

City of Madison
Decorative Pavement Painting
Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What streets are eligible for decorative street painting?

A1 Decorative Street Painting is generally done at intersections, although midblock locations can be painted as well. The street(s) need to be classified as local streets, have a speed limit of 25 mph or less, and not be closer than 200 feet from a higher classification street. To see if the street(s) you are interesting in painting are local streets see the Street Functional Classification Map at http://www.cityofmadison.com/trafficEngineering/documents/FunctionalClass_8.5x11.pdf or call Traffic Engineering at 608/266-4761 or e-mail traffic@cityofmadison.com. Whether a proposed location meets the above criteria, shall be determined by the City Traffic Engineer.

Q2 Who can apply for a Decorative Pavement Painting permit?

A2 A Neighborhood Association or Neighborhood Planning Council recognized as such by the City, or a business association or other non-profit community organization that would be eligible for a neighborhood grant administered by the Planning Division, may apply for a permit to apply a decorative painted design to the surface of a local City roadway within the area served by the organization. Your district Alder also needs to be notified of your interest in Decorative Pavement Painting. If you are unsure about whether or not you are eligible to apply, please contact your Alder or the Neighborhood Planning office.

To determine who your Alder is, see <http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/>

For lists of Neighborhood Associations, Neighborhood Planning Councils, and Business Associations see: Neighborhood Associations

http://www.cityofmadison.com/neighborhoods/profile/association_contact_list.html

Planning Councils <http://www.cityofmadison.com/neighborhoods/plancouncilcontacts.htm>

Business Associations

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/neighborhoods/documents/BusinessAssociationMap.pdf>

Non-profit organizations are generally only eligible for neighborhood grants in areas without a functioning neighborhood association.

Q3 What is the process to apply for a Decorative Pavement Painting permit?

A3 Decorative Pavement Painting is a part of the City's Privilege In the Streets permitting process. There is a \$150 application fee.

Included as part of this application you will need

A petition with approval from 60% of the total number of residential dwelling units, businesses, and non-residential properties within a two hundred (200) foot radius from the proposed design location.. The petition area can be expanded up to a radius of six hundred (600) feet (approximate distance of a standard City block) at the discretion of the City Traffic Engineer. Each dwelling unit, business, and non-residential property is entitled to one signature.

A color scale drawing of your proposed design. The design will need to be approved by the City's Traffic Engineering Division.

Evidence of notification of your district Alder and that the Alder has been given a copy of your application via regular mail or electronic mail.

Before applying, contact your Alder and Traffic Engineering about your interest and the location where you want to do decorative pavement painting. Traffic Engineering will determine if the location meets the city's criteria. The Alder and Traffic Engineering will determine the petition area.

For a copy of the permit application contact

Economic Development Division 267-8719 or jfrese@cityofmadison.com

If your application is approved, you will then need a Street Use Permit to close the street(s) for the day you plan to do the painting. There is a \$50 fee for the Street Use Permit. See <http://www.cityofmadison.com/specialevents/blockParties/> for information on Street Use Permits.

Q4 What types of designs can be painted?

A4 Decorative designs are intended to enhance the appearance of the roadway. Decorative Pavement Painting is not intended to serve as traffic calming. The painting needs to work in connection with the ordinary uses of the roadway, and shall not be designed to draw pedestrians or bicyclists into portions of the roadway that are not intended for their use.

Proposed paintings can only include decorative designs and patterns. Paintings cannot contain text, numerals, symbols, overt messages or any images designed to convey a message of any kind, including commercial messages. Design cannot include any relief or texture (except antiskid texturizing material), and cannot create a three-dimensional or multi-dimensional effect or other optical illusion.

The design cannot include any element that mimics or imitates an official traffic control device or marking or would be confused with a traffic control device or marking. Designs cannot include any element that interferes with or hinders the visibility of an official traffic control device or marking already in place, such as stop lines, marked cross walks, edge lines, lane markers, bike lane markers, etc., or that would create a safety hazard for vehicle operators or pedestrians.

Q5 What types of paint can be used?

A5 Only acrylic water-based traffic marking paint may be used, in the colors traditionally available (white, yellow, blue, red, and black), or other colors that may be achieved by mixing the traditional colors. Paint must not result in a slippery surface. To accomplish this, the traffic marking paint must contain an anti-skid additive. Paint must not be retroreflective. A temporary chalk design applied entirely with water-soluble chalk is also allowed. All paint or chalk materials must be approved by the City Traffic Engineer in advance of application.

Q6 What happens when the paint fades or wears out or is damaged in some way?

A6 The applicant is responsible for maintaining the design in good condition and repair. If the design deteriorates or is damaged, the applicant must repair it or make arrangements for the repair. The design cannot be changed from what was approved when maintaining or repairing the painting. If there is a desire to change the design you will have to go through the approval process again.

Based on the experience of other cities permitting decorative pavement painting, you should expect to have to repaint every year or two. You will also have to repaint if there is damage to the painting caused by utility work or contractors performing work in the street or street surface maintenance such as street cleaning, plowing and road treatment for snow and ice.

Q7 Are there conditions where an approved permit can be revoked by the city?

A7 A Decorative Pavement Painting permit can be revoked, and the painting ordered removed at the applicant's expense, if the painting is modified from the approved design without approval through applying for a new permit; if the painting is not maintained and repaired as needed by the applicant; or if the design is determined to be a hazard in the opinion of the City.

Q8 Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

A8 Questions can be referred to your Alder, see <http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/> Traffic Engineering Division at 608/266-4761 or traffic@cityofmadison.com Economic Development Division at 267-8719 or jfrese@cityofmadison.com Neighborhood Assns, Planning Councils, Business Assns 267.8744 or jstroick@cityofmadison.com