

Artistic Traffic Box Wrap Program

Lexington has approximately 400 traffic signal boxes. Typically, the signal box is a nondescript gray metal box. The Artistic Traffic Box Wrap program allows citizens and groups to propose artwork that will be turned into a wrap and placed at a specific intersection, adding to Lexington's public art projects.

The proposing individual or group is responsible for purchasing the wrap, with installation, from a reputable vendor who can meet the program specifications, including Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) permit requirements. The wrap can cover the entire box or focus on the side(s) facing pedestrians who are approaching the intersection.

Based upon current local vendor rates, typical costs for an average box assuming panel dimensions* of 59"x 30" (sides) and 56"x 22" (front & rear) are around the following:

- Box measurement: \$125
- Single panel wrap: \$120
- Double panel wrap: \$240
- Full box wrap: \$600

**For planning purposes only. Each box may vary, so the individual or group will be provided with exact dimensions for their selected box once the art has been approved.*

The estimated life of a wrap is seven years. Wraps are designed to be graffiti-proof. The city is not responsible for damage to the wrap resulting from vandalism, accidents or acts of God. The funder(s) may choose to replace the wrap (or the affected panels) if damage does occur.

The art may be removed by the city at any time, for any reason.

Program Wrap Specifications

- Art should reflect the culture, spirit and/or history of Lexington in a way that is appropriate for the location of the utility box.
- Artwork cannot contain business names, brands, trademarks, logos, addresses, websites, social media links, phone numbers or other promotional language.
- No words can be placed on panels facing oncoming vehicles.
- No reflective material may be used.
- Artwork cannot defame or invade the rights of any person, living or dead. It should not incite lawless acts.
- Artwork that can be reasonably construed as false, fraudulent or obscene will not be approved.
- Wraps must be graffiti-proof.
- Wraps must be purchased and installed using a vendor familiar with traffic box wraps. Vendor contact information with description of material proposed shall be included with the application.

Artistic Process

- Applicants may include only a written description of their concept with the initial submission. Finished design is not required at the time of application.

- Applicants may submit artwork that is flat. Environmental Quality and Public Works staff will assist in converting the art to a format compatible with the selected traffic box.

Application Approval Process

1. Submit the proposed location(s) and/or concept(s) to SafeStreets@LexingtonKY.gov for initial review. The initial review includes:
 - Ensuring the proposal meets general artistic guidelines listed above;
 - Confirming that the location is available;
 - Confirming the artwork does not violate MUTCD standards related to traffic safety; and
 - Notifying the appropriate councilmember(s) and neighboring property owners.

If you are seeking outside funding for the project, do not list specific locations and/or concepts in your private fundraising requests until this step has been completed.

Include with the initial submission the name of the vendor proposed to create and install the wrap, their contact information, and description of wrap material.

2. After passing initial review, the application form and proposed art must be submitted to the [Urban County Arts Review Board](#) (UCARB) and approved in adherence with their standards. An Environmental Quality and Public Works staff member will serve as a liaison and assist applicants throughout the process. The UCARB process includes the following stages:
 - Conceptual review (optional)
 - Initial design review (two-dimensional)
 - Final design review (three-dimensional)
 - Post-installation approval
3. If the traffic box is along a state route, an encroachment permit from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is required. The Division of Traffic Engineering will submit the application once the artwork has completed the full UCARB review process. The wrap should not be made UNTIL this encroachment permit has been received.
4. Once installed, UCARB will provide post-installation approval.

Application Checklist

- Completed application form
- Proposed timeline. Be sure to take the [UCARB meeting schedule](#) into consideration.
- Name of proposed vendor, contact information, and wrap material.

Questions?

Email SafeStreets@LexingtonKY.gov or call (859) 425-2807.