VASSAR STREET WEST

Background

As part of MIT's building program, Vassar Street, a public way that bisects MIT's campus, is being transformed from a nondescript urban byway into a vibrant urban boulevard with bicycle tracks, spacious sidewalks, street trees, and contemporary streetlights. The project will significantly improve the pedestrian and cyclist experience and will realize the vision for the entirety of Vassar Street that started with the implementation of Vassar East, completed in 2004.

The project has been years in the making and is the product of an intensive and productive collaboration between the City of Cambridge and MIT. Our steady partners in the development and execution of the plan include the City Manager's Office, the City Council, Community Development Department, the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, the Department of Public Works, the Law Department, the Electrical and Water Departments.



Features

Surface Enhancements

- Durable high quality pavements
- Street trees
- Contemporary street lights and furnishings
- Solar in-pavement lights
- Undergrounding of overhead utilities

Operational Improvements

- Traffic calming
- Narrower roadway
- Wider sidewalk
- Cycle track separated from cars
- Well lit, well marked crosswalks
- Curb extensions at crosswalks & intersections
- Speed table at Simmons Crosswalk
- Parallel parking vs. angle





Vassar Street West

Design Team

CAROL R. JOHNSON ASSOCIATES, INC. Landscape Architects

JUDITH NITSCH ENGINEERING, INC. Civil Engineering

SEA CONSULTANTS, INC. Utilities Engineering

RIZZO ASSOCIATES, INC. Transportation Engineering

IRRIGATION CONSULTING, INC. Irrigation Design

PETER COXE ASSOCIATES Lighting Design

Schedule

CONSTRUCTION START: November 2006

SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION: November 2008

LANDSCAPE COMPLETION: May 2009

Contractor

MCCOURT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. South Boston, MA







