

SPONSORS

PROVIDE THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR ARCHITECTS, DESIGNERS, PLANNERS, RELATED CITY-BUILDERS, STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS TO PRESENT CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO HOUSING ISSUES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION.

Missing Middle and Mixing Middle housing forms, the subjects of Urbanarium's previous ideas competitions, are becoming mainstream policies. Decoding Density again explores missing middle housing, this time at the high end of that density range.

A global invitation to imagine new possibilities for six-storey **plus** apartment forms in Metro Vancouver by challenging the constraints of code and other building requirements, the competition will address two of the most existential problems of today: climate change and housing affordability.

For those that enter, it is a chance to work on the edge of their practice for public good and potential policy change, profile work internationally, access unique networking opportunities and compete for \$44,000 in prize money. Winning submissions will be featured in an About Here "solutions video", a publication, competition website, news coverage and special events.

The success of previous competitions are because of our partners. These partnerships extend beyond the competition brief to include meaningful inspiration, knowledge mobilization, public engagement, and policy change that foster strong, lifelong relationships between design, developer, student and municipal communities.

SPONSOR BENEFITS

- Invited collaborator and special guest
- Speaking opportunities at events (anchor programming, awards ceremony, solutions party, etc)
- Company recognition through press releases, media coverage and advertisements, About Here videos, website, social posts, presentations to governments and the publication
- Charitable tax receipt and final report

URBANARIUM
COMPETITIONS

INTERNATIONAL OPEN IDEAS AND DESIGN HOUSING CHALLENGES.

[CLICK FOR WEBPAGE](#)

DECODING DENSITY COMING 2023



CHALLENGING CONSTRAINTS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

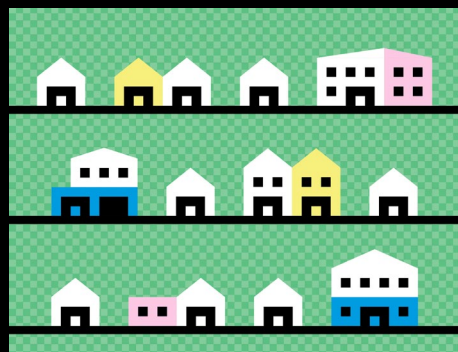
The six-storey wood frame apartment building is becoming a standard for municipalities in the region for increasing density. And yet, designers exploring these apartment forms find that code and other regulations, combined with financial factors, generate boxes that are not affordable, do not address climate change, and struggle to offer outdoor space, light, and cultural, communal and family-orientated features.

This competition is intended to envision better six-storey **plus** forms.

THE MIXING MIDDLE 2021

Existing monocultural single-family neighbourhoods need to densify with Missing Middle housing, but that on its own isn't enough. Those neighbourhoods also need a variety of activities to thrive. This competition asked entrants to add new mixed-use functionality to skillfully enhance densifying areas, building on lessons learned during the pandemic.

- 44 TEAMS FROM 5 COUNTRIES
- \$37,000 IN PRIZE MONEY
- 28 SPONSORS
- 2 ABOUT HERE VIDEOS WITH 2,088,343 VIEWS
- 55 PIECES OF NEWS COVERAGE
- 77-PAGE PUBLICATION
- WINNERS PRESENTATION VIDEO PREMIER
- BIG PARTY AT POLYGON GALLERY
- 6 POSSIBLE POLICY IMPACTS SENT TO MUNICIPALITIES IN METRO VANCOUVER



THE MISSING MIDDLE 2018

No one argues that the Vancouver region is not facing a housing affordability crisis, yet large single-family houses and high-rise condo tower construction is booming. Housing starting in the mid-range, offering densification in existing single-family neighbourhoods is missing. This competition generated neighbourhood possibilities for a single lot landowner or a pair of neighbours to create affordable, higher density, low rise options that support socially contributing housing.

- 34 TEAMS FROM 2 COUNTRIES
- \$28,000 IN PRIZE MONEY
- 16 SPONSORS
- 1 ABOUT HERE VIDEO WITH 170,000 VIEWS
- 12 PIECES OF NEWS COVERAGE
- WINNERS PRESENTATION AT SURREY CITY HALL
- EXHIBITION AND PRESENTATION AT AIBC
- 64-PAGE PUBLICATION
- 5 POSSIBLE POLICY IMPACTS SENT TO MUNICIPALITIES IN METRO VANCOUVER

