



CITY OF ATLANTA

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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City of Atlanta Department of Public Works/ Office of Transportation Decorative Crosswalk/Crosswalk Art Policy

BACKGROUND

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is a federal regulation which is recognized as the national standard for all traffic control devices installed on any street, highway, bikeway, or private road open to public use.

The MUTCD states that "...the purpose of traffic control devices, as well as the principles for their use, is to promote highway safety and efficiency by providing for the orderly movement of all road users on streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel throughout the Nation. Traffic control devices notify road users of regulations and provide warning and guidance needed for the uniform and efficient operation of all elements of the traffic stream in a manner intended to minimize the occurrences of crashes." The MUTCD is published by U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Georgia law section 32-6-50 (a) authorizes the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) to promulgate uniform regulations governing erection and maintenance on the public roads of Georgia of signs, signals, markings and other traffic control devices. On April 15, 2010, the Georgia State Transportation Board adopted the 2009 edition of MUTCD as the uniform regulation governing installation and maintenance of traffic control devices.

Consistent with the purpose and regulations outlined in the MUTCD and subsequent interpretation of decorative pavement markings provided by FHWA, the City of Atlanta has adopted the following policy to regulate decorative crosswalk and crosswalk art in the City rights-of-way.

This policy is consistent with the most recent FHWA ruling 3(09)-24(1) dated August 15, 2013.

DEFINITIONS

Decorative crosswalk marking (s), marking (s) or crosswalk art– all markings at officially established crosswalks where pedestrians are expected to cross or permitted to cross

Diagonal crosswalk marking (s) or lines – road markings that are in same direction as direction of vehicular travel and located between transverse crosswalk marking (s) or lines

Transverse crosswalk marking (s) or lines – crosswalk markings that are perpendicular or nearly perpendicular to direction of vehicular travel way

REQUIREMENTS

- Crosswalks, at a minimum, must have two transverse white lines that utilize retro-reflective thermoplastic markings. The markings must be 8 inches in width.
- Markings or crosswalk art between the transverse lines must be subdued colors that do not overshadow the transverse markings which are traffic control devices. Markings between transverse crosswalk lines must be earth tone equivalents such as red, rust, brown, burgundy, clay, or tan.
- Markings or crosswalk art between the transverse crosswalk lines must not be retro-reflective unless they are intended to be traffic control devices such as diagonal white crosswalk markings.
- Where decorative crosswalk markings or crosswalk art is permitted, border area not less than 6" may be required between transverse crosswalk lines and decorative marking. The border area must be the same color as the existing pavement.
- Any decorative crosswalk marking or crosswalk art that does not meet the requirements outlined above must obtain preapproval from Federal Highway Administration consistent with methodology outlined in the 2009 edition of Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) section 1A.10.