

Bike Farm - Portland, Oregon, United States

Mural selection

9/30/25

About us: Bike Farm is an all volunteer-run collective dedicated to every aspect of bicycle education, from safe commuting to repair. Our mission is to provide a space where people can learn about the bicycle and build community around promoting sustainable transportation.

About the election: This election was to select a mural for the outside of the building we rent. Voters were presented with different design ideas to decide which one should be painted.

Election details: This election used STAR voting and was hosted on bettervoting.com. Anyone on Bike Farm's email list was eligible to vote, and voters were presented with three different mural design choices. In total, 56 votes were cast.

Voting method and platform: This was Bike Farm's first time using STAR voting. We had never used an online voting platform previously, and while we did briefly consider rankedvote.co, we decided that bettervoting.com was more user friendly. Additionally, STAR voting (as opposed to plurality voting) better aligned with the consensus principles that we adhere to as an organization.

What went well: Voters found bettervoting.com easy and intuitive to use. We received almost no questions about how to navigate the platform, and we enjoyed the level of text customization.

Areas for improvement: A small percentage of voters were interested in the nuts and bolts of the tabulation process and alternative voting systems in general. They would have been excited to learn more about how STAR functions, perhaps a write-up or link to additional information. Some people had difficulty understanding how the tabulation worked prior to casting their vote. One individual expressed that using a 5-star system to pick between 3 options felt a little clunky.

Looking ahead: Since this was a one-off election, Bike Farm does not have any current plans to utilize STAR Voting or bettervoting.com in the future. However, we would endorse this voting method and platform based on our experience.