



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Indianapolis Issues RFQ for Architectural Partners for Residential Pre-Reviewed Plans

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — The City of Indianapolis, through the Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD), has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking architectural services for residential pre-reviewed plans as part of the Pre-Reviewed Housing (PRH) pilot program.

The PRH pilot program is intended to help lower some of the barriers to building new residential housing by shortening approval timelines and lowering upfront costs—helping housing projects move from concept to construction more efficiently.

“This pilot program has the potential to accelerate housing projects in our community,” said Marlee Cawthorn, DMD’s City Architect. “By streamlining the path from design to construction, this pilot aims to make it faster, easier, and more affordable to build small-scale, high-quality housing that fits within existing neighborhoods.”

Through this RFQ, the City is seeking a qualified architect-led consultant team to help develop a small catalog of permit-ready residential construction plans, including single-family homes, duplexes, and accessory dwelling units (ADUs). These pre-reviewed plans will be designed to meet local zoning and building standards with the goal of being made available for use on appropriately zoned parcels, including [City-owned Vacant to Vibrant properties](#).

In addition to producing permit-ready plan sets, the pilot program anticipates being able to:

- evaluate how much time and cost can be saved through pre-reviewed designs and construction drawings,
- test new interdepartmental workflows, and
- gather feedback from community development corporations, small-scale developers and homeowners

By focusing on practical, neighborhood-scale housing solutions, the program supports the City’s broader goals of strengthening existing neighborhoods, activating vacant and underused parcels, and expanding housing choice without sacrificing design quality or the unique character across Indianapolis’ neighborhoods.



This initiative aligns with Mayor Joe Hogsett’s housing and neighborhood priorities, which emphasize housing affordability, infill development, and sustainable growth that benefits residents across Indianapolis.

The RFQ opened today, **Monday, February 9, 2026**, and will close **on Thursday, April 9, 2026**. Submissions must be delivered electronically via email to Marlee Cawthorn at Marlee.Cawthorn@indy.gov. Firms interested in participating are encouraged to review the full RFQ materials and submission requirements on the [City’s purchasing website](#) and search for the RFQ Reference Number: RFQUAL-13DMD-2026-101.

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