

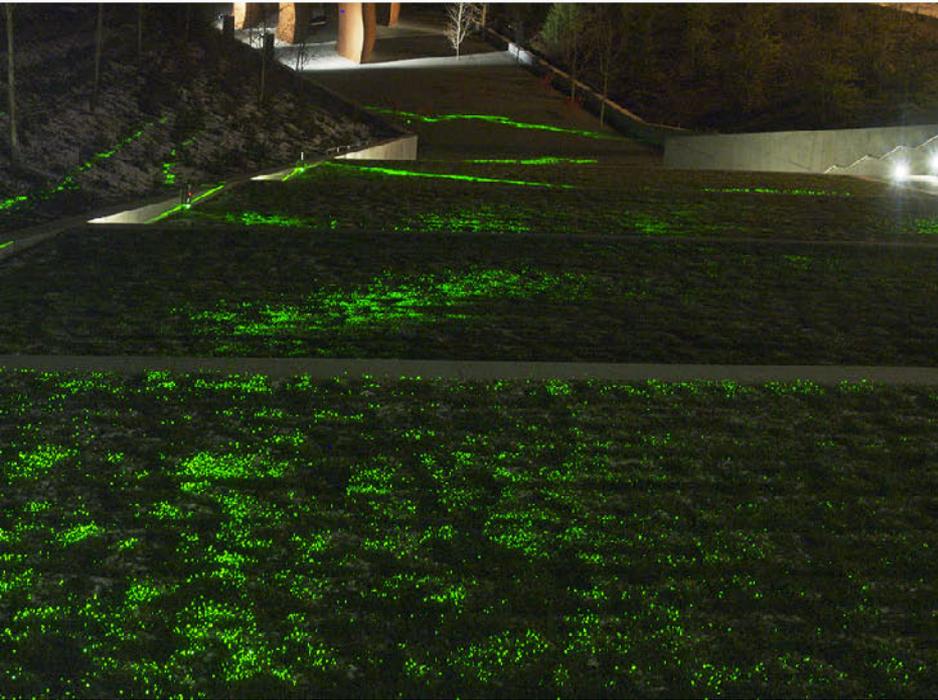
IOLE ALESSANDRINI

*Luminous Forest* an interim art project for the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue N Corridor  
Edmonds, WA. USA



## WINTER SEASON OF LIGHT

700 feet long light installation in downtown Tacoma, WA. 2000



## GREENER

Iole Alessandrini and Ed Mannery

25,000 sq feet laser installation for Olympic Sculpture Park's inaugural event.

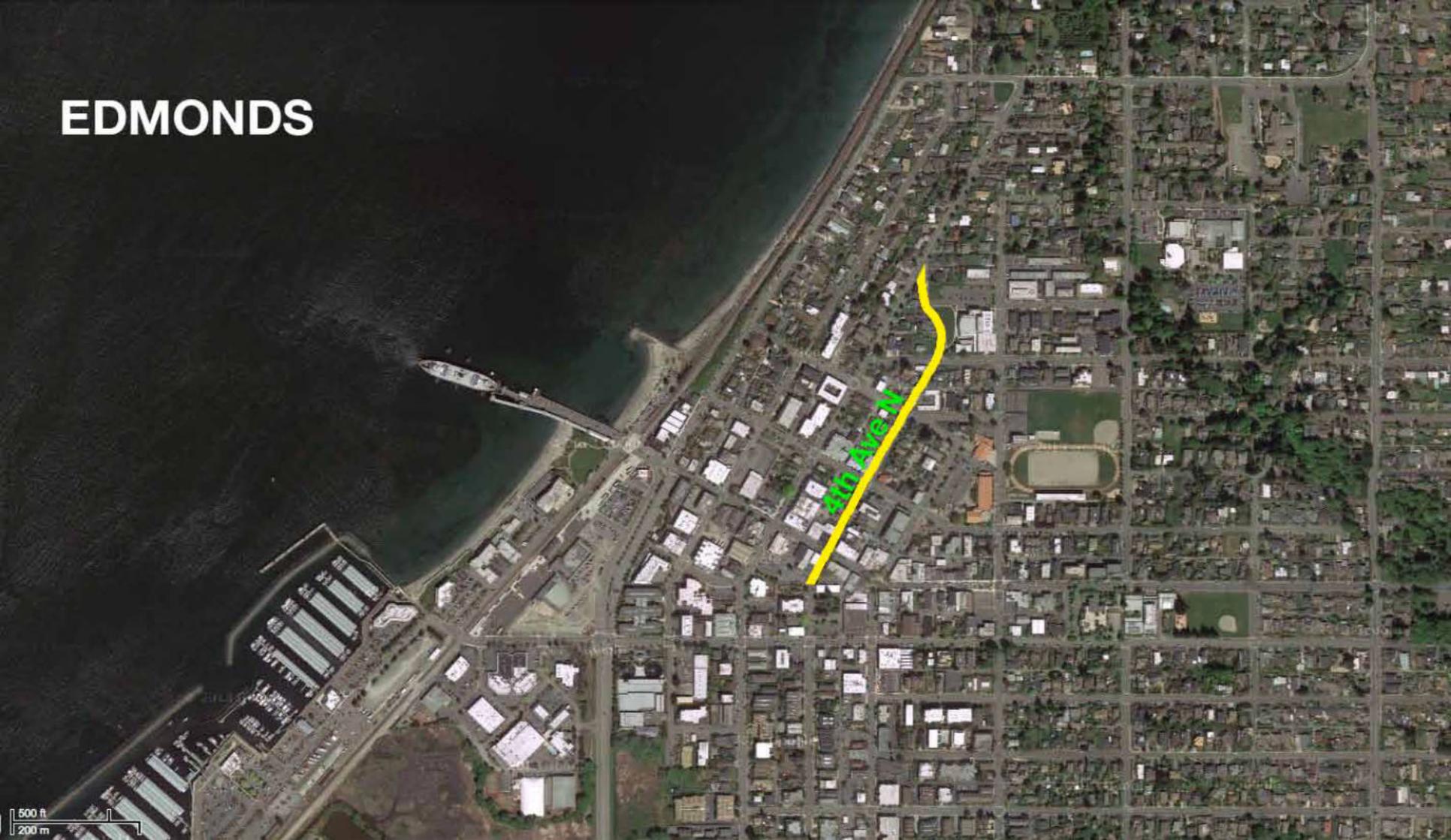
Seattle, WA. 2007.



# LUMINOUS FOREST

4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE N. EDMONDS, WA

# EDMONDS



What drew me to the design of *Luminous Forest* is Edmond's unique history, natural beauty and topography of this West-coast town. From site visits and studies I noticed that old-Edmonds lies almost parallel to the shoreline at a  $60^\circ$  angle with respect to NS-EW imperial American grid.

# EDMONDS

- 19th CENTURY  NE-SW-SE-NW 60 Angle
- 19th CENTURY  4th Ave N
- 20th CENTURY  NS-EW



For West Coast towns such as Edmonds, water and forest were primary natural resources sustaining the community. The street-plan of old Edmonds developed organically to benefit from these available resources.

This meant that the street-plan of Edmonds old-town lay at a **60° angle** to the standard **NS-EW** imperial grid of 20th century Edmonds and the automobile age.

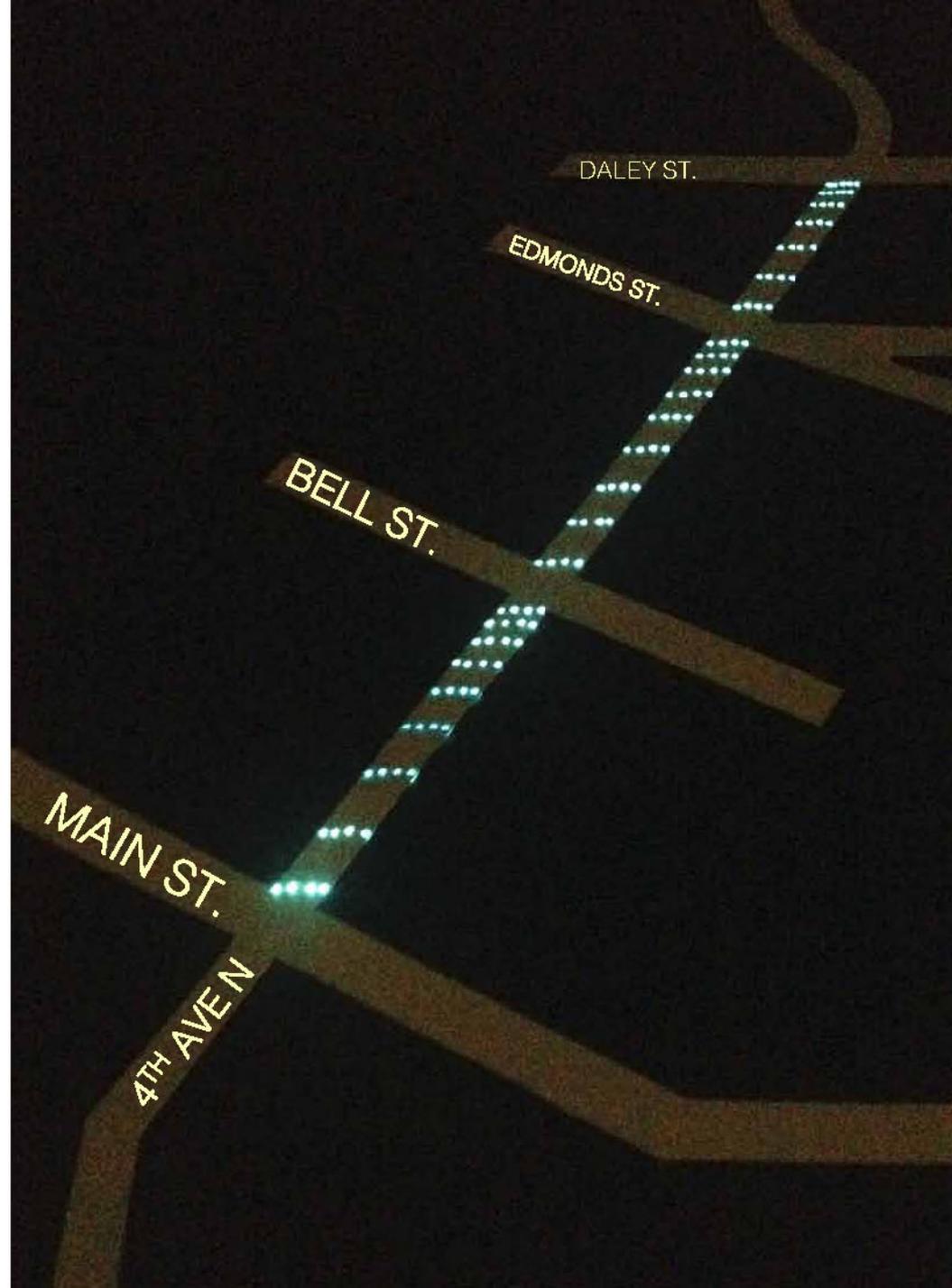
The project overlays a virtual **NS-EW** grid onto the **60° angle** grid of old-Edmonds. The two grids meet at four intersections: Daley, Edmonds, Bell and Main St.

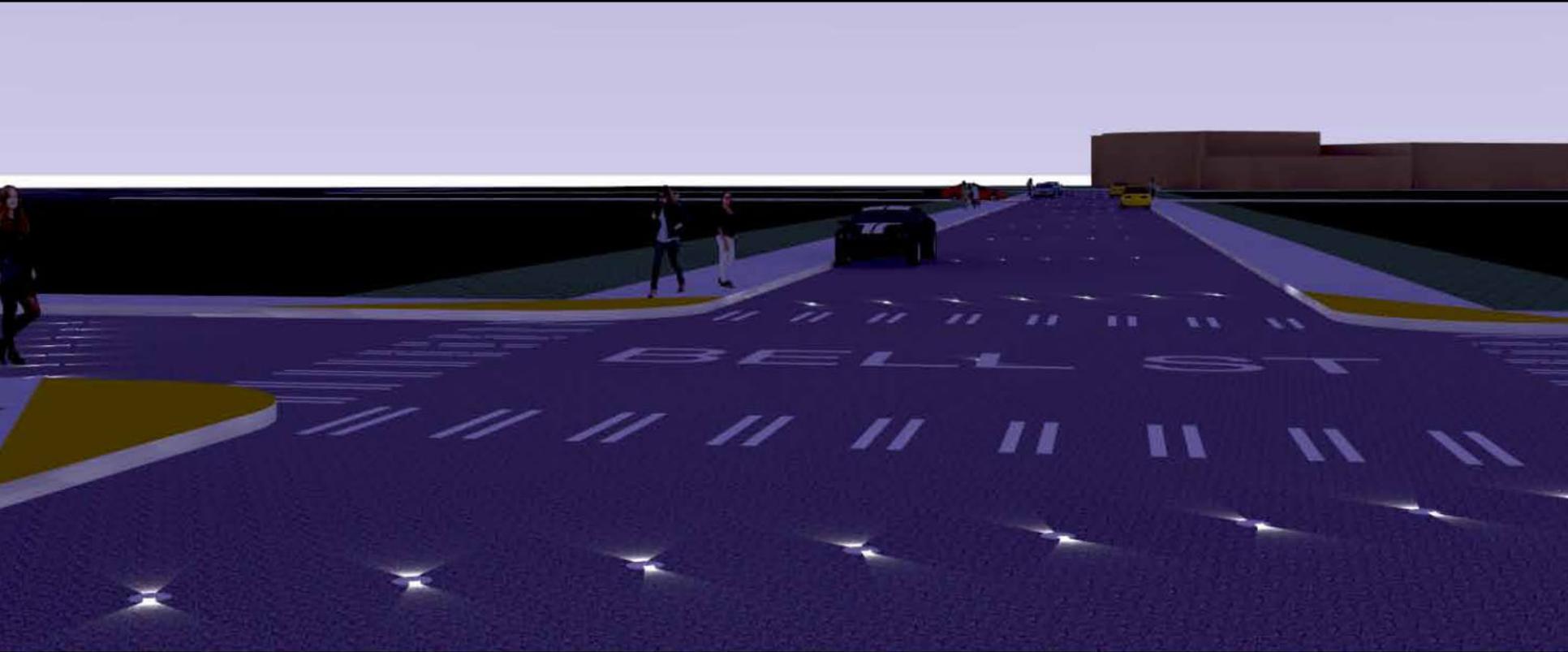
# LUMINOUS FOREST

People walking and driving on 4th Avenue N will be greeted by strings of luminous lights connecting Main Street to the South and Edmonds Center For the Arts to the North.

With the two grids overlaying each other, *Luminous Forest* makes reference to the topographic shift coinciding with the end of the mill era and the beginning of 20th century Edmonds and the automobile age. Each string is a compass for people's orientation in time and space.

*Luminous Forest* is an homage to Edmonds' water and forest, the primary natural resources sustaining its community.





To the people walking or driving onto 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue N, the luminous art provides engagement with the street at an aesthetical level, while giving each one a sense of orientation of old and modern Edmonds. Looking North the project visually connects with Edmonds Center for the Arts.



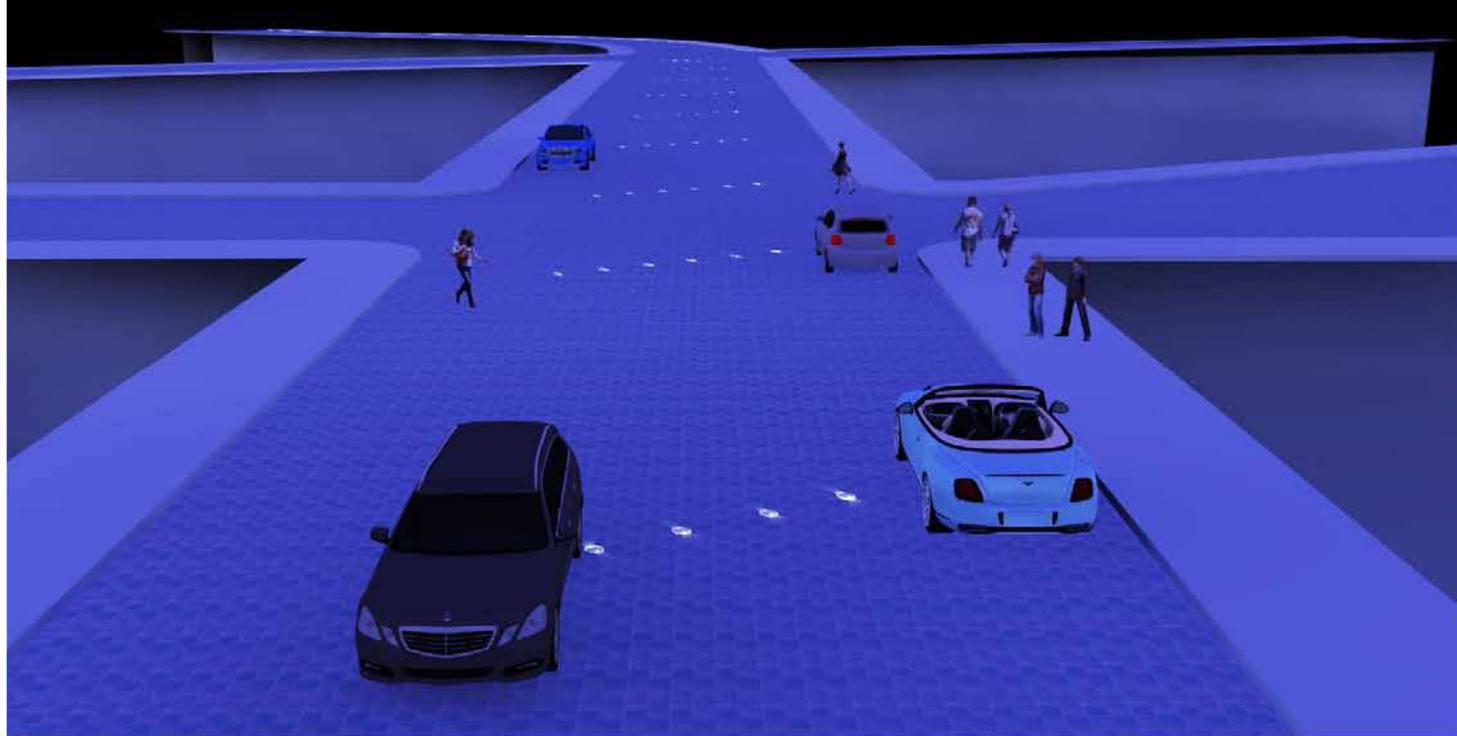
Looking South it intersects Main St. the primary arterial connecting Edmonds to both main land and to the Ferry Terminal, Kingston and new horizons.



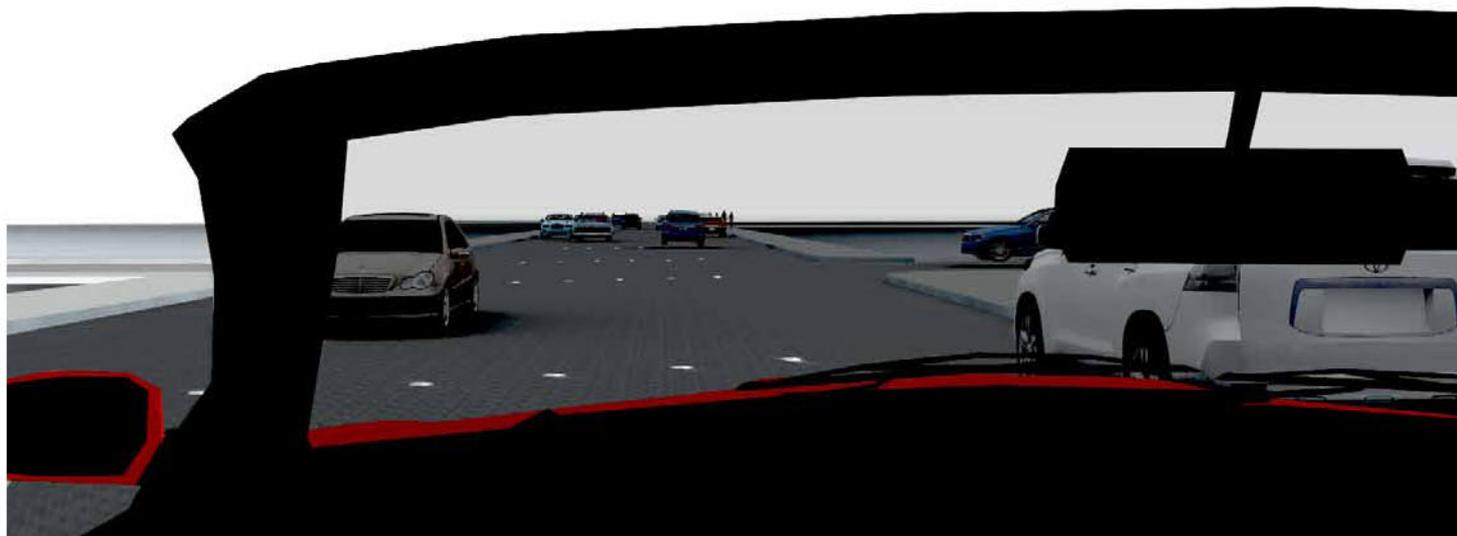
Lights are on a single string with approximately 5 individual LED's per string.

Spacing between the strings is about 140 feet, progressively decreasing to 60 feet in the North direction.

BIRD'S EYE VIEW



DRIVER'S VIEW





PEDESTRIAN'S VIEW

# *Luminous Forest* Conclusions

People's original vision for 4<sup>th</sup> Ave N's interim art expressed the wish of a project that would visually connect Main St. to Edmonds Center for the Arts. I feel that *Luminous Forest* responds to their vision, here is how:

1. ***Luminous Forest* entices pedestrians to walk of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. N from one end to the other and it is sustainable because it uses solar energy.**
2. **The low-level of the LED markers is both pedestrian and sky friendly, providing people a path at night on a dimly lit street.**
3. **The project is an asset for economic development and cultural history.**

On a subliminal level, I hope the project will raise people's consciousness that here is a street which once was a forest. The light, a vital energy itself, is a compass that points north while revealing 4<sup>th</sup> Ave N running parallel to the water. *Luminous Forest* is an original, unique and exciting art for the city of Edmonds.