

*the curation, choreography, and culture of*

# linear landscapes

**Wednesday October 9, 2024**

8:30-9:45 AM

WED-A03

**Cindy Zerger** | Toole Design

**Megan Born** | Field Operations

**Nate Cormier** | RIOS

Linear Landscapes – our streets, utility corridors, trail systems, waterfronts – are some of the hardest spaces to design but often have the most potential for impact on community and ecological health and well-being. Cindy, Megan, and Nate will share more about how framing the design of linear landscapes through the ideas of curation, choreography, and culture yields exceptional design solutions. We'll take a deeper dive on three very different project types sharing the project approach, design solutions, and lessons learned.



## **Re-Connecting Communities // Urban Highways to City Fabric Minneapolis & Saint Paul, MN**

Toole Design lead the recent Reimagining I-94 Report, a vision for the transformation of a multilane urban highway to a human-scaled multimodal boulevard and restored street network. The effort was focused on deepening our collective understanding of how this highway created irreparable harm to communities in the Twin Cities, and demonstrating how thinking creatively can restitch the urban fabric and reconnect communities that have been severed for generations. The reimagining of our urban highways is happening throughout the country this project demonstrates it's critically important we take a multidisciplinary approach that centers experience of place.



## **Re-Centering City // Seattle Waterfront Seattle, WA**

Field Operations has been leading a comprehensive framework plan and dynamic urban design for 1.5 miles of the Seattle waterfront. With the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and the reconstruction of the Elliot Bay Seawall, the City of Seattle is poised to reclaim its waterfront and reconnect to Elliott Bay. The framework plan works at multiple scales to re-center the city and shape a new public realm, utilizing character zones, nodes, and new linkages to acknowledge difference in adjacent neighborhoods and capitalize on unique waterfront conditions. Currently under construction, the new waterfront promenade and central Overlook Walk will be complete in 2025.



## **Re-Stitching Urban Fabric & Flow // Skyline Park Denver, CO**

Skyline Park, a three-block linear park in downtown Denver, was originally designed by Lawrence Halprin in the late 1960s in conjunction with Urban Renewal. In the early 2000s, the park was significantly changed to shift the focus from a passive escape from the city to a more readily programmed space. In the 2020s, RIOS has been leading an update to Skyline Park that continues the trajectory toward increased activation. The future Skyline Park will improve porosity into and through the park while weaving historic elements, including remnants of the original Halprin design, into a contemporary urban fabric that expresses Denver's urban outdoor lifestyle.

