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RAD BOARD RELEASES YEAR 2010 APPLICATION New *Connections Grants* Program Announced

PITTSBURGH—The Board of Directors of the Allegheny Regional Asset District today released the year 2010 grant application and announced a new project grant category, *Connections Grants*.

According to the Allocations Committee, which recommended the Connections Grants, "Our region fared better than others during the early part of the downturn, but it cannot be immune from major dislocations taking place in the automotive, housing and other sectors. Assets need to continue to monitor costs and to consider cost-saving and cost-sharing opportunities."

Connections Grants are a response to this need and are meant to provide concrete assistance for the District's interest in fostering collaborative efforts that will lower overhead costs, thereby sustaining and enhancing programming. The District expects to allocate \$250,000 for this program in 2010. Applicants must meet RAD's regular eligibility requirements.

With regards to the year 2010 application, there are no changes in the eligibility or evaluation guidelines. The discretionary capital grant program will remain closed except for parks and trails, a large segment which, by statute, is required to be funded.

Applications for year 2010 funding are due on Wednesday, July 15, no later than 4:00PM.

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