



Toledo Design Collective
URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN

PARK(ing) Day 2026 Parklet Design RFP



Issued by Toledo Design Collective (TDC), August, 2026

About PARK(ing) Day

PARK(ing) Day is Toledo Design Collective's signature event and annual fundraiser, celebrating thoughtful urban planning and design by temporarily transforming metered parking spaces into vibrant public spaces, called “parklets.” This event is part of a global movement advocating for safer, greener streets and inspiring urban design.

- **Location:** N. Huron St (between Washington and Monroe)
- **Date:** Saturday, September 19, 2026
- **Setup:** 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
- **Program:** 12:00 PM–6:00 PM
- **Breakdown:** by 8:00 PM

The Opportunity

Toledo Design Collective is inviting artists, designers, urban planners, architects, students, and creative teams to submit proposals for two funding tracks supporting this year's parklets. We're especially interested in bold, visually striking concepts.

Track	Award	Description
Featured Parklet Design	\$1,500 each (2 available) — \$3,000 total	Stipend for two standout, artist-designed parklets. Covers concept, materials, fabrication, and installation.
Community Parklet Materials Grant	\$400 each (4 available) — \$1,600 total	Materials-only reimbursement for four more community, business, or student-built parklets. Receipts required.

Bonus: TDC partners with TARTA (Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority) this year. TARTA is currently exploring a potential Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line for Monroe Street, with N. Huron St positioned as a stop along that future route. TDC will be presenting N. Huron St as a local example of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), walkable, connected, and built around transit. We would love to see designs that play with TOD themes like walkability and connectivity, but this is not a requirement.



Design Requirements

- Each parklet occupies one on-street parking space, approximately 8 ft x 20 ft.
- Designs must be freestanding and fully removable; no permanent anchoring, drilling, or alteration of the street surface.
- Must be installed by 12:00 PM and fully cleared by 8:00 PM.
- Must include a stable, visible edge (wheel stops, planters, or barriers) separating the space from the travel lane, and hold up to wind and weather.
- Should provide at least one accessible point of entry or viewing from the sidewalk.
- No open flame or elements blocking sightlines for drivers/pedestrians.
- Teams handle their own setup/breakdown (TDC volunteers may assist, not guaranteed).

Submission Requirements

- A brief design concept statement
- A list of what materials you will use
- A sketch, rendering or reference images
- A simple budget breakdown showing how the stipend will be used.
- A short bio, portfolio/website link, and social media handle(s).
- Contact information.

Selection Criteria

- Visual impact and creativity.
- Safety and structural stability.
- Feasibility within the budget, timeline, and site constraints.
- Alignment with PARK(ing) Day's mission of reimagining public space.
- Alignment with PARK(ing) Day requirements: <https://tinyurl.com/exkww7et>
- **Bonus:** designs that engage with this year's TOD/TARTA partnership.

Long Term Installation:

Parklets designed for longer duration will be considered. If you are interested to explore this, please indicate the approximate life span of the parklet and materials, if winter/seasonal storage is offered, and if there is a business or location recommended for longer term use.

Reference Materials

For reference, examples of past PARK(ing) Day installations are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdh9amvx>



Timeline

Proposals due: Monday, Aug 31, 12pm

Selections announced: by Wed, Sept 2

Event day: Sat, Sept 19, 2026

Payment & Compliance

Featured Design stipends are paid upon successful installation and breakdown on event day; selected teams will complete a simple agreement and a W-9 form prior to payment, consistent with IRS reporting requirements for payments over \$600 in a calendar year. Materials Grants are reimbursed up to \$400 upon submission of itemized receipts.

How to Apply

Submit your proposal through our online form:

<https://forms.gle/E3ZeDiRwGNDuRvYF8>

Questions:

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