

**MOTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY**

Commending the Pittsburgh Board of Education, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, the Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation, and the Mt. Washington neighborhood for working cooperatively to preserve the South Hills High School and supporting the neighborhood plan to reuse the facility for senior housing and services that will support the neighborhood and tenants.

**WHEREAS**, built in 1916 at Ruth and Eureka Streets in Mt. Washington, the South Hills High School was designed by the internationally famous firm of Alden and Harlow (Carnegie Institute, 1895) and has been an architectural and social landmark for the neighborhood for eighty-nine years; and

**WHEREAS**, closed by the Pittsburgh Board of Education in 1986, the high school building has sat empty for eighteen years while the Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation and the Board of Education have sought qualified developers for the building; and

**WHEREAS**, the site has been designated as a Keystone Enterprise Opportunity Expansion Zone as a means to encourage development, place the property back on the tax rolls, and alleviate the blighted property's impact on the neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, an extensive neighborhood-driven study identified renovation based on community use as the most desirable use of this historic structure; completed in 2004, the study proposed the development of seventy to eighty senior housing units and auxiliary services that would support the tenants and neighborhood residents; and

**WHEREAS**, auxiliary services would include a cafeteria, computer room, beauty shop, doctors' offices, a professionally-managed wellness center, medically-related for-profit businesses, flex space for community use, and loft-type apartments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, acting as the sales agent for the building, prepared a request for qualifications, contacting 20 development companies to garner interest in the adaptive reuse of the property; two developers presented proposals to accomplish the neighborhood plan;

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS MOVED, AND IT IS THE SENSE OF THE COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY**, that this Body commends the Pittsburgh Board of Education, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, the Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation, and the Mt. Washington neighborhood for working cooperatively to preserve the South Hills High School and supports the neighborhood plan to reuse the facility for senior housing and services that will support the neighborhood and tenants.

**FURTHER**, this Body encourages the effort to find commercial tenants that will make full use of the Keystone Enterprise Opportunity Expansion Zone and supports the application for National Register status for this historic City of Pittsburgh landmark.

**SPONSORED BY COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT FONTANA AND COUNCIL MEMBER DeFAZIO**

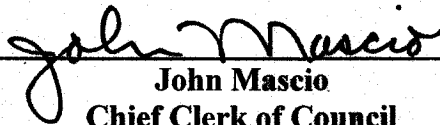
In Council March 15 2005.

Read and Approved.



**Rich Fitzgerald**  
**President of Council**

Attest:

  
**John Mascio**  
**Chief Clerk of Council**

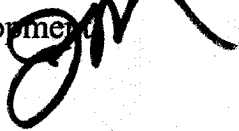
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

# County of Allegheny

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Susan Brandt, Urban Redevelopment Authority 

**From:** John Mascio, Chief Clerk

**Date:** March 21, 2005

**Subject:** **Bill No. 1905-05 – Motion of Council Commending the Pittsburgh Board of Education, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, the Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation, and the Mt. Washington neighborhood for working cooperatively to preserve the South Hills High School and supporting the neighborhood plan to reuse the facility for senior housing and services that will support the neighborhood and tenants.**

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Enclosed is a copy of the above referenced Motion sponsored by Council Members Wayne Fontana and John DeFazio which was unanimously passed by County Council at the Regular Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on March 15, 2005.

Please call me at 412-350-6495 if you have any questions.