

# BALTIMORE

## OFFICE OF PROMOTION & THE ARTS

### Approval Process for Painting a Mural in Baltimore City

The process for getting approval for a mural is not difficult, but it has a few steps and can take some time. The following are the steps for mural design and site approval. Costs to produce a mural vary depending on the size and condition of the wall, the artist's fee, supplies and scaffolding. If the project does not require scaffolding, the cost of mural production is much less expensive.

1. A muralist designs and produces the work, usually in conjunction with a community or neighborhood association. A mural artist usually works under a contract with the community association or the building owner.
2. The building owner must provide written acceptance of the mural (called a Right of Entry). If the property is owned by the city, you must have a Right of Entry from Baltimore Housing, Office of Legal Affairs at 410-396-3349.
3. If the building is in an historic district, the building and design must undergo a review by the Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP). The CHAP review ensures that the wall and the design are both appropriate for an historic district.

#### CHAP

417 East Fayette St., 8<sup>th</sup> floor  
(410) 396-4866

4. If the building is not in an historic district or once the CHAP review is completed and the mural has been approved, the design must be presented to the Zoning Office for their review. They will ensure that the mural does not contain an advertising message.

#### Zoning Office

417 East Fayette St., Room 147  
410-396-4126

5. A mural requires an exterior painting permit. The fee for the permit is \$25 per site. The application is filed with the One – Stop Shop. You will need 2 copies of the mural image pictured on the intended wall (either 8½" X 11" or 11" X 17"). The application process takes 48 hours. Once the application process is completed, the fee for the permit will be determined.

#### One-Stop Shop

417 E. Fayette St., Room 100  
410-396-3360

6. With the artist, you must determine if the project requires scaffolding or a boom lift. If either of these devices obstructs a public way (sidewalk, alley or street), you must obtain a Temporary Use of Right of Way permit from the Department of Transportation.

#### Department of Transportation

City Hall – Room 250  
100 N. Holliday Street  
(410) 396-3835

If you have any questions, contact the Baltimore Mural Project at the Baltimore Office of Promotion and The Arts at 410-752-8632.