



HIGH LINE DESIGN



Design by Field Operations and Diller Scofidio + Renfro,
Courtesy the City of New York.

Design Approach: When trains stopped running on the High Line, nature reclaimed an industrial structure and unrolled a carpet of meadow grasses and wildflowers. The design challenge is to reinterpret this mysterious condition while meeting the needs of public access.

Pathways and Planks: To retain the spontaneous feel of the self-seeded High Line landscape while providing a smooth surface to accommodate pedestrians, strollers, and wheelchairs, the design team has shaped a common material in a new way. Concrete, reinforced and handsomely textured, will be cast in long, narrow “planks.” Tapered into surrounding greenery, they will allow plant life to push up through the seams.

Plantings: The landscape team has taken cues from plants that grew wild on the High Line. A base matrix of robust grasses will create a cohesive linear landscape. Perennials, shrubs, and trees, selected by renowned horticulturist Piet Oudolf, will create a dynamic planting palette that is constantly changing from week to week, throughout the seasons.

Access: Stairs and elevators will be constructed along the length of the structure, assuring that all visitors, including those with disabilities, can rise up to High Line level in a safe and welcoming way. At some locations, these access points will rise up *through* the structure, allowing visitors to appreciate the steel beams and girders up close.

Lighting: A comprehensive lighting plan will ensure that the top of the High Line can be enjoyed at night and that areas underneath the High Line are made safe and attractive. Light sources, located below eye level, will illuminate the walking path, allowing visitors to see the city lights beyond.

For Further Information please visit: www.thehighline.org/design