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Chicago Architecture Center Launches Exhibition and Community Feedback Portal as 42 Architecture Firms Advance to the Next Stage of the Come Home “Missing Middle Infill” Housing Competition

Chicago residents are invited to visit and provide feedback on a pop-up poster exhibition showcasing reimagined housing typologies designed for six Chicago communities including Auburn Gresham, Bronzeville, East Garfield Park, Englewood, Humboldt Park, and Woodlawn

(CHICAGO) —The [Chicago Architecture Center](#) (CAC) is inviting Chicago residents to an exhibition to view and provide feedback on reimagined housing typologies by 42 local and national architecture firms that have advanced to Phase 2 of the [Come Home Initiative](#). Come Home is a design competition and wealth-building initiative that supports “missing middle density” infill housing in the neighborhoods of Auburn Gresham, Bronzeville, East Garfield Park, Englewood, Humboldt Park and Woodlawn. The exhibition will be on display at the Chicago Architecture Center March 3 - 26.

“Chicago is at the forefront of housing design for 21st century living,” said **Eleanor Esser Gorski, CEO of the Chicago Architecture Center.** “Whether it’s the return to multi-generational housing or the rise of the gig economy and micro mobility, the way people live has evolved—and housing must evolve with it. The CAC is proud to be part of an initiative that calls for fresh, innovative ideas and partners with the community to tell us what they would want to “come home to” in their neighborhood.”

“Missing middle density” housing can be defined in some circumstances as vacant lot gaps that are missing density in residential blocks like other parts of an urban environment. It can also refer to the middle class, which has been squeezed out of some parts of the city. With an increase in density comes a diversity of housing choices with potential to jumpstart generational wealth through home ownership.

The competition launched with a request for qualifications (RFQ) in early December to local and national firms, inviting them to submit their design solutions across four divisions/housing types, including Single-Family Homes, 2- and 3-Flats, Rowhouses and 6-flats. In Phase 2, a shortlist of 42 local and national firms out of 74 submitted have been invited to present their work to a jury of industry leaders who will assess the submissions based on, design excellence, buildability, and replicability.

In addition, the CAC has rolled out a Come Home feedback portal where community members can review submissions and provide their input on their favorite submissions the view online or by viewing the posters in the exhibition. The portal will remain open ahead of Phase 3. Phase 3 will include the finalists selected by the expert jury and will be published in a pattern book this summer to serve as a resource to city planners and emerging developers by providing a snapshot into innovative housing design.

Come Home is supported by the Chicago Community Trust and is being offered in partnership with the Department of Housing and Department of Planning and Development. For more information on the Come Home Initiative and to provide feedback on the 42 submissions, please visit <https://www.architecture.org/comehomefeedback>. The pop-up poster exhibition will be on display March 3 - 26 in the CAC's Skyscraper Gallery at a discounted entry fee of \$7.

SHORTLIST OF TEAMS:

- ACDF Architecture
- Architecture for Public Benefit and Peter Rose + Partners
- CAMESgibson
- Canopy Architecture and Design
- Chicago Design Office
- Civic Projects Architecture + Marlon Blackwell Architects (Fayetteville, AR)
- DAAM
- David Baker Architects (San Francisco)
- Dirk Denison Architects
- DMAC Architecture & Interiors
- DNA Architecture & Design, Inc. (Los Angeles)
- Frida Escobedo Studio (Mexico City)
- Future Firm
- Höweler + Yoon (Boston)
- Hufft (Kansas City, MO)
- Jahn/;
- Kevin Daly Architects (Los Angeles)
- Krueck Sexton Partners
- Kwong Von Glinow
- Lamar Johnson Collaborative;
- Latent Design
- Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects (Los Angeles)
- MERGE Architects (Boston)
- MOS (New York)
- NADAAA (Boston)
- nARCHITECTS (New York)
- New Office
- Nia Architects + Yu & Associates Collaborative
- OJT (New Orleans)
- Park Fowler Plus
- PRODUCTORA (Los Angeles, New York and Mexico City)
- Range Design & Architecture
- Ross Barney Architects
- Sheehan Nagle Hartray Architects
- Studio Becker Xu
- Studio Sean Canty, LLC + Office III (Boston)
- TATIANA BILBAO ESTUDIO (Mexico City)
- TBDA + Blacks in Green
- UrbanLab + The Available City
- Valerio Dewalt Train
- Vladimir Radutny Architects Inc.
- von Weise Associates

About the Chicago Architecture Center

The Chicago Architecture Center (CAC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1966, dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. A national leader in architecture and design education, the CAC offers tours, programs, exhibitions, and more that are part of a dynamic journey of lifelong learning.

Opened to the public in 2018, its riverfront location is in the heart of the city, where Michigan Avenue meets the Chicago River, featuring nearly 10,000 square feet of exhibition space with views of a century of iconic skyscrapers.

Through partnerships with schools and youth-serving organizations, the CAC reaches approximately 5,000 K-12 students annually, while teacher workshops provide educators with tools and resources, they need to advance STEM curricula in their classrooms. Committed to serving under-represented communities in construction, engineering, and design professions, the CAC offers many of its education programs—and all its programs for teens—at no cost to participants. CAC programs for adults and members include talks with acclaimed authors and practicing architects, in-depth presentations on issues and trends in urbanism, and classes unlocking subjects related to the built environment.

Proceeds from programs, tours, and the CAC Design Store, as well as from grants, sponsorships, and donations, support its educational mission. Visit architecture.org to learn more and follow @chiarchitecture and #chiarchitecture on social media.

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