

# FLAGLER DRIVE STREETScape AND LINEAR PARK

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Urban Design Kilday Studios was part of a design team selected by the City of West Palm Beach to replace the bulkhead along Flagler Drive from the North Bridge to Currie Park. As part of the initial planning, UDKS recommended that the City not only focus on the infrastructure improvements but also take advantage of the opportunity to create a linear park along the waterfront, with connections into the promenade that already existed in the downtown area and Currie Park to the north. This linear park could serve as a catalyst for redevelopment of the adjoining neighborhoods and to provide opportunities for fishing activities in areas where it was most desirable, discouraging the activity from the adjacent bridge and roadways.

UDKS performed site analysis, gathered historical data and facilitated community meetings with adjacent property owners and neighborhood representatives. Several alternative designs were proposed to maximize the opportunity for a variety of recreational activities yet address security and safety concerns. Public workshops were held to build consensus for the proposed improvements, which included trellis covered seating areas, cantilevered fishing piers, and a multi-use sidewalk.

Design development plans were prepared and the project's details defined, including selection of site furniture that could withstand the weather; pedestrian, vehicular and bicycle connectivity into surrounding networks; and site lighting and security measures. The project's landscape design incorporated plant materials that met xeriscape principals, required minimal maintenance, were hardy but also provided an aesthetic value.

UDKS performed construction administration services throughout the construction phase. The project was completed in June 1993 and has become an important link from the Northwood Neighborhood to the city center.

**Client:** City of West Palm Beach

**Site Area:** 1.5 mile waterfront

**Amenities:**

- multi-use pathway
- shaded seating areas
- 3 fishing nodes
- 2 seating nodes

