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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEUSCHTOWN GATEWAY PROJECT KICK-OFF

Pittsburgh, PA, April 25 – On a corner of the Northside that sees more than 50,000 cars each day, the Historic Deutschtown Development Corporation (HDDC) and the Northside Leadership Conference (NSLC) will kick off the start of the Deutschtown Gateway Project on Thursday, April 26 at 2:00 PM, at 632 East Ohio Street on Pittsburgh's Northside.

The first phase of the project is the complete restoration of the façade of the Victorian-era commercial building at 632 East Ohio Street, including saving the colored art glass windows that were hidden for decades behind earlier remodeling. There will be a 'Nail Pounding' Ceremony on **Thursday, April 26 at 2:00 pm** and opportunity to view project plans and tour first-floor tenant Grace Period, a faith-based alternative to payday lenders.

The work at 632 East Ohio St is part of a larger plan of HDDC and NSLC to improve this gateway entrance to Historic Deutschtown, including restoration and in-fill construction at 620-628 East Ohio St. The project will ultimately result in the addition of 35,000 square feet of retail and commercial office space to build upon the growing success of East Ohio St. In addition, HDDC owns and will soon renovate 431, 433 and 502 East Ohio St. The neighborhood is a designated Main St and Elm St district and has seen significant progress in recent years.

HDDC President Barbara Burns said "This is a key corner to continue driving the upward trend in this wonderful historic neighborhood and vibrant commercial district. With the help of our partners, we will turn a neglected historic building into a shining anchor for our community and the entire Northside."

Funding has been provided by the Northside Community Development Fund, the Rivers Casino and the Northside Leadership Conference, the Mainstreets program of the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the City of Pittsburgh's Neighborhood Needs Fund for Council District 1 (Council President Darlene Harris) and Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development's Champion Corridors Program. First National Bank and First Niagara Bank provide funding to NSLC for business district and real estate programs. Representatives are expected to participate in the kick-off event.

About Historic Deutschtown Development Corporation: HDDC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization encouraging restoration and preservation of our housing stock; organizing and supporting social, cultural, educational and charitable programs and events; and promoting public safety, enforcement of city ordinances and performance of city services in the neighborhood of East Allegheny, also known as Historic Deutschtown.

About Northside Leadership Conference: NSLC is a coalition of Northside community-based organizations, committed to addressing mutual concerns through a united approach in order to promote and enhance the vitality, quality of life and image of Pittsburgh's Northside.

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