

CITY OF PITTSBURG

CAPITAL ASSETS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Define the accounting practices and procedures that will ensure effective and accurate control of the capital assets of the City.
2. Assure that the City complies with the requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and OMB Circular A-133 as they relate to capital assets.
3. Communicate to City Elected Officials, Department Heads, Employees, and the Public the formal Capital Asset policy of the City of Pittsburgh.
4. Assure that an accurate record keeping system is in place to protect and properly insure assets in the event of loss.

Application: This policy applies to all Departments of the City of Pittsburgh.

Responsibility: The Finance Department is responsible for the implementation and administration of this policy.

The City Department Head is responsible for ensuring that proper budgeting, purchasing, and disposing guidelines are followed.

Definitions: **Capital Assets:** Major assets that are used in operations and have initial useful lives extending beyond a single reporting period. Capital assets with an original unit cost of greater than or equal to the City's capitalization threshold of \$5,000, including ancillary costs, and with a useful life of three years or more will be capitalized for financial accounting purposes. Examples include, among other things, land, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, furniture and fixtures, vehicles, machinery, equipment, infrastructure, and all other tangible or intangible assets.

Infrastructure assets: Long-lived capital assets that normally are stationary in nature and normally can be preserved to a significantly greater number of years than most capital assets. They include, among other things, roads, bridges, water and sewer systems, drainage systems, and electrical and gas lines.

Controlled Assets: Assets with an original unit cost less than \$5,000 (including ancillary cost) and a useful life of two years or more. Controlled assets will not be monitored in the City's Capital Asset records. Any item purchased for less than \$500.00 shall be considered as a supply line item. Examples of controlled assets include personal computers, facsimile machines, small photocopiers, printers, cellular phones, other telecommunication equipment, cabinets, tables, etc. These assets are not capitalized in the General Ledger nor are they depreciated. However, a copy of the Department's Inventory Control Records is to be provided to the Finance Department. This allows the City to control these assets through audits without affecting the City's financial status. Also, this information can be used to determine the proper level of insurance and assist the City in providing proof of loss in an insurance claim.

Depreciation: A methodology that amortizes the cost of the asset over its useful life using an acceptable basis.

Useful Life: The period of time the asset will be of service to the City.

Salvage Value: The subsequent value of the asset at the end of its useful life.

Historical Cost: The value placed on the asset at the time of acquisition, including ancillary costs (value of trade-ins, shipping costs, installation costs, etc.)

Acquisition Date: The date the City took ownership of the asset.

Capitalization Threshold: The measure of value placed on an individual asset to determine its qualification for capitalization or expense in the financial records, and includes all costs to put the asset in service (shipping, installation costs, etc.,).

Fair Market Value: The estimated value of the asset for which it would be exchanged between a willing buyer and seller when neither is forced into the exchange. In addition, both parties should have knowledge of all facts and consider it an equitable exchange. This is generally used in place of historical cost in a donated asset situation.

Insurable Value: The value placed on the asset that would best represent the replacement cost of the asset as determined by a qualified appraisal firm. If monetary value cannot be placed on items, such as irreplaceable documents, there is no insurable value. Insurable values of the buildings do not include the value of land.

General: The primary purpose of a Capital Asset accounting system is to maintain physical accountability over the assets owned by the City. The accounting system should provide a record of the capital assets obtained over the years that are still in service and identify the funding source for the purchase and/or construction of those assets. The capital assets of the City are those owned by the City that meet the above definition.

The City has established a unit cost threshold of \$5,000 (except Land which is \$1) and a useful life of at least three years for all capital assets. Assets with a unit cost below this level will be expensed. Donated assets and Grants-in-kind will be recorded at fair market value.

To maintain accurate capital asset records, information must be centralized in the Finance Department. The Finance Department is responsible for maintaining all of the asset information.

The City adheres to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and the pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Any subsequent changes to either will be incorporated into this policy upon the recommendation from the Finance Department.

Accounting for Capital Assets in Proprietary Funds

Capital assets acquired for use in proprietary fund operations are considered “fund assets” and should be accounted for within the appropriate fund. Depreciation of capital assets accounted for in a proprietary fund shall be recorded in the accounts of that fund.

Accounting for Capital Assets in Governmental Funds

Capital assets, other than those accounted for in Proprietary Funds shall be reported in the General Fixed Assets Account Group (GFAAG). The GFAAG is not a fund but simply a list of the City’s general fixed assets. Depreciation of general fixed assets shall be calculated and accumulated depreciation maintained in the GFAAG for disposition and cost accounting purposes.

Reporting requirements for capital assets in Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

- Capital assets are included in the Statement of Net Assets.
- Depreciation expense is included in the Statement of Activities.
- Note disclosure of changes in the general capital assets. This statement would show the beginning balance for each class of assets, total additions for the year by class, total dispositions for the year by class, total transfers for the year by class, and the ending balance for each class of assets in tabular form.

Policy: Capital Assets are to be capitalized and depreciated only if they have an estimated useful life of at least three years following the date of acquisition, have a historical cost of at least \$5,000, including ancillary cost, (except Land which is \$1) per individual unit, are tagged (where applicable) and inventoried, and meet the above definitions and the following criteria:

Assets that use Historical Costs for capitalization:

Land: The purchase price and cost of preparing land for its intended use. Examples of ancillary costs include search costs, attorney's fees, liens assumed, taxes assumed, grading costs, and land improvements with an indefinite life.

Improvements other than Buildings: Permanent (i.e., non-detachable) improvements that add value to land (e.g. fences, retaining walls, easements, road access). This account also is used for leasehold improvements.

Buildings (including building improvements, additions or renovations): The purchase price, contract price, or job order costs, and any other expenditure necessary to put a building or structure into its intended state of operation. Additional expenditures may include professional fees, costs of fixed fixtures (non-detachable) to the floor, ceilings and walls, insurance premiums, and related costs incurred during the period of construction.

Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment: The total purchase price less any applicable discounts and any ancillary payments required to place the asset in its intended state of operation.

Computer Equipments and software: The total purchase price less any applicable discounts and any ancillary payments required to place the asset in its intended state of operation. Systems (i.e. Servers) constructed that in the aggregate exceed the capitalization threshold will not be capitalized. Any piece of a system that exceeds the capitalization threshold will be individually capitalized.

Vehicles: The total purchase price less any applicable discounts and any ancillary payments required to place the asset in its intended state of operation.

Infrastructures: The purchase price, contract price, or project costs, and any other expenditure necessary to put the asset into its intended state of operation. Additional expenditures may include professional fees, damage claims, insurance premiums, and related costs incurred during the period of construction. Examples include roads, gutters, bridges, traffic signals, water and sewer systems, drainage systems, monuments, electric and gas lines.

Construction in Progress: The total amount expended to date on uncompleted buildings, pipelines, or other capital project under construction. Interest costs are capitalized starting with the first expenditure related to the asset,

and capitalization continues until the asset is substantially completed and ready for its intended use. When the project is completed, the cumulative costs are then transferred to the appropriate capital asset accounts.

Assets that use other valuation method for capitalization.

Lease Assets -All capital assets, including leased assets, shall be recorded on the General Ledger. Operating leases shall be recorded as Controlled Assets, while capital leases shall be processed like any purchased asset. NCGA-5 (Accounting and Financial Reporting Principles for Lease Agreements of State and Local Governments) requires that a lease agreement that satisfies the criteria established by FAS-13 (Accounting for Leases) shall be capitalized. Any lease agreement that does not meet any one of the noted criteria shall be considered an operating lease and shall not be capitalized. Operating leases shall be maintained in the Department's Inventory Control System for insurance purposes only. FAS-13 states that non-cancellable leases that meet any one of the following criteria must be capitalized:

- a) The lease transfers ownership of the property to the lessee by the end of the lease term.
- b) The lease term contains a bargain purchase option.
- c) The lease term is equal to 75% or more of the estimated economic life of the leased property.
- d) The present value of the minimum lease payments at the inception of the lease, excluding executory costs, equals at least 90% of the fair market value of the leased property.

Donated Assets: Donated Assets or any other asset acquired in any way other than through normal purchasing also shall be recorded and tagged. This also holds true for assets purchased with grant monies. The operating department that becomes the beneficiary of any such asset shall notify the Finance Department. Donated assets shall be reported at their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition.

Repair and Maintenance: If costs are incurred to keep an asset in its normal operating condition and the life of the asset is not extended the costs are expensed (e.g. - cleaning, replacement of small parts, minor painting, lubrication).

Improvements, Additions or Renovations are capitalized if the historical cost of the asset, including the improvement, addition or renovation is \$5,000 or more and extends the life of the asset.

If the expenditure is a replacement, a retirement must be made to the items being replaced. This includes both a reduction in Historical Cost and Accumulated Depreciation.

Useful Life of the various categories of assets includes:

Land	N/A
Land Improvements	20 – 30 years
Buildings (Including improvements, additions, and renovations)	45-70 years
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	5 – 10 years
Computer, Equipment and Software	3 years
Vehicles	5 – 7 years
Infrastructure	20 – 75 years

Depreciation Method – The City will utilize the straight-line method for depreciation. Equal periodic depreciation charges are therefore recognized over the life of the capital asset. The department who purchases the asset should indicate on the surface of vendor invoices an estimate useful life of the assets.

$$\text{Annual Depreciation} = \frac{\text{Cost less Salvage Value}}{\text{Number of Estimated Life}}$$

Tagging of Assets – All capital assets that are purchased with Federal grant funding will be tagged and labeled with the name of the grant used for the purchase.

Land, Land Improvements and Buildings will use the legal address for identification in the City records. Vehicles will use their VIN for identification purposes. Equipment (where applicable) will use the serial number for identification.

Disposition and Transfer of Assets – Property shall not be transferred, turned-in or disposed of without prior approval of the City Manager or designee. For property valued more than \$5,000 (except vehicles) will require Council approval.

The operating departments shall be responsible to initiate transfer/disposition processing. The form “Request to Transfer/Disposal Assets” (see Exhibit A) shall be completed by the operating department and submitted to City Manager or designee for approval. The Department Head must acknowledge receipt of any fixed asset transferred to his/her department.

The actual transfer/removal or destruction of property should be witnessed by two City employees from other departments, particularly from Finance.

The operating department should also follow the capital assets disposal/ transfer guidelines as follows:

Disposition of Assets – All Capital Assets will be disposed of as follows:

Grant Funded Acquisitions shall be reviewed by the Finance Department or designee prior to disposition.

Land and Buildings will be sold to the highest bidder in a competitive environment after the proposed sale is advertised in a newspaper of general circulation.

Furniture and Fixtures, Machinery and Equipment, and Vehicles will be sold to the highest bidder at public auction. Trade in values will be considered, and encouraged, when in the best interest of the City as determined by the Operation Department.

Note: Salvage values received for assets sold will be receipted into the City's General Fund. Exceptions are limited to assets that were acquired with Enterprise Fund, Internal Services funds and assets that were seized or forfeited through the Sheriff Department, the Courts, or the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Computer Equipment (including copiers and fax machines) is to be sold to the highest bidder at public auction. Trade in values will be considered, and encouraged, when in the best interest of the City as determined by the IT Department.

Note: Salvage values received for assets sold will be receipted into the Internal Services Fund revenues. Exceptions are limited to assets that were seized or forfeited through the Sheriff Department, the Courts, or the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Note: Any capitalized or not capitalized asset will be returned to the Information Technology (IT) Department for disposition, unless used as a trade-in. Assets will be evaluated by the IT Department for their likeliness of sale and either placed in the auction or destroyed.

Disposal of Surplus Supplies and Equipment (adopted from Section 10 of Purchasing Policy of 4-16-12)

Each department shall submit a request to the City Manager or designee when the department seeks to have any City property under its jurisdiction declared to be surplus¹. The Finance Director or designee evaluates the surplus property for possible use in another area and will inform other departments of the availability of the property or determine that there is no use for the property.

The Finance Director, or designee, will determine if any surplus property was purchased through grant funds, and whether such items can be surplus under the provisions of the grant.

The following chart will be used for the disposal of surplus property:

	Value of the surplus property is \$5,000 or Less (except vehicles)	Value of the surplus property is More than \$5,000 (except vehicles)
Exchange or Trade-In	A department, with approval of the City Manager, is authorized to exchange surplus property for other property of at least equal value, or to trade it in as part of the consideration to be paid for other property.	The City Manager or designee is authorized, upon City Council approval, to exchange surplus property for other property of at least equal value, or to trade it in as part of the consideration to be paid for other property.
Sale	A department, with approval from the Finance Director, will determine the best method for the sale of surplus property, with City Manager final approval.	The City Manager or designee, with approval from the City Council, will determine the best method for the sale of surplus property.
Discard	A department, with approval from the Finance Director, is authorized to dispose of surplus property after final approval by the City Manager.	The City Manager or designee, with approval from the City Council, is authorized to dispose of surplus property.
Donate	A department, with approval from the City Manager, is authorized to donate surplus property to any Pittsburg civic, community, or non-profit agency, or any agency funded through Pittsburg’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. (Other groups require City Council approval.)	The City Manager or designee, with approval from the City Council, is authorized to donate surplus property to any civic, community, or non-profit agency.
Vehicles	The City Manager or designee is authorized to exchange or trade-in; sell’ discard; or donate to any Pittsburg civic, community or non-profit agency, or donate to any agency funded through Pittsburg’s Community Development Block Grant program any vehicle which is deemed surplus. (Donations to other groups require City Council approval.)	

¹For purposes of this Policy, “City property” does not include items seized by the Police Department. The disposal of such Police Department items shall be governed by a Police Department administrative policy.

Notwithstanding the above chart, the City Manager or his/her designee is authorized to routinely dispose of the following: (1) furniture than cannot be used by a City department, or used by and picked up by a Pittsburg governmental or non-profit organization; (2) scrap products made of brass and copper which will be disposed on a bid or quotation basis; (3) scrap products made primarily of iron, plastic or other materials of no value which will be disposed on a continuous basis; and (4) items that had an original value of less than two hundred dollars (\$200) or a current value of less than fifty dollars (\$50).

Costs of disposal will be considered in determining the best method of disposal of surplus property. Whenever possible and advantageous to the City, surplus property will be sold at public sale or auction. When in the opinion of the Finance Director or designee a better return may be received through direct contact with manufacturers, resellers, or users of specialty item(s), then that method of sale will be utilized.

Sale proceeds less direct costs from any sale shall be returned to the specific fund from which the surplus property was originally purchased.

Donation means the transfer of ownership of property for no consideration or for a value less than the reasonable fair market value of the property.

The surplus disposal **to City employees** will be only through a competitive process open to the public. Employees who have been responsible for declaring any item surplus may not bid on that item. These provisions do not apply to surplus property that is to be discarded.

No warranty of surplus property is provided by the City and is disposed of “as is” without warranty, express or implied, as to condition or usability.

The City’s intention is to award and transfer surplus property to the highest bidder. **If a mistake is made**, an attempt to correct it will also be made; however, the City offers no guarantees and accepts no liabilities for completion of sale(s) other than to return any applicable funds received.

A written record of the disposal of all surplus property will be maintained by the Finance Department for five (5) years.

Custody and Accountability:

Each of the operating departments has the authority, accountability, and responsibility for the property issued to, or purchased by, their respective departments.

Each of the departments and divisions must designate a steward (“Property Steward”) for each piece of property in their custody. The person to whom the assets have been assigned for safekeeping will be the contact person for each property within the department. This person will become the focal point for questions regarding availability, condition and usage of the asset, as well as the contact during the physical inventory process.

A Property Steward shall be designated for each piece of property to ensure that property is acquired, maintained, used and disposed of in the City’s best interests. It is the Property Stewards’ responsibility to record the receipt of the asset, to examine the asset to make sure that no damage was incurred during shipment and to make sure that the asset was received in working order.

The Property Steward shall work in cooperation with selected Department personnel in arranging for necessary preventive maintenance and any needed repairs to keep the asset in working condition. Whenever the asset changes rooms, is transferred to another department, or is disposed of, the Property Steward must ensure this information is processed per the disposal/transfer guidelines. The Property Steward must ensure that departmental fixed assets are kept up-to-date in the Inventory Records and notify the Finance Department of any corrections which need to be made.

The Department Head or other person authorized by the Department Head is responsible for all property purchased for, assigned to, or otherwise provided to his/her department. The designated person to act as Property Steward is responsible for the custody and control of each property within the department.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Finance Department will provide two copies of the fixed assets list to the department Property Steward, including those that were purchased, transferred, or disposed of during the fiscal year. This listing will include all the property for which the department is responsible. It is required that an inventory of the listed property be conducted, discrepancies be resolved, and the listing be signed by the Property Steward and the Department Head verifying the property on hand. The listing shall be signed by the Property Steward and approved by the Department Head and then returned to Finance Department within ten (10) working days. A copy shall be retained by the department Property Steward for their files.

When a Property Steward is to be replaced for any reason, the Department head shall notify the Finance Department employee in charge of fixed assets. The Finance Department staff member will then provide a current fixed asset listing so that a joint review of the department's assets may be conducted by the outgoing and incoming Property Steward. The completed and verified joint review shall be forwarded to the Department Head and any changes submitted to the Finance Department within thirty (30) days after the appointment of the new Property Steward.

Periodic

Review:

The Finance Department shall review this policy and make recommendations for change, as needed.

CITY OF PITTSBURG

REQUEST TO TRANSFER/ DISPOSAL ASSETS

DEPARTMENT: _____

DEPARTMENT LOCATION: _____

DESCRIPTION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY _____

ACCOUNT NO. CHARGED: _____

SERIAL/ MODEL/ I.D. NO.: _____

TAG NO.: _____

DATE ACQUIRED: _____

APPROXIMATE COST WHEN ACQUIRED: _____

REASON OF TRANSFER/DISPOSAL: _____

IF MERE TRANSFER, INDICATE WHERE ASSET WILL BE TRANSFERRED:

IF TRADED-IN, WHAT TRADE -IN VALUE RECEIVED: _____

IF TRADED-IN, WHICH ASSET IS BEING PURCHASED: _____

Requested By: _____

Department Head / Supervisor's Signature

Director of Finance and Administration/Acctg Manager.

PLEASE SEND ORIGINAL COPY TO FINANCE DEPARTMENT