

## 2 COLUMBUS CIRCLE

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC), on behalf of the City of New York, is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of 2 Columbus Circle in Manhattan.

This 4,600-square-foot prime piece of real estate is currently the site of a vacant, nine-story white marble clasp building. The land and building are located on the south side of Columbus Circle facing Central Park. The goal of this project is to redevelop the property for residential, hotel or other commercial uses. A design team has been selected to work on a permanent landscaping plan and a redesign of the circle to smooth the flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The site is opposite the former New York Coliseum and 10 Columbus Circle, which together are being redeveloped as Columbus Centre. Columbus Centre will be a 2.5 million-square-foot commercial development, consisting of headquarters for AOL-Time Warner, a luxury hotel and condominiums, retail space and an auditorium for Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Complete guidelines and submission requirements are outlined in the RFP, which is available from EDC. To obtain an RFP, please submit your name, address and telephone number to Cheryl Elmore, Director, Contract Administration and Procurement, by telephone at (212) 312-3969; by mail to 110 William Street, 5th floor, New York, NY 10038; or by e-mail to [info@newyorkbiz.com](mailto:info@newyorkbiz.com). Please refer to CC 0300 in the subject line. RFP responses must be submitted to EDC by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2000.



City of New York  
Rudolph W. Giuliani, Mayor



New York City  
Economic Development  
Corporation  
John S. Chastety, Chairman  
Michael G. Carey, President

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2000

### COMMENT: ARCHITECTURE

#### Save the Columbus Circle Two

Two Columbus Circle is back in play. The Edward Durrell Stone building, long an object of ridicule to New Yorkers, was put up for sale yesterday by the city of New York, its owner since 1980.

Built in 1959 for A&P heir Huntington Hartford as the Gallery of Modern Art (by which he meant its opposite, 19th-century academic painting), it has gone through several reincarnations, among them service as the city's Convention and Visitors' Bureau and headquarters of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Since the structure doesn't enjoy landmarks protection, any purchaser is free to level it and start afresh.

We say, leave it standing. By now, it has acquired a certain kitsch allure. Besides, how much worse can this "eyesore" be than any of the buildings likely to replace it or its neighbor, the New York Coliseum?

One obvious drawback for any future

tenant is the near-total absence of windows. Only businesses with no need for daylight need apply: health clubs, casinos, brothels or museums.

In fact, the Dabesh Museum would be the perfect choice. An oasis for all lovers of 19th-century French academic painting, the Dabesh (currently located on Fifth Avenue) was one of the bidders on the building a few years back. But, along with Donald Trump, it failed to come in high enough, and the city turned it down.

Let the folks from Dabesh try again, this time reaching deeper into their pockets. The museum's collection of retro kitsch art—works by Braque, Gerôme, Rosa Bonheur and their ilk—perfectly matches the building's architecture. Indeed, relocating the Dabesh to 2 Columbus Circle would not only return the building to its roots, it would give a nice twist to the dictum "form follows function."