

Building Equity Initiative

“EXCELLENT DESIGN IS A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE OF THE FEW.” – CAROL ROSS BARNEY, FAIA

The Building Equity Initiative (BEI) provides pro-bono and low-bono professional engineering services to support the efforts of non-profits and public programs. The goal of our efforts is to utilize our design skill sets to create spaces that strengthen communities and contribute to societal equity, particularly in the areas of housing, education, healthcare, and culture. Our annual goal is to commit at least 1,000 hours towards BEI projects.



AN ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT (ADU) UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN HOUSTON'S FIRST WARD.

Relevant project categories

- Affordable housing
- Art and special structures (public)
- Cultural facilities including museums and performance venues
- Educational facilities
- Healthcare facilities
- Nonprofit organization offices
- Parks and recreational facilities
- Religious facilities

Relevant project information

- **Organization/client profile**
Nonprofit status, age, leadership, goals, operating budget, primary funding sources
- **Project details**
Timeline, budget, estimated construction cost, scope of work

Next steps

To inquire about eligible projects or to submit relevant information, please reach out to buildingequityinitiative@silman.com to begin the internal review process.

If the BEI classification is approved, our team will provide an official proposal.

Is my project eligible for BEI?

Please use this visualization to aid in distinguishing between potential pro-bono/low-bono work and a BEI project. As with all things, there will be gray areas, and the example project types below are not comprehensive. If you believe your project qualifies as BEI, please submit it with the info noted above.

