



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS TRAFFIC CABINET MURAL PILOT PROJECT

What is the Traffic Cabinet Mural Pilot Project?

In June 2025, the City of Fresno approved funding for Citywide Art Beautification, including utility boxes, for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. That funding provides opportunities to use City of Fresno assets like traffic cabinets (boxes) as “canvases” for original art pieces created by artists, students, and community members which contribute to the vitality and attractiveness of our community, while also deterring vandalism.

How many cabinets will be covered in art?

A total of 20 traffic utility cabinets will be covered in wraps containing new art along the McKinley Avenue Corridor between Cedar and Clovis Avenues, along the Shaw Avenue Corridor between First Street and Chestnut Avenue, and along the Cedar Corridor between Bullard and Gettysburg.

The City of Fresno will put out one Request for Proposals (RFP) for all 20 locations. Once the finalists have been selected and approved, the art will be installed in January 2026.

What is the expected timeline?

- November 5, 2025 – RFP opens
- December 5, 2025 – RFP closes
- December 8-12, 2025 - Review of Proposals by Selection Committee
- December 18, 2025 - Full Commission Review and Selection of Artists
- January 2026 - Installation
- January 2026 – Unveiling or Dedication

What medium can I use to create my cabinet art design?

The City of Fresno is planning to use vinyl wraps to cover the boxes in art. This means that any medium which can be photographed or scanned and digitized can be used to create the design! Traffic cabinets will not be painted on directly. Instead, artists will design the art, and a local contracted company will create and install vinyl wraps for the assigned traffic boxes.

Who is eligible to apply?

The pilot Traffic Cabinet Mural program is open to experienced artists or muralists (Artist), who have the vision and skills required to complete the project to the highest standards of innovation and technical expertise. There is no age limit. Younger budding artists are encouraged to apply. Local artists/muralist preferred but NOT required.

What criteria will the Selection Committee be looking for?

The Selection Committee will be looking for artwork that shows artistic quality in originality, composition and technique; a relevance to the Request for Proposal (RFP) themes; community impact; safety and suitability; and creativity. Refer to the RFP for more detailed information.

Can an artist/muralist have more than one design proposal selected?

Yes. The City of Fresno desires to keep it as accessible as possible to the entirety of the local art community, so Artists can be selected for multiple installations, with a maximum of three (3) awards per artist/muralist.

How do I submit my design?

Each interested and eligible Artist must submit a traffic cabinet application for consideration. Designs must be submitted using the templates provided. Please submit proposals electronically to mark.standriff@fresno.gov. The application and details can be found in the Request for Proposals (RFP) on the City of Fresno Traffic Box Art webpage at <https://www.fresno.gov/TrafficBoxArt>.

Can design proposals be hand drawn?

Yes, design templates can either be completed digitally or by hand. If templates are completed by hand, they will need to be scanned or photographed in a well-lit room, for the final submission, as all proposals must be submitted electronically.

Do you have any design tips or advice for applicants?

When designing artworks for submission:

- It may be helpful to think about ways that the design or a design element can wrap around the box and what the image will look like from all sides.
- Do not automatically think of the template as a spread that reads left to right.
- Art should cover three exposed sides, with the vented side reserved for the artist's description of their work and information on the pilot program.
- Designs seem to be more visually impactful and print better when there is contrast (i.e. light/dark), not all the same value.
- A site visit is encouraged. While on location, consider:

- The colors in the natural environment and how to respond to them.
- The placement of the design in relation to the position of the utility box.
- The pedestrian traffic vs. the vehicle traffic and how the box will be primarily viewed. What design elements will be at eye level based on the size and position of the box.
- Traffic cabinet sizes may vary; selected artists must be willing to adjust designs to the box assigned after submitting their design proposal using the template provided.
- All traffic box locations can be found in the RFP packet in the Locations exhibit.

Do artists need to purchase business licenses or insurance for this project?

To increase the accessibility of the Traffic Cabinet Mural pilot program and ease the application process, business licenses will not be required for artists selected as finalists. Since the artwork is to be printed and wrapped by an outside vendor, no insurance is required to submit work.

If I am selected as an Artist, can I pick the box location?

The final location of each specific work of art will be decided by the City Manager based on the Selection Committee's recommendations.

Do Artists get paid to design art for a traffic box?

Artists selected for this pilot program will receive a \$1,000 stipend for each of their conceptual renderings used; those works (including copyrights) will become property of the City of Fresno. Artists retain the ownership and rights to the original work. All payments will be made in one lump sum upon completion of the final installation of the traffic cabinet wrap.

Who are the members of the Selection Committee?

The Selection Committee will be comprised of City of Fresno officials, with representatives from the City Manager and City Council offices, Beautify Fresno and the Department of Public Works, as well as a diverse pool of individuals from local artists, community advocates, and Fresno Arts Council representatives.

Community members who are interested in participating in an art jury can email Beautify Fresno Director Mark Standriff at mark.standriff@fresno.gov. Artists that have applied to the 2025 Traffic Cabinet Mural RFP will not be considered for the jury panel.

How can I find out more information?

We are happy to answer any other questions you might have regarding the City of Fresno Traffic Cabinet Mural Pilot Program. Please contact Beautify Fresno Director Mark Standriff at mark.standriff@fresno.gov or call 559-621-8626.