



Long Island City Improvements

Update to the Long Island City BID Board

June 29, 2010





COMMERCIAL CORE

\$76 Million Public Investment Planned

*A unifying plan that **transforms the physical environment** of the CBD*



- Two key projects focused on transforming:
 - **Queens Plaza**, the gateway to Queens and LIC
 - **Jackson Avenue**, the central spine of the CBD - as well as open spaces around **Court Square**

- Address appearance and image issues

- Enhance the district for development

Long Island City Improvements

- Queens Plaza Improvements
- Jackson Avenue Improvements

Queens Plaza Improvements



Queens Plaza Phase 1: Project Description

Goal: To transform this primary entry point into LIC into a dynamic and appealing gateway and centerpiece for development

- New Signature 1+ acre park - a green oasis amid infrastructure
- Rationalized traffic network; enhanced pedestrian environment, improved bikeway, landscaped medians, streetscape improvements, new lighting and tree-planting
- Fully Funded - \$49M in Phase 1; \$5.7M in Phase 2
- Construction start August 2009; completion early 2012

21st STREET

NORTHERN BLVD.



PHASE 1 PLAN 6

Queens Plaza: Transformation



EXISTING CONDITIONS

Consists of 3 commuter parking lots bisected by roadways



PROPOSED PARK DESIGN

Includes artist-designed benches and pavers, lush landscaping, pedestrian pathways and lighting

Queens Plaza Transformation



Queens Plaza Transformation

Existing Conditions



Future Conditions



Queens Plaza Transformation



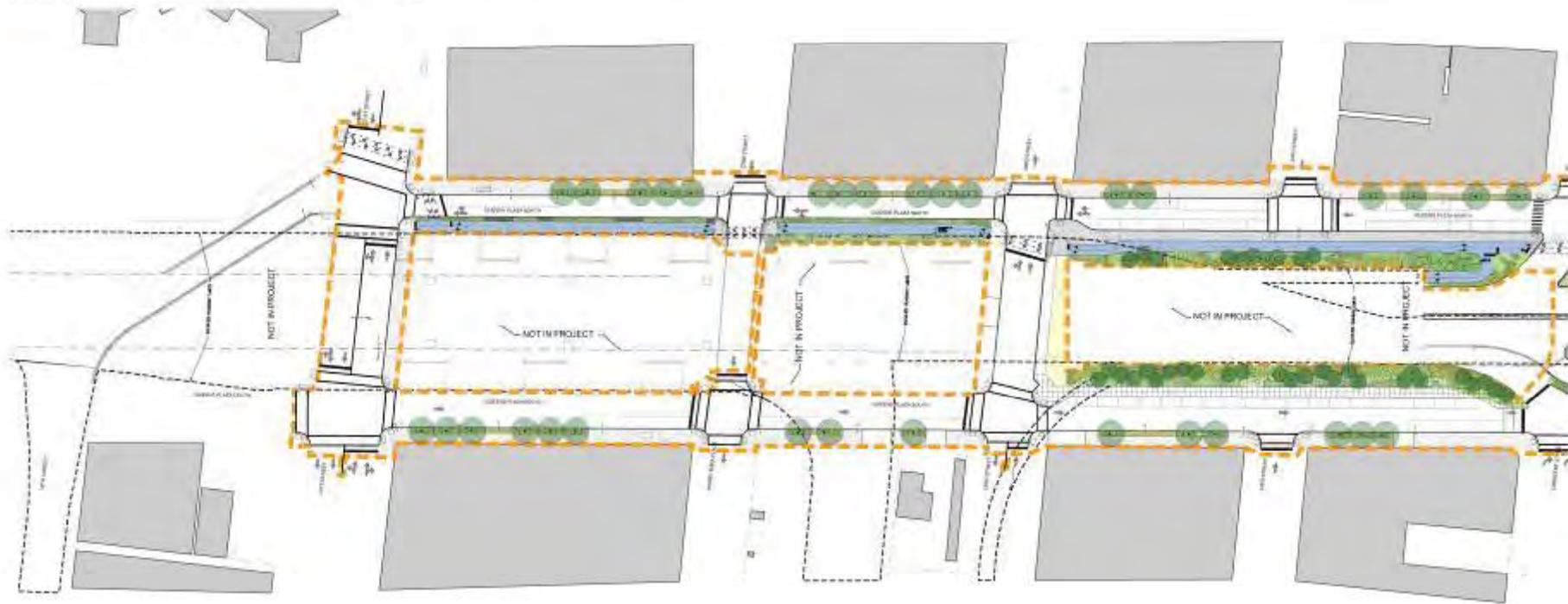
LEGEND

-  BIKE LANE CLASS 1
-  LIGHT COLORED AGGREGATE ASPHALT
-  CONCRETE STANDARD SIDEWALK
-  CONCRETE UNIT PAVEMENT
-  MICHAEL SINGER ARTIST DESIGNED PAVEMENTS WITH GROUNDCOVERS
-  NO-GO PAVING
-  LIMIT OF WORK
-  CROSSWALK WITH STANDARD PEDESTRIAN RAMP
-  PLANTING (see planting plan)
-  PLANTED BERMS WITH GRASSES & GROUNDCOVER
-  RAIN GARDEN
-  EXISTING STREET TREE
-  PROPOSED STREET TREE
-  PROPOSED UNDERSTORY TREES
-  PROPOSED SHRUBS
-  CUSTOM BENCHES



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Queens Plaza Sustainability

Transform an ocean of asphalt into a lush green oasis at the heart of Long Island City



- Follows the City's High-Performance Infrastructure Guidelines
- Unites neighborhoods and restores the connection to the river
- Features native plantings: non-invasive, drought-tolerant, low maintenance
- Approximately 500 new trees will be planted
- Onsite stormwater will be filtered through subsurface wetlands and plantings
- Interlocking, permeable pavers, designed by the Artist Michael Singer

Phase 1: Construction Update

- Recent Construction:
 - Utility work, including installation of catch basins, replacement of sewer and water mains, sewer lining, and relocation of private utilities
 - Construction of new foundations for streetlights and traffic signals



Phase 1: Construction Update

- Upcoming Construction:
 - New sidewalks along Queens Plaza North
 - New Sidewalks along Queens Plaza South
 - Open space at the eastern end of the plaza will begin to take shape.
- Project completion:
 - Substantial completion anticipated late 2011
 - Finalized by early 2012



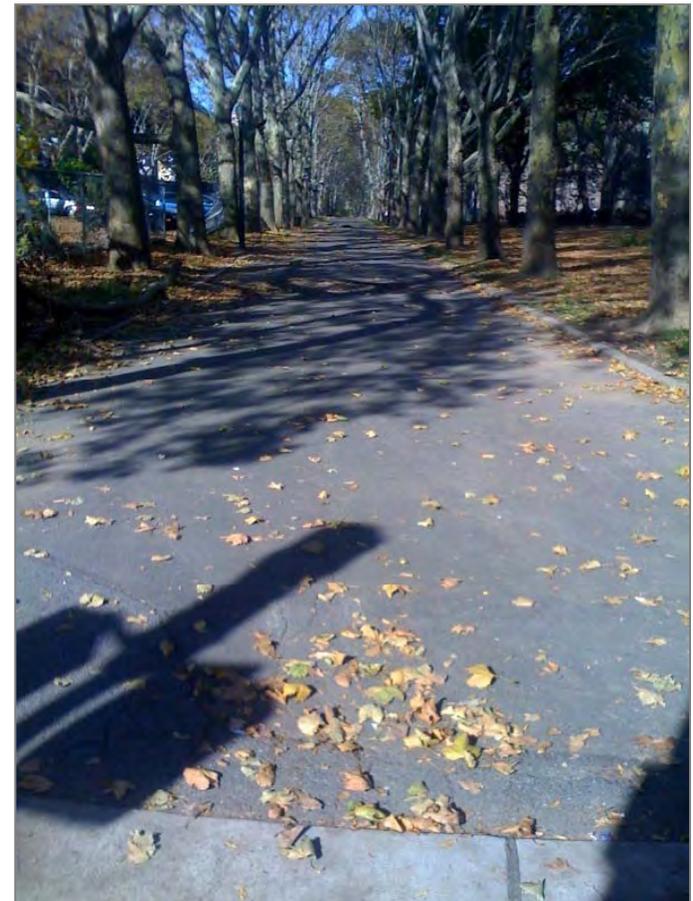
Queens Plaza Phase II Improvements



Goal: Connect Queens Plaza to the waterfront by creating an enhanced pedestrian environment and completing the bike connection to Vernon Boulevard and Queensbridge Park

- Phase II project between Vernon Boulevard and 21st Street.
- Widen existing sidewalks along the south side of Queens Plaza South.
- Improve Street Lighting along the corridor.
- Improve the multi-purpose path between Vernon Boulevard and 21st Street adjacent the north side of the Queensboro Bridge.

Queens Plaza Phase II Improvements



Project Schedule

Design Initiation: August 2010

Design Completion: May 2011

Construction Begins: Summer 2011

Anticipated Construction Duration: 1 year

Long Island City Improvements

- Vision for the Commercial Core
- Queens Plaza Improvements
- Jackson Avenue Improvements

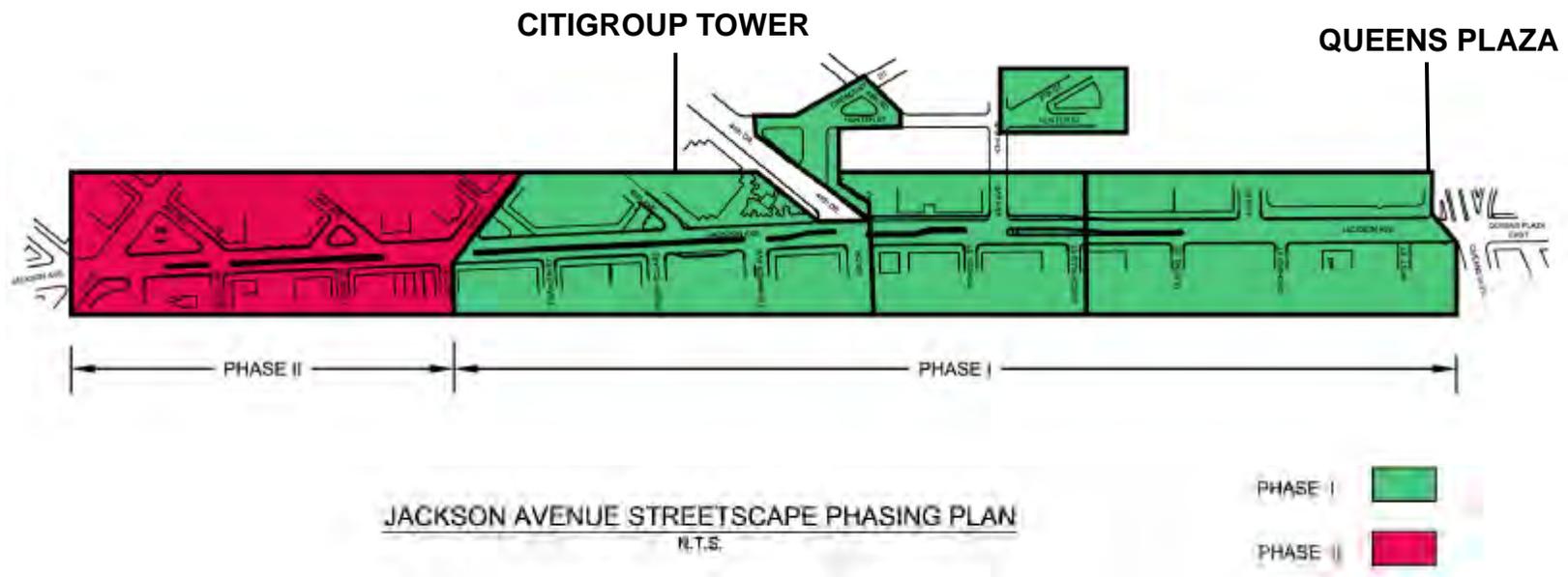
Jackson Avenue Improvements



Jackson Avenue: Project Description

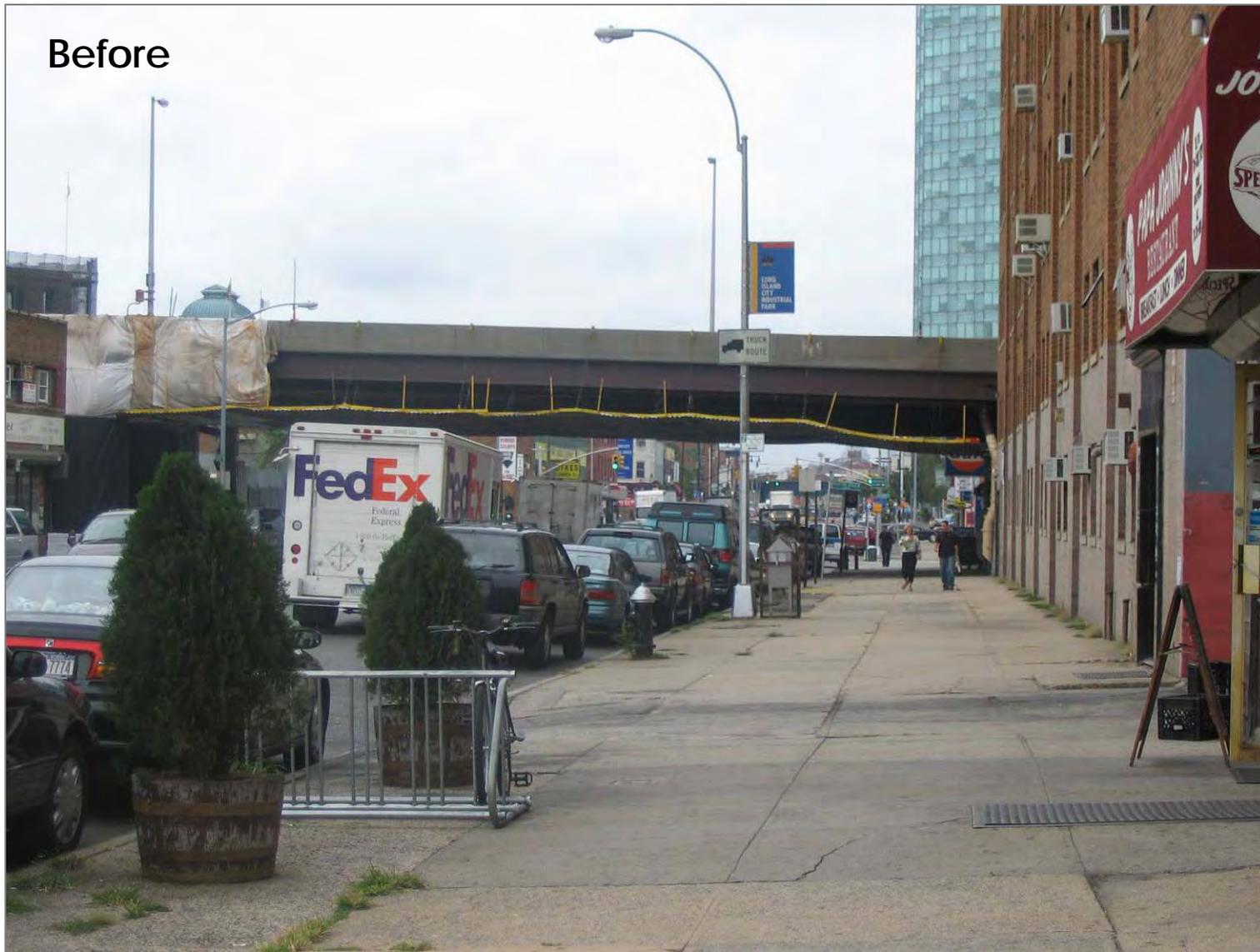
Goal: To transform the CBD's central spine into a major, attractive boulevard

- Project focused along the CBD's most important connector
- Improved roadway, new landscaped median and streetscape amenities and improvements
- Redesign and expansion of several additional open spaces in and around Jackson Avenue
- Fully Funded - \$17M in Phase 1; \$4.5M in Phase 2
- Construction start August 2008; completion 2010



Jackson Avenue

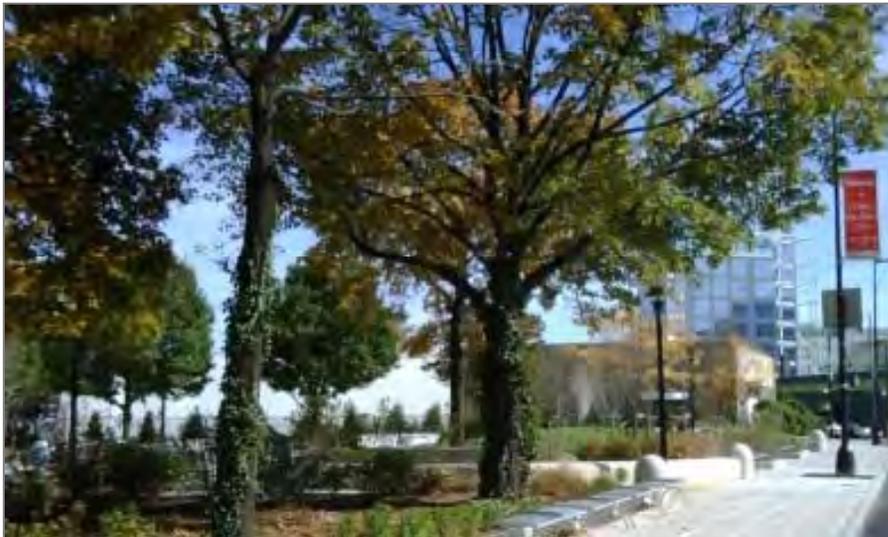
Before



Jackson Avenue



Jackson Avenue: Rafferty Park



RAFFERTY PARK AT COURT SQUARE

Jackson Avenue: Sundial and McKenna Triangles

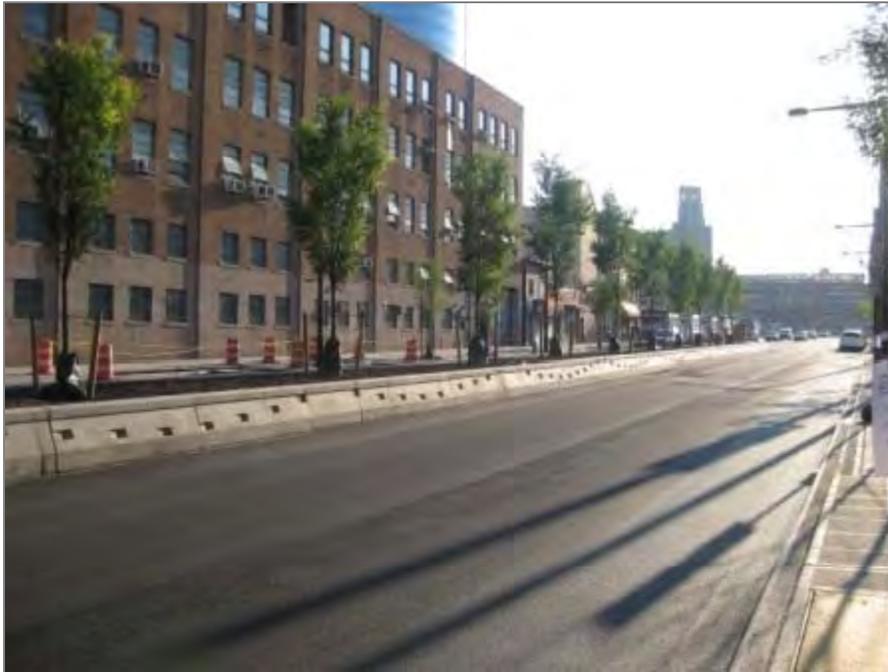


SUNDIAL TRIANGLE



MCKENNA TRIANGLE

Jackson Avenue: Median and Streetscape Underway



LANDSCAPED MEDIAN AND LIGHTING



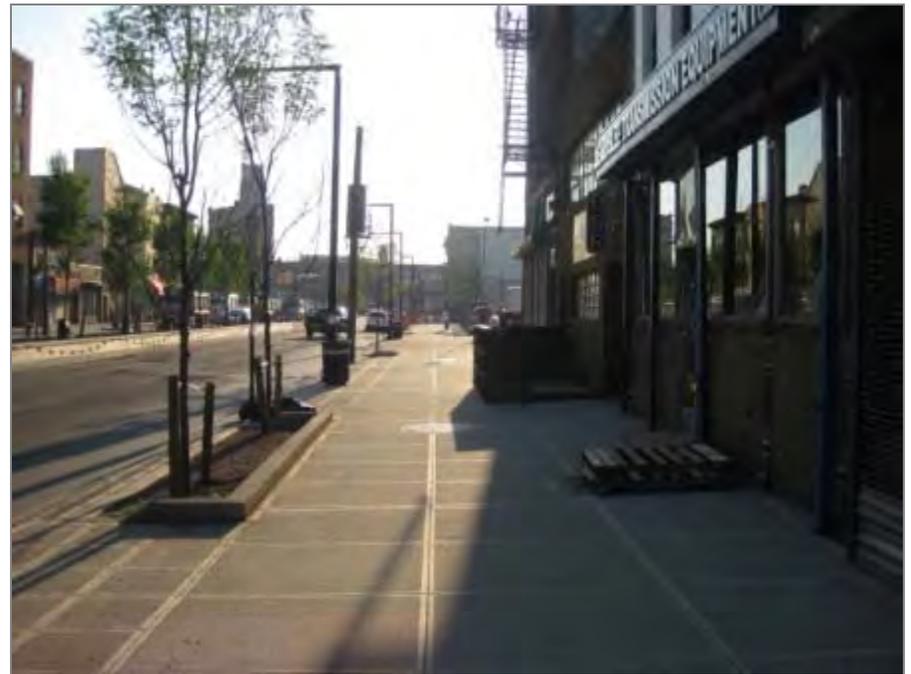
NEW SIDEWALKS/TREE PITS

Phase 1: Construction Update

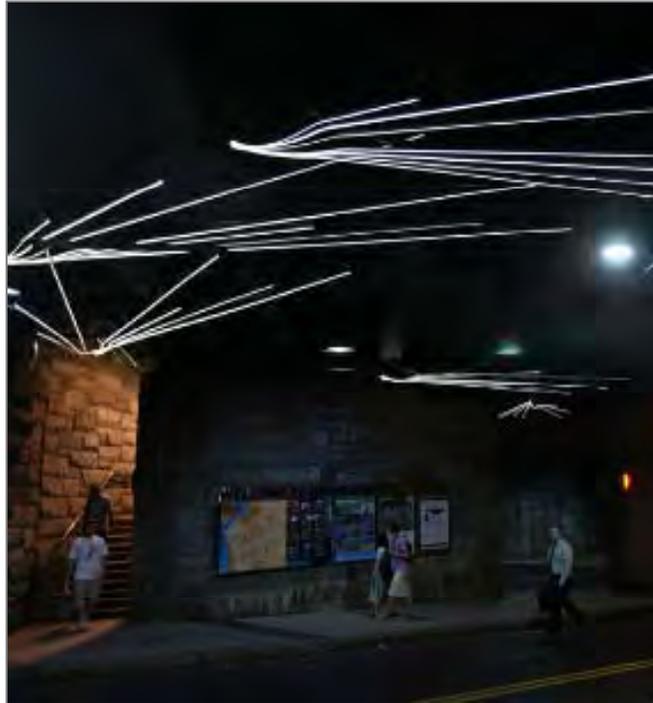
- Remaining Construction (Summer 2010):
 - Complete center median wall and tree landscaping along Jackson Ave between 23rd St and Court Square
 - Complete sidewalk and vent grate work along Jackson Ave between 23rd St and Court Square
 - Complete street lighting and traffic signal work along Jackson Ave between 21st St and 44th Drive; Dutch Kills St and Queens Plaza
 - Complete installation of site furniture (World's Fair bench and trash receptacles)
 - Milling, paving, and striping along stretches of Jackson Ave

Phase 1: Construction Update

- Project Close-out/ Final Construction (Fall 2010):
 - Median irrigation and ground cover installation
 - Full Phase 1 completion in Fall 2010



Jackson Ave Phase II Improvements



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