

## Foster + Partners to Design New 425 Park Avenue Tower

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A partnership among L&L Holding Company and Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. (LBHI) has selected Foster + Partners, led by Pritzker Prize winning architect Lord Norman Foster, to design the 650,000 square foot office tower to be constructed to LEED sustainability standards at 425 Park Avenue in the Plaza District of Manhattan.

Foster + Partners was selected at the conclusion of an international architects competition, a six-month process involving many of the world's most acclaimed architecture firms.

In addition to Foster + Partners, the partnership selected Rogers, Stirk, Harbour + Partners (Lord Richard Rogers), OMA (Rem Koolhaas) and Zaha Hadid Architects to participate in the final, conceptual design phase of the competition over the summer.

L&L Holding Chairman and CEO David Levinson also announced that he and Lord Foster will make a presentation on the conceptual design during the Municipal Arts Society's third annual Summit for New York City on October 19th. The two-day summit, which starts on October 18th will also feature an exhibit featuring the 425 Park Avenue design concepts that were presented by each of the four finalists in the competition.

### Foster + Partners Design Concept

Located in New York's Plaza District, 425 Park Avenue will be the first full-block office development on this stretch in nearly half a century. The tower will be situated along Park Avenue's double-wide boulevard with its green medians, modern art exhibits and broad sidewalks.

The district is also recognized as an epicenter of architectural excellence, as exemplified by the nearby Seagram Building and Lever House, which are two of only five structures in New York City to have won the AIA's esteemed "25 Year Award."

Foster + Partners views the project as an outstanding opportunity to contribute to the existing character of Park Avenue while also responding to the scale and datum of the boulevard and neighboring buildings.

Foster + Partners' conceptual design features a tapered steel-frame tower rising to meet three illuminated shear walls, adding to the New York City skyline. The conceptual design also calls for a façade that integrates with the internal arrangement that allows for three gradated tiers of column-free floors.

Foster + Partners envisions a new tower that anticipates changing needs in the workplace with large, open spaces that encompass flexible use. Each of the three tiers

– low, medium and high-rise – is defined by a landscaped terrace that would provide amenity for tenants and offer panoramic views across Manhattan and Central Park.

At street level, the conceptual design for 425 Park Avenue gives as much to the city as to the people that will work in it with the potential for a large civic plaza marked by significant works of art.

The conceptual design will serve as the framework for a two-year collaborative process with L&L Holding's project team to create a fully formed architectural and construction plan for the 425 Park Avenue tower. L&L Holding anticipates the start of construction in 2015 with the new 425 Park Avenue tower to be completed by the end of 2017.