Today's News - Wednesday, June 24, 2015

- A survey finds "only a handful" of city councilors "are ready to voice their support" for the Guggenheim Helsinki, for "largely financial" reasons.
- Rosenblum wonders whether the Guggenheim Helsinki will ever be built: "The questions that I raised in October 2013 are still very pertinent today."
- Kimmelman cheers LG's "corporate prudence" in deciding to come to a "win-win" agreement with opponents of its rather towering HQ plans on the Palisades: "Whether the architecture remains less than stellar is now the company's own business."
- Dryer explains exactly what the LG-on-the-Palisades entails: it "substitutes width for height" (and serious protection for migratory birds).
- A large gaggle of very "big guns" come out in support of saving Robin Hood Gardens (who isn't on the list?!?).
- Meanwhile, residents of Robin Hood Gardens invite Rogers to stay with them after he said he would 'absolutely' live there. It is a claim he may regret.
- A stellar team named to design Parramatta square's public space (with more stellar names designing projects around it).
- Merrick parses Grimshev's Manhattan transit hub that "offers light at the end of the tunnel for benighted commuters. This let-there-be-light element is not the only first - the design's 'wow' factor duly seizes into the 'how' factor."
- Could there be potential light at the end of the tunnel for both beleaguered car industry workers and housing affordability issues by transferring manufacturing skills to the modular building industry?"
- A fascinating look at how approx. 92% of materials from the demolition of San Francisco 49ers' Candlestick Park will be reused on site (too bad use of recycled water is not allowed).
- Heathcote pens a most poetic ode to the public bench: "It is a place to be private in public, a small space in the melee of the metropolis where it is acceptable to do nothing, to consume nothing, to just be" (with one particularly "delightful moment").
- Some disheartening surprises on this year's America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list.
- CUF's new "Creative New York" study shows "the creative sector is one of city's most important economic assets" - architects included, but the sector also "faces a growing number of challenges."
- Some disheartening surprises on this year's America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list.
- NCARB changes its certification process for foreign architects to "alleviate some of the financial and administrative obstacles" in meeting U.S. licensure standards.

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Councillors lukewarm on Guggenheim Helsinki: Only a handful of councillors for the City of Helsinki are ready to voice their support...Arguments against the project are largely financial...fundraising campaign is behind schedule due to the economic conditions in Finland and the unwillingness of certain potential donors to commit before the city has made up its mind on the project. -- Moreau Kusunoki Architects - Helsinki (Finland)

"Fragmented Exhibition Spaces": Guggenheim Picks Architects for Helsinki: "Art in the City," the winning design for the proposed (but not yet government-approved) Guggenheim Helsinki...But will this ever get built? The questions that I raised...in October 2013, when the Guggenheim released its revised proposal, are still very pertinent today. By Lee Rosenbaum -- Moreau Kusunoki Architects - ArtsJournal

LG to Reduce Height of Headquarters, Preserving Palisades Horizon: The South Korean conglomerate, after opposition from conservation and environmental groups, has agreed to cut the height of the tower it was planning to build on the cliffs by about half...substitutes width for height...The company also said it planned special lighting arrays that were intended to protect migratory birds. By Jim Dwyer -- HOK; Saratoga Associates [images] - New York Times

Big guns come out in support of Robin Hood Gardens: ...have all written to the government in support of listing... -- Renzo Piano; Moshe Safdie; Jean Nouvel; Frank Gehry; Rafael Viñoly; Ted Cullman; Will Alsop; Amanda Levete; Stephen Hodder; John McAslan; Renato Benedetti; Paul Monaghan; Peter Barber; Malcolm Reading; Norman Foster; Richard Rodgers; Simon Smithson; Alison and Peter Smithson - The Architects' Journal (UK)

'Lord Rogers would live on this estate? Let him be our guest': Residents of blighted Robin Hood Estate challenge Richard Rogers to stay with them after the architect said he would 'absolutely' live there. It is a claim he may regret. -- Alison and Peter Smithson - Telegraph (UK)

Architects appointed for Parramatta Square public space...comprises a 20,000 square metre public space...new public domain will sit in the centre of the $2 billion, three-hectare rejuvenation... -- Gehl Architects; JMD Design; Taylor Cullity Lethlean; Tonkin Zulaikha Greer - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Fulton Centre hub in Manhattan named Building of the Year thanks to technique which channels light underground: New York transport hub offers light at the end of the tunnel for benighted commuters...This let-there-be-light element is not the only first that the hub has achieved...the design's "wow" factor duly seizes into the "how" factor... By Jay Merrick -- The Architects' Journal; Grimshaw Architects; Arup; James Carpenter Design Associates - Independent (UK)

Could prefab save car industry workers? Transferring skills from the dwindling car manufacturing industry to the modular building industry could bring huge benefits...prefabricated building manufacturing industry could create jobs, grow the economy and help to alleviate housing affordability issues. -- Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Low Carbon Living; University of Melbourne Training Centre for Advanced Manufacturing in Prefabricated Housing - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Materials from San Francisco 49ers' Candlestick Park score a second life: Approximately 92% of the material by mass (mostly concrete) will be reused on site as part of a major retail and housing development...for Hunters Point Shipyard; Candlestick Park...a high-profile example of the value embedded in construction and demolition (C&D) materials... By Mike Howes - GreenBiz

Public benches: the seat of civilisation: The most archetypal item of furniture is inscribed in the language, culture and social spaces of our cities... has become the symbol of the democratic city - of free, accessible and equitable public space provided by the city for its citizens. It is a place to be private in public, a small space in the melee of the metropolis where it is acceptable to do nothing, to consume nothing, to just be. A truly free bench. By Edwin Heathcote [images] - Financial Times (UK)

American's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places: This year's list...most diverse list ever...includes Fort Worth Stockyards, Texas; Grand Canyon, Arizona; Little Havana, Florida; Old U.S. Mint, San Francisco; South Street Seaport, New York City [images] - National Trust for Historic Preservation/NTHP
Creative New York: ...the creative sector is one of New York City’s most important economic assets. But the city’s working artists, nonprofit arts groups and for-profit creative firms face a growing number of challenges...NYC is home to 8.6 % of all creative sector jobs in the nation, up from 7.1% in 2003. By Adam Forman- Center for an Urban Future (CUF)

NCARB Overhauls Certification Process for Foreign Architects: The new requirements alleviate some of the financial and administrative obstacles for foreign architects to meet the requirements of U.S. licensure standards...will discontinue the current Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) Program...in favor of an alternative certification process...- Architect Magazine

Call for entries: Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Spofford Live/Work Campus in Hunts Point, Bronx, NY; a combined lot area of approximately 4.75 acres; deadline: October 1- New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC)

Call for entries: Call for Nominations: gb&d 2015 Women in Sustainability Leadership Awards; nominees are not required to be in the design or building industry, but can be involved in any business sector; public or private, and with companies/organizations of all sizes; deadline: July 15- Green Building & Design

Call for entries: 2016 SAH Award for Film and Video to recognize annually the most distinguished work of film or video on the history of the built environment (international); deadline: August 1- Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

Call for entries: SAH H. Allen Brooks Travelling Fellowship will allow a recent graduate or emerging scholar to study by travel for one year; deadline: October 1- Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

A Conversation with HOK’s Kenneth Drucker re: Architect-US Professional Career Training Program: The design principal of HOK’s New York City office discusses the benefits of participating in the program for both U.S.-based firms and young international architects.- ArchNewsNow.com

"Snøhetta - World Architecture" at the Danish Architecture Centre in Copenhagen: ...gives a unique insight to the talented people, crazy projects and the alternative thinking that have gained this Norwegian architecture firm worldwide fame...inviting you to step into Snøhetta’s office, workshops and universe. June 18 - September 27 [images]