

JAMES P. QUINN, P.E., LEED AP, ENV SP

Principal



Summary

James Quinn joined Thornton Tomasetti in 1998 and provides overall management and technical direction of transportation, site/civil, traffic, roadway and utility projects. He is an expert on the requirements for expeditious reviews and approvals for civil engineering scope for roadway, bridge, site/civil and utility projects. Jim has worked on numerous LEED-certified structures. His knowledge of the civil and transportation related components of a LEED pursuit, including parking, transit and bicycle accessibility, pavements, water quality and quantity, etc., have proven invaluable for the client and/or owner in capturing sought-after LEED credits.

Areas of Technical Expertise

- Site Civil Engineering
- Geometric Roadway Design
- Pavement Design
- Bicycle Design
- Traffic Analysis

Education

- B.S.C.E., 1980, Manhattan College

Registrations

- Licensed Professional Engineer in DC, IL, MA, NJ, OH and NY
- LEED-Accredited Professional
- ISI Envision Sustainability Professional

Professional Activities

- Member, Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)
- Member, American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE)

Select Project Experience

Site Civil Engineering

Westchester Square Library, Bronx, NY. Site civil and geotechnical engineering services for a new library in the Bronx including soil and erosion control plans, drainage and stormwater detention system design, site connection submission to the NYC Department of Environmental Protection for review and approval, and coordination with the adjacent NYC Transit structure. LEED Gold.

BAM Park, Brooklyn, NY. Geotechnical investigations and reports, curb and sidewalk replacement, street lighting, stormwater management, urban design and maintenance of traffic as part of the rehabilitation of public space that lies in a triangle between Fulton, Lafayette and St. Felix Streets in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. Ground settlement has caused substantial sidewalk damage in and around the park, which has resulted in a closing of the park.

Constitution Gardens on the National Mall, Washington, DC. Civil engineering for the major rehabilitation of Constitution Gardens on the National Mall, including site civil design for a new 2-story building, drainage for the entire site, lighting calculations, traffic and retaining wall design.

Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Vagelos

Education Building, New York, NY. Site/civil and geotechnical services for the 14-story, LEED Gold education building. Scope included soil boring program, underground stormwater detention system, foundation design, sanitary sewers and utility connections and routing.

1585 Broadway, New York, NY. Preliminary and final design for the installation of permanent anti-ram perimeter security (fixed and operable bollards) at 1585 Broadway (west side of Broadway between West 47th and West 48th Streets). Included subsurface investigations, utility impacts and relocations, grading and drainage.

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Port Authority Bus Terminal, New York, NY. Civil engineering for the reconstruction of sidewalks surrounding the bus terminal, which is required for the installation of security bollards, including relocation of the south curb line on West 41st Street that resulted in the design of a new 12 inch water main in the roadway.

121st Police Precinct, Staten Island, NY. Civil engineering design for a new \$54-million precinct station house in Staten Island. The proposed building provided administrative spaces, locker rooms, lavatories, dormitories, shower facilities, equipment storage area, interrogation rooms, prisoner detention areas and a muster room, and included an 85-space off-street parking lot, a rear yard and open space. Design includes a stormwater conveyance and detention system that will treat runoff. Provided the design and credit documentation for erosion and sedimentation controls and stormwater design in support of LEED goals for Silver certification.

Brooklyn Botanic Gardens Visitors' Center and Entry Plaza, Brooklyn, NY. Civil engineering in support of the Master Plan to modify visitor orientation and experience. The new program included retail and exhibition space, a lobby, small café, offices, two outdoor plazas, landscaping and restrooms. High-performance building goal for the project is to achieve a LEED Gold rating with features including rainwater treatment through a series of planted infiltration basins.

Geometric Roadway Design

Times Square, New York, NY. Preparation of preliminary and final design contract documents for the reconstruction of Times Square. The project limits are southbound Broadway and Seventh Avenue and encompass the streets between West 47th to West 42nd Streets, with the entire roadway limits directly atop the subway system.

Stapleton Waterfront Area, Staten Island, NY. Civil engineering for a major redevelopment of a 36-acre site along the north coast of Staten Island. The project calls for the demolition of buildings and the establishment of a grid system of streets and landscape promenades for the new development. The purpose of the project was to provide the infrastructure and landscaped park for future residential housing.

FDR Drive Southbound Roadway, New York, NY. Civil engineering for the pavement rehabilitation between East 49th and East 42nd Streets. Services included implementation of short-term solutions (milling and resurfacing) to eliminate the uneven pavement condition and the preparation of a preliminary design report for long-term pavement remediation. The challenge for the short-term solution was to develop a roadway profile that raised the manholes and catch basins while maintaining adequate clearance under the United Nations Plaza.

Fordham Road, Bronx, NY. Preliminary and final design for traffic and landscaping improvements from Southern Boulevard to the Bronx River Parkway, a total length of approximately 2,000 feet.

Pavement Design

Station Square, Forest Hills, NY. Contract documents for the rehabilitation of Station Square, arguably the most iconic open-space plaza within the boundaries of New York City. Includes the removal of the 100+-year-old bricks, stabilization of the subbase, analysis of drainage patterns and restoration of the Union Jack pattern within the bricks.

37th Road Plaza, Queens, NY. Civil engineering for the preliminary and final design of reconstruction for sections of 37th Road and 73rd Street, aka Diversity Plaza in Jackson Heights.

Bicycle Design

Grand Concourse—Median and Service Roads Phase II, Bronx, NY. Preliminary and final design of the reconstruction of service roads and medians of the Grand Concourse from 166th to 171st Streets. The key component of the project was widening of the raised concrete medians that separate the main roadway from the service roads. This reconstruction improves safety and quality of life for all users of the Grand Concourse by reducing traffic speeds and converting part of the right-of-way (ROW) to increased plantings and bicycle lanes.

Roberto Clemente Plaza, Bronx, NY. Final design for pedestrian improvements to the plaza centered at East 149th Street and Third Avenue. The focal point was the creation of Roberto Clemente Plaza, which involves vehicular closing of Willis Avenue from East 148th to East 149th Street. Included pedestrian and traffic safety, one-way street conversions, roadway and sidewalk reconstruction, and geometric design and bicycle design through the plaza.

Mosholu Parkway, Bronx, NY. Preliminary design of roadway improvements for Mosholu Parkway from West Gun Hill Road to Dr. Theodore Kazimiroff Blvd. The project included a dedicated bicycle lane, roadway narrowing, intersection improvements, landscaping and flooding abatement. Included trunk and distribution water main replacement and sewer reconstruction.

Maintenance and Protection of Traffic

Nassau Expressway and Rockaway Boulevard, Queens, NY. Prepared preliminary and final highway design documents for the rehabilitation and resurfacing of Nassau Expressway and Rockaway Boulevard from Cross Bay Boulevard to Nassau County Line (over 37 lane-miles). Scope focused on maintenance and protection of traffic of the roadway sections, including the five bridges located within the project limits.

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Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn and New York, NY. Emergency rehabilitation design build contract for this historic East River bridge. Civil scope of work included maintenance and protection of traffic plans and multiple detours. Nighttime construction staging required the detouring of Manhattan-bound vehicles to the nearby Manhattan Bridge while switching Brooklyn-bound vehicles on the Brooklyn Bridge over to the Manhattan-bound side. This overnight detour occurred for 120 consecutive days.

Queensborough Bridge, Queens and New York, NY. Replacement of the deck for the upper level, with a lighter deck system that serves to reduce the overall bridge dead load. Responsible for the maintenance and protection of traffic plans for the various lane closures, which included detailed traffic analysis, crossovers, detour routes, and determining locations for offsite variable message signs.

Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge, Brooklyn and Staten Island, NY. Rehabilitation of the lower-level approaches. Civil scope of work included a detailed traffic analysis and maintenance protection of traffic for both the upper and lower levels of the bridge.

Sworn Testimony

Deposition, Mincing Overseas Spice Co. v. Dynamic Eng'g Consultants, P.C., regarding the grading of a loading dock ramp and the design of the adjacent loading docks at a distribution facility in Dayton, NJ. January 17, 2025.

Deposition, Ewing v. GPD Grp., et al, regarding a vehicular crash with a concrete bollard resulting in serious injury to a bystander in Cleveland, OH. December 3, 2021.

Deposition and Trial, Boutros v. Smith-Sondy, et al, regarding a pedestrian fatality from a vehicular crash at a US Postal Service parking lot in Kearney, NJ. October 17, 2018 and May 7, 2019.

Deposition, Sitz v. Paschen, et al, regarding roadway design and construction of Highway 31 in Algonquin, IL. March 27, 2018.

Deposition, Tucholski v. New York State Bridge Auth., regarding guiderail design and maintenance in New York State. June 26, 2015.

Litigation

Salomon-Merlino v. AECOM, et al regarding a personal injury to a motorcycle driver within a construction zone in Lodi, NJ.

Germain v. Alta Planning, et al regarding a bicycle accident with a truck in Atlanta, GA.

Walmart v. Catellus, et al concerning pavement settlement issues in a commercial parking lot in Teterboro, NJ.

Taylor v. City of NY, et al, regarding a personal injury in the vicinity of a pothole on West 46th Street in Manhattan.

Clavette v. Green Int'l, regarding a fatality in a vehicular crash with an airborne manhole cover in the Tip O'Neill Tunnel in Boston, MA

Kelly v. Alfa Romeo, regarding a personal injury that occurred on the sidewalk adjacent to an Alfa Romeo dealership in Larchmont, NY.

O'Hara v. Smith, regarding a personal injury that occurred when two vehicles collided on a residential roadway in New Rochelle, NY.

Henrickson v. Intercounty Paving Ass'n, et al, regarding the alleged hazardous condition of the sidewalk outside of the Manhasset Public Library in the town of North Hempstead, NY.

Rojas v. Empire City Subway [Verizon], regarding an alleged tripping hazard on the curb and sidewalk due to a telephone utility manhole.

La Cayo v. Automotion Ltd., regarding a personal injury that occurred in a trip and fall on the sidewalk adjacent to the property in South Ozone Park, Queens, NY.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Mojave Access Road, regarding a dispute over pre-existing conditions vs. repair obligations of the contractor in response to storm damage of an access road and wind turbine pads.

Port of Miami Tunnel – Defect/Dispute #157 Rigid Pavement Quality, regarding a dispute between the contractor and the operator of a tunnel connecting the city of Miami with the Port of Miami.

Select Papers, Lectures and Publications

"Building Livable Communities through Transportation: Redesigning New York City's Frederick Douglass Circle," ITE Journal, August 1999 (co-author)

CONTACT

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