FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 28, 2014 CONTACT:

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## Allegheny Alerts Expands to Include Public Works, Health

PITTSBURGH – Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald announced today that Allegheny Alerts has expanded to include two more departments: Public Works and Health. The free, non-emergency notification service allows individuals to sign up to receive information from the County on topics that they choose in a variety of formats. Beginning in April, users could sign up for alerts from the Parks Department and the Kane Regional Centers; beginning today, users can also select to receive alerts from Public Works and Health.

"We have nearly 1,300 people who have taken advantage of this service and are receiving alerts about the things that interest them," said County Executive Fitzgerald. "With the addition of these two departments, we can continue to be more customer friendly and provide information that can help you better plan your workdays, weekends, holidays and outings, and know what's going on in your part of the county."

In order to receive alerts, you must create a user account by visiting <a href="www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts">www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts</a>. Users are requested to provide some basic information which will be kept confidential and not used for any other purpose. Once the account is created, you can choose the topics you want and how you want the information sent to you (email, text, voice) and where (home, work, cell) you want to receive it. You can change the information and topics at any time by logging into your account and modifying your choices.

Alerts will be sent periodically and timing depends on the situation. If you choose food information from the Health Department offerings, you may receive an alert that a food establishment is closed on the day that the action is ordered, but a notice about new food establishment openings could be received monthly. Again, you can change the information and topics you receive at any time, along with how and where you receive those alerts.

Public Works alerts can include information on county roads and bridges, as well as snow updates and

state road information, as appropriate. Health alerts can include information on health and environment, air quality, food, public meetings and hearings, events and observances, and information on Live Well Allegheny. In addition to online sign up, residents have also had the opportunity to sign up at kiosks located at various county facilities, as well as offerings at certain special events throughout the county.

Development continues with other county departments with the expectation that there will be additional alerts launched later this year.

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