

Team Design Process

In Phase 2 of the competition we received excellent feedback from the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the Boston Harbor Association and the Living with Water Critics. As a result we've concentrated on complex issues of implementation and creating an impression of what it would be like to live in the ReDe District, while enriching the concepts underlying our initial plan.

ARCHITERRA is a small firm dedicated to the design and construction of beautiful, inspirational, high performance and Zero Net Energy buildings. Based on the first floor of Boston's Historic Long Wharf, we have a front row seat at the challenge presented by rising tides due to human induced climate change.

Our office is highly collaborative, entirely open with all staff working at continuous tables. For this competition the core team consisted of two of the firm's principals Ellen Watts and Daniel Bernstein, and a team of five talented young architects - Matt Calvey, Caitlin Gilman, Pete Hanley, Jaime McGavin and Nikul Patel - though many other Architerrans and colleagues also contributed. Five of the team are current residents of Boston; the other two lived in Boston for 16 years and have worked here for their entire careers.

Our expertise in Boston's unique topographic history, urban planning, real estate development, sustainable and resilient design and renewable energy are all integral to the concepts presented for the 100 Acres Site.

Through internal ARCHITERRA "Ideas Workshops", we realized that preparing our competition entry was a valuable education in the potential strategies for preparing for rising tides and storm events not just in Boston, but for most of the world's great cities.

For the Living with Water competition we are asked to posit a planning strategy for an entire urban district and to demonstrate how it would feel to live there. To help us efficiently produce the variety and vitality we would expect to see at an International Exposition of Regenerative Design, we have borrowed facades freely from the work of some of the sustainable architects we most admire – we hope this is viewed in the way it is intended - as a compliment to the best architects practicing today. Fans of architecture may see in our perspectives echoes of works by Sauerbruch & Hutton, CF Moller, Studio Gang, EMBA, Behnisch Architekten, and Herzog + Partner.

The competition gave us an opportunity to project our passion for sustainable design forward 85 years to imagine a positive, regenerative future for all the citizens of Boston – a future when:

- Energy is entirely renewable and generated locally;
- Open space is available to all;
- People both live and work in a vibrant mixed use neighborhood filled with shops, events and restaurants;
- Personal ownership of automobiles is uneconomic and unnecessary in a city served by electric Busways, bike sharing, and on-call autonomous vehicles;
- High performance buildings and efficient micro-unit design make inner city living affordable to people of all ages and incomes;
- A rejuvenated Fort Point Channel becomes the focus of an urban celebration;
- An international exposition of Regenerative Design catapults Boston to the forefront of world cities using humane technology to combat climate change.