

Intersection Murals



Photo: www.greatcity.org, Seattle, WA



Photo: Greg Raisman, Portland, OR

What is an Intersection Mural?

It's a permanent mural that's painted on the pavement at an intersection. It's used as a community-building tool—murals are generally designed by the neighborhood, and represent the local community. Experience from other cities shows that intersection murals can help calm traffic, and foster a sense of community identity (these murals can be found in multiple cities, including Seattle, WA, Portland, OR and Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

Intersection murals are a simple, low cost way to reclaim streets as a shared space for the whole community to enjoy.

What are the benefits of Intersection Murals?

Intersection murals have many benefits, including:

- Bringing neighbors together to create a sense of community
- Traffic-calming
- Place-making—murals can represent the communities that surrounds them
- Making streets more enjoyable!

Does San Francisco allow Intersection Murals?

Intersection murals have not yet been created in San Francisco, but the concept has been vetted and approved in the City's Green Connections plan (<http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=3002>). Walk SF is working with City Departments to establish an Intersection Mural Program in 2015.

How are Intersection Murals Maintained?

Community groups sponsoring intersection murals will need to agree in advance to accept responsibility for restoring intersection murals in the event of maintenance projects. Groups must also maintain the design over time, as it will fade from weather and traffic.

Join the Movement – Start an Intersection Mural in Your Neighborhood!

If you are interested in designing an intersection mural, here's what you can do:

1. Host a community gathering and talk with your neighbors about the idea, learn more here (grist.org/cities/2011-12-02-coloring-inside-the-lanes-art-community)
2. Contact Walk SF at info@walksf.org. We can speak at a community meeting to explain the process and support your neighborhood as you consider an intersection mural project
3. If your group has interest and capacity to start this project contact Pavement to Parks at sfpavementtoparks@sfgov.org (pavementtoparks.sfplanning.org), and your District Supervisor