

# MICHAEL WATKINS ARCHITECT

*Urban Design and Architecture*

**Professional Area:** Urban Design and Architecture

**Experience:** 3-5 years, but will consider a graduate with a strong resume.

**About Us:** We are urban designers and architects working to craft a walkable, beautiful and enduring public realm that encourages community to thrive. Our work includes master plans for new and existing communities, serving as "town architect" for communities, and writing codes and design standards. We are a small firm committed to providing a high level of service to a small number but broad range of clients. Most of our work comes to us through our highly valued client relationships and referrals from them. For larger projects we often collaborate with a few colleagues with whom we work on a regular basis and, occasionally, with large firms. Our clients charge us with challenging and interesting work, focused on creating community, for example:

- Preparing a master plan for a town square and new neighborhood for a small town in northwest Arkansas;
- Preparing a master plan for an existing neighborhood in Cleveland, Tenn. where the unemployment rate is 18.6%, the median annual household income is \$22,000 and the homeownership rate is 35%;
- Serving as town architect for several communities including the Transit-Oriented Development area for a small town in Texas and a now half-built community in Louisville, Ky.;
- Preparing a master plan and writing design standards for a new village outside Washington, D.C.;
- Preparing a master plan for the phased demolition and densification of an existing shopping center;
- A master plan for the retrofit of a sub-urban neighborhood center at the request of a church that wants to make their neighborhood more walkable;
- Numerous rural and urban infill sites.

**About the Job:** We are looking for an experienced urban designer with a passion for creating beautiful communities—at all scales. The work ranges from the scale of the village and neighborhood, to the block and street, to the building and includes urban, sub-urban and rural contexts. You will be working directly with the principal and other team members to:

- Design plans for new and existing communities;
- Prepare and illustrate yield studies for a variety of mixed-use projects;
- Program and prepare more detailed designs for civic spaces and thoroughfares;

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- Work and communicate directly with clients and consultants with whom we collaborate;
- Provide design review and design "coaching" services to designers and builders in communities where we serve as the town architect;
- Organize and prepare visually compelling presentations to generate community support;
- Manage selected projects to ensure a steady flow of excellent work.

About you: If this position is of interest to you, you should possess:

- A passion for community, beauty and the built environment;
- Proficiency in InDesign, Photoshop, AutoCAD, SketchUp and similar programs.
- Strong written and visual communication skills. Freehand drawing and/or painting skills are a significant plus;
- Expertise in preparing master plan documents and presentations;
- Experience in preparing codes and design standards is a significant plus;
- Strong writing skills;
- A bachelor's or master's degree in urban design, architecture, or landscape architecture;
- 3 or more years of experience in traditional urbanism and architecture.

**Interested?** E-mail a cover letter, resume and portfolio to [personnel@michaelwatkinsarchitect.com](mailto:personnel@michaelwatkinsarchitect.com). Please highlight skills and experience you might have in addition to those described above. This is a full-time position with salary and benefits which will be commensurate with experience.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to building a diverse team. Hiring is based on ability without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, national origin, political affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, or other differences.

For more information, please visit our website: [www.michaelwatkinsarchitect.com](http://www.michaelwatkinsarchitect.com).