



Christopher Columbus Boulevard

Philadelphia, PA

CLIENT:

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Christopher Columbus Avenue was an unattractive six-lane industrial highway with rail median and spurs serving waterfront cargo piers. There were few pedestrian amenities. Over the last two decades, waterfront industry departed, and recent developments have begun to transform the Central Waterfront area into an entertainment and tourism center.

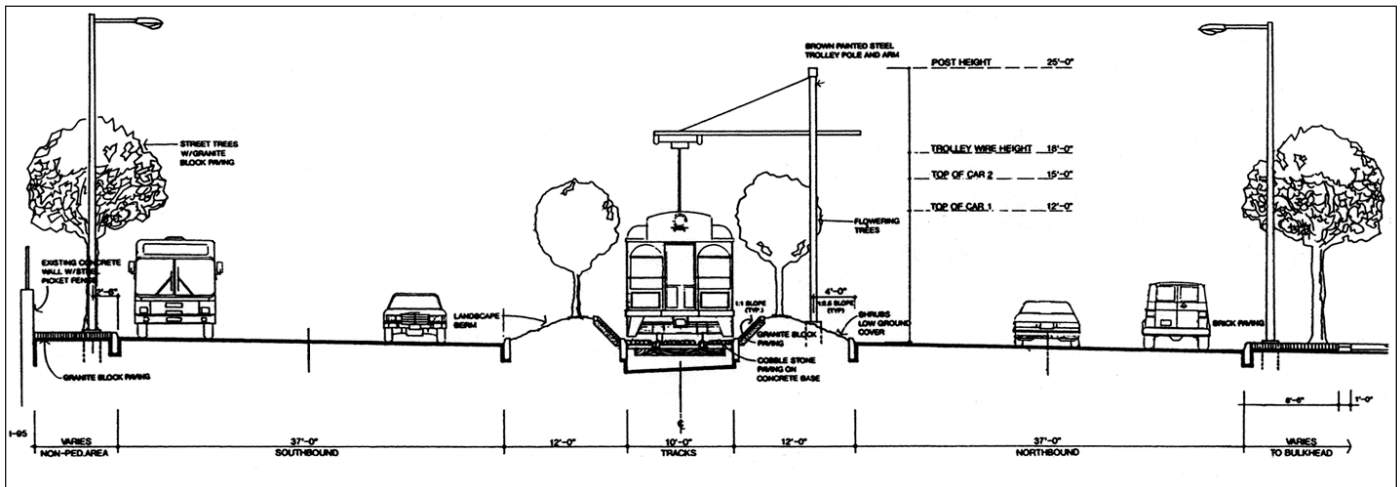
The focus of the Christopher Columbus Boulevard Improvement Program was to transform the industrial highway into an attractive, landscaped boulevard. KSK's design includes two principal elements: a 34 ft wide landscaped median, and a 15 ft wide pedestrian promenade, 'Riverwalk.'

The median accommodates a tourist-oriented antique trolley line. The bermed median with flowering trees and shrubs visually reduces the scale of the highway, and provides a visual focus. Cobblestone paving, rather than ballast, in the track area reduces the accumulation of trash.



'Riverwalk' along the Delaware River side of the highway provides a pedestrian spine linking waterfront development. It includes special paving treatments, pedestrian lighting, seating, and street trees to enhance the pedestrian character of the boulevard. Details of the design were developed in close cooperation with Central Waterfront Development interests.

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Cross section of Christopher Cloumbus Boulevard