



## **YANKEE DOODLE GARAGE LIGHTING FAÇADE PROJECT**

**DESCRIPTION** – As part of the ‘Art in Parking Places Program’, The Norwalk Parking Authority received funding to create an illuminated art installation on the façade of the Yankee Doodle Parking Garage located in the Wall Street District on the corner of River Street and Burnell Blvd., overlooking the Norwalk River. The garage was built circa 1974 and presents an intriguing canvas and potentially interesting architectural rhythm. The goal is to refresh the façade, creating a visually appealing environment that balances the aesthetics of the district – classical and contemporary - while maintaining security and the integrity of the infrastructure.

The proposed new concept incorporates a series of LED dynamic light strips that are pulled out slightly from the concrete horizontal and vertical exterior walls to transmit a cool and warm lighting impact while contrasting the different shades of interior and environmental light creating a wavy effect.

The building is located along the river inlet from the Long Island Sound and the proposed lighting installation will give a sense of movement through logistically and artistically placed LED lighting concepts that illuminate the exterior wall while drawing light from the garage interior and the outside ambient light. The product is durable, easy to maintain, is aesthetically functional that shows off the Yankee Doodle Garage as an artistic centerpiece to the District as well as providing security and wayfinding.

The project will be phased. Phase I includes the wall facing My Three Sons and River Street. Phase II will incorporate the two adjoining towers which requires additional funding and the sentiment that the towers are separate aesthetic canvases.

**PROCESS** – Funding for the project was approved for FY 2017 in the capital budget. Representatives from the Parking Authority, Public Works, Arts Commission, Redevelopment Agency, Cultural Alliance, Theater Lighting Design, and Environmental Lighting Designer participated in a committee to determine design, product and installation.

There were two well communicated public informational site visits; one in August 2016 and one in October 2016 to show potential designs. The first design that was demonstrated in August did not have any public appeal. The design in October was overwhelmingly embraced by the public who attended the project visit. The supported design was shared by email with the NPA and received positive input to move forward.

### **Process:**

1. The Parking Authority approved the design at their meeting on November 30, 2017
2. The Parking Authority approved the purchase and installation of the façade lighting project at their meeting on January 25, 2017
3. Installation is expected to be complete by the Spring 2017.