Description
The 12th Street Reconstruction Project involved replacing a 12-lane “mini-freeway” and Lake Merritt dam with a new six-lane, tree-lined boulevard, and with new vehicular and pedestrian bridges, multi-use pathways, tidal marsh and four-acre park.

Elements/Goals
- Constructed new six-lane boulevard
- Created a new, four-acre park on the south shoreline of Lake Merritt with event plaza, restroom, turf areas and multi-use paths
- Removed unsafe and unsightly pedestrian tunnels and replaced with new clear-span bridge
- Created new pedestrian connections to Oakland Museum, Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center and Laney College
- Replaced Lake Merritt Channel dam and culverts with clear-spanning vehicle and pedestrian bridges, allowing improved tidal circulation into the Lake for enhanced water quality and wildlife habitat
- Established direct pedestrian, bicycle and boat access from the Lake along the Lake Merritt Channel Park, allowing eventual access to the Bay Trail and waterfront
- Closed the gap in the “Necklace of Lights”

Budget & Funding
$50,000,000 total project cost, including:
- $32,000,000 Measure DD
- $10,000,000 Federal Highway Administration Grant
- $8,000,000 California Coastal Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board Grant

Status
The project was completed in July 2013