

Interested City residents and advocates:

The City of Pittsburgh's Department of City Planning is seeking volunteer applications from residents and neighborhood advocates to serve on a "Green Ribbon Committee" to assist in the development of a city-wide Open Space, Parks, and Recreation Plan. In addition to examining our parks and recreation facilities & programs, this planning effort will also look at the City's abundant open spaces, a unique resource consisting of our riverfronts, wooded hillsides, and vacant lots.

The "Green Ribbon Committee" for the Open Space, Parks, and Recreation Plan will consist of involved residents and community advocates that reflect the broad interests, areas, and demographics of the City. The Green Ribbon Committee's role is to:

- provide local, on-the-ground knowledge of park, recreation, and open space facilities and programs,
- offer extensive information review, comments and feedback
- represent their community organizations in the planning process

*Roles and responsibilities:*

Committee members will be required to attend a series of six Green Ribbon Committee meetings over a 12 to 18 month process, anticipated to begin in early 2010.

*How to Apply:*

An application form for those interested in serving on the Committee is available at [www.planpgh.com](http://www.planpgh.com), the Department of City Planning's website. Please complete it and return via e-mail or regular mail to Andrew Dash at the Department of City Planning (see signature below for contact information). The **deadline** for application submissions is **Friday, January 8th**.

The Management Committee for the Open Space, Parks, and Recreation Plan will review applications and select the members of the Green Ribbon Committee in January 2010.

Feel free to post this announcement on any neighborhood list-servs or forward this e-mail on to anyone you think may be interested.

*Other Public Involvement Opportunities within the Open Space, Parks, and Recreation Plan*

If you are unable to commit to this level of involvement but are interested in providing information or learning more about the process, there will be many other opportunities to be involved in activities such as community meetings throughout the City, events within the City Parks, stakeholder interviews, on-line and telephone surveys. A series of focus groups will also be held on the following topics related to open space, parks, and recreation to solicit input for the Plan:

- Riverfronts
- Connectivity
- The Natural Environment
- Urban Agriculture and Gardening
- Maintenance, Management, and Programming
- Re-Thinking Active Spaces
- Re-Thinking Vacant Properties
- Special Populations (including the disabled, children and play, the elderly)

*Other City-wide Planning Opportunities:*

The Open Space, Parks, and Recreation Plan is the first step in the creation of PLANPGH, the City's first-ever Comprehensive Plan. In addition to examining the City's Open Space Network, PLANPGH will also include detailed analyses and recommendations for the City's Cultural Heritage resources, Transportation System, Public Art Collection, Urban Design Guidelines, Economic Development Strategies, Land Use, and Housing. PLANPGH will be used as a tool to guide policy decisions on how to meet the needs of its residents, workers, and visitors in a comprehensive and efficient manner.

The City appreciates your interest, and encourages you to get involved in the PLANPGH effort to help guide the future of Pittsburgh!

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