

DIA and the South Terminal Renovation CREW Denver to Host Panel Discussion about DIA Project

On September 21st, CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) Denver will host a panel discussion on the DIA Project accompanied by breakfast at the Ritz. Panel speakers include leaders from Mortenson Construction, Parsons Transportation and the Abo Group, all intricately involved in the DIA project. Registration can be completed at www.crewdenver.org/events.

Details About the Project

The seven-year Denver International Airport project is slated to include a new Westin terminal hotel, FasTracks transit station with open-air plaza on top, and expansion of the terminal's fifth and sixth levels.

The south terminal project's first phase is expected to cost as much as \$650 million and includes a commuter-rail station, a public plaza that links with the existing terminal, and a 500-room Westin hotel.

Phase two is anticipated to cost nearly \$250 million, and could include a reshuffling of existing functions in the terminal's Great Hall, including a move of security checkpoints to new locations on the sixth level where airline ticket counters currently reside.

Parsons Transportation Group, the architecture firm selected in 2009 to design the South Terminal upgrade, brought on Spanish-born Santiago Calatrava of Zurich, Switzerland as the project's signature architect.

Calatrava's design calls for the hotel-train station-plaza complex to dominate the view of the terminal from the south, but those traveling to DIA will retain a view of the terminal tent through a low, saddle-like space between the hotel's twin towers.

The south terminal project also includes a commuter-rail bridge over Peña Boulevard just east of the E-470 interchange that will accommodate the \$1.2 billion East Corridor train from Union Station to the airport. Train service is expected to start in 2016.

-excerpts taken from The Denver Post, "Calatrava unveils DIA plans", July 29, 2010, by Jeffrey Leib.