

**For Immediate Release**  
**April 12, 2010**

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**Panel Discussion on the Tenth Anniversary of Fifth / Forbes**  
PITTSBURGH, PA . . .

As Pittsburgh approaches the tenth anniversary of the Fifth/Forbes plan for Downtown urban renewal, the Guyasuta Fellowship Program on Public Policy is hosting a community discussion on the lessons of that controversial redevelopment plan.

**10 Years After – The Lessons of Fifth / Forbes** is open to the public and will take place on **Thursday, April 15, 2010, from 6:30pm – 8:30pm**, at **Piatt Place, 301 Fifth Avenue, Room 3023**, in the former Lazarus Building, Downtown, Pittsburgh, PA. This event will feature a panel discussion by special guests including Rob Stephany (Executive Director, Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh), Bernie Lynch and Pat Clark (Fifth/Forbes community activists), and moderated by Chris Potter (Editor, Pittsburgh City Paper). Attendee RSVP is requested at 412-361-1111.

Much has changed in the focus, process and substance of community development and neighborhood investment since the proposed Fifth / Forbes Plan. These changes are evident in the incremental redevelopment taking place in Downtown Pittsburgh, but also in the practices and policies in the community development sector. "There's been a sea change in community development since the era of Fifth/Forbes, and this anniversary is a good opportunity to take a look at what's been learned over these past 10 years," notes program consultant, Pat Clark, of Jackson/Clark Partners.

The Guyasuta Fellowship Program, a policy forum for young people in Western PA, is in its fifth edition, providing a proven vehicle for community conversations about public policy, and for transforming policy recommendations into citizen action. The Fellowship aims to expand direct involvement by citizens typically excluded or overlooked in the policy-making process.

This year's Fellowship has focused on informing and involving citizen leaders in ways to leverage the "stimulus" - or the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – investments into citizen-driven sustainability-based policy initiatives that can help deliver on the promise of a new green economy for Pittsburgh. The Fellowship's 12 planning sessions have informed participants on key issues, introduced them to leading experts, demonstrated best practices in the field and provided community organizing training.

The program is conducted in partnership with **Pittsburgh City Councilman Bill Peduto**, and is a project of **Pennsylvania VOICE**, which partners with over 60 nonprofits statewide to build nonpartisan voter participation, support citizen leaders and collaborate on issues of civic concern.

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