

Allegheny County Policy Agenda 2021-22

The Allegheny County House Democratic Delegation is dedicated to recognizing, addressing, and supporting matters of common interest in Allegheny County. The following priorities will serve as a framework as we continue to navigate COVID-19 and support the needs of all Allegheny County residents.

Public Health: Prioritizing solutions that overcome health disparities and ensure access to quality physical and behavioral healthcare.

- Support initiatives that recognize and respond to the mental health needs of our communities, especially in our most vulnerable populations.
- Improve access to public health information and healthcare providers for all residents, regardless of ability, income, race, ethnicity, or language.
- Increase wages for direct support professionals and build a robust direct support workforce that benefits the entire community.

Economy: Advocating for proposals that enable us to return to normalcy and facilitate increased prosperity for the region.

- Establish landlord-tenant mediation opportunities and provide financial safety nets for homeowners in crisis.
- Fund and promote upskill training and education to open doors to careers, not just jobs.
- Increase the region's economic competitiveness to attract new investments and innovation.
- Revitalize blighted neighborhoods through tax incentives and community redevelopment initiatives.

Transportation: Removing barriers to public transportation that inhibit independence, accessibility, and financial opportunity.

- Support fare reduction strategies that enable economically disadvantaged residents to ride public transportation and participate more fully in the local economy.
- Maximize existing infrastructure by increasing the number of available stops and hours of operation on fixed-route services.
- Invest in clean, fuel-efficient technology that will reduce public cost while providing numerous social benefits to the community.
- Increase pedestrian safety, available space, and paratransit service options to support the autonomy and freedom of residents with disabilities.

Public Education: Focusing on policies that bolster equity and opportunity for students and families in the public education system.

- Grow funding for early childhood education programs that support children and parents throughout crucial stages of development.
- Revise the funding formula for special education so that students are truly receiving the appropriate supports and services they require.
- Standardize the funding and oversight for all charter schools to protect students and reduce the financial strain on our local school districts.