

# La Central, Building C

Aiming for Future Electrification: BEEx presentation 5/12/2020



Since 1972, Steven Winter Associates, Inc. has been providing research, consulting, and advisory services to improve the built environment for private and public sector clients.

Our services include:

- Energy Conservation and Management
- Sustainability Consulting
- Green Building Certification
- Accessibility Consulting

We have over 125 staff across four office locations: New York, NY | Washington, DC | Norwalk, CT | Boston, MA

For more information, visit www.swinter.com



Steven Winter Associates, Inc. Improving the Built Environment Since 1972

#### **Project Team**

Owner/Developer: The Hudson Companies, Inc. Engineer: Dagher Engineering Architect: MHG Architects | FX Fowle Passive House: Steven Winter Associates

Hudson: The House at Cornell Tech

- Founded over 30 years ago
- General Contracting & Property Management
- New Construction, Rennovation, & Conversions
- Affordable & Market Rate Housing
- Committed to Environmental Sustainability: baseline scope for new projects, feasibilities for rehabs
  - PH
  - LEED Gold
  - NYSERDA NCP

# About the Project



Located on Brook Avenue in Bronx, NY

• Pursuing:

- Passive House certification (PHI)
- LEED GOLD
- Buildings of Excellence Award
- NYSERDA Tier 2
- ~ 172,480 sqft.
- 166 units
- 100% Affordable Housing Development







Bronx Community District 1

- only 3% of its land designated as park space
- 30% of the population lives below the poverty line (compared to 20% citywide)

#### La Central Development

- 5-building development that will result in two acres of public and private open space
- adjacent to the 2 and 5 MTA subway lines as well as numerous bus lines providing quick and easy access to Manhattan
- PH envelope will drastically reduce noise pollution for inhabitants

### Site Plan



#### **Envelope Description**

- Above Grade Walls: R-22 hr·ft<sup>2</sup>·F/BTU
- Below Grade Walls: R-12 hr·ft<sup>2</sup>·F/BTU
- Windows: U-0.14 BTU/hr·ft<sup>2</sup>·F
- Roof: R-32 hr·ft<sup>2</sup>·F/BTU
- Foundation Walls: R-10 hr·ft<sup>2</sup>·F/BTU



## Mechanical

#### **REPLICABLE SOLUTIONS**

Mechanical Ventilation : Energy Recovery Ventilators

- 80% heat recovery from exhaust
- MERV 13 filters to filter air pollution (Critical in the Bronx)

Heating and Cooling: Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF)

• Moderate refrigerant flows to each unit—accommodates low heating loads

#### INNOVATIVE SOLUTION

Domestic Hot Water:

- Evaluating the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of implementing a fully electrified solution
- Committed to future proofing at a minimum
- Efficient recirculation layout (lower copper cost, less heat loss to space)



#### Future Proofing for DHW Electrification

- Anticipate the same amount of roof area for the VRF outdoor units would be needed for a future HPWh.
- Locate this area close to boiler room to limit pipe runs.
- Ensure adequate space and structural support for additional storage tanks either in or near the boiler room.



#### Future Proofing for DHW Electrification

- 1. Ensure there is adequate electrical capacity for heat pumps. This includes:
  - added capacity in the house service,
  - a large enough feeder serving the area the heat pumps will be located, and
  - a large enough switch and/or blank panel in place.
- 2. Balanced low flow recirculation is best for air to water heat pumps.
- 3. Added breakers in the boiler room for additional pumps and controls for the heat pump system.
- 4. Leave valved off and capped futures for easier heat pump connections to the existing piping.

TIP: Consider installing a small air to water heat pump plant to offset some DHW load now so ownership and building operators become familiar with the technology while still having a conventional fuel-fired plant to rely on.



## Future Electrification : Benefits



- Buildings of Excellence Competition
- Compliance with upcoming LL97 building requirements
  - Fines will surpass cost premium to design PH
- Resiliency with a changing grid
- Passive House Plus certification: 1<sup>st</sup> in US if accomplished

# Levels of PH

ClassicPlusPremium

#### Premium ≥ 120 Renewable energy generation Levilled [kWhpen/(m<sup>2</sup>ground a)] Passive House Plus ≤ 30 Passing States Statingle president ≥ 60 Centred Passive House Classic ≤ 45 Passing Route Institute ates. **Renewable primary** energy demand [kWhpeR/(m<sup>2</sup>TFA\*a)] Passive House ≤ 60 Paralise Rivers Includes danate https://passipedia.org/certification/passive house categories#per factors



#### Preliminary Modeling Results





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