Today's News - February 9, 2007

Edinburgh mandates green building. — Delaware waterfront plan gathers a stellar team. — What Vancouver can learn from Melbourne about building an arts district. — Robert Stern takes on Manhattan’s Museum Mile. — Philadelphia bridge plan is “a lost opportunity.” — Brisbane’s vanishing heritage. — In the sad case of Rudolph’s Riverview school, the “school district, preservationists and the community should be embarrassed.” — A shorter London tower gets a thumbs-up. — More culture for Abu Dhabi: a Ferrari theme park (and pix to prove it). — Votes are in: Chicagoans win “City of the Future” competition. — Cities everywhere climbing aboard the streetcar craze. — Buyers circling Foster’s firm. — New Jane Jacobs Medal comes with a big purse. — Calls for entries for innovative learning environments, and ULI student awards expand to Europe. — “Spatial Inquiry” will confound and illuminate.

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Edinburgh's green building code unveiled: All major new developments in Edinburgh will be forced to cut carbon dioxide emissions and provide renewable energy sources on-site...— Green Building Press (UK)

Design team forms to assist Delaware Waterfront Plan: ...a series of neighborhood forums and values sessions...developed a set of principles that will guide the creation of the waterfront plan. -- Penn Praxis; Pete Latz; Walter Hood; Ken Greenberg; Denise Scott Brown; Gary Hack - News of Delaware County

How to get creative with an arts district: Public input is key to arts precinct success says Australian who planned Melbourne's much talked-about square. By Trevor Boddie — Robyn Archer - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Museum for African Art Finds Its Place: ...will face Central Park and cost about $80 million...will be the first museum built along Museum Mile since the Guggenheim,...tower of 115 luxury condominiums will be built above... 1959. — Robert A. M. Stern; SCLE Architects [images] - New York Times

South Street Bridge: Philadelphia deserves better: No matter how many turrets and stainless-steel railings are pasted on this deeply flawed scheme, the current design remains a lost opportunity... By Inga Saffron -- Arup; Foster & Partners; Calatrava; Lifschutz Davidson; Isambard Kingdom Brunel (1875); Philadelphia Inquirer

Brisbane's vanishing heritage: Balancing Brisbane's needs into the future and how to retain the historical and cultural identity of the city is a high-wire act. -- Robert Riddell; Caroline Stalker - Courier-Mail (Australia)

Editorial: The Riverview review: We sympathize with the preservationists' desire to save the architecture. More than history is at stake, however. — Paul Rudolph- Herald-Tribune (Florida)

Cabe backs Ian Simpson's redesign of Blackfriars tower: Design body approves reduction in height to 51 storeys and improvements in public space [image] - Building (UK)

Ferrari theme park: ...taking on Disneyland with the prancing horse's very own theme park. The doors will open in 2009 in Abu Dhabi -- Benoy Architects [images] - Car magazine (UK)

Venice of the Midwest? UrbanLab wins History Channel's 'City of the Future' competition with watery vision of Chicago in 2106. By Kevin Nance- Chicago Sun-Times

Desire grows for streetcars: Urged by mayors and advocacy groups, US cities and towns are examining the possibility of returning the forgotten vehicles to their streets...success of the Portland, Ore., streetcar in attracting development dollars encouraged other cities to climb aboard. - Christian Science Monitor

Mystery firms close in on Foster: Initial estimates of the firm’s value have reached £500m. - Building (UK)

The Jane Jacobs Medal Created by Rockefeller Foundation: ...$200,000 award...to recognize individuals who have made a significant contribution to thinking about urban design, specifically in New York City. Nominations can be submitted via the Rockefeller Foundation Web site until March 2. - New York Sun

Call for entries: 2007 DesignShare Awards for Innovative Learning Environments: registration deadline: April 20- DesignShare

Call for entries: ULI European Student Urban Design Competition: prizes total €56,000; deadline: March 15- Urban Land Institute (ULI)

What Part of 'Spatial Inquiry' Don't You Understand? Lead Pencil Studio will confound and illuminate at Lawrimore. If only Annie Han and Daniel Mihalyo would simply wrap the Space Needle in polyamide fabric, it would make their work a lot easier to describe. - Seattle Weekly

In Their Own Words: Abu Dhabi Cultural District: How Gehry, Hadid, Nouvel, and Ando envision their cultural venues on Saadiyat Island. [images]- ArchNewsNow

Curtain Up: Billy Wilder Theater at UCLA Hammer Museum: Los Angeles has a new cultural "living room." -- Michael Maltzan Architecture [images]- ArchNewsNow

-- Ando, Gehry, Hadid, and Nouvel: Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, UAE