



# VETERAN'S *Time To Thrive*

[Vets-Thriving@VT-3.org](mailto:Vets-Thriving@VT-3.org) / [www.VT-3.org](http://www.VT-3.org)

501(c)3. EIN: 84-3788974

# Our Goal



Politi + Siano Architects, PLLC



# Changing Demographics

- During 2017 – 2020 the female percentage of our military has increased from:
  - 16% – 17.2% on active-duty side
  - 19.6% - 21.1% on reserve component side
- During 2017 – 2020 the minority percentage of our military has increased from:
  - 26% to 27.5% on reserve component side
  - It has remained a steady 31% on the active-duty side

**(DOD, 2017-2020)**



# Changing Needs

“There is a lack of understanding of how the military family well-being varies by race and ethnicity, the concerns of minority families, and whether the Department of Defense is sufficiently meeting these families’ needs in the performance of military duties.”

**(Consensus Study Report, 2019)**





# Military Draw Down

- Throughout the Cold War, the end strength of the U.S. active-duty force never dropped below 2 million.
- From 1989 to 1999, end strength dropped steadily from 2.1 million to 1.4 million, where it has remained.
- From 1945 to 1989, reservists were involuntarily activated by the federal government four times, an average of less than once per decade.

(Congressional Research service, 2008)



# Increased Reserve Utilization

- Reservists have been **involuntarily activated** for contingency operations by the federal government nine times since 1990:
  - Including large-scale mobilizations for the Persian Gulf War (1990-1991)
  - The aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks (2001-2022)
  - Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic response
- Starting in FY2014,
  - Title 10, Section 12304 of the United States Code permits the President to authorize the involuntary activation of members of the Selected Reserve and the Individual Ready Reserve for a period up to 365 consecutive days.

(Congressional Research service, 2021)



# Firsthand Experience

- No direct military support for my family.
- Lost income of approximately \$1000 per month.
- The Reserve Air Force Major I relieved in November 2010, committed suicide in December 2010.
  - Leaving behind his wife and 2 young children.
- During mail call a Reserve LtCol got served divorce papers.
  - Requiring me to secure him to the base as I conducted his mission.
- Reserve Navy Commander ended up getting divorced 2 months after returning home from Iraq.



# Veteran Suicide

- In 2021, research found that 30,177 active-duty personnel and veterans who served in the military after 9/11 have died by suicide - compared to the 7,057 service members killed in combat in those same 20 years.
- Military suicide rates are four times higher than deaths that occurred during military operations.

(DeSimone, 2021)





# Veteran Homelessness

- Overrepresentation: In 2019, an estimated 8.1% of homeless adults were veterans, while veterans constituted only 6.9% of the overall population.

**(U.S. Census Bureau, 2020)**

- “With the number of women entering the military continuing to increase, the care of female veterans is of major concern for VA and other veteran service organizations.”

**(Tsai, Mitchell, Nakashima, & Blue-Howells, 2021)**

- “Veteran homelessness decreased by 50 percent since 2010. However, nearly all that progress was accomplished between 2010 and 2016. In January 2020, before the pandemic hit, Veteran homelessness started increasing again.”

**(McDonough, 2021)**



# HUD – VASH Vouchers

**“One of the main problems is with landlords who won’t take HUD-VASH vouchers.”**

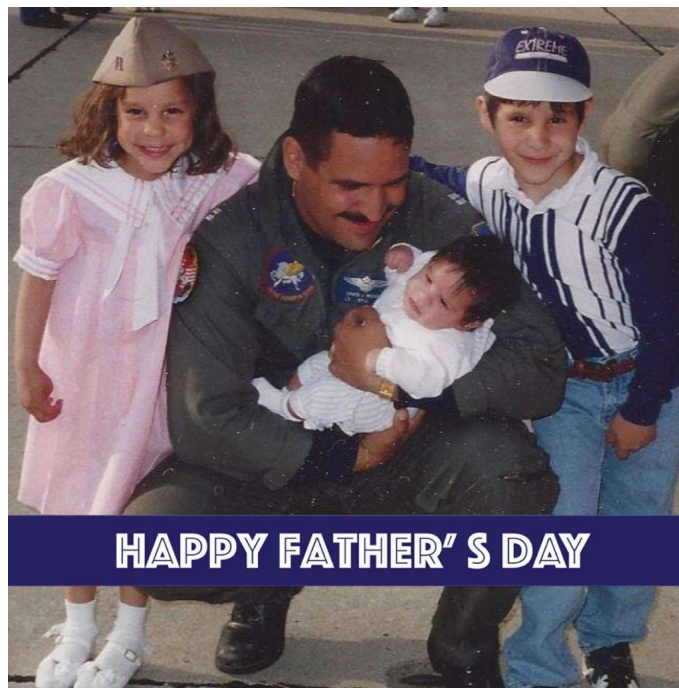
**(McDonough, 2021)**

**“There is an unmet need for Veterans Housing in the area as there are no such projects available in the city or county.”**

**(Newmark, Knight and Frank , 2020)**



# Military Family





# Our Mission

By creating this unique, first of its kind housing development with military personnel in mind, we can disrupt the cycle of suicides, divorces, addictions, homelessness, and other post military service problems we see throughout our military regardless of status.

More importantly, when our Veterans are thriving and succeeding, the community will benefit from their unique skill sets and experiences. These attributes then become a conduit for the revitalization and prosperity for the entire community, and all will Thrive.



# Changing The Paradigm



Politi + Siano Architects, PLLC

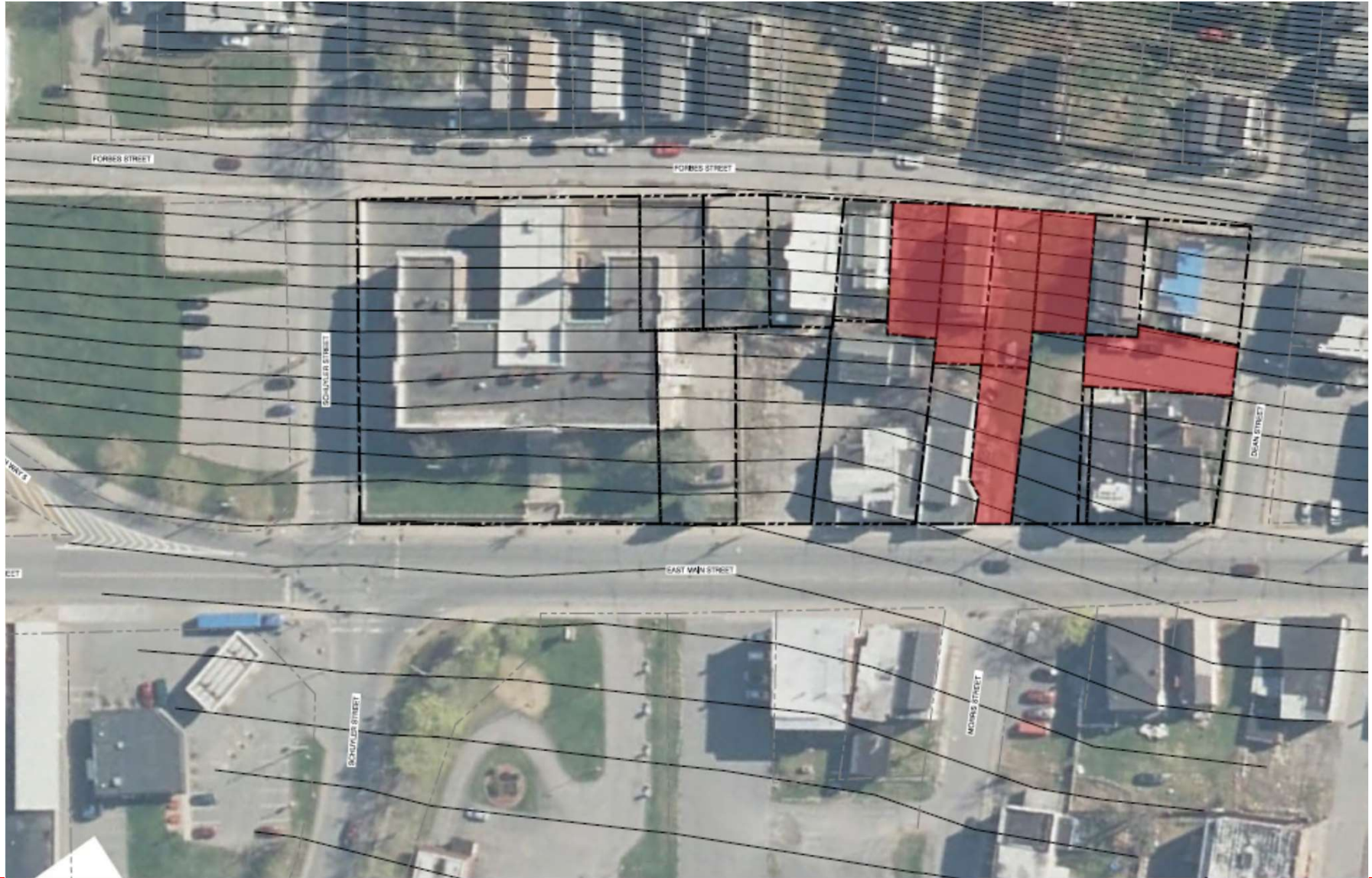


# Project Description

- 18-unit housing complex in Amsterdam, NY
  - Two-bedroom, Three-bedroom apartments
- Basis for the design will follow USGBC Guidelines – “GREEN” TECHNOLOGY
- Four-story with parking located in basement (lower level)
  - 24,000s sf (not including parking level)
- Apartments – 18,000 sf
- Communal spaces – 6,000 sf
  - Communal kitchen
  - Communal dining
  - Communal recreation room
  - Lobby area (variable configuration)
- Preliminary estimated construction cost - \$7 - 10M

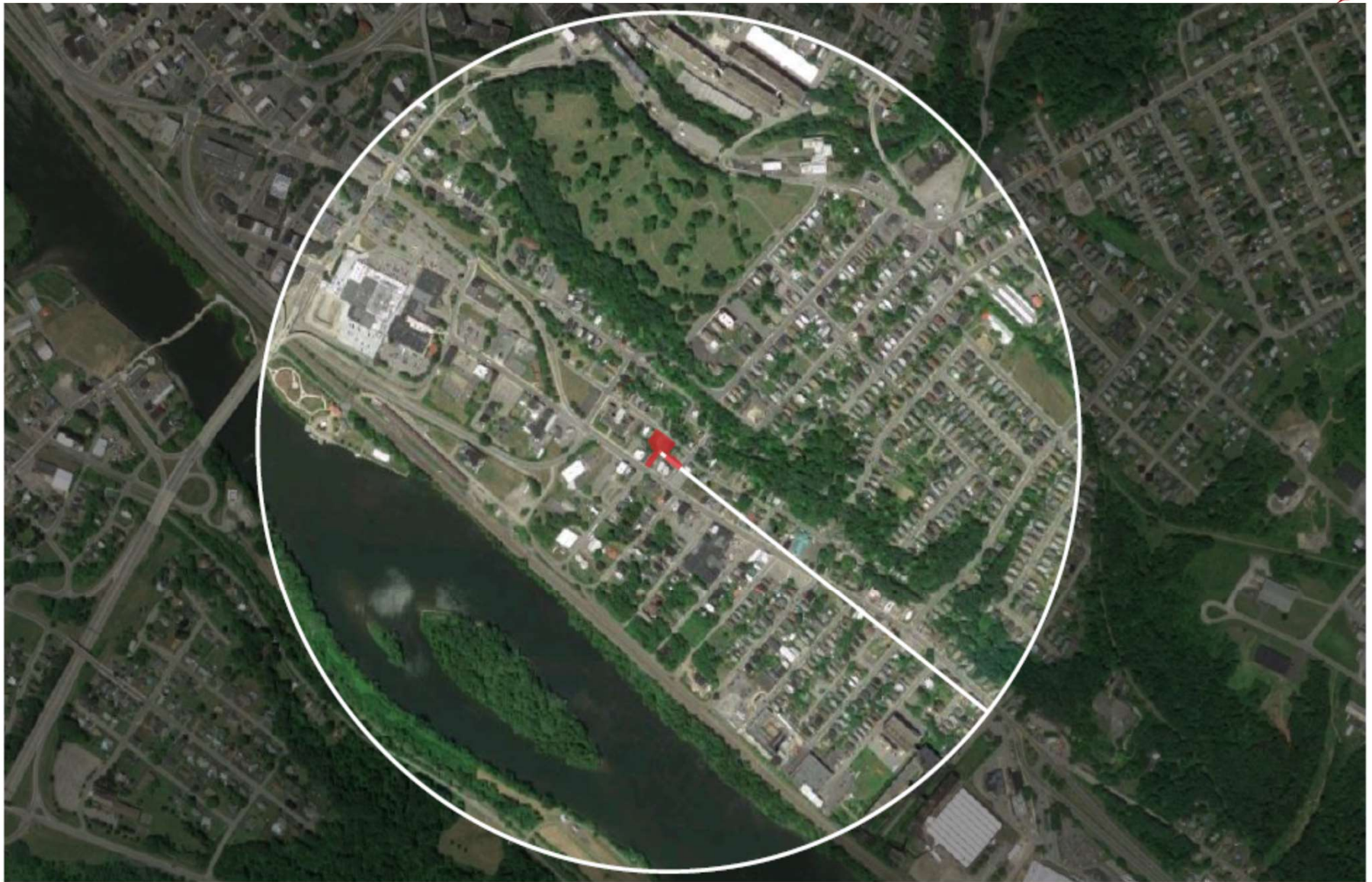


# Lots Owned





# 10 Minute Walk





# 5 Minute Walk





# How to Support

Veteran's Time To Thrive is a 501(c)3  
EIN: 84-3788974

*All donations are tax deductible.*

PO Box 756 Amsterdam, NY 12010  
518-245-3986

Email: [Vets-Thriving@VT-3.org](mailto:Vets-Thriving@VT-3.org) / [www.VT-3.org](http://www.VT-3.org)

Please contact us with any questions or for  
more information. Thank you.

# References



1. Congressional Research Service., (2008, January 31)., Military Forces: What Is The Appropriate Size for the United States?., CRS Report for Congress.
2. Congressional Research Service., (2021, November 2)., Reserve Component Personnel Issues: Questions and Answers., CRS Report for Congress.
3. Consensus Study Report., (2019), *Strengthening the Military Family Readiness System for a Changing American Society.*, The National Academies of Science, Engineering, & Medicine.
4. DeSimone, D., (2021, September 1). Military Suicide Rates Are at an All-Time High; Here's How We're Trying to Help., USO Warriors and Family Centers.
5. Department of Defense., (2017). 2017 Demographics, Profile of The Military Community.
6. Department of Defense., (2018). 2018 Demographics, Profile of The Military Community.
7. Department of Defense., (2019). 2019 Demographics, Profile of The Military Community.
8. Department of Defense., (2020). 2020 Demographics, Profile of The Military Community.
9. Newmark, Knight, & Frank., (2020, September 29), Market Analysis Proposed Veterans Housing Development., NKF Job No.:20-0120578
10. McDonough, R., (2021, June 21), *Remarks by Sec. Denis R. McDonough at the 2021 National Coalition for Homeless Veterans Annual Conference* (Virtual), Washington, DC, June 21, 2021
11. Pflieger, J., Richardson, S., Stander, V., & Allen, E., (2021, December 20), *Risk and Protective Factors Predictive of Marital Instability in U.S. Military Couples*, American Psychological Association.
12. Tsai, J., Mitchell, L., Nakashima, J., & Blue-Howells, J., (2021, November 15), *Unmet Needs of Homeless U.S. Veterans by Gender and Race/Ethnicity: Data From Five Annual Surveys*, American Psychological Association.