

# Responding to RFP/Q/EIs

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**HPD Capacity Building Series for M/WBE & Nonprofit Developers**  
**December 8, 2020**

**Josh Saal, Deputy Director of Predevelopment**  
**HPD**

# Agenda

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**Intro**

**Community Engagement**

**RFP Process**

**Case Study: Grant Avenue Modular**

**Experiences**

**Q+A**

# Developing Housing on Public Sites

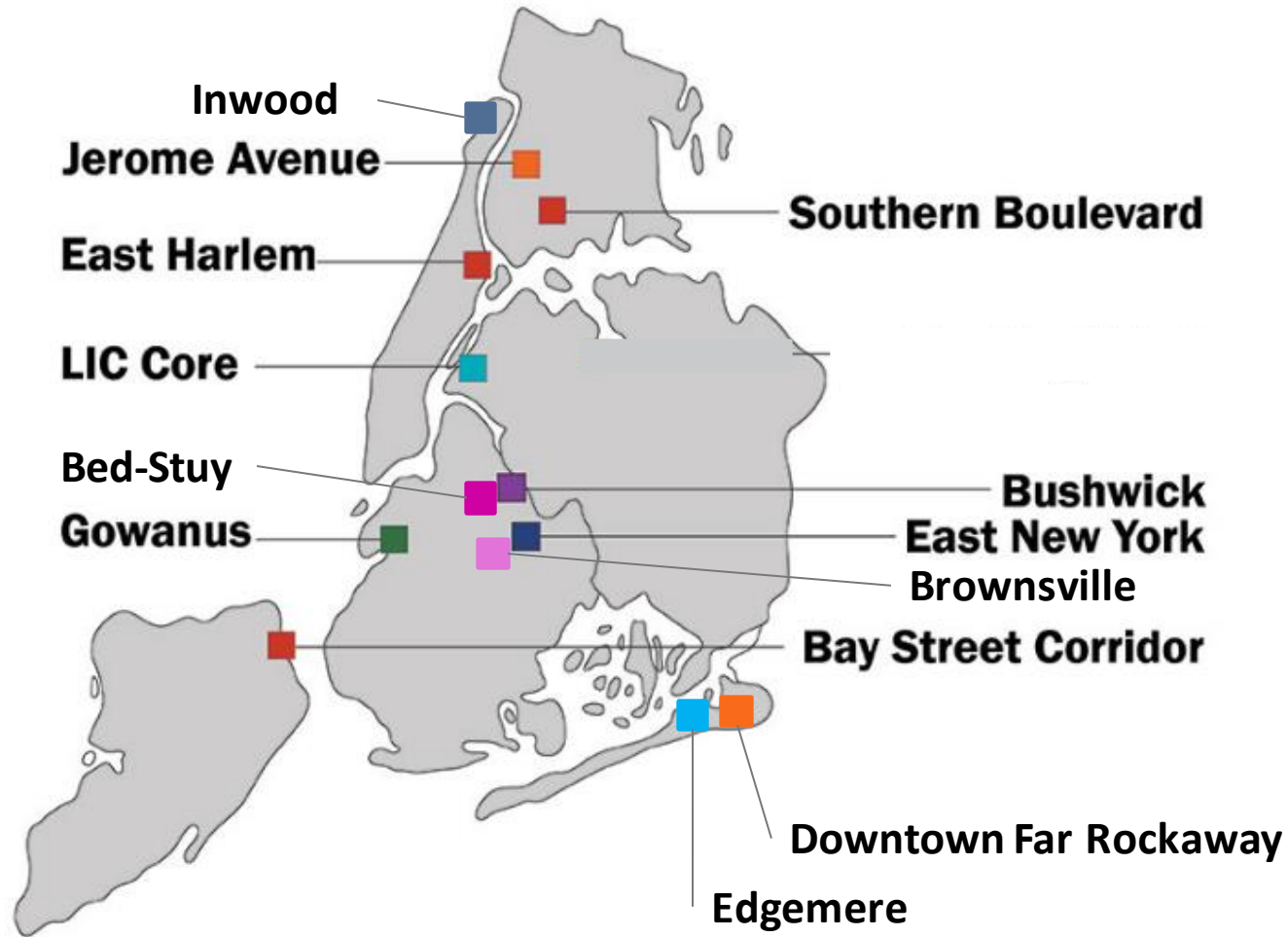
As part of the City's efforts to generate 300,000 affordable homes by 2026, HPD works with other agencies to develop affordable housing on **City-owned sites** that are suitable for housing.

In partnership with communities, HPD's Office of Neighborhood Strategies works to ensure that the development of these sites are guided by **meaningful community engagement** and **coordinated with public investments in infrastructure and services**.

- Interagency coordination
- Stakeholder engagement
- Community Visioning Workshops



# From Rezoning Neighborhoods to Planning Neighborhoods with Communities



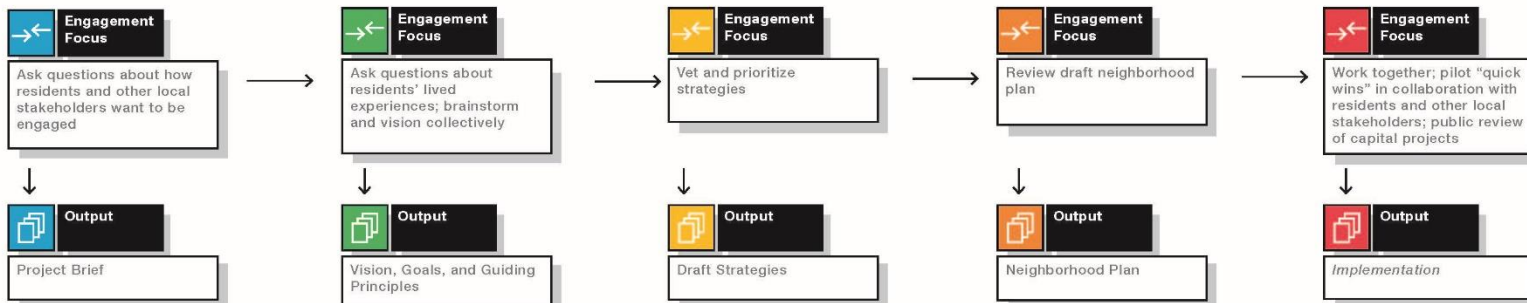
# Neighborhood Planning Playbook



# Neighborhood Planning Playbook

## Neighborhood Planning Phases

01 Organize	02 Learn	03 Create	04 Finalize	05 Implement
<p><u>Overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define planning area</li> <li>Develop planning schedule with key dates</li> <li>Identify and meet with key stakeholders</li> <li>Begin to identify key community concerns, goals, and values</li> <li>Coordinate inter-agency project team and governance</li> <li>Create a Neighborhood Snapshot (data gathering and analysis)</li> </ul> <p><u>Deliverables</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Brief</li> <li>Neighborhood Snapshot</li> <li>Engagement Strategy</li> <li>(Post final document on public website)</li> </ul>	<p><u>Overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dive deeper in quantitative and qualitative data</li> <li>Identify measures and trends affecting neighborhoods</li> <li>Identify challenges and opportunities</li> <li>Develop a shared community-driven neighborhood vision and set of guiding principles</li> </ul> <p><u>Deliverables</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen and Learn—Workshop 1 Summary</li> <li>Vision, Goals, and Guiding Principles—Workshop 2 Summary</li> <li>(Post final document on public website)</li> </ul>	<p><u>Overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brainstorm solutions and strategies with the community</li> <li>Develop scenarios that address key neighborhood concerns</li> <li>Test preliminary policies, projects, and strategies (viability, feasibility, desirability)</li> </ul> <p><u>Deliverables</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Test Strategies and Actions Workshop 3 Summary</li> <li>(Post final document on public website)</li> </ul>	<p><u>Overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Synthesize solutions that have consensus and potential to achieve desired outcomes</li> <li>Vet and finalize key implementation elements of the plan</li> </ul> <p><u>Deliverables</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm and Prioritize—Workshop 4 Summary</li> <li>Neighborhood Plan</li> <li>Fundamental elements of land use and other regulatory actions (e.g., Draft EIS, ULURP)</li> <li>(Post final document on public website)</li> </ul>	<p><u>Overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighborhood Plan serves as basis for action</li> <li>Conduct the necessary regulatory processes for proposed zoning and land use proposals</li> <li>Coordinate agency programs and capital budgets for implementation of key plan elements</li> </ul> <p><u>Deliverables</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversight and Ongoing Engagement</li> <li>ULURP Certification and Approval (if required)</li> <li>Program and Policy Development</li> <li>Capital Projects</li> </ul>





# Community Visioning Together

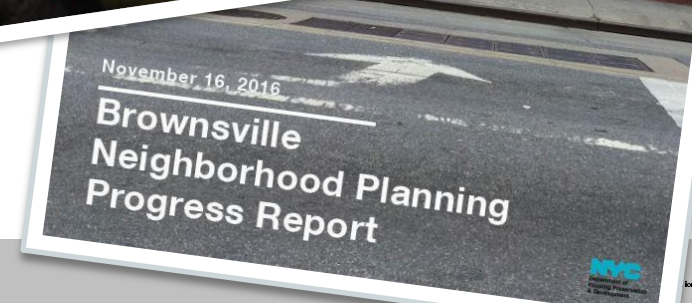
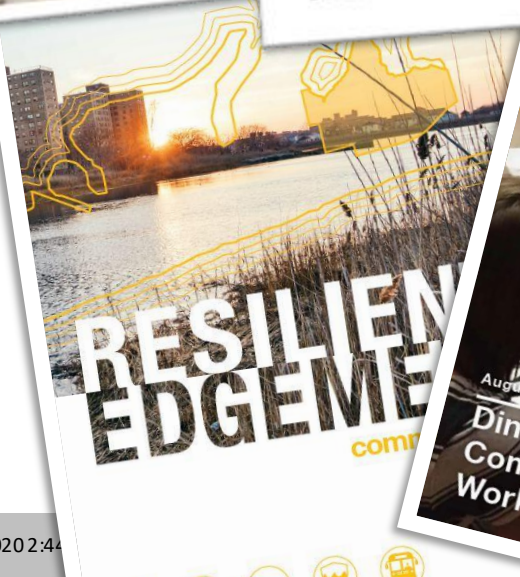


# ENGAGEMENT TACTICS



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# Definitions

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## RFP Request for Proposals

- For development on City-Owned sites
- Often with specific criteria responsive to certain objectives

## RFQ Request for Qualifications

- To establish a “Pre-Qualified List” of developers or consultants
- Last M/WBE RFP was preceded by an RFQ (next one won’t be)

## RFEI Request for Expressions of Interest

- Used to gauge interest; may or may not be followed by a specific RFP
- Recently used twice for private sites—Modular NYC and ShareNYC

# RFP Objectives

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HPD relies on a **competitive** process in most cases when disposing of public-sites. This allows us to solicit the best ideas and value for our financing, and to frame our vision for the site in keeping with community interests.

## Recent Reforms

- Equitable Ownership requirement
- Expanding developer qualifications to include rehab experience
- Preference for submissions that include a plan for neighborhood investments and/or community programs or services
- Requirement for community engagement plan and job outreach plan
- Reduction in architectural submission requirements



# RFP Format

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## East Harlem RFP

East Harlem, Manhattan

### Request for Proposals

Issue Date: August 8, 2019  
Pre-Submission Conference: September 5, 2019  
Site Tour: September 11, 2019  
Submission Deadline: November 26, 2019



Mayor, Bill de Blasio  
Deputy Mayor, Housing and Economic Development, Vicky Stern  
Commissioner, Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Louise Carroll



# RFP Project Overview

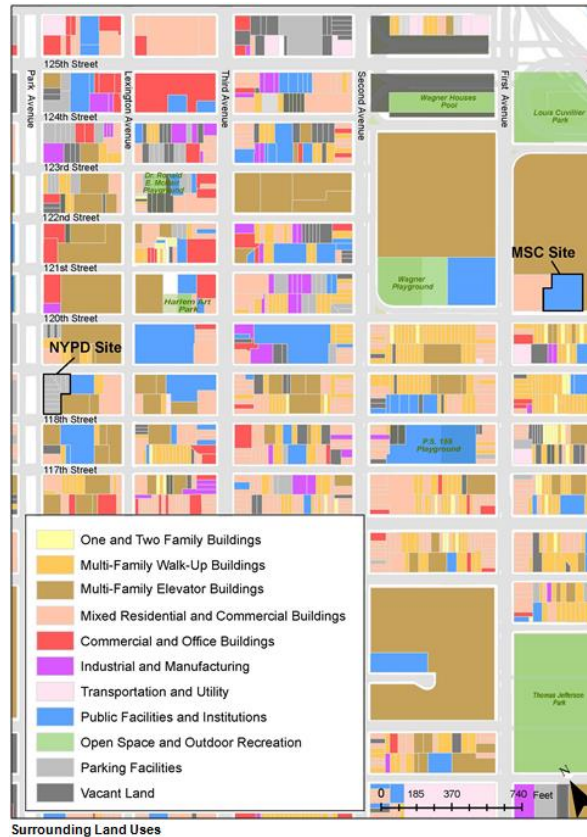
## Project Snapshot:

- Location
- Description
- Lot size
- Land use/zoning
- Development type
- Necessary public approvals

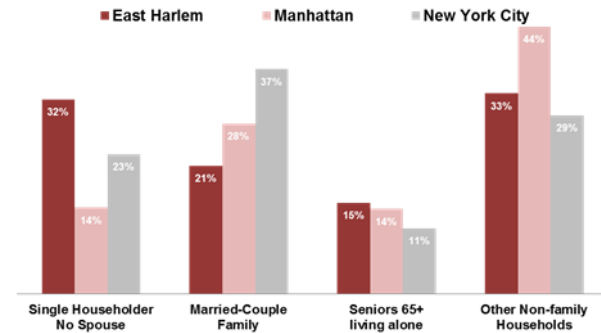
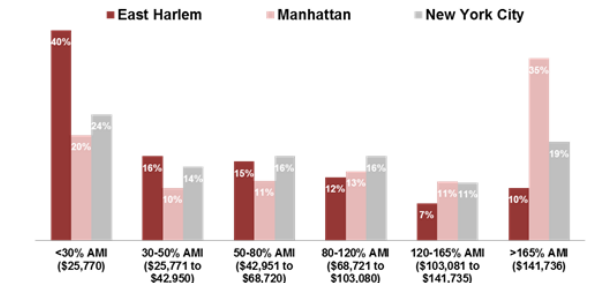
## Project Goals

## Site and Neighborhood Context

- Land Uses
- Transportation Access
- Demographics



Distribution of Households by Income Group



# RFP Selection Process

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- Development Team Experience and Capacity
- Financing and Affordability
- Development Program and Community Economic Development
- Design and Performance

And for each:

- ✓ Threshold Requirements
- ✓ Competitive Criteria

Competitive Criteria	Weight	
Development Team Experience and Capacity	20%	50%
Financing and Affordability	30%	
Development Program and Community Development	25%	50%
Design and Performance	25%	

- ✓ Preferences

# RFP Review Process

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Pre-Submission  
Conference

Completeness  
and Threshold  
Review

Competitive  
Review

Clarifying  
Questions to  
Finalists

Finalists  
Interviews

Sponsor  
Review

Deputy  
Commissioner  
Approval

Commissioner  
and City Hall  
Approval

Announcement  
and Negotiation  
Letter

# Responding to an RFP

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## What to consider:

- **RFP Vision**
- **Community Needs**
- **Making the Vision a reality**





# The Process

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- Team assembly
- Engage Community Partners
- Schedule of deliverables
- Weekly meetings / calls with team
- Building Design / Community Facility Design
- Financial modeling
- Writing narratives
- Rewriting, rewriting, and rewriting



# Grant Avenue Modular Homes-City Line

**Primary Development Program:** ELLA

**Income Levels Served:** Extremely Low-, Low-and Moderate-Income

**Developer:** Thorobird Companies and BACDYS

**Modular Manufacturer:** FullStack

**Architect:** Think!

**Units:** 167 + super unit



The site will be used to develop a modular 7-story mixed-use building with approximately **170 affordable homes** for extremely low-, low- and moderate-income households.

The project features an accessible roof including an urban farm and the ground floor of the project will feature community facility space, BACDYS, a Federally Qualified Health Care Center and Urban Pathways.

# Grant Avenue - The Team

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# Grant Avenue - Thorobird



- Thorobid is a certified MBE by Empire State Development and NYC Department of Small Business Services
- Thorobird principals have developed over 1,400 units of affordable housing totaling \$500 million
- Thorobird currently has 138 units and \$62 million of mixed-income housing in the HPD pipeline



**Thomas Campbell**  
Managing Member



**John Bonhomme**  
Member/Investor Relations



**Mark Reed**  
Member/Chairman



220 E 178th St, Bronx NY



225 E 179th St, Bronx NY



2195 Morris ave, Bronx NY

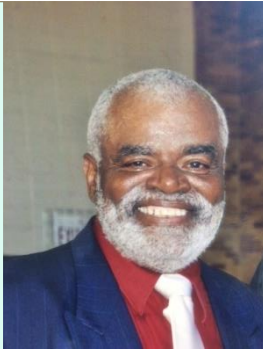


# Grant Avenue - BACDYS

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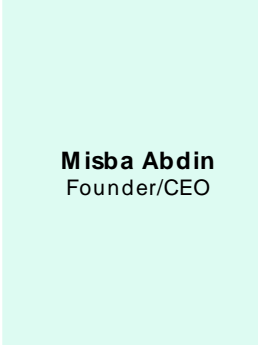
**Rajju Dhakal**  
Executive Director



**John Whitehead**  
Chair of the Board



**Elba Melendez**  
Board Member



**Misba Abdin**  
Founder/CEO



**Walter Campbell**  
Board of Directors



**John Whitehead**  
Chair of the Board

# Grant Avenue - THINK

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Award winning architecture firm

3 active modular residential projects

Wide experience in design of affordable housing

# Grant Avenue - FullStack

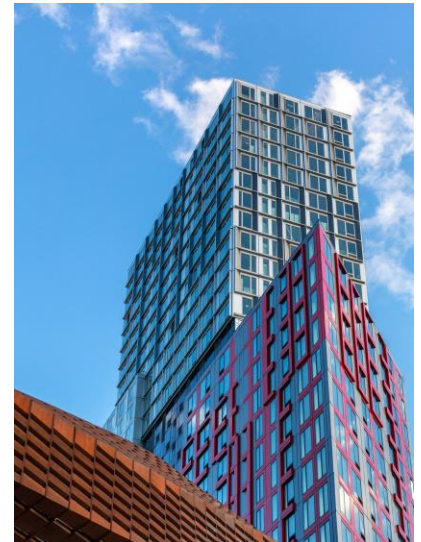
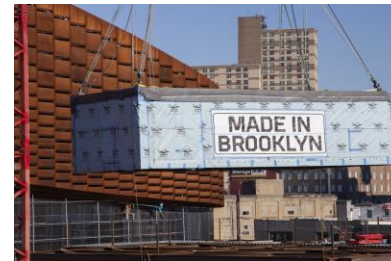
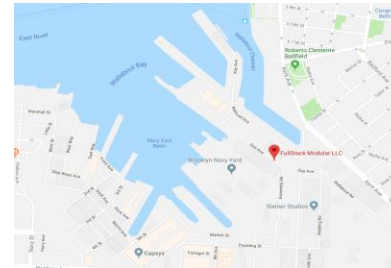
FullStack Modular is the only modular, mid and high rise multifamily builder manufactured in and designed for New York City.

FullStack Modular is signatory to New York Building Trade Council. Our workforce at a glance:

- 48% from Brooklyn, 86% from NYC
- 12% Female
- 4% Veteran
- 85% Minority



FSM is integrating BACDYS into the feeder groups for the FSM Training Program which currently includes NEW, Helmets-to-Hardhats, and BWI.



## **CHANGING THE BLOCK CHANGES THE COMMUNITY**

- **INCLUSIVE AFFORDABILITY**
- **LOCAL HIRING**
- **COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING**



# Grant Avenue – Community Facility

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Project has approximately 10,000 sf of community facility space on the ground floor.

**BACDYS** ~ 5,000 sf of community space. BACDYS will continue social programming focused on improving the lives of immigrants, women and low-income residents. Services offered include workforce training for women and an after-school program for children.

**BMS Health and Wellness Centers** ~ 5,000 sf Federally Qualified Health Center. BMS will offer on-site, insurance-optional, preventative patient care

**Urban Pathways** ~ 821 sf of supportive services space with case managers, medical professionals and office workers to provide services for the formerly homeless residents to ensure they receive the help and support they need.

# Grant Avenue - Local Hiring

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## Comprehensive Community Engagement and Local Hiring

- General contractor and all subcontractors will post job openings for entry and mid-level positions on the Hire NYC Portal and will be registered with Workforce1.
- The job openings will lead to job training opportunities in NYC.
- FullStack plans to work with BACDYS to act as a feeder organization for job training and employment opportunities for local residents.
- Job training will cover both soft and hard skills:
  - FullStack and Brooklyn Navy Yard, Brooklyn Workforce Innovations will provide soft skill training;
  - The hard skills training will involve learning construction methods for modular housing.

# How to Win

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- Read the entire RFP
- Answer the RFP's questions
- Meet the needs of the community
- Create deadlines for RFP completion
- Reread and rewrite again!!!
- Do not wait till day of submission for final print
- Know and be prepared to discuss why you chose each component of your proposal
- GOOD LUCK



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# Questions and Answers

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