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/rco.
- 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?
- [X] No
- [ ] Yes, when: _____________

Duration of project: From ____/____/____ to ____/____/____

Permanent?  [X] No  [ ] Yes
Project Location

Address: Arsenal Park, 254 40th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Cross Streets or other relevant information: Between Arsenal School and Allegheny Health Department, between 39th and 40th Streets.

Neighborhood:

Applicant Information

Name: City of Pittsburgh/DPW (Andrea Ketzle, RLA)

Mailing Address: 414 Grant Street, Room 301

City: Pittsburgh State: PA Zip: 15219

Phone: 412-255-8852 Email: andrea.ketzle@pittsburghpa.gov

Relationship or Role in Project: Project Manager

Co-Applicant (optional)

Name: John Buerkle, RLA, Pashek + MTR, Ltd

Mailing Address: 619 East Ohio Street

City: Pittsburgh State: PA Zip: 15212

Phone: 412-321-6362 x 102 Email: jbuerkle@pashekmtr.com

Relationship or Role in Project: Consultant

Presenter at Hearing if different than applicant:
Organizational Statement

This City of Pittsburgh park improvement project was undertaken by the Department of Public Works. Public Works is dedicated to providing creative, customer-friendly service while maintaining the City's infrastructure by resurfacing streets, improving park facilities and rehabilitating public structures. The department also meets the environmental needs of Pittsburgh residents by collecting residential refuse and recyclables. Lastly, Public Works ensures public safety by responding to emergencies such as flooding, land subsidence, snow/ice storms, and other weather-related catastrophes.

Pashek+MTR, a landscape architecture firm in Pittsburgh’s Northside, is the park designer. Other partners include:

- District 7 City Councilwoman Deb Gross
- Project Consultants
  - Pashek + MTR, Landscape Architects, Lead Consultant
  - Christine Davis Associates – Archaeologic and Historic Resources Consultant
  - Graves Design Group - Architect
  - Sci-Tek – Civil Engineering and Permitting Consultant
  - Santangelo & Lindsay, Electrical Engineering Consultant

Letter of Intent

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy prepared a master plan for improvements to Arsenal Park in 2015. Community meetings, several focus groups, and stakeholder interviews all informed the direction of the plan. The master plan design, by MKSK, was presented in a community meeting in September 2015.

Key aspects for consideration as raised by the community during the master planning phase were:

- Playscape
- Powder Magazine Performance Area
- Mall
- Court Play Space
- Ballfield and Memorial Garden
- Tennis Courts, Woodland Garden, and Connection to Health Department

The City Department of Public Works then selected Pashek+MTR to complete the next phases of Phase I Improvements project: schematic design through construction documentation and bidding. Phase I focuses on the Playscape program identified in the master plan.

A new round of public input began in 2020 for the renovated park’s schematic design. This plan was guided by input received from three advisory committee meetings, two community meetings, and various stakeholder meetings during this process.
This plan, presented in a community meeting in October, incorporates accessible entrances from 39th
and 40th Streets, play area, water play area, shelter, and restroom. It also features prominent water
elements that both manage stormwater and encourage nature play. This park is and will be used by
people of all ages and abilities.

During the master plan and schematic design phases, the design team has especially considered
sustainability, maintenance requirements, user experiences, community preferences for program,
 inclusion, and an intention to provide a community asset unlike any other in Pittsburgh.

A public art component is under development and will proceed separately to the Art Commission. The
design team plans to spend 1 percent of the budget ($18,000) on public art. The City will issue a request
for proposals for artists, designers and art collectives for the public art project for implementation in the
park.

We anticipate our final Art Commission submission in February 2022. Groundbreaking is planned for
May 2022, and ribbon-cutting in Spring 2023.

**Letters of Support anticipated**
- Chris Hornstein, Acting Director, DPW
- Lawrenceville United
- Lawrenceville Corporation

**Budget**
$1.8 million – Funding from City of Pittsburgh, grants and matches for park improvements
- Includes $18,000 for public art in the park
ARSENAL PARK – PHASE 1
Art Commission – Conceptual Review
November 2021
ARSENAL PARK – LOCATION IN LAWRENCEVILLE
ARSENAL PARK – EXISTING CONDITIONS
Trash and Recycling Receptacles

Light Pole

Park Bench

Accessible Picnic Table

Accessible Drinking Fountain with Dog Bowl
ARSENAL PARK – PLAYGROUND CONCEPTUAL DESIGN
Andrew Moss, President  
City of Pittsburgh Art Commission  
200 Ross Street, 4th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

November 3, 2021

RE: Arsenal Park Conceptual Review

Dear Pittsburgh Art Commission Members:

On behalf of Lawrenceville United (LU), please accept this letter of support for the Arsenal Park master plan implementation. LU’s mission is to improve and protect quality of life for all Lawrenceville residents. We are pleased to be partnering with the City of Pittsburgh to be moving forward implementation of the Arsenal Park Master Plan, which was completed in 2015 after robust engagement from the Lawrenceville community.

Arsenal Park is Lawrenceville’s largest and most historic park. Improvements to Arsenal and Leslie Parks have been long overdue and top priorities of community members for many years, and we are pleased to see these planning efforts advancing. As the resident advocacy organization for the neighborhood, LU has worked with our sister organization Lawrenceville Corporation to engage the broad community around the City of Pittsburgh’s refinements to the Arsenal Park Master Plan and additionally stewarded an advisory committee of key stakeholders that represent dozens of organizations and constituencies with direct ties to Arsenal Park. That process has shown consensus of support for the concepts presented to the Art Commission and an eagerness to see this project built!

We appreciate the City of Pittsburgh’s investment towards our neighborhood’s most precious park and public space and thank the Art Commission for its consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave Breingan  
Executive Director  
Lawrenceville United

cc:  
Andrea Ketzel, City of Pittsburgh