Art Commission Application Form

You must submit the following along with this form as a single PDF.

- Individual or organizational statement (250 word max)
- Letter of intent that includes history of project and its impact on the community (500 word max)
- Visual materials (See Art Commission Guidelines for requirement)
- Budget describing cost of materials, artist fees, maintenance, installation, etc.
- Two letters of support from project partners or neighborhood organizations
- One letter of support from the Department of Public Works or Department of Mobility & Infrastructure

Notes:

- You may be required to hold a Development Activities Meeting with the applicable Registered Community Organization prior to Hearing. For more information, visit pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/ro.
- After receiving Art Commission approval, any necessary permits, certificates of occupancy, legal agreements, or other city approvals are still required. These must be applied for separately at the appropriate City departments and are the responsibility of the applicant.
- Application format is a digital copy of full application form, required documents, and the presentation to be projected at the Hearing as one single PDF. Send all documents to pacd@pittsburghpa.gov.

Project Information

Type of Project:

- [ ] Conceptual Review
- [x] Conceptual/Final Review
- [ ] Final Review
- [ ] Courtesy Review

Has this project been come before Art Commission before?

- [x] No
- [ ] Yes, when:

Duration of project: Permanent
Permanent?  ☑No   ☑Yes

Project Location

Address: Townsend Park is located at 803 Ernie St. The retaining wall is along Chartiers Ave

Cross Streets or other relevant information: near intersection of Chartiers Ave and Ernie St

Neighborhood: Elliott

Applicant Information

Name: Sarah Minnaert, Public Art & Civic Design Manager, Department of City Planning; Tony Cavalline, Arts, Culture, & History Specialist, Department of City Planning

Mailing Address: 200 Ross St, 4th Floor

City: Pittsburgh                       State: PA                        Zip: 15219
Phone: Email: andrew.dash@pittsburghpa.gov ; sarah.minnaert@pittsburghpa.gov

Relationship or Role in Project: Department of City Planning & Public Art & Civic Design Division

Co-Applicant (optional)

Name: __________________________________________

Mailing Address: ________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ___________________________ Zip: ____________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: _______________________________________

Relationship or Role in Project: __________________________________________________

Presenter at Hearing if different than applicant: __________________________________
Townsend Park is located at 803 Ernie Street in the West End-Elliott community of the City of Pittsburgh. In 2016, a Master Plan was developed by the Department of Public Works in collaboration with Pashek Associates and members of the community. The next year, plans began for a full renovation of the park, which received Art Commission approval in June of 2019.

The plans for the park’s renovation included setting aside the Percent For Art for a public art project. The budget of the renovation project was $800,000, resulting in an $8,000 budget for art. The most public-facing side of the park includes a sizable retaining wall, which was targeted as the highest-impact location for the public art. Planning began in 2019 between DPW and the Public Art & Civic Design Division, leading to the release of a Request For Proposals in early 2020.

Following the RFP, a selection panel chose local artist James Simon for this project. Engagement was done online due to the City’s COVID-19 policies, utilizing EngagePGH, the City’s newly launched online engagement platform. Working with community feedback, James developed his “Street Car” design for a mosaic mural that reflects the community’s desire for a vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive work of public art.

Following the installation of the artwork in early 2021, the mosaic will become part of the City’s permanent inventory of public art.
Townsend Park Public Art

Art Commission
Conceptual/Final Review
November 18, 2020
Project History

June 2019  Conceptual/Final Art Commission approval given to DPW for Townsend Park renovation design
Nov      Initial discussions between DPW & PACD
         - Utilizing the Percent For Art for Townsend Park renovations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
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| Nov       | Initial discussions between DPW & PACD  
- *Utilizing the Percent For Art for Townsend Park renovations*                                                                                   |
| Jan 2020  | Request For Proposals released  
- *Focusing on selecting artist, not completed design*                                                                                      |
| Mar       | Selection panel round one scoring  
- *Community representatives joined DPW, PACD, DCP, and City Council to score*                                                                     |
| Apr       | Selection panel round two scoring  
- *Art Commission representation on final selection panel*                                                                                     |
Selected Artist: James Simon

James passionately believes in the power of art to transform neighborhoods and his work can be found worldwide. Educated in the early 80s in a private Apprenticeship in Oxford England, Simon is known for his dramatic large scale works. He works in a variety of mediums, including ceramic, concrete, bronze and mosaic.
Selected Artist: James Simon
# Project History

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Engage PGH

What is important to you in a public art project in this location?

Who do you feel a work of art in this location will be for?

What subjects or themes would you like to see in artwork in this location?

Looking at the artist’s previous work, what do you like the most about it?

What is most important to you about the neighborhood around Townsend Park?

What is the most important thing you’d like to see go into the design of this work?

What other pieces of public art do you greatly admire?

Is there anything else you would like the artist and planners to think about?
Engage PGH

- The artwork is bold, colorful, and fun
- The artwork represents the people who live in the neighborhood
- The artwork reflects the surrounding neighborhood
Engage PGH

3. What subjects or themes would you like to see in artwork at this location? (Choose up to three)

- Nature: Forests, gardens, animals, etc
- Words: Poetry, welcome signs, social statements, etc
- Abstract: Colors, lines, shapes / City streets: Buildings, skateboarders, cars, etc

Multiple Choice | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 37 (54.0%)
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In the artist’s words:
The "Street Car" creates a colorful welcoming mosaic to the Elliot Neighborhood of Pittsburgh. The streetcar is a metaphor of community, that ties the past, present, and future of the neighborhood representing diversity, harmony and even alternative energy (electric transportation). The windows will have a variety of folks looking out celebrating a unique neighborhood of all age groups and ethnicities. A women will be exiting the streetcar with her dog, holding a bundle of beautiful flowers representing beauty and hope.
Design
Design
Design
Design
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Sep  Artist Design Phase 1
Sep – Oct  Secondary online engagement
Oct  Artist Design Phase 2
Nov  Art Commission Review
Thank you!

Art Commission
Conceptual/Final Review
November 18, 2020