



KRISTIN M. CROWLEY
FIRE CHIEF

May 29, 2024

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 24-049

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: *KC* Kristin M. Crowley, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT MURAL POLICY

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| FINAL ACTION: | <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Denied | <input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

SUMMARY

Attached for the Board of Fire Commissioners review is the Department’s Mural policy published in the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) Departmental Bulletin No. 24-10. On May 16, 2023, the Department was instructed to develop a specific policy that would delineate the approval process of mural artwork.

The LAFD and the City of Los Angeles both recognize that mural artwork on City-owned property beautifies public spaces and builds a sense of community. Fire Station murals allow members to display their unique station pride and spirit. This policy sets forth the approval process to provide consistency and uniformity while adhering to the City Ordinance.

This policy has been reviewed and vetted by the City Attorney Office, Cultural Affairs Department as well as labor organizations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:
Receive and file.

Board report prepared by Arturo Tarango, Battalion Chief, Ombuds Section, Equity and Human Resources Bureau.

Attachment

Los Angeles City Fire Department

DEPARTMENTAL

BULLETIN

Bulletin No. 24-10

April 25, 2024

TO: All Members

FROM: Orin Saunders, Chief Deputy, Administrative Operations
Ronnie Villanueva, Chief Deputy, Emergency Operations

SUBJECT: FIRE DEPARTMENT WORK LOCATION MURAL POLICY

The Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) and the City of Los Angeles both recognize that mural artwork on City-owned property beautifies public spaces and builds a sense of organizational and community pride. Fire station murals create a positive work environment and build camaraderie. They serve as another way LAFD members can contribute to the Department's goal of embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion. The following approval process for murals will allow all work locations to create unique pieces of art showcasing their work location. This approval process provides consistency and uniformity while encouraging each location to have a sense of community.

Since all LAFD facilities are public buildings, all murals are public art and are subject to the City's Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP) Ordinance. The PWIAP encourages and supports the placement of public art on city property.

Furthermore, pursuant to the Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.109, "no work of art shall become the property of the City of Los Angeles by purchase, gift or otherwise, unless such work of art or the design of same, together with a statement of the proposed location of such work of art, shall first have been submitted to and approved by the Board of Cultural Affairs Commissioners." The LAFD mural policy is in addition to the PWIAP Ordinance and is not intended to supersede it.

This policy outlines two different processes that must be followed depending on the artist.

Option One: Artist is an LAFD Member

An LAFD member who identifies as an artist may seek approval to paint a mural on a wall at an LAFD facility. The LAFD artist's painting must uphold the Department's mission, vision, and core values. The LAFD artist must submit their design to the station

or unit commander for approval. The Station or Unit Commander must then submit an F-225 through channels to the Equity and Human Resources Bureau for final approval. The F-225 must include the artist's name, mural location, mural size, mural meaning, a rendition of the proposed artwork, and the execution plan for the project. When the painting is not permanent, for example, on a canvas and hung inside an LAFD facility, it will still require the department's approval process without the approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs Cultural Affairs Commission.

Once the Battalion Office receives and approves the F-225, they must submit a cover letter with the F-225 and all the supporting documents. This level of review allows the Battalion Chief to review the F-225 and ensure the mural, the meaning, and the intent uphold the Fire Department's mission, vision, and core values.

Option Two: Artist is a Civilian

If an LAFD facility selects or hires a civilian artist to paint a mural, the artist must read the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) Public Art Division Approval Process and complete the DCA application. application. https://culture.lacity.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/PACCAC-AppProcPkt_Ext-20230601.pdf

The civilian artist must ensure the mural aligns with the Fire Department's mission, vision, and core values. The civilian artist must submit their application and the final design by email to dca.publicart@lacity.org for approval from the Cultural Affairs Commission. Approval from the Cultural Affairs Commission is dependent on the civilian artist's attendance at the commission meeting when their application and design will be reviewed.

NOTE: Cultural Affairs Commission meetings occur every second Wednesday of every month at 1330 hours at 201 N Figueroa Street, Suite 1400, Los Angeles, CA 90012. All email submissions must be sent to the DCA email 15 days before the desired review date/Commission meeting.

Once the civilian artist receives approval from the Cultural Affairs Commission, the artist will then submit the approved application, including their proposed design and a signed copy of the Artist Waiver for Public Art, Mural, Monuments, and Memorial Plaques (attached) to the LAFD facilities' Station or Unit Commander. The station or unit commander can then submit an F-225 through channels to the Equity and Human Resources Bureau.

The F-225 must include the artist's name, mural location, mural size, mural meaning, proposed design, and the execution plan of the artwork. Once the Battalion Office receives and approves the F-225, they must submit a cover letter with the F-225 and all the supporting documents. This level of review allows the Battalion Chief to review the F-225 and ensure the mural, the meaning, and the intent uphold the Fire Department's mission, vision, and core values.

NOTE: If the painting is not permanent and is done by a civilian artist, it must follow the process identified in option one.

Regardless of the mural's location on the facility, the same procedures are required.

EXISTING FIRE STATION MURAL

The DCA acknowledges the previously-installed LAFD-approved murals at all fire facilities shall be grandfathered in.

REMOVAL

The City retains the right to remove mural art at any time. [See attached Recreation and Parks Visual Arts Rights Act, California Arts Protection Act (VARA/CAPA waiver)]

CONCLUSION

The LAFD and the City of Los Angeles understand the power of mural artwork on City-owned property. Not only do they add aesthetic value to public spaces, but they also inspire a sense of pride within the community. These murals can create a positive work environment that promotes camaraderie and contributes to the Department's goal of embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion. We encourage each location to create a unique piece of art that showcases their work location while fostering a sense of community.

Questions regarding this Departmental Bulletin and/or policy should be directed to Equity and Human Resources Bureau at lafd.equitybureau@lacity.org.

To ensure all members have a clear understanding of this policy, Commanding Officers shall review this Departmental Bulletin with all members in their command. Officers shall use Vector Solutions to document the training of assigned members.



ORIN SAUNDERS, Chief Deputy
Administrative Operations



RONNIE VILLANUEVA, Chief Deputy
Emergency Operations

All Members
April 25, 2024
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References:

Los Angeles Administrative Code 22.109

Manuel of Operations Volume 4 8/3-80.01 Alterations and Improvements

Departmental Bulletin 06-13 Alterations/ Improvements to Fire Station Facilities

LOS ANGELES CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Artist Waiver for Public Art, Murals, Monuments, and Memorial Plaques (Rev. 05/2024)

Waiver of Propriety Rights for Artwork Placed upon City Property

The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to modify Artist’s rights of attribution and integrity as set out in the Visual Artists Rights Act, 17 U.S.C. §§106A and 113(d) (“VARA”), the California Art Preservation Act, Cal. Civil Code §§ 987 and 989 (“CAPA”), and any rights arising under United States federal or state law or under the laws of another country that convey rights of the same nature as those conveyed under VARA and CAPA, as against the City of Los Angeles (“City”) and its agents.

The City has the absolute right to change, modify, destroy, remove, relocate, move, replace, transport, repair or restore the [describe the artwork/project: mural, sculpture, etc. and medium]:

Entitled [title of work]: _____

And located at [identify site, including interior location if applicable]: _____

In whole or in part, in City’s sole discretion.

Artist’s Address for Notice:

Artist bears the sole responsibility for providing the City with any changes to the Artist’s Address for notice. Notice of changes must be emailed to **Lafd.equitybureau@lacity.org**

Artist Signature/Date

Los Angeles City Fire Department Signature/Date