



AIA PHOENIX METRO DESIGN COMPETITION 2017

INFILL PHOENIX

highlight | reveal | define | the essence of phoenix

INTRODUCTION

Phoenix, the fifth largest city in the United States by population and area, is very much a function of the 20th century technologies that enabled its rapid post WWII growth and inhabitation of an arid desert environment. While frequently cited for seemingly endless suburban sprawl, the metro area is in a state of transformation and is beginning to densify in line with other emergent urban centers. For decades, vacant land has made up a sizable portion of Phoenix's land mass — up to 43 percent in the year 2000, according to a study by the Washington, D.C.-based Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy. This is especially true of the Phoenix downtown area, a location which has enjoyed positive, if not game-changing, developments over the past decade including light rail, a new university campus, thousands of new housing units, and an increasingly attractive business environment. The area also features a celebrated and long-standing arts and culture core with an emerging live music scene.

Nevertheless, opportunities and challenges abound when creating a resilient city in the Sonoran Desert, a location with limited water resources, extreme temperatures, and the occasionally dramatic dust storm. Added to the region's dramatic environmental setting are the significant demographic changes brought by a vital immigrant community ready to contribute their talents and perspective to the building of a great city.

For Phoenixians, all of the above presents an opportunity for confirmation of the city as a place of reinvention, innovation, and inclusivity. **We are calling all TASTE MAKERS - architects, planners, landscape architects, designers, developers, storytellers, graphic thinkers and visual artists – to idealize the essence of Phoenix through Small, Medium, and Large urban infill proposals.** Create a truly unique place or experience that becomes emblematic of who and what Phoenix is as a city, a community, a PLACE.

INFILL PHOENIX is a competition that asks entrants to propose an innovative program and design a structure, an element or a place, which supports that program and connects it with the existing urban fabric of Phoenix. The entrant's assessment of what Phoenix is or could become is not limited to what is contained in this brief. It is hoped that creative approaches will be considered in both programming and the entrant's infill proposal. Entrants are allowed to propose any use and any built form that they feel best communicates and celebrates the City through small, medium and large infill sites. Entrants will not be limited by specific zoning laws or overlays. Entrants are encouraged not to follow trends set forth in other cities, but to find ways to use this City's unique assets, surrounding context, infrastructure, and climate to forge a unique vision for the City's future that connects what exists by infilling the gaps.

Entrants are asked to present their ideas through a concise written description and a single digital board that elegantly conveys their proposal. Proposals may be as visionary or pragmatic as desired in both identifying and answering the challenge set forth. Entries will be judged on the clarity with which they present the relevance of their proposal and how effectively they design and communicate their idea that captures the essence of Phoenix. The winning entry will be thoughtful, well-conceived, graphically communicative and inspirational not only to architects but to the community at large.

INFILL SITE(S)

Entrants are encouraged to select one of three (3) different scaled urban infill sites: SMALL, MEDIUM, and LARGE infill sites representing currently vacant or under-utilized land within the Downtown Redevelopment Area.

<https://www.phoenix.gov/econdevsite/Documents/085493.pdf>

Infill site selection must address one of the following site selection criteria:

>SMALL less than 2/3 of an acre

>MEDIUM between 2/3 of an acre up to 2 acres but not a full city block
>LARGE a full city block or more

Entrants infill site selection and programmed use proposal should address the following criteria:

- _Improve a vacant land parcel and/or adaptively reuse existing structures on the land parcel;
- _Describe the public benefit in terms of increase/decrease of use and impact on neighboring land uses;
- _Identify any historic preservation qualities and/or elements of neighborhood revitalization;
- _Reveal pre-existing planning and zoning policies that could prevent the proposals realization;
- _Incorporate resilient urban planning and sustainable design principles and their application to the selected site and its land use;
- _Illustrate the development quality in terms of site design, building design, landscape, parking, access, and connectivity;
- _If including housing, the proposal must address affordable and/or attainable housing needs;
- _Incorporate the use of open space - linking adjacent land uses and building programs;
- _Highlight regional and local multi-modal transit connectivity;
- _Consider the financial feasibility and the economic impact potential of the proposal;
- _Address additional quality of life and public safety elements contributing to the livability of the city.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

_ **written description** that clearly and succinctly articulates the entrant's proposed program and project. This description - limited to 500 words - must include an explanation of the program and what they hope to achieve through this intervention. This explanatory text should be graphically composed and included on the board along with a digital .doc file. The use of bulleted information is recommended to aid the jury's review of competition proposals.

_ **(1) 36" x 36" presentation board** digital file sent via internet (150 dpi .PDF) + mounted hard copy. There are no requirements as to the number or type of drawings and/or depictions that need to be included on the presentation board. Entrants are asked to expressively communicate their ideas through visually distinct and beautiful boards. Supporting materials such as financial models, sustainable strategies, tectonic innovations, etc are encouraged, but must be included solely on the entrant's presentation board.

_ **AIA Phoenix Metro and/or the City of Phoenix** may choose all or a portion of the entries for public exhibition at their discretion. Boards must be designed with a ½" blank border (no full bleed). Boards should be sent to the AIA Arizona office: AIA Arizona 30 North Third Avenue, Suite 200 Phoenix, Arizona 85003.

_ **this will be a blind jury.** Entrants will not identify themselves by name on any portion of the written description or board. Entry numbers, provided upon registration, must be placed on the board and the written description in a readily identifiable way at the entrant's discretion.

ENTRANT REQUIREMENTS

- _An entrant may be an individual or team.
- _This competition is open to everyone and anyone who wishes to register.
- _Members of the jury and organizing staff are not eligible to participate.

REGISTRATION

The entry form can be found on the AIA Phoenix Metro's website at: <http://aia-phoenixmetro.org/competition-2017-1/>

Once registered, entrants will use only the entry number provided to them to identify their presentation board and written description.

\$100 entry fee for AIA members and students, \$125 entry fee for non-members

Students and student teams are encouraged to enter; the first ten (10) Arizona students / Arizona student teams to enter will be paired with an AIA Arizona mentor firm responsible for covering the cost of the student entry and collaborating with that student/student team)

For team entries, only one team member need be an AIA member.

SCHEDULE

_Competition Launch I start of Q&A period: THURSDAY_17 August 2017

_Close of Q&A period: THURSDAY_14 September 2017_noon

[once registered all entrants will be included in a group email where any questions raised by individual entrants will be answered and published via email to the entire group]

_Registration Deadline: THURSDAY_05 October 2017

_Late Registration Deadline (\$50 additional): THURSDAY_19 October 2017

_ **Submission Deadline: THURSDAY_02 November 2017**

_Winner Announced: THURSDAY_16 November 2017 at the AIA Phoenix Metro Annual Wrap-Up Event

_Selected work may be displayed for public consideration and comment through end of year 2018

JURY

_ **Jack Debartolo 3 FAIA**, jury chair, Principal, Debartolo Architects

_ **Charles Anderson FASLA**, Principal, WERK – Charles Anderson Landscape Architects

_ **Chris Bianco**, Chef, James Beard Award Winner

_ **Michael Leblanc AIA**, Founding Principal, Utile

_ **Christine MacKay**, Economic Development Director, City of Phoenix

PRIZE

_ First Place: \$5,000 + publication & exhibition

_ Second and Third Place: bragging rights + publication & exhibition

EXPOSURE

Results of this competition are intended to generate ideas that might aid the City of Phoenix in showcasing a strong vision for our city. Additional details and publication information to be announced later.

CONTACT | ADDITIONAL INFO

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