



Murals are a great way to bring colour and life to empty walls, floors, fences and utility infrastructure. They can tell stories, highlight social issues, provide commentary, create a sense of place or simply bring beauty to a location where there was none.

Before you get started on your mural project, here are some things to consider.



Mural location

For all City of Stirling owned, leased or managed property, please contact the City's Public Art Officer for permission via email at art@stirling.wa.gov.au.

For third party properties (such as a business or utility provider e.g. Western Power or Water Corporation), please contact the property owner for permission. It is recommended to document any arrangement made.

Surface type

A mural can be applied to brick, metal, render or gyprock. Smooth surfaces are easiest to paint. Additional time may be required for rough or uneven surfaces.

All surfaces should be adequately prepared ready for painting which may include removing any previous flaking paint, treatment of moisture, rust or corrosion, application of a suitable sealer or surface binder. Failure to prepare the surface properly will result in a significantly reduced lifespan of the mural.

Seeking approval

Murals located on private property generally do not require permission from the City of Stirling except:

- Where the mural could be considered to be signage (where the company logo or name is a key element in the mural design);
- Where the mural is proposed to be located on a property that is either:
 - Entered on the State Register of Heritage Places;
 - Entered on the City of Stirling's Heritage List; or
 - Located within the City's Heritage Protection Areas of Inglewood, Mount Lawley and Menora.

If any of the above conditions apply to your mural project, please contact the City's Public Art Officer via email at art@stirling.wa.gov.au for general advice on the next steps and approvals required.

Project budget

Budget will determine the level of detail and experience of the artist. Emerging artists may be willing to work for a lower fee; however, it is not considered appropriate to offer an artist a mural location for exposure as equivalent to payment for their time.

The National Association for Visual Artists (NAVA) has recommended pay rates for artists. The Public Art Officer can help you understand suitable rates of payment.

Whether you have a specific theme/style in mind or would like the artist to create a design of their own, the Public Arts Officer can help you develop a brief or provide advice on an open commission. It is recommended to request a draft sketch before the mural is installed and artists should be paid for developing this design.

Your budget may also need to include allowances for surface preparation, paint, artist fees, access equipment, permit fees, traffic management and anti-graffiti coating.

The City offers a range of grants that may suit your project, speak to the Public Arts Officer for advice. Grants Finder is an independently collated database for grants and other funding opportunities. You may also be able to find sponsorship for your project.

Finding an artist

There are a number of ways you can find an artist for your project, here are a few starting points.

- Artists will usually sign their work with their name or social media handle so when you see a mural you like, take note!
- There are a number of social media pages and websites dedicated to street art
- www.streetsofperthwa.com have put together a handy map to explore murals
- Artsource is the peak membership body for visual artists in WA. View their online gallery at www.artsources.net.au
- Join Perth Mural Opportunities for Artists on Facebook. Post your project in this group and artists will contact you.

Cover: *Worth the Ride* by Andrew Frazer 2015, Inglewood Hotel. Photo by Jess Wyld.

Left: *Travellers* by Kyle Hughes-Odgers 2015, private commission, Yokine. Photo by Jess Wyld.



Important considerations

- If the mural is to be in an outdoor location, high quality exterior paints should be used.
- Publicly accessible murals should be finished with a professionally applied, non-sacrificial anti-graffiti coating. This enables graffiti to be removed without damaging the artwork. Sacrificial coatings may be used, but will need to be re-applied should damage occur.
- Safety considerations:
 - Will the artist need to use access equipment such as ladder, elevated work platform or scaffolding to complete the painting? Some specialised equipment requires a license to operate
 - Is the location in or near a road, carpark, railway line, cycle or pedestrian path? Traffic management may be required and you may also need an obstruction permit. Contact the City for guidance.
 - Is the area known for antisocial behaviour? You may need to make sure the artist is not working alone.
- Advise the City's Graffiti team that you intend to have a mural installed, we'd hate to see the artwork removed by accident.

- Murals usually have a lifespan of 5 – 10 years depending on the location and materials used. At the time of commissioning an artist, an agreement should clearly state what is to happen once the mural comes to the end of its' lifespan. Either a new mural is commissioned or the mural is removed to restore the wall back to its original condition.
- A written agreement should outline requirements including any changes to proposed designs and use of the mural image. The artist retains the copyright of the artwork and permission should be sought for reproduction of the mural image, such as merchandise and publications.

Mural priorities

Where the City of Stirling is involved via the mural location or funding support, the City will support proposals that:

- Achieve high artistic quality and curatorial outcomes
- Include local artists and where possible partner emerging artists with more experienced ones (a mentorship)
- Celebrate local stories, people and places
- Improve the aesthetics of the surrounding area
- Are mindful of existing murals in the area and
- Where applicable, addresses an ongoing vandalism issue.

Above: *Rainbow Bee Eaters* by Kerise Delcours 2017, Carine Open Space.
 Right: *Inglenook* by George Domahidy 2019 (left) and *Cow Mural* by Anya Brock 2014, Inglewood.
 Photo by Jess Wyld.

Process





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This information is available in alternative formats on request. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre on (08) 9205 8555.