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## Parramatta Square: four architecture firms shortlisted

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Four architecture firms have been shortlisted to design the centrepiece for Parramatta's \$2 billion central business district urban renewal project, days after Walker Corporation announced its shortlist of firms to design the super-tall tower slated for the precinct.

Finalists for the Parramatta Square project include a consortium of architects made up of Manuelle Gautrand Architecture, DesignInc and Lacoste + Stevenson, competing against another consortium of SJB and Lahznimmo Architects.

Two other firms — Johnson Pilton Walker and Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp — will compete individually for the work.

Lord Mayor Paul Garrard said the development was designed to put Parramatta on the map.

"Most importantly, this is a building for the people that will include council chambers, a library of the future designed to meet a host of community needs, customer service centre, community rooms and space for civic functions," Mr Garrard said.

"It will be an obvious seat of government and not just a typical office space."

The winning design will be chosen by a panel of experts from the NSW government, representatives from the council and from the City of Sydney in March.

Lang Walker's Walker Corporation last month shortlisted Bates Smart, Fender Katsalidis, DBI Design and PTW Architects to design the Aspire Tower after considering a number of proposals by local and international firms.