

New Project to Change University City Landscape **(6abc.com – August 31, 2007)**

The enormous project will alter Philadelphia's left bank. The plan: two gleaming glass towers of up to 30 and 50 stories between Chestnut and Walnut Streets.

Brandywine Realty Trust, the developer of the distinctive Cira tower, and the University of Pennsylvania are partners in the endeavor.

The 1960's vintage postal annex will be demolished to make way for what is dubbed Cira Center South. The adjoining landmark post office will be rehabbed and become home to 5000 IRS workers.

Penn will take four floors of the new office building. The shorter tower will be apartments.

Penn Vice President Craig Carnaroli said the goal is connecting University City with Center City.

The area is now a kind of industrial no man's land. Ask any of the 5000 people a day that walk this stretch of Walnut Street.

The plan is for work in the old post office building to begin later this year, and be ready for the IRS in 2010. As for the towers, the hope is they will be open for business two years later.