Today's News - July 20, 2005

Dublin has big plans for urban renewal; now all it needs is developers. -- In Pittsburgh, art and science are renewing the city's polluted industrial waterfront. -- Floridians are running out of space (but will they ever get out of their cars?) -- BD&C annual 300 Giants - and their battle to keep talented troops. -- A suburban grocery store in Wisconsin proves if you "hold big-box retailers' feet to the fire," you can actually end up with neighborhood-friendly design. -- In San Francisco, George Lucas may have taken the Presidio, but the Wayans brothers have big plans for Oakland waterfront. -- Hotel/condo conversion fever hits S.F.'s famous Fairmont. -- Maki tapped to design Taipei's newest landmark tower. -- Dynamic design duo also owns one of Tokyo's hippest night spots. -- Call for entries for Perth housing. -- Call for proposals for a year-long series of programs about the current state and future potential of architecture. -- One we couldn't resist: Ivana out-trumps Trump in Las Vegas?

Major urban renewal plan for Dublin unveiled: More than half-a-million square metres of commercial property has been designated for development and up to 7,500 houses are to be built under a multi-billion euro urban redevelopment strategy - Irish Times

Arts and Science Remake the Steel City: The opportunity to recast Pittsburgh's polluted industrial waterfront as a high-tech hub and recreation destination took nearly two decades to emerge. - New York Times

In growing state, Floridians must learn to live differently: ...an unlikely collection of planners, environmentalists and lawmakers agree that Floridians will have to adjust their expectations of how they'll live. Destin has become the first city to apply for a state program aimed at luring people out of their cars and onto sidewalks and public transportation. - Tallahassee Democrat

Building Design & Construction Annual Giants 300: list consists of U.S. firms that designed or constructed the largest volume of commercial, institutional, industrial, and multifamily residential buildings during 2004. - Building Design & Construction magazine

The War for Talent: The Giants 300 firms are battling to find and keep the troops they need to stay combat-ready for today's explosive market. - Building Design & Construction magazine

Big box need not be ugly: ...in the faceless world of big-box design, the new Copps grocery store...is almost revolutionary...the lesson here is that if you hold big-box retailers' feet to the fire, you may get them to bend their rigid formulas. By Whitney Gould -- Linville Architects; Design Fabrications; Duany Plater-Zyberk (image) - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Lucas's New Headquarters Give Bay Area Film a Lift: ...potentially the biggest new project in the offfing is an ambitious plan by Wayans brothers...to convert 70-acre [Oakland waterfront] into a film studio and entertainment complex...include a high-rise hotel, theaters and restaurants... - New York Times

Condos proposed at the Fairmont: Furor over plan for big changes at landmark San Francisco hotel - San Francisco Chronicle

Japanese architect wins design bid: Fumihiko Maki has been tapped to design the Taipei Twin Tower, part of the urban renewal plan involving expanding the Taipei Railway Station and developing surrounding areas. - Taipei Times

Making the scene: At Tokyo's SuperDeluxe, a collective of creative types serves up hip-hop, experimental art, homemade brew, and more...just around the corner from Mori Art Museum...owned by two of the city's most celebrated young architects -- Mark Dytham/Asstrid Klein (images/links) - MSNBC

Call for Entries: Building for Diversity Design Competition: single-stage housing ideas competition for Northbridge (Perth); questions submission deadline: July 28; submission deadline: October 7; - E. Perth Redevelopment Authority/Dept. of Housing and Works (Australia)

Call for Proposals: Architecture And... year-long program; deadline: September 12; - The Architectural League (NYC)

Ivana Las Vegas Tallest Luxury Residential Building -- JMA Architecture Studios

Rethinking Form and Function: Swarthmore College Unified Science Center becomes an intellectual and social magnet for an entire campus. -- Einhorn Yaffee Prescott; Helland Architecture (images) - ArchNewsNow

Call for Proposals: Architecture And... year-long program; deadline: September 12; - The Architectural League (NYC)

July '05 Build Business: The Perfect Storm: Surviving through Succession Planning

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-- Under construction: Raimund Abraham: JingYa Ocean Entertainment Center, Beijing, China
-- Randall Stout: Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, Virginia

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