

suckerPUNCH competition



///the COMPETITION

Recently, New York's state government has been trying to legalize non-Indian casinos throughout the state. Current proposals are asking for the construction of seven "Vegas"-sized casinos throughout New York. Although lawmakers have pushed to keep the casinos out of New York City, this ideas competition aims to investigate what a casino would do to New York City and, likewise, what New York City would do to a casino. The New York casinos are being pitched by their supporters as "regional revitalization" tools. Although Manhattan is arguably in no need of revitalization, it does have one clear zone that could use rethinking—Hudson Yards and the area around its neighboring convention center. The existing Jacob Javits Center remains an isolated structure surrounded by a no-man's-land of parking and train tracks. Cut off from restaurants, hotels, and entertainment, it is hardly an inviting location for a large convention, nor does it allow for or engender connection to the city at-large. You might as well have your convention in Secaucus. There is talk of relocating the Center to Queens, to be sited next to the recently opened "racino" at Aqueduct Racetrack—a major financial success thus far, and example of the excitement people in the five boroughs have for gambling. The proposed convention center would be the largest in the United States.

This competition asks entrants to leave the convention center at its current location on Manhattan's West Side, but replace it and add a hotel and casino to the complex. Entrants are asked to rethink this zone so as to create a dynamic destination in the city for tourists, residents, and convention-goers alike. At the same time, the complex should become a draw for non convention-goers. If a Vegas-style themed casino clearly wouldn't work in New York City, then what would bring New Yorkers out to gamble? Is it a family focused zone for tourists or an adults-only retreat? The proposed building should incorporate state-of-the-art facilities for both modern gambling and high-tech conventions. The convention center should be unique while remaining flexible, and the casino should shake off both cheesy Vegas aesthetics and the dry desperation of Atlantic City to strive for something architecturally rich and complex—while simultaneously entertaining. The complex should also find a way to reconnect to Manhattan's nearby entertainment districts. Madison Square Garden, Times Square, and the High Line seem cut off, despite their proximity. This complex should aim to recharge its surroundings in the same way the High Line did the Meatpacking District, bringing in pedestrians and cleaning up the area. On the western, waters edge of Manhattan, the site also includes a large pier that can be used for a portion of the program or turned into outdoor parks and recreation areas. The site includes the land the current convention center lies on, the space over the West Side Yard train yard, and the aforementioned waterfront pier. The West Side Yard was designed to accommodate an overbuild in its air rights, and space was left between the tracks for columns to support a platform above the tracks. The history of proposals for the very same site includes the ongoing Hudson Yards Redevelopment and the IFCCA "Competition for Manhattan's West Side."

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///PROGRAM

Exhibition / Convention Space
2,000,000 square feet

Meeting Room Square Footage
200,000 square feet / 50 rooms

Ballroom
30,000 square feet

Theater
1500 seats

Lecture Hall
200 seats

Cafeteria / Restaurant / Lounge / Retail
60,000 square feet or 20 restaurants and 70 shops

Entertainment Area
40,000 square feet or 4 clubs and 1 large showroom

Gambling floor
120,000 square feet

Operational Facilities
200,000 square feet

Loading Docks
50 truck bays

Hotel
4000 suites

Service, Circulation and Support programs as required

This program is meant to be open and flexible. It should be used as a guideline but changes can be made at the discretion of each entrant.

This is an open, international ideas competition hosted by suckerPUNCH to generate progressive contemporary designs. There are no plans for the Casino/Convention Center to be built at this time. The site is not owned by or affiliated with suckerPUNCH.

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///jury/AWARDS

\$2500 in prizes will be awarded and the winning designs will be published on suckerPUNCH.

///entryREQUIREMENTS

This is an open ideas competition. entrants will be required to digitally submit two [2] boards at 18" high x 24" wide and 150dpi in tiff format with the provided 5 digit code in a 1"x1" square in the lower right hand corner of each board. Image requirements are as follows:

PLANS

all necessary site and floor plans to describe the project including at minimum a ground level plan describing the form, integration of program, and relationship to the site

*scale is at the discretion of the entrant

SECTIONS

one [1] north/south section

one [1] east/west section

*scale is at the discretion of the entrant

RENDERINGS

one [1] aerial view

one [1] street level view

one [1] interior view

*one rendering best describing the formal and atmospheric intent of the project must be rendered at 10" high x 13" wide and 150dpi in tiff format. This image is to be included on the boards as one of the above views.

///competitionSCHEDULE

27 April 2012 competition launch

11 June 2012 deadline for questions

18 June 2012 answers to questions will be posted on suckerPUNCH

25 June 2012 early registration deadline

13 August 2012 project submission deadline

3 September 2012 winners will be posted over the course of the week on suckerPUNCH

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///registration/FEES

Entrants may register by submitting payment to suckerPUNCH via paypal and contact info to competitions@suckerPUNCHdaily.com. Once payment and contact info is received, an email will be sent containing all project documentation (including dimensioned CAD plan, 3-D model, aerial photo, site photos, and zoning information) and a 5 digit identification number to be placed in a 1"x1" square on the bottom right corner of each board. The submission procedure will also be outlined in this email.

early registration fee - \$35

registration fee - \$65

please email any questions to competitions@suckerPUNCHdaily.com