

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Pittsburgh Youth Leadership (PYL) is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and has just finished a recent trip of bicycling across the United States, ending in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, this non-profit organization has been taking inner-city, low-income, at-risk youth on all expenses paid biking adventures across America's most breathtaking roads since its founding; PYL has a mission to promote positive leadership skills, develop outdoor adventurous spirits, and provide an opportunity to accomplish ambitious goals, leading to the fulfillment of its participants' limitless potential; and

WHEREAS, founded by Mark Rubenstein, a criminal defense attorney, the cycling trip is about building character, values, goal-oriented behavior, success, life choices, and mentoring; Mr. Rubenstein, influenced by what he had seen as an attorney, wanted to help make a difference for at-risk youth in the Pittsburgh region – and ten years later, he continues to accomplish that goal with each trip; and

WHEREAS, PYL participants have an 89 percent graduation rate, where the national average for economically disadvantaged youth is only 74 percent; the current trip, which began in Seaside, Oregon on June 14, consisted of eight teens who participated in local training runs and shorter trips over the past few summers; the group finished its journey on July 21 in New Jersey; congratulations to those who participated in the trip: Mentchaas Anderson, Max Fine, Donald Reese, Caleb Simak-Hoover, Diondre Farris, Cody Wagner, Jonathan Sumpter, and Lawrence Davis; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, PYL participants have cycled more than 165,000 miles and have been to 44 states, averaging about eight trips per year; Allegheny County is extremely thankful to have PYL in our community, and for its dedicated staff, including John Rangos and Stephen Robins; we are grateful for PYL's impact on our youth and look forward to all that will be accomplished in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby congratulate PYL, its staff and participants on this exciting 10th anniversary!

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 23rd day of July, 2015.

Rich Fitzgerald

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