

HUDSON YARDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**FIVE FINALISTS CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE IN
DESIGN COMPETITION FOR FOUR-ACRE PARK
IN MANHATTAN’S HUDSON YARDS AREA**

New York, NY, June __, 2008 –Five finalists have been chosen to participate in a design competition for the creation of the Hudson Park and Boulevard and a streetscape plan for the Hudson Yards area on Manhattan’s West Side.

A selection committee comprised of the Hudson Yards Development Corporation, the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, the New York City Department of Design and Construction, the New York City Department of Transportation, and the New York City Department of City Planning selected the five teams from a field of 18 firms that responded to a request for proposals. The five teams selected for the short-list are:

- **Gustafson Guthrie Nichol Ltd.** (Kathryn Gustafson) and **Allied Works** (Brad Cloepfil)
- **Hargreaves Associates** (George Hargreaves) and **TEN Arquitectos** (Enrique Norton)
- **Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc. Landscape Architects** (Michael Van Valkenburgh) and **Toshiko Mori Architect** (Toshiko Mori)
- **West 8** (Adriaan Geuze) and **Mathews Nielsen** (Kim Mathews and Signe Nielsen)
- **Work Architecture Company** (Dan Wood and Amale Andraos) and **Balmori Associates** (Diana Balmori)

The short-list firms will submit concept designs in mid July, with a final selection anticipated in September.

Hudson Park and Boulevard will be an approximately four-acre system of broad, tree-lined parks and open space and an adjacent street that will be constructed between 10th and 11th avenues from West 33rd to West 42nd streets.

The park and boulevard will be part of an approximately 20-acre open space system in the Hudson Yards district, including 12 acres to be created by the Related Companies on the MTA Rail Yards to the south of Hudson Park. Similar to Bryant Park, Hudson Park will provide a much needed amenity for area workers, residents, and visitors. It will create a sense of place, helping to change the perception of the district as being desolate and isolated from Midtown.

The park and boulevard will break up the area's 800 foot long blocks, creating ideal development sites. There will be increased light and views and high-profile addresses in what would otherwise be mid-block sites. In addition there will be access to the new number 7 line station which will be located mid block between 33rd and 34th streets.

"It is not often that we have an opportunity to create a significant park in Midtown," said Robert C. Lieber, New York City Deputy Mayor for Economic Development. "We are pleased that so many top firms responded to this project and we are certain that their talent and experience will help transform Hudson Yards into a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly mixed-use district."

"The construction of Hudson Park and Boulevard will provide significant new open space in an area once developed for manufacturing and light industrial uses that now serves a booming residential community," said Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe. "This expanse of green space along the west side of Manhattan furthers Mayor Bloomberg's commitment to ensure that New Yorkers are no further than a short walk from a City park."

"The number of top-echelon firms that responded to the RFP demonstrates how important the Hudson Yard district has become to New York City," said Ann Weisbrod, President of the Hudson Yards Development Corporation. "We look forward to making a park that will reflect the aspirations of New Yorkers and the dynamism of the city in which they live."

The project will be built in two phases: Phase 1 runs from West 33rd Street to West 36th Street, and is expected to be completed by 2013. Phase 2 extends from 36th Street to 42nd Street and will be constructed at a later date. The selected design team will create a design for Phases 1 and 2, and construction drawings for Phase 1.

The selected design team will also design the streetscape components and create a streetscape plan for the area bounded by 10th and 11th avenues and West 33rd and West 36th streets and for the north and south sides of West 33rd and West 34th streets between 11th and 12th avenues.

The goals of the program for the Hudson Park and Boulevard system and the Hudson Yards streetscape include:

- Produce a meaningful open space system and streetscape system that serves workers, residents and visitors.
- Establish a cohesive design for the district's public realm that will create a high quality urban environment and contribute to an identity for the Hudson Yards area that is recognizable to New Yorkers and visitors alike.
- Capitalize on new transit investments being made in the Hudson Yards area
- Help to create transit-friendly and pedestrian-friendly streets.
- Use public art to stimulate use of the Hudson Yards open spaces and interest in the Hudson Yards area.
- Create direct and meaningful connections to the waterfront, biking and pedestrian network which build on the success of the Hudson River Park.
- Create an appropriate setting for architecturally significant buildings to be developed along the Hudson Park and Boulevard system with front door access and addresses for new commercial and residential developments.
- Promote environmental sustainability.
- Address the adjacency of the open space to be located on the MTA's Rail Yards

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