

Today's News - August 24, 2005

Solutions for cities: more walking in Washington, DC, and bicycles as public transit in Lyon, France. – Sane design review, not zoning, the solution to stem McMansion mania. – A "tyranny of safety" stems design creativity in Toronto. – Corpus Christi gets serious about its waterfront. – An impressive shortlist vies for Harvard science buildings. – Design for Kansas City's new arena needs better links to its surroundings. – The design of a platypusary in Australia is as "free as a roaming platypus" (we wish there were pictures!). – Washington, DC, has a new and "polite yet engaging jewel" adorning an important corner. – A Philadelphia condo tower gets shorter and "nicer." – A call for Philadelphia to let its own bright stars design the new Barnes. – The historic Palm Springs Racquet Club to become a haven for yuppies and baby boomers – a better fate than Bunshaft's Travertine House (now only a vacant lot with a great view). – A new book calls for universities to participate in creating sustainable urban neighborhoods.

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[What's wrong with cities? Nothing walking won't solve: These ideas are not new or radical...But their implementation requires radical change to alter the habits of conventional developers and policymakers. By Lance Hosey](#)- Washington Business Journal

[A P2P Network for Bikes: Lyon, France, is trying out a new public transit system that lets people borrow bikes from public racks for short jaunts across the city. Could this break the urban commute bottleneck?](#)- Wired News

[What's the Best Way to Address 'Supersized Homes'? \(Hint: It's Not Through Zoning\): Design review can't change the talent of an architect...but it can foster higher aesthetic aspirations. By Roger K. Lewis](#)- Washington Post

[City free of risk, but at what cost? Obsession with safety means design and inspiration take a back seat. By Christopher Hume](#)- Toronto Star

[\\$800K+ accord OK'd by council: Local architect firm to get public input...plan to redevelop the downtown waterfront is now under way. -- Gignac & Associates; Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback; Arquitectonica; Sasaki Associates](#)- Corpus Christi Caller-Times (Texas)

[Science first: Four high-powered architectural teams are now competing for the right to design the first of the two 500,000-square-foot \[Harvard\] buildings -- Behnisch, Behnisch & Partner; Kallmann McKinnell Wood; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam; Rafael Vinoly](#)- Boston Globe

[Editorial: Sprint Center arena: Plan is exciting but needs work: ...a design of which Kansas City can be proud, but the designers have more work to do to strengthen the arena's links with its surroundings. -- Downtown Arena Design Team \(HOK Sport/Ellerbe Becket/360 Architecture/Rafael Architects\)](#)- Kansas City Star

[Platypusary, Healesville Sanctuary: Cassandra Fahey took the most curious aspect of this animal - its egg-laying - and designed a building around it. By Norman Day](#)- The Age (Australia)

[Corner Kick: An Architect Scores With an Elegant Office Building at A Key Intersection...a polite yet engaging jewel for this prominent setting. By Benjamin Forgey -- James Ingo Freed/Pei Cobb Freed & Partners \[image\]](#)- Washington Post

[Condo bucks a rising trend: The Ritz-Carlton plan goes shorter, brighter...It also got nicer. By Inga Saffron -- Handel Architects \[image\]](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Commentary: Designing the Barnes: Philly firm is ready, able...while these peripatetic architectural prophets are hailed worldwide as heroes, we treat them rather shabbily at home. By Harris Steinberg -- Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Architect envisions retreat for yuppies, baby boomers: This private enclave will be found at the redesigned historic Palm Springs Racquet Club... -- Michael Mueller/Van Scott Jones](#)- The Desert Sun (Palm Springs)

[Bunshaft House Demolished: The dog days of late July saw the demolition of the Travertine House, the only residence designed by former Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\) principal...a new building "in the spirit of the former house, using the same footprint".... -- Pill-Maharam Associates](#)- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

[Book Review: "Promise and Betrayal: Universities and the Battle for Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods" by John Gilderblom and R.L. Mullins Jr.](#)- Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY)

[INSIGHT: Downtown Vancouver's Last Resort: How Did "Living First" Become "Condos Only?" By Trevor Boddy](#)- ArchNewsNow

[August '05 Build Business: PR Tips from Two Pros](#)

-- Exhibition: "Dream of Tower" at the Danish Architecture Centre, Copenhagen
-- Competition winner: Steven Holl Architects: Sail Hybrid/Albert Place Casino, Knokke-Heist, Belgium
-- MVRDV: Gemini Residence, Copenhagen

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