

PUBLIC ART PERMITS

Examples

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact Talia Moorman: talia.moorman@minneapolismn.gov; 612-673-2149.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626. Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.

This document includes examples of successful projects completed on Minneapolis City Property or in the Right of Way. Instructions, guidelines, and additional tools can be found on the City’s website at <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/business-services/planning-zoning/city-plans/public-art-long-range-planning/artistic-utility-boxes-intersections/>

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PUBLIC ART GOALS

City of Minneapolis Public Art Goals

Successful projects address most of the public art goals listed below. Please keep these goals in mind as you review the examples and consider how your project can incorporate and meet these goals.

Stimulate Excellence in Urban Design and Public Arts

- Enhance the aesthetic environment of public places within the City through engaging, unique and high quality public artworks.
- Engage qualified and experienced artists.

Enhance Community Identity and Place

- Build awareness of community history, identity, cultures and geography.
- Develop artworks that are integrated into City building projects and are compatible with their settings.

Contribute to Community Vitality

- Promote Minneapolis as a nationally and internationally recognized arts city and tourist destination.
- Build the capacity of and cooperation between the private and public sectors, artists, arts and community members.
- Encourage civic dialogue about important City issues.
- Develop and maintain safe artworks.

Involve a Broad Range of People and Communities

- Enhance opportunities for all citizens, neighborhoods and organizations to participate in the planning and creation of artworks.
- Celebrate the City's cultural communities.
- Provide opportunities for the community to come together.

Value Artists and Artistic Processes

- Provide a range of creative opportunities for artists with a range of levels of experience.
- Ensure the ongoing integrity of artworks and respect the creative rights of artists.
- Always involve artists directly in the concept, design and creation of artworks.
- Ensure budgets adequately support artists and the creative process.

Use Resources Wisely

- Develop and sustain projects in a cost-effective manner.
- Use City funds to leverage private investment in public art and use public art to leverage private investments in other city ventures.

EXAMPLES

1. Vinyl Wrapped Utility Boxes

Applicant: Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI)

Goals: Contribute to Community Vitality & Enhance Community Identity and Place

In a neighborhood with the one of the largest urban populations of Native Americans in the United States, this thoughtful approach to developing designs goes beyond corridor branding and really contributes meaningful community vitality. The selected images used truly enhance community identity and place by celebrating the history and meaning of the lives of native people through high quality photographs taken at local pow wows and celebrations.

Permit Type: Custom Artist-Designed Utility Boxes

Installed in 2013



Vinyl Wrap Recommendations:

- Design boxes that do NOT have large blank areas or areas with one single color, as they are less likely to be tagged.
- Graffiti should be addressed quickly, as boxes are also less likely to be tagged again and graffiti is easier to clean off.
- Spray paint comes off vinyl wraps easily using a soft rag and anti-graffiti solution.
- Boxes are large and images should be high quality to avoid pixelation. We recommend 300 dots-per-inch(dpi), at a minimum 100 dpi.
- The artist should consider how box features might alter the design. Specifically windows, doors, vents, handles, key holes, etc.
- The wraps last longer if boxes are washed and sanded before applying the wrap.

EXAMPLES

2. Painted Utility Boxes

Applicant: Corcoran Neighborhood Association

Goals: *Value Artists and Artistic Processes & Stimulate Excellence in Urban Design and Public Art*

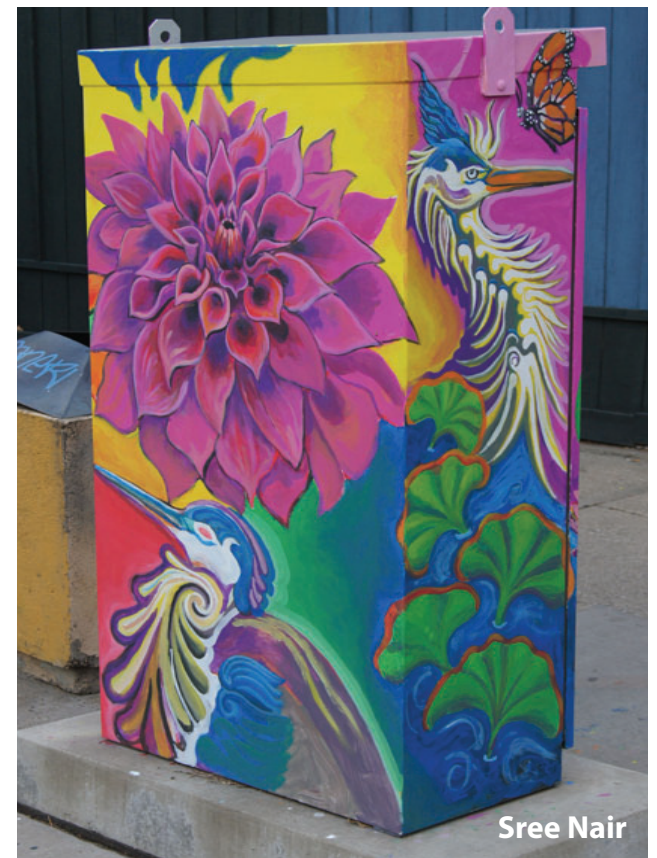
Through a call for artists, it was obvious the Corcoran neighborhood valued artists, and resulted in selecting a talented painter, Sree Nair. Corcoran neighborhood also valued the artistic process, which allowed the artist to propose translating his vivid images of plants and animals onto three utility boxes on Cedar Avenue. Additionally, without suggesting a theme or slogan, Corcoran gave Sree the freedom create these designs from his imagination, trusting the artist could find a way to stimulate excellence in urban design and public art. The final results produced bold, detailed and compelling art works for pedestrians to contemplate. One advantage of painted boxes is that the majority of the budget goes directly to supporting the artist and their work.

Permit Type: Custom Artist-Designed Utility Boxes

Installed in 2011

Painted Box Recommendations:

- Design boxes that do NOT have large blank areas or areas with one single color, as they are less likely to be tagged.
- Graffiti should be addressed quickly, as boxes are also less likely to be tagged again and graffiti is easier to clean off.
- Latex paint has been pre-approved by the City for use on utility boxes. Other materials need to be pre-approved by the City before installation begins.
- The paint lasts longer if the boxes are washed and sanded before applying primer and paint.
- Applying a protective coating after painting makes paint last longer and graffiti easier to remove.



EXAMPLES

3. Paint the Pavement - Street Mural Applicant: Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association

Goals: *Involve a Broad Range of People and Communities & Use Resources Wisely*

PPNA staff and local artist Forrest Wozniak developed a design incorporating geometric and mathematic elements in a series of community development workshops and events for *Arts on Chicago* facilitated by the Pillsbury House + Theatre. The square in the center of the design represents the four neighborhood corners; the colors express the different cultures; and the triangles encircling the square represent community. A fun and universal example of math, the pavement mural could be enjoyed by children and adults across a range of backgrounds and cultures. The simple design also made it easy to repaint the mural the following year.

Permit Type: Paint the Pavement

Installed: 2013



Paint the Pavement Observations:

- We recommend street mural be installed in the spring, so it can be enjoyed for most of the year, as the paint will be worn away by the following spring due to fall street sweeps and winter plowing.
- Include sufficient blank spaces in the design (non-painted areas) to ensure that the painted area is not hazardous or too slippery when wet.
- Paint the Pavement permits are for one year/season. The applicant may request an extension the following year, if they repaint the artwork.



EXAMPLES

4. Midtown Greenway Mural

Applicant: Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD), Little Earth of United Tribes, and the Midtown Greenway Coalition

Goals: *Stimulate Excellence in Urban Design and Public Art, Contribute to Community Vitality, & Enhance Community Identity and Place*

This project demonstrates how cooperation between the private and public sectors, artists, arts and community members can create strong projects. Greenway LEAP was funded with grants from the Carolyn Foundation and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Working in partnership with the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD), they created a community-based mural along the Greenway. MCAD selected teaching artist Melodee Strong to work with teens participating in the Little Earth of United Tribe's Native Youth Arts Collective program to develop the project. Six young adults were selected and paid to receive professional development and practice throughout this project. Their design enhances community identity and place by celebrating Native American history and culture through the imagery of three women giving the baby--who represents future generations--gifts from their tribes, .

Permit Type: Custom Public Art Permit- Greenway Mural

Installed in 2017

Midtown Greenway Mural Observations:

- Murals along the greenway need regular maintenance due to the old infrastructure, and active use. These spaces are historically heavily tagged and vulnerable to regular vandalism.
- The greenway has a diverse audience, is adjacent to diverse neighborhoods and is highly visible to broad range of people. It is very important that there be community involvement and support, throughout these projects.



Melodee Strong & Little Earth of United Tribe's Native Youth Arts Collective

EXAMPLES

5. Street Furniture - Bike Racks

Applicant: Arts on Chicago, Pillsbury House + Theater

Goals: *Stimulate Excellence in Urban Design and Public Art*

With support from Arts on Chicago, artist Kelly Brazil created bike racks from repurposed objects and materials that were scrapped in an automotive junkyard, donated, or discarded. A rack placed in front of the Modern Times Cafe was made from two automotive front doors that were stripped of all interior contents and glass. Brazil laser cut a design of a flame (finger friendly) in the door so bikes could easily be locked to it. The project was approved following a site visit to the Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center, where the racks were being fabricated, to ensure they were both safe and structurally sound.

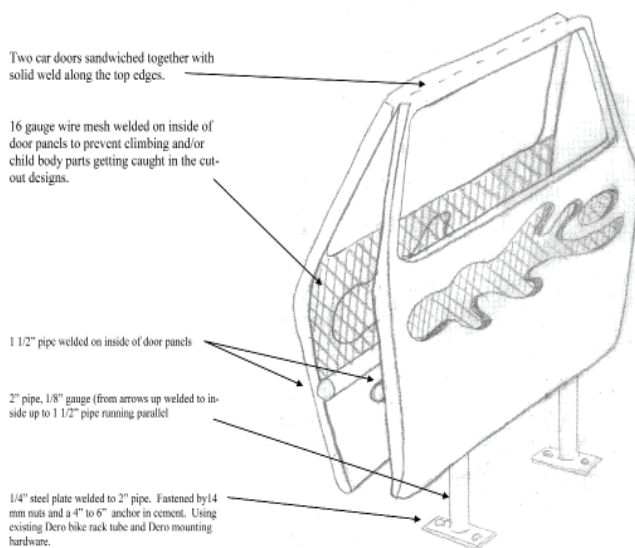
Permit Type: Custom Public Art Permit

Installed in 2013

Street Furniture Recommendations

- Street furniture is damaged regularly through use and salt, especially bike racks. Plan to touch up paint coatings and remove graffiti. Consider how bikes will be attached to the rack using different types of bikes and locks.
- Locate the rack in a place where the bike will not extend into the pedestrian zone of the sidewalk.

Kelly Brazil—Bike rack design #1 (side view)



Kelly Brazil & Mike Hoyt



EXAMPLES

6. Temporary Installations with Events

Created by: Carry on Homes, Hennepin County, and Windom Park Citizens in Action

Goals: Involve a Broad Range of People and Communities & Use Resources Wisely

Hennepin County Commissioner Irene Fernando invited local artist Witt Siasoco and Carry On Homes to create an art installation at the corner of Lowry and Central Avenue, on a City-owned vacant lot. Carry On Homes is a team of five local artists from five countries that created a physical structure/sculpture dedicated to telling the stories of immigrants and refugees in the USA through art. Additionally there was a series of 6 events focused on the stories of immigration with the purpose of building awareness around the 2020 Census. This project did an excellent job coming up with a creative way to still engage people during the Pandemic while still being safe.

Permit Type: Custom Public Art Permit

Installed in 2020

Temporary Projects with Events Recommendations

- Two- and three-dimensional projects that include structures, attachments, or footings may need a structural review and/or signed engineering drawings at the cost of the applicant. Most three-dimensional projects will need to be engineered to support a live load of a minimum of 250 pounds.
- Objects and other elements of the artwork must be secure.
- Functional objects should not be a hazard to someone using the object.
- Due to the temporary nature of the materials, temporary projects can be vandalized, and maintenance may be needed daily.



REVIEW

Selection Criteria for Public Art Project Proposals

These criteria are used by the Public Art Advisory Panel and the Arts Commission to evaluate applications. They rarely do not recommend projects, but often propose changes to implement before permits are issued.

Stimulate Excellence in Urban Design and Public Arts:

- Do the designs and the locations provide an opportunity to make an engaging or bold artistic statement?
- Does the project provide an opportunity for a unique public artwork?
- Do the proposed artists have a significant or engaging body of work?

Enhance Community Identity and Place:

- Does the project have the support of the neighborhood organization and property owners?
- Are the locations good places to showcase a public artwork?
- Does the project provide an opportunity to reflect on the community and its characteristics, including history, identity, geography and cultures?

Contribute to Community Vitality:

- Will the project be visible to and attract visitors and residents?
- Will the project build capacity and cooperation between the private and public sectors, artists, arts organizations and community members?
- Has the project engaged the community (or will it)?
- Does the project provide an opportunity to encourage civic dialogue on City issues?
- Is the design and location safe?

Involve a Broad Range of People and Communities:

- Does the project engage citizens, neighborhoods and organizations in the planning and creation of the artwork?
- Will the project be accessible to people with a range of abilities?
- Does the project celebrate one or more of the City's cultural communities?

Value Artists and Artistic Processes:

- Does the project nurture an emerging artist?
- Has the design process included an artist and artistic process as a central element?
- Does the project support the artists' right to retain most of their copyrights, except for in the case of sharing information for not-for-profit purposes?

Use Resources Wisely:

- Are the conditions at the proposed site stable enough to support an artwork during the time frame?
- Does the applicant have the capacity to implement the project at the proposed scale?
- Is there a realistic and achievable maintenance plan?
- Are the appropriate materials being used?

PUBLIC ART PERMITS

A comprehensive overview of the guidelines, steps, and criteria for developing public art projects on Minneapolis City Property or in the Right of Way. Potential applicants are encouraged to read the instructions thoroughly prior to the application process. The instructions, guidelines, and additional tools can be found on the City's website at <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/business-services/planning-zoning/city-plans/public-art-long-range-planning/artistic-utility-boxes-intersections/>

We are here to help! CONTACT:

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These examples were created by the City of Minneapolis Departments of Community Planning and Economic Development and Public Works.

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Arts on Chicago

Midtown Greenway Coalition

Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association

Corcoran Neighborhood Organization

Minneapolis College of Art and Design

City of Minneapolis

Native American Community Development Institute

Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association

Little Earth of United Tribes

Pillsbury House + Theater

Carry On Homes

Hennepin County

Windom Park Citizens in Action