

COUNCILPERSON BOB CHARLAND'S

State of the District

2024 Annual Report



CITY OF PITTSBURGH
CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3



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COUNCILPERSON
BOB CHARLAND'S ANNUAL REPORT



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HELLO DISTRICT 3!

I am very thankful for my time as a Council staffer before I was a Council member. It has meant that I started my first year with the knowledge of what this role can do, how our city government works, and most importantly with strong relationships with you and our neighborhoods. In 2025, I look forward to continuing to strengthen those relationships and to understand what new opportunities or challenges are developing on your street and being able to focus on the nuts and bolts – the quality of life solutions - that I ran on and that you deserve.

From Knoxville to Oakland, it has been an honor to represent you in Pittsburgh City Council. 2024 has been a productive first year for our office. In my Annual Report, you are going to see some of the highlights of what we've been working on. It also serves as a good reflection for me and my team on what we've accomplished, and what we still need to work on. We've learned a lot already and are going to continue to learn what is working, what isn't, and how we can continuously improve our service to the residents of District 3.

With 13 distinctive neighborhoods, it is impossible to pick an accomplishment that I am most proud of. So, if you'll allow this cop-out, I am proud of hiring an excellent team around me. I'll let you in on a little secret: anytime I did something well or showed up on time and prepared, it was because of a team effort. We strive to get to all of your calls, emails, and issues in a timely manner. Our goal is to make ourselves as accessible as possible to you, and look forward to expanding that. At the end of the day, we don't have one boss. We have 34,000 of them!

It is an honor and a privilege to serve each and every one of you. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Bob Charland

LISTEN FIRST TOUR

When I was elected in November 2023, I knew the first thing I wanted to do at the beginning of my term was a tour around the district, meeting and hearing from as many residents as I could reach. I decided to break it up into 4 parts: Neighborhoods, Senior Centers and Residences, Housing Authority communities, and Pittsburgh Public Schools.

This was the LISTEN FIRST TOUR. From there, my team and I were able to gather many areas of concern that our constituents wanted us to focus on. These included more frequent recycling, more third spaces, more community-led initiatives, more access to fresh food, safer streets and sidewalks, more accountability for absentee landlords and property owners, the preservation of community landmarks, and much more!

We also want to thank all the hosts who let us use their space for the events. I enjoyed meeting hundreds of constituents of all ages, from schoolkids to seniors, from all our 13 neighborhoods.



WE HEAR YOU.

These are some of the concerns we heard so far.

COUNCILPERSON
BOB CHARLAND'S

Listen First
Tour!



Attracting New Businesses

Fresh Food Access

Parking Violations

Street Sweeping

Calming Traffic

More Third Spaces

2024
edition

Better Community-Police Relationships

Air Quality

Afterschool Activities

Public Transport

Sidewalk Repairs

Litter

More Block Parties

Weekly Recycling

City Steps

Better Relations between Renters and Owners

Safer Streets

Community-Led Trash Initiatives

Absentee Landlords

Walkability

Slope Stabilization

Caring for
Unhoused
Neighbors

Upholding Community Landmarks





534

Number of unique calls to
our office at
(412) 255-2130 in 2024



Pounds of trash collected by the South Side
Clean Team on Carson St. **176988 lbs**

BY THE NUMBERS **2024**



45

People Helped At
Our Knoxville
Satellite Office



200+

Community Meetings
Attended



239+

District 3 volunteers
cleaning up in
Garbage Olympics



38

*Pieces of Legislation
sponsored/cosponsored*

04

Wills of Council

09

Resolutions

18

Proclamations

07

Ordinances

RECOGNITIONS IN THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH

January 2024 as
"National Human Trafficking Awareness Month"

January 30, 2024 as "Liz Style Day"

January 30, 2024 as
"Carnegie Library Pittsburgh -
South Side Celebrates 115 Years Day"

March 12th, 2024 as "Pittsburgh Pollinator Day"

March 16th, 2024 as "McArdle's Pub Day"

April 4, 2024 as "Peoples Oakland Inc. Day"

April 2024 as
"Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month"
with Pittsburgh Action Against Rape

June 27, 2024, as "Allentown Senior Center Day"

July 14th, 2024 as "Beltzhoover Consensus Group Day"

July 13th, 2024 as "FroGang Day"

August 6th - August 11th, 2024 as "Barrel & Flow Week"

August 27, 2024 as "Detective Butkewich Day"

September 4, 2024 as "Brian and Michelle Ralston Day"

September 2024 as "Addiction Recovery Month"
and recognizes Shanea Clancy, Melissa Osburn, and
Joey Pagano for their extraordinary
efforts to support recovery in our region

September 2024 as "Suicide Prevention Month" with Steel
Smiling, Artist Talk Mental Health, the American Foundation
for Suicide Prevention, and the Positive Painting Project

October 15, 2024 as "Copies at Carson Day"

October 18, 2024 as
"City Theatre Company's Young Playwrights Festival Day"

December 1, 2024 as "Living Stones Day"

BUDGET WINS

Even during these tight financial times, we successfully advocated for these capital projects to be included into the [2025 Budget](#), totaling \$12.4 million invested into District 3.



We're also really excited about the addition of 8 Anti-Litter Inspectors to the Department of Public Works, and expanding the [Office of Community Health & Safety team](#) within Public Safety, which will include evening shifts for the Co-Response Program.

SATELLITE OFFICE

Our office can help navigate all things city government, submit and track 311 tickets for vacant property maintenance, recycling and trash issues, abandoned cars and more! In 2024, at our weekly Knoxville Satellite Office Friday afternoons, we helped about 45 people with different city issues and answered many questions on everything from working for the City (visit [PGHJobs.net](https://pgjobs.net) to see the opportunities!), to connecting to other government resources, to residential trash collection! Thank you so much to Lindsay, Rhea, Andrea, and Jillian at the Brashear Association for hosting!

In 2025 we are debuting an Oakland Satellite Office the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Oakland Planning & Development Corporation, 294 Semple Street. Please stop by to say hello in person from 2-5:30pm.

Pittsburgh City Councilperson Bob Charland's

Satellite Office

at Oakland Planning & Development Corporation
Central Oakland
294 Semple Street
☎️ = 61A, 61B, 61C

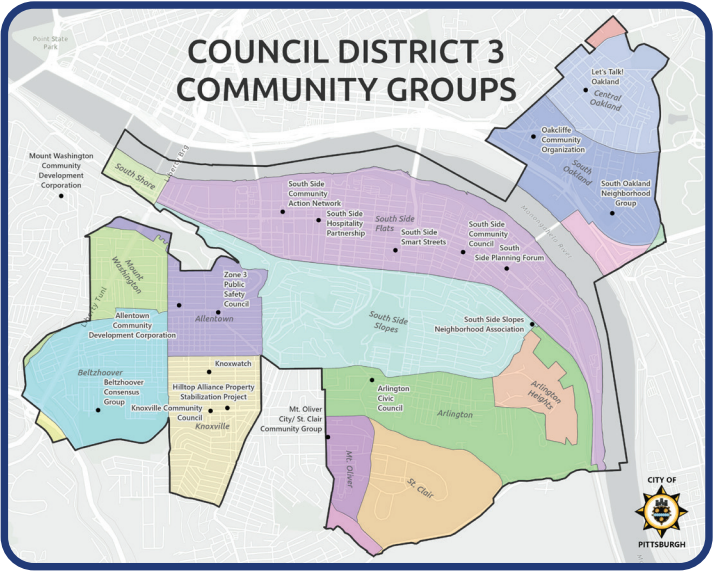
We're here for you. What can we help with?

- Refuse, recycling, litter and Quality of Life tickets
- Code violations and property maintenance
- Street tree requests
- Permits, licenses, inspections, and rental registration
- Renter/landlord concerns
- City policies and programs
- Public safety concerns
- Social service referrals
- ...and more!

412-255-2130
district3@pittsburghpa.gov

3rd Wednesdays, monthly
2:00 PM - 5:30 PM
(before OPDC's
Let's Talk! series)

COMMUNITY MEETINGS



We regularly attend 16 standing community meetings and convene and participate in many others. All told we attended 200+ community meetings in 2024!

We invite you to join us at the regular meetings on our [calendar](#).

SENIOR SERVICES

Our Director of Senior Services, Donna Wielock holds office hours at every senior center and retirement residence in the district, and can help with navigating different government services including:

Property Tax and Rent Rebate Applications

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Customer Assistance Program (CAP) Utility Bill Help

Pittsburgh Regional Transit Bus Pass Renewals

Residential On-Street Parking for People with Disabilities

Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers

Property Tax and Rent rebate Applications

**Low-income subsidy (LIS) Medicare Extra Help and
PACE and PACENET Prescription Assistance programs**

SENIOR CENTERS

Our senior centers are excellent places to catch up with neighbors, meet new friends, play bingo, participate in community activities, and learn about resources. Consider visiting:



Allentown Senior Citizen Center, Inc.
631 Warrington Ave, 15210



City of Pittsburgh South Side Market House
Healthy Active Living Center
49 S. 12th Street, 15203



McKinley Shelter, Beltzhoover Senior Center
900 Delmont Ave, 15210

RETIREMENT RESIDENCES

Our senior retirement residences are great spaces for those looking for a community living environment:

Mt. Washington: South Hills Retirement Residence
125 Ruth Street, 15211

South Side: Carson Retirement Residence
2850 E. Carson Street, 15203

South Side: Carson Towers
2117 E. Carson Street, 15203

South Side: Morse Gardens
2416 Sarah Street, 15203

Allentown: Caliguiri Plaza
803 E. Warrington Avenue, 15210

SOUTH SIDE PARKING ENHANCEMENT DISTRICT (PED)

The South Side PED is a parking zone on East Carson Street that allows the Pittsburgh Parking Authority to collect and deposit revenue into a trust fund, returning money to the community by paying for:

The South Side Clean Team
2-3 ambassadors keeping
Carson Street litter-free,
who collecting
176,988 lbs of
trash in 2024.

2 New Light Poles
for Esser Plaza

PED TRUST
FUND GROSSED
OVER
\$300,000
IN REVENUE
IN 2024!

Holiday lighting
installation along
Carson Street

Porta Potties for
St. Patrick's Day

PUBLIC SAFETY – CITY OF PITTSBURGH BUREAU OF POLICE (ZONE 3)

Commander Abraham of [Zone 3 police](#) shared their statistics that the Telephone Reporting Unit (TRU) answered 2,000+ calls for service, which allowed Zone 3 officers to attend 70+ community engagements, 547 neighborhood patrols, and over 1,700 traffic stops. In 2024, the number of gang-related/robbery homicides went from 9 to 5 in. We went from 8 shootings in the South Side to 2.

In 2023, 54 firearms were seized. In 2024, 105, with 60 of them in the South Side! In shots-fired calls for the South Side, we had 53 shots fired calls/activations in 2024, compared to 88 in 2023. Zone wide saw a 9% decrease in shots-fired calls.

We also want to give a huge shoutout to the South Side Entertainment Patrol, a dedicated team of 10 officers who patrol East Carson Street and keep the neighborhood safe by working with the bars/restaurants on East Carson Street.

GARBAGE OLYMPICS

District 3 cleans up and earns gold, silver, bronze in City-wide litter clean-up competition. The Mt. Oliver City/ St. Clair team of 40 volunteers, led by Jamie Pierson, took home the gold for collecting the most trash in the [Garbage Olympics](#)! Allentown placed 2nd and won for finding the strangest item – an evil Santa nutcracker. South Side Flats won 3rd and had the most volunteers of any team: 86!

Across District 3, 239+ volunteers filled 492 bags of trash and collected 248 tires, 130 TVs, and more than 818 bulk items in only 2 hours. Thank you to all the 2024 Garbage Olympics team captains, neighbors and volunteers, the [Clean Pittsburgh Commission](#), Velum Fermentation, and our Department of Public Works for pulling off this great event. Looking forward to September 2025 for year 9!

POST AGENDA ON ZONING REFORM

In March, we hosted National Land Use Expert Nolan Gray, author of *Arbitrary Lines: How Zoning Broke the American City and How to Fix It*, to Pittsburgh for a [Post Agenda discussion on zoning reforms](#) that impact housing supply. This experience helped shape the zoning reforms we introduced later in the year and underscored the need build abundant housing of all types in Pittsburgh. We have a lot to learn from other cities where housing has become unaffordable.

SOUTH SIDE BUSINESS DISTRICT MANAGER AND THANK YOUS

The historic Carson Street business district, though vibrant and eclectic, currently has a 26% vacant storefront rate. Our office worked with the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, [South Side Community Council](#), [South Side Hospitality Partnership](#), the Urban Redevelopment Authority, [South Side Chamber of Commerce](#), and State Representative Jess Benham to hire a business district manager to attract, support, and retain businesses along the Carson Street corridor. The new business district manager, Susan Anderson, started in January and we are so excited to see and support her work!

Thank you to all working to revitalize our shopping and entertainment district, with special shout-out to Ed John and Don Berman for their leadership! And thank you to our funders, the Hillman Family Foundations and UPMC for making this a reality!

FORMER INTERNS

"Last year, I attended Duquesne University as a business major where I had the opportunity to intern at the Pittsburgh City Council via a work-study position. During my first day as District 3's newest intern, I was welcomed with open arms by Councilperson Bob Charland, Chief of Staff Joyce Pagan, and Policy Director Alicia Carberry who immediately made me feel like a valued member of their team. Throughout my time working in the D3 office, I was able to sit in on meetings with community leaders discussing initiatives to improve District 3, learned firsthand how municipal government functions and collaborates with other city departments, and built relationships with District 3 residents who frequently called the office with constructive questions and concerns. By the end of the academic year, I was sad to say goodbye to District 3's dedicated team. I decided to transfer out of Duquesne and move back to my hometown, Rochester, NY. I enrolled in a local community college as a Fashion Design major with the intention to transfer to FIT in the fall of 2025. In addition to being a full-time student, I also work full-time at a local bakery where I've been employed since I was a junior in high school. While my career journey has taken me from working with people as an intern at the Pittsburgh City Council to making croissants and pastries from scratch at a bakery, the valuable skills and relationships I developed during my time in the District 3 office will always remain with me." them, from Garbage Olympics to Quality of Life Ticketing!"

- MARISSA GERMANI

Current position: Legislative Coordinator for the State of Minnesota's Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Policy Analyst.

"My favorite part was being able to see policies through from their inception, research, drafting, passage, and impacting our constituents positively. It's hard to see your policies through and the impacts they make at other levels of government, but we always got that opportunity in District 3, and the constituents were very great at calling with feedback, suggestions, and lots of questions and gratitude."

- KYLEE MATTSON

"I plan on graduating [from the University of Pittsburgh] this semester with degrees in History and Political Science and look forward to continuing my education in a program focusing on Public Policy. As the Institute of Politics Intern at the District 3 office, I served as Constituent Services Liaison. One of my favorite aspects was talking with constituents every day and learning the variety of issues that face District 3 and the ways in which Councilperson Charland's office worked to address them, from Garbage Olympics to Quality of Life Ticketing!"

- JAMES ROSS

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(412) 255-2130

Office Email:
District3@PittsburghPA.gov

Office Website:
Pittsburghpa.gov/City-Government/City-Council/Districts/Bob-Charland-District-3



Connect with us!

