

CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA

Paint the Intersection

A Policy for Painting the Intersection

Transportation and Stormwater Services Department

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Introduction

The City of Tampa understands that residents are concerned about the livability of their local residential neighborhood streets with the most common complaints reported to the Police Department and Traffic Engineering relating to speeding vehicles and cut through excessive traffic volumes.

With increases in traffic volumes, roadway constraints, frustrated commuters often resort to using local roads to bypass congested collector roads or intersections. Usually in a hurry to get to work or home, commuters may ignore residential speed limits. The result is a reduction in the livability of our residential neighborhoods and perceived unsafe conditions.

The purpose of this booklet is to present residents with a unique or novel process to pursue relief from some residential traffic concerns and is approved by City of Tampa Transportation and Stormwater Services Department.

Wanting to do everything possible to improve upon the safety and livability of our residential neighborhood streets, the City of Tampa has developed a Paint the Intersection Policy that may allow residents to build neighborhood community, increased communication between neighbors, lower crime rates, raised livability, unique neighborhood identifier and public art in your neighborhood.

The Basic Steps to Painting the Intersection

1. **Talk to a few friendly neighbors** about Paint the Intersection, including what kind of neighborhood they would like to live in. If people are interested, have them start talking to other neighbors to spread the idea. Choose a tentative intersection or area of your block.
2. **Contact the Transportation and Stormwater Services Department [TSS]** at 813-274-8333 to confirm that the intersection is eligible for painting; request the street's reconstruction/paving schedule, etc. If the intersection is eligible, TSS will give you a street map to use for your design. Please read "Paint the Intersection Checklist" for details and contact information.
3. **Hold gatherings with your neighbors**, ideally within at least a two block radius. Talk about shared values, the value of public gathering spaces and neighborhood livability. **Work together to design and then create your street painting.** You may start addressing the next three steps as soon as your first neighborhood meeting.
4. **IMPORTANT! Form a project team** that will usher the entire project through completion. Don't forget to give people who could not go to earlier meetings a chance to join the group. The project team should plan a process where as many neighbors as possible have a chance to be involved in some aspect of Paint the Intersection. This may be done in many ways – open workshops with many neighbors, asking people to submit designs, door-to-door tallying, asking individuals to volunteer to do one thing, etc. The project team will be known as the "**Neighborhood Group**" and is required by TSS to be responsible for organizing neighborhood participation in the project and overseeing the usage and maintenance of the new public place.
5. **Create your intersection design!** Create a design, using the TSS base map and following the requirements of TSS. You are required to use approved traffic marking paint. The paint comes in white, yellow, red, green, blue and black but you may mix!
6. **Start fundraising** and organizing supplies for the painting day. What can be borrowed, what must be purchased? Some ideas: ask households to contribute; hold bake sales; ask local businesses and banks for donations (cash and in-kind); hold a silent auction.
7. **Complete and submit the required documents**, including gathering signatures from 80% of the neighbors see "Paint the Intersection_Transportation and Stormwater Services Department Checklist" for details. The TSS will return a copy of the required documents if your project is approved, or contact you if they have questions about your submission.
8. **Paint your pavement!** Plan a day-long event that includes a community celebration. Involve as many of the talents and skills of the local residents as possible in the processes of art work lay out, installation, celebration events and performances. Make sure to set a rain date.
9. **Look to the future.** After your day of installation and celebration, your group should review its work and plan for ongoing work on a regular basis to ensure proper use and maintenance of your painting and to maintain relationships developed through the course of the project.

Paint the Intersection Checklist

Looking for a local neighborhood identity, enhance crime prevention and placemaking, a painted intersection may help.

Definitions:

- A painted intersection is a street mural painted on the pavement's surface by a neighborhood group within the boundary of a residential intersection on a local, low volume road.

Requirements:

- Meet the intent of the City of Tampa [COT] Code of Ordinances Chapter 4 Public Art
- The street mural design shall receive final approval from the COT Art Program and the Transportation and Stormwater Services Department [TSS]
- The street mural shall only be painted on local classified intersections [special permission may allow street murals at mid-block locations]
- The street mural shall not contain advertisement, logos, words, messages or conflict with official traffic control markings or devices
- Florida Department of Transportation [FDOT] Spec 971-3 Standard Waterborne Fast Dry Traffic Paint [White Yellow, Red, Green, Blue and Black colors may be mixed to create variation]
- A site map of proposed street mural intersection and its relative placement within the intersection's boundary shall be provided
- FDOT Maintenance of Traffic [MOT] Plans from the 600 series Design Standards shall be implemented prior working in the street by TSS staff
- A ROW permit shall be required for a fee of \$50
- Obtain Commercial General Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000/\$2,000,000 [per occurrence/general aggregate] with the COT names as additional insured
- No excavation will be allowed

Process:

- The neighborhood group must contact the TSS via phone, email or letter to let us know that you are interested in painting an intersection
- The neighborhood group must submit to the TSS a scaled mural drawing and an intersection site plan showing the relative location of the street mural
- The Art Program and TSS will review submittals and comment on the street mural drawing and site plan
- Based on TSS comments, the neighborhood group will need to finalize the scaled street mural drawing and intersection site plan
- The neighborhood group must develop a residential consensus by circulating the finalized scaled street mural drawing, site plan along and a residential consensus form to obtain signatures from at

least 80% of property owners within one block of the street mural and obtain signatures from 100% of property owners adjacent to the street mural

- Once the neighborhood group achieves consensus, they must submit the finalized scaled street mural drawing, site plan, a completed residential consensus form, a ROW permit application, application fees and insurance to the TSS for final review
- The neighborhood group will be solely responsible for all future street mural maintenance
- Once all the final documents have been submitted and approved, the street mural permit will be issued by the TSS

Two weeks prior to painting [neighborhood group]:

- Call the TSS to schedule MOT availability delivery and setup dates
- Call the Art Program and TSS to share the Paint the Intersection Date

Day of painting [neighborhood group]:

- TSS staff will setup the MOT prior working in the street
- Should clean the street prior to design layout
- Shall maintain a safe and clean work site
- Layout the design
- Paint the Intersection
- Shall cleanup work site, remove all painting materials and any other refuse
- Stand back and admire the street mural and take pictures, lots....
- TSS Staff break down the MOT
- Submit pictures of the street mural to the COT
- Call TSS for final site inspection

After painting [TSS]:

- The TSS will inspect the site for cleanliness and close the permit

One to two years after installation date [neighborhood group]:

- Should reapply for permit to repaint the street mural

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Back Ground Materials

Paint the Intersection Flyer



Create a neighborhood community on your block by creating a public square.

Reclaim public space as a place for community connections.
YOU can turn *space into place*.

Various elements such as benches, art, sculpture, flowers and plants can be utilized to create an area where people naturally interact on a day to day basis. This counteracts the current climate of disconnect in our communities. By using place-making there is an increase in social connections and the community is strengthened.

It all begins by gathering up the neighbors on the blocks around your intersection to talk about placemaking.

A street intersection is decided upon and a collaboration of art and design takes place which is as unique as the individuals themselves.

Then the street intersection is painted, creating a public square-type space.

This becomes a place to gather, a place to connect and share with the others in your community.

Paint the Intersection Flyer



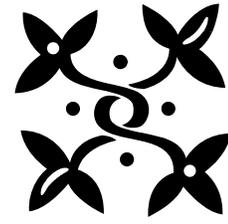
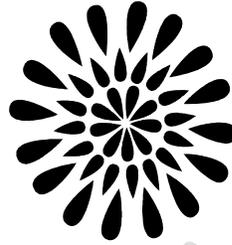
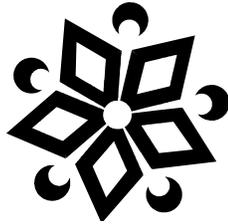
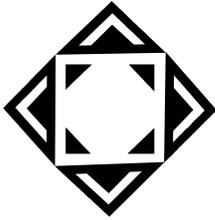
- Builds neighborhood community.
- Increases communication between neighbors.
- Lower crime rates.
- Raises livability.
- Unique neighborhood identifier.
- Public art in your neighborhood.

Want to know more? Website: www.tampagov.net

And talk to your neighbors, especially [name/s, contact info]

Let's paint the town!

A call for designs flyer!



Many neighbors would like to paint the intersection of [street] and [street].

Currently, we are looking for designs. Don't worry about scale or details; just let us know your ideas. Keep in mind that your design does **not** need to cover the entire intersection – we'd like to use less paint.

All ages welcome to participate.

If you are interested, please submit your design with your name and contact info, no later than [day, date] to: [name, address]

Also, we'd love to get more people involved in planning – if you are interested, please contact [name] at [contact info].

After the [submission deadline date], we will gather to plan the next step and notify you.

Questions? Contact [name] at [contact info]



Come Vote on Paint the Intersection Designs Flyer!

[day, date] [start time] to [end time] at [host name]'s, [address]



Thank you to everyone who submitted designs! Come to vote, meet neighbors, and discuss the project. We'd love to have you join the Project Team!

At this gathering you can:

- Meet neighbors
- Place your vote:
- Many enthusiastic neighbors have submitted design ideas for painting the pavement. All neighbors (of any age) can vote for their favorite designs.
- Learn how to get involved in the planning.
- Ask questions, learn more
- Eat popsicles
- Have fun!

All are invited to join in the fun!

Contact any of these neighbors with questions:

[Name, address Email, telephone]

[Name, address Email, telephone]

Fundraising Ideas

Don't get bogged down

First, don't get bogged down by the money. If the painting is simple, you may not need to buy a lot of paint. Everyone might have the other supplies (like brushes) so you don't have to buy many new ones. So if you have to spend \$400 on paint, and there are 10 houses on each of the 4 blocks around the intersection (40 houses total), and you divide the cost equally, each household would need to contribute \$10. That is less than a movie and small popcorn – for one person!

Time versus money

Your planning team could hold a fundraising event or ask local businesses for donations – or everyone could pitch in their share of cash. And if some households cannot or will not contribute the full amount, there might be other neighbors who are willing to make up the difference. For some planning teams, it might be “worth it” to ask all the neighbors to contribute directly rather than organizing a fundraising event (you still have to spend time asking the neighbors for money).

Go with the energy (“flow”)

What's important to remember is to go where your planning team members' energy wants to go. If someone loves organizing and holding yard sales, then go for it. If someone thinks walking into a store and asking for a donation is fun and has time to take the lead on it, why not? Use the talents and interests of the team and use multiple strategies (like holding a fundraiser AND asking for some specific in-kind donations).

Here are some ideas to get you started:

Cash and in-kind donations

- Ask neighbors to pitch in (repeat this on every flyer!)
- Bank branches (helps if you are a customer)
- Businesses
- Grocery and hardware stores (especially for in-kind donations)
- Local rotary club
- Local institutions – churches, schools, etc.

Fundraising events

- Yard sale
- Bake sale
- Lemonade stand
- Silent auction
- Spaghetti dinner
- Talent sale (babysitting, yard work, a scrumptious meal, etc.)
- Have a donation bucket out during paint/repaint day

Painting Logistics

Preparing the intersection: Sweep the intersection once or twice with a broom a week to 3 days before the painting. Then, spray the intersection down with a hose to remove any remaining particles and allow drying for a couple days before painting. Optionally, you may choose to use some buckets w/ soapy water (use an environmentally-sensitive soap) and wide brooms to scrub the street before hosing it off (be sure to wash all the soap off); washing with soap is not absolutely necessary and hasn't been done at most intersection repair sites, however it could extend the useful life of the paint. The day of the painting you should do a quick assessment and/or sweep in case any more debris has accumulated. No pressure washer or harsh cleaners are needed– sweeping and water will do a good job.

Outlining the design by use sidewalk chalk to mark out the design in advance, circles can be made using string, 2 people and chalk.

Drying time: on a sunny day the paint will dry in about 1 hour, on overcast days give it 2-3 hrs... test it by touching it and/or stepping on it. If not dry, you'll end up putting a mark on the paint or it will end up on your hand/shoe.

How much paint you need: One coat of paint will hold up well in your intersection (multiple coats are **not** needed). 1 gallon should cover 100-150 square feet (ft²) at 15 mil thickness.

What paint to use: You will use **water-based fast dry latex (NOT oil-based)** paints from a traffic marking paint line. There are only a few traffic marking colors to choose from white, yellow, red, green, blue and black but you may mix.

All about paint! (Cost, coverage & tips)

This information is based on our experiences with traffic marking paint in the Tampa climate. If you have other tips or experiences, let us know!

General tips

- Thin coats of paint are better - thick or puddled paint cracks and pops off in the winter.
- Traffic marking paint dries quickly – to the touch in less than an hour, but wait a few hours to walk on it.
- Use cheap brushes – you won't be able to salvage them with so many people painting over a day. You can wash them a few times, but don't expect to be able to save them.
- DO NOT dump dirty brush water into the gutter!! Storm drains may go right into the Hillsborough River – and paint water it isn't good for the fishes.

Coverage and cost

1 gallon of traffic-marking paint will cover from 100-150 square feet [ft²] at 15 mil thickness– depending on the variables below. 1 gallon: \$40-\$70.

Coverage Variables	
Pavement surface	Smooth or bumpy? If repainting, the surface will be smoother.
Brushes vs rollers	Brushes are better than rollers for applying thin coats. Only use narrow rollers for a consistent outline/border.
Paint application	Dip or pour? We recommend that you dip your brush/roller into the paint and then apply to pavement instead of pouring a puddle on the pavement and then brushing/rolling it out.
Weather	If it is hot, you don't have as much time to spread the paint out in thin coats.

Estimating the design area

Easiest method: Find someone in your team or a neighbor who has good spatial sense or is handy with numbers and have them figure it out.

Alternate method: Consider your pattern as composed of circles or squares/rectangles. For instance if it is a daisy, use a circle. If it is a big robot head, use a rectangle. **Area of circle = $3.14 \times \text{radius}^2$. Area of square/rectangle = side 1 x side 2.**

If your design does not cover the entire intersection, calculate individual pieces and add them together. For instance, if you have 10 ladybugs with a 2ft radius, calculate the area of the ladybugs as circles, and multiply by 10: $(3.14 \times (2 \times 2)) \times 10 = 126 \text{ ft}^2$.

If the components or design are not solid color (like a maze or a vine), then calculate the entire area of the design and multiply by the proportion of the area that is painted. So a checkerboard where only the white squares are painted (half is painted) would be the size of the “board” multiplied by 50%.

Don't you just love math?!

Timeline Worksheet

* Use this worksheet **AFTER** you have formed a planning team.

Note: The times suggested are the **minimum** required – to be on the safe side, if you can, do the various activities **even earlier**.

1. Set your Paint Day (usually a Saturday) and a Rain Date.
2. Work backwards and set the remaining dates.

Your Date	Time Prior to Paint Day	Activity
		Start fundraising
		Finalize design
		Collect signatures for application to block off street (this needs to be submitted first)
		Collect signatures to support design (you can keep working on this even after you submit the application to block off the street)
	6 weeks at minimum	Submit application to block off street to Transportation and Stormwater Services Department. <i>You should be notified within 3 weeks after submission whether you have approval (a permit) to close the street</i>
	3 weeks at minimum	Submit completed application materials to Transportation and Stormwater Services Department (see checklist). <i>They will contact you if they have questions, or will give you approval within 3 weeks.</i>
	Anytime	Post large sign (or paint an old door/plank & lean it on a tree) at the intersection to tell everyone when Paint Day will happen
	2 weeks at minimum	Flyer neighbors about Paint Day
		Order paint – most places won't have a lot in stock
	1+ days	Mix paints if necessary
	0 day	Paint Day!
		Rain Date

Paint Day

Roles/point people – *It is helpful to have a point person who makes sure tasks happen the way the group planned – but it doesn't mean they have to do everything by themselves! It is also SUPER IMPORTANT to have someone welcome new folks and get them involved - you'd be surprised how many people whom, if they don't know anyone, will drift away if no-one grabs them in a few minutes.*

- **Street cleaning & barricade set-up**
- **Design layout**
- **Painting master** – assigns painting tasks and monitors the overall design
- **Paint distributor** – prepares and distributes paint
- **Greeter** – looks for new faces, welcomes and orients them
- **Publicist** - first contact for any media or officials that might show up
- **Recorder** – takes photos, video, etc.
- **Brush cleaner** - cleaning of brushes and containers

Supply check list – these are some items you MAY need.

- Pressure washer** (day before event)
- Nametags**
- Markers**
- Masking tape** (mark any loaned supplies)
- Poster board/big paper** to post information (“paint thin,” day’s schedule, donors)
- Aprons or bandanas** to mark “people in charge”
- Chalk or marking paint** to mark design
- Other tools** to help mark design (stencils, string, etc.)
- Tables** for paint station and potluck
- Newspaper or tarps** to spread on top of and under paint table to catch drips.
- Tarps** to throw over tables in case of sudden rain
- Tent** to set up over paint station if there is no shade
- Paint**
- Stir sticks**
- Extra containers** for mixing paint (if mixing)
- Containers** to hold paint (plastic tubs, cups, yogurt containers & etc.)
- Brushes and/or rollers**
- Plastic wrap or bags** to temporarily cover brushes so they don't dry out
- Paper towels**
- Rags** for emergency cleaning
- Bucket of water** for emergency cleaning
- Bucket of water** for used brushes (dump water into home sink, not storm drain, please!)
- Newspapers** to remove extra paint from brushes before washing in water

Paint the Intersection Examples



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