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I-195 Redevelopment District Commission Selects Award-Winning Architecture Firm for Park Pavilion

The I-195 Redevelopment District Commission today announced that it has selected and retained Architecture Research Office (ARO) to design the food and beverage pavilion in the Providence Innovation District Park. The firm was selected through a competitive process that included 20 architectural teams. Input from the public was solicited, received, and considered as part of the process, and interviews with the four finalists were also public.

ARO is a nationally recognized architecture firm that has designed dozens of highly visible public, cultural, educational, commercial, and residential projects across the country at varying scales. ARO has designed numerous projects within public parks, including: the Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse, the Kayak Pavilion at Long Dock Park, the Union Square Park Pavilion, and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Welcome Building. ARO has done extensive work in Providence, particularly on the Brown University campus, including the new Applied Mathematics Building and the transformation of 164 Angell Street into an academic research hub.

ARO has been recognized with the 2020 American Institute of Architects' Architecture Firm Award, the Smithsonian Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award for Architecture, and the Academy Award for Architecture from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

“We are looking forward to working with ARO on this exciting project,” said Robert Davis, Chair of the I-195 Redevelopment District Commission. “The firm’s extensive experience with public parks makes them an ideal partner for this project.”

“We are excited to create a welcoming place that strengthens the public’s connection to the Providence River and the Park. The Pavilion will be rooted in the city’s communities and histories and build on the rich traditions of waterfront and culinary heritage in Providence,” said Kim Yao, Principal at ARO.

A community engagement process will begin in the coming months with a groundbreaking for the pavilion expected in 2023.

For more information on Architecture Research Office, please visit www.aro.net.

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