Resolution authorizing the Director of the Department of City Planning to design and host a Priority Communities Initiatives Conference and enter into agreement or agreements with necessary professionals and take other actions as necessary to accomplish the same. Cost not to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000).

**Whereas,** in Pittsburgh, the neighborhood concentration of poverty remains a serious challenge to the ability of poor families and children to access opportunities and move up the economic ladder; and,

**Whereas,** distressed communities deserve to have their communities rebuilt, their families strengthened and the quality of their lives improved by direct government intervention; and,

**Whereas,** distressed communities need a formal process to ensure and encourage community protection, community participation and community benefits while avoiding forced resident relocation and gentrification; and,

**Whereas,** a comprehensive approach to neighborhood development is needed in Pittsburgh’s most distressed communities; and,

**Whereas,** in Pittsburgh’s distressed communities a comprehensive planning and implementation strategy will stabilize the existing assets of each neighborhood while building clean, safe and strong environments lead by independent, capable, and sustainable community stakeholders; and,

**Whereas,** in Pittsburgh, distressed communities can be transformed by revitalizing housing and investing and leveraging investments in well-functioning services, high quality public schools and education programs, high quality early learning programs and services, public assets, public transportation, and improved access to jobs.

**Be it therefore resolved that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby enact as follows:**

**Section 1.** The Director of the Department of City Planning is hereby authorized to design and host a Priority Communities Initiatives Conference and enter into agreement or agreements with necessary professionals and take other actions as necessary to accomplish the same. Cost not to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000).

**Section 2.** The Controller is hereby authorized to make all necessary payments from the Department of City Planning, Professional and Technical Services, Professional Services, JDE Account 110000.53901, Budget Year 2014