

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Designing Spaces That Move You

Most streets were designed to simply move your car from one place to the next. But with a landscape architect, those same streets can take us safely to school, reduce traffic congestion, protect our environment, help local businesses, and even make us healthier.

Can your street do all that?



Everyone knows that walking or riding a bike is a great and easy way to exercise, but many communities lack safe options for getting around without a car. So instead of riding a

bike to school or walking to the drug store, we need to drive for even the shortest trips. This adds cars to the road, increasing congestion, traffic accidents, and pollution.

View some examples of what landscape architects can design to create healthy and safe communities >>

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SIDEWALKS

Creating and widening sidewalks allow us to safely walk to school, work, shopping and our favorite restaurants. Not only is walking great exercise, but it takes cars off the road, which reduces traffic and lowers air pollution. In addition, wide sidewalks like this are great for local businesses, attracting more pedestrians to their shops.



ZGF Architects LLP

BIKE LANES

Like sidewalks, bike lanes provide a safe alternative for people to travel without using a car. This proposal also includes more trees, which shade pedestrians and bicyclists, calm traffic, and help clean the air.



Nevue Ngan Associates

TRAFFIC ISLANDS

In residential areas or places with lots of pedestrians, it's important to calm traffic so that the road is safe for both cars and people on foot. Traffic islands like in this landscape architecture proposal help slow traffic down, dramatically reducing accidents. In addition, connecting people to public transit like this light rail also reduces traffic congestion.



The Planning Partnership Limited

CURB EXTENSIONS

Curb extensions can also serve as an excellent design technique to calm traffic in select areas. These extensions in Portland, Oregon calm traffic, provide a visual amenity, and also help reduce water runoff.



Kevin Robert Photography

PERMEABLE PAVING

Streets also create problems with excess water runoff. With no place to go, the water fills up the sewer systems, which are expensive to maintain. The water can also pollute our waterways and even increase the risk of flooding. Landscape architects create permeable paving like this in Chicago, allowing the rain water to flow naturally into the ground instead of the overburdened sewer system.



City of Chicago and Hitchcock Design Group

These are just a few of the ways landscape architects can make a safe, healthy, and more sustainable community.



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Your Environment. **Designed.**

Learn more at asla.org/design