

# Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor and Green District Competition

## An Open Ideas Competition

Sponsored by the Future Initiatives program at SCI-Arc and *The Architect's Newspaper*

# CALL FOR ENTRIES



CleanTech Regional Location



Clean Tech Corridor



CleanTech Site at Alameda & 17th



Downtown Los Angeles and the LA River

## INTRODUCTION

**The Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor and Green District Competition** is an open ideas competition sponsored by the Future Initiatives (SCIFI) program at the Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) and *The Architect's Newspaper*. Presented in partnership with the Office of the Mayor of Los Angeles, the Community Redevelopment Agency of Los Angeles and a host of public and private sponsors, the competition seeks innovative and integrated urban and architectural designs for the several-mile-long corridor, which was recently established on the eastern edge of downtown L.A.

The competition encourages architects, landscape architects, designers, engineers, urban planners, environmental professionals and students to create innovative urban and architectural visions for Los Angeles' Cleantech Corridor. Entrants are asked to challenge conventional wisdom about civic development, green architecture and regulatory constraints, deploying fresh design strategies that reset the relationship between industrial, living and public space in Los Angeles.

## Background

In fall 2008, the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency established the Cleantech Corridor, a swath of some 2,000 acres on the eastern edge of Downtown L.A. The land use directive was reserved for researchers, designers, and manufacturers facilitating the creation of clean technology products and inventive solutions to climate change. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said that the corridor would put "Los Angeles at the forefront of the clean tech revolution and transform the old, downtown industrial core into an incubator for green jobs, technology and the growth of L.A.'s economy." As envisioned by city planners, the Cleantech Corridor begins along several properties straddling the L.A. River, near Los Angeles State Historic Park, the former Cornfield site. Continuing south into the Artists-in-Residence district, the stretch encompasses Alameda Street to the river, and from 1st Street to south of 7th Street.

The corridor terminates at a roughly 20-acre vacant site at Santa Fe Avenue and 15th Street, just south of the 10 Freeway. This property, which forms the corridor's southern anchor, has been targeted as a model CleanTech Manufacturing site. Farther north along the corridor, the City of L.A. has plans for a Department of Water and Power (DWP) research center focusing on renewable energy, climate change and water management to attract companies that want to work with area universities. A cluster of laboratories would be housed in a transformer warehouse overlooking the river on the DWP's Main Street site. The Corridor will also host the DWP Innovation Campus & Cleantech Business Incubator Site, a Cleantech Manufacturing Center Site and create the Cornfields Arroyo Seco neighborhood – a LEED community. Tenants in the area will have access to government financial incentives, tax credits, permit expediting, workforce recruiting and training.

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## BRIEF

This competition asks entrants to build on and expand Mayor Villaraigosa's ideas to develop a large-scale urban vision and specific architectural strategies that move beyond base-line industrial uses, to create an integrated economic, residential and cultural engine for the city. Crucially, this competition seeks to provide an open ideas forum for provocative, even revolutionary, re-conceptualizations of LA's urban fabric, architecture, infrastructure, energy sources, economy, and urban organizational systems.

Competitors are also asked to consider and expand on the work already completed by the Urban Land Institute's Advisory Service Panel (ULI) on the Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor that is sponsored by the CRA/LA and the DWP (see link to ULI Findings below).

## OBJECTIVES

In response to this extraordinary opportunity the competition asks competitors to propose innovative ideas for the corridor at a minimum of **two (2)** of the following three potential scales and/or sites. Competitors must clearly state and illustrate the chosen scales of design in the entries:

### 1. Architectural (Small scale)

This scale of work calls for entrants to submit designs for a model Cleantech Facility. This Facility should incorporate and accommodate the newest green technology manufacturing processes, support engagement with the community, and may also contain other uses like retail or residential. This Facility can be located at the DWP Innovation Campus & Cleantech Business Incubator Site or further south at the Cleantech Manufacturing Center Site (see Cleantech Corridor Map for locations and reference section for further details).

### 2. Local: a Green District (Medium scale)

This scale of work requires that entrants develop a plan for a multi block Green District within the corridor. The district can be located anywhere in the corridor; for instance around the DWP LA River site, incorporating research facilities and other aligned uses; around the Cleantech Manufacturing Center, around the DWP Innovation Campus & Cleantech Business Incubator Site or around the Downtown Arts District/SCI-Arc area. Entrants should illustrate a multi-block Green District inclusive of new building types, circulation, and open spaces. This scale of work should include urban design guidelines, land-use planning, transit schemes, public space strategies, and sustainable energy solutions. Proposals should explicitly link the scales of architectural and district design.

### 3. Urban: the Cleantech Corridor (Large scale)

This scale of work demands that entrants propose a comprehensive urban vision for the entire Los Angeles' Cleantech Corridor. Competitors will be asked in this instance to respond to the guidelines for the Corridor developed by the City of LA in partnership with the ULI (see link to ULI Report below). Proposals should explicitly link the scales of architectural, district and corridor design.

## INTENT

The intent of this open ideas competition is to:

- Expand the field of ideas for Cleantech architectural design
- Improve the discussion and appreciation of green urban redevelopment projects in Los Angeles
- Broaden our thinking and discussions about the relationships between industrial, residential, recreational and other uses and the built environment
- Develop specific solutions that can be used as a model for the city in its future infrastructural development
- Reward entries focused on both specific architectural projects as well as frame and address larger-scale, inter-related urban planning challenges
- Reward entries that challenge and question received wisdoms about green technology, green architecture and urban design
- Encourage competitors to work in multidisciplinary teams

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## TIMELINE

- August 9** Competition Launch
- August 20** FAQ Deadline (Competitor Questions Due)
- August 25** FAQ released on [www.sciarc.edu](http://www.sciarc.edu)
- August 30** **Entry Fees Due / Competition Registration Closes**
- September 30** **Entries Due**
- October 9** Competition Symposium at SCI-Arc  
Winners Announced and Results Posted Online  
Exhibition Opening

## JURY

**Calvin Hollis**, Chief Operating Officer - Real Estate and Economic Development  
Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles

**Ming Fung**, Graduate Director, SCI-Arc; Principal, Hodgetts+Fung Design and Architecture

**Cris B. Liban**, D.Env., P.E., Environmental Compliance and Services Department Manager  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Michael Maltzan**, Principal, Michael Maltzan Architecture

**Romel Pascual**, City of Los Angeles Deputy Mayor, Energy and Environment

**Nikolas Patsaouras**, past president of the Board of the Water and Power Commissioners and former board member of the MTA

*Others Jurors to be announced.*

## PRIZES

A total of up to \$11,500.00 USD in prize monies will be awarded at the discretion of the Jury:

### Professional Category

- First Place Award: **\$5000.00 USD**  
Second Place Award: **\$2000.00 USD**  
Third Place Award: **\$1000.00 USD**  
5 Honorable Mentions Award Plaque and a set of books from the SCI-Arc Publications Collection

### Student Category

- First Place Award: **\$2000.00 USD**  
Second Place Award: **\$1000.00 USD**  
Third Place Award: **\$500.00 USD**  
5 Honorable Mentions Award Plaque and a set of books from the SCI-Arc Publications Collection

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## COMPETITION ENTRY RULES

### WHO CAN ENTER?

We encourage architects, landscape architects, designers, engineers, urban planners, environmental professionals and students to enter the competition. That said any interested party may enter this competition. Entries may be submitted by individuals or teams but we strongly encourage multidisciplinary team entries.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

#### DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS ONLY

Entrants are asked to submit up to three digital images/boards with an accompanying narrative in a Word Document.

Please use these guidelines to format each image/board:

- A. **Image/Board 1:** Urban Scale Concept, Views and Vicinity Plan (scale left to entrants' discretion)
- B. **Image/Board 2:** Architectural Scale or Building Scale Plans and Sections (scale left to entrants' discretion)
- C. **Image/Board 3:** Cleantech, Green District Concepts and Diagrams (scale left to entrants' discretion)

Beyond these requirements, presentation techniques and arrangements are absolutely open and left to the discretion of the project designer(s). However, each competition entry should clearly document the proposal as well as the design approach to the project via scaled line drawings, diagrams and views.

Textual descriptions should be expressed in **English Only** and should be incorporated into the graphic presentation of the project as well as included in the accompanying Word Document.

## ENTRY FEES and PAYMENT

Student Entries:           \$50.00 USD / Please provide copy of Student ID in zip submission folder

Professional Entries:    \$100.00 USD

Entrants are asked to submit entry fees via the following Paypal Account:

### SCIArc\_Cleantech\_Competition

Entrants should include their names in the subject line and contact email and identification information in the message box when paying via Paypal. Proof of Payment may be included with each submission as a PDF.

On receipt of fee, entrants will be emailed a Unique Competitor Registration Number for inclusion with their entry submissions (see below). Registration Numbers will be emailed no later than Monday September 20, 2010.

There is no limit on the number of entries submitted by each individual or team, however ONLY One Entry is allowed per each individual Entry Fee.

All Entry Fees are Non Refundable.

No other forms of payment will be accepted.

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### DEADLINE

**EMAIL ENTRIES NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT Pacific Time PST / PDT ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 TO:**

competitions@sciarc.edu

Late entries will be disqualified.

### DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS ONLY

### EMAIL ENTRIES IN ONE ZIP FILE ONLY

No other forms of entry will be accepted. Entries received via mail, FEDEX, courier etc. will be disqualified.

### FILE FORMATS:

#### File Types

.JPG images and .PDF boards must BOTH be submitted by all entrants to qualify for an award and/or inclusion in the exhibition. **NO OTHER FILE FORMATS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

#### Orientation and Dimensions:

.JPG Rectangular HORIZONTAL (Landscape) 3500 H x 2600 W (pixels) at 72 DPI minimum

.PDF Rectangular HORIZONTAL (Landscape) 48" H x 36" W (inches)

#### Compress and email ZIP file (ONLY) as follows:

Five Megabytes (05 MB) MAXIMUM

#### FILE NAMING

Each FILE submitted must be named to match the unique Competitor Registration Number which will be emailed to each entrant upon receipt of entry fees.

Registration Numbers will be emailed no later than Monday September 20, 2010

For example, if the unique Competitor Registration Number assigned to your entry is 01234, then the entries should be submitted and named as follows:

#### Sample Entrant Folder and File Naming

ZIP Folder Name:	01234.zip
Image 1 File Name(s):	01234_1.jpg / 01234_1.PDF
Image 1 File Name(s):	01234_2.jpg / 01234_2.PDF
Image 1 File Name(s):	01234_3.jpg / 01234_3.PDF
Word File	01234.doc

**NO OTHER FORM OF IDENTIFICATION MAY APPEAR ON THE IMAGES/BOARDS.**

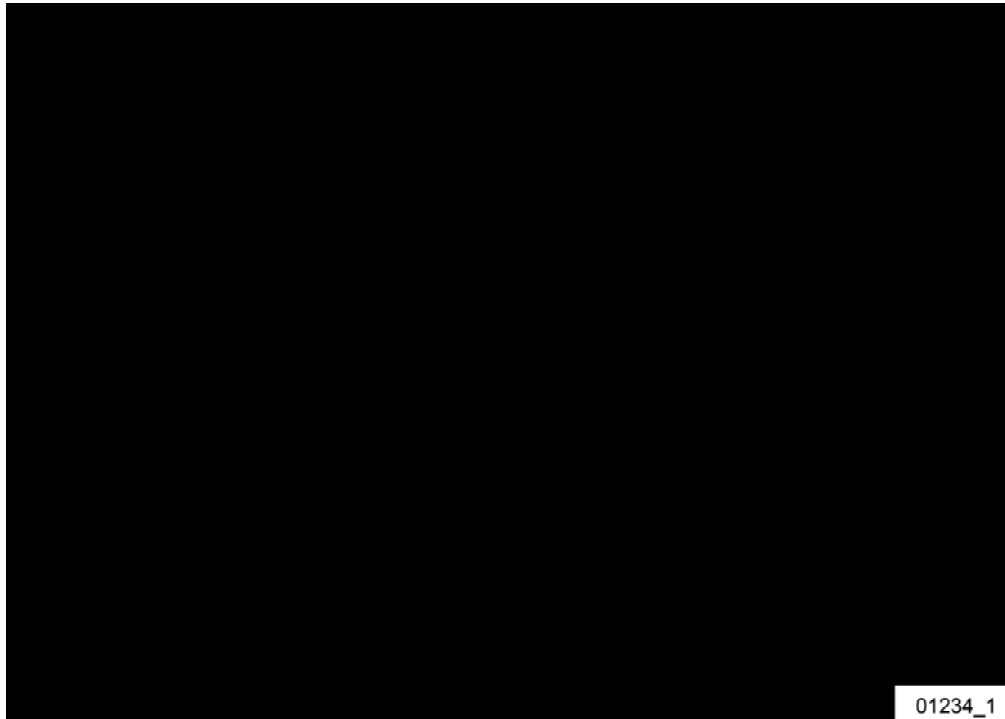
**ANY FORM OF IDENTIFICATION (TEAM NAMES, INDIVIDUAL'S NAME ETC.) WILL LEAD TO DISQUALIFICATION**

## **Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor and Green District Competition**

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### **IMAGE FILE LABELING**

Each IMAGE/BOARD FILE submitted must be labeled in the lower right-hand corner to match your unique Competitor Registration Number as follows:



THIS IS AN EXAMPLE FOR IMAGE 1/ BOARD 1 ONLY LABEL ALL OTHER IMAGES/BOARDS IN SEQUENCE

### **IDENTIFICATION of ENTRIES**

Entrants must provide the following information in the Word File submission:

**Individual Entrant Name or Team Name**

**Unique Competitor Registration Number**

**Occupation (Professional or Student)**

**Age and Academic or Professional Affiliations**

**Address and Telephone/Facsimile numbers**

**E-mail Address**

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### **FAQ**

**August 20**      FAQ Deadline (competitor questions due)

Entrants should mail any questions related to the competition that are not answered here to:

**competition\_faq@sciarc.edu**

**August 25**      FAQ released on [www.sciarc.edu](http://www.sciarc.edu)

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

#### **Winners**

Winning Entrants will be notified on or before Wednesday, October 6, 2010.

Winners will be given the option to attend the award ceremony in Los Angeles the following weekend or nominate a representative to collect their prize in their absence. SCI-Arc does not cover travel to Los Angeles or accommodation in Los Angeles.

#### **Copyright**

Entrants retain copyright of their designs. The organizers retain right of use for express purposes of press, publication and exhibition. Entrants may not make entries or design aspects of entries public on or before Saturday, October 9, 2010. Publication or distribution of entries or design aspects of entries prior to that date will disqualify the entrant(s) from jury evaluation.

#### **Publicity**

SCI-Arc and *The Architects Newspaper* retain the right to publish the winners' entries in perpetuity. SCI-Arc and *the Architects Newspaper* will release a press kit to all winners that must be utilized by all winners when promoting the winning entries. Winners may be asked to participate in press events (live) or be available for interviews (live or via email).

### **PUBLIC JURY DISCUSSION AND EXHIBITION SCHEDULE:**

#### **Saturday, October 9, 2010**

Public Announcement of Winners and Jury Discussion, 2 pm in the W. M. Keck Lecture Hall  
Exhibition Opening Reception, 4-5pm in the Library Gallery

**Selected entries will be exhibited at SCI-Arc in the Library Gallery from October 9 to October 27, 2010**

## **Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor and Green District Competition**

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# **Competition Sponsors**

**Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles**

**City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs**

**Quercus Trust**

**Latham & Watkins LLP**

# **Competition Partners**

**Mayor of the City of Los Angeles' Office of Economic and Business Policy**

**Metro LA**

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Clean Tech LA**

**U.S. Green Building Council, Los Angeles Chapter**

This project is made possible in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs.

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### **COMPETITION REFERENCES and RESOURCES**

Extensive information about the Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor, L.A.'s urban organization, and geography is available online.

Aside from the map provided here, no other resources (for instance, aerial or site photography, parcel maps, or plot plans) will be provided by the organizers.

We encourage entrants to physically visit the site, if possible, or take advantage of online tools such as Google Maps, Google Earth, Bing Maps, as well as platforms such as ArcView GIS and SimplyMAP GIS, to familiarize themselves with L.A., the competition site, and environs.

#### **CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

CleanTech Los Angeles  
<http://cleantechlosangeles.org/>

CleanTech Los Angeles Resources  
<http://cleantechlosangeles.org/resources/>

Los Angeles Cleantech Corridor Map  
[http://www.crala.net/internet-site/Projects/Central\\_Industrial/upload/CLEANTECH%20CORRIDOR%20MAP-2.pdf](http://www.crala.net/internet-site/Projects/Central_Industrial/upload/CLEANTECH%20CORRIDOR%20MAP-2.pdf)

Cleantech Manufacturing Center RFI  
[http://www.lachamber.com/clientuploads/EWE\\_committee/RFI\\_FINAL\\_9\\_16\\_2008.pdf](http://www.lachamber.com/clientuploads/EWE_committee/RFI_FINAL_9_16_2008.pdf)

ZIMAS – Los Angeles Zoning Information Map Access System  
[http://www.lachamber.com/clientuploads/EWE\\_committee/RFI\\_FINAL\\_9\\_16\\_2008.pdf](http://www.lachamber.com/clientuploads/EWE_committee/RFI_FINAL_9_16_2008.pdf)

Los Angeles County Public Works Land Records  
<http://gis.dpw.lacounty.gov/website/SurveyRecord/>

#### **ULI Advisory Service Panel**

<http://www.uli.org/CommunityBuilding/AdvisoryService/Upcoming%20Panels/Content/LA%20Cleantech%20Corridor.asp>

CleanTech Recommendations Powerpoint  
<http://www.uli.org/CommunityBuilding/AdvisoryService/Upcoming%20Panels/Content/~//media/Documents/CommunityBuilding/AdvisoryService/Upcoming%20Panels/CleantechPPT.ashx>

#### **Recent Press:**

<http://articles.latimes.com/2009/apr/28/local/me-clean-tech28>

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-clean-tech28-2009apr28,0,669366,print.story>

<http://www.ioe.ucla.edu/news/article.asp?parentid=3347>

<http://www.today.ucla.edu/portal/ut/la-to-become-the-capital-of-green-88893.aspx>

<http://www.socalofficerealestateblog.com/?cat=166>

<http://www.socalofficerealestateblog.com/?p=769>

101

DODGER STADIUM

LOS ANGELES STATE HISTORIC PARK

CORNFIELD/  
ARROYO SECO  
SPECIFIC PLAN AREA

## LOS ANGELES' CLEANTECH CORRIDOR

The Cleantech Corridor is a cluster of industrially-zoned land in Downtown Los Angeles being positioned as a destination for cleantech businesses. From manufacturing and research to business incubators, the Cleantech Corridor will attract quality green-collar jobs

CHINATOWN

DWP LA River Site

UNION STATION

101

10

DISNEY CONCERT HALL

BUNKER HILL

CITY HALL

METRO RED LINE

110

METRO BLUE LINE

LA LIVE

STAPLES CENTER

CONVENTION CENTER

# DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

METRO GOLD LINE EXTENSION

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE  
DISTRICT

SCI-ARC

ADELANTE  
EASTSIDE

DWP Innovation Campus &  
CleanTech Business Incubator

5

110

METRO EXPO LINE

METRO BLUE LINE

10

CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL

10

60

CleanTech Manufacturing Center

LOS ANGELES RIVER

ALAMEDA CORRIDOR

METRO BLUE LINE

