Space 134
Glendale, California

Purpose of Project

Space 134 is located atop the SR-134 Freeway as it travels through downtown Glendale. The freeway bisects downtown from the rest of the city with only a handful of pedestrian-only and vehicular/pedestrian bridges to connect the corridors. Space 134 would connect the civic, cultural, retail, and business core of downtown Glendale with the City’s residential neighborhoods that flank it on either side on the north and south. This critical connection links also to a variety of nearby schools and community gardens.

Role of the Landscape Architect

Spearheaded the master planning effort and community workshops, and lead a multifaceted team in the preparation of a comprehensive vision plan to re-connect the City of Glendale with a transformative cap park

HR&A Performed financial and programming analysis and potential ways to fund implementation

Nelson Nygaard Addressed mobility and transportation planning

Significance

Freeway cap parks are growing in popularity and study worldwide. Space 134’s study is catalytic in that it ties together viable adjacencies and uses of one jurisdiction and city government that will result in increased connectivity, property values, and ecological corridors. Glendale is the county’s third largest city; connecting its downtown civic and retail core with residential areas will certainly realize the intended consequences of increasing mobility, open space, and commerce. A community and a region will be positively impacted by the project. Currently, 7 pedestrian/vehicular crossings, every 700-1200 ft, allow residents to traverse the highway. This park will spatially restore a city divided by CalTrans, and create much needed and deeply meaningful passive and active public open space at the City’s core.