For Immediate Release **Media Contact: Kelli Epp/210-710-8048**
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Preservation Design Partnership Selected to Lead Alamo Master Plan

PDP will work in association with Grupo De Diseño Urbano and Fisher Heck Architects

SAN ANTONIO – Preservation Design Partnership (PDP) has been selected to lead the Alamo master planning process. The principals of PDP bring unique experiences from their past work on projects such as Independence Hall, the U.S. Supreme Court and the Virginia State Capitol. Led by nationally recognized thought leader George Skarmeas and preservation architect Dominique Hawkins, PDP will work in association with San Antonio-based Fisher Heck Architects and Grupo De Diseño Urbano (GDU) of Mexico City, firms that specialize in local history, historic preservation and landscape architecture.

The Alamo Management Committee, which consists of two representatives each from the City of San Antonio, the Texas General Land Office, and the Alamo Endowment, selected the master planning team after an extensive search process that included review of more than 250 firms and individuals from across the United States and around the world. Six firms were interviewed earlier this month. The Alamo Executive Committee, comprised of Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush and San Antonio Mayor Ivy R. Taylor, ratified the Management Committee's recommendation.

"I commend the members of the Alamo Management Committee for their diligence in this exhaustive search for the firm that will serve as the primary facilitator of the master planning process," said Commissioner Bush. "With a proven track record in rehabilitation of historic landmarks, PDP will be a valuable asset in navigating the master plan process. This search has also equipped the Management Committee with a better understanding of the scope of work required and what expertise is needed to achieve a remarkable vision for the future of the Alamo. While this is a landmark moment in this chapter, the story of the re-imaging of the Alamo has only begun and more work lies ahead, but the members of the Management Committee deserve our praise for their perseverance, meticulousness and decisiveness throughout this process."

In October 2015, the City of San Antonio and the Texas General Land Office entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the Alamo Endowment to oversee and fund the development of a Joint Master Plan and the implementation of that plan for the Alamo Historic District and Alamo Complex. The Management Committee will work with PDP, GDU and Fisher Heck to identify and hire other

professionals from as many as 29 necessary fields to complete the Alamo master planning "dream team."

"When we started this process, we committed to hiring the very best to complete this master plan and thanks to the hard work by the Management Committee, we are fulfilling that commitment," said Mayor Taylor. "PDP brings extensive experience working with heritage sites in complex urban environments. Their leadership will be complemented and supported by Fisher Heck, whose principals are experts in San Antonio's history and architecture, and by GDU, an award-winning international firm from Mexico City. This team will bring the scope, depth and passion and be enormously beneficial on this project."

The selection of the Master Planner marks the end of the beginning of an aggressive timeline that will produce a draft master plan by the fall of 2016. The Alamo Management Committee and PDP will conduct extensive community outreach this summer to ensure that the Alamo's many stakeholders have ample opportunity to share ideas.

"We agreed that we would have no small thoughts and make no small plans," said Alamo Endowment Board Member Gene Powell. "The World Heritage Designation is evidence that this has international significance. To do something on that scale, the Alamo Endowment is prepared to raise potentially hundreds of millions of dollars to reimagine the Alamo and to tell this nearly 300-year-old story."

Alamo Management Committee members include Councilman Roberto Treviño and City Manager Sheryl Sculley representing the City of San Antonio, Deputy Commissioner Anne Idsal and Alamo Preservation Planner Kim Barker, representing the Texas General Land Office, and Ramona Bass and Gene Powell, representing the Alamo Endowment. Powell serves as Chairman of the Committee.

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