

## BUILDING EQUITY INITIATIVE

*“Excellent design is a right, not a privilege of the few.” – Carol Ross Barney, FAIA*

Silman’s Building Equity Initiative (BEI) provides pro-bono or 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 set to create spaces that strengthen communities and contribute to societal equity, particularly in the areas of housing, education, healthcare, and access to culture.** Our 2022 goal is to commit at least **1,000 hours** towards BEI projects.



Auxiliary accessory dwelling unit (ADU) under construction in Houston’s First Ward.

### Relevant project categories

- Affordable housing
- Art and special structures (public)
- Educational facilities
- Healthcare facilities
- Museums, performance venues, and other cultural facilities (public)
- 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

Timeline, budget, estimated construction cost, scope of work

### Next steps

Please submit relevant information to **[buildingequityinitiative@silman.com](mailto:buildingequityinitiative@silman.com)** for an internal review process.

If the BEI classification is approved, Silman 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.

