

The City of Jamestown Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission presents...

A blue lightbulb with orange rays emanating from it, symbolizing an idea.

2020 Ideas Competition **iMAGINE** **Jamestown**

2019-2020 Entry Information Packet

Imagine Jamestown Ideas Competition:
*Designing Sustainable, Livable & Remarkable
Neighborhoods in Jamestown, NY*

Dear Entrant,

Thank you for your interest in the Imagine Jamestown competition, "*Designing Sustainable, Livable & Remarkable Neighborhoods in Jamestown, NY.*" Congratulations on taking the first step in becoming a change leader in our community!

This packet contains important information regarding the competition and entry requirements.

It is the goal of the Imagine Jamestown competition to engage the public, educate the community, and empower citizens to champion initiatives and join together for positive change in an inclusive and fun way. We invite anyone with ideas that could contribute solutions to the current housing challenges that the City is facing and provide strategies for rebuilding strong neighborhoods, to join in this competition.

In order to help you bring your big ideas to life, we have secured the collective efforts of local leaders and professionals to serve as mentors. We will begin a dialogue that crosses cultural, racial and economic divides through a sharing of ideas, concepts and designs and through the collective efforts of the competition entrants, all are encouraged to discover their potential for synergy, partnering and collaboration.

We hope you will embrace this competition's intentions, find inspiration in your neighbors and co-competitors, learn from one another, (re)discover the beauty and potential in our community and most of all, have fun.

If you have any questions or concerns about entering the competition, we encourage you to email the Imagine Jamestown team at surdyk@cityofjamestownny.com, visit our website at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com, or post your comments on social media by visiting us on Facebook or Instagram. Good luck!

Best Regards,

The Imagine Jamestown Team



An initiative of the City of Jamestown
Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission

Competition Background:

The Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission is seeking proposals for the inaugural ***Imagine Jamestown Ideas Competition***. This competition will be an inclusive and fun way to engage the public, educate the community, and empower citizens to champion initiatives and join together for positive change. The **2019-2020 *Imagine Jamestown Ideas Competition*** theme will be “*Designing Sustainable, Livable, Remarkable Neighborhoods in Jamestown, NY*” and will focus on addressing current housing challenges that the City is facing.

The City is comprised of dozens of diverse neighborhoods. There is a clear distinction between neighborhoods, however, and many struggle with an overabundance of distressed houses and buildings, many of which are rental properties that have been neglected for decades by absentee, unqualified, or financially strapped landlords who won't or can't reinvest in their properties.

Addressing abandoned properties and blight in our neighborhoods through targeted demolition has been a top priority in the revitalization efforts that the City has spearheaded. The City has made significant efforts to acquire and demolish run-down homes in blighted areas creating opportunities for new development and/or infill housing to replace the substandard housing these demolitions eliminate.

Additionally, addressing neglected properties through rehabilitation projects in targeted neighborhoods is also a major focus. Through City administered programs such as HOME and CDBG and the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation's Renaissance Block Challenge and Paint Jamestown initiatives, steps have been taken toward neighborhood revitalization, however, there remains much more to be done.

The ***Imagine Jamestown Ideas Competition*** will challenge entrants to submit proposals that incorporate one or more of the following strategies as a viable solution for rebuilding strong neighborhoods:

- 1) Infill housing
- 2) Rehabilitation/retrofitting of existing housing stock
- 3) Repurposing of vacant parcels
- 4) A combination of one or more of the above

Competition Description:

The competition will be open to any individual or group who would like to submit a proposal and there will be three levels of competition for a total of five (5) award categories as follows:

- **Level 1- Professional** (*one (1) submission will be selected as the winner of the Professional submission level)
- **Level 2- Non-professional Student** (*three (3) submissions will be selected as the winners of the Non-professional Student submission level; one (1) from each of the following categories:)
 - *College*
 - *High School (grades 9-12)*
 - *K – Middle School (grades 5-8)*
- **Level 3- Non-professional Other** (*one submission will be selected as the winner of the Non-professional Other submission level in the Community Change Leaders category)
 - *Community Change Leaders*

In addition to the five (5) award categories of *Professional, Non-professional student-College, Non-professional student- High School, Non-professional student- Middle School, and Non-professional Other- Community Change Leaders*; one (1) overall **Grand Prize** winner will be selected from the winners in each category.

The purpose of the competition is to engage, educate and empower the community to participate in a creative idea generating initiative that addresses real quality of life concerns. The ***Imagine Jamestown Ideas Competition*** will serve as a platform to begin a dialogue about issues that our city is facing and how collectively and collaboratively, we can develop solutions.

The ***Imagine Jamestown Ideas Competition*** will be an ongoing initiative of the Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission and different themes based on community and quality of life issues and challenges needing addressing will be determined for each competition cycle.

Judging:

The Judges Panel will consist of a multidisciplinary range of expertise including but not limited to Construction, Design and Urban Planning, Public Service, Education, Community Leadership & Advocacy, Communications & Marketing, Public Health & Wellness, Healthy Neighborhoods & Communities, Non-Profit Organization, and other relevant professionals from within the community that will select winners across the established categories with one grand prize recipient.

Judges will select five (5) finalists during a designated judging session prior to the awards celebration with an overall grand prize winner to be selected for an additional award at that time. Submissions will be dispersed to the judges 1-2 weeks in advance of the judging session to allow for time to review and familiarize themselves with the submissions.

Judges will attend the celebratory event in May 2020, that will promote, display, and connect the various ideas, designs and strategies submitted, and will serve to create the groundwork for community engagement in developing a vision for a more sustainable future for Jamestown.

Entries will be judged as to their...

- 1) Fit into the neighborhood, city and regional context
- 2) Creativity and innovation
- 3) Feasibility and viability
- 4) Clarity of drawings, images, models and presentation of submission

Judges will select competition winners based on established criteria and all submissions will be issued an entry number which will be the only distinction between submissions for the purposes of fairness and anonymity.

We are looking forward to announcing our panel of expert judges. More details will soon be available on our website at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com.

Awards:

Though the Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission is not able to guarantee the physical implementation of winning competition proposals, there will be prizes awarded for winning submissions in a number of categories.

Judging will take place 2-3 weeks prior to the "Awards Celebration". As a panel, the judging team will select the winner of each category and the overall grand prize winner. The grand prize winner will win their category as well as the grand prize.

Details on prizes will be announced as they become available and information will be provided at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com.

How to Enter:

Projects will submit to ONE of the competition categories. If you feel that your project extends across multiple categories, select the area which *best* describes your project.

All entrants must register by submitting the Imagine Jamestown registration form and all required attachments. You may register online at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com or by mail to:

Department of Development
RE: Imagine Jamestown registration
Attn: Crystal Surdyk
3rd Floor- City Hall
200 East Third Street
Jamestown, NY 14701

Only one project submission is permitted per registration. Registration may be done any time up to the registration deadline of **February 1, 2020 5:00 p.m. EST**, but must be before submitting your entry. Your registration will be confirmed and you will receive a registration number via email. The submission of your Imagine Jamestown registration acknowledges that you have read, understand, and agree to fully comply with the Imagine Jamestown submission requirements listed in the "Submissions Requirements" section.

Submission Requirements:

All submissions must be delivered by **Friday, April 17, 2020 5:00 p.m. EST** (address TBD). All submissions must be accompanied by a digital (preferably in pdf format) representation of the project and a brief project narrative (500 words maximum), provided on a flash drive or emailed to surdyk@cityofjamestownny.com.

Every digital submission that is emailed must be labeled with the subject line, **"IMAGINE JAMESTOWN 2020 SUBMISSION"** and include your **registration number**. Physical submissions, team photos, and biographies will be displayed at the award ceremony in May (space permitting).

Competition submissions may be in one of the following forms: 2-D printed graphic, digital video, written document, or physical model. Other mediums may be approved by request.

2-D Printed graphic submissions are limited to two 30" X 40" (or metric equivalent) foam core presentation boards of any combination of photographs, renderings, drawings, plans, captions, diagrams, collages, etc. that best describe and visualize your submission. Boards may be horizontal or vertical in format.

A narrative (500 words maximum, separate from their board) that describes the rationale for how the idea could help create a better Jamestown must accompany all printed 2-D graphic submissions.

Digital video submissions must be no more than 5 minutes long and be a self-containing complete project description. All video submissions must be accompanied by a written transcript or have subtitles available. Videos should be in a common video format (.avi, .mov, .mp4, .wmv, etc) to be certain our judges are able to view the submission easily.

A narrative (500 words maximum, separate from their video) that describes the rationale for how the idea could help create a better Jamestown must accompany all digital video submissions.

3-dimensional model submissions *3-dimensional models* must fit through a standard doorway (34x78 in.) or capable of being assembled and disassembled and no more than 20 pounds (assembled projects may be up to 20 pounds per component). Models will not be considered as having been submitted unless they are fully assembled at the time of the submission deadline. Any model requiring assembly or weighing more than 20 pounds must be transported to the awards ceremony at the effort/expense of the entrant.

A narrative (500 words maximum, separate from their model) that describes the rationale for how the idea could help create a better Jamestown must accompany all 3-dimensional model submissions.

Written document submissions must be printed at 8 1/2" x 11" and bound at either the long or short edge. Documents should include a cover page, table of contents and be appropriately cited. There is no standard for section headers, however, the body of the document text should be in an easy to read and consistent 12 pt. font at 1.15 spacing. Documents may include images, diagrams, charts, graphs and other standard illustrations. There is no page limit for written document submissions.

A document summary (500 words maximum, separate from the main document) that describes the rationale for how the idea could help create a better Jamestown must accompany all written submissions.

****Final submissions must be received by 5:00 P.M. EST, Friday, April 17, 2020** (this date is subject to change). Confirmation of your submission will be provided at time of receipt.

****Location for drop-off or delivery of submissions will be provided in the coming weeks and will be announced on our website at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com.**

****All final submissions must only disclose the project registration number. No company logos, team or company names, email-addresses, social media accounts, phone numbers, web addresses, or other advertising may be displayed on project boards. This is to ensure that judging remains anonymous & impartial.**

****Specific Questions on submission format may be directed to Crystal Surdyk at surdyk@cityofjamestownny.com.**

Design Criteria:

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A **design** is a plan or specification for the construction of an object or system or for the implementation of an activity or process, or the result of that plan or specification in the form of a prototype, product or process.

The verb **to design** expresses the process of developing a design or designing. Designing is the process of creating an orderly solution to solve some problem, or to achieve some desirable end.

The design usually has to satisfy certain goals and constraints, may take into account aesthetic, functional, economic, or socio-political considerations, and is expected to interact with a certain environment. Major examples of designs include architectural blueprints, engineering drawings, business processes, circuit diagrams, and sewing patterns.

- Submissions can be for stand alone, specific or hypothetical sites or problems; or multiple sites and problems suitable for their connectivity, but must be based in reality and be relevant to the actual context and conditions that exist in Jamestown. Knowledge of the chosen site can be via personal familiarity and/or through online map software (e.g. Google or Bing), or public record and experience of systemic problems and opportunities.
- Submissions may be conceptual. They can include built environment, landscapes, site plans, habitat, interiors, physical infrastructural or policy plans. Uses include -- but are not limited to—a single or mixed-use built environment, infrastructure that saves or produces energy, food, shared social or public spaces, land use or policy plans that promote sustainability. The built environment may be new builds or adaptive re-use.
- Policy plans may be for societal and/or business infrastructure or a governmental system.

Entrants will be asked to consider the following:

1. Is the proposed idea a viable solution for combating blight in distressed neighborhoods?
2. Can the proposed idea be utilized as a citywide strategy to improve the standard of living for residents of substandard housing?
3. Can the proposed idea be utilized as a citywide strategy to improve gateway corridors into our city?
4. Can the proposed idea be designed within current City Code parameters or are there proposed policy changes to city zoning and land use laws needed to make the proposed idea viable?
- 5) How can the physical design of the proposed idea be economically, environmentally and socially sustainable for scalable replication throughout our city?
5. Is the proposed idea design model beneficial to the block, neighborhood, and city where it's proposed?
6. What kind of environmental, economic or social impacts might the proposed idea design model create?
7. Is the proposed idea compatible with the existing context and conditions of the surrounding environment (ie. houses, land uses, structures, etc...) and/or is there an existing location in the City of Jamestown that could be a viable site for the proposed idea?

Creativity, innovation and sustainability are important, and while the designs may be conceptual, they should be realistic in nature.

All submissions will be evaluated based on how well they convey steps necessary to become feasible. Higher consideration will be given to submissions which identify the stakeholders, timeline for implementation, estimated budget and measurable impacts. Submissions will consider economic, social and ecological aspects, with feasibility, creativity and inter-disciplinary approaches earning high valuations. The best entries will allow for groups of different financial means to live, work and thrive together in the community.

Entrants are encouraged to consult existing resources such as local plans, community organization websites, and the City's website for reference. Please see the "RESOURCES" section of our website for assistance. We have also assembled a team of mentors who will be available to give one-on-one guidance at a mentoring session in February 2020.

Other suggested issues to consider:

- Resiliency and sustainability
- Human needs and social responsibilities
- Contributing to community cohesiveness, a place and way to bring people together for a variety of social, cultural, economic reasons
- Food security
- Energy Efficiency
- Infrastructure
- Overall aesthetic character

**Imagine Jamestown reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify any submission that it determines to be profane, obscene, offensive, or otherwise inappropriate. Imagine Jamestown also reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify any incomplete submission or any submission that does not comply with the terms and conditions of the competition.

**Each entrant retains the rights to the images and to the submitted works but gives to Imagine Jamestown, without any compensation, the rights of reproduction, exhibition, publication, translation and communication to the public, in any manner and without exception, for their submissions and for the texts participating in the selection.

Important Dates:

November 13, 2019: Registration Opens! Participants may submit their registration forms and fees online or by mail. Registration may be done any time up to the registration deadline of **5:00 P.M. EST Friday, February 1, 2020**, but you must register before submitting your entry.

December 11, 2019 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. EST: Kick Off and Mentoring & Visioning Workshop: Anyone interested in learning more about the Imagine Jamestown competition should attend! Here you can speak with Imagine Jamestown team members to get more information on why you should enter the competition, support the celebration, consult with our expert team of mentors, or become a sponsor.

This event will be held at the WRFA-LP Studio at the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts, located at 116 East Third Street. Please email surdyk@cityofjamestownny.com to RSVP for the Kick-Off event.

February 1, 2020 5:00 p.m. EST: Registration Deadline Participants must submit their registration form & required attachments either online at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com or email to surdyk@cityofjamestownny.com, by this date.

February 7, 2020 5:00 p.m. EST: Deadline for Submission of Questions Participants must submit questions via email to surdyk@cityofjamestownny.com by this date.

February 2020: Visioning Event Entrants are highly encouraged to attend this interactive brainstorm and mentoring event. Our expert team of mentors will be in attendance to offer constructive suggestions on how to craft more well-rounded, collaborative and feasible submissions. (Location, date and time TBD)

April 17, 2020 5:00 p.m. EST: Submission Deadline Imagine Jamestown must be in receipt of your physical and electronic project submissions. (Location TBD)

May 2020: Celebratory Event & Competition Awards Presented Join us to celebrate creative solutions to improving our community. (Location, date and time TBD)

**** Admission of ALL Imagine Jamestown events is free and open to the public.**

Additional events may be added in the future. Please check www.ImagineJamestownNY.com for the most up to date list of events.

Imagine Jamestown Competition Registration Form



Entrants may register no later than **5:00 P.M. EST, Saturday, February 1, 2020** online at www.ImagineJamestownNY.com or by mailing this registration form and the required attachments to:

Department of Development
RE: Imagine Jamestown registration
Attn: Crystal Surdyk
3rd Floor- City Hall
200 East Third Street
Jamestown, NY 14701

Entries are also required to submit the following attachments:

- A. Team Photo
- B. Brief biography for each individual team member

Registering as a (circle one):

Individual

Group

Name of Primary Contact:	
Affiliation (if applicable):	
Primary Contact Email:	
Primary Contact Phone Number:	
Primary Contact Address:	
Project Name:	

Description (please provide a brief description of your submission):	
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