

ADVERTISING SECTION
G
 A Special Edition
 of Downtown Living
 Featuring New Living
 Choices on the Greater
 Eastside.

EASTSIDE LIVING

VIDA | bellevue

Inspired downtown condos designed for sustainability

A new forward-thinking condominium development promises to bring a new style of living to downtown Bellevue.

VIDA will incorporate modern efficiencies and sustainable development practices while providing high design and affordability — something unique to the Bellevue market. The project's namesake is the Spanish word for "life," which was the developer's overall inspiration for the homes.

"I feel downtown Bellevue is primed for something entirely new," says Raymond Tonsing, principal of Tonsing Properties, developer of VIDA. "The city is growing rapidly, with large condo towers and upscale retail — but for those looking to live more efficiently and affordably, while still being in proximity to all the neighborhood has to offer, VIDA is the answer."

Tonsing says his development company builds boutique communities from Denver to San Francisco that are smarter, more efficient, and centrally located to reduce dependency on cars, eliminate long commutes and support a healthier environment. This comes as good news for Bellevue, a city previously known for being very dependant on the automobile.

"I have the benefit of coming in from out of town and can introduce some new thinking to urban development," says Tonsing. "With today's land and construction costs, we have to rethink the way we design condominiums — the

days of trying to stuff a 2,500-square-foot rambler into a 700-square-foot condo are over. VIDA will reset the market."

Tonsing's concepts are to build a collection of European-inspired living spaces that use clever design to offer the same lifestyle of larger condominiums but at a fraction of the cost. VIDA will consist of more than 230 studios and one- and two-bedroom homes ranging in size from about 500 to more than 900 square feet.

One of the most unique plans is the "Barcelona Flat" — a 600- to 700-square-foot open one-bedroom floor plan that internalizes the bedroom off the window wall to maximize the everyday living space. The homes will feature nine-foot ceilings, hardwood floors, sleek European style in-line kitchens, larger "great rooms" and more flexible, open living spaces which will better accommodate busy urban lifestyles.

With high demand for this unique product type, and the strengthening Bellevue condo market, Tonsing says he decided to expand the project from a low-rise six-story building to a mid-rise 12-story concrete and steel building.

"This site is just too well positioned to not maximize its potential," says Tonsing. "We're surrounded by density with millions of square feet of new office, residential (condos and apartments) and world-class retail development. VIDA will be a sought after addition to the neighborhood."

VIDA is just a few blocks from Bellevue Square, Lincoln Square and

Bellevue Place, and will be across the street from a major mixed-use development currently under construction, which will bring more than 300,000 square feet of luxury retail, restaurants and other services to the neighborhood. In addition, two office towers that will house an estimated 3,000 new Microsoft employees are also being added to the neighborhood.

View these homes

The sales center and public sales release is scheduled to open early in 2008, groundbreaking is scheduled for spring 2008, and first occupancy is set for 2009, on 111th Avenue Northeast off 8th Avenue Northeast in downtown Bellevue.

Prices

Studios starting from \$300,000, one bedrooms from \$350,000, two bedrooms from \$400,000 and penthouse pricing available upon request.

Developer

Tonsing Properties.

Information

www.vidacondos.com.
