Southwest Management District

SWMD Traffic Signal Box Art Program

Program Overview

The Southwest Management District (SWMD) is proud to introduce the **SWMD Traffic Signal Box Art Program**, an initiative that transforms everyday infrastructure into vibrant works of public art. Through this program, local and regional artists are invited to bring color, culture, and creativity to traffic signal boxes across the District.

By working **with local artists**, SWMD aims to create meaningful, place-based artwork that reflects the identity and diversity of the community.

Program Goals & Scope

- Enhance the visual landscape of the District
- Support and showcase local artistic talent
- Celebrate the cultural diversity of Southwest Houston
- Create engaging, accessible public art experiences

Selected artists will:

- Develop an original, site-specific design for assigned traffic signal box locations that follows the City of Houston (COH) Mayor's Office of the Arts Guidelines
- Adapt artwork to the dimensions and layout of the signal box
- Execute the final artwork with the required material

Artist Opportunities

SWMD welcomes artists with experience in:

- Murals and public art
- Large-scale painting or surface design
- Community-driven or culturally inspired work

Design & Approval Process

1. **Location Assignment** – SWMD identifies project sites
2. **Concept Development** – Artist submits design/rendering
3. **Review & Approval** – Designs must be approved prior to production by the SWMD Board of Directors and the COH
4. **City Coordination** – Final approvals coordinated through the COH
5. **Installation** – Artist completes the artwork within the agreed timeline

Agreements & Requirements

- Artists must demonstrate a meaningful connection to the Southwest Management District, such as residing, working, creating, or having a documented history of engagement within the District
- Artists will enter into a formal agreement outlining scope, timeline, and compensation
- Agreements will align with COH requirements
- Final approved renderings are required before installation begins

Timeline

Project timelines will vary based on:

- Number of locations
- Artist availability
- Approval process

SWMD anticipates implementing projects on a rolling basis.

Compensation

The budget for each Traffic Control Box is $1,500.

Community Engagement Opportunities

Selected artists may also have opportunities to participate in:

- Live art activations or demonstrations
- Family-friendly art activities at District events
- Interactive or temporary installations

How to Participate

Interested artists should submit the following documents to team@swdistrict.org:

- A portfolio of past work
- Relevant mural or public art experience
- Availability timeline
- A brief written statement describing the artist's meaningful connection to the Southwest Management District (e.g., residency, work, community involvement, or other relevant ties)

Contact

For more information please contact: team@swdistrict.org