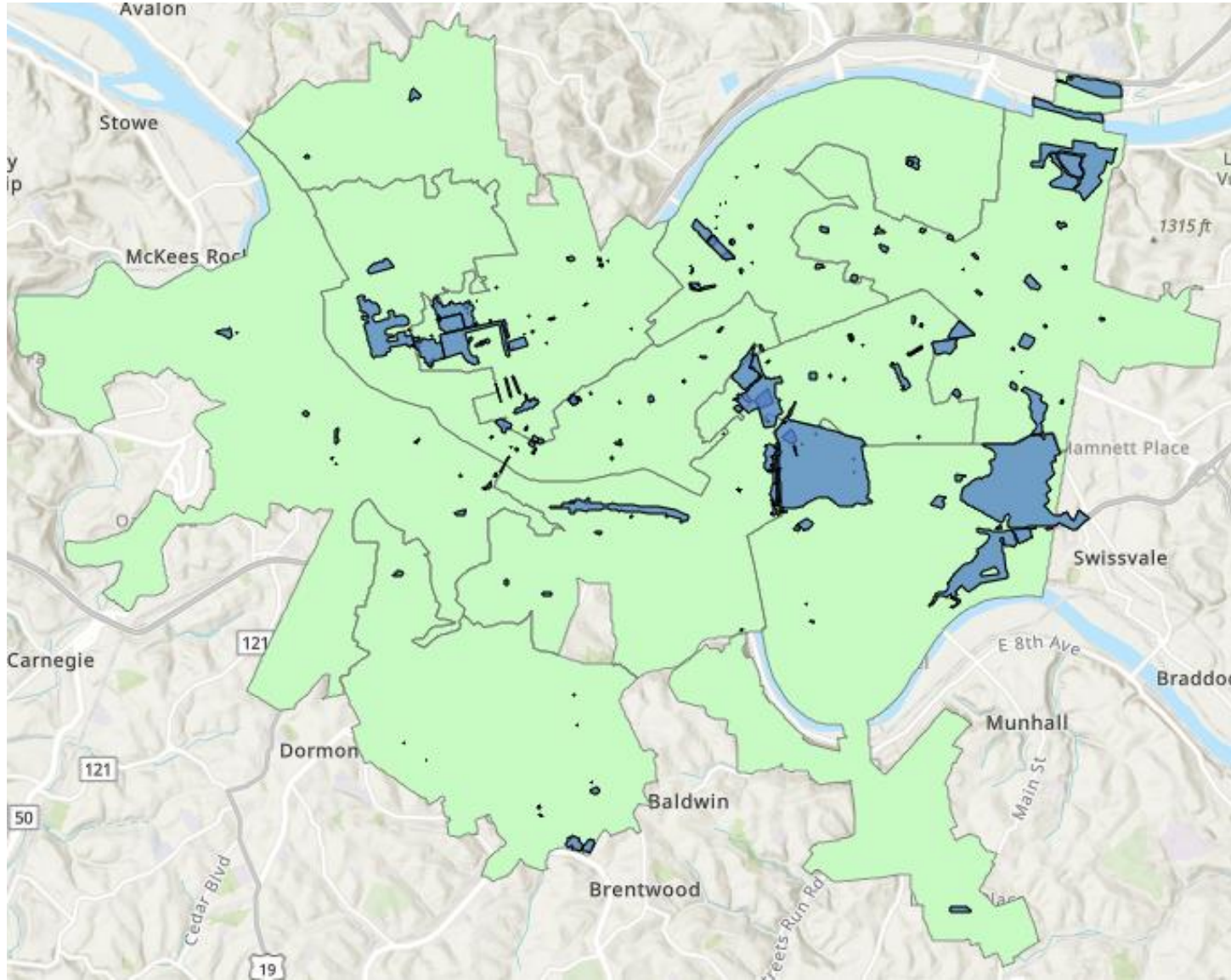




Title 11 – Historic Preservation Code Update

June 2026

Map of Pittsburgh Historic Landmarks



What is Title 11?

Title 11 of the Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances is the city's primary legal tool for protecting its architectural, cultural, and aesthetic heritage. Title 11 provides the regulation needed to prevent the demolition or inappropriate alteration of significant local landmarks.

Why Update Now?

The current Title 11 should be rewritten to streamline processes, clarify roles, ensure all groups are represented, and update language and organization of the ordinance to reflect best practices in historic preservation.

Proposed Changes

June Briefing

- Commitment to inclusive preservation
- Reorganize sections for clarity and simplify language
- Make city staff ex-officio
- Expand and diversify Commission membership

July Briefing

- Streamline Commission reviews
- Clarify process timelines
- Include process for revoking landmark status
- Introduce framework for interior landmarking of public buildings
- Demolitions

Inclusive Preservation

- **Cultural Significance.** It is directly associated with important cultural or social aspects or events in the history of the City, Commonwealth, or Nation.
- **Neighborhood Development.** It exemplifies a pattern of neighborhood development or settlement significant to the cultural history or traditions of the City, Commonwealth, or Nation.
- **Notable Work.** It exemplifies the work of a recognized architect, landscape architect, designer, engineer, artist, craftsman, or builder, or it represents an important planning or urban design technique distinguished by innovation, rarity, or exceptional quality of detail.

Clarity

- **New Sections Added:** Dedicated sections for "Certificate of Appropriateness Process", and "Appeals".
- **Reordered Content:** The administrative section establishing the commission moved to beginning of document.
- **Renaming:** Existing sections renamed to reflect updated, modernized language, ie "Penalties for Non-Compliance" is now "Enforcement and Penalties".

Simplification

Current	Proposed
<p>Establishing Liability</p> <p>"Any person found in violation of this Chapter shall be liable upon summary conviction..."</p>	<p>Establishing Liability</p> <p>"Anyone who breaks the rules of this Title can be taken to court and, if convicted, must pay..."</p>
<p>Corporate Responsibility</p> <p>"Reference to corporate entities and complex liability chains..."</p>	<p>Corporate Responsibility</p> <p>"If a business breaks the rules, the individual partners or officers can be held responsible."</p>
<p>Remedies</p> <p>"Application for injunctive relief and statutory abatement of unauthorized work..."</p>	<p>Remedies</p> <p>"Paying a fine does not mean the violation is allowed to stay. The City can stop illegal work immediately."</p>

Make Up of the Commission

Current	Proposed
1 Architect	2 Design Professionals
1 Preservationist	1 Preservationist
1 Realtor	1 Development Professional
	1 Landscape Architect
2 Community Representatives	2 Community Representatives
City Planning representative	City Planning representative (ex-officio)
Permits, Licenses and Inspections representative	Permits, Licenses and Inspections representative (ex-officio)
7 total (7 voting)	9 total (7 voting)

Tentative Timeline

Council District Update	May 1 to June 1
Planning Commission Briefing	June 2
Historic Review Commission Briefing	June 3 and July 1
Planning Commission Hearing & Action	June 16
Historic Review Commission Hearing & Action	August 5
Submit for Mayor's Agenda	August 11

Ordinance Draft available for review in Commission documents provided for this hearing.



Questions and Comments?



Thank You!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME