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:  □ Conceptual Review  □ Conceptual/Final Review  X □ Final Review  □ Courtesy Review

Has this project been come before Art Commission before?

□ No  X □ Yes, when: November 28, 2018

Duration of project: From 03 / 1 / 2022 to 06 / 30 / 2022

Permanent?  □ No  X □ Yes
Project Location

Address: 21 Lawn Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Cross Streets or other relevant information: The project is located at the intersection of Lawn Street and Ophelia Street, parcel no. 0028-N-001100-000-00

Neighborhood: South Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh

Applicant Information

Name: Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Mailing Address: 1200 Penn Ave.

City: Pittsburgh State: Pennsylvania Zip: 15222

Phone: 412.255.8800 Ext. 2604 Email: mnatoli@pgh2o.com

Relationship or Role in Project: Maria Natoli, Associate Project Manager

Co-Applicant (optional)

Name:

Mailing Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone: Email:

Relationship or Role in Project:

Presenter at Hearing if different than applicant: Damon Weiss, Design Consultant, Principal at Ethos Collaborative
November 16, 2021

Art Commission of Pittsburgh
City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning
Public Art & Civic Design Division
414 Grant St
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Re: Lawn and Ophelia Street Green Infrastructure Project Letter of Intent

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Pittsburgh Sewer and Water Authority (PWSA), Ethos Collaborative is coordinating the Lawn and Ophelia Green Infrastructure project submission for review to the City of Pittsburgh’s Art Commission. The intent of the project is to add green infrastructure facilities to the city-owned property. PWSA and the City of Pittsburgh (City) have collaborated for this project in the South Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh, The City owned parcel has historically functioned as a recreational playground or parklet for the local community. The City has decided to decommission the existing play facilities but would like the parcel to remain open to the public. The proposed design effectively replaces the existing play facility area with a rain garden and small seat walls to allow for enjoyment of the garden. PWSA’s objective of the site development is to capture stormwater runoff from Lawn and Ophelia Street right of way and to convey the runoff unto the parklet for storage and slow release with green stormwater infrastructure improvements (GSI). The project GSI park features included “green” stormwater inlets in the street right-of-way to a small rain garden and extensive modular sub surface storage below to reduce combined sewer overflow to the sewershed and provide aesthetic, habitat, and water quality benefits.

Through the City and PWSA’s maintenance agreement, PWSA would be responsible for maintenance of the facilities in the parklet, rain garden and subsurface storage, and inlet structures. A construction budget of $650,000 is estimated for the project. It is our understating from the previous Art Commission review, that PWSA is not required to include a 1% art component to the park since there are no City funds involved in the project. Please do not hesitate to call me at 412.266.2492 should you have any questions or comments about this request. Thank you again for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Damon Weiss
 Principle
 Ethos Collaborative
 Cc: File
Organizational Statement

The Pittsburgh Sewer and Water Authority provides water and sewer services to more than 300,000 consumers throughout the City of Pittsburgh.

Vision

Pittsburgh Sewer and Water Authority’s vision is for everyone in every neighborhood in Pittsburgh to have access to safe, reliable drinking water and sewer service, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
November 15, 2021

Mr. Andrew Moss  
President  
City of Pittsburgh Art Commission  
200 Ross Street, 4th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Re: PWSA Lawn and Ophelia Green Infrastructure Project  
21 Lawn Street

Dear Mr. Moss and Members of the Art Commission:

I write on behalf of Oakland Planning and Development Corporation (OPDC), a community-based organization whose mission is to build a better Oakland and help neighbors thrive. Fundamental to our work is communicating to the public about development proposals and hosting public meetings to discuss plans and proposals. We are also the Registered Community Organization for the four Oakland neighborhoods.

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority has presented plans for the Lawn-Ophelia Parklet, a green infrastructure project that will transform the decommissioned playground at the corner of Lawn and Ophelia streets in Oakcliffe into a stormwater capture facility, including planters, rain gardens, and new trees. This project has been eagerly awaited by the community for some time, and neighbors are excited to see that it is now moving forward.

OPDC hosted a Development Activities Meeting for this project, the third public meeting to review the current design, on Wednesday, November 3. Residents received satisfactory answers to their questions about planned plantings, maintenance, amenities, design, and function.

OPDC supports this project and related efforts to center green infrastructure as a sustainable approach to reducing combined sewer overflow, while providing attractive green space that will enhance the neighborhood and the local ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Wanda E. Wilson  
Executive Director
November 11, 2021

Mr. Andrew Moss
President, City of Pittsburgh Art Commission
Department of City Planning
200 Ross Street, 4th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Mr. Moss,

The Oakcliffe Community Organization (OCO) supports the plan for the Lawn and Ophelia Stormwater Project as presented to Oakland residents at the Development Activities Meeting (DAM) on November 3, 2021. In addition to having improved stormwater management, Oakcliffe residents are looking forward to enjoying the Lawn and Ophelia Parklet as a passive space.

Sincerely,

David Panasiuk
President, Oakcliffe Community Organization
October 5, 2021

Mr. Andrew Moss
Vice Chair and Secretary
City of Pittsburgh Art Commission
Department of City Planning
200 Ross Street, 4th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Mr. Moss:

The City of Pittsburgh’s Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI) supports the conceptual plan for the Lawn and Ophelia Streets GI project. DOMI has reviewed initial plans with the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) and is supportive of the proposed renovations that will improve stormwater management in South Oakland.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Lucas
Acting Director
This memo serves as a Letter of Support for the Lawn & Ophelia Green Infrastructure Project, as presented by the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority. This renovation will improve stormwater management in South Oakland and areas downstream. Staff from the Department of Public Works have been involved through the development of the project, which is supported by the City’s OpenSpacePGH Plan, PWSA’s Green First Plan, and other community plans. The Department of Public Works has coordinated with PWSA on this proposed improvement and has recently improved Oakcliffe Park (formerly Niagara playground) in anticipation of the removal of playground equipment at Lawn & Ophelia. PWSA will be the primary operator and maintainer of this site.

CH/ks

cc: Anthony Cavalline, Arts, Culture, and History Specialist / City Planning
LAWN AND OPHELIA EXISTING, PHOTOS
LAWN AND OPHELIA
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT
PWSA PROJECT NO: 2017-424-104-0
CITY OF PITTSBURGH, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT SPONSOR
PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
1250 PENN AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15235
PHONE: (412) 255-8850

PROJECT LOCATION
LANDSCAPED PARK IN THE TURTLE CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15206

DIRECTOR ENG. & CONST., P.W.S.A.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR ENG. & CONST., P.W.S.A.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
THE PROPOSED LAWN AND OPHELIA GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT INTENDS TO REDUCE STORMWATER THAT CONTRIBUTES TO OVERFLOWS AT THE M-19B COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW IN THE MONONGAHELA RIVER. THIS OVERFLOW CONTRIBUTES TO CSO’S IN THE MONONGAHELA RIVER. THIS PROJECT WILL REDUCE CAPTURE AND DETAIN OVERFLOW CONTRIBUTES TO OVERFLOWS AT THE M-19B COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW IN THE MAIN RIVERS BASIN. THIS PROJECT WILL TRANSFORM THIS PARK INTO AN ECOLOGICAL AND COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACE.

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APPROVAL

DATE

PROJECT AERIAL AND LOCATION MAP

CITY OF PITTSBURGH, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA