# OCTOBER 2021



The City of Tallahassee has brought more art into public spaces by thinking outside of the box – the traffic control box. Traffic control boxes serve an important infrastructure role in the city every day. Now, through the City's Artful Infrastructure program, the number of these boxes that serve as canvases for local artists has increased.

With unanimous approval from the Tallahassee City Commission, the City launched its Artful Infrastructure program over the summer. Artful Infrastructure gives Tallahassee residents, businesses and organizations the opportunity to showcase creative talent and enhance the character of local communities.

Following the program's first design submission and sponsor application process, about 10 boxes have been (or will soon be) wrapped with work by local artists. You can view videos and interactive showcases online at Talgov.com/PublicArt.

"Artful Infrastructure joins a host of other City programs developed and implemented across departments to help us achieve our vision to be a creative capital city that supports a strong community with vibrant neighborhoods," Mayor John Dailey said.

The Artful Infrastructure program builds on Art of the Box, a successful pilot program in partnership with Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI), to enhance streetscapes and bring art outdoors into our community.

The City debuted its first artistic traffic control box wrap as part of the Gaines Street project nearly a decade ago. Since then, art in the public realm has become much more prevalent.

The Artful Infrastructure program deters graffiti, continues collaboration with community partners, and most importantly, enhances quality of life in the community. It also supports the City's Five-Year Strategic Plan priorities.

While the first round of submissions and sponsorships has closed, more opportunities will be available in the future. Details will be posted at **Talgov.com/PublicArt** and on the City's social media.





#### MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

Visit **Talgov.com** for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at **Talgov.com**. Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.



#### NEW BUDGET YEAR UNDERWAY

The City of Tallahassee's new fiscal year began on October 1. OpenGov makes it easy to stay informed and involved with the budget process year-round. This tool (accessible at Talgov.com under "Our City") provides direct access to the City's financial information, including revenues and expenditures, allowing citizens to customize views, explore data and download reports. The City's robust, year-round process helps gauge community priorities, address current needs and plan for the future. More information is available on Talgov.com.



#### TURN AROUND. DON'T DROWN.

Water is a powerful force. During thunderstorms, localized flooding can cause road closures. If you encounter a blocked or flooded roadway, turn around. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that more than half of all flood-related drownings occur when a vehicle is driven into hazardous flood water. Many of these deaths are preventable. One foot of rushing water can carry away a small car, while 2 feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles. In addition to being swept up in the current, flood water could contain debris, contamination and other harmful elements. Stay safe. Turn around. Don't drown.



#### **UPSLIDE AND THRIVE**

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of a buddy? Help is available at no cost through the Tallahassee Senior Center's UPSLIDE program. Serving people aged 50 and older, UPSLIDE currently offers individual counseling by phone and video conferencing; virtual Friends Connection meetings for social connection and support; and a private Facebook page to keep in touch with other participants. For more information, email Melanie.Lachman@Talgov.com or call 850-891-4066.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 891-4968 or visit **Talgov.com**.

## TALGOV.com

**INSIGHT** is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related terms of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least seven hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.



Prepare now for winter heating by servicing or upgrading your home heating systems. If you're replacing older heating equipment, City of Tallahassee loans and rebates may be available to help. Call 850-891-4968 or visit **Talgov.com/YOU**.



### PLAN AND PRACTICE YOUR ESCAPE

The smoke alarm is wailing; what do you do? In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one or two minutes to escape safely. Use these tips to help you prepare:

- Plan your escape route. You should know two ways out of every room.
- Test your smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be placed near every room where someone sleeps, and there should be at least one on each floor of your home.
- Choose a meeting place outside. This will allow you to know that everyone made it out safely.
- Conduct two fire drills. Use your main escape route the first time and an alternate the second.

Smoke alarms can provide the early warning necessary to escape a deadly fire. TFD will provide two residential smoke alarms at no cost to homeowners who are either physically or financially unable to purchase or install their own smoke alarms. Requests can be made online or by calling 850-891-6600.

Fire Prevention Week 2021 is October 3-9. For more information, visit **Talgov.com/Fire**.

