



June 16, 2016

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Construction Finally Begins on Sharif El-Gamal's 45 Park Place



After nearly a decade in the works, construction is finally on at the site

BY [ZOE ROSENBERG](#)

After no fewer than [seven years in the works](#), construction is officially on at Soho Properties's condos coming to [45 Park Place](#). Soho Properties chief Sharif El-Gamal and a group of cohorts finally placed shovel to ground in an official groundbreaking ceremony on June 2, putting to end a long and windy path to the redevelopment of the former Burlington Coat Factory site.

The site was cleared after [demolition permits](#) were filed in April 2014, and since then several renderings for the project have made their rounds. But it seems like the most recent rendering is officially official.

The kick-off on construction of the 50-apartment building comes less than two weeks after Soho Properties [secured \\$219 million in financing](#) for the development. The tower is expected to be complete in 2018.

Soho Properties also owns a neighboring site at 51 Park Place which will give way to a three-story Islamic cultural center designed by starchitect Jean Nouvel. A rep for the project says that a variance allowing the development of a museum is still being sought for the site