**a new point on the map of Russia: the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER and the Genplan Institute of Moscow to develop a model of a new city on Sakhalin**

**Sakhalin Region, Moscow**

**March 25, 2021**

**The Agency for Strategic Development CENTER in strategic partnership with the Genplan Institute of Moscow will develop a model of a new city in the Sakhalin Region. A project of creating a city from scratch is virtually unprecedented for the urban planning practice not only in modern Russia, but in the whole world. The future city is expected to provide additional momentum for the socio-economic development of the Sakhalin Region and the Far Eastern Federal District, increase the competitive advantage of the region’s economy, and contribute to strengthening a favorable investment climate.**

The new city is planned to be created on the territory of the Korsakovsky Urban District of the Sakhalin Region. The Sakhalin Region is one of Russia’s easternmost territories and the only subject of the Russian Federation located entirely on islands. An especially important feature of the future city is its access to the year-round sea port of Korsakov – one of the largest and most strategically important ports in the region. The approximate area of the new city will be about 1.2 thousand hectares.

The new city will be created as part of a large-scale project carried out by the Sakhalin Region Development Corporation with support from the Sakhalin Region Government.

**Valery Limarenko, Sakhalin Region Governor**

*“It is important to us to create a new logistics-adjacent industry and develop the transport and logistics business. Coupled with a comfortable environment, that would make it so no one would want to leave the island – on the contrary, people from all over Russia would move there. That is what motivated the idea to build a new, modern, environmentally clean city with modern energy-saving technologies and unmanned transport near Korsakov.”*

As the design of the new city should incorporate the priorities of the territory’s development, its socio-economic realities, and spatial development problems, the project involves leading federal experts – a consortium consisting of the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER and the Genplan Institute of Moscow. They were chosen through an open request for proposals, part of the public procurement procedure initiated by the Sakhalin Region Development Corporation (for more information, see Background Information) in December 2020. The experts will conduct scientific research on the territory, assess its potential and possible limitations, and construct a model of the new city.

**Sergei Georgievskii, CEO of the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER**

*“There is not much experience in creating new-type cites in Russia, which makes our current task – developing a model of a completely new city and setting its growth vector, immediately making it comfortable and livable, modern and safe – all the more interesting and ambitious. The project serves the goals of not only regional development, but also overall spatial development of the Russian Federation, due to the special geostrategic position of the region. We are inspired by the upcoming work and confident that the project of the new city will enrich the urban planning practice of our country.”*

The model developed by the consortium will include detailed functional planning solutions for key objects and territories. The experts will be tasked with determining optimal parameters and solutions for the development of the new city, identifying potential investment opportunities and their feasibility and efficiency, and increasing the investment attractiveness of the territory.

The experts will also define the boundaries of the new city, formulate general principles and approaches to its development, identify its potential, create a functional and spatial model, and conduct an anthropological study, which will include generating profiles of future residents of the city, predicting their number and life scenarios.

The first visit of the consortium delegation under the leadership of the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER will take place in early April. The experts will conduct a number of preliminary activities, including a report on the project at a meeting of the Architectural and Urban Planning Council under the Governor of the Sakhalin Region, which will be held on April 7.

**Tatyana Guk, Director of the Genplan Institute of Moscow**

*“The Genplan Institute of Moscow is faced with a very ambitious task – creating a model of a new city integrated into the structure of the region. Our success at that task will largely determine the viability and quality of the final result of the competition for the development of architectural and urban planning concepts.*

*The Institute’s previous experience in the Sakhalin Region, willingness to listen to the opinions of citizens, and extensive contacts with representatives of the public, business, and government are the recipe for success of this large-scale project that we are implementing together with our partners.”*

The results of the research efforts will form the basis for the design specification for the new city. The designers will be chosen through an open international competition procedure. The best concept of the city will be chosen in November 2021.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Public procurement information**

The project was initiated by the Sakhalin Region Development Corporation. Procurement No. 32009875317 “Performance of research on the topic ‘Development of five architectural and urban planning concepts for a new city in the Sakhalin Region’” was posted in the Unified Procurement Information System in December 2020. On March 3, 2021, competition results report No. 32009875317-03 “SB-AST: Results report”, stating that the model of the new city will be developed by the Agency for Strategic Development CENTER in partnership with the Genplan Institute of Moscow, was posted in the system.

**Sakhalin Region Development Corporation**

The goal of investment activities of AO Sakhalin Region Development Corporation is to stimulate investment and ensure economic growth in the Sakhalin Region and the Far Eastern Federal District, promote the development of economic potential and strengthen economic relations of the Sakhalin Region, the Far Eastern Federal District, and the Russian Federation in the Asia-Pacific region. The Corporation's investment policy is based on a strategy of preserving and increasing capital premised on achieving target return while minimizing risks. AO Sakhalin Region Development Corporation implements investment projects that guarantee multiplicative socio-economic effects.

**Genplan Institute of Moscow**

The Genplan Institute of Moscow has been engaged in complex development of urban planning documents for about 70 years. The Institute has significantly contributed to the development of Moscow and the Moscow Region by designing major objects in the capital. The Institute is the only design organization in the country that supports the process of developing, monitoring, and implementing the General Plan of Moscow on a consistent basis. By now the geography of the Institute’s activities has significantly expanded: it has created general plans of Kazan, Sevastopol, Almetyevsk, Voronezh, and Nizhny Novgorod, area planning designs for Sarov, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, and Vyborg, designs of buffer zones of heritage sites in the Republic of Dagestan and the Sakhalin Region, and the entire array of urban planning documentation for Ufa and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. An integral part of the Institute’s activities is scientific research and formulation of proposals for improving regulatory frameworks and methodological support.

Additional questions and information:

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