

ENGAGE ATHENS



Streamlining Public Space Use

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Currently:

- No defined, set method to communicate with local government about temporary ideas involving vacant public lots. Who do you talk to?
- Process for events/ideas may involve communication with a multitude of Departments/people at the same time, and various different forms (even if not a special event).

<https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/37463/Special-Event-Permits?bidId=> (Central Services)

<https://www.acgov.com/DocumentCenter/View/26862/ACC-Leisure-Services-Special-Event-Application-Fillable?bidId=> (Leisure Services)

- Residents may not know public vacant spaces exist
- Residents don't know what public spaces can be used for

Proposal:

- Facilitate the use of public spaces; connect community to spaces (create process by which this is possible)
- Determine which spaces can be used for what
- 1 Stop only- will be helpful to organizations and residents
- Navigate the maze for our residents (is it a special event?)
- Example: Find out whether residents can use nearby pocket park for temporary art exhibit, and to streamline any permission process whether formal or informal
- Ordinance may prohibit idea, but we can find answer for citizen

Process:

- Informational Requests would be reviewed by volunteer committee or paid PT intern(s)
- Committee will establish appropriate contacts throughout government, based on what informational requests come in, to determine course of action for resident
- Space use options will be identified as we move along

<https://www.acgov.com/8463/Tactical-Urbanism>

- Information Request Form
- 1 Stop, not 7
- GIS Web App/database to locate public spaces
- Special Events streamlining?
- Publicize community events?

Ultimately:

- Complete, up-to-date database of available public spaces with examples of use
- Creating awareness for spaces that otherwise just “sit there” (advertise spaces)
- Help residents & organizations become more engaged in community
- streamlining/simplifying government, more responsive government
- Potentially, single point of contact for special events permit process
- Synchronize with Park App
- Housed in Dept., instead of committee (paid PT position?)