EDITOR'S NOTE: Well, the technology gods decided to muck things up again yesterday, but we're pretty sure we've assuaged them now (fingers crossed!).

- An in-depth look at why Stuttgart 21 plans are "a transportation-policy disaster" (a very, very expensive white elephant in the making?).
- Kamin finds Chicago's South Works plan "full of good ideas," but worries it could also end up as "suburban banality, giving us Generic City, USA."
- Russell roams the gigantic park emerging from Staten Island's Fresh Kills landfill as it slowly morphs into what could be "one of the nation's greatest and strangest city parks."
- Hawthorne has (mostly) high praise for LACMA's Resnick Pavilion: it may not "rise to the level of Piano's other "art-world masterpieces," but it is "undeniably assured." (too bad its airy, pristine state is now pocked with pesky partitions).
- Webb, on the other hand, finds it rounds out LACMA's master plan "with sensuousness and serenity" + "Playing LACMA" video (a must-see/heart).
- Rybczynski on Richard Rogers "dazzling" addition to D.C.'s officescape: "it's a doozy" of "structural daring."
- Saffron cheers the new SugarHouse path that "is precisely the tonic the forlorn Delaware River waterfront" needed: she's a bit less sanguine about the neighboring casino, even with its "welcome bit of sophistication...looks are really beside the point."
- Architects the recession claimed (well, not completely: Gehry only lost Atlantic Yards, and Morefield has actually made moolah from his Seattle farmer's market booth).
- An eyeeful of the local talent (plus one NYC'er) who made the Architecture Foundation's Olympic kiosk competition shortlist.
- The 5th annual Park(ing) Day sorta fell under the radar this year, but Wired offers a round-up from around the world.
- Weekend diversions:
  - Ball-Nogues turns 30 miles of string into "Gravity's Loom" at the Indianapolis Museum of Art.
  - Smith finds MoMA's "Counter Space: Design and the Modern Kitchen" sprints "with dazzling speed and pinpoint precision across an amazing amount of social and aesthetic history."
- Lupton lauds Schütte-Lihotzky's 1926 Frankfurt Kitchen "that continues to influence domestic architecture even today" - a "utopian manifesto...pushing past utopia to become a reality, however flawed."
- An amazing book of photographs of East Berlin's Palast der Republik that captures its interiors just before it was demolished.
- Cast your vote: pick your fave of the urbancanvas Design Competition finalists to develop creative artwork for construction sites around NYC (some cool stuff!).
London architects dominate shortlist for Olympic kiosk contest...the
Architecture Foundation’s competition... -- Moxon Architects; 42 Architects;
Bell Phillips Architects; Studio Octopi; Ginseng Chicken Architecture [images].
The Architects’ Journal (UK)

Groups Build Parks From Parking Spaces: Around the world, parking spaces
were transformed into miniature public parks and community centers...as the
5th annual Park(ing) Day challenged people to reimagine city streets without
cars — if only until the meters ran out. [images, links] - Wired

String Theory: Turning 30 Miles of Yarn Into One Massive Sculpture: Los
Angeles-based studio Ball-Nogues has laced an atrium in the Indianapolis
Museum of Art with 30 miles - yes, 30 miles! - of colored string. “Gravity’s
Loom”... By Alissa Walker [images, video] - Fast Company

The Heart That Beats, Heats, Chills and Whips: “Counter Space: Design and
the Modern Kitchen” sprints with dazzling speed and pinpoint precision across
an amazing amount of social and aesthetic history, and shows how these
histories are connected...centerpiece is a stupendous recent acquisition: one
of the last surviving examples of a relatively complete Frankfurt Kitchen
designed in 1926-27 by Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky... By Roberta Smith [slide
show] - New York Times

The Modern Kitchen (Again): In 1926 Grete Schütte-Lihotzky created a
remarkably important design - one that continues to influence domestic
architecture even today...I am drawn to both the Ekokook and the Frankfurt
kitchens as utopian manifestos that invest design with the power to change the
way people live...pushing past utopia to become a reality, however flawed... By
Ellen Lupton [images] - Metropolis Magazine

The Twilight of the Palace: “Palast der Republik” Reveals Last Photographs
of...a showpiece building in East Berlin, a congress hall as well as a center for
public entertainment. By 1993 it had been sealed off to the public. Thorsten
Klapsch was the last photographer to capture its interiors before a long period
of demolition began. -- Heinz Graffunder and Karl-Ernst Swora (1976) [slide
show] - Der Spiegel (Germany)

Drawing Inspiration: Architects have turned to computers to create their work,
but...nothing beats a beautiful compass....“Catalogue of the Andrew Alpern
Collection of Drawing Instruments”...there’s great beauty in these pages, and a
sensuality of means....will prove encouraging and even essential to anyone
who seeks to understand how architectural practice landed where it is today.
By Paul Gunther/Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America
[images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Cast your vote: urbancanvas Design Competition: ...innovative contest to
develop creative artwork for construction fences, sidewalk sheds, supported
scaffolds and cocoons in New York City...vote for your favorite design through
October 1 [images] - NYC Department of Buildings/Department of Cultural Affairs

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