SUNNYSIDE YARDS MASTER PLAN & PHASE ONE IMPLEMENTATION

Queens, New York

owner: Amtrak
project manager: Tom Carboni, Facilities Engineering Project Manager, 215.349.2516, Thomas.Carboni@amtrak.com
construction cost: Phase One: $450 million; Total Plan: $1.9 billion
date started: 2011
date completed: ongoing

PROJECT SCOPE:

Sowinski Sullivan (SSA) is the architect on a multidisciplinary team that developed the master plan for Amtrak's Sunnyside Yard to accommodate growth by 2023 and 2030. Anticipating rail operation changes over the next two decades, including an expected increase in the amount of train traffic, Amtrak tasked the team with designing three master plan design alternatives to address and meet future yard needs. As the architect, SSA specifically focused on the future building needs of both the trains and the employees.

SSA performed on-site surveys to assess the conditions and layouts of the existing buildings and tracks. The on-site assessment coupled with an analysis of existing and future staffing helped the team develop a complete building program for 2023 and 2030. Broken down by department, the building program provides detailed information regarding the square footage required for administration, welfare, and parking. The sizes of the shop and work spaces were greatly influenced by the number and size of the tracks that need to be enclosed by a building envelope. Over 1 million square feet of interior space has been planned to accommodate the anticipated growth by 2023 and 2030.

After the completion of the masterplan in 2014, SSA was selected as the architect for the final design and implementation of the phase one high-speed rail (HSR) shop, and to develop preliminary designs for all of the other shop and welfare buildings on the site. These include:

- Conventional Mechanical Repair Shop
- Wheel True/Drop Table Building
- Commissary and Materials Management Building
- Engineering/MOW production Building
- Phases 2 & 3 of the HSR shop