

Client: **Neighborhood of Affordable Housing  
East Boston, MA**

Designer: **Anjali Joshi  
Cumberland, RI**

**Tacey Luongo  
East Boston, MA**

Design

Completion: **Fall 2004**



The Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH) came to COGdesign with a challenging project. In September 2003, NOAH, with the Friends of the Kennedy School in East Boston, had completed a partial schoolyard renovation including new play equipment, trees, shrubs, and picnic tables. Now, they were looking for a design for the school's front entrance and sidewalk which would invite the neighborhood in to enjoy the new schoolyard as a community park.

The site they presented to COGdesign was an unappealing, long, narrow asphalt slope bordered on both sides by chain link fences.

The COGdesign team of architect/landscape designer Anjali Joshi and architect Tacey Luongo, with input from a diverse and committed community group, developed a design that not only creates a welcoming entrance to the park, but also provides space for other community activities like markets and festivals.



Noting the lack of greenery in the neighborhood, the designers envision a grove of birch trees on one side of the entrance. On the other side, they call for the asphalt slope to be leveled and replaced with tiers of planters and a trellis which runs the length of the schoolyard above. The design team's goal for the project is that "ultimately this park promenade will weave the Kennedy School's new playground into the larger urban fabric, and provide a rare and delightful public amenity for East Boston." The school's community has embraced their sentiment.

