

PRESS RELEASE

April 23, 2007

At a press conference on April 30 at 10 A.M. in the Guardian Building's Rowland Café, on Griswold between Congress and Larned streets, an important announcement will take place. Invited guests include City of Detroit officials, members of the Detroit Public Schools Board of Education and Administration, officials of local businesses, members of the Judiciary who are Cass Tech alumni and local media representatives.

Cass Tech Development and Preservation Society (CTDAPS), a 501 C3 organization, in cooperation with Detroit Public Schools, announces the April 30th publication of the Request for Proposal for the redevelopment of the historic Cass Technical High School. With its origin going back to 1861, Cass Tech evolved into the originator of the rigorous curriculum model, becoming Detroit's widely emulated "Cathedral of Learning." This landmark, at 2421 Second Avenue, stands on the path of the ongoing redevelopment of the area from the Detroit River to north of the New Center area.

The development is expected to have a mix of commercial, residential, educational, and community facility aspects. Anticipated features include restaurants, stores, black box and larger theaters (possibly using the existing auditorium that was the recording venue for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra), performance spaces, offices for arts organizations, galleries, artist studios, community dance, athletic and other recreational facilities, market rate housing, subsidized housing, indoor, connected parking, and may include educational programs developed in cooperation with Detroit Public Schools and additional programs for the adjacent high school.

The RFP process will be in two phases. The first phase solicits the expression of interest and preliminary design and concept. In the second phase, selected developers will submit full redevelopment proposals.

The effort for the redevelopment of Cass Tech has been driven by the Cass Tech Alumni Association and the visionary leadership of its Chairman, Ray Litt. Outstanding creative assistance and site survey were provided by Professor Constance Budurow of the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Architecture and her 2005 studio class.

The project has attracted the attention of important developers and has the potential to add hundreds of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars to the local economy over the course of redevelopment.

For more information or a copy of the RFP contact Francis Grunow at 313-577-7601 or Marshall Weingarden at 248-357-0050 ext. 624.