

2013-2014 TAG: DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02
Allentown, PA
Final Report
November 2015

Pursuant to the contracted agreement between the US Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the City of Allentown, and in compliance with Article III Expected Program Outputs, the City of Allentown submits this final report demonstrating completion of:

1. Develop/expand the work product of Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02 to facilitate a National Mayors' Council on Pipeline Safety
2. Change risk exposure, improve safety culture through shared responsibility and collaboration
3. Research/outreach into how to expand partnerships to provide long term dedicated funding for a National Mayors' Council which will:
 - a. eliminate disenfranchisement caused by fiscal or size retractions to mayoral organizations allowing large and small city mayor participation and
 - b. promote participation at local levels of Leagues of Cities and Business Councils
4. Organize/conduct the first national Mayors' on Pipeline Safety Conference
5. Research/define/create scholarships for underserved mayors to attend Conferences
6. Build Industry partnerships by extending (Organization) membership to Industry and other government organizations in order to broaden 1) recommendation input and 2) the breadth of expertise available to the Council
7. Attend the PST Conference for outreach, education and networking
8. Continue the work begun by Grant Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02 (MCPS) by working with government, NGOs, legislators and the public to:
 - a. Write white papers /position papers to promote stronger safety standards
 - b. Testify before Congress in order to facilitate stronger safety standards
 - c. Actively participate in Office of Pipeline Safety's Standards and Rulemaking process through Council consensus

In compliance with Article X Reports: Section 10.01 Final Report, the City hereby delivers this letter-type final report to the GOTR and the AA and includes Section 10.02 Federal Financial Report, Standard Form 425 (SF-425).

This Final Report will serve to demonstrate the Project has met the established statement of work by actual accomplishments for the PHMSA extended contract period ending September 29, 2015. Statement of Work objectives are highlighted in **bold**. The overriding goal to **develop/expand the work product of Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02 to facilitate a National Mayors' Council on Pipeline Safety** is implicit in each action accomplished by this project. The actions conducted on behalf of this grant by nature of each networking, educational outreach and collaboration have begun to **change risk exposure, improve safety culture**. The **Inaugural MCPS Conference** (May 2015) exemplified **collaboration and readiness for shared responsibility**. Not only did the conference engage **government, NGOs, legislators and the public**.....but alsoPGE UGI.

The Project requested of PHMSA, and received, a time only extension in order to produce a more robust MCPS Conference (attached letter). The project remained in compliance with the budget, developed and expanded the work product of Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02 and in chronologic order fulfilled work product as follows:

Attending the Pipeline Safety Trust Conference for outreach, education and networking provided the opportunity for Mayor Pawlowski to present a Keynote presentation of “The Need for a Mayors’ Council on Pipeline Safety.” Also attending were San Bruno City Manager Connie Jackson, San Bruno Vice Mayor, Irene O’Connell, and Pipeline Safety Coalition Executive Director, Lynda Farrell. The Project leveraged travel and participation in the PST Conference by bringing influential members of Labor to a MCPS private meeting. Attending were:

Rick S. Terven Sr: Executive Vice President, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia (UA)

Lance Albin, United Association, International Representative

David Barnett, United Association, Special Representative, Pipeline & Gas Distribution; Blue Green Alliance

Charlie D. Rittenhouse, President, UWUA Local 69, AFL-CIO, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Executive Board Member, UWUA-IUGC Gas Coordinator

Dr. Simona Perry, Board Member, Pipeline Safety Coalition

Rick Kessler, Board Member, Pipeline Safety Trust

The meeting was chaired by Mayor Pawlowski, City Manager Connie Jackson, San Bruno Vice Mayor, Irene O’Connell and PSC Executive Director, Lynda Farrell and was held at the PST conference facilities for time and cost effective grant management. As a result of this meeting, UA General President, William Hite sent the attached personal letter of thanks noting that as the “leading trade organization in pipeline construction and maintenance, [the UA] is committed to continuously enhancing the industry and lives of our members [and that UA] represents 370,000 highly skilled men and women in the piping industry... [and that] We strongly share [MCPS] concerns and believe that the safety of our workers and communities should be a top priority for our industry.” (See attachment UA). The meeting also resulted in discussions for a collaborative effort for a National MCPS Conference in partnership with Labor Unions/Blue-Green Alliance and other outreach. The underlying premise of labor partnership is that, as with firefighters and EMS, UA members are often first responders and deserve the safest working environment possible. Expressed shared goals included:

- 1) Create a system of open communications between cities
- 2) Define & develop pipeline safety protocols specific to our cities
- 3) Educate cities about their state regulators
- 4) Provide networking and education
- 5) Craft policy and position papers on pipeline safety issues
- 6) Safety is our first priority.

In compliance with our goals to **work with government, NGOs, legislators and write position papers to promote stronger safety standards**, MCPS collaborated with US Senator Bob Casey’s office in his efforts to obtain additional federal funding for the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA). In a January 2015 Senator Casey invited Mayor Pawlowski and MCPS Executive Director, Lynda Farrell to join him in a press conference announcing the Senator’s request to the OMB for additional funding for safety measures. The Senator stated, “As the fourth anniversary of this terrible explosion [in Allentown] approaches we remember the families that were impacted and the enduring obligation we have to ensure that increased safety measures are put into place. It’s vital that the Administration dedicate adequate resources to pipeline safety in its upcoming budget. Adding more inspectors and increasing oversight will work to protect communities across Pennsylvania who have aging pipelines.” Following this effort by U.S Senator Bob Casey, the Administration proposed a \$175 million investment in pipeline safety in its fiscal year 2016 (FY16) budget.

February 2014, Mayor Pawlowski's participation as a speaker Blue Green Alliance [Green Jobs Good Jobs Conference](#) **facilitated budding partnerships in with NGOs and Labor**. The Project secured a key speaking engagement at the conference, where Mayor Pawlowski provided a snap shot of the MCPS. BGA President, David Foster, UA Executive Vice President, Rick S. Terven Sr, UA Director of Energy, James Moss and BGA Director of Infrastructure Programs, Rob McCullough devoted time during the conference to meet with Mayor Pawlowski and Lynda Farrell regarding development of working relationships with MCPS. David Foster expressed a synergy of goals between MCPS and BGA in relation to regulations, shut off valves and need for qualified labor. BGA seeks the growth of America's economy through US jobs and US made pipes, thereby achieving a safer infrastructure. The Project continued to grow this relationship with BGA's new Executive Director, Kim Glas in the MCPS Conference and UA speaking engagements in order to further facilitate **building partnerships, extending membership to Industry and other government organizations in order to broaden recommendation input and the breadth of expertise available to the Council**.

The developing partnerships of this project portend many opportunities. **Relationships developed as result of traveling to and attending the BGA Conference** include:

Labor: (UA) The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia alone spends over \$100 million annually on training programs efforts involving approximately 100,000 journeymen and apprentices in over 400 local training facilities at any given time. Gas pipeline specific training is notably lacking. Collaboration with the UA Point of Contact, **David Barnett** and Director of Energy, **James Moss** was initiated by the Project during participation in the February 2014 Blue Green Alliance - Green Jobs Good Jobs Conference. Noted by all partners is the intent for community education on methane leaks in order to incentivize community action by awareness of leaks, cost to the consumer and climate change.

AFL-CIO: Dr. Bill Jillian, Santa Clara law professor with 40 years experience in energy, including legal advisor to SCA PUC, will be working with MCPS regarding the many hazards that remain unregulated and **aide in drafting white papers /position papers to promote stronger safety standards, testifying before Congress in order to facilitate stronger safety standards and actively participating in the Office of Pipeline Safety's Standards and Rulemaking** process through Council consensus.

AFL-CIO: Mr Carl Wood, National Director Government & Regulatory Affairs; Oceanside, CA and former PUC Commissioner discussed the need to for state by state commissioner recommendations and will work with the Project during the aforementioned San Bruno meeting in an advisory capacity.

AFL-CIO: Brad Markell, Executive Director of the [Industrial Union Council](#), (AFL-CIO),DC was introduced to the MCPS and requested to meet about MCPS as an important entry point for the type of political input AFL-CIO is trying to establish with partners.

MCPS's dialogue with Charlie D. Rittenhouse, President, UWUA Local 69, AFL-CIO, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Executive Board Member, UWUA-IUGC Gas Coordinator at the BGA Conference resulted in the invitation to introduce and discuss MCPS at the UWUA September 2014 Gas Conference. Lynda Farrell attended on behalf of MCPS thereby extending MCPS efforts to build **Industry partnerships**.

The Project continued to expand outreach by utilizing the partnership/membership efforts begun with the UA of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia the Project, the Blue Green Alliance and Local Unions in outreach to mayors across the nation. Additionally, outreach and development of enrollment of mayors was internally initiated by creation of a database of mayors of cities which have had a gas pipeline incident over the past 10 years. Specifically, outreach by Mayors Pawlowski and Ruane was made to New York Mayor de Blasio after the East Harlem explosion.

With the PHMSA time extension granted, MCPS created and held a robust Inaugural Conference: “Lest History Repeat Itself - Pipeline Safety Initiatives.” The conference served to address many of the projects’ goals and provided **collaborative opportunities** both during and post conference. A complete viewing of the conference is viewable @ the website: <http://mayorspipeline.org> specifically [HERE](#). The agenda is Attached as: Attachment MCPS Conference: Lest History Repeat Itself - Pipeline Safety Initiatives: Agenda: (1/3 Pages). Aptly named, “Lest History Repeat Itself - Pipeline Safety Initiatives” the conference focused on the [five MCPS initiatives](#) deemed necessary in efforts to obtain PHMSA’s goal of zero incidents:

- 1) Automatic Shut off Valves
- 2) Gas Leak Response
- 3) Distribution Line
- 4) Leak Detection
- 5) Urban Pipeline Mapping

A full report of the 2015 MCPS Conference is provided in Grant #DTPH5614GPPT06 final report, however it should be noted that this grant and extension of timeline afforded the MCPS the opportunity to secure partnership with the UA in sponsoring the Conference, and to engage the following as speakers at the Inaugural Conference (full list provided on the agenda):

Survivors and Firefighters from San Bruno and Allentown
NTSB Chairman Chris Hart
US Senator Bob Casey
US DOE James Bradbury
BGA Executive Director Kim Glas
NARUC Commissioner Paul Roberti

Outreach efforts were made to legislative, government and NGO speakers for their subjective participation on panel discussions. The goal of this methodology was to glean perspectives from varying areas of expertise from which to gain the most diverse and comprehensive input possible for a well vetted opinions on the initiatives, to encourage long term interest in **participation and dedicated funding** for a MCPS.

In addition to the input MCPS provided legislatively to US Senator Casey, the San Bruno CA team additionally provided support and input to Senator Mark Leno (CA) in his now approved Comprehensive Leak Reduction Strategy Bill, requiring utilities to reduce methane gas emissions (SB 1371)

Overall, the project **expanded membership and promote shared responsibility through collaboration:** with membership additions of:

- Labor: United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia - Utility Workers Union of America - AFL-CIO - United Association Union of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders & HVAX Service Techs
- Elected officials
- Counsel
- Firefighters
- Non Government organizations
- Government organizations
- Citizens
- All attendees of the MCP Inaugural Conference

Respectfully Submitted,

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Attachement: UA: President Hite



Founded 1889

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

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General Office File Reference:WPH

William P. Hite
General President
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General Secretary-Treasurer
Stephen F. Kelly
Assistant General President

December 10, 2013

Ms. Lynda K. Farrell
Executive Director
Pipeline Safety Coalition
331 Norwood Rd.
Downingtown, PA 19335

Dear Ms. Farrell,

On behalf of the United Association, I want to thank you for meeting with Executive Vice President Rick Terven, International Representative Lance Albin, and Special Representative Dave Barnett recently regarding our nation's pipeline system and the important work the Mayor's Council is doing to promote pipeline safety. Right now, our energy infrastructure in the United States is aging, even crumbling, in some areas. Investment in our nation's pipelines, some of which are more than 100 years old, will strengthen public health, safety and quality of life for future generations.

As the leading trade organization in pipeline construction and maintenance, we are committed to continuously enhancing the industry and the lives of our members. The United Association represents 370,000 highly skilled men and women in the piping industry and we train our members with safety at the forefront. Our Standard for Safety program is an inherent part of the ongoing training that goes with being a UA member. We strongly share your concerns and believe that the safety of our workers and communities should be a top priority for our industry.

Thanks again for hosting last month's Mayor's Council for Pipeline Safety and for including the United Association as part of these discussions in New Orleans. Working together and combining our efforts, we will accomplish a great deal.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

William P. Hite
General President

WPH:slg



Attachment MCPS Conference: Lest History Repeat Itself - Pipeline Safety Initiatives:

Agenda: (1/3 Pages)

AGENDA

Thursday, May 14, 2015

8:00 AM: *Registration & Continental Breakfast:* (Grand Hall Overlook)

8:50 AM: *Film: "Trial By Fire: San Bruno":* (F.M. Kirby Auditorium)

9:05 AM: *Welcome/Introductions/Housekeeping:* (all sessions are held in the F.M. Kirby Auditorium)

9:10 AM: *Keynote:*

Mayor Ed Pawlowski, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Mayor Jim Ruane, San Bruno, California

9:35 AM: *Voices of the People: Survivors and First Responders:*

1) Patty Voight, Allentown family survivor

2) Lee Laubach, Allentown Firefighter

3) Dave Cresta, San Bruno Fire Battalion Chief

10:00 AM: *Perspectives of the People/Lest History Repeat Itself: Break Out Group Discussions*

10:20 AM: *Input, strategies, resources, needs: Break Out Group Reports*

10:40 AM: *Labor Perspectives on Pipeline Safety:*

1) David Barnett: United Association Representative, United States Pipelines and Gas Distribution Department

2) Anthony Gallagher: Business Manager, Steamfitters Local Union 420

3) Carl Wood: Utility Workers Union, National Director Government & Regulatory Affairs

11:10 AM: *Leak Detection Discussion: Defining clear definitions & recommendations for minimum leak detection regulations; such as what qualifies as a leak, how leaks are classified, and what is done about discovered leaks*

1) Mike Mikich: United Association Special Representative, Gas Distribution Division

2) Lesley Fleischman: Clean Air Task Force (CATF)

3) Nathan Phillips: Department of Earth and Environment, Boston University

11:50 AM: *Lunch is on us in the Grand Hall Overlook: South Philly Cheesesteak and Sandwich Station*

9:45AM: *State by State Regulatory Authority*: Can we change it? Should we change to national standards?

- 1) Paul Roberti: RI PUC; Commissioner NARUC
- 2) Carl Wood: AFL-CIO, National Director Government & Regulatory Affairs
- 3) Mark W. Toney, Ph.D.: TURN—The Utility Reform Network

10:15AM: *Senator Bob Casey*: A call for increased funding for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and its pipeline safety program in the President's fiscal 2015 budget for PHMSA to oversee and maintain the safety of our national interstate pipeline system.

10:45AM: *Break*

11:00AM: *Keynote Speaker*: Chairman Chris Hart, National Transportation Safety Board

11:50PM: *Lunch: Join us for a Philly Grilled Sausage and Hot Dog Lunch Truck experience*

12:50PM: *Federal Government Discussion*: Where are we nearly 5 years after San Bruno and nearly 4 years after Allentown? What do federal agencies need to move recommendations forward?

- 1) Chris Hart: Chairman, NTSB
- 2) Timothy Butters: Acting Deputy Administrator, PHMSA
- 3) James Bradbury: Senior Policy Adviser for Climate, Environment and Efficiency, Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis, U.S. Department of Energy

1:30PM: *Transparency: The relationship between Regulators, the Regulated and the Public*

- 1) Connie Jackson, City Manager, San Bruno, California

2:00PM: *Open Discussion: Lest History Repeat Itself*: What have we learned in these discussions? Input, strategies, resources, needs.

2:30PM: *Wrap up and Adjourn*

3:00 PM: *Conference partnership meeting*

The Mayors' Council on Pipeline Safety (MCPS) is a national, bipartisan team of mayors, elected officials, fire chiefs, first responders, government and non-government organizations, educators and citizens. Our goal is to achieve safer American communities through collaborative efforts.

1:00 PM: *Distribution Line Discussion*: Defining consistent and prescriptive distribution line safety regulations; Survey leak detection standards and materials.

- 1) David Barnett: United Association Representative, United States Pipelines and Gas Distribution Department
- 2) Kim Glas: Executive Director, BlueGreen Alliance
- 3) James Bradbury: Senior Policy Adviser for Climate, Environment and Efficiency, Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis, U.S. Department of Energy
- 4) Dick Kraft: Plastic Pipes Industry (PPI) Energy Piping Systems Division, Past Chair and member of the division's Regulatory Affairs Committee

1:40 PM: *Model Urban Pipeline Initiative*: Utilities and cities sharing pipeline mapping

- 1) Bernie Labelle: Sr. National Representative for the Utility Workers Union of America
- 2) Karen Edelstein: Eastern Program Coordinator, FracTracker Alliance
- 3) Terri Cooper Smith: Civil Engineer, PA Public Utility Commission | Gas Safety Division

2:10 PM: *Best Practices for Gas Leak/Explosion Response*

- 1) Sam Hall: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
- 2) Bernie Labelle: Sr. National Representative for the Utility Workers Union of America
- 3) Dr. Simona Perry: c.a.s.e. Consulting, PSC Board of Director, First Responder Researcher

2:50 PM: *Prescriptive use of automatic shut off valves*

- 1) Commissioner Roberti: NARUC (National Association of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners)
- 2) Mike Mikich: UA Special Representative, Gas Distribution

3:30PM *Wrap Up & Introduction of our gifts to you:*

5:00PM: *The Kimmel Theatre: "Freedom Rising" multimedia performance & explore DeVos Hall*

5:45PM - 6:45PM: *Cocktail Reception in Signers' Hall amongst life-size bronze statues of the Founding Fathers*

6:45PM - 10:00PM: *Dinner: Delegates Restaurant: Northeast Bar-B-Que*

Friday, May 15, 2015

(all sessions and meals in the John C. Bogle Chairman's Room)

8:00AM: *Registration and Continental Breakfast*

9:00AM: *Welcome*: Mayor Ed Pawlowski and Mayor Jim Ruane

9:15AM: *PHMSA Roles & Responsibilities / DIMP/Integrity Management*: Who can do what; the overall equation.

- 1) Sam Hall: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
- 2) Paul Roberti: Rhode Island PUC / Commissioner NARUC

