A song of the good green grass! A song no more of the city streets... – Walt Whitman

Inspired by the prairie grasses that once circled Lake Michigan, lampposts undulate along the curves of the lakefront path, serving both a practical and interactive purpose. With all necessary technology housed within the poles, these fixtures transcend hardware to become sculptural elements that enhance utilitarian “zones.” Perfected steel shafts arc like grasses bending in the wind. Near their tops, LED lights illuminate bike and pedestrian paths while strands of color-changing LEDs run along the interiors, offering a soft glow through the perforations. The top is fitted with a sensor that includes security cameras and lighting controls. Sensors within the pole adjust the lighting in response to motion and time of day. The LEDs can be programmed to correspond to holidays, special events and victory celebrations. Solar cells mounted on the upper surface of the pole power the sensors and lights, while batteries allow the system to operate off the grid.

PRAIRIE GRASS
AECOM
WARDS 4, 5, 7, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 49
As part of a multi-phase project, AECOM is working with Los Angeles World Airports to create an improved experience for the 61 million passengers who travel in and out of LAX annually.

The project aspires to unify the disparate components of the airport’s central terminal area. The LAX light standard is part of this larger effort helping to transform the curbside appearance of the airport.

The distinctive sculptural form of the lights allows them to define the space of the departures road while illuminating it. Through the integration of lighting, graphics and architecture, the design draws from key existing airport elements such as the distinctive Space Age architecture of the iconic Theme Building that has long defined the airport’s identity.