

ADU Design Competition Submission Proposal

It is with great honor that I submit this proposal for the ADU Design Competition. Please find my submission for the 'Heart of Home' Accessory Dwelling Unit that welcomes people to dwell in comfort, ease and wellbeing.

The design intention of this ADU proposal is to offer a way of living that flows, with ample room to move around, allowing for lots of sunlight to enter and fill the spaces, letting the house uplift the dweller and create a sense of connection and inspiration through the architecture.

The primary entrance is accessed off the alleyway, allowing for a north gated entry. Additionally there is a larger sliding gate along the alleyway to allow for bike access.

Arriving at the covered entry porch is the front door. Passing through the threshold into the home, the dweller is welcomed in by the central ceiling that rises up to allow for sunlight to pour in from the tall clerestory windows above.

In the northeast of the home is the living area with comfortable seating and a large window to gaze out at the garden view. In the east there are three large windows to welcome in the morning sun with an area to relax and dine.

In the southeast of the home is a full kitchen with a range, vent hood, large sink, full size refrigerator and a tall pantry cabinet along the back wall.

In the southwest of the home is the primary bedroom, with large windows toward the south, a generous closet and private access to a covered outdoor patio.

In the northwest of the home is an office that allows for a private work area. This room can also serve as a guest bedroom if needed.

To the west, outside of the main living area is a full bathroom with a shower (or bathtub) and a large closet. Across the way from the bathroom is a stackable washer/dryer and the water heater neatly tucked away.

The central area is the heart of the home in which the ceiling rises tall to allow for clerestory light to filter into the spaces below. It is the area that honors the connection between the dwelling and the land through the remembrance of the four directions, framed with large windows at the cardinal directions points. In ancient cultures this space, the meeting points of the cardinal directions was a place of remembrance. In this dwelling it can be a place to roll out the yoga matt, facing east to greet the sun or it can be a place to gather in dance or to simply let the space be a place of inspiration and light.

Universal Design & Aging In Place Highlights:

- Flexible living arrangements with this design based on the needs of the dweller(s).
- The bedroom closet can be removed to accommodate greater wheelchair access and the covered bedroom porch can become a large closet.
- Useable flow within spaces utilizing interior pocket doors to remain open, closing only if privacy is needed.
- All doors and hallways can easily be widened for those needing more accommodation.
- The covered bedroom patio can be replaced with another use, such as a private bathroom or large laundry room.
- An entry ramp can easily be adapted alongside the entry step if needed for access.
- The office space can easily be used as a guest room depending on the needs of the dweller.
- The kitchen can easily be widened to accommodate full wheelchair access if needed.

Affordability, Cost effectiveness, Sustainability and Resilience Highlights:

- Maximize potential under-roof build to just less than 1000 sq. ft.
- Sleeps 1 – 4
- Accommodates 2 beds, 1 bath
- Accommodates space for vehicle parking if needed
- Lots of natural light
- Natural cross ventilation with large operable windows
- Slab on grade construction with perimeter and under slab insulation
- Wood stud wall framing with both interior and exterior continuous insulation
- Insulated vaulted ceilings
- Conditioned attic space for storage and equipment over the bathroom/laundry area.
- Dual or triple pane windows for energy efficiency
- Solar panels to be mounted on south sloping roof
- Electric heat pump to provide heating and cooling with mini split system
- Heat recovery ventilator to be located above bathroom
- Provide low flow water fixtures for water reduction use
- Provide energy star appliances
- Provide locally sourced sustainable materials if possible

Thank you for your review and consideration.