Redeveloping Downtown East Minneapolis

School of Architecture/Darden School of Business
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Business

As Minneapolis decides how to position itself within a global economy, it must compete for workers and jobs alike. This development scheme, devised by UVA designers, planners, and business professionals, would bring both to downtown.

A performative, sustainable neighborhood for Minneapolis will appeal to a young, entrepreneurial demographic moving to the city. Multi-modal circulation is reinforced with connections to the stone arch bridge, Hiawatha rail trail and the larger Grand Rounds trail system. All residences will be within a 10-minute walk of the Metrodome transit station. Office buildings and the newly renovated Armory Incubator will be LEED™ Silver. New green spaces on the street and on building roofs are infrastructural, creating microclimates and retaining stormwater.

The Armory Incubator will include open offices, workshops, startups and event space. A new tech magnet will not only attract families but also provide opportunities for low-income students through Minneapolis’s Downtown is Our Campus initiative.