

CONTEXT

According to the 2015 Chicago Homeless Count and Survey conducted by the City of Chicago, 31% of the unsheltered homeless population and 19% of those that are sheltered are between the ages of 18 and 24 years old. Though these numbers are startling, many of the city's homeless young adults are actively working to improve their quality of life—working toward their GEDs, holding jobs or taking courses in college.

Yet, these activities are made even more difficult when considering that a young adult who is considered “sheltered” (who lives in a homeless shelter) is forced out of their safe environment for the day. The possibility of finishing homework or simply having a safe place to store their valuable items during a job interview is mostly nonexistent. One predictor of adult homelessness is youth homelessness, and permanent housing for homeless young adults is a long-term investment in Chicago's future.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

AIA Chicago invites you to share your ideas for the emerging typology for urban housing called Tiny Homes. Tiny Homes can provide a lower-cost solution to the need for affordable and subsidized housing in Chicago; particularly for those young adults living without stable housing. Micro-living has become a trend in diverse communities, but has only recently been introduced as a low-cost, viable, quality-of-life-enhancing alternative to homeless shelters.

With their own private space in a planned development young adults can safely store personal belongings, including clothes, textbooks and legal documents; as well, they provide young adults with privacy within a shared community—all components of an important step on their path to full independence.

This competition is an opportunity for architects, students, artists and members of the public to propose new solutions to Chicago's affordable housing shortage by designing a Tiny Homes community in Chicago's historic Bronzeville neighborhood as a prototype for future development possibilities.

This competition was launched in conjunction with the Tiny Homes Summit, taking place April 18–19, 2016, at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

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Nonprofit Service Providers:

AIDS Foundation of Chicago
Care2Prevent, U of Chicago
Center on Halsted
Chicago House
Chicago Youth Storage Initiative
HBHC's Broadway Youth Center
Illinois Safe Schools Alliance
La Casa Norte
Lurie Children's Hospital - Division of Adolescent Medicine
Neon Dorms - Heartland Human Care Services
New Moms
Polk Bros. Foundation
Project Fierce
Puerto Rican Cultural Center: El Rescate
Task Force Prevention and Community Services on the Westside.
Teen Living Programs
The 750 Club Apt. Adoption Project
The Night Ministry
Thresholds
Unity Parenting and Counseling, Inc.
YEPP: Youth Empowerment Performance Project

SITE

The site for the Tiny Homes competition is located at 4318-4324 S Vernon, Chicago, IL. The site is comprised of 4 city lots with an overall dimension of 106' wide by 120.6' deep. There is an adjacent building on the lot line to the north where a minimum 3' setback will be required.

As with many zoning codes, Chicago allows only one building per zoning lot. We will obtain a variance for the communal structure; however, the houses must be connected in some physical capacity—not unlike a row of townhomes.

See included site plan.

PROGRAM

Each of the proposed design solutions requires the following:

- An overall site plan that shall include the following:
- 10-12 housing modules along with a permanent communal space
- Trash/recycling receptacles
- Secured bike storage (or alternately may be attached to the housing module)
- A hardscaped area that can accommodate parking for 3 cars off the alley
- Lighting and general site security should be considered

A complete design for one affordable housing module for young adults that is under 350 square feet and includes:

- Bathroom: shower, toilet and sink
- Kitchen: refrigerator, microwave and sink (full size appliances are not required)
- Twin bed
- Storage space
- Secure door and window(s)

As well, submissions should include a design for a maximum 1200-square-foot permanent communal space that includes:

- Meetings, social gatherings, laundry facility, one office space for staff and storage

Accessibility needs and universal design principals. For the purpose of this competition, meet the following accessibility requirements:

- All housing modules to be visitable:
 - Visitable units shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Sections [18-11-1107.5.4.3.1](#) through [18-11-1107.5.4.3.8](#) of the [Chicago Building Code](#).
- The communal space should be fully accessible

Maximum cost of materials and mechanical system not to exceed \$30,000

A concept for construction that will keep the total cost of the module less than \$60,000 assuming market labor cost.

Reasonable structural and mechanical systems for the given climate and location and the above budgets.

Assumptions:

- Per City of Chicago code, a foundation system to 42" below grade will be required. Do not include the cost of the foundation system in the Cost of Materials List
- Water, sewer, gas and electrical hookups will be provided to the location of your module
- Zoning variance and/or exceptions will be required however contestants need not conform to existing zoning requirements other than as noted above

CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

Assume that the housing module and communal space need to comply with City of Chicago code IVA construction (combustible frame construction in which the structural elements, including enclosing walls, are entirely or in part of wood or other materials not more combustible than wood). See more description under division 6, type IV [here](#).

Meet the following minimum energy requirements:

- Minimum wall assembly = R21
- Minimum roof assembly = R48
- Maximum window assembly = U.30

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Online registration form
- One presentation board (24"x36") landscape oriented at 150 dpi in PDF format and saved as a single PDF file less than 10MB in size. To ensure legibility in jurying and publication, all fonts must be 12 point or larger
- If the design is submitted by a team of people, ALL team members must be identified on the application

The presentation board must contain the following:

- Narrative of the design (250 words or less)
- Site Plan 1/16" = 1'-0"
- Housing Module Plan 1/4" = 1'-0"
- (2) Building Sections 1/4" = 1'-0"
- (2) Building Elevations 1/4" = 1'-0"
- High resolution rendering
- Cost of Materials List
- Names of contestant individuals or organizations MUST NOT be visible on the presentation board

FEES

There are no fees associated with entering the competition.

ELIGIBILITY

This Design Competition is open to all with the following exclusions:

- Entries shall not have been previously published in any competition publication, whether printed, online or otherwise
- Entries shall not have been selected as finalists, winner, honorable mention, etc. in any other competition

JUDGING CRITERIA

The jury will review the submission and select the finalists based on these criteria:

- Compliance with all submission requirements
- Adherence to the design parameters
- Believable constructability within identified budget parameters
- Suitability of design for intended use
- Aesthetic merit
- Responsiveness to neighborhood and site context

COMPETITION JURY

Bennet Haller	City of Chicago
Marisa Novara	Metropolitan Planning Council
Sol Flores	La Casa Norte
Jeff Bone	Landon Bone Baker Architects
Kasey White	Student, Kennedy King College

PRIZES AND RECOGNITION

- Winner will receive \$5,000 award and opportunity to construct a full-size demonstration unit
- Winner will receive an additional \$5,000 fee to develop construction drawings. If the winner is not a licensed architect in the state of Illinois, winner must team up with a licensed architect in Illinois to produce the construction drawings
- Winning design will be constructed by an outside group as full-size demonstration model and exhibited in conjunction with the Tiny Homes Summit, April 18–19, 2016, at the University of Illinois- Chicago.
- Winning projects and teams will be promoted in a local and national press release; and, featured in Chicago Architect magazine. All submissions will be displayed online.

DEADLINE

The deadline for online submission is midnight Central Standard Time on January 30, 2016.

COMPETITION TIMELINE

- *November 16, 2015*

Competition opens - Online submissions site open

Competition questions accepted at info@aiachicago.org

- *January 15, 2016*

Competition questions closes

- *January 30, 2016*

Competition deadline - Online submission site closes

- *February, 2016*

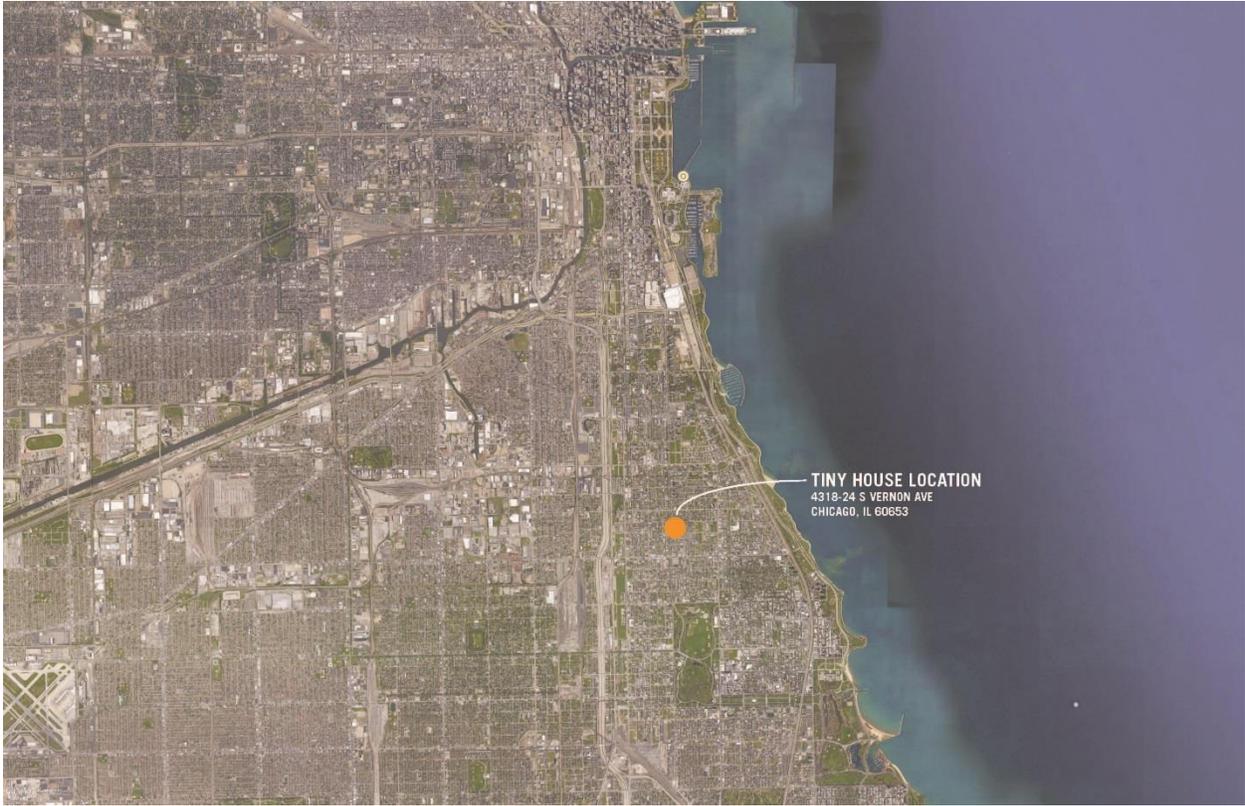
Winners are announced

- *March 2016*

Winning design is erected...

- *April 2016*

Tiny Homes Summit





TINY HOUSE LOCATION
4318-24 S VERNON AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60653

MARTIN LUTHER KING DR

VERNON AVE

31.25'
120.6'
25'
25'
25'