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/roc.
• 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: [x] Conceptual Review
☐ Conceptual/Final Review
☐ Final Review
☐ Courtesy Review

Has this project been come before Art Commission before?
[ ] No ☐ Yes, when: _______________

Duration of project: From 10 / 01 / 2021 to 12 / 31 / 2024

Permanent? [ ] No [x] Yes
Project Location

Address: 39 Isabella Street; Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Cross Streets or other relevant information: 

The Park is bound by the 6th and 7th Street Bridges on the North Shore, as well as Isabella Street, the FNB Building and the Matthew's building.

Neighborhood: North Shore

Applicant Information

Name: Anna Leisher, Riverlife

Mailing Address: 12 Federal Street, Suite 130

City: Pittsburgh State: PA Zip: 15212

Phone: 412.258.6636 Email: anna@riverlifepgh.org

Relationship or Role in Project: Project Manager

Co-Applicant (optional)

Name: Dan McDowell

Mailing Address: 95 South Tenth Street

City: Pittsburgh State: PA Zip: 15203

Phone: 412.488.8822 Email: mcdowell@laquatrabonci.com

Relationship or Role in Project: Project Manager

Presenter at Hearing if different than applicant: 
Organizational Statement

Since 1999, Riverlife has worked to create, activate, and celebrate Pittsburgh's riverfronts. As a nonprofit leader building a community vision for Pittsburgh's riverfronts, Riverlife has overseen a $132 million investment in the city's waterfront transformation, catalyzing $4.2 billion in related development on or adjacent to the city's riverbanks. Our work sits at the intersection of economic development, arts and culture, and ecological sustainability. It is centered on the belief that the riverfronts belong to everyone, and world-class riverfront experiences can be created for all using community-driven, equitable, and high-quality design.

Riverlife advances strategic and significant capital projects like South Shore Riverfront Park, the Mon Wharf Landing, Point State Park, the Mon Wharf Switchback and Grant Street Crossing. We also support policy innovations including City Planning's initiative to develop “RIV” zoning for the 32 miles of riverfront.

After two-plus decades of projects that have expanded the scope of our riverfront leadership, Riverlife's area of emphasis is now centered around the Downtown “Loop” and the confluence of the three rivers defined by signature landmarks: the West End Bridge on the Ohio; the 31st Street Bridge on the Allegheny; and the Hot Metal Bridge on the Monongahela. In 2021, Riverlife released a new vision plan to “Complete the Loop,” Pittsburgh's 15-mile, 1,050-acre system of trails, parks, and public open spaces, filling critical gaps, expanding access, and creating a world-class riverfront experience for all. The renovation of Allegheny Landing Park has been identified as an essential project in Riverlife's Completing the Loop Plan.
September 1, 2021

Sarah Minnaert  
Public Art & Civic Design Manager  
City of Pittsburgh  
Department of City Planning  
200 Ross Street, 4th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Sarah,

Riverlife respectfully requests that the Pittsburgh Art Commission review the Master Plan for renovating Allegheny Landing Park. We request that "Allegheny Landing – Conceptual Design" be included on the agenda for the September 2021 meeting of the Art Commission. Riverlife staff will present the project to the commissioners along with a representative from LaQuatra Bonci Associates, the design team for the project.

Situated between the 6th and 7th Street bridges on the north bank of the Allegheny River, next to PNC Park, Allegheny Landing Park was dedicated in 1984 as one of Pittsburgh's first modern riverfront parks and one of the nation's first urban riverfront sculpture parks. It has since become a well-used node of Pittsburgh's riverfront trail system. Since 2010, Riverlife has led a series of renovation efforts along the Allegheny Landing waterfront, including the restoration of the dock, installation of riverfront landscaping, and the renovation of the trail.

Although Allegheny Landing remains a key asset in the community, it is in need of significant updates and improvements. The Park in its existing state is underutilized and poorly maintained. Overgrown vegetation has caused pavement to heave and has separated the upper and lower portions of the park. The fountain had been out of operation for many years and was recently removed. Many of the lighting elements and other amenities are broken and unsightly.

Last year, the Riverlife team facilitated a workshop followed by a series of stakeholder meetings with neighbors, specialists, site users, and others to assess how the Park is currently serving the neighborhood and identify opportunities to reach its full potential. Early in 2021, Riverlife moved its headquarters to an office space that abuts Allegheny Landing, and engaged LaQuatra Bonci Associates to complete a master planning design process. The plan that we intend to present is the result of this process, and we are fully committed to its realization.

The proposed master plan provides new visual and physical connections between the Park's waterfront and upper plaza with additional paths that tie into the Park's original geometric design. The design also increases the overall programmable and flex space in the Park by removing obstacles and developing a new use area.
Following this conceptual design phase, Riverlife plans to move forward with design development and project fundraising through fall and winter 2021 and to move forward with development in 2022. Riverlife is committed to managing the design, renovation, and maintenance planning for the Park and intends to regularly activate the space moving forward.

We are seeking a Conceptual Review for “Allegheny Landing – Conceptual Design.” Thank you for the opportunity to present this design to the commissioners.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Anna Leisher, Planning and Project Manager
Allegheny Landing Park
Allegheny Landing Park

Kayak Pittsburgh - Under the 6th St Bridge

Sugarman Sculpture- Near the 7th St Bridge
Allegheny Landing Park - Site Features

- Amazing views
- Rain gardens
- Riverfront trail
- Dock
- Art
- Plantings
Allegheny Landing Park - Site Features cont.
Allegheny Landing Park - Site Features cont.

Upper Plaza

Brick Pavers

Cement Paths and Mature Plantings

Open Plaza - Former Fountain Location
Site Sculptures

Piazza Lavoro - Ned Smyth

Mythic Source - Ned Smyth
Site Sculptures

Pittsburgh Variations - George Sugarman
Site Sculptures

Piazza Lavoro - Ned Smyth

Mythic Source - Ned Smyth
Site Survey - Phase 1 Plan

ALLEGHENY RIVER

ISABELLA STREET
Existing Conditions
Existing Conditions - Inaccessibility

INACCESSIBLE AREAS

ISABELLA STREET

ALLEGHENY RIVER
SITE SECTION 1 | PROPOSED PLAN

EXISTING BUILDING | PLANTING/SIDEWALK | PAVILION AREA / ADA RAMP | PUBLIC SPACE / CENTRAL UPPER TERRACE | PLANTING / TERRACE

PLANTING W/BACKED SEATING
SITE SECTION 2 | PROPOSED PLAN

- PLINTH SEATING
- UPPER TERRACE
- OVERLOOK
- UPPER TERRACE
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<th>EXISTING BUILDING</th>
<th>UPPER TERRACE</th>
<th>PLINTH SEATING TERRACE</th>
<th>LAWN/ART/PLAY TERRACE</th>
<th>REDBUD MEADOW/GRADING TRANSITION</th>
<th>PHASE 1</th>
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**SITE SECTION 3 | PROPOSED PLAN**
Precedents:

1. Upper Terrace

2. [Image of upper terrace]

3. [Image of amphitheater]

ALLEGHENY LANDING
Conceptual Design

DATE
09.29.2021

Precedents:
Upper Terrace
Precedents:
Upper Terrace
Precedents:
Lower Terrace
## Preliminary Opinion of Estimated Construction Costs

### Allegheny Landing

Prepared by: LaQuatra Bonci Associates

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**SUBTOTAL** | **$3,277,722.00**

8/18/21
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August 2, 2021

Matthew Galluzzo, President and CEO
Riverlife
12 Federal St, Suite 130
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Dear Mr. Galluzzo,

I’m writing on behalf of Friends of the Riverfront in support of Riverlife’s Allegheny Landing Conceptual Design. Allegheny Landing is a key attraction along Pittsburgh’s North Shore and is in a prime location for public programming and activity. Developed over 35 years ago, many elements of the park need repair and design updates.

Friends of the Riverfront works to protect and restore riverfronts in the Pittsburgh region and is a steward of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail System. The Allegheny Landing Riverfront is in a key location in the heart of Friends of the Riverfront’s area of focus. Allegheny Landing Park features one of the best views of Pittsburgh’s downtown skyline and serves as a stopping place and photo-op for many users of the North Short segment of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail.

I have had the opportunity to review and comment on Riverlife’s conceptual design for renovating Allegheny Landing. Riverlife’s plans to renovate the upper plaza as a programmable open space, to strengthen visual and physical connections between the riverfront and the upper plaza, and to create a new programmable space in the western portion of the park will reposition the park as a public asset that will better serve the people of Pittsburgh. Friends of the Riverfront looks forward to collaborating with Riverlife on circulation planning as well as other design elements which will impact the riverfront trail.

Friends of the Riverfront is supportive of the Allegheny Landing – Conceptual Design and is hopeful that the design advances to implementation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding Friends of the Riverfront’s support for this project.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Ripper
Executive Director