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BATTERY PARK DEVELOPMENT A MODEL FOR RUSSIAN OFFICIALS:  
City leaders from Perm, Russia, to study the site during three-week Cleveland visit

CLEVELAND (July 29, 2008) – To witness how community transformation takes place through residential development, ten city leaders from Perm, Russia, will meet with Vintage Development Group, the developers of Battery Park in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood of Cleveland, on Thursday, July 31.

The stop at Battery Park, a \$100-million-dollar residential development of modern-style townhomes located at 1303 W. 73rd St., is part of a three-week tour, running from July 17 to August 7, of the neighborhood through a program called Community Connections. The program is orchestrated by the Cleveland Council of World Affairs, an organization that seeks to engage the public on international affairs and global issues.

“Perm has a background similar to Cleveland - it too has an industrial history that is experiencing growth and city officials want to repurpose the land for revitalization,” said Jeanne Romanoff, international visitors program officer for the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. “The Battery Park development is the perfect representative of this situation. Located in the heart of the neighborhood, Battery Park used to be an industrial site that has been creatively converted into housing. It is a new development that still embraces the neighborhood’s history.”

The Community Connections Program is designed to foster relationships between U.S. families, local community host organizations and foreign communities. The focus of the program is on public and private partnerships, with specific focus on community infrastructures and finance. The Russian visitors will spend three weeks looking at economic projects taking place in the Detroit Shoreway community and will work closely with the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO).

“The Detroit Shoreway neighborhood was chosen as an area of focus because it is a community that is involved in a variety of projects, including the integration of housing and economic development, and is doing it very well,” said Romanoff.

The day will be devoted to learning about the housing opportunities that are taking place in the neighborhood. The visitors will spend the morning with leaders from the DSCDO and in the afternoon will move to Battery Park. There, participants will learn about how Battery Park was developed, transforming from the former site of the Everready Battery Plant, one of the largest manufacturers of batteries and lighting products in the world, into an upscale residential community of modern lofts and townhomes.

## BATTERY PARK MODEL – ADD ONE

“The Battery Park site was developed to give residents access to one of the neighborhood’s greatest assets: Lake Erie,” said Mike Marous, project executive for Willoughby-based Vintage Development Group. “Through extensive research, talking with Detroit Shoreway residents and the tremendous support from neighborhood officials such as Councilman Matt Zone, we were able to enrich the neighborhood by providing a walkable, urban residential community. The project was a great learning experience for us and I am looking forward to sharing insights and learning from Perm’s city officials.”

The Battery Park development will be used as a case study for Perm officials as they continue to redevelop their community.

“The goal of the program is for the participants to make a strong connection with the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood which they can take back to use in their day-to-day professional lives to make a positive impact on the Perm community,” said Romanoff.

***The Community Connections Program**, managed by the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and administered by World Learning, is designed to promote public diplomacy through the exchange of cultural ideas and values among participants, U.S. families and local community host organizations. It seeks to establish and strengthen links between U.S. communities and communities in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.*

***Vintage Development Group** is a family-owned real estate developer. Vintage designs, constructs and manages several multi-million dollar projects in the Cleveland area including multi-family units, office/retail spaces, new construction and residential subdivisions. Vintage’s Cleveland-based projects include The Marshall Place Apartments in the Warehouse District, Battery Park in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood and Chester 82 near University Circle. For more information, visit [www.vintage-group.com](http://www.vintage-group.com).*