

Medway Utility Box Art Program!

In the interest of enhancing the visual experience for residents and visitors to our town, the Medway Cultural Council is inviting school artists to help transform a local traffic signal electric box into whimsical, visual, and graphic delights that will provide an entertaining and stimulating experience to passersby.

The Medway Cultural Council will make selection recommendations, and final approval will be made by the Town of Medway's Design Review Committee (DRC) and Select Board.

Artists' Proposals:

Proposals should include the artist's signature on the proposal as it would appear on the actual utility box. Signatures shall not exceed 2 inches high x 8 inches wide and may include the copyright sign "©" with the date.

All submitted proposals become non-exclusive copyrights of Medway Cultural Council. We will never use designs submitted by one applicant to commission another artist – unless given explicit approval by the applicant.

What Proposals are Eligible?

The Medway Cultural Council acknowledges that everyone relates to their creative forces and respective art influences differently.

The first priority is that the boxes become high quality artworks that enliven the public realm. This can come in many forms and styles.

Proposals should be positive, original, whimsical, and colorful and may (but are not required to) reflect the following:

- The immediate environment
- The character and culture of the Town of Medway
- Community pride
- Creativity

Proposals should be designed to last a minimum of three years. However, the utility boxes are public property and may require upgrading or need replacing at any time. There is no guarantee of how long the artwork will remain on an electric box. The Town of Medway has the right to move or remove the artwork at any time.

Proposals will be ineligible if they involve:

- Partisan politics
- Discriminatory art

- A breach of intellectual property rights (*i.e.*, somebody else's idea)
- Trademarks, brand or business names, logos or copyrighted images
- Collage or gluing anything onto the box

What About Copyright?

The artist owns the copyright of the artwork created for the utility boxes and may use for portfolio and copyright purposes. The Medway Cultural Council may enter into an additional agreement with the artist if commercial products are produced by the Medway Cultural Council. The artist further agrees to allow the Medway Cultural Council and the Town of Medway to use the image in any non-commercial way, to promote the Cultural Council, the Town of Medway, and any associated events. The Cultural Council and the Town agree to use all images in a professional manner and will label all images with the artist's name attached. In addition, the Town reserves the rights to make and use promotional footage collected for television, web publication, and other media outlets.

What Steps are Involved?

Applicants need to mail or deliver a complete proposal so it is received by June 1, 2026. The selection committee will review the proposals and recommend one image.

1. The DRC and Select Board will grant final approval and the Medway Cultural Council will inform the selected artists.
2. Chosen artists will be announced by June 30, 2026.
3. Selected artists will need to sign and return an Artist Contract.

Other Useful Information:

1. The Town will have the electric boxes primed and ready at the appropriate time.
2. The anticipated schedule is for electric boxes to be painted during the Summer of 2026. Electric box painting must be completed between July 1st and September 30, 2026.
3. The Medway Cultural Council will provide standards as to the types of paint that are allowed based on durability, fading, and ability to hold up in weather.
4. Selected artists must supply their own materials based on established standards using the stipend.
5. Utility box concrete bases must be kept clean and free of paint.
6. Any electric meters on boxes will not be painted.
7. The Medway Cultural Council reserves the right to terminate the agreement at any time.

The boxes vary slightly in size but the average dimensions are:

Front Door: 44" wide by 47" tall Sides: 27" wide by 55" tall Back: 44' wide by 55" tall

Submission Checklist:

Only complete submissions will be reviewed by the selection committee and must be received by June 1st, 2026.

Please submit the following:

1. Contact Information including artist name, mailing address, telephone number, and email.
2. Drawing/Digital Rendering of all sides of the utility box.
3. Artwork Information
Name for the artwork and brief description (50 words or less) of the reasons or inspiration behind the proposal. (This information will be used for publicity about the program.)
4. Availability: Artists must be available to paint the utility box assigned to them between June 1st and September, 30, 2026.
5. E-mail submissions to: medcc@townofmedway.org

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact Thiru Munisamy, veng100@yahoo.com, 774-245-5495

Utility Box Examples







