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Related Cos. breaks ground on Hudson Yards

Work begins on the 1.7 million-square-foot-tower to be anchored by luxury goods maker Coach. Project will ultimately create 13 million square feet of retail, hotel, office and residential space and acres of parks on the far West Side.

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Developer The Related Cos. broke ground on its vast Hudson Rail Yards project Tuesday morning, beginning work on the multi-billion dollar project that will create 13 million square feet of retail, hotel, office and residential space and acres of park land on the far West Side.



Rendering of Hudson Yards on the far West Side.
Photo by Mayor's Office.

Mayor Bloomberg and City Council Speaker [Christine Quinn](#) attended a ceremony to kickoff work on the first project to get underway there. That is a 1.7 million square foot office tower that is tentatively slated to be largely occupied by the luxury accessories and apparel outfit Coach on the southeast corner of the site. The building is scheduled to be completed by 2015.

Two other office tenants have shown interest in

leasing the balance of space that Coach does not take, including the German tech firm SAP and the cosmetics company L'Oreal, according to published reports.

The building, which will be 47-stories tall, occupies a portion of the 26-acre site that can be built at grade. Work on the vast bulk of the site will require the construction of a deck so that the project can be built over the working Long Island Railroad yards below.

"Developing Manhattan's final frontier is the next major step in our city's ongoing economic revival," Mr. Bloomberg said in prepared remarks, noting that the project will create 23,000 construction jobs.

Related, which is building the site with institutional partner Oxford Properties Group, has not released details as when it plans to begin work on other portions of the yards. The company is said to be wooing large office tenants for a larger tower north of the Coach building that will also feature a prominent observation deck jutting out from its top floors. A spokeswoman for Related indicated the company hoped to begin that building next year.

There is a large multi-floor retail mall planned for the space between the two towers border 10th Avenue that could also get underway next year.