



Text File

Introduced: 9/19/2017

Bill No: 2017-1914, Version: 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Library Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie was a Scottish immigrant who built Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh more than 120 years ago so everyone could have access to information, resources and opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, the public library is a cornerstone of American democracy, and welcomes visitors, immigrants and anyone new to Pittsburgh; and,

WHEREAS, continuing the Library's long tradition of welcoming immigrants, visitors and newcomers to Pittsburgh, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Welcome Centers connect patrons to language learning, citizenship resources and opportunities to build community; and,

WHEREAS, the Library Welcome Centers are a combination of physical collections, programs, and staff expertise that welcome, inform, and support immigrants, refugees, and newcomers; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Welcome Centers is for the Library to become a community leader in welcoming and celebrating immigrants, new Americans, internationals, and new city residents; and,

WHEREAS, Library Welcome Center collections are available at eight Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh locations: CLP - Allegheny, CLP - Beechview, CLP - Downtown & Business, CLP - Knoxville, CLP - Main (Oakland), CLP - Squirrel Hill, CLP - East Liberty and CLP - South Side; and,

WHEREAS, Library Welcome Center collections include citizenship study kits, English language learning materials, Pittsburgh travel guides, foreign language DVDs, dictionaries, and takeaways (such as flyers and pamphlets) from partner organizations; and,

WHEREAS, Library Welcome Center programs include Let's Speak English, Let's Read English, bilingual story times, pronunciation programs, citizenship classes, World Kaleidoscope cultural performances, and naturalization ceremonies; and,

WHEREAS, National Welcoming Week occurs September 15 - 24 and is the perfect opportunity to highlight Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's new Welcome Centers; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and commend the efforts of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to make our community welcoming and inclusive for all; and,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Friday, September 22nd, 2017 to be “**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh’s Welcome Centers Day**” in the City of Pittsburgh.