which include public speaking events, email, and social media, on young adults who reside in Pittsburgh. Additionally, the PR Committee responds to public and media inquiries regarding the Commission and its activities. During the past year, the PR committee actively engaged the Pittsburgh young adult community, a summary of such major activities follows, and will continue to do so during the Commission's year two term.

The PR Committee initiated meetings with leaders of various student groups in the Pittsburgh region. These meetings included the leadership of both undergraduate and graduate student organizations. Through these discussions, the PR Committee communicated the purpose and goals of Propel. The Committee also engaged the student leaders in discussions of how Propel could address the needs and concerns of students. The Committee reported these concerns to the Commission and hopes to address them further in the next six months. Additionally, the PR Committee continues to actively engage student leadership in Pittsburgh and hopes to set another round of meetings with new leadership in the coming months.

The PR Committee took the lead in promoting the Commission's fund raising event for the Pittsburgh Promise. The Committee distributed flyers via electronic means to various professional groups throughout the City of Pittsburgh. Additionally, the PR Committee developed follow-up materials and is working to continually engage the individuals and groups that helped support the Pittsburgh Promise.

Propel recently hosted the leaders of several area professional groups for a networking event at a Pittsburgh Pirates game. Included in this group were: William Hanning, Young Professionals in Energy; Kathy Risko, Junior Achievement; Regina Wilson, Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division; Michael Herald, Pittsburgh Urgan Magnet Project; Karissa Pytlak, American Institute of Architects; Kate Zettl, Green Building Alliance Emerging Leadership; Alyssa Herzog-Melby, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, Emerging Art Leaders; Kevin Tucker, the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network. The PR Committee communicated to these leaders the goals, focus, and projects of the Commission. The Committee will continue to engage in dialogue with these individuals, as well as other leaders of young professional

groups, to solicit ideas for projects for Propel to undertake.

The PR Committee also has the responsibility for developing and implementing social media to promote the Commission's activities, positions, and events of interest to young adults. The Committee drafted a social media policy that was approved by the Mayor's office and is awaiting approval from the Commission. The PR Committee also engaged a member of the Mayor's Youth Council to aid in all social media communications. The Commission will have accounts both on Twitter and Facebook, both of which will be utilized to further Propel's mission.

The Committee, with the input of the Commissions Executive Committee, has responded to public inquiries about the purpose of Propel, as well as questions and suggestions regarding Propel initiatives. The PR Committee is also in the progress of meeting with members of City Council to exchange ideas on initiatives and policies relating to young adults in Pittsburgh.

Additionally, the PR Committee is in the process to meeting with members of the Pittsburgh Police Department to discuss the possibility of implementing a smart phone registration. Such a program will aid police in recovering lost or stole smart phones. New York City has successfully implemented such a program and it is likely equally viable in Pittsburgh.

Moving forward, the PR Committee will continue to focus on actively engaging the young adult community to understand its issues and concerns. The Committee is dedicated to conveying Propel's ideas, purpose, and programs to the City as a whole, through a focus on social media and traditional networking initiatives.

V THE CURRENT YOUNG PITTSBURGHER PROFILE

The Propel Pittsburgh Commission is pleased to attach hereto a copy of Pittsburgh Today's, *Young Adults Report 2012*. The Commission welcomed the opportunity to review the report and, through interviews, participated in its creation. Commission members have attended many events surrounding the report including panel discussions, round table brainstorming sessions, corporate events, and both private and public sector gatherings surrounding and celebrating the successes of our region as it continues to become a better and better place for young people. The Commission also has reached out to the young Pittsburgher community to engage reaction to the report.

The Commission is pleased that the report backed up the consensus of the community, that, not only is Pittsburgh on track to becoming one of the best places to live as a young person, but as a region it has turned the corner from attrition to attraction and isn't looking back.

The young Pittsburgher today is drastically different from the young Pittsburgher of its father's generation. The collapse of the steel industry in this region is nearly forgotten and the development of the "meds and eds" has been fueling the local economy. The young Pittsburgher is well educated, in fact according to the report, nearly 50% of young Pittsburghers have a bachelors degree or higher. The young Pittsburgher has a very high quality of life. The young Pittsburgher is the most likely demographic to use public transportation, if it is available. The young Pittsburgh values diversity. The young Pittsburgher sees opportunity for not only career advancement in the region. The young entrepreneur sees potential for a huge developmental push of small business ventures in the region. Recently, more venture capital money has flowed into the region than ever before. According to the newly formed Pittsburgh Greater Council for the Arts, the young Pittsburgher appreciates the arts community and takes advantage of the many opportunities and quickly growing arts presence in the region. The young Pittsburgher wants the

environment of the region to improve and values greatly the outdoors and green space available in the region. The young Pittsburgher likely owns his own home, but is frustrated by public transportation opportunities and wishes local business would stay open later. Most importantly, the young Pittsburgh is among the happiest in the region and takes pride in and loves the City of Pittsburgh.

VI. MEET YOUR COMMISSIONERS

Thomas G. Donahue, Chairman

Tom is an attorney in the law offices of Dinsmore and Shohl, LLP, where he practices corporate law and litigation. He joined the Propel Commission to better help serve the young Pittsburgher community and encourage retention and development of the local professional community through continually fostering mutually beneficial relationships between the young Pittsburgers and their local leadership, government, and employers. His interest lies in helping to develop initiatives and assist the local young professional and prospective young professional communities to recognize this region as a leader in opportunity and professional development for the future of our generation. Tom brings significant board experience to the table and with a particular concentration in the restructuring, revitalizing, and launching of successful board models which ensure future success. Tom has significant contacts in the region and is well acquainted with the needs, wants, and goals of the local young professional community. Additionally, he is in touch with the aging philanthropic and business communities in this city and provides unique perspective on the reasonableness and attainability of the young Pittsburgher's goals. Tom is interested in presenting a feasible directive for the commission such that a collaborative and cooperative movement can be established. Tom believes that through a diverse commission of experience, vision, and goals the best possible course into a future of success can be laid for the young Pittsburgher.

Zachary Walters, Secretary/Parliamentarian

Zach is a sustainable roofing solutions manager for CentiMark Corporation. He is involved with the Green Building Alliance and serves as the Secretary/Parliamentarian of the Propel Commission as well as chairing the environmental committee. Zach's area of expertise is Sustainable Design & Construction, Program Development, Project Management, and Educational Programs. Zach is excited about the opportunity to help guide the city in regards to decisions made and initiatives created regarding the younger population of Pittsburgh. He was born and raised in Pittsburgh and went to Pitt for his undergraduate degree but spent a lot of his time studying and living abroad. There have been many cities that he has enjoyed over the years but Pittsburgh offered everything he could want in a city. No other city offered the same caliber of arts, sports, culture, at a cost of living well below what you would expect with these types of amenities. Zach has many thoughts for improving the City for the younger population but my immediate goal would be to help diversify the city (through interaction between existing neighborhoods and the development of a more multicultural and multinational feel to Pittsburgh) and to further promote Pittsburgh as one of the top 'green' cities in the US and world.

Justin Victor

Justin is a lifelong resident of Pittsburgh's Northside. He is a 2003 graduate of Pittsburgh Perry High School and a 2007 graduate of Allegheny College. He works on the Northshore for Alcoa Inc. and has volunteered for several local organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters, Alcoa Volunteers, the YMCA, and St. Peter Parish. He runs the Pittsburgh Marathon every year and recently restored a nearly 200-year-old home in the Deutschtown National Historic District.

Ricky Moody, Jr

Ricky works in the SMB Unit as a Shift Supervisor in Southwood Psychiatric Hospital, in Upper St. Clair, PA. He is a member of the Young Democrats of Allegheny County, Consulting member of Black Student Union for Point Park University, President/Founder of East Carnegie Neighborhood Association, Pittsburgh Young Professionals, Pittsburgh's West End Alliance CDC, Pittsburgh Neighborhood Ambassador, Sankofa Community Empowerment, ACLU, NAMI, and the Sierra Club. Ricky is a staunch supporter of West Pittsburgh revitalization and development. He applied to the Mayor's spring 2011 civic leadership academy to learn more information and to share it with his community. He enjoyed learning the inner workings of city government. Ricky wants people of all backgrounds who are young citizens of the city, to be able to feel free to talk to commission members about their concerns for our future in Pittsburgh. He wants to initiate public outreach and collaborate with groups traditionally overlooked in the "young professional" sense. Ricky also wants to help educate minorities and immigrants about city government.

Zachary Malone

Zach is an associate at Draper Triangle Ventures, a Pittsburgh based Venture Capital firm that specializes in early stage technology investments within our region. Zach serves the city of Pittsburgh on countless boards (including The Pittsburgh Venture Capital Association Emerging Leaders Board, & The Pittsburgh Film Office Board of Trustees). In addition to being intimately involved with the Start Up community here in Pittsburgh. He chairs the Collegiate and Young Professionals Committee of the Propel Commission. A lifelong Pittsburgher, Zach is energized and committed to helping this region thrive. Zach firmly believes that encouraging business development in the region and building strong educational systems are the keys to building a better Pittsburgh. He also believes this commission should work closely with business development, education, and other young professional groups in the city so that the Propel Commission can become an integral accelerator to Pittsburgh's Third Renaissance.

Jennifer Askey

Jennifer is an associate at Perkins Eastman, an architecture firm in downtown Pittsburgh. She also serves as the Treasurer of South Pittsburgh Development Corporation, the non-profit development group for the city neighborhood of Brookline. Jennifer grew up in a small town about an hour south of Pittsburgh, and came to love living in the city while attending Carnegie Mellon. She has attended the CMU job fair for several years, trying to compete with firms in DC and NYC to recruit new graduates for her firm. Whether because of the economy or

because Pittsburgh has made a lot of progress lately, she has noticed a large shift in students' willingness to consider staying in the city after graduation, and would like to help the City seize this momentum. Jennifer is interested in finding ways to engage with the local universities, to encourage students to stay after graduation. As a LEED Accredited Professional, Jennifer is also passionate about the environment, and is involved with the Propel Commission's Environmental Committee.

Lauren Stoner

Lauren is a transplant to Pittsburgh from Harrisburg. A resident of Greenfield along with Ellie, her three-legged dog, Lauren moved here in 2003 to attend the University of Pittsburgh. She fell in love with the city and decided to stay forever. Since receiving her MPIA and MSW degrees, Lauren works on local political campaigns, teaches Social Work at CCAC, and is an independent consultant for several nonprofit organizations. She recently discovered that the City of Pittsburgh Seal contains the phrase "Benigno Numine," which makes her love the 'burgh even more.

Davonna Graham

Davonna practices behavior health case management at the Bradley Center. She is involved with Urban League Young Professionals (Programming Committee), CORO Center for Civic Leadership- NEXT Leaders of Green Communities (Mentee), Acculturation for Justice Peace Outreach (Board Member), and The Center that C.A.R.E.S.(volunteer). Davonna chose to serve on the Propel Pittsburgh Commission so that she would have the opportunity to bring attention to the perspectives of Young Pittsburghers in her District. She hopes to build relationships with my colleagues and neighbors to allow for transparency and openness amongst us all. She feels a strong connection and obligation to the youth and young adults in Pittsburgh. She wants to be able to give back to Pittsburgh, what Pittsburgh has given to her. She hopes to develop a positive working relationship between Pittsburgh Government and the Young Pittsburghers that reside in the city. Additionally, as a Propel Pittsburgh Commissioner, she plans to promote a safe and attractive environment for young Pittsburghers to find jobs, affordable transportation and entertainment.

Chelsea Prior

Chelsea came to Pittsburgh in 2007 only thinking she would be here for 3 months for a summer rowing job. She quickly fell in love with the area and has been here ever since. She saw there that was lots of growth and opportunity by staying in Pittsburgh at the time. During her time here, she has had the opportunity to further her education and receive a masters from Duquesne University. Chelsea wants to find out what helps attract youth to Pittsburgh and work to help enhance those features. She would like to see Pittsburgh become a more diverse city, not just in the aspects of cultural, race, ethnicity, but also with job production, beliefs, values, education and much more. By creating a more diverse city, she believes that Pittsburgh can champion a culture of change and a culture that works around a better process. With more diverse minds she believes open more doors to discovery will open that could ultimately help enhance the vibrancy of the City of Pittsburgh.

Anthony Bellino

Tony was born and raised in Pittsburgh and made the choice to return after both college and law school. Tony saw several of his friends leave the City because they didn't think it had the opportunities they were looking for. Tony hopes to help change that perception and retain and attract talented young people. Tony had the wonderful opportunity to serve a one year clerkship with Judge Mike Fisher here in Pittsburgh. At the conclusion of his clerkship, he knew that he wanted to stay in Pittsburgh and build his life and career. He realized that the Pittsburgh legal and financial community offered great opportunity while at the same time being of a size that offered complex work to a young attorney.

Maya Wilkerson

Maya believes there is a need for different perspectives and opinions on the committee, in order to get results and for a difference to be made. Maya offer a different perspective, point of view, and valuable insight with regards to education, community, family and experiences. Maya returned to Pittsburgh because of job opportunities. She originally left Pittsburgh and moved to Maryland with hopes of landing this great job in DC. Fortunately for Pittsburgh, that didn't happen and she started to apply for jobs here and was almost immediately hired. Maya would like to see more cohesion amongst neighborhoods, attitudinal barriers to be broken, and for conversations about race and diversity to progress in the capacity where people feel safe to discuss these topics and actions based on the needs people expressed during these conversations.

Ngani Ndimbie

Ngani is the Community Organizer for the ACLU of Pennsylvania in the Western Region (Pittsburgh) office. A native Pittsburgher, Ngani graduated from the Ellis School in 2005 and went on to the University of Florida where she studied political science and fine arts, graduating with a BFA in Creative Photography in 2009. She is passionate about environmentalism, making art accessible, police accountability, and ensuring civil rights and civil liberties for all Pittsburghers. In her spare time, she enjoys running in Pittsburgh's parks, biking around town, trying new restaurants, and drinking dark beer.

Samantha Malone

Samantha Malone, MPH, CPH is the Manager of Science and Communications for the FracTracker Alliance. She has worked with FracTracker since its inception in 2010 as a project of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Healthy Environments and Communities. Her work with the FracTracker Alliance focuses on providing user and partner support, coordinating website and media-based communications, and conducting and translating environmental health research for the blog. Sam has an MPH degree from Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) and is currently working on a DrPH degree from the Environmental and Occupational Health department within GSPH. In July 2011, Sam was awarded a U.S. State Department and Duquesne University travel grant, where she spent a month in Ghana participating in the Emerging Leaders' Extraction and Environment Program (E-LEEP). Outside of work, Sam is an avid traveler, biker, and wanna-be food critic.

Troy Alexander Cox

Troy Cox, originally from New York City, first arrived in Pittsburgh 10 years ago to attend Carnegie Mellon University. He has acquired a BS in Public Policy and Management and a MS in Public Policy and Management with a concentration in Policy Analysis. Currently

working for First Niagara, Troy has come to have a deep love for Pittsburgh and felt joining the Propel commission would provide him with the opportunity to contribute in the shaping of policies that are part of the revitalization of Pittsburgh. Troy is excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the other talented young professionals who comprise the Propel Commission.

Benjamin Verney

Ben is an attorney at Jones Day where he practices in the area of corporate litigation. He moved to Pittsburgh's South Side after law school to start his career in the city's vibrant legal market. Since he arrived he has been continually surprised and impressed by the the city's economic, cultural, and environmental assets. By serving on Propel, Ben hopes to continue the the development of these assets for young professionals within the city and to attract young people to Pittsburgh from around the country and world. Ben is also involved with Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR), a sexual assault victim crisis response center and advocacy organization.

VII. PROPEL COMMISSION RESOURCES/CITATIONS/SUPPLEMENTS

SUPPLEMENT A

Propel Pittsburgh Commission

Many young professionals are looking to establish themselves as respected and active citizens of the City of Pittsburgh. This being said, you, as the Propel Pittsburgh Commission, hold a lot of power to influence the shaping of your peers' involvement in local government through motivation and service. A general goal should be to expand the young professional network, which can only be done by actively reaching out to both current young professionals and university students, who will soon be young professionals. Below are some ideas that you can incorporate into your organization that will accomplish your multifaceted mission.

- **Mentoring Program**—You, as young leaders of Pittsburgh, have an obligation to both continue learning valuable life skills and connections, and introducing those younger than you to similar experiences. In this way, I think you should establish a mentoring program where the members of Propel receive established professionals as mentors and Propel members receive high school seniors or college students as mentees. This way, the Propel member can teach the high school senior/college student about life in Pittsburgh post-graduation and why they should look to stay in the City. They can also teach the mentee how to become involved in various Pittsburgh services, including Propel. The established professionals can offer Propel members thoughts both on how to effectively network in Pittsburgh and on what they would like to see the younger people of Pittsburgh accomplishing through City government. The established professionals may even be able to reach out to the youngest mentee by offering him or her opportunity to job shadow so he or she can see what it is like to live and work in Pittsburgh. In this way, all parties are constantly reminded of what makes our City such a great place to learn, work, and live.

- **Neighborhood Bonding**—It is apparent that Pittsburgh is divided into 90 different neighborhoods that do not always choose to interact or collaborate with one another. Because of this, stereotypes are often formed in relation to geographical locations. In an attempt to lessen this problem, Propel should look to organize some sort of cross-neighborhood bonding events. This can include hosting neighborhood potlucks at one of the local fire halls or even having two neighborhoods join together to do community service in the region (ex. cleaning a neighborhood park or getting various people to assist with a "Green-Up Pittsburgh" project.) Such an idea can be used within one neighborhood too so that everyone gets to better know their immediate neighbors. This activity will teach young professionals about the many people who live in Pittsburgh and will allow them to meet the people in their neighborhoods.

- **College Networking Events**—It is the goal of this city to not only bring college students here to learn, but to get them to stay in the City of Pittsburgh post-graduation. To help influence these students to stay, Propel should look to hold networking events, or even small job fairs, at local Universities. Topics discussed should include job opportunities, living options, and other reasons why they should "Pick Pittsburgh." Additionally, Propel can look to create a small brochure/handout/newsletter for college students that details why they should stay in Pittsburgh and what opportunities the city holds. This handout should emphasize the many summer internship opportunities! If students stay here for the summer, it increases their knowledge of Pittsburgh and hopefully be influential in their post college plans.

- **Socialize**—What better way to meet people in the community than to hold events such as power lunches? This way, not only do the people already involved in Propel get to catch-up with one another, but they can convince other young professionals to become involved in government. Additionally, such lunches can be used to get people talking about what needs to be done within the city, providing Propel with future project ideas. Whatever is learned in these get-togethers can then be relayed back to the elected and appointed officials representing the young people of Pittsburgh. A simple way to socialize, besides power lunches, could include attending various neighborhood meetings. Here all issues of the community are discussed so, as members of Propel, you will hear first hand some of the concerns that young professionals may have.

- **Advertisement of New Businesses**—Pittsburgh constantly looks to encourage new businesses and ideas, but these new businesses cannot succeed without employees or customers! Propel can look to help such new businesses in many ways from holding events in new restaurants, to organizing a data base of new start-ups in the Pittsburgh region willing to hire summer interns. Additionally, Propel should think of ways to encourage young professional, bright thinkers to take that first step in starting their own business here in Pittsburgh. This can be as simple as reaching out to individuals and

providing them with listings of resources our City has to offer.

- **Landlord Open House**—One of the hardest parts of moving into a new city is finding a safe, clean, affordable place to live. As young professionals, the job is already secured, but budgeting finances is usually still a concern. Propel can assist young professionals who are moving into Pittsburgh by organizing a Landlord Open House of sorts, where young people looking for places to live can be exposed to a variety of options on one night. By having easy access to such an event, post-grads will be even more enticed to stay in the region.

- **Citizen Suggestions**—Propel should look to create a place where they can receive suggestions from concerned citizens about what policy issues they are facing in their respective neighborhoods. This could be implemented on Propel's webpage, or by creating a central e-mail account where suggestions are encouraged to be sent. Additionally, Propel should look to advertize both the suggestion "box" and its organization in the letters new homeowners receive upon moving to Pittsburgh. Hopefully, many of the new residences are young professionals just like the ones Propel hopes incorporate into their mission, thus expanding Propel's outreach.

SUPPLEMENT B

Pittsburgh Today, *Young Adults Report 2012*.

SUPPLEMENT C

Streets of Dreams, *How Cities Can Create Economic Opportunity By Knocking Down Protectionist Barriers to Street Vending*,

SUPPLEMENT D

Report on the impacts of the pending Port Authority, ACCESS service reductions, their community impact, and an emerging strategy

SUPPLEMENT E

Transportation Funding Advisory Commission Report

SUPPLEMENT F

An Analysis for the Demand of Taxi Cabs in the Pittsburgh Area

SUPPLEMENT G

Propel Pittsburgh Commission By-Laws

DATED as of the 3rd day of November, 2012.

Thomas Donahue, Chair

Anthony Bellino

Zachary Walters

Justin Victor

Rick Moody, Jr

Zachary Malone

Jennifer Askey

Lauren Stoner

Davonna Graham

Chelsea Prior

Samantha Malone

Benjamin Verney

Maya Wilkerson

Ngani Ndimbie

Troy Cox