



For Immediate Release

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**Expansion and Renovation of *Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel*
To Generate Local Construction and Hospitality Industry Jobs for Chicago**

CHICAGO (August 19, 2011) Final designs are being completed for the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) expansion of its *Hyatt Regency McCormick Place* hotel. The expansion is expected to represent approximately 425 near-term construction jobs and 200 long-term hospitality industry jobs for Chicago.

Construction work is expected to begin by the end of the year, under the guidance of the design-build team, CBG Hotel Design-Builders. The CBG Hotel Design-Builders team is made up of Clark Construction Group, LLC, Bulley & Andrews, LLC, Goettsch Partners, Inc., Old Veteran Construction, McKissack & McKissack Midwest, Inc., Primera Engineers, Ltd., and Anderson/Miller, Ltd. The Authority's bridging document design architect for the hotel's expansion and renovation is **tvdesign** and The Rise Group is acting as the MPEA's construction consultant.

The new guest tower will rise atop the parking deck of the *Hyatt Regency McCormick Place* and will contain approximately 460 rooms. The tower has always been a part of the original plan for the complex, so the existing foundations and parking deck were built to accommodate the expansion. The scope of the project also includes renovation of the existing 800-room hotel, and renovation of the adjacent Conference Center. The \$87-million project is expected to be completed by the latter half of 2013.

Sweeping reforms legislation approved last spring by the Illinois General Assembly allowed the MPEA to restructure its debt and make changes to operations. That action, along with existing revenue streams, will provide the funds for the on-site hotel's renovation and expansion.

"We are pleased to move forward with the *Hyatt Regency McCormick Place* expansion. It will not only result in more job opportunities, but help enhance our competitive market offerings, by providing customers with the first-rate, on-site convenience and service expected from the country's premier convention center," said Jim Reilly, MPEA Trustee.

The 32-story *Hyatt Regency McCormick Place* opened in 1998 and has received a Four Diamond AAA rating, one of the most prestigious ratings in the lodging industry.

"We're very excited to be a part of the team that is working to design the newest and most impactful project to help attract convention business to Chicago, since the opening of the McCormick Place West Building," said Tom Pagels, General Manager of *Hyatt Regency McCormick Place*.

For more information on MPEA and McCormick Place, visit our website at www.mpea.com.

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