

Article 15 of the Public Works Code and Public Works Order No. 211614 establish guidelines for the Love Our Neighborhoods Program.



San Francisco Public Works

Permitting

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San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (628) 271-2000

For more information or to schedule a meeting or community presentation, please contact us at LoveOurNeighborhoods@sfdpw.org. We will attempt to respond within three business days.



Contact 311 for service requests



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LOVE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM

Permitting and registration for community-led projects in the public right of way



www.sfpublicworks.org/loveourneighborhoods



WHAT IS THE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM?

This permit program establishes an easier, more streamlined way for San Franciscans to build, create and install projects that improve public spaces in the neighborhoods they call home.

This Public Works-led effort combines the resources and expertise of multiple City departments to create a permitting process that is simple, cost-effective and transparent from beginning to end.

The Love Our Neighborhoods permit applies to public benefit projects located in portions of the public right of way under Public Works jurisdiction.

What's the public right of way? It's the sidewalks, retaining walls, medians, bridges and other select pieces of land bordered by private property. Public Works is the steward of the public right of way and we ensure that it is safe, beautiful and accessible for all.



PROJECT TYPES

Love Our Neighborhoods projects are divided into three tiers based upon their type and complexity.

TIER 1

- Benches, Little Libraries and planters located in front of a single private property.
- Any property owner or their authorized agent can register a Tier 1 project free of charge for their property.
- Self-certification process to confirm that the Love Our Neighborhoods program's commonsense regulations are followed.

TIER 2

- Most decorative staircases, commemorative plaques, murals, string lights that do not cross the street and minor landscape projects.
- Applicant must be an established community organization, a nonprofit, community benefit district or merchants' association.

TIER 3

- String lighting hung across a street in a commercial corridor, certain decorative staircases, construction of new stairways or retaining walls, sculptures, fog catchers, pedestrian-scale lighting, major landscape infrastructure and multi-amenity designs.
- Applicant must be an established community organization, a nonprofit, community benefit district or merchants' association.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

- Think about how you want to enhance or beautify your neighborhood's public spaces.
- Visit similar projects throughout San Francisco for inspiration.
- Are you part of a neighborhood association, merchants' association, community benefit district, nonprofit or other community group? Invite us to present at an upcoming meeting!
- Before attempting to secure funding or materials, please check if your project and its proposed location are eligible to be permitted through this program by reviewing the project pages on our website or reaching out to Public Works directly at LoveOurNeighborhoods@sfdpw.org

PROJECT FUNDING AND FEES

Applicants are responsible for securing funding for all Love Our Neighborhoods projects. Funding may come from neighbors, businesses, neighborhood associations, private foundations, public sources or grants.

Tier 2 and Tier 3 projects are subject to a modest one-time Public Works application fee, plus a Board of Appeals fee. They may be subject to additional review, approval or fees from other City departments depending on their design characteristics and location.

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