

NASA LIFELINES MURALS

WALL CRITERIA

We're seeking property partners who believe in the mission of NASA Lifelines and are excited to partner with us to bring a public artwork to their community. We are seeking walls for our murals that are visible, accessible, and in good condition - spaces where artists can work safely and the finished piece can reach a broad and diverse audience. In this document you'll find an overview of what we look for in a mural wall and an overview of the terms and conditions of our property agreement.

Visibility and Audience

- The wall should be visible to people walking by or passing by in cars, public transit, or on bicycles.
- The wall is in a commercial district, neighborhood or area that has expressed or demonstrated support for public art and murals.
- The wall must fit a minimum 250 square foot mural

Surface and Roof Conditions

- Preferred wall materials include unpainted brick, smooth concrete, or stucco surfaces free from significant defects.
- Other materials such as wood or metal may be acceptable if they are in good condition and properly prepared and sealed.
- Large, continuous wall areas are ideal; however, windows, doors, or other features may be incorporated into the design if necessary.
- Bricks and mortar should be solid, with tuckpointing no deeper than ¼ inch and no crumbling, cracking, or powdering.
- The wall must be dry, free of rust stains, water seepage, or discoloration.
- If previously painted, ensure the paint is well-adhered and not peeling, chipping, blistering, or chalking.
- The wall should be structurally sound and not show signs of bowing, leaning, or large cracks.
- Roofs, parapets, and flashing should be in good repair and not cause water intrusion or wall damage.



Surrounding Conditions

- The site must provide a safe, stable workspace for artists, including clear ground access for scaffolding or lifts.
- The ground should be firm and level enough to support scaffolding, ladders, or boom lifts. If the area is grass or dirt, plywood or ground protection mats should be used.
- The wall should be free from overhead wires or obstructions that could interfere with mural installation.
- Access to storage, electricity, water, and restrooms is preferred (though these can be arranged through alternative means if needed).
- Necessary permits and permissions (e.g., street or sidewalk closures, historic district approvals) should be identified and obtained as needed.

Wall Agreement

A formal wall agreement will be signed between the property owner, artist, and NASA Lifelines (via DevGlobal Partners). Key terms will include:

Duration: The mural will remain on display for a minimum of two years, after which the property owner may return the wall to its original condition.

Maintenance: The artist guarantees materials and workmanship for two years. Repairs for vandalism, graffiti, or accidental damage will be the responsibility of the property owner. In the case of vandalism, the artist will make themselves available in a reasonable timeframe to repair the mural, not at the artist's expense.

Job Site: The artist will maintain a clean, orderly work area and is responsible for proper cleanup. The property owner will provide reasonable on-site storage and restroom access during the project.

Copyright: The artist retains full copyright under U.S. law, including rights to reproduce and create derivative works. Under VARA, the artist has the right to prevent intentional distortion, modification, or destruction of the artwork during the agreed display period.

Image Use: NASA Lifelines and the property owner may use two-dimensional reproductions of the mural for non-commercial purposes such as media, publications, or community outreach. Any commercial reproductions require separate permission from the artist.

Ownership: Upon completion, ownership of the physical mural transfers to the property owner, while copyright remains with the artist.

Please direct any questions to murals@nasalifelines.org

