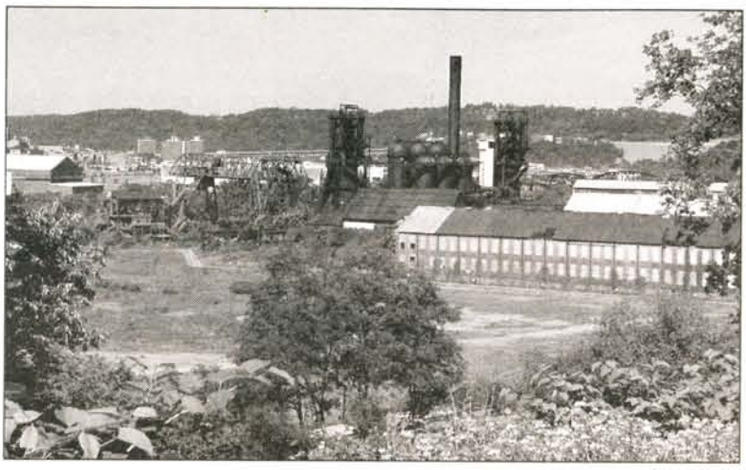
Community forum on Carrie Furnace development



The Tri Boro Development Forum will hold a Community Forum on Carrie Furnace Development on Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at UPMC Braddock 3rd Floor Classrooms (in the Professional Building).

The forum aims to educate people who live or work in the Braddock area about what past,

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present and future activities affect their community's air quality. It will include an update on the development of the Carrie Furnace site.

Past impacts on air quality include building materials, possible presence of mold, and hazardous materials in the home. Healthy Home Resources will be there to discuss them and also connect eligible people to resources to fix unhealthy indoor air problems in residents' homes.

Current impacts include industry and vehicular traffic. The Group Against Smog and Pollution (GASP) will be there to discuss them and to inform people about air is monitored and some recent air quality improvement breakthroughs in the area.

Future impacts include the types of buildings, businesses, and transportation access to the area, including the development of the Carrie Furnace site on the riverfront. Allegheny County Economic Development staff will be there to give people an update on the site. In addition, Ron Gaydos, VP Community and Economic Development at Heritage Community Initiatives will discuss how likely development scenarios under consideration will affect the community's air quality.

This forum is part of a project entitled Carrie Furnace Redeveloping: Restoring Healthy Air, funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice Program. The Environmental Justice Program assists community-based organizations to ensure that no group of people bears a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations. Funds are being used to explore ways that people in Braddock, North Braddock, Rankin, and Swissvale can directly affect the improvement of the local environment.