

## **Seaport San Diego Approved by San Diego Port Commission**

*Design Dream Team, Led by AVRP Skyport Studios, Aids in Project's Approval*

San Diego, CA, **November 8, 2016** –AVRP Skyport Studios is extremely pleased that today the San Diego Board of Port Commissioners adopted a resolution to select the Seaport San Diego development team, officially concluding the Request for Proposals process. The Port Commission approved the 1HWY1 team to move forward with the proposal developed by Protea Waterfront Development, LLC. Seaport San Diego, which will replace the current aging Seaport Village, is San Diego's most significant urban, waterfront project. Approved because of its world-class design, Seaport San Diego is envisioned to be more than a set of buildings; it will be a new district of downtown, and connected experiences will maintain and develop cohesion, vitality, and public good.

Seaport San Diego's 70-acre, 2.2 million-square-foot design includes a mix of hotels, shops, restaurants, a public beach, an aquarium, an educational facility, a Smithsonian Media attraction, and a 480-foot observation tower called "The Spire." **AVRP Skyport Studios'** plan for the \$1.2 billion project is led by Principal Randy Robbins, AIA, LEED AP, working with Principal and design leader Frank Wolden leading the dynamic weaving of City to Bay, and Principal Doug Austin, FAIA as an integral contributor in the design process.

Collaborating on the project to date includes: Vaughn Davies, ISAA, known internationally as a pragmatic visionary who has led the design efforts for precedent-setting and large-scale waterfront projects such as Paseo Colorado, Hollywood & Highland, Rainbow Harbor, and the Dublin Bay Vision Plan. For Seaport San Diego, he has been working with the team in the planning of the waterfront and public spaces. BIG (Bjarke Ingels Group) has provided design for Seaport San Diego's iconic aquarium. BIG is a Copenhagen and New York-based group of designers dominating the architectural scene from Denmark to New York City. BIG founder, Bjarke Ingels, was featured in TIME Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential people in the world of 2016. Also, internationally-renowned lighting artist Peter Fink, who won the international competition to transform the Coronado Bridge into a light sculpture using renewable energy, has been working with the team to develop special artistic lighting for Seaport San Diego.

Frank Wolden, Principal at AVRP Skyport Studios, says, "Seaport San Diego provides an amazing opportunity to link our city's greatest assets. As Seaport lives up to its ultimate goal, it will be 70 acres that knits together the Bay, the City, the air, Coronado Bridge, and the Midway Museum into incredible experiences."

### **About AVRP Skyport Studios**

In a world of "decorated boxes" and formula design, AVRP Skyport Studios strives to find and develop an original idea that drives the creative process for each project. Principals Douglas H. Austin, FAIA; Christopher T. Veum, AAIA, IIDA; Randy Robbins, AIA, LEED AP; and Frank Wolden represent award-winning portfolios that have inspired developers and civic leaders to think beyond traditional boundaries to infuse each project with experiential community connections. Celebrating 40 years of creativity and accomplishment in 2016, the firm and its principals have earned nearly 150 design awards. For more information, visit [www.avrpstudios.com](http://www.avrpstudios.com).