

# Condo project gets the support of design commission

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A unique high-rise project planned for downtown is getting the support of the city's Design Commission along with other groups.

The 21c museum, hotel and condo development slated for Third and Brazos streets will reach 44 stories into the Austin skyline, making it a dominant presence in the area of downtown east of Congress Avenue. The \$200 million project will include 209 condos along with an upscale, 230-room hotel and contemporary art museum.

The Design Commission voted unanimously on Monday to support the project, which has already garnered the approval of the city's Downtown Commission and support from the Downtown Austin Alliance.

Poe Companies and Art Commerce Entertainment Unlimited both of Louisville along with Austin-based Ironwood Real Estate are the developers on 21c, which is expected to open in 2010. The design team includes Deborah Berke & Partners of New York, Goody Clancy of Boston and Austin-based Susman Tisdale Gayle.

Steve Poe, CEO of Poe Companies, says the project remains on track to break ground this coming January. He attributes the positive response the project is getting to its unique design approach to urban living.

The city of Austin planning commission will review the project proposal on Sept. 11 and the request will then go to the City Council for final approval. The 21c sales center is expected to open in late September on the ground floor of the Littlefield Building at Sixth and Congress.

**Courtesy of JB Goodwin**