



The Open International Architectural and Urban Planning Competition for the development of a master plan for the territory adjacent to the Almetjevsk reservoir on the Stepnoy Zay river was launched in Kazan

A press conference at the launch of the Open International Architecture and Urban Planning Competition for the development of a master plan for the territory adjacent to the Almetjevsk Reservoir on the Stepnoy Zay river took place on November 27, 2019 at the press center of the Tatar-inform news agency. The competition is of particular importance as a pilot project for the Republic of Tatarstan, aimed at the rehabilitation of compromised land plots and the preservation of valuable natural resources caused by production work when creating and locating infrastructure facilities. At the end of the Competition, the results of environmental rehabilitation from man-made impact can be applied on similar sites both in the Republic of Tatarstan and in other regions of the country.

The competition will take place from November 27, 2019 through April 23, 2020. Its purpose is to prepare a master plan that ensures the revitalization of the land area adjacent to the Almetjevsk reservoir on the Stepnoy Zay river in the city of Almetjevsk, and its transformation into a landmark public space for the city's residents, broadcasting the mission and image of Almetjevsk as a city with a high standard of living, recognized as such from outside the city.

The subject of the competition is the land in the north of the city of Almetjevsk, covering an area of more than 1700 hectares, including about 270 hectares - sections of the forest area outside the city limits, adjacent to the Almetjevsk reservoir on the Steppe Zay river in the city of Almetjevsk, Republic of Tatarstan. Competition format: international, two-stage, open.

The jury consists of representatives of state authorities of the Republic of Tatarstan and the municipal body "Almetjevsk city", experts in integrated land development, ecology and specially protected natural areas, economics and spatial planning, marketing and communications, technologies and innovations, as well as representatives of the initiator of the competition. The jury is chaired by Nail Maganov, General Director of PJSC TATNEFT. The international curator of the competition is British Professor, Guy Eames, honored luminary of science of the Russian Federation and academician of the RAACS, co-founder and Chairman of the Russian Green Building Council (RuGBC), who has extensive experience in Russia.

Invited to participate in the competition are Russian and foreign professional organizations in the field of integrated land development and urban planning, architecture, design, development of concepts for the development of public spaces, master planning, who are able to attract specialists in economics, finance, and content programming.

The initiators of the competition are the Administration of the city of Almetjevsk and PJSC TATNEFT named after V.D. Shashin. The competition is supported by the Government of the Republic of Tatarstan. The operator of the Competition is the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER.

The competition will consist of several stages: acceptance of applications, determination of finalists, an orientation seminar for finalists, where teams can get acquainted with the land area which is subject of the competition.

The press conference was attended by

- Natalia Fishman-Bekmambetova, Assistant to the President of the Republic of Tatarstan;
- Timur Nagumanov, Head of the Almetjevsk region of the Republic of Tatarstan;



- Nikolay Glazkov, Deputy General Director of PJSC TATNEFT for Capital Construction;
- Anton Sevastyanov, Chief Architect of Almet'yevsk;
- Sergei Georgievskii, Head of the Organizing Committee of the competition, CEO of the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER.

During the press conference, the Assistant to the President of the Republic of Tatarstan, Natalia Fishman-Bekmambetova, outlined the main vectors for the development of public spaces in the Republic of Tatarstan and the importance of changing them in the context of the republic, and also spoke about the work of the government in this direction.

Natalia Fishman-Bekmambetova, Assistant to the President of the Republic of Tatarstan

"What we have just conceived in Almet'yevsk is a very serious initiative and, importantly, it has the backing of one of the largest companies in the Republic, PJSC Tatneft. To understand the scale of what is happening, we are not talking about the improvement of yet another square or park, we are talking about the integrated development of more than 1700 hectares, of which 270 hectares are parts of the forest area. An international competition is an opportunity to attract the best minds to the development of the territory. I look forward to something very interesting and large-scale not only for Tatarstan, but also for urban development throughout Russia, because approaches to design are changing before our very eyes. We are now talking about comprehensive planning of the future of our cities which is completely new for the post-Soviet space."

In his speech the Head of the Almet'yevsk Region of the Republic of Tatarstan Timur Nagumanov indicated the special role of the Almet'yevsk region as a whole, and Almet'yevsk in particular, in the structure of the Republic of Tatarstan. He talked about working with public spaces in the district and the city, and outlined a number of the most important projects for the city.

Timur Nagumanov, Head of the Almet'yevsk Region of the Republic of Tatarstan

"Almet'yevsk is becoming a platform for the transfer of experience in organizing urban public spaces and bicycle infrastructure. In the context of the development of democratic processes in Russia and the construction of civil society, it is becoming increasingly important for the public to take part in making state decisions regarding the future land development and ensuring a comfortable urban environment. Our task is to ensure that the surrounding areas become part of the city, but at the same time maintain their natural landscape. An open competition provides the best opportunity to research the territory as efficiently and publicly as possible. It's very important to come up with a concept that will suit everyone."

The Chief Architect of Almet'yevsk, Anton Sevastyanov, pointed out what challenges the district faces in the Republic's quest to create a comfortable environment in the region. He described how the city has been transformed, and what architectural practices have already been introduced to Almet'yevsk recently.

The Deputy General Director of PJSC TATNEFT for Capital Construction, Nikolay Glazkov, shared the experience of PJSC TATNEFT in Almet'yevsk and the Almet'yevsk agglomeration, and outlined which projects have been implemented recently. The company invests and supports initiatives aimed at changing the quality of the urban environment.

Nikolay Glazkov, Deputy General Director of PJSC TATNEFT for Capital Construction

"We are developing not only business, but we are doing everything in order to turn the region into a successful, thriving territory, with room for creativity, and conditions have been created for self-realization. Then the most talented, highly professional staff will live and work here. And for this we need a developed infrastructure, good education and medicine, and a high cultural standard. And these are challenges not only for today; this is work for the future. A generation brought up under such conditions will not be able to live in worse ones, and will strive for further improvements. And striving for the best is innovation. And that's why the Company is trying to develop this ambition. We want people to be proud that they live in our country, our republic, in Almet'yevsk, and that they work for Tatneft. And we will do everything possible to achieve this."



The head of the Organizing Committee of the competition, CEO of the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER, Sergei Georgievskii, spoke about the specifics of the competitive procedure, as well as about what was special about the chosen location, the difficulties and its current state.

Sergei Georgievskii, Head of the Organizing Committee of the competition, CEO of the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER

"Almetyevsk is developing, growing, and, of course, it needs new facilities for recreation, public spaces and opportunities for both the citizens themselves and for tourists. Today, there is a need for such a unique natural complex and land area adjacent to the city to be redeveloped. It's time to determine the strategy of the future. And the most effective tool to achieve this goal is to hold an international professional competition, which will enable us to get several completely different concepts for transforming the landmark territory for the city and the whole Republic."

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