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## **D|A honored with Visualizing Density "Urban Infill" award**

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DeStefano Architects (D|A) was honored with the Visualizing Density "Urban Infill" award for their design of the residential condominiums at Haymarket Square on the corners of State and Middle Sts. in downtown. The award for outstanding compact design was given by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA) and Plan NH as part of their Vibrant Villages, NH initiative. Lisa DeStefano, principal architect and Adam Wagner, director of operations for DeStefano Architects attended the award ceremony and reception on June 27th in Concord.

As New Hampshire continues to grow, the concept of density, or compact design, is becoming more important. This type of development helps protect greenways and other open space, has less expensive (and more resilient) infrastructure and fosters walk-ability, social connections and more.

The Haymarket Square project was noted for creating a streetscape in harmony with the neighborhood, reinforcing the pedestrian experience by hugging the building alongside the sidewalk and allowing for planting beds, and raised entry stoops. The design also included tucking cars into the rear of the property behind a landscaped screen. At the award ceremony, the project garnered accolades from the selection committee, as well as the 100+ attendees.

Since its inception, D|A has produced design projects varying in size and complexity throughout New England. Located in the heart of downtown Portsmouth, D|A frequently implores the idea of compact design techniques from past projects in everyday design and planning for future expansion. D|A is dedicated to creating spaces that function with efficiency and improve quality of life, and the idea of looking back to move forward is crucial in the company's day to day contribution to the city.

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