

No. 04-25-OR

AN ORDINANCE

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP) to continue to use real property in the County's Deer Lakes Park for astronomy-related programs and activities.

Whereas, Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP) currently has exclusive use of County-owned real property including a two-story structure located at 225 Kurn Road, Tarentum, PA 15116 in the County's Deer Lakes Park; and

Whereas, Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP) has utilized the real property since 1987. AAAP is dedicated to public education and enjoyment of the science of astronomy. The facility is the focal point for scheduled public viewing parties where visitors may view celestial objects through the observatory's two large permanent telescopes. The observatory is a popular venue for scout groups, science classes from local schools, and civic groups; and

Whereas, Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP) wishes to continue the use of the designated property for these purposes without interruption; and

Whereas, County Council believes that permitting to continue the use of the County-owned real property for these activities will inure to the benefit of the citizens of Allegheny County; and

Whereas, Article IV, Section 2(k) of the Allegheny County Home Rule Charter vests County Council with the power and duty by ordinance to lease or permit the use of County real property.

The Council of the County of Allegheny hereby enacts as follows:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of the Preamble.

The provisions set forth in the preamble to this Ordinance are incorporated by reference as set forth in their entirety herein.

SECTION 2. Authorization to permit the use of County Real Property

- A. Allegheny County Council hereby approves the continued exclusive use of real property located at 225 Kurn Road, Tarentum, PA 15116 in the County's Deer Lakes Park by Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP).

- B. The proper officers of the County are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the authorization granted by this legislation.

SECTION 3. Effective Date.

The Ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2025 and continue until December 31, 2027. The ordinance effective date may be extended for one additional two-year term upon mutual consent.

SECTION 4. Severability. *If any provision of this Ordinance shall be determined to be unlawful, invalid, void or unenforceable, then that provision shall be considered severable from the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, which shall be in full force and effect.*

SECTION 5. Repealer. *Any Resolution or Ordinance or part thereof conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed so far as the same affects this Ordinance.*

Enacted in Council, this 25th day of February, 2025.

Council Agenda No. 12383-25



Patrick Catena
President of Council

Attest: 

Jared Barker
Chief Clerk of Council

Chief Executive Office 3/5/2025, 2025

Approved: 

Sara Innamorato
County Executive

Attest: 

John Fournier
County Manager

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

The attached legislation would permit Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP) to continue to have exclusive use of certain Allegheny County-owned real property at 225 Kurn Road, Tarentum, PA 15116 in the County's Deer Lakes Park as a site to provide astronomy-related activities.

The ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2025 and continue through December 31, 2027. The ordinance may be extended for one additional two-year term upon mutual consent.

The proposed Ordinance authorizes the appropriate County officers and officials to take such action as would be necessary to carry out the purposes of the authorization granted in the legislation.