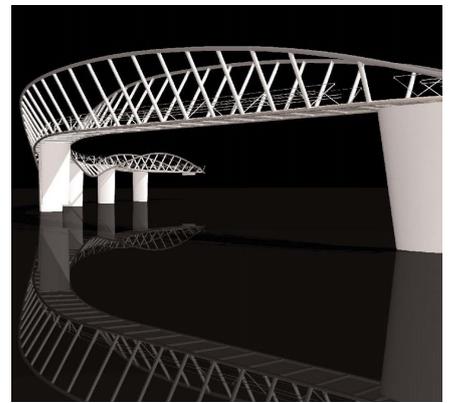
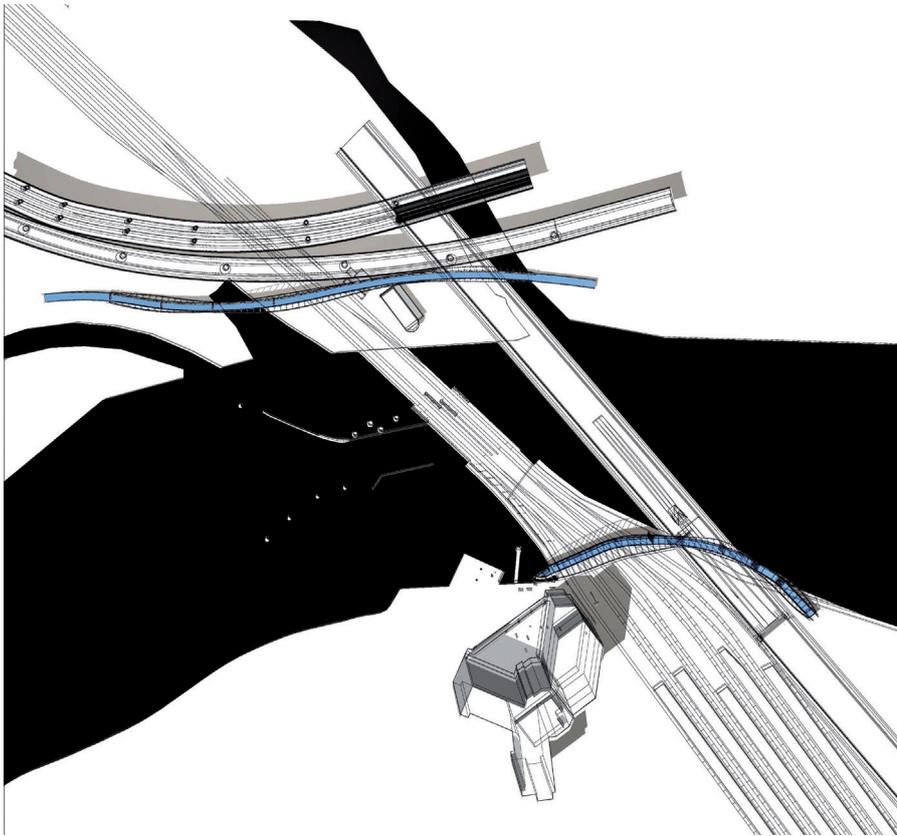


JOINED UP SOLUTIONS THAT BRIDGE THE GAP



CHARLES RIVER BRIDGES BOSTON, MA

Forming part of the project to transform the Central Artery highway in Boston, the New Charles River Basin Surface Restoration and Pedestrian Bridges Project saw public parklands created on former industrial land. With a need to address both the travel experience within the city and the safety of the highway, the improvement project as a whole is recognized as one of the most complex and technically challenging schemes ever attempted in North America.

The initiative aimed to reduce traffic congestion, improving Boston's environment and reinventing the public space on the banks of the river.

As part of the team to develop a new public realm, BuroHappold Engineering was tasked with delivering the concept and scheme designs for two 130-foot pedestrian and cycleway bridges on the north and south banks of the river that would form part of the regeneration of the area. Our team also carried out an independent assessment of the detailed design of the north bank bridge.

Challenges for our team included the location of the site, which is constrained by surrounding buildings, vehicle access points, railway lines and other bridges. In order to overcome these issues and develop stunning structures to compliment the new landscaping, our team conducted a series of site visits, charettes and community consultations to aid the design process. The resulting bridges are a sweeping sinusoidal design that snake through the space and bypass obstacles. Seeking to achieve the architect's brief for a seamless design, the tubular steel truss structure is positioned alternatively above and below the reinforced polymer decking, heightening aesthetic appeal.

The bridges contribute to unlocking the site of the former freeway, which now features lush and inviting parkland to be enjoyed by the citizens of Boston. Contributing to the new urban landscape, the bridges represent our team's commitment to elegant and functional bridge design.

CLIENT

Massachusetts Highways Department

ARCHITECT

Hakes Associates

PROJECT VALUE

\$15 million

DURATION

2000

SERVICES PROVIDED BY

BUROHAPPOLD
Bridge Engineering

Image © Hakes Architects / BuroHappold
Engineering