

PRESS RELEASE-UPDATE



FINALS JURY PANEL ANNOUNCED

TOP DEVELOPERS, CIVIC AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO CHOOSE \$15,000 PRIZE WINNERS

HOUSTON - January 21, 2010 – Finals presentations in the Houston Land/Water Sustainability Forum’s Low Impact Development Design Competition will be judged by a Jury made up of some of the area’s top developers, along with civic and governmental leaders interested in the direction of Houston area development. The competition was designed to explore the economic, environmental and quality of life gains to be had by adapting Low Impact Development and other sustainable development practices to local conditions.

The Finals Jury Panel and the organizations they represent include:

Commissioner Sylvia R. Garcia
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner

David Nussbaum, Vice President-Development
Mischer Investments, LP

Mike Talbott, Director
Harris County Flood Control District

Perry Senn, Principal
Peron Development

David Hightower, Ex VP & Chief Development Officer
The Wolff Companies

Amer Al-Nahas, President-Civil
SpawGlass Construction Corporation

Frank Liu, Principal
Lovett Homes

Jimmy Pappas, Principal
Corinthian Development

Richard Johnson, Director of Sustainability
Rice University

Dan Gilbane, Development Manager
Gilbane Building Company

Dov Weitman, Chief, Nonpoint Source Control Branch
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Terry Hershey
Bayou Preservation Association

John Blount, Director of Architecture & Engineering
Harris County Public Infrastructure Department

Ed Wulfe, President
Wulfe & Company

Carol Haddock, Sr Asst Director PW&E, City of Houston
American Society of Civil Engineers – Houston

Bill Huntsinger, VP-Planning
Metro National Corporation

Ian Powell, President-Elect, AIA Houston
Architecture Center Houston Foundation

Ralph DeLeon, TIRZ 15 Program Manager
City of Houston TIRZ 15

Christopher Gilbert, Project/Construction Manager
General Growth Properties, Inc.

Andrew Steffen, Project Manager
Hines Interests

Nine finalist teams competing in three design challenge categories in the Houston Land/Water Sustainability Forum’s Low Impact Development Design Competition will make their presentations to the finals jury panel in a public event at the **Rice Hotel’s Crystal Ballroom, in downtown Houston on Wednesday evening, January 27.**

The finals event will feature a fast-paced 'lightning' presentation format, requiring presenters to use no more than 20 automatically advancing PowerPoint slides and to complete their presentation in 7 minutes or less. Attendees and Jury panel alike can expect each presentation to be lively, entertaining and thought-provoking.

[Click here for list of finalists, ticketing information and event details.](#)

The HLWSF expects this competition to accelerate the speed with which these sustainable development practices are adopted and implemented in the Houston area and it is expected that the finals presentations will demonstrate why, in dramatic fashion.

DESIGN CHALLENGE CATEGORIES AND SPONSORS

The finals Jury Panel will select \$15,000 prize winners in three categories:

SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL

Prize money provided by Mischer Investments, LP

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

Prize money provided by Architecture Center Houston Foundation (ArCH)

GREEN ROADWAY

Prize money provided by American Society of Civil Engineers, Houston Chapter (ASCE-Houston)

The finals event is underwritten by the Bayou Preservation Association (BPA) and civic leader and Board Member Terry Hershey. Mission-critical support for the competition has been provided by the American Institute of Architects-Houston. Design Challenge properties were provided by Harris County Precinct 2, City of Houston TIRZ 15 and Mischer Investments, LP.

Robert Adair, Houston Land & Water Sustainability Forum steering committee chairman and President at Construction EcoServices reports, “Twenty-two integrated design teams involving more than 225 individuals representing the ‘best and brightest’ from 48 of the top design firms in our area submitted design challenge solutions. Teams include civil engineers, hydrologists, architects, landscape architects, land planners and environmentalists, among others. The quality of the submittals was outstanding.”

“The rapid-fire presentation format we’ve chosen for the Finals event levels the playing field and forces the presenters to make concise, understandable and exciting presentations that will appeal to the judges and the audience. It is actually quite a challenge to communicate and explain the attributes of a LID design project in seven minutes,” says Adair.

The finals event is expected to draw more than 250 attendees from the local design, planning, development and construction communities. The general public is also invited.