

Development Activities Meeting Report (Version: 01/24/2024)

This report created by the Neighborhood Planner and included with staff reports to City Boards and/or Commissions.

Logistics	Stakeholders
Project Name/Address: Cultural District Streetscape Enhancements (multiple intersections down Penn Ave & Liberty Ave)	Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident): <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP)- Residents Downtown- Pittsburgh Cultural Trust- Applicant Team
Parcel Number(s): N/A	
ZDR Application Number:	
Meeting Location: via Zoom	
Date: Thursday, July 10, 2025	
Meeting Start Time: 5:00 PM	
Applicant: Larson Design Group	Approx. Number of Attendees: 18
Boards and/or Commissions Request(s): Public Art & Civic Design Commission for Streetscape Enhancements	

How did the meeting inform the community about the development project?

Ex: Community engagement to-date, location and history of the site, demolition needs, building footprint and overall square footage, uses and activities (particularly on the ground floor), transportation needs and parking proposed, building materials, design, and other aesthetic elements of the project, community uses, amenities and programs.

<p>Pittsburgh Cultural Trust – Penn Avenue Park and beautification of the Cultural District including sidewalk improvements, lighting, general beautification. Phase 1 of our streetscape improvements are around our Marquis theaters and a light touch. A stitching approach. Looking at entrance moments of stepping into the Cultural Districts.</p> <p>1st piece. Roadway surfaces used as a carpet that marks your entrance into the Cultural District. Looking at each intersection to make graphic visual cue. Showed examples of graphic and artistic inspirations. Playful and layered streetscapes. Shared info on the material – Methyl methacrylate (MMA) that is used for roadway applications. Showed plans for multiple intersections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7th & Penn: identified as a nexus in the Cultural District. Biggest graphic intervention proposed there. Existing stamped concrete, building around that and growing texture into the pavement.• Liberty & Market: linking previously approved / existing project to the Cultural District. Repeated treatment to the spokes of the intersection. <p>2nd piece. Lighting elements. Mounted on buildings. Interchangeably programmable; can have seasonality, color expression. Provided renderings.</p>
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Input and Responses

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
Resurface any roadways before treatment?	To the extent we need an even surface, we may. We are coordinating with the City looking at their existing paving

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	schedules. MMA has applicability on various pavement conditions.
Reasoning for gravitating to the color of the carpets?	We did studies with bronze/red (like brick and the red carpet) and found it to be kitschy. Doesn't shout as much and is more timeless. This will age better.
Penn Ave has consistent traffic and service deliveries. We have to refresh Strawberry Way often. Has there been a maintenance plan created?	The Trust is committed to refresh as it ages and needs repainting. Of course, we would work with DOMI on coordination.
Fan of the Go-low lights. Add artistic and safety effects, and are inherently temporary.	
Looks great. MMA material – how does it hold up with snow plows? What is its durability?	This is the material DOMI uses to existing markings on Penn Ave. We are in process of writing the specs so the maintenance can be undertaken.
Do we know how this will hold up in bike lanes?	MMA used for bike lane painting now. In NYC it's used for the entire bike lane and doesn't make it extra slippery.
Commission approval?	Public Art & Civic Design Commission.
Coordination with DOMI?	Yes, we have engaged with them and the recent Design Review process.
Are the designs set or concept?	Staying with these designs, not concept.
Any opportunity to engage CAPA students to see their art work incorporated into this. If there is anyway, that would be great.	
Can lights be customized by request? Like pickles that project onto the sidewalk?	No. The lights will be on the Trusts buildings, not private buildings. We don't want it to feel like advertising.

Planner completing report: *Stephanie Joy Everett, Planning Manager, Department of City Planning - Strategic Planning Division*