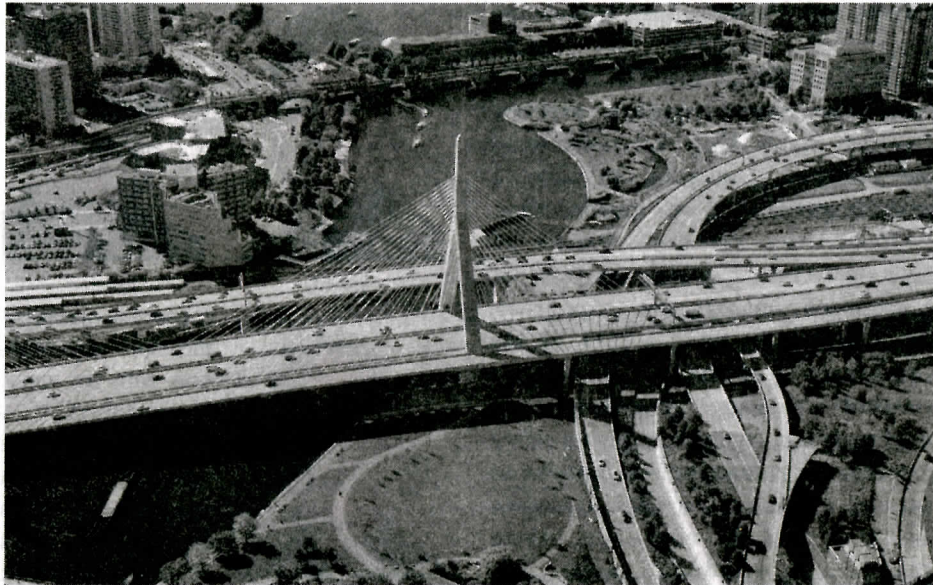


# CRJA-IBI Group Honored for North Bank Bridge Park Project



*North Bank Bridge Park / Mark Flannery*

Boston – CRJA-IBI Group has received the World Architecture News 2017 Landscape Award for its landscape architectural design of North Bank Bridge Park in Boston, Charlestown, and Cambridge.

The project received top honors in the landscape category for reclaiming the post-industrial riverfront area in the vicinity of Boston’s Zakim Bridge and transforming it into a vibrant public park.

CRJA-IBI Group served as landscape architect and member of the prime con-

sultant joint venture team of Ammann & Whitney (now The Louis Berger Group), Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., and Stantec.

The North Bank Bridge Park connects a formerly inaccessible portion of the river, on both the north and south banks, referred to as “The Lost Half Mile.” It creates the first river-edge connection between the Charles River and Boston Harbor, finally fulfilling a century-old vision of Charles Elliot.

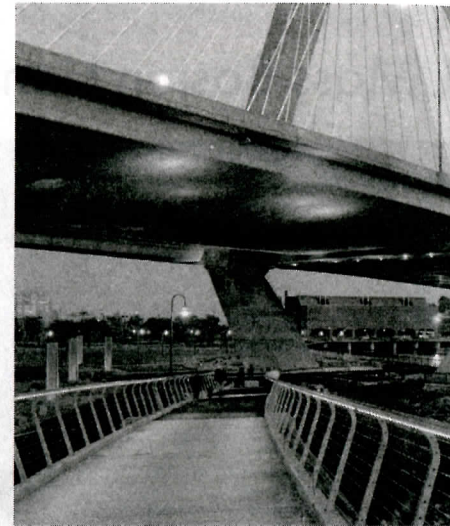
A key feature of the park is the Underbridge Plaza, an unexpected

urban outdoor room that borders on the Charles River and uses the Zakim Bridge as its roof. The North Bank Bridge, the project’s sculptural centerpiece, spans a rail corridor and other obstacles to form vital pedestrian and bicycle connections between neighboring Cambridge and Charlestown.

CRJA-IBI Group worked with the bridge designer to develop the bridge’s reverse curved horizontal alignment to create a seamless interface with approaching park pathways while offering a dramatic view centered on the Zakim Bridge’s north pylon.

Part of reclaiming this urban waterfront entailed using rigorous sustainable measures, such as native planting, to restore parts of the riverbank and form the east abutment of the North Bank Bridge, the reclaiming of stone seawall blocks and granite cobblestones from other parts of the Central Artery project, and coordinating a complex brownfield reclamation effort.

Cobblestones and reclaimed seawall blocks extend the greensward landform into the underbridge environment. A leveling course beneath the guardrail and seawall capstone smooths out the horizontal and vertical variations in the existing seawall, enhancing the esplanade experience.



*Walkway to the Underbridge Plaza  
Chuck Choi*



*Transformed space under the bridge  
Chuck Choi*