

MVPC Newsletters

MVPC Progress Update

Vol. 48 No. 07-08; July/August 2012

Progress is ...

Mon Valley/Fayette Expressway now complete from I-68 to PA Route 51 // Representative of Governor's office to speak at September 21 quarterly meeting // The Mid Mon Valley Cooperative now at seven members // Brownsville Marine Products and Alumisource become Progress Council corporate sponsors

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Mon Valley/Fayette Expressway now complete from I-68 to PA Route 51- An August 2 dedication attended by Governor Corbett marked the completion of the 60-mile section of toll road extending from I-68 in West Virginia to PA Route 51 in Allegheny County.

Representative of Governor's office to speak at September 21 quarterly meeting- Robert Johnson of the Governor's southwestern PA office will be the speaker at the September 21, 12:00 noon, fall quarterly meeting at Monongahela Valley Hospital. Johnson will speak on a range of issues including the Governor's economic development strategy.

The Mid Mon Valley Cooperative now at seven members- The City of Monongahela is the latest community to join an intergovernmental initiative of the Mon Valley Progress Council called **The Cooperative**. Monongahela joins the communities of Dunlevy, North Belle Vernon, Donora, Allenport, Charleroi, and Speers that previously joined the effort to explore and implement cooperative strategies among Mid Mon Valley local governments.

Brownsville Marine Products and Alumisource become Progress Council corporate sponsors- President John Easoz is pleased to announce Brownsville-based barge manufacturer Brownsville Marine Products LLC and Monessen-based aluminum processor Alumisource Corporation are now Progress Council corporate sponsors.

Mon Valley/Fayette Expressway now complete from I-68 to PA Route 51

An August 2 dedication of the Brownsville to Uniontown Phase II project attended by Governor Corbett marked the completed of the 60-mile section of toll road extending from I-68 in West Virginia to PA Route 51 in Allegheny County. (Photo - former State Senators Barry Stout and Bill Lincoln; Lincoln is also secretary of the PA Turnpike Commission)



The dedication, held at the western end of a new bridge across the Monongahela River, marked a major milestone for the Expressway project and the Progress Council's thirty years of advocacy for this major, regional, limited-access highway project. The dedication of the Phase II Brownsville to Uniontown project marked the official opening of the last section of the sixty-mile project from I-68 to PA Route 51.

Commenting on the historic nature of the event Progress Council's executive director Joe Kirk remarked, "I remember Frank Ireys and Al Ferrari's passion and commitment for the Expressway project." Frank Ireys was a former president and Ferrari was vice president. Both

Representative of Governor's office to speak at September 21 quarterly meeting

Robert Johnson of Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett's southwestern PA office will be the speaker at the September 21, 12:00 noon, fall quarterly meeting at Monongahela Valley Hospital. Johnson will speak on a range of issues including the Governor's economic development strategy.



Prior to joining the Governor's team, Johnson served as a principle in a Raleigh, North Carolina-based government relations consultant firm Triangle Strategies, government relations analyst for UPMC, and executive assistant to past State Senate Majority Whip Mike Fisher.

Please look for a meeting notice or just call the Progress Council offices at 724-684-3381 to make reservations. Luncheon reservations are \$18.

The Mid Mon Valley Cooperative now at seven members

The City of Monongahela is the latest community to join an intergovernmental initiative of the Mon Valley Progress Council called **The Cooperative**. Monongahela joins the communities of Dunlevy, North Belle Vernon,

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are deceased. The \$495 million project dedicated on August 2 included a 3,022-foot bridge across the Monongahela River.

Progress Council president John Easoz noted that the work of the Progress Council is far from complete, " We will continue our commitment to advocate for completion of the Mon Valley/Fayette Expressway and Southern Beltway.

Future funding of both the Expressway and Southern Beltway will be dependent on action on state transportation funding. Recently, Governor Corbett signed into law legislation that will make it far easier to development public/private partnership for major transportation project like the Expressway. (Photo -- Progress Council board members and MVPC executive director Joe K at the August 2 event)



Donora, Allenport, Charleroi, and Speers that previously joined the effort to explore and implement cooperative strategies among Mid Mon Valley local governments.

The Cooperative was developed through the Smart Government Initiative funded by a state grant secured by Representative Peter J. Daley.

The final report on a multi-municipal financial review of local governments coordinated by the Cooperative was presented at the July 31 meeting of the Cooperative by PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) consultant Michael Weir and Michael S. Foreman, Local Government Services, Southwestern PA office, DCED. Communities that provided detailed local financial information for review included Charleroi, Allenport, Dunlevy, and North Belle Vernon. The evaluation of fiscal conditions compared local fiscal conditions with comparable local governments throughout Pennsylvania. The Financial Monitor Workbook published by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development was used as a basis of the study.

The report also cited the issues that smaller communities seek to be "full service municipalities" but no longer have the tax base and population to support the service.

Brownsville Marine Products and Alumisource become Progress Council corporate sponsors

President John Easoz is pleased to announce that Brownsville-based barge manufacturer Brownsville Marine Products LLC and Monessen-based Aluminum processor Alumisource Corporation are now corporate sponsors of the Mon Valley Progress Council. "We welcome the support of these two Mid Mon Valley manufactures and look forward to working with them," Easoz said.

Please contact the Progress if your firm would like to support Progress Council efforts to improve the economy of the Mid Mon Valley.

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