

Chinatown Stitch

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

YEAR 2024 - Present | est. completion 2029

SIZE 2 acres

USE Deck park over a busy highway featuring botanical gardens, interactive water features, activity and event spaces, and sustainable infrastructure



- + Inspired by the design principles of traditional Chinese gardens, the vision for the park draws on local context and community culture to enrich the public realm experience.
- + Safer pedestrian crossings at intersections adjacent to the cap will enhance accessibility and walkability.
- + Green infrastructure—including innovative stormwater management systems—will mitigate frequent flood events along the Expressway.
- + Lush landscape features will help reduce urban heat island effects, minimize air and noise pollution for optimal user comfort, and offset greenhouse gas emissions.

The Vine Street Expressway (I-676) is a six-lane, below-grade interstate that cuts through the heart of Philadelphia, bisecting several neighborhoods—including Chinatown. Its construction has led to several physical and social barriers that disproportionately burden under-served communities.

OJB is providing landscape architecture services as part of a multi-disciplinary design and engineering team hired to cap the Expressway between 10th and 13th streets—a move that will literally “stitch” Chinatown and Chinatown North back together with a highly activated public park and pedestrian-friendly streetscape.

