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: From ____/____/____ to ____/____/____

Permanent?  
- [ ] No  
- [X] Yes
Project Location

Address: 3793 Chartiers Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15204

Cross Streets or other relevant information: Situated between Chartiers Ave. and Summerdale St.

Neighborhood: Chartiers

Applicant Information

Name: Pittsburgh Department of Public Works

Mailing Address: 414 Grant St. Room #301

City: Pittsburgh State: Pennsylvania Zip: 15219

Phone: (412) 255-8852 Email: andrea.ketzel@pittsburghpa.gov

Relationship or Role in Project: Client

Co-Applicant (optional)

Name: Studio Bryan Hanes

Mailing Address: 340 N 12th St. Unit #415

City: Philadelphia State: Pennsylvania Zip: 19107

Phone: (215)923-2858 Email: bhanes@studiobryanhanes.com

Relationship or Role in Project: Landscape Architect

Presenter at Hearing if different than applicant:
Organizational Statement

The mission of the Department of Public Works is to operate and maintain infrastructure while providing essential services for everyday life, regional economic growth and environmental sustainability.

Letter of Intent

Chartiers Playground and Spray Park is located on the West End of Pittsburgh and serves the surrounding Chartiers, Sheraden, and Windgap communities. The renovation of the Chartiers Playground and Spray Park presents a unique opportunity to support the city and community’s mission of providing high quality and accessible public spaces for all its citizens. The renovation project includes the replacement of all play structures, spray features and play surfacing while conserving valuable assets of the site – such as pavilions and structures, old stone bridges, and existing mature trees. Additionally, signage, picnic tables, benches, and trash and recycling receptacles are to be upgraded. Funding for the project is identified in the City’s 2021 Capital Budget. Following construction the park will be maintained by the Department of Public Works.

In the Fall of 2020, the City of Pittsburgh’s Department of Public Works team, led by Senior Landscape Architect, Andrea Ketzel, engaged Studio|Bryan Hanes as the consultants to facilitate the design and community engagement, for the renovation of Chartiers Playground and Spray Park. Studio|Bryan Hanes’ sub-consultant team includes Pittsburgh-area consultants for surveying and engineering. Urban Terrain, LLC was retained to complete a survey of the existing site, and Common Ground was engaged as the project’s Civil and Structural Engineer.

The Chartiers Playground and Spray Park renovation project began in the Winter of 2020. Throughout the design process, community input and feedback were prioritized within every decision. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, community engagement included 2 virtual meetings. Throughout the community engagement process the design evolved through a number of iterations that focused on the needs and priorities of the people that engage with the park. Through surveys, questionnaires, and face-to-face interviews it became evident that visibility for caregivers to watch children and ease of accessibility for seniors were high priorities. The design team revised the original plan to be more in line with the goals of the community.

The final design of Chartiers Playground and Spray Park renovation includes ADA accessible pathways that lead into the site from the bounding roads, along with two proposed flights of stairs (one from Summerdale Ave and the other set connecting the adjacent baseball field). Within the interior, all major areas of the site are ADA accessible. Existing structures of the site include the pavilion and concession stand/restrooms. The splash ground, located adjacent to the concession stand was enlarged to include more spray equipment suitable for younger and older children alike. The equipment is sourced from Aquatix and is entirely ADA accessible. The renovated playground area consists of a variety of contemporary and innovative play equipment from KOMPAN which will offer children countless opportunities for exploration, discovery, and physical activity. Poured-in-place rubber material is utilized as the safety surface for this area. Additionally, a boulder scramble section offers children a place to interact with natural elements along with embankment slides that utilize that natural topography of the site. The 1% for art allocated for the project will be a separate project run by DPW.
CHARTIERS PLAYGROUND
RENOVATION & SPRAY PARK
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS | STUDIO BRYAN HANES
EXISTING CONDITIONS:

UPPER PLAY STRUCTURE
UPPER PLAY SWINGS
CAROUSEL
STEEP PATH
LOWER SWINGS
STONE BRIDGE
WOOD SHelter
LOWER PLAY STRUCTURE
WATER SPRAY JET
CONCESSION STAND
CHARTIERS PLAYGROUND
CHARTIERS FIELD
CHARTIERS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
SUMMERDALE ST.
MIDDLETOWN RD.
CIRCULATION:
- STEEP PATHWAYS
- STONE BRIDGES OVER SWALES
- AGING & CRACKING ASPHALT
- WORN PLAY SURFACE TILES

PLAY EQUIPMENT:
- UPPER METAL & PLASTIC PLAY STRUCTURE
- LOWER METAL & PLASTIC PLAY STRUCTURE
- SWINGS
- CAROUSEL

OTHER AMENITIES:
- WATER SPRAY JET
- WOOD SHELTER
- SEATING
- CONCESSION STAND
SCHEME A: 
ZONED

- Makes the best use of current topography
- Incorporates the best ADA accessibility and inclusive play elements for people with disabilities
- Provides nice ability to grill while watching kids play in the water in the summer
- Easier layout for caregivers to watch children
- Provides a good walking path for seniors in the community

SCHEME B: 
PODS

- Layout doesn’t provide enough ADA access
- Does a nice job of providing more picnic space and pavilion
- Tree planting provides good additional shade for hot summer days

SCHEME C:  
FLOW

- Provides play and fitness elements for older age groups and adults
- Good use of steep slopes to incorporate slides and climbing elements
- Provides a nice loop for kids to move through the play area

PREFERRED SCHEME:

[Circle chart showing preferences: Scheme A: Zoned (6 votes), Scheme B: Pods (2 votes), Scheme C: Flow (2 votes), Other (1 vote).]
UPPER PLAY AREA