## MONACA GATEWAY PROJECT: Multimodal Investment in Community & Economic Development

Monaca's central corridor is State PA Route 18/PA 51, the historic route between Pittsburgh and Cleveland along the Ohio River, which is called Pennsylvania Avenue through Monaca's downtown. Monaca seeks to improve a key segment of Pennsylvania Avenue to eliminate failing intersections, provide "complete street" improvements, and provide better access for workers, citizens and visitors to downtown Monaca, to the riverfront brownfields redevelopment area on the east side of downtown, and to the proposed shale gas refinery to the west of the community. Monaca



and the Ohio River Trail Council also seek to deploy a critical segment of the Ohio River Greenfield Trail along the improved Pennsylvania Avenue corridor to connect to a broader, tri-state trail. This Pennsylvania Avenue/Ohio River Greenway Trail project is dubbed the Monaca Gateway project, and includes these components:

**Pennsylvania Avenue Complete Street & Intersection Improvements** – the project will improve Pennsylvania Avenue from 9th Street on the economically distressed west end of Monaca, through the downtown, to Industrial Park Road and its targeted brownfields revitalization area on the east end of Monaca. These improvements will include:

- Transformation of the Pennsylvania Avenue corridor into a complete street with improved traffic flow, walkability, and stormwater management infrastructure from 9th Street to 17th Street
- Creation of a new "Gateway Roundabout" at the failing intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street at the foot of the Monaca-East Rochester Bridge over the Ohio River
- Elimination of the failing intersection at Pennsylvania Avenue & Industrial Park Road
- Creation of a new access road from Pennsylvania Avenue into the Monaca brownfields revitalization area

Key Segment of the Ohio River Greenway Trail: The Ohio River Trail is a major effort to create a 41-mile walking and biking route from Pittsburgh to the western border of Pennsylvania with Ohio and West Virginia, connecting 27 Ohio riverfront communities and linking to a broader, nationally significant linear park system through the interconnection of existing trails in four states – Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia. The Ohio River Trail will unite the "Great Ohio Lake-to-River Greenway" in Columbiana County, Ohio to the "Great Allegheny Passage" in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and continue on the C&O Canal Towpath, forming a mega-trail from the great lakes region to the east coast.

Monaca has secured an Act 89 Multimodal Fund grant for pre-construction work, and the Borough and its local partners are also ready to commit additional dollars toward the pre-construction efforts. However additional funding support will be needed to see the project through to completion in order to achieve all of the community benefits.