

Landscape Architects Design **Transportation Networks**



Well-designed transportation systems do more than connect people and places. They make communities better places to live, enhance safety and economic development, and protect the environment. Landscape architects use their design expertise, gained through rigorous STEM education and training, to ensure our nation's transportation network improves everybody's quality of life.

Landscape architects collaborate with planners, engineers, government agencies, and the public to create transportation networks that help motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians move safely. They convert abandoned rail lines and rights-of-way into trails where people exercise and connect with nature. And they design accessible pathways that provide freedom of movement for people with mobility challenges.

With a powerful grasp of engineering, ecology, and the natural sciences, landscape architects design transportation solutions that also provide other community benefits. Landscape architecture transportation projects also:

Create wildlife corridors that maintain critical habitats and migration routes.

Deploy vegetation that prevents erosion beneath roadbeds and manages stormwater.

Repair and revitalize communities that were severed by highways and other roads.

Landscape architects are licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the people they serve. Combining 21st-century technologies with a keen understanding of design and nature, landscape architects provide cost-effective solutions that make our transportation system work for everyone.

Whether you travel by car, bus, bike, scooter, or on foot, landscape architects make our transportation networks more convenient, safer, and healthier for all.

Last reconstructed more than half a century ago, Toole Design transformed Jackson Street in Saint Paul, Minnesota by incorporating an all-ages, all-abilities bikeway, partitioned from motor vehicles by low rails and green buffers, creating a truly multimodal corridor.

Jackson Street Reconstruction Project. Saint Paul, Minnesota. Toole Design. / Bruce Buckley Photography for Toole Design.

About ASLA

Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is the professional association for landscape architects in the United States, representing more than 16,000 members.

ASLA Mission: Empowering our members to design a sustainable and equitable world through landscape architecture.

ASLA Fund Mission: Investing in global, social, and environmental change through the art and science of landscape architecture.

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**American Society of
Landscape Architects**

Landscape Architecture Transportation Projects:

CREATE ENHANCED MOBILITY OPTIONS

Landscape architects harness the power of outside-the-box thinking to solve communities' most urgent transportation challenges, like congestion, road safety, and a lack of mobility choices. In Lexington, Kentucky, landscape architects created the Town Branch Commons, a 2.5-mile multi-modal trail that enables residents to bike and walk safely alongside crowded streets. The project links other trails, providing 22 miles of uninterrupted trail connecting downtown to Lexington's world-famous rural neighborhoods and landscapes.



ASLA 2023 Professional Urban Design Honor Award. Town Branch Commons. Lexington, Kentucky. SCAPE/Gresham Smith. /Scape & Ty Cole.

HELP PEOPLE MOVE SAFELY

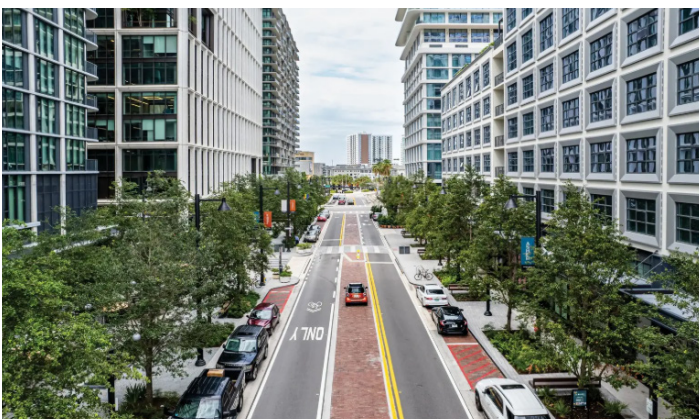
Landscape architects are pioneers in the Complete Streets movement, designing rights-of-way that provide safe transportation options to all users—pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, children, persons with mobility challenges, and others. Landscape architects designed Seattle's Denny Regrade neighborhood with right-of-way improvements including new bike lanes, accessible paving and intersections, seating, street trees, and more, creating a project that enabled everyone to move freely and safely.



ASLA 2022 Professional Urban Design Honor Award. Denny Regrade Campus. Seattle, Washington. SITE Workshop. /Stuart Issett.

PREVENT FLOODING AND IMPROVE AIR QUALITY

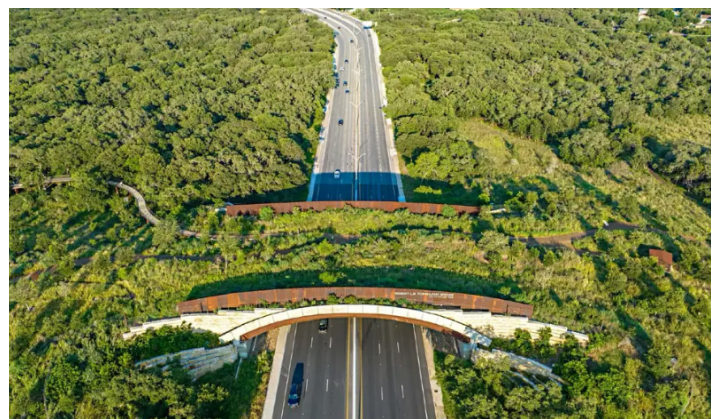
Landscape architects reimaged surface parking lots and industrial parcels to design Water Street in Tampa, rebuilding a street grid to link downtown's central business district to Channel district. This new walkable corridor is distinguished by continuous tree canopy, pervious pavement, and lush streetscapes, which can help manage Florida's intense heat and rainfalls. Salt-tolerant, native, and adaptive planting palette is responsive to increased coastal inundation and rising sea levels.



ASLA 2025 Professional Urban Design Honor Award. Water Street Tampa's Continuous Canopy. Tampa, Florida. Reed Hilderbrand. Strategic Property Partners.

RECONNECT COMMUNITIES

Landscape architects use their knowledge of the natural and physical sciences to help mitigate the impacts of transportation networks that slice through communities and wildlife habitats. Landscape architects designed the Robert L.B. Tobin Land Bridge in San Antonio—the first land bridge of its kind, for both human and wildlife passage, in the United States. The bridge spans across the Wurzbach Parkway and reconnects both sides of the park back to Salado Creek, with crossing paths for wildlife movement and an accessible trails system for people.



ASLA 2025 Professional General Design Honor Award. More than Human: A Land Bridge for Cultural and Wildlife Connections. San Antonio, Texas; STIMSON/Rialto Studio. Stephen Stimson.