

Design to Invite:

The proposed renovation of the East Flatbush Library opens itself more generously to the community by replacing its opaque façade with a transparent one that showcases the activity within the building.

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Promote Neighborhood Culture:

The newly designed glass façade creates a more prominent entrance to the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. With its nationally known resources, it reminds neighbors and passersby of the important culture and identity of Harlem along Malcolm X Boulevard.

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Learn from Local Voices and Stories:

The Weeksville Heritage Center sits on the site of the historic African American village in Brooklyn for which it is named. Through in depth engagement process with the Center's experts and collection, a modern building was created that reveals hidden elements of the site.

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Design to Delight:

With its playful circular motifs, the Queens Theater in the Park echos the geometries of the New York State Pavilion from the 1964 World's Fair. The bold forms are used to display the theater's family oriented programming and increase its visibility within the landscape of Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

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Encourage Use:

Through natural daylight, the word "search" appears projected onto the façade of the Glen Oaks Library. At street level, the same word, etched on the glass in many languages, invites visitors from diverse backgrounds to consider the building as their own.

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Incorporate Local Ecology:

The Queens Botanical Garden Visitor & Administration Center highlights environmental features of the site and is sensitively integrated into the landscape.

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Sustainability:

Minimize Energy Use and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Optimize site conditions. Designs could take advantage of orientation to capture desirable daylight, solar heat and breezes. Explore means to minimize exposure to undesirable solar gain and glare through building shape and shading (by adjacent buildings, screening devices and plantings, for example).

Use passive tactics. Look to integrate highly insulated exterior walls and roofs, daylight to minimize electric lighting and natural ventilation where feasible. Coordinate these tactics to minimize the size of the HVAC plant and achieve the lowest energy use per square foot.

Use renewable sources. To achieve best energy and greenhouse gas emission performance, try to augment efficiency measures with renewable energy sources such as solar, solar thermal, geothermal, wind and fuel cells.

Optimize systems. Taking into account passive tactics and renewable sources used in the project, look at mechanical systems for greenhouse gas emissions and energy savings. Link systems design to enhanced commissioning operations and maintenance procedures to achieve superior ongoing performance.

Minimize secondary electrical loads. Consider load shifting tactics, especially when peak demand energy can be substantially reduced. Plug loads can be significantly lowered by shared, minimized use of office appliances, from copiers to coffeemakers.