SIDE YARD SALES PROGRAM

If your house borders an overgrown, City-owned vacant lot, you no longer have to look out your window and cringe. The City of Pittsburgh offers a low-cost way for you to buy that lot and make it your own.

Once the lot is yours, you can transform that eyesore into a garden, parking pad, deck- just about anything you want! In doing so, you'll not only increase the size of your property and the value of your home, but you'll also enhance the appearance of your neighborhood.

THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS…..ALL IT TAKES

1. You must own the property (no more than 2 units) that directly borders the lot -either side, front or rear.
2. All taxes, water and sewage bills must be current, and you must not have outstanding PLI violations.
3. Provide proof of liability insurance for the lot.
4. Lot must be deemed not suitable for development.
5. Lot must be publicly owned, and under 5000 sqft.

TIME AND MONEY

Once the five basic requirements have been met, the vacant lot of your dreams is available through the following process:

- You must complete and return a **REQUEST TO PURCHASE** application
- The City will check the lot's availability and eligibility for the Side Yard Program
- The City will verify that you are not responsible for outstanding taxes, water and sewage bills, or PLI violations
- You will enter into a lease/purchase agreement with the City and make the required down payment of $201.00
- The City will seek City Council approval of the sale of the lot.
- Following approval, you may begin using and maintaining the lot. **NO PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS MAY BE MADE UNTIL AFTER CLOSING**
- The City will begin to clear the title of the property. This can take up to 18 months.
- Once the title is cleared, the City will arrange a closing date. You will need to cover closing costs, deed recording fees, and transfer taxes.
- If you and your neighbor both wish to purchase the lot, you will be required to bid for the property. The minimum bid is $250.00

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 412-255-2300