

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

GRAND PARK - LOS ANGELES, CA





## INTENSE LIGHTING'S V-RAIL SYSTEM ILLUMINATES A SERIES OF STAIRWAYS AT THE NEW GRAND PARK IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES



*"It provides a durable, efficient and beautiful design solution that is both pragmatic and aesthetically pleasing. When looking up Grand Park from the steps of City Hall at Spring Street, the V-Rail Handrails glow along the central axis, illuminating the stairs with even intensity and dotting the centerline of the Park along this 90-foot grade change."*

- Tony Paradowski, Project Designer  
Rios Clementi Hale Studios

After several years of planning and construction, visitors to downtown Los Angeles can now enjoy Grand Park, a distinctive and highly diverse civic park filled with large, open spaces and beautifully designed gardens. Hundreds of trees and plantings representing three different continents literally provide a breath of fresh air into the heart of the city and its people. Grand Park stretches over an expansive, four-block, 12-acre site between The Music Center on the west, to City Hall on the east.

The park was designed by the multi-disciplined architectural and landscape architectural firm Rios Clementi Hale Studios in Los Angeles. With significant input from various civic and governmental bodies during the planning stages, the firm has created a unified, pedestrian-friendly civic space featuring a wide variety of lawns, terraces, plazas and gardens. Grand Park is organized into

four public spaces or "blocks" with each block offering unique elements including moveable furniture, historic monuments, and places for visitors to gather.

Block one showcases a Fountain Plaza with a beautiful, interactive water feature and fountain while Block two offers a Performance Lawn with a small stage. Olive Court is another plaza in this same area that marks the historic alignment of Olive Street. In Blocks three and four, visitors will find the Community Terrace, which is a large central plaza surrounded by gardens from each of the world's six Floristic Kingdoms. There are also lawn areas for picnicking and lounging, another terrace with ADA access, and the Event Lawn, an open, flexible area for large public gatherings.

"For Grand Park, we worked to create a very public design that is both elegant and durable," says Tony Paradowski, project designer at Rios Clementi Hale Studios. "One of the goals of the project is to restore the central visual axis to the Park, a design feature that was critical to the original symmetry of the Civic Mall. The various grand stairways that mark the central axis of the Park are lit using the V-Rail Handrail system to reinforce the central axis and distinguish the central stairways from the perimeter pathways."

The V-Rail system was selected by Lighting Design Alliance (LDA), a lighting design firm from Long Beach for a variety of reasons. According to Lighting Designer Ronit Fraenkel, LEED, AP, who was assigned to the Grand Park project, "We are always looking at ways to use products that are integrated into architectural elements."



"The V-Rail system from Intense Lighting offers an interesting design feature that worked well with our limited budget. Intense Lighting's V-Rail system had different color temperature options so we could maintain the warm, white light that is used throughout the park," explains Fraenkel. "They also offer a variety of lumen outputs within the V-Rail line, so we achieved higher levels of light for safety purposes at various stairways."

Interestingly enough, Intense Lighting was called into the project much later in the game due to customer service issues LDA was having with the first manufacturer selected for the job. "Pat Jones, VP of Sales at Intense Lighting stepped up, offered his services and within 24 hours we had samples," she says. "He really saved the day. I definitely suggest working with Intense Lighting. They offered great customer service while agreeing to work within our existing budget. In addition, at the architect's request, Intense Lighting confirmed they were capable of

fabricating all the non-lit handrails as well and that became a big selling point to us," she adds. "Now that the rails are installed, we've created an illuminated path stretching from the Music Center all the way to City Hall. The V-Rail system provides a combination of unique accent lighting that is both decorative and functional."

Tony Paradowski is also happy with the use of Intense Lighting's V-Rail Handrail system. "It provides a durable, efficient and beautiful design solution that is both pragmatic and aesthetically pleasing," he says. "When looking up Grand Park from the steps of City Hall at Spring Street, the V-Rail Handrails glow along the central axis, illuminating the stairs with even intensity and dotting the centerline of the Park along this 90-foot grade change."

According to Dan Domenici, a Project Manager with Rosendin Electrical Specialty Contractors, the company that installed the V-Rail system, says, "Intense Lighting was very proactive when it came to providing outstanding customer service in the field. There were some installation issues that had to be addressed on site, but everything was resolved quickly and without any real delays. It's been a real pleasure working with them."

Pat Jones, VP of Sales for Intense Lighting believes it's the company's adaptability that makes all the difference. "Our entire team works together to meet the design criteria of projects like Grand Park in a timely and affordable manner," he says. "And when you combine that with a passion for providing great customer service, it's gratifying to know that our customers appreciate what we do. It's all about the outcome and this is one project that we are all extremely pleased with the results."





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### PROJECT PLAYERS:

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#### PROJECT DESIGN:

Rios Clementi Hale Studios – Los Angeles, CA  
[www.rchstudios.com](http://www.rchstudios.com)

#### LIGHTING DESIGN:

Lighting Design Alliance – Long Beach, CA  
[www.lightingdesignalliance.com](http://www.lightingdesignalliance.com)

#### V-RAIL INSTALLATION:

Rosendin Electrical Specialty Contractors – San Jose, CA  
[www.rosendin.com](http://www.rosendin.com)

#### MANUFACTURER REPRESENTATIVE:

Performance Lighting Systems – Irvine, CA  
[www.performanceltg.com](http://www.performanceltg.com)

#### GRAND PARK'S OFFICIAL WEB SITE:

[www.grandparkla.org](http://www.grandparkla.org)

### PRODUCT UTILIZED:

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#### IVR2-RPS

1.9" Solid State Illuminated Rail Lighting System with Remote Power Supply  
[www.intenselighting.com/products/v-rail](http://www.intenselighting.com/products/v-rail)



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