

Bratislava, Barcelona, Berlin and Vaduz, 1 October 2016

Press Release

WINNING TEAM FOR INTERNATIONAL URBAN DESIGN COMPETITION SELECTED

On 20 September 2016 the organisers of the international Malacky new town competition announced the highest ranking and winning team of all invited consortia and firms, from Sweden, Spain, Germany, Liechtenstein, Slovakia and other European nations. The jury of elected leaders, leading architects and land owners unanimously chose and praised the winning concept, **Mesto Malina™**.

Mesto Malina™ will be a unique new small town with a population of 2.000 nestled in forest and grasslands, its urban design combining sublime traditional urbanity founded on age-old Slovak town building principles and the rich nature of the surrounding national forests, including the important European NATURA 200 protected Malina forest and river biocorridor. The plan makes use of a former military site, too precious for the industrial use it was until recently intended for. The well-connected yet quiet 28 ha former site lies 20 minutes north of Bratislava, where the city of Malacky meets the surrounding forests. Mesto Malina (‘City of Nature’) is organised around a main town square and three green urban bio-corridors linking the surrounding nature through the community; featuring home offices, shops, hotel rooms, a church and a civic hall, indoor and outdoor sporting facilities - and 750 residential homes in apartment buildings, unique urban villas and affordable single family homes.

Mesto Malina™ will become a lively urban village, and be both connected to the city of Malacky and set in the beautiful Pine Culture Nature Reserve just west of the Little Carpathians mountain range and east of the Morava river valley. It will offer comfortable and affordable home to young families, professionals, couples, singles and travellers. Mesto Malina™ will provide its renewable energy and ecological water system, advanced wood construction and other carbon absorbing building materials, and cater to the highest aspirations of investors and residents alike. Mesto Malina is also envisioned to serve as an attractive gateway for ecological visits to the surrounding Nature Reserves and extensive networks of hiking trails.

The Europe-wide urban design consortium chosen to advance its concept into implementation consists of lead designers Eduard Balcells, Barcelona, winner of two EUROPLAN competitions; Peter Droege, Vaduz, multi-award winning urban design expert; and Uli Hellweg, Berlin, international urban development & management expert and former CEO of the International Building Exhibition IBA-Hamburg. The three lead firms HELLWEG URBAN CONCEPT; the Liechtenstein Institute for Strategic Development (LISD); and Eduard Balcells Architecture+Urbanism+Landscape are now commissioned with carrying out further work. The three parties came together and are being contracted as members of the Institute for Strategic Development (ISD) global network of advanced urban design and sustainable development expertise. For more insight into the consortium members please see eurisd.org, stadtbaun.de and eduardbalcells.com.

For additional information on Mesto Malina™ please write to mestomalina@eurisd.org.