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MEDIA ADVISORY

Congressman Paul Tonko Hosts Roundtable with ALL(bany) Together Project Community Partners

Partners Call on US EPA to Immediately Reinstate \$20M Community Change Grant Wrongfully Terminated in May

WHAT: Congressman Paul Tonko will host grantees of the ALL(bany) Together Project, which was funded with \$20M through a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Community Change grant as part of the bipartisan Infrastructure Act. The project brings together eight key nonprofit organizations (listed below) to advance public health and climate solutions for the City of Albany. The Roundtable will illuminate what is at stake with the wrongful termination of the grant by the US EPA in May. Congressman Tonko and project partners will discuss what the grant would bring to the city, and the harm that has occurred with its cancellation. Following the Roundtable, community residents will briefly offer reflections on how the project - and its cancellation - impacts them.

Photo opportunities will be available when the event concludes.

WHEN: Friday, July 25, 2025 from 10:00 a.m.to 11:00 a.m.

10-10:45 Roundtable with Congressman Tonko and Project Partners

10:45-11 Reflections from community members

WHERE: The Myers House, Underground Railroad Education Center 194 Livingston Ave, Albany, NY 12210

WHO:

- Congressman Paul Tonko
- Daquetta P. Jones-Johnson, CEO, Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region
- Bobbi Wilding, Executive Director, Clean+Healthy
- Susan Cotner, Executive Director, Affordable Housing Partnership
- Arlene Way, Executive Director, Arbor Hill Development Corporation

- Eva Bass, Executive Director, AVillage
- April Land, Executive Director, Capital Area Urban League
- Stacy Pettigrew, Executive Director, Radix Ecological Sustainability Center
- Paul and Mary Liz Stewart, Co-founder/Executive Director, Underground Railroad Education Center
- Impacted community members TBA

BACKGROUND: The ALL(bany) Together project centers work in formerly redlined communities that have faced legacy pollution, persistent disinvestment, and a history of disproportionate health burdens; which will worsen as climate change continues without intervention. Late last year, the project was selected to receive \$20M by the EPA, and the project formally launched on February 1, 2025. It was on the list of Environmental Justice grants targeted for cancellation in widely circulated documents, and on May 5th of this year, that funding was frozen upon receipt of a termination letter on May 2nd, leaving program work on hold. The project's community partners will hold a roundtable event hosted by Congressman Paul Tonko to discuss a plan to get the funds reactivated or secure replacement funds.

See attached summary of the project and partners here.

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