



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor Domenique S. Thornton has announced the hire of nationally-renowned architect Arthur Cotton Moore to do conceptual renderings of the 85-acre waterfront development project under study in the South Cove area on Middletown's Connecticut River.

Moore's credits include Georgetown's Washington Harbour, a recent \$81 million renovation of the Library of Congress in Washington DC, and two books. Besides renovating the nation's oldest federal institution and the world's largest library, Moore has worked on the Federal Communications Commission building, and completed projects in 36 cities around the world. In 1971, Moore completed an exhaustive study of downtown waterfronts for the U.S. Department of the Interior, resulting in the publication of "Bright Breathing Edges of City Life: Planning for Amenity Benefits of Urban Water Resources." In Connecticut, Moore recently worked on a historic adaptive reuse study of an industrial waterfront property in the Borough of Stonington.

"We're absolutely thrilled to have attracted one of the nation's premier architects for what we believe to be one of the nation's premier riverfront opportunities," said Mayor Thornton. Planning director William Warner said, "The workshops took place and the public stated their goals and objectives for this waterfront on the basis of what 'is.' Now it is time to conceive an architectural vision for what can be. Arthur Cotton Moore is

the man who will help us articulate that vision." Middletown Design Review & Preservation Board chairman Jeff Bianco, an architect himself, spoke highly of Moore's work. "It's a tribute to the project's potential that Moore chose to take it on," he said.

The project area is bounded by Eastern Drive on the east, Union Street on the north, Route 9, and the river, and has been the subject of much study in recent years. The planned decommissioning and regionalization of the municipal sewage treatment plant to the Mattabasset Plant in Cromwell is seen as a catalyst by city officials. Other riverfront parcels in the area are the subject of an



Environmental Protection Agency Pilot program for environmental assessment and remediation. Also underway is a Department of Transportation study for a new Route 9 / Route 17

diamond interchange, potentially creating a tree-lined boulevard approach to the new development. Besides the visual assets of the Connecticut River, the development site offers 2,500 feet of water frontage and 3,500 feet of highway frontage.