

# Active Transportation Resource Center (ATRC)

## On the Move: Synergy 2024 Webinar

### Art in Active Transportation

November 19, 2024

## Resource List

### Key Links:

From the presentations

- [ATRC](#) - Provides resources, technical assistance, and training to transportation partners across California to increase opportunity for the success of active transportation projects. All past webinars are housed here.
- [Citizens' Institute on Rural Design \(CIRD\)](#): A leadership initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Housing Assistance Council. Focusing on communities with populations of 50,000 or less, CIRD empowers local citizens to use their unique artistic and cultural resources to guide local development and shape the future design of their communities. Contact [cird@ruralhome.org](mailto:cird@ruralhome.org) for more information.
- [The Scenic Route](#): A guide showcasing eight common approaches used in exemplary arts, culture, and transportation projects nationwide.
- [Creative Placemaking](#): Creative placemaking integrates arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities. This work is rooted in the understanding that all communities have intrinsic value, unique assets, cultural significance, and that projects in the community must be informed by and relevant to the members of that community.
- [Mayors' Institute on City Design \(MICD\)](#): A leadership initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the United States Conference of Mayors, MICD educates mayors to be the chief urban designers of their cities.
- [Caltrans Transportation Art](#): The Transportation Art program was started by Caltrans in 1977 to assist local communities and public agencies (defines as a city, county, incorporated town, tribal government, or non-federally recognized tribe) in placing art and other aesthetic treatments on state-owned facilities and within state-owned right of way.
  - [Caltrans District Transportation Art Coordinators](#): Public agencies that wish to propose transportation artwork on state-owned roads need to contact their Districts Transportation Art Coordinator.
- [California Arts Council](#): Builds public will and resources for the arts; fosters accessible art initiatives that reflect contributions from all of California's diverse populations; and supports local arts infrastructure and activities through grants, programs, and services.
  - [State-Local Partnership \(SLP\) Directory \(2023-2024\)](#): The purpose of the SLP program is to foster cultural development on the local level through a partnership between the State and the counties of California. Through this program, county-designated local arts agencies receive general operating support and technical assistance from the California Arts Council.

### Other resources

- [Bloomberg Philanthropies](#): The [Asphalt Art Initiative](#) will award 10 cities grants of up to \$100,000 each, as well as on-call technical assistance from the tactical urbanism firm Street Plans and impact evaluation support from Sam Schwartz Consulting. Deadline to apply is January 31, 2025.
  - [Asphalt Art Initiative Information Session](#): View the recording of the Asphalt Art Initiative Information Session held on October 28, 2024, to learn about the funding opportunity.

### Q&A

1. Approximately what percent of your work is rural vs. urban?  
Answer: Citizens' Institute on Rural Design is entirely rural, the Mayors Institute on City Design, which I also run, is not rural at all, the Our Town grants are about 25% rural, and the Design grants I oversee are less than that.

2. I'm the public art staff lead for a smaller city (population of 80,000) and work extensively with our public works team (engineers and planners). I have a background in policy, municipal government and public art, but am lacking transportation and engineering context. What professional development opportunities exist for public art professionals like me to increase our capacity to foster partnerships like the ones being described? Any fellowships, networks or communities of practice come to mind?

Answer 1: Are you based in CA? If so, there is a network of public art professionals called the California Association of Public Art Administrators (CAPAA), which also has NorCal and SoCal subgroups. They do regular virtual and in-person meetings and collaborate on project development and advocacy. I would be happy to connect you, you can email me at [info@sanbenitoarts.org](mailto:info@sanbenitoarts.org).

Answer 2: I'd also encourage you to check out [www.creativeplacemaking.us](http://www.creativeplacemaking.us)- this is the link for our technical assistance program, which we are relaunching in early 2025 with webinars, peer learning exchanges, and some in person convenings to be announced soon.

3. How do the presenters document that art is serving a transportation purpose?

Answer: Evaluation and assessment is often a challenge for creative placemaking/arts integration projects. We encourage teams to use the following resources to design an evaluation plan:

<https://www.creativeplacemaking.us/explore-tools/assessment>

4. Installing art on the roadway is changing long-established and refined engineering standards of active transportation facilities found in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) and AASHTO. Does placing art in the travelway of a transportation facility conflict with current engineering standards?

Answer: Jurisdictions ultimately have the responsibility to ensure the safety of road users where aesthetic surface treatments interact and create confusion for road users. There are various manuals that professional engineers can reference when designing roadways, bike ways, sidewalks, etc., and within that space there is room for artwork. Artistic elements are not governed by the MUTCD, except where those elements interact with and adversely impact official traffic control devices. See the latest edition of the [National MUTCD](#) and visit this [FAQ](#) for more information. .

## Contacts

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- Marianne Hernandez, [Marianne.Hernandez@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Marianne.Hernandez@cdph.ca.gov) (Caltrans Districts 3, 7, 8, 11, 12)
- General questions: [ATRC@dot.ca.gov](mailto:ATRC@dot.ca.gov)

[National Endowment for the Arts](#)

- Ben Stone, [stoneb@arts.gov](mailto:stoneb@arts.gov)

[Coachella Valley Association of Governments](#)

- Randy Bowman, [rbowman@cvag.org](mailto:rbowman@cvag.org)

[Caltrans – Art Program](#)

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