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Architects shortlisted for Melbourne Park Western Precinct

Architecture firms Cox Architecture, Populous / NH Architecture, Grimshaw Architects, and Hassell Ltd have been shortlisted for the Melbourne Park redevelopment's Western Precinct project.

The firms will be asked to submit tenders for the project which includes roofing over Margaret Court Arena and refurbishing the public concourses around Rod Laver Arena.

The four firms were selected from a list of eleven who responded to a call for expressions of interest in late September 2010.

The Western Precinct project is one of the key parts of the $363 million Stage One of the Melbourne Park redevelopment which also includes a major tennis training facility, car parking and a civic plaza to the east of Hisense Arena dubbed the Eastern Plaza to commence construction next year and major landscaping works adjacent to Rod Laver Arena currently underway.

The Western Precinct project includes:

- the enclosure of Melbourne Park's third largest show court - Margaret Court Arena including the provision of an opening and closing roof;
- an additional 1500 seats in Margaret Court Arena to bring it to a capacity of 7,500;
- the extension and refurbishment of the public concourse around Rod Laver Arena; and,
- upgrades to the undercroft areas of Rod Laver Arena.

Design work is scheduled to commence following the 2011 Australian Open while the procurement process for a building contractor for these works will occur in late 2011. Work is scheduled to commence on site shortly after the 2012 Australian Open.