Today's News - Tuesday, July 10, 2012

• Sydney tackles its "urban planning nightmare" with a plan to turn the "dilapidated" Parramatta Road into a "livability corridor."
• Farrelly minces no words about what she thinks of the plan: whatever happened to the competition-winning idea from 10 years ago that was "pretty much the same idea, only higher, denser and more exciting."
• Moore meanders around London's East End and ponders whether the Olympics "helping hand" will make things better: "One might hope, but not especially expect."
• Berger wonders whether Seattle could pull off another World's Fair: "The simple answer is no...We seem to have lost a willingness to gamble and have fun doing it" (never mind the civic gridlock and nay-saying)
• Jenkins jousts with the pro-Shard supporters: it "has slashed the face of London for ever," and the Thames "is to become a ditch of cash running through a canyon of glass."
• Architects weigh in on the Affordable Care Act, and how it will impact healthcare architecture.
• Machado and Silvetti tapped to transform former home of the Parrish Art Museum into a new cultural center for Southampton, NY.
• Nine new pedestrian bridges in Abu Dhabi are having a "positive impact" says the architect (though another report finds jaywalking still prevalent because "dodging traffic is faster]."
• McGuirk finds much to like about two new pop-up playgrounds as part of the London Festival of Architecture - including one by Rockwell, but "there is no playground like an adventure playground."
• Lubell takes a look at the practice and pitfalls of unpaid internships: not only are they not legal, but "not offering money lowers the bar all the way down the line."
• Mayor Bloomberg launches adAPT NYC competition in a pilot program to develop teeny tiny apartments for today's typical city dweller (some bending of zoning laws allowed).
• Call for entries: adAPT NYC RFP: Develop Replicable Design for Micro-Units - Apartments Smaller than Currently Allowed.
• Call for entries: adAPT NYC Request for Proposals/RFP: Develop Replicable Design for Micro-Units - Apartments
• We couldn't resist: first look at a Z Boat (by Zaha, of course - a hybrid yacht by Rem could be next).
• Vote for North Carolina's best Modernist houses in the inaugural Matsumoto Prize Competition (open to all).
• Deadline reminder: Call for entries: 2012 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize.

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Tackling Sydney's Urban Planning Nightmare: ...issues surrounding urban density and inefficient public transport infrastructure are only going to multiply...plans for the urban renewal of the dilapidated Parramatta Road area...promise to convert the area into a 'livability corridor'...a high stakes arena that is sure to take a lot of heat before positive steps in the right direction can be agreed upon. -- Urban Taskforce; Hassell; SydneyCENTRAL-DesignBuild Source (Australia)

Developers won't save Parramatta Road alone: The Urban Taskforce tags its proposal "Australia's first mixed-use livability corridor"...10 years ago, the SydneyCENTRAL consortium...won an international competition with pretty much the same idea, only...higher, denser and more exciting. By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald

London 2012: the East End itself is the real Olympian challenge: Waves of incomers have always kept [it] changing – its only constant, seemingly, the deprivation of its poorest residents. Can the giant 'helping hand' of the Olympics make their lives better at last? ...In a colossal failure, or abdication, of planning, there is no evidence of any ambition to make a coherent whole...One might hope, but not especially expect. By Rowan Moore- Guardian (UK)

Could Seattle do it again? Fifty years ago the World's Fair put Seattle on the map. Could the Emerald City pull off another world expo? The simple answer is no...The bigger question is, could Seattle overcome the gridlock and nay-saying that has become our civic hallmark...We seem to have lost a willingness to gamble and have fun doing it. By Krute Berger- Crosscut (Seattle)

The Shard has slashed the face of London for ever: Timbuktu's shrines can be rebuilt but this tower, and the glass forest that's set to follow, will ruin the skyline of the capital...It seems to have lost its way from Dubai to Canary Wharf...The Thames is to become a ditch of cash running through a canyon of glass...By Simon Jenkins -- Renzo Piano- Guardian (UK)

Architects, Industry Experts React to Supreme Court's Ruling on Affordable Care Act + How Will Fate of Affordable Care Act Impact Health Care Architecture? -- Perkins Eastman; Cannon Design; Perkins+Will; WHR Architects; SmithGroupUR; Stantec; HOK; HDR; HKS Architects; KPF- Architectural Record

Architects Selected to Renovate 25 Jobs Lane: Machado and Silvetti Associates will design the restoration of Southampton Village landmark building once the Parrish Art Museum moves out at the end of the year...The village now envisions turning the space into Southampton Center, a new cultural institution and venue for the arts...-- Grosvenor Atterbury (1898); Rockwell Group- Southampton Patch (New York)

College Home: Condé Nast College of Fashion & Design will be housed at 16-17 Greek Street, in the heart of London's Soho...The buildings will be renovated by architecture firm Feldken Clegg Bradley Studios...[image]-Vogue

New bridges have "positive impact" all over Abu Dhabi: They had to look good, they had to be safe, and people had to want to walk all over them. That was the brief for architects who designed nine new pedestrian bridges - and on top of all that, the job had to be completed posthaste. -- BueTner Architects & Engineers [image]- The National (Abu Dhabi)

Sense of adventure: what happened to playgrounds that give children space? A summer festival in London gives kids the chance to run wild on two temporary playgrounds that will fire their imaginations...To me, however, there is no playground like an adventure playground. By Justin McGuirk -- Aldo van Eyck; Rockwell Group; Erect Architecture [images, links]- Guardian (UK)

Editorial> The Intern Catch-22: ...the practice of architecture and unpaid internships: Not offering money lowers the bar all the way down the line. Soon unpaid positions become expected. The value of architecture is lowered even further..."If emerging talent isn’t valued at the onset then the profession will continue to weaken its value." By Sam Lubell- The Architect's Newspaper

Big Apple bites into tiny apartments: The New York City adAPT NYC pilot program breaks zoning rules and allows units as small as 275 square feet—30% smaller than currently permitted—to meet today’s households’ down-scaled needs/budgets. - Crain's New York Business

Call for entries: adAPT NYC Request for Proposals/RFP: Develop Replicable Design for Micro-Units - Apartments
Smaller than Currently Allowed - and Build Them in a Pilot Project; deadline: September 14 - New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD)

Deadline reminder: Call for entries: 2012 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize nominations for a design professional or firm in recognition of innovative design solutions that preserved or saved a modern landmark at risk; cash honorarium; deadline: July 31 - World Monuments Fund/WMF

2012 Matsumoto Prize Competition: Public Voting for North Carolina’s Best Modernist Houses (international); deadline: July 22 [images] - Triangle Modernist Houses (TMH)

Revealed: first pictures of Zaha Hadid boat: ...the Z Boat - an 8m-long motorboat designed for US art dealer Kenny Schachter... It is understood he has also asked Rem Koolhaas to design a hybrid sail and motor yacht. [images] - The Architects’ Journal (UK)


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Toyo Ito & Associates: Ken Iwata Mother and Child Museum, Imabari City, Japan

-- Exhibition: “Show Me Your Model” - Danish Architecture Centre/DAC, Copenhagen, Denmark

-- Steven Holl Architects: Daeyang Gallery and House, Seoul, Korea

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