

# Oakwood School Pedestrian Bridge

North Hollywood, CA

CLIENT  
Oakwood School

ARCHITECT  
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STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS  
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The construction of the Oakwood School Bridge provides safe passage over busy Magnolia Boulevard, which bisects the campus. Students from the middle school now have a safe walkway when they need to attend town hall meetings in the north campus assembly space. High school students with classes on the north side can cross to eat lunch on the south side. The bridge allows the school to close the campus, eliminating the need for extra guards at the gates.

An important design element of the school's ten-year master plan, the bridge has trusses which are not mirror images, and thus create a different view on either side. Instead of guard rails, stainless steel mesh covers both sides of the bridge to act as a safety barrier. Custom laser cut panels on both sides add an art element and the red ceiling of the walkway adds color to the space. Stairs and a hybrid LULA elevator provide access to the 18-foot-high walkway.

Given the small footprint on both side of the bridge and the lack of storage at the site, MATT built the bridge to be installed in one piece. As much of the bridge was pre-fabricated as possible. Then the 114-foot bridge was staged on a side street to add the roof and other final elements. The eight-foot-wide bridge was then rolled to the location, raised up by crane and perfectly set on its two four-foot-diameter columns, causing only one eight-hour street closure to an important access point for the 170 freeway.



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