

Draft Mural Design Guidelines

Murals are defined as a hand-produced work of visual art that is applied directly upon, or affixed directly to, an exterior wall of a building or structure. This may include but is not limited to tiled, painted, or printed art.

Mu.1

Retain and preserve artwork that contributes to the overall historic character of a building, site, or district.

Mu.2

Except in very limited cases where appropriate, murals are not permitted on primary facades of historic buildings. Secondary elevations of buildings may be an appropriate location for murals.

Mu.3

Artwork should be subordinate in scale to the overall building.

Mu.4

A tiled or painted mural is not permitted on an unpainted historic masonry wall such as brick, stone, or stucco. A tiled or painted mural may be permitted on a masonry wall composed of concrete block if appropriate. Murals should instead be painted on removable materials such as plywood or other suitable outdoor material. Anchoring shall be placed into masonry joints or other non-damaging areas of the walls. Framing shall be done so as not to trap water between the mural and the wall. Hanging or anchoring shall be reversible.

Mu.5

New murals shall not damage historic masonry or alter historic streetscapes where unpainted masonry is a character defining feature.

Mu.6

Murals shall not adversely effect historically significant architectural details, including but not limited to cornices, bay windows, or decorative terracotta.

Mu.7

Murals shall not contain hate speech or symbology, known gang symbols, drug references, weapon references, or depict an unreasonable or offensive act, utterance, gesture, or display that creates a clear and present danger of a breach of peace or imminent threat of violence.

Mu.8

In order to not be further classified and regulated as a sign, a murals cannot contain an advertisement in any form, actual or perceived, including but not limited to a slogan, logo, graphic, distinctive emblem, trademark, web address, or phone number that identifies a commercial business or a product or service

offered by businesses, business complexes, schools, attractions, historical or tourist locations, malls, or other organizations (charitable, non-profit, fraternal, religious, political organizations, etc.). However, the mural may include a logo, emblem, or trademark to acknowledge the sponsor or artist so long as the inclusion is incidental to the artwork and does not alter the message of the art and its primary purpose is not to serve as an advertisement for the sponsor or artist's products or services.

Mu. 9

To ensure a higher level of quality and longevity, the surface should be properly prepared and using high-quality and compatible materials.

Mu. 10.

Murals should be maintained and repaired if the surface is damaged, faded, or vandalized. Protective coatings are encouraged. Treatment operations include cleaning, retouched damaged or faded surfaces, reattachment of plaster detached from the wall, re-adhering flaking paint, and graffiti removal.