



Randolph Street Market Revitalization

Chicago, Illinois

Chicago Department of Transportation, Consoer Townsend Envirodyne Engineers, Inc.

Wolff Landscape Architecture, Inc. (WLA) provided urban design, landscape architectural, and irrigation design services for Randolph Street between the Loop and Ogden Avenue, nearly one mile. The goal was to beautify this functional but otherwise ordinary street; the challenge was to create a functional, attractive, affordable, and maintainable urban design.

Streetscape elements include new precast concrete planters; shrub and perennial plantings in the planters; decorative light fixtures, which also support traffic signals and mast arms; long lines of large shade trees; and salt tolerant shrub masses below the trees. The existing three-lane roadway was narrowed to two lanes, and the

medians were enlarged from two to ten feet, preserving the width of the service drives. Bus stops, which had previously been located on the two foot wide medians, were incorporated into the wider medians. Planters are located on the four median ends at the four corners of each intersection; the long lines of shade trees and shrub masses are located between the planters. Street lights and traffic signals are located at intersections, and the lights continue down the blocks between intersections. The result is a streetscape design which has consistency, variety, and continuity.

WLA was a consultant to CTE Engineers, Inc. The \$5.5 million project was completed in August of 1996.