

Today's News - January 12, 2007

A very urban day: Stellar teams line up to vie for chance to build San Francisco's tallest skyscraper. – Cities at the forefront of fight against global warming, says one report. – Another report says just the opposite. – Cities all over are reaping rewards by covering urban highways with parks - and a growing desire for streetcars. – A driverless taxi in our future? – Q&A with America's "green mayor." – Rochon hopes Vancouver's new city planner will let architects design. – Will 3rd time be the charm for big development near Boston's Fenway Park? – L.A.'s development boom pushes south (and pushes some buttons). – U.K. pushes for energy efficiency in healthcare system. – Boddy purns about ROAR. – The "undisputed queen of landscape architecture" who thinks like an architect. – A (mostly) thumbs-up for "Design Like You Give a Damn."

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[Transbay terminal race is on: 5 teams jockeying for coveted chance to build tower that could be San Francisco's tallest structure.](#) By John King -- Richard Rogers Partnership; Foster + Partners; Santiago Calatrava; Pelli Clarke Pelli; Skidmore Owings & Merrill- San Francisco Chronicle

[Cities Most Innovative in Global Warming Fight: the most innovative ideas...are coming from cities and local initiatives...](#) -- Worldwatch Institute (Reuters)- Environmental News Network

[Cities' vows to cut gas emissions questioned: 'Many will miss goals by a wide margin,' report says...Those working to reduce emissions disagree with that finding.](#)- Seattle Post-Intelligencer

[Benefiting from a Cover Up: Cities reap rewards for decking highways with parks: Regardless of cost, the actual force driving the trend is the opportunity for private development and redevelopment around the parks.](#)- Governing

[Cities rediscover allure of streetcars: As cities experience a much-publicized urban renaissance, streetcars have become another draw for investment in housing, stores and restaurants.](#)- USA Today

[German Company Engineers Driverless Taxi: ...a driverless Railcab for passengers and freight is born -- and its developers are ushering in a new era of rail travel. \[slide show\]](#)- Der Spiegel (Germany)

[The Great Green Augustus: Q&A with Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley: eco-consciousness, philosophy of government and the path that led him to become America's "green mayor."](#)- Conscious Choice Chicago

[Time to build outside the box: With a new planner at the helm, Vancouver has a chance to shake up the way it builds. And as the 2010 Olympics loom, there's a new sense of urgency.](#) By Lisa Rochon -- Larry Beasley; Brent Toderian; Bing Thom; IBI/HB Architects; Endall/Elliott Associates; James Cheng; Robert A.M. Stern; Paul Merrick Architects; Arthur Erickson; Walter Francl
Robert Stern- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[For developer, 3d time may be charm: ...latest plan to remake the Kenmore Square neighborhood near Fenway Park, a 1.3-million-square-foot project that would put two residential towers along the Massachusetts Turnpike.](#) -- Carlos Zapata Studio; D'Agostino Izzo Quirk Architects- Boston Globe

[22 blocks slated for hip surgery: City officials hope to bring gentrification to the Washington Boulevard area south of Staples Center. But some residents remain skeptical.](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Survey finds more energy efficiency awareness needed: As the government announces a £100m funding initiative to help the NHS \[National Health Services\] increase energy efficiency...many...in the health and hospital industry are not aware of the savings they can achieve and the options available to them.](#) -- Nightingale Associates- HD/Hospital Development magazine (UK)

[Vancouver's year in housing exits in style with a ROAR: ...hardly a better example in this city of a building that combines design innovation with livable Green features.](#) By Trevor Boddy -- Lang/Wilson/LWPAC; Hotson Bakker Boniface Haden- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Mother Nature: Thanks to projects like Robson Square, the Museum of Anthropology and the National Gallery of Canada, 82-year-old Cornelia Oberlander is the undisputed queen of landscape architecture...sees landscape as a device to link the building to its site...why so respected by architects. She thinks like one.](#) -- Bing Thom; Arthur Erickson; Moshe Safdie [images]- Vancouver Magazine

[Book Review: "Design Like You Give a Damn" by Sinclair/Stohr/Architecture for Humanity: ...a narrow focus on design is both the success and the flaw of this book.](#) By Lance Hosey, AIA, LEED- AIA COTEnotes

[Celebrating Green: The decade-long history of the AIA/COTE's Top Ten Green Projects program is a portrait of evolution in the field.](#) By Kira Gould [images]- ArchNewsNow

-- Gehry Partners, LLP: Foundation Louis Vuitton, Paris

-- Oppenheim architecture + design: COR, Miami

-- Exhibition: Skin + Bones, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Los Angeles

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