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DAN ONORATO TO RECEIVE AWARD AT JUNE 4 TRAIL MIX(ER)

PITTSBURGH, PA – (May 20, 2011) Friends of the Riverfront will honor Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato with the Annual Martin J. O'Malley Award for Outstanding Trail Advocacy at this year's Trail Mix(er) on Saturday, June 4, from 5:00 -11:00 p.m., at the Steel City Rowing Club in Verona.

Friends of the Riverfront chose Onorato to receive the award because he has been a strong advocate of parks, trails and greenways throughout his career. A founding board member of Friends of the Riverfront, Onorato has long made public access to our waterways a top priority. He has been successful in connecting communities to the region's system of trails and greenways through partnerships with businesses, foundations, trail groups and municipalities.

When he became County Executive in 2004, Onorato knew the tremendous potential and benefits of the more than 185 miles of riverfront property along the Allegheny, Monongahela, Ohio and Youghioghny rivers.

"By investing in our riverfronts, we are building first-rate economic and residential developments and creating world-class trails, public spaces and recreational opportunities," said Onorato. "I am honored to receive this recognition from Friends of the Riverfront, but our successes wouldn't be possible without public-private partnerships and the support of non-profits, trail enthusiasts, and our foundation community."

Friends of the Riverfront celebrates 20 years of building and restoring the Pittsburgh region's riverfronts at this year's Trail Mix(er), a night of riverfront music, food, and fun on the Allegheny.

Admission is \$50 per ticket, \$35 with a valid student ID, or \$15 Late Night from 9 – 11 p.m. Admission includes full picnic dinner, four bars, live music, art exhibits, and optional boat tours to Allegheny Land Trust's Sycamore Island. Tickets can be purchased through the secure website www.friendstrailmixer.com. All proceeds will support Friends of the Riverfront trail development, advocacy and stewardship efforts.

Friends of the Riverfront increases awareness and engagement with the Pittsburgh region's rivers and riverfronts through activities, stewardship and expansion of water and land trails. For more information, go to www.friendsoftheriverfront.org or call 412.488.0212.