ABC NEWS

Slash design wins Royal Adelaide Hospital site competition

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A winning design for future use of the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) site includes a school, student accommodation, gallery and open space.

PHOTO: Slash produced the winning design

MAP: Adelaide 5000

Judges said the design submitted by Slash Architects from Victoria best engaged with the neighbouring Botanic Garden and the streetscape.

One of the architects Stuart Harrison says they worked hard to understand the social and physical history of the North Terrace site.

"The design really strives to work with the existing hospital site as much as possible, to embrace what's good about the site and fix up those things that are bad, unclogging the site, opening up to the parklands, creating new connections, better interfaces and then reprogramming the site in a very diverse way," he said.

Mr Harrison says it is vital the site is put to good use.

"It would be a massive shame for the site to sit empty and our modelling shows that to leave the site to do nothing would actually cost a lot of money to the state," he said.

Chair of the design jury Shelley Penn praised the winner.

"The winner's scheme offers a vision for an evolving, dynamic civic place and it offers a high degree of economic viability," she said.

"Their proposal presented a sustainable proposition by minimising energy and waste and the mix of uses for the site proposed by the winner was strongly supported by the jury."

It is estimated the winning entry would cost $300 million to build but the South Australian Government is under no obligation to accept it.

Renewal SA will lead the next phase of the site redevelopment project and the State Government Architect will remain involved in the process.

For their efforts, the winning Slash team gets a prize of $200,000.

The People's Choice Award has gone to a Slovakian design with a grassed hill built from the debris of demolished buildings.

The RAH site at the eastern end of North Terrace will be vacated in 2016 when the new city hospital opens at the western end of North Terrace.

See the shortlisted entrants in the competition here

Topics: urban-development-and-planning, states-and-territories, adelaide-5000, sa, slovakia

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