

Step 2. Review Design Advisor Resources

Why is this important?

The Affordable Housing Design Advisor has been created to help those involved in the production of affordable housing better understand what quality design is, why it is worth striving for and how to achieve it in their own projects.

Understanding the full range of resources which the Design Advisor provides – and how they are organized – will help you access these resources quickly and effectively for use in your own projects.

Equally important, a review of these resources, especially the case study examples, will provide inspiration and “real world” guidance on the level of design quality that is achievable in affordable housing developments.

When should this be done?

As early as possible in the Concept phase of development.

Who should do this?

The owner/developer.

What should be done?

- Review the entire Design Advisor site, beginning with the home page.
- Pay special attention to – and take time to enjoy - the Design Considerations Checklist and the Gallery of High Quality Affordable Housing.
- Bookmark the site for quick future reference.

How can doing this help move my project forward?

- Understanding how to navigate the Design Advisor will allow you to use it more effectively in order to create a well designed development.
- Familiarity with the Design Considerations Checklist and the Gallery will provide you with a wealth of examples that you can use:
 - 1.) to inspire and guide your early thinking about the design of your own project; and
 - 2.) to demonstrate to others – neighbors, funding agencies, regulatory bodies – the level of design quality that you are striving for.