Artistic Crosswalks Guidelines

The Transportation, Mobility and Parking Department (TMP) encourages community organizations to install artistic crosswalks to promote neighborhood identity and place making by following the guidelines and conditions below.

Design Standards & Specifications

Continental Crosswalk

Standard Crosswalk

What are Artistic Crosswalks?

Artistic Crosswalks use colors, textures, and patterns to enliven city streets as engaging and safe places for people. They can be designed to reflect the special character of a neighborhood, mark the gateway to a district, or otherwise create local identity and pride. They offer a playful, cost-efficient and low-maintenance tool to highlight marked pedestrian crossings. In addition to being fun, they raise awareness of pedestrian safety. Artistic Crosswalks are used around the country and world to promote art, enhance pedestrian safety and to help identify the uniqueness of a neighborhood or area. Please note the examples below are for illustrative purposes only. All designs must comply with federal, state and city standards.
Artistic Crosswalks Guidelines

Artistic crosswalks will only be considered at existing crosswalk locations. If you are considering a location that does not have an existing crosswalk, contact the City of Norwalk Customer Service Center for further instructions at 203-854-3200 or customerservice@norwalkct.org.

Crosswalks will NOT be considered if there are city infrastructure projects within 2 years in the area.

Crosswalks MUST contain two white transverse lines with reflectivity to be compliant with minimum crosswalk standards. Artwork must be contained within the two transverse (horizontal) lines. Note: If installing at a location where a continental crosswalk already exists; stripping must first be removed and converted to a transverse crosswalk.

While creativity and artistic innovation is encouraged, Artistic Crosswalk treatments CANNOT obscure or INTERFERE with regulatory crosswalk markings needed for safety and must comply with FHWA Official Interpretation on MUTCD direction regarding Decorative Crosswalks.

Where existing crosswalk markings have a continental style, decorative elements may be added only between the bars (10 feet wide x 2 feet deep, 4 feet between the bars).

Artwork shall NOT contain white, yellow, or red in a way which could be confused as traffic control devices.

NO logos, text, or advertising can be installed within the crosswalk. Please Review Norwalk Parking Authority’s (NPA) Guidelines for Acceptable Advertising found on www.norwalkpark.org/advertise.

Be colorful, with simple, subdued patterns. Show specific colors. These will be reviewed by TMP for availability and appropriateness.

Shapes such as octagons, triangles, or colors that can be confused with standard traffic control devices or legends are NOT allowed.

Anticipate the need to create stencils for placement of the design. To ensure a quality installation, freehand painting is NOT allowed.

Artistic crosswalks can only be installed where pavement is in good condition, allowing the materials to bond well.

All locations and design proposals must be reviewed and approved by the Design Committee and the Traffic Authority.