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Contact: Zachary Burton
Email: zburton@westfield.in.gov
Office: 317-804-3004
Cell: 317-617-8524

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WESTFIELD SELECTS LEAD DESIGN GROUP FOR GRAND JUNCTION

Westfield, IN- The city of Westfield announced today that it has selected Land Collective as the lead design group for its historic Grand Junction Plaza project.

“After seven years of community dialogue and planning, the city has found what we believe is the perfect fit for the design of this important project,” Mayor Andy Cook said.

“Their work on Eskenazi Hospital in Indianapolis brought them to our attention, and their emphasis on collaborative, community driven design work left no doubt in our minds that this was the right group of people to take our community’s vision to the next level,” Cook said.

The Philadelphia-based landscape architecture and urban design group has a diverse client list, including universities, state parks and historic landscapes. Notable projects include Washington D.C.’s Canal Park, California Memorial Stadium at the University of California Berkeley, and Eskenazi Hospital, which opened in Indianapolis last year.

David A. Rubin, Land Collective’s principal, credits the success of the group’s projects with empathy-driven design and a synthesis of art, technology and social sciences to create human-centered works.

"A successful space is one that’s well-attended,” said Rubin. “Land Collective aspires to render Grand Junction as an extraordinary venue filled with art, architecture, community and life. We have worked with the City to gather some of the most extraordinary talent across design disciplines, in the hope that the future park will continuously heighten one’s experience, no matter when one engages in it - any time of day and through all seasons,” Rubin said.

Land Collective has commissioned Hollwich Kushner (HWKN) to be the building architects for the project. "We are excited to participate in a project that is born from a community initiative," said Matthias Hollwich, co-founder of HWKN. "Connecting buildings, trails, nature, and people will create a potent mix for an iconic and unique place."

The rest of the design team includes lighting designers Tillett Lighting, signage designers Studio Lin, fountain and ice rink designers Stantec, ecological engineers Flat Land Resources, and operations and maintenance planners ETM Associates.

The Grand Junction Plaza project began as a citizen-driven effort to revitalize Westfield through downtown development. Ken Kingshill, chairman of the Grand Junction Task Group, sees the selection of Land Collective as the culmination of a seven-year-long process.

"The Grand Junction Task Group participants have devoted thousands of volunteer hours over the past seven years to dream up the Grand Junction concept," Kingshill said. "We are thrilled that the city has hired David Rubin of Land Collective to prepare the final design of the Grand Junction Park and Plaza. We look forward to the day that downtown Westfield will indeed be the place where connections are made, both for our residents and for our sports visitors."

For his part, Rubin sees Grand Junction as an important piece of design work that will not only enhance Westfield's downtown, but contribute to valuable community dialogue.

"When dialogue between individuals happens, culture thrives," said Rubin.

More about Land Collective: www.land-collective.com

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