

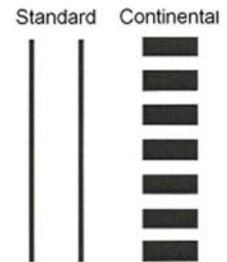
AESTHETIC CROSSWALK GUIDELINES

The Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works (EQPW) recognizes the desire for crosswalks that include aesthetic treatments while respecting the requirements set forth by the Federal Highway Administration via the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) regarding aesthetic crosswalk treatments.

This document provides a framework for the selection and evaluation of location, design, funding, and installation of Decorative crosswalks and Crosswalk Art in Lexington-Fayette County.

Crosswalk Types

- Unmarked
- Standard – Two parallel, transverse lines
- Enhanced – Continental
- **Decorative** – Aesthetic patterns and textures in earth tones or dark colors embellish the crossing in addition to MUTCD markings. MUTCD compliant designs and traffic grade material are required and can be easily obtained for consistent installation and easier maintenance.
- **Crosswalk Art** – Artistic creations that embellish the crossing utilizing a range of colors and concepts. A higher degree of review is required including the Public Arts Commission (PAC) and consideration will be limited to city owned streets.



All costs associated with the application, design, installation, and maintenance shall be the responsibility of the sponsor. LFUCG will provide guidance and assist with identifying contractors capable of performing the work and applicable permits to install work. Obtaining the applicable permits shall be required and the responsibility of the sponsor.

Location Requirements

- The crosswalk location shall have a traffic control device such as a stop sign, yield sign, or traffic signal.
- All crossed and adjacent roads are signed with a speed limit of 35 mph or lower.
- Pavement is in good condition for material to appropriately adhere.
- Decorative crosswalks may be considered for high vehicular volume locations and where consistency is important such as for corridor streetscape type projects.
- Crosswalk Art is a custom design and is better suited for low vehicular volume locations such as residential local streets in part due to paint wearing away under heavier traffic.
- Crosswalk Art suitable for installation with thermoplastic material may be considered for high vehicular volume locations.



Design Requirements

Aesthetic crosswalk treatments are intended to beautify the appearance of the roadway. Designs shall only include decorative concepts and patterns. To the extent feasible, designs shall reflect the culture, spirit, and/or history of Lexington in a way that is appropriate for the location of the intersection.

- Aesthetic treatments are not intended to disrupt the established uses of the roadway, serve as traffic calming, nor communicate with road users. Therefore, designs submitted which include the following SHALL NOT be approved:
 - pictographs, symbols, letters, numbers, logos, or trademarks
 - any relief or texture except antiskid texturizing material
 - a multi-dimensional effect or other optical illusion
 - any element that mimics or imitates an official traffic control device or marking or would be confused with a traffic control device or marking
 - any element that interferes with or hinders the visibility of an official traffic control device or marking already in place or that would create a safety hazard for vehicle operators or pedestrians
 - any element that could serve as a source of distraction

- Designs submitted shall not defame or invade the rights of any person, living or dead, incite lawless acts, nor contain concepts or properties that could be reasonably construed as false, fraudulent or obscene.

- Decorative crosswalks
 - Preferred colors for designs shall be earth tones such as red, rust, brown, burgundy, clay, or tan and dark colors such as navy, dark green, and olive.
 - Acceptable concepts and patterns should be uniform, consistent, repetitive, and expected so as not to be a source of distraction such as brick lattice, paving stones, and cobbles.

- Crosswalk Art
 - There shall be a minimum 3” gap between the art and MUTCD markings.
 - Colors other than subdued-colored aesthetic treatments may be incorporated in provided that they do not diminish the effectiveness of the MUTCD markings used to establish the crosswalk.

- Aesthetic material shall be thermoplastic or acrylic, water-based traffic marking paint with anti-skid additive and devoid of retroreflective properties. The material requirement to be devoid of retroreflective properties prohibits the inclusion or addition of “glitter”, glass beads, or other reflective material. Paint should be used only for low or non-traffic areas.

- The installation shall include installation of the MUTCD markings if not present.



Maintenance

- LFUCG shall maintain, repair, and replace the MUTCD markings per federal guidelines. LFUCG may remove the aesthetic treatments to the crosswalks at any time.
- LFUCG is not responsible for damage resulting from routine wear, vehicular traffic, plowing, sweeping, weather, UV exposure, utility cuts, vandalism, accidents, or acts of God. If LFUCG determines that maintenance is needed, then the sponsor may choose to reinstall, refresh, or remove the aesthetic treatment of the crosswalk in coordination with LFUCG.
- Damage due to general utility work or adjacent construction shall be repaired by the party obtaining the permit for work.
- Utility Cuts
 - Utilities shall pay the full cost of restoration of surface cuts for Decorative crosswalks.
 - Utilities shall be responsible for replacing MUTCD markings only at Crosswalk Art locations.

Application Process

1. Compliance Review: Sponsor to submit an application to EQPW including the proposed design and aerial image of the proposed location overlaid with the proposed design at scale. EQPW shall review design, design layout, material, and location for compliance with the MUTCD. Pavement condition and maintenance schedule shall be reviewed by EQPW prior to location approval.
2. Area Support for Decorative Crosswalk: If the design and location satisfy all requirements set forth in this document, a petition will be issued to the sponsor to establish the support of a minimum 65% of residents within 500-feet of the proposed location. LFUCG will provide a list of addresses for the petition.
3. Owner Support for Decorative Crosswalk: The sponsor must document support from owners of all parcels at the corners of the intersection or directly abutting the artwork. Documentation includes owner's signature on the neighborhood petition. Documentation shall be submitted with petition.
4. Aesthetic Review for Decorative Crosswalk: Upon receipt of a successful petition, the application, designs, and support documents shall be forwarded to PAC. PAC may invite the sponsor to discuss the application prior to determining its recommendation.
5. Installation: If approved by EQPW and if necessary the PAC, the applicant may proceed with procuring contracts and permits necessary for installation.

