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For Release 8 November 2006

PLANNING FINALISTS SELECTED TO REINVENT THE CRESCENT

Mayor C. Ray Nagin and The New Orleans Building Corporation (NOBC) are pleased to announce finalists for the NOBC's "Reinventing the Crescent" (www.NewORiverfront.com) selection process. Says Executive Director Sean Cummings, "We are hiring a professional planning team to create a bold and specific development plan capable of redefining the riverfront and transforming the city's edge into an internationally prominent waterfront."

Planning will cover the 4.1 mile stretch of riverfront that is the subject of the City and Port's historic Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) to be signed by Port President and CEO Gary LaGrange and Mayor Nagin on November 15.2006. The five remaining teams include some of the world's finest talents in land planning, landscape, engineering and architecture.

Finalists include visionaries Zaha Hadid (London), Frank Gehry (Los Angeles), Daniel Libeskind (Berlin) and Bruce Mao (Toronto). They include emerging stars like TEN Arquitectos (Mexico City) and Reiser+Umemoto (New York). They include acclaimed landscape architects Gross Max (Edinburgh), Hargreaves (Cambridge), Olin Partnership (Philadelphia) and EDAW (Alexandria, VA), the world's largest planning and landscape firm. They include leading locals in Mathes Brierre, Eskew+Dumez+Ripple, Billes Architects, Trahan Architecture, Morphy Makofsky, Urban Systems and DMJM Harris among many.

From around the state and around the globe, these teams have been inspired by New Orleans' invitation, her riverfront and the high aspirations of this opportunity.

Wrote one, "Humanity delights in and finds inspiration in waterfront settings ... We are honored to assist the City in making the New Orleans Riverfront among the nation's and the world's most remarkable."

Suggested another, "New Orleans is a world treasure - a crucible of culture and creativity set in a liquid landscape ... Just as Chicago emerged from its flames, San Francisco from its earthquake and London from its bombing, so shall New Orleans, and what better locale for this rebirth than this majestic ribbon of fresh water and batture high ground that is the 'crescent."

Interviews will be held in late November, and it is expected that the winning team will be selected by December 15th.

Said Mayor Nagin, "With this remarkable caliber of talent, we have for the first time in 150 years the chance to reconnect our city and people to the riverfront in new and exciting ways. I am proud of New Orleans and honored by the world design community's response."

For more information and high-resolution images of the teams and their previous projects, please contact:

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FINALIST TEAM ONE

Chan Krieger Sieniewicz (Planning & Urban Design), Cambridge, MA Hargreaves Associates (Landscape Architecture), Cambridge, MA TEN Arquitectos (Architecture), New York

Eskew + Dumez + Ripple (Executive Management/Urban Design), New Orleans

Moffatt & Nichol (Maritime Infrastructure/Transportation), US, Canada & UK including Baton Rouge Development Strategies, Inc. (Economic Development/Recovery Investment Modeling), St. Louis

Kulkarni Consultants (Civil Engineering/Soil Mechanics), New Orleans

Robinson et al. (Community Outreach), New Orleans

Carol Bebelle (Cultural Strategy), New Orleans

Julie Brown Consulting Services (Permitting/Regulatory Compliance), New Orleans



Alex Krieger, Chan Krieger Sieniewicz



Pittsburgh Waterfronts



George Hargreaves, Hargreaves Associates



Louisville Waterfront Park



Enrique Norton, TEN Arquitectos



Guggenheim Museum, Guadalajara



Allen Eskew, Eskew + Dumez + Ripple



Hilliard Art Museum, ULL

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FINALIST TEAM TWO

EDAW (Planning & Landscape Architecture), Alexandria, Virginia
Frank Gehry (Architecture/Urban Design), Los Angeles
Thorton-Tomasetti Group, Inc. (Structural Engineers), New Orleans
Morphy Makofsky, Inc. (Wharf and Marine Engineers), New Orleans
Marks Associates (Landscape Consultant), New Orleans
DMJM Harris (Marine Engineers), New Orleans
Metro-Source (Economic Planners/Public Process), New Orleans
Urban Retail (Economic Planning Consultant), Chicago
Creative Industry (Public Relations/Digital Technology), New Orleans
Perez Architects, New Orleans
Huntly Partners (Public/Private Finance), Atlanta
Robert Tannen (Urban Planning/Economic Development Consultant), New Orleans





nk Gehry Pritzker Pavilion, Chicago

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FINALIST TEAM THREE

Mathes Brierre Architects, New Orleans
HOK (Planning), 23 Offices Worldwide
Studio Daniel Libeskind (Architecture), New York
Reverend Tom Watson (Community Participation), New Orleans
Morphy Makofsky, Inc. (Structural & Civil Engineering), New Orleans
Urban Systems Associates, Inc. (Transportation Planning), New Orleans
Nash Marketing (Marketing Communications), New Orleans
Economic Research Associates (Economic Research), Los Angeles
Cliff James (Planning), New Orleans



Daniel Libeskind, Studio Daniel Libeskind

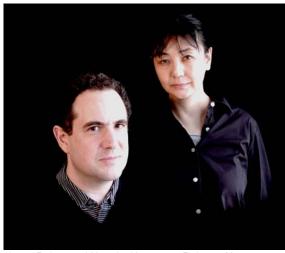


World Trade Center Master Plan, New York

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FINALIST TEAM FOUR

Reiser + Umemoto (Architecture), New York
Olin Partnership (Landscape Architecture), Philadelphia
Studio Matrixx (Architecture), New Orleans
Alan Gordon (Design Consultant)
Dr. Douglas Meffert and Dr. Richard Campanella, Tulane Center for Bioenvironmental Engineering
Candace Damon (Real Estate/Finance Consultant), New York
ARUP Consulting Engineers, Seattle and London



Jesse Reiser and Nanako Umemoto, Reiser + Umemoto



Commercial Tower, Dubai

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FINALIST TEAM FIVE

Zaha Hadid Architects, London
Trahan Architects, Baton Rouge
Billes Architecture, New Orleans
ARUP Consulting Engineers, Seattle and London
Bruce Mau Design, Toronto
Gross Max Landscape Architects, Edinburgh



Zaha Hadid, Zaha Hadid Architects



phaeno Science Centre, Wolfsburg, Germany



Trey Trahan, Trahan Architects



Holy Rosary Catholic Church, St. Amant, LA