

And on the island, they'd love to see a sculpture park.

The pair is already working with Troy artists who have been invited to place work in the building. (Costa's own sculpture will be on display during today's party.)

To Kevin Bette, president and chief executive of First Columbia, the fresh ideas from NADC can only add to Troy's future.

"They're bringing something to the market that doesn't exist," he said. "And they're doing something that could change people's perceptions about Troy."

First Columbia has submitted plans for a six-story hotel to be built just south of the Mooradian Lofts. The company also has plans for a 1,100-car parking garage that could free up surface lots in the area for development.

And Bette said First Columbia has already begun renovations on the Hedley Park Place office building, also on River Street.

Hereijgers said action like that matters; it also signals the redevelopment of the Troy waterfront is moving beyond false starts.

"That's what happened in the past," he said. "Too many announcements without enough follow-up."

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