Bold Plans for Transbay Terminal: The West Coast's tallest building: 3 competing ideas show audacity that adds to the city's rising skyline... By John King and Jonathan Curiel -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners/SMWM/Adamson/Rupei/Ohlin Partnership; Pelli Clarke Pelli/WRNS Studio... San Francisco Chronicle

No such thing as a free ride: Can new strategies for financing transit increase ridership and cut public costs? ...planners and elected officials looking to fund transportation projects and cut congestion are asking whether it's time to turn pricing for travel on its head... - Sustainable Industries Journal

The once and future Museum station: A bold new plan for ROM's subway stop has some Torontonians wistfully clinging to the TTC's once-despised 'washroom stations'... could set the tone for how the stations will look a generation from now: replacing the modernist history of the TTC with new designs that combine art and neighbourhood character. -- Diamond + Schmitt Architects - Globe and Mail (Canada)

From Fresh Ideas and Better Steel, Safer Bridges: Aging spans may be troubled, but new ideas and technologies are making bridges safer — not to mention longer and more beautiful — than they have ever been... - New York Times

We should care about good design: A bad building... can stink for decades... lowering the bar for everything that comes after... A good one can stir the soul and challenge other architects and their clients to aim higher... If we don't make it our business to care about such things, we will deserve the awful results. By Whitney Gould - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Britain's ugliest buildings: ...building boom is creating some monsters. Tom Dyckhoff trembles in the presence of the ten most hideous... instead of concrete brutalism, we have bling brutalism... dreary, unimaginative slabs wall-papered with bright colours, iconic shapes and tinsel. -- SOM; Edward Cullinan Architects; Foster + Partners/HOK Sport; LSI Architects; RHWL; Broadway Malyan; Chapman Taylor; Stephen George; BBLB Architects/John Rocha... - The Times (UK)

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Book review: "Everything by Design: My Life as an Architect" by Alan Lapidus... razor-sharp wit and powers of observation make a fascinating read for anyone interested in American design and culture. - Dexigner