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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**FEB. 17, 2021**

**CMU's Traffic21 Announces Winners of Third Smart Mobility Challenge**  
**The City of Monessen is one of the Winners.**

MONESSEN - Earlier this month, Carnegie Mellon University's Traffic21 announced the Township of Shaler, the City of Monessen, and Heritage Community Transportation as the winners of its third Smart Mobility Challenge.

Traffic21, a research institute operated out of CMU's Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy and Mobility21, its affiliated USDOT National University Transportation Center in the College of Engineering, sponsored this year's challenge as a continuation of its mission of transforming southwestern Pennsylvania into a test-bed for mobility innovation.

With generous funding from the Hillman Foundation and the US DOT, the Smart Mobility Challenge invited representatives of municipalities and public transit operators in Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland counties to identify real-world mobility challenges affecting their communities and apply to receive support from CMU faculty and students.

"The problems submitted for consideration illustrate the mobility challenges we face in southwestern Pennsylvania and the awareness and dedication of our local leaders and transit operators to find solutions," said Lisa Kay Schweyer, Program Manager of Traffic21.

"Mayor Shorraw says that he is "thrilled to work with CMU and Traffic21 to take thoughtful, data-driven steps to improve Monessen's Mid-Downtown District, which has been neglected for years." The City of Monessen, led by Mayor Matt Shorraw, will partner with CMU researchers led by the Remaking Cities Institute to inform and contribute to the ongoing work of the City of Monessen on its Comprehensive Plan and related initiatives related to mobility, equity, and safety, focused on Mid-Downtown Monessen. CMU, providing urban design and computer vision expertise, will deploy cameras for visual data, develop computer vision algorithms to analyze data, and develop mobility/urban design recommendations from the data and responsive to community priorities. Monessen's pattern of a riverfront

downtown is a mobility/urban design case study relevant to numerous municipalities in Southwestern PA and nationally.

“The Traffic21 Institute has helped establish the city of Pittsburgh as a world-renowned test-bed for transportation intelligent technologies,” said Chris Hendrickson, Director of Traffic21. “Through the Smart Mobility Challenge projects, we are thrilled to be able to extend this reach further into the southwestern Pennsylvania region.”

“It is my hope that this opportunity will give us the tools to improve mobility in our Downtown, which will be beneficial for businesses and residents, as well as visitors. The research could lead to improvements for pedestrians, motorists, buses, and bicyclists, and making those improvements could allow us to make Downtown Monessen more successful and marketable in the long-term.”, says Mayor Shorraw. All projects will begin July 1, 2021, with completion by June 30, 2022.

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