



Tempe Center for the Arts



Pedestrian Bridge completes Town Lake loop

In 2010, pedestrians and bicyclists will be able to “loop around Town Lake” when the city of Tempe completes an iconic bridge aligned on top of the existing rubber dam in front of the Tempe Center for the Arts.

A team of designers, headed by T.Y. Lin International, created a timeless design for the bridge that complements the architecture of the center. The \$6 million budget will allow approximately \$4.5 million for actual construction cost.

In 2007, members of seven boards and commissions reviewed two alternatives for both the bridge and plaza at the north landing. Based upon community and design team input, the team selected a bow string arch bridge where the main tubes cross each other at two intersections, resulting in a very elegant and dynamic appearance.

The three existing piers that are part of the dam and dividing the span into four sections. Each will be used to create view-points, giving pedestrians an opportunity to escape from the main bridge deck and take a break to enjoy the view.

A shading system, using triangular pieces of canvas or metal scrim, will be placed at the view points, emphasizing the triangular shapes of the design. “Sun sails” flow down along the main beams and connect the different arches, while giving shade at the piers from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. The shape of the shading structures relates to the faceted roof of the TCA.

With only the cables down-lighted and the hand railing lighting the bridge deck, a timeless and elegant sculpture will float across the lake when seen by night.

be part of the scene



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