

**City of Duquesne
Council Agenda
Tuesday, May 7, 2024
6:30 pm**

Meeting being held in person and remotely using ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5251078707?pwd=Z01uVXlMMlZaYm5BazJnYmR4Mw51QT09#success>

**CALL TO ORDER (PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONES)
MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL**

**Councilperson Elaine Washington
Councilperson Aaron Adams
Councilperson Derek Artim
Councilperson Denise Brownfield
Mayor R. Scott Adams**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

At this time, citizens may address the Council of Duquesne on any issue appearing on today's agenda. Only residents and taxpayers of the City of Duquesne will be permitted to address the Council. Comments on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of tonight's meeting. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before the Council who may speak for a maximum of 10 minutes. Speakers are asked to use the microphone at the speaker's stand, clearly state their name and address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point. Please spell your name for the record and sign in on the sign in sheet.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes – April 30, 2024 Council Meeting
- b. Bill List – May 7, 2024

MOTION: to approve the May 7, 2024 Consent Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Public Safety – Report by Mayor Scott Adams**
 - a. Hiring of Police Officer(s)

MOTION: move to hire Caleb Black as a City of Duquesne Police Officer.

- b. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-01** – Parking Regulations regarding the following: 1) No Parking on Overland Avenue (Clearview Avenue and Richford Street) and Grant Avenue (Adjacent to School); and 2) Restrictions regarding Recreational and Commercial Vehicles. The ordinance will be voted on at the June 4, 2024 meeting.

2. *Public Works – Report by Councilperson Elaine Washington*

- a. Public Works Building Condition Assessment

MOTION: to authorize City Engineer and Manager to solicit funding opportunities for the repair/replacement of the Public Works Building.

3. *Water Dept. – Report by Councilperson Aaron Adams*

4. *Community & Economic Development – Report by Councilperson Denise Brownfield*

- a. Project Administration Agreement w/ Steel Rivers Council of Government (SRCOG) – pursuant to the administrative requirements for the administration of a formal agreement is needed by the SRCOG act as an agent and administer said projects on behalf of Duquesne. This is a standard agreement that SRCOG has with its other member municipalities.

MOTION: to enter into the Project Administration Agreement with the Steel Rivers Council of Governments for the administration of grant projects.

- b. Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) – PRT will be applying to the Federal Transit Administration’s current round of funding for Safe Streets and Roads for All. PRT’s application seeks funding to implement the Homestead to McKeesport Corridor plan and request supplemental planning funds to solidify the link between this plan and PRT’s ongoing University Line BRT project. The plan emphasizes pedestrian infrastructure improvements at intersections with high turn movements and pedestrian crossings to create safer conditions, focusing on reducing injuries and deaths for people who are walking or rolling.

MOTION: move to authorize the City Manager to submit a letter of support for the Pittsburgh Regional Transit funding request to implement the Homestead to McKeesport Corridor Plan.

- c. Duquesne Children’s Business Fair – request use of Polish Hill Park on Saturday, July 27 from 11 AM to 4 PM for the 3rd annual Duquesne Children's Business Fair. The event is being hosted by the Duquesne by Acton Children's Business Fair and How to HR.

MOTION: move to allow the Duquesne Children’s Business Fair to use Polish Hill Park on Saturday July 27th from 11 AM to 4 PM.

- d. Daevion's Place of Resilience – request to use Grant Street Park to host a Gun Violence Prevention Day on Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 1 to 4 PM. This event is a call to action for parents, guardians, men, women, children, churches, and organizations to join together for a day of fun and healing. The primary goal is to provide resources to families that will aid in ending community violence.

MOTION: move to allow Daevion's Place of Resilience to use Grant Street Park on Saturday June 15th from 1 to 4 PM.

- e. Community Day Parade – plans are being finalized for the parade on August 3rd, 2024 starting at 10 AM on 4th and Grant and proceed upwards towards Polish Hill Park.

5. *Accounts & Finances. – Report by Councilperson Artim*

6. *Treasurer Dept. – Report by Maureen Strahl*

7. *Engineer – Report by Laura Branthoover*

8. *Solicitor – Report by Myron Sainovich*

9. *City Manager – Report by Douglas Sample*

- a. Steel Rivers COG US Steel Mon Valley Works Letter – for our communities to survive, the US Steel Mon Valley Works must remain open AND owned by a responsible steel maker who will invest in each facility to upgrade them to meet our Nation's industry goals for 2030 and 2050.

- b. Home Rule Charter

- i. Next Steps

- 1. Those running for GSC must obtain signatures of registered voters of at least 2% of votes cast in last gubernatorial election (will need approximately 30-35 signatures to get on the ballot for the November 5th Election).
 - 2. GSC will either recommend no change after 9 months of study or must produce report to DCED with proposed changes after 18 months.
 - 3. Following review by DCED, the Home Rule Charter Adoption will be on the next regularly scheduled election to either accept or reject the charter as a whole. The earliest a Home Rule Charter could be on the ballot for the voters to decide would be General Election in November, 2026.

10. *Police Dept. – Report by Chief William Shaw*

11. *Fire Dept. – Report by Chief Frank Cobb*

12. *Police Citizen Review Board – Report by Debra Chaffin*

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Upcoming Council Meeting** – Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM.
2. **Home Dedication of Earl “Fatha” Hines at 600 Pricilla Avenue June 18th at 11 AM** – Fatha was born in Duquesne on December 28, 1903 (passed away on April 22, 1983). He was an American jazz pianist, bandleader, and composer whose unique playing style made him one of the most influential musicians in jazz history.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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ADJOURNMENT



P: 412-824-5672 • F: 412-824-9587 • E: info@glennengr.com
<http://glennengr.com/> • 14920 State Route 30 North Huntingdon, PA 15642

May 2, 2024

To whom it may concern,

On April 26, 2024, the City of Duquesne requested that Glenn Engineering & Associates, Ltd inspect their public works building and develop a cost estimate for repairs. The public works building is an approximately 100' x 60' concrete block structure constructed on a concrete pad. It is located at the top of Grant Avenue, in the City of Duquesne. The building has multiple safety concerns (see attached photos). The main issue being a leaning exterior wall. There are also numerous holes in the exterior structure, stormwater drainage issues and interior wall deterioration from previous salt storage. The cost to repair the exterior wall alone is shown below.

Existing Building Wall Repair

Remove existing CMU wall – (60' length) (20'Height) = 1,200 sq. ft.
1,200 sq. ft. (\$70.00 sq. ft.) = **\$84,000**

Excavate and Install new concrete footer for new wall
(60' length) (1'Height) = 60 sq. ft.
60 sq. ft. (\$35.00 sq. ft.) = **\$2,100**

Reinstall existing CMU wall – (60' length) (20'Height) = 1,200 sq. ft.
1,200 sq. ft. (\$55.00 sq. ft.) = **\$66,000**

Total estimated cost = **\$152,100.00**
(Item does not include restoration of site.)

To make all the necessary repairs to the building, including the wall, the cost would be upwards of \$250,000. As a comparison, the cost to demolish the entire building, purchase and erect a new pole building, as well as repair the stormwater/concrete pad issues would cost approximately \$200,000. A new building would alleviate any safety concerns and provide a secure working environment for the City's employees.

Cordially,
GLENN ENGINEERING AND ASSOCIATES, LIMITED

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura R. Branthoover".

Laura R. Branthoover, P.E.,
President/Owner

GLENN

ENGINEERING

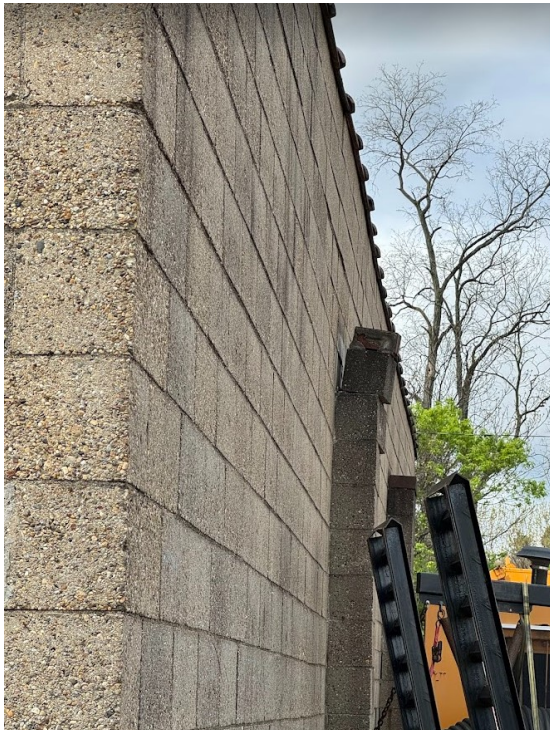
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PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT

This Agreement, made this _____ day of _____ 2024,

By and Between

Steel Rivers Council of Governments
1705 Maple Street
Homestead PA 15120

hereinafter referred to as **SRCOG**, and

City of Duquesne
12 South Second Street
Duquesne PA 15110

hereinafter referred to as **Municipality**

Witnesseth,

Whereas, Municipality is a member of SRCOG; and

Whereas, Municipality is desirous of obtaining Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from Allegheny County Economic Development (ACED) under the Federal Housing and Community Development Act, and funding from other sources, including but not limited to, Federal Agencies, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Allegheny County, other municipalities, or private funding agencies; and

Whereas, SRCOG submits an application for said funding on behalf of Municipality; and

Whereas, any said funding is made available to, is received by, and is administered by SRCOG as the agent for and on behalf of Municipality; and

Whereas, pursuant to the administrative requirements of the funding agency pertaining to the granting and allocation of said funds, Municipality requests the SRCOG act as an agent and administer said projects on its behalf.

Now, Therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained hereinafter and intending to be legally bound hereby, SRCOG and Municipality agree as follows:

1. The recitals and preamble are incorporated into this Agreement as if the same were set forth fully at length and such shall become an integral part of this Agreement.

2. Municipality hereby authorizes SRCOG to manage and administer projects and to act as the agent on their behalf and to utilize the funds allocated for these projects for the construction and/or program related expenses of these projects.
3. Municipality shall furnish, at its expense, all necessary and required engineering services, including but not limited to, preparation of a complete bid document including construction details, drawings and plans, formal review of bids received, any necessary and required on-site construction, inspection services, and problem resolution of any difficulties encountered during the course of project activities.
4. SRCOG shall review the bid documents and related materials provided by Municipality's engineer, architect or official managing the project to ensure compliance with program regulations. The bid documents, if required by the project, shall include instruction to bidders, any special notice to bidders, general conditions, special conditions, supplementary conditions, technical specifications, standard specifications, construction details, construction plans, federal general conditions as summarized by ACED, form of proposal, all other documents, plans, specifications, drawings and changer orders not enumerated above, all addenda and modifications to any of the above, as well as anything else deemed necessary by the engineer, architect or official managing the project. SRCOG shall secure the required wage determination for the project. SRCOG shall provide any required form of advertisement and mandated documents to be incorporated into the bid documents. SRCOG shall also provide the form of agreement that will serve as the contract between SRCOG and the successful bidder.
5. SRCOG shall prepare the bid advertisement in the form required by the funding entity and advertise for bids.
6. SRCOG shall receive and open all bids. The Municipality's engineer, architect or official managing the project shall tabulate then forward said tabulation for review to Municipality. After review of said tabulation of bids by and the issuance of written direction from Municipality or its engineer, architect or person managing the project concerning acceptance of a bid, SRCOG, as agent for Municipality, shall accept the bid and award the construction contract. Both SRCOG and Municipality retain the right to reject any bid or bidder for cause.
7. Municipality shall obtain, at its expense, any required federal, state and/or local permits, which may be necessary for the project.
8. Municipality shall be responsible, at its expense, for acquiring any and all necessary licenses, easements and rights-of-way, which may be necessary for the project.
9. Municipality shall furnish, at its expense, any required technical supervision and shall monitor and supervise, as required, all construction and on-site project related activities. The resources and expertise necessary to determine if the project has been executed and completed in a satisfactory manner shall be furnished by Municipality.

Resolution of any construction problems or disputes with the contractor will be the responsibility of the Municipality.

10. Municipality shall be obligated, and hereby agrees, to pay any and all authorized costs in excess of those covered by the grant funds allocated for the project, said costs being the difference between the sum total of any and all construction/program related expenses as identified by the bid, together with applicable change orders, and the grant amount allocated to the project. SRCOG shall have no liability for any funds over and above those grant funds that are allocated and awarded to a project, and Municipality agrees to indemnify, defend and hold SRCOG harmless from any such liability.
11. Municipality, on its own or through its engineer, architect or official managing the project, shall inspect the work reflected on each invoice submitted by the contractor. Approval of the invoice and work shall be given in writing by Municipality, which shall then be submitted with the invoice to SRCOG. This approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed by Municipality. SRCOG shall then prepare the cost report and request for payment and submit same to the funding agency. SRCOG will then also notify Municipality of any payment due for that invoice. If funds are due, Municipality will remit in a reasonable time the specified amount to SRCOG. Municipality shall not make any payments directly to the contractor.
12. SRCOG, upon receipt of funds from the granting agency and/or Municipality, shall deposit same in the account designated for such funds and then make payment directly to the contractor.
13. Municipality shall be responsible for, and shall make any payments or reimbursement that may be required as a result of a finding or other order generated by an audit or fiscal monitoring conducted by ACED, the Allegheny County Controller, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, or any other department, auditor, or agency that has authority over or the right to review the activities of a funded program. Any such payments or reimbursement, if any, shall be made through SRCOG pursuant to instructions issued by SRCOG.
14. Municipality and/or the contractor, in accordance with the bid documents, shall be responsible for all repairs and maintenance associated with the project after it is completed. At no time shall SRCOG have any obligation to maintain and/or repair the project or to pursue any required repairs or maintenance after the project is completed.
15. SRCOG shall process all documents and attend all meetings required by the funding agency during the administration of the project.
16. Municipality will indemnify and save harmless and defend SRCOG and its Board of Directors, agents, servants, and employees from any and all claims, causes of action, damages, losses, penalties or demands, including reasonable attorney fees, made

directly or indirectly by virtue of the execution or the performance of this contract, the separate Agreement between the SRCOG, the Municipality and the Contractor for the completion of the Project which is the subject of this Agreement and any and all related matters.

17. Any debts or obligations incurred by Municipality pursuant to the project shall be the debt or obligations exclusively of the Municipality and not of SRCOG.

18. It is expressly agreed and understood by and between the parties hereto that SRCOG, as agent for Municipality, is service only as a conduit for the funds allocated as well as administrator of these projects, which services are being provided at the request of Municipality.

19. This agreement is effective on the date of execution by Municipality and may be terminated by either party by providing sixty (60) days written notice. Upon termination of this agreement, completion of open projects and compliance with the agencies funding the projects will be the responsibility of the Municipality.

In Witness Whereof the parties hereto have caused this agreement to be executed on the day and year first entered above.

ATTEST:

Steel Rivers Council of Governments

By: _____

By: _____

Name: An Lewis

Name: Tammy Firda

Title: Executive Director

Title: President

ATTEST:

Municipality
City of Duquesne

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program (SS4A): PRT's Homestead to McKeesport (H2M) Corridor Implementation Plan

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write to provide my support for Pittsburgh Regional Transit's (PRT) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Safe Streets and Roads for All Program (SS4A). PRT will use the award to construct its Homestead to McKeesport Corridor Plan and request supplemental planning funds to solidify the link between this plan and PRT's ongoing University Line BRT project.

The Homestead to McKeesport project, a crucial initiative spanning just over seven miles in the heart of the Monongahela Valley, is set to make a significant difference. It extends from the southern end of the Homestead-Grays Bridge to the McKeesport Transportation Center along Pennsylvania (PA) State Route 837 and PA State Route 148. This busy arterial corridor is home to several major attractions, employers, and community anchors, drawing visitors from across the region.

Between 2016 and 2021, there were ten fatal crashes in the study area, and of those, four fatalities were people walking. One intersection planned for significant safety upgrades sits adjacent to PRT bus stops along Kennywood Boulevard, which has presented consistent danger to all road users. The plan emphasizes pedestrian infrastructure improvements at intersections with high turn movements and pedestrian crossings to create safer conditions, focusing on reducing injuries and deaths for people who are walking or rolling.

PRT's Equity Index of Mobility Need has identified these communities as needing additional transit, pedestrian, and vehicular infrastructure improvements. USDOT's Justice40 Initiative has also established all the census tracts along this project corridor as communities with demonstrable safety needs to address decades of underinvestment.

Our organization fully supports this SS4A application and SPC's commitment to creating safer streets and corridors for all. Should SPC receive funding through the SS4A application, we look forward to serving as a partner where the opportunity arises.

I am grateful for your time and consideration of this application. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

From: [How To HR](#)
To: [Doug Sample](#)
Cc: [City Manager](#); [Christina Martin](#)
Subject: Re: Polish Hill Park Request Proposal
Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 12:49:06 PM

Thank you so much!

On Wed, Apr 10, 2024 at 11:54 AM Doug Sample <dsample@duquesnepa.us> wrote:

I don't see any issues with this request. I will forward to Council for official approval, but you are approved.

Douglas Sample

City Manager

12 South Second Street

Duquesne, PA 15110

412-469-0544 (office)

412-469-3795 (fax)

From: How To HR <howtohr1@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 11:30 AM

To: City Manager <city_manager@duquesnepa.us>; Doug Sample <dsample@duquesnepa.us>

Subject: Polish Hill Park Request Proposal

Hi Douglas,

I hope all is well!

I am requesting the use of Polish Hill for Saturday, July 27th for the 3rd annual Duquesne Children's Business Fair. We are requesting the park from 11am - 4pm. The last two years hosting the event at Polish Hill have been a great learning opportunity and we are looking forward to an even bigger event this year. Last year, we received donations from

Kennywood GiantEagle, Leo's Automotive, and Schinks Hardware. We appreciate the opportunity to bring this event to the city again this year. The event is brought to Duquesne by Acton Children's Business Fair and How to HR. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks!

--



Shayna Robinson
HR Business Partner, How To HR, LLC

[412-656-5661](tel:412-656-5661) | HowToHR.org

[Create your own email signature](#)

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Shayna Robinson
HR Business Partner, How To HR, LLC

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From: [Shanena Lewis](#)
To: [Eric L. Ewell](#); [Sonia Ewell \(via Google Docs\)](#); [Doug Sample](#); [Frank Cobb](#); [Steven Arbasak](#); [Richard Scott Adams](#); [Thomas Shaw](#); [Karra Vance](#); [Denise Brownfield](#); [Elaine Washington](#)
Subject: PROPOSAL FOR GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION DAY
Date: Friday, April 5, 2024 2:23:58 PM

Dear City of Duquesne Officials,

I am writing to you on behalf of Daevion's Place of Resilience, created in in memory of my son, Daevion, who tragically lost his life to gun violence in Duquesne on June 16, 2018. My name is Shanena Lewis, and as the founder of this organization. I am reaching out to propose a Gun Violence Prevention Day on June 15, 2024 from 1-4 pm.

This event is a call to action for parents, guardians, men, women, children, churches, and organizations to join together for a day of fun and healing. Our primary goal is to provide resources to families that will aid in ending community violence.

For this event, we kindly request the use of the park on the corner of Grant Street. Additionally, we ask for the streets surrounding the park to be blocked off to ensure safety and accessibility. Furthermore, we would greatly appreciate the participation of the fire trucks to lead our march, symbolizing our belief that the youth are not the problem but an integral part of the solution.

We believe that by coming together as a community, we can make a real difference in addressing gun violence and creating a safer environment for everyone. Your support in making this event a reality would be invaluable.

Thank you for considering our proposal. We look forward to the opportunity to work together towards a safer and more unified community.

Sincerely,

Shanena Lewis
Founder, Daevion's Place of Resilience



Shanena Lewis M.S. - Founder/CEO
Dae'Vion's Place of Resilience
Website: www.daevisionsplace.org



April 25, 2024

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President,

We represent the 40 communities in the heart of Pennsylvania's steel country, the Monongahela Valley. We are writing because our region faces a crossroads: down one path is a reinvigorated, modern, manufacturing hub that is the envy of the world. Down the other is an unsustainable status quo of pollution and decline. Decisive leadership will be the difference.

Our Mon Valley communities are oriented around three large facilities known collectively as the Mon Valley Works owned by US Steel Corporation. The proposed sale of the US Steel to Nippon Steel has brought international attention to all of us, as it should. The future of these facilities has major implications for our communities, workers, residents, local governments, the steel making pipeline, and the Nation. Put simply, we need your help.

For our communities to survive, the US Steel Mon Valley Works must remain open AND owned by a responsible steel maker who will invest in each facility to upgrade them to meet our Nation's industry goals for 2030 and 2050.

The stakes are high. The devastation caused by the shutdown of the mills in the 1980's cannot be repeated. While we continue to carefully watch these events unfold, rhetoric is prevalent, and the volume of information is huge. At this critical time, we are relying on you, our state and federal lawmakers, the protections of the Federal government and the CFIUS process to scrutinize this sale and make sure that safeguards and incentives are in place to ensure that any future plans will achieve our shared goals and that implementation towards them begins immediately.

The Mon Valley region of post-industrial river towns has not recovered from the loss of industry former US trade policies and deindustrialization. History cannot be repeated. The US Steel Mon Valley Works supplies jobs, sustains adjacent businesses, and provides crucial tax revenues that support roads, police and emergency services. Across Pennsylvania, US Steel contributes more than \$3.6 billion to the local and state economy and supports 15,000 jobs. In our communities, US Steel owns 98 properties with assessed values over \$60 million. Collectively, these properties produce over \$2.5 million of annual real estate tax revenue that our local governments and school districts rely on to sustain. For example, twenty-eight percent (28%) of the budget of the City of Clairton comes from taxes levied on US Steel-owned properties.

If any portion of the US Steel Mon Valley Works closes, the ability of our local governments to provide basic services will suffer. That means fewer teachers in schools, fewer police officers and fire fighters keeping us safe, decreased services for seniors, and more. It will accelerate the cycle of decline that has already persisted for too long.

Yet, we cannot stop at the status quo. This time of transition is an opportunity secure improved environmental and health conditions for our people. **Investments in the steelmaking facilities must**

significantly reduce the air pollution and environmental impacts that negatively affect the health of people living and working here.

The US Steel Mon Valley Works is responsible for almost 8% of all of the industrial emissions of greenhouse gases in Pennsylvania. Particle pollution produced by the steel-making process are responsible for increased rates of asthma and other respiratory issues, emergency room visits, and early death among our local population. Negative health effects alone cost over \$600 million per year.

Industry advancements have provided the tools to fix this problem and to set us on a path of sustainable prosperity. A few years ago, plans existed to build a cogeneration plant adjacent to the Clairton Works Coke Plant. This facility would use the problematic emissions to generate power to fuel the mills. In addition, US Steel was to build a continuous casting rolling mill at the Edgar Thompson Plant which would make the rolled steelmaking process more efficient. Unfortunately, the funds for those needed improvements were reallocated to other projects in other states. **Restarting those projects would be an excellent start to the new chapter for our facilities here.**

The technology already exists to produce high-quality steel using natural gas instead of coal and, thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act; most experts believe hydrogen will be an even more environmentally friendly fuel by the mid 2030's. These alternative technologies dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and harmful pollutants. They can be integrated into the cogeneration plant and the continuous casting mill. Whether now or in the coming years, they must be deployed in the Mon Valley in order for our communities to thrive into the future.

In short, improvements are needed now. **We ask that you use all of the resources at your disposal to protect jobs, economies and public health in Western Pennsylvania by ensuring that the ultimate owner of US Steel Mon Valley Works is responsible and commits to keeping the facilities open AND to investing in cleaner, safer operations for our communities.**

Signatures from SRCOG, TCVCOG and all COG communities via docuSign to follow here.