



Master Builders' Association
Of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.

November 1, 2023

Allegheny County faces many challenges. Foremost among those challenges is the need to remain competitive, in a shifting environment, for opportunities for economic prosperity, workforce development and growth. Statistics maintained by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development indicate that Allegheny County has lost tens of thousands of jobs in the past five years, and we have struggled to restore our workforce.

With these concerns in mind, voters in Allegheny County should carefully consider the significant differences in the choice for who should serve as our elected County Executive for the next four years.

The Master Builders' Association of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. (MBA) understands how important local and regional leadership has been and will be to the success of our region. Every day we represent 265 employers in Western PA and, in coordination with our Pittsburgh Regional Building Trades labor partners, we work to advance the construction industry for well over 500 more employers and over 45,000 employees. Our members, partners, and their employees build Western PA and have been doing so for over 137 years.

In August 2023, we invited both the leading Democratic, Sara Innamorato, and Republican, Joe Rockey, candidates to meet with a cross section of our membership to share their vision for Allegheny County and our region. We believe it is important to listen and learn so that we can work most effectively with our elected officials. This authentic engagement also gives the candidate or elected official the opportunity to listen and learn what is important to our members and other signatory employers, who help to drive our region's economy. Our Association recognizes the importance of collaboration, skill, ingenuity, and hard work. As builders, our members and their employees leverage these attributes to deliver tangible results in Western PA every day and we expect the same from our local elected leaders.

To address our regional challenges, such as population decline and workforce availability, Allegheny County should be led by an executive with a pragmatic approach to economic development and private sector job creation. Regulatory barriers to development, and therefore growth of our regional workforce, remain a persistent obstacle. Our next County Executive must be prepared to actively recruit employers and attract a diverse workforce. A future where opportunity abounds for all in Allegheny County requires proven executive leadership and a bureaucracy that works with businesses and other community stakeholders to adopt policies that make our region attractive to investment and responsible growth.

Voters should elect a County Executive who is not only qualified to lead an economic recovery, but also a leader with a results-oriented agenda and a practical focus on policy issues specific to Allegheny County. Political discourse leading up to this election on Nov. 7 is expected to be dominated by messaging leveled at a broader political ideology. These ideological issues are more relevant to a national stage, and voters should consider which candidate is best suited to implement specific solutions to move Allegheny County's people and our economy forward.

It is with these points in mind that we endorse Joe Rockey as the right choice to lead Allegheny County in the next term as County Executive.

Master Builders' Association of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.

Leading the Industry, Building the Region!

631 Iron City Drive · Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
412.922.3912 · FAX 412.922.3729 · www.mbawpa.org