

Q3

July – September 2020



building
energy
exchange

● **BE-Ex team**



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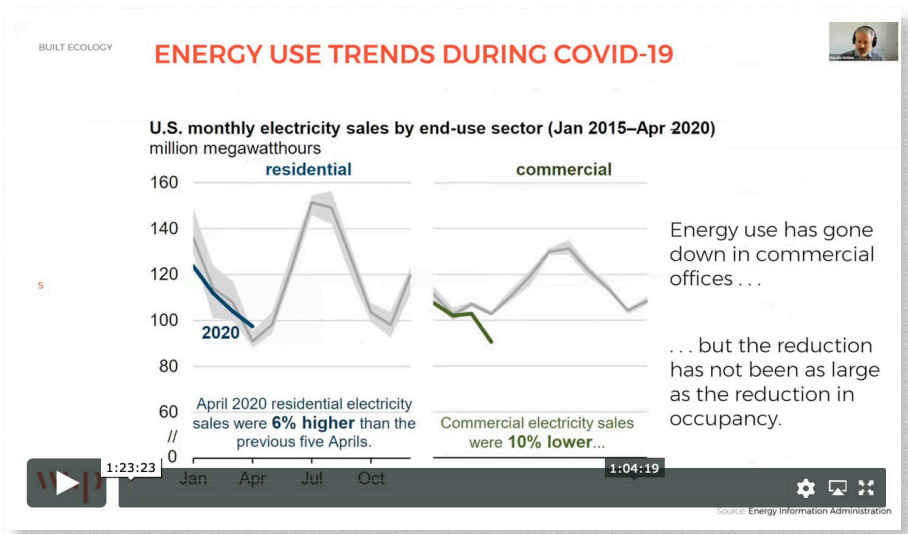
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Assistant, Projects

We've been heartened by the success of our remote programming this last quarter, which featured some of our largest individual events and has included people from all over the globe. We've also been able to re-engage with our partners, like AIA NY COTE, and ASHRAE NY, and are looking forward to the launch of our new on-demand learning platform, BE-Ex-Ed.

July 9 Climate Mobilization Act Series: Unlocking Tenant Efficiency

This event marked the eighth program of our ongoing Climate Mobilization Act Series, a collection of programs and resources aimed at demystifying the legislative package and connecting our community with relevant solutions. Unlocking Tenant Efficiency focused on Local Law 97's implications on improving energy efficiency in buildings and the ways in which tenants can dramatically improve their energy use.





WISE Networking Luncheon



August 18

WISE Media Club: Connecting Equity and Design

Our Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE) Media Clubs were developed in March 2020 as a creative way to keep the WISE community spirit alive and to facilitate remote interaction during this time of social distancing. August's Media Club focused on inclusive building and design through two podcasts: one on the importance of accessibility in the built environment, and one on gender biases in design. We have been continuously impressed by the enthusiasm and participation displayed through these media clubs, and look forward to their continued success.

▶ <https://be-exchange.org/wise-media-club-connecting-equity-and-design/>

September 24

Real Estate Climate Risk: Disclosure & Response

This Climate Week program discussed the impact of climate change risk mitigation on the design, construction, and real estate industries. Event speakers represented Citi, Bloomberg LP, Vornado Realty Trust, and Boston Properties.



▶ <https://be-exchange.org/real-estate-climate-risk/>

column:

Lemonade

by Yetsuh Frank
Managing Director, Strategy & Programs
Building Energy Exchange

So here we are, six months in.

I imagine many of you share my sense of time being warped and folded since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This period of isolation, remote work, and—for far too many—unimaginable loss, somehow feels simultaneously to have started just a few days ago and to have been going on for an eternity. Despite the many challenges this time has presented I've been in awe of the resilience so many of you have shown. Everywhere I turn I find colleagues and peers doubling down on their commitment to make the world a better place. More than a decade ago I pivoted from a career as an Architect to full time environmental advocacy and one of the consistent benefits of working for a mission-based organization is the community that organically surrounds you. We are very lucky at BE-Ex to attract a remarkable, and remarkably engaged, community. Seeing all of you, even via video conference, at

our remote programs or in various meetings and gatherings has made these months so much easier to navigate. You all give me hope.

It's not too much to say that our community has inspired us, and I think it shows in our work. We are involved in more projects than at any period in our 10-year history. We are growing our team, expanding the communities we interact with, and expanding the solutions we make available to the design and building industry. Our remote educational programming has been surprisingly popular, regularly drawing crowds 2 – 3 times our previous average, and attracting attendees from more than 20 countries. Later this season our educational offerings take a major step forward with the launch of BE Ex Ed, our online learning platform that will allow anyone, anywhere, anytime to access select portions of our educational content on-demand. Among many

other projects, we worked with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and AKF Engineers to launch a calculator to help building owners understand their carbon footprint relative to the limits in Local law 97 ([see link below](#)). And we convened a stellar Architect's Advisory Council to explore how the design industry must better prepare for the high performance building codes that will come into effect soon. (Outcomes coming soon.)

Despite how proud we are of this progress, especially in the face of so many health, economic, and political challenges, we recognize how much work remains to be done.

In January of this year, the McKinsey Global Institute published a comprehensive study on the social

and economic risks posed by climate change. Building on the incredible work of Spencer Glendon, the report focuses on the significant risks associated with climate change that are already baked into the system. The findings are deeply concerning, and not just for folks with seaside real estate. Both the risks associated with climate change and the socio-economic impacts of anticipated changes are non-linear, with abrupt and shocking changes becoming the norm rather than gradual or subtle movements. Countries with lower GDP will be hit more sharply than others, but the regions seriously impacted by climate change are growing all the time. (<https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/sustainability/our-insights/>)

“We find that physical risk from a changing climate is already present and growing.”

—McKinsey Global Institute

▶ <https://be-exchange.org/1197-calculator/>

“Socioeconomic impacts are likely to propagate in a nonlinear way as hazards reach thresholds beyond which the affected physiological, human-made, or ecological systems work less well or break down and stop working altogether. This is because such systems have evolved or been optimized over time for historical climates.”

–McKinsey Global Institute

climate-risk-and-response-physical-hazards-and-socioeconomic-impacts)

While not surprising to those of us that have followed climate science for many years, the report is a timely reminder of the scale and urgency of the problem at hand. To face the scale of this problem, public-sector and corporate world decision makers must feature climate change as a major factor in their decision making, and financial institutions must consider the risk in their portfolios. (Watch

the recording of our recent panel discussion on the Task Force for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures, here: <https://be-exchange.org/real-estate-climate-risk/>.) Overall, the report encourages organizations to see climate change as a physical risk to their operations, rather than simply a regulatory or transitional risk. Suddenly, where you do business is as important as any other factor. Once again, we find that the solution to climate change is buildings. ■

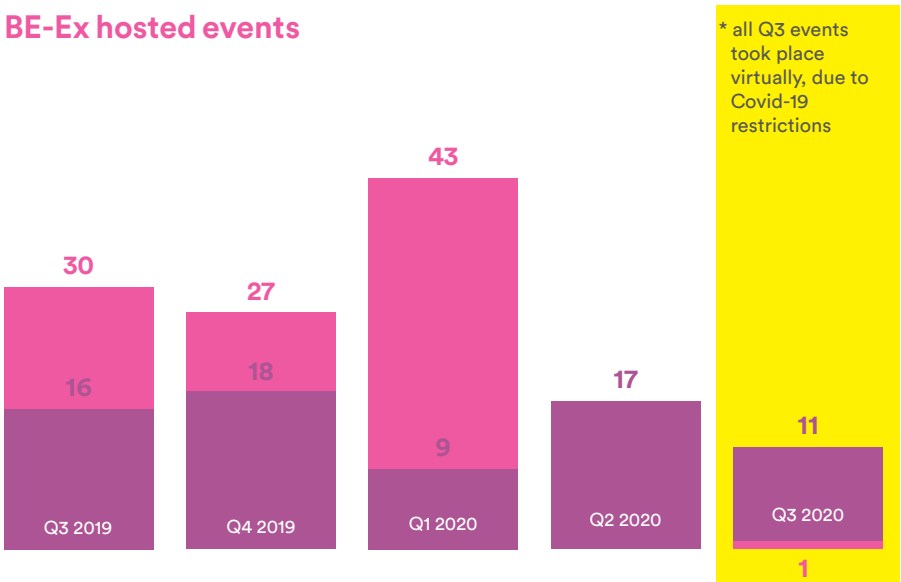
Please. We cannot stress this enough. Vote.

If you care at all about the future of our planet, the future of civil society and democratic discourse, this is probably the most critical election of our lives. Climate change is always on the ballot-but never more so than this year. The impacts of the climate crisis have never been more evident to more people. The momentum has shifted distinctly towards curbing carbon emissions and ensuring a just, equitable future for all of us. Don't be passive. However you personally define a progressive future, whatever policies or programs or mechanisms you feel are the right mix to move us forward- the very first step on that path is voting on November 3rd. Vote. Make sure others do as well. Call your friends. Drive people to the polls. Bring food to people in line at the polls.

At publication there are less than 30 days till Election Day. In many places millions of votes have been cast. Use those 30 days effectively and well. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/24/us/politics/how-to-vote-register.html>, Or search “New York Times How to Vote.”

We are thrilled by the number and diversity of developed events, which span a wide array of topics on energy efficiency in the built environment. Since mid-March, we have pivoted to remote programming and expanded on our traditional formats.

BE-Ex hosted events



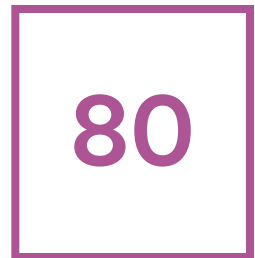
BE-Ex developed events

diversity goals

1. **No all male panels**
Q3 number: 0
2. **50% female speakers across BE-Ex events**
Q2: 51%



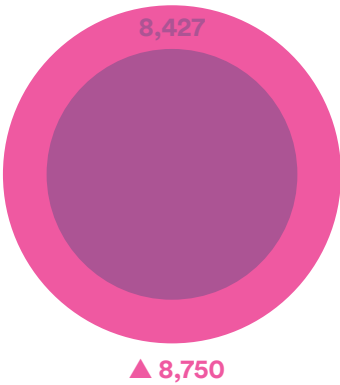
average number of days on calendar, BE-Ex events



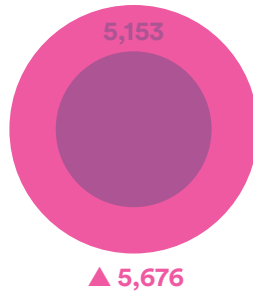
average attendance, BE-Ex events

BE-Ex continues to realize excellent audience growth. Since Q3 of 2019, our newsletter audience has grown 50% with 2020 Q3 quarterly growth at its highest rate out of the past four quarters. Our social media following has kept pace, growing over 50% over the past year.

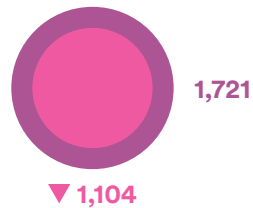
newsletter subscribers



social media followers



resource downloads



program audience geographic distribution



13,064

unique website impressions in Q3 2020

Buildings of Excellence

In partnership with NYSERDA, Building Energy Exchange is hosting a series of gallery talks celebrating the Buildings of Excellence competition, a NYSERDA program recognizing low and zero-carbon emitting buildings throughout New York state.

Climate Mobilization Act

With support from the Natural Resources Defense Council and in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and the NYC Retrofit Accelerator, this series aims to demystify the components of the Climate Mobilization Act and connect our community with relevant solutions.

Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE)

The Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE) series, founded in 2015, is an inclusive platform for all people to learn from experienced women leaders, to share knowledge, and to advance equity in the workplace. Since April 2020, WISE programming has expanded to monthly media clubs and "Ask Me Anything" events.

**ASHRAE NY
Technical Breakfasts**

This series explores the ASHRAE Technical Standards, connecting the science of these guidelines with real world applications.

Radio BE-Ex

This new live interview podcast series connects our community with industry leaders across a variety of fields—from local climate action policy, to Passive House, to healthy buildings, and more.



**Introducing
BE-Ex ED:
Education on
Demand**

Building Energy Exchange is excited to announce the debut of our new e-learning platform, BE-Ex Ed. Launched in September with the first of our online courses, BE-Ex Ed is home to a growing library of video courses on energy efficiency, high-performance design, and regulations impacting the building industry. Courses are available on-demand, providing the convenience and flexibility for individuals to learn on their own time while earning continuing education credits.

With beta-testing for BE-Ex ED currently underway, we are inviting users to share their feedback to help improve and streamline the digital learning experience. For a limited time, now through November, BE-Ex Ed beta users can take our popular Passive House Primer and Climate Mobilization Act Primer courses at a special discounted rate. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and join us in shaping an exciting new chapter in BE-Ex's evolution. Together, we can make BE-Ex Ed a vital resource for remote learning during the Covid era and beyond.

Visit BE-Ex Ed today to create your personalized e-learning account: learn.be-exchange.org

September 29 (Pt. 1)
October 1 (Pt. 2)
ASHRAE Global HQ:
Designing for Net Zero (Pt. 1)
Modeling for Net Zero (Pt. 2)

Organized by ASHRAE, AIA New York Committee on the Environment, and BE-Ex, this two-part series centered around the planning and execution of ASHRAE's successful commercial net-zero energy project. In January 2020, ASHRAE broke ground on the renovation of their new global headquarters, a showcase project embodying the organization's core sustainability commitments.



- ▶ <https://be-exchange.org/ashrae-global-hq-1/>
- ▶ <https://be-exchange.org/ashrae-global-hq-2/>

October 28

Climate Mobilization Act Series: Raising the Bar for Affordable Housing

This event's panel will discuss the current requirements that affordable housing must meet to comply with the Local Law 97 of the Climate Mobilization Act, as well as where Local Law 97 may be headed, given pending legislation before the NYC Council. Few sectors of the building industry are poised to benefit more from energy efficiency retrofits than affordable housing.



► <https://be-exchange.org/climate-mobilization-act-series-raising-the-bar-for-affordable-housing/>

Ongoing (Oct)

Passive House Primers & Climate Mobilization Act Primers

Passive House Primer

Recently refreshed for 2020, BE-Ex's Passive House Primer is an engaging, one-hour seminar on Passive House fundamentals and their application in the real estate market.

Climate Mobilization Act Primer

This one-hour seminar examines the basic principles of the Climate Mobilization Act and offers actionable guidance for building decision makers.

► <https://be-exchange.org/events/>

completed

exhibit showcase
Envelope Systems



These complementary showcases expand on the recently completed Anatomy of an Energy Efficient Building exhibit by each focusing on one of the following seven building systems: building envelope, ventilation, heating, cooling, domestic hot water, lighting, and plug loads.

report
High Rise Low Carbon

This report profiles a diverse set of eighteen office building projects that undertook a deep retrofit resulting in significant energy reduction — an average of a 37% reduction in their site energy intensity. The case studies demonstrate that it is possible to implement a deep retrofit that meets or better the aggressive 2030 emissions limits of LL97.



programs (online)

Radio BE-Ex: Water Efficiency with Teghpal Sandhu

July 7th

Climate Mobilization Act Series: Unlocking Tenant Efficiency

July 9th

Passive House Primer

July 22nd

WISE Media Club: Imagining Post-Pandemic Cities

July 22nd

What's my Penalty? LL97 Calculator Demo

August 10th

Passive House Primer

August 12th

WISE Media Club: Connecting Equity and Design

August 18th

Climate Mobilization Act Primer

April 19th

WISE Media Club: Keeping Cool in a Warming World

September 15th

Real Estate Climate Risk: Disclosure & Response

September 24th

ASHRAE Global HQ: Designing for Net Zero (Pt. 1)

September 29th

45

Target number days
for event on calendar

project status

Q3 2020

- Exhibit Showcase: Envelope Systems
 - Primer: Passive House (Updated)
 - Report: High Rise Low Carbon
 - On Demand Primer: Passive House
 - On Demand Primer: CMA
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Q4 2020

- E-learning Platform
 - Ventilation Playbook
 - Passive House Technical Modules
 - Underwriting Passive House Playbook
 - Report: Heat Pump Pattern Book
 - Brochure: Buildings of Excellence Awards
 - NYSERDA Multifamily Retrofit Playbooks
 - Passive House Contractor Training
 - RTEM Visualization
 - Architects Advisory Council Report
-

Ongoing

- Report: Data Into Action, Commercial
 - HPD LL97 Affordable Guidance
-

■ COMPLETED □ ANTICIPATED