Editor's note: We will be celebrating Independence Day (U.S.) tomorrow… the newsletter will return to your mailboxes on Monday, July 7.

It's a good news/bad news kind of day for sustainability, sprawl, and smart growth. -- Prefab housing and mobile AIDS units. -- IDSA/Business Week Industrial Design Awards. -- In Ireland: The community part of the planning process at Spencer Dock, and proposals sought for Dun Laoghaire harbor. -- Ugly Athens or artistic prototype? -- Research will connect the brain and built environment. -- Praemium Imperiale award to Koolhaas. -- A new home for NYC Seaport museum. -- NYC architecture is the stage for Lincoln Center Summer Festival production (walking shoes not included). -- Top-of-the-line retail lined up for vertical mall on Columbus Circle. -- An opera house reborn in Seattle. -- Alternative visions for Schindler House property.

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Enhancing Sustainability Through 'Nature's Services': USC Sustainable Cities Program investigates natural systems that can offer cost-effective, environmentally sustainable substitutes for conventional urban infrastructure. - Urban Land Institute/Los Angeles

University beats the heat: develop a system that complements contemporary Australian housing design while providing a practical and affordable alternative to fossil fuel dependent heating systems. - Infolink (Australia)

No War For Oil? Forget about it in sprawl-dominant culture… we will look back on suburbia… the greatest misallocation of resources in the history of the world. By James Kunstler - Michigan Land Use Institute

Op-Ed: Smart Growth Dream Will Give You Nightmares: Smart Growth advocates’ vision of the future of urban development is more like a nightmare for the average citizen. - PLANetizen

Designs for living: Prefab house contest, AIDS clinic designs reinforce the role of mobility in creating human shelter. - Resolution: 4 Architecture; Architecture for Humanity [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

New IDEAs: Leaner, Greener: Industrial Design Excellence Awards. By Linda Hales - Washington Post

All part of the plan at Spencer Dock: Treasury Holdings is opening new ground by including local residents in the planning process - John Thompson and Partners - Irish Times (via Archeire.com)

Landmark plan for Dun Laoghaire harbour: proposals are being sought for the development of a landmark new waterside complex. Deadline for outline proposals October 1. Consultants: Shaffrey & Associates; Fergal MacCabe & Partners - Irish Independent

Ugly Athens? Architects look at the rapidly changing face of the Greek capital… some say it is an artistic prototype for the future. - Greece Now

2003 Latrobe Fellowship Awarded to the AIA's Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture: $100,000 Research Grant Will Fund Unprecedented Studies of the Brain's Response to the Built Environment - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Japan's Praemium Imperiale award winners include Rem Koolhaas - Japan Today

At Museum's New Home, Old Seaport Walls Speak - Beyer Blinder Belle - New York Times

Theater That Uses the City as a Stage: "The Angel Project" - "Where other forms use words, we directly use architecture." - New York Times

Can Vertical Retail Succeed in New York? AOL Time Warner Center nears completion. Some 90% of the 500,000 sq. ft. space has been preleased to top-line shops and restaurants. - National Real Estate Investor

McCaw Hall: a house reborn: The former Opera House is transformed into a striking performance hall for opera, ballet... - LMN; SussmanPrejza and Co.; Leni Schwendinger Light Projects [images] - Seattle Times

Land parcel becomes a blank canvas: alternative visions for a property adjacent to the historic Schindler House in West Hollywood - MAK Center for Art and Architecture; Odile Decq + Benoît Comette; Peter Eisenman; Zaha Hadid Architects - Los Angeles Times

Commerce Design Montréal 2003: An awards initiative rewards all in a unique public/private collaboration between a city and its professional design and business community [images] - ArchNewsNow

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