



City of Santa Maria
Recreation & Parks
Department

CITY OF SANTA MARIA



TRANSIT CENTER MURAL PROJECT

CALL FOR ARTISTS

YOUR ART





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CITY OF SANTA MARIA RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

SANTA MARIA TRANSIT CENTER MURAL PROJECT

CALL FOR ARTISTS

OVERVIEW

The City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department invite artists to submit proposals for a new public mural at the Santa Maria Transit Center (400 Boone Street). The project seeks to celebrate Santa Maria's cultural diversity, history, and identity as a community in motion. The mural will serve as a visual landmark for residents and visitors, connecting themes of transportation, community, and local pride.

PROJECT DETAILS

- **Location:** Santa Maria Area Transit Center, 400 Boone Street
- **Dimensions:** Approximately 6 feet, 10 inches in height and 39 feet, 11 inches in width, not including window cutouts. Artists should design around existing windows and architectural features, accounting for wall curvature and natural light conditions.
- **Visibility:** High pedestrian and vehicle traffic in a central downtown location
- **Medium:** Digitally produced mural printed on vinyl and mounted on aluminum panels
- **Panel Size:** The mural is expected to cover the majority of the wall; however, the artwork must be designed in sections that can be produced as individual panels, each no larger than 4 feet by 8 feet, matching the size of the aluminum sheets. Artists should plan their designs to align seamlessly across these panels and avoid small, intricate details that may be lost at scale. Bold, large-scale imagery is encouraged to create a cohesive and impactful visual experience.
- **Installation:** Managed and funded by the City of Santa Maria
- **City Rights:** The City reserves the right to replace or remove the artwork at any time without notice to the artist.

ARTIST COMPENSATION

The selected artist will receive a \$2,500 stipend for producing print-ready, high-resolution artwork files suitable for large-scale reproduction and installation. This stipend covers all design, formatting, and coordination with the City's production vendor. No stipends will be provided to non-selected applicants. Artists not selected will retain ownership of their submitted designs.



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ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open to professional and emerging artists residing in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties. Priority will be given to artists living or working in Santa Maria or whose work reflects the city's cultural diversity and heritage. Collaborative teams may apply but must designate one lead artist as the contact.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Artistic quality, creativity, and relevance to community themes
- Connection to Santa Maria's identity and Transit Center setting
- Experience with public art or large-format digital design
- Technical feasibility and adaptability for fabrication
- Alignment with City values of inclusivity and accessibility

TIMELINE

- **Call Opens:** November 3, 2025
- **Submissions Due:** November 23, 2025
- **Review Panel Selection:** December 5, 2025
- **Notification to Selected Artist:** December 8, 2025
- **Final Artwork Due:** December 15, 2025
- **Installation:** Winter 2025/2026

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application form
- Artist statement (500 words max)
- Concept description and up to three sketches/renderings
- Three to five samples of previous work
- Resume or CV (maximum two pages)



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SUBMISSIONS:

All submission materials must be compiled into one single PDF file. Individual JPEGs, separate documents, or online download links (such as Dropbox or Google Drive) will not be accepted. Please ensure your proposal is fully contained within one PDF document. While the concept sketches do not need to be camera-ready, the final selected artwork must be created as a vector image suitable for large-scale printing.

Submissions must be emailed as a single PDF file to:

DSmitherman@cityofsantamaria.org

Subject: Transit Center Mural

If email is not an option, a flash drive containing the single PDF file may be mailed or hand-delivered to:

City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department

Attn: Dennis Smitherman

615 South McClelland Street

Santa Maria, CA 93454

Mailed or delivered submissions are subject to the same deadline as emailed entries. Submitted materials will not be returned, and the City is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged flash drives.