WEAVING ACROSS AN EXTENDED URBAN SITE

The project for Queens Plaza creates a coherent public realm, supporting bicycles and pedestrians, across a complex and fragmented 1.3 mile-long urban site dominated by multiple transportation infrastructures. As urban designer and architect in a multidisciplinary team, MPA used a site systems approach to establish the urban design framework and deploy strategic interventions across the site, establishing legibility and identity at multiple scales.

MPA’s detailed urban-scale analysis was the basis for a site systems approach that integrated architecture and landscape. Pursued in close collaboration with the team’s Landscape Architect, Artist, and Lighting Designers, this approach enabled detailed design of project elements including paving, lighting, signage, and benches. Together, these targeted elements create consistency across the entire urban site, integrating old and new, large and small, natural and constructed elements.

RECOGNITION

AIA New York, Merit Award, 2008
Boston Society of Architects, Citation for Integrated Transportation and Open-space Planning, 2009
Urban Omnibus, “Queens Plaza: Infrastructure Reframed,” 2009
NYC High Performance Landscape Guidelines, Case Study, 2011