



PLI Year in Review

2017 was a great year at the Department of Permits, Licenses and Inspections. As the 4th year since Director Kennedy was hired, we were able to reach some long sought after milestones.

The Numbers

- Conducted approximately 37,000 property maintenance and zoning inspections – More than 800 of which were in Oakland.
- Conducted about 22,000 permit related inspections for 12,589 permits with a construction value of over a billion dollars – 589 permits in Oakland
 - 10 new construction permits and 7 demolition permits so a majority of applications are building renovations

Staffing

- PLI is fully staffed at 78 employees less one electrical inspector.
- Achieved budget approval for 2 new positions: Code Enforcement Officer and Project Manager
- Once one of the least diverse City departments, PLI is now employing 45% women and minorities including 44% of managers.

Plan Review and Permitting

- Because of staffing level increases and proper training schedules, all permit plan reviews have been brought back in house
- Reduced plan review times from an average of 23 days to 12 days
- Accepting concurrent reviews with Zoning
- All permit plan reviews have been brought back in house
- Can accommodate inspections within 5 days of request by providing overtime for inspectors when necessary

Processes

- Completely rewrote demolition contract and have begun demolitions under new contract providing for enforceable standards and more qualified bidders
- Consistently attending community meetings throughout the City, holding public forums on topics of interest to constituents, and sending a monthly newsletter to over 1000 developers, architects, contractors, and residents.
- Created the appeals board for Licenses and Inspections

Technology

- Accepting credit cards for payment
- Began sending closed case receipts to property owners when violations have been abated
- Started Burghware project

2018:

- Complete first phase of Burghware – Online licenses
- Rental Registration
- Scan more records and make them available to the public including occs
- Rewrite City ordinances including Title 10 Building Code and Title 7 Business Licenses– streamline fees/add best practices

From all of us at PLI, thank you for your meaningful participation and continued patience as we continue to re-establish a building department that works for Pittsburgh as it exists today and can adapt in the future.