



PASSIVE
HOUSE
CALIFORNIA

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER



MEMBER LOGIN



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Promoting awareness, understanding, and the application of the Passive House standard through education, events, and advocacy in California

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PASSIVEHOUSECAL.ORG has a new look!

Our new website comes with new features for members + PHCA enthusiasts

Post a Passive House job or project that you need help with:

Need help with a Passive House project in California? Are looking for a Passive House Consultant (CPHD/C), Contractor, Architect, Certifier, sourcing PH-related building products and systems – or finding PH trained/experienced staff for your project or business? We are here to make it easier for you to connect and collaborate. Post information about your Passive House-related project or job here. All members of our professional PHCA community will be able to see your request and reply to explore whether and how they can be of assistance to you. Once you submit your project, PHCA will review and post your “PH Project or Job” so that Passive House California Professional members can learn about your needs and respond

accordingly. Happy collaborating and accelerating the transition to Passive House standards.

Visit www.passivehousecal.org and go to the “Community” tab.

Submit Articles:

Passive House California (PHCA) members and sponsors have the opportunity to submit articles for the news section of the PHCA website. If you have recently completed or are working on a Passive House Project that could be shared with the California Passive House Community, we would love to know about it. The content can be anything you like, as long as it relates to Passive House, and the article will link to your member profile! We are looking forward to including your contribution being featured on the new Passive House California (PHCA) website.

HEAD TO OUR NEW WEBSITE!

Small Planet Supply renews as a Platinum Sponsor

Small Planet Supply is a North-American company that provides high-performance building products. They are dedicated to the mission of creating both classic and modern high-performing buildings, including those designed and built to both Zero Net Energy and Passive House standards. In addition to supplying high-performance building products and systems they provide education, and training in the use of energy-efficient building materials and practices. We are pleased and proud to have them continue as part of the Passive House California family. Learn more about them by visiting www.smallplanetsupply.com.

Sponsor Announcement

·UPCOMING EVENTS FROM OUTSIDE PHCA·

THE SMALL PLANET SUPPLY BUILDING COACH IS COMING!

June 23TH/25TH

The Small Planet Supply Building Coach is back on the road during Summer 2021 and we have our first two stops scheduled. They are:

- Santa Rosa area - June 23
- San Luis Obispo area - June 25

If you've wanted to see the innovative systems we sell, and are close to either of these locations, this is a chance to see these systems in action and have them brought (almost) right to your door.

Our Better Building Coach has Zehnder, Midea, and SANCO2 systems on board. Small Planet Supply CEO Albert Rooks will give you a live demonstration of these high-performance mechanical systems.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

VENTILATION LUNCH AND LEARN

June 23rd 12PM PDT @ Sonoma Clean Power's Advanced Energy Center
Small Planet Building Supply

The grand opening for the Advanced Energy Center is on June 15 and our Ventilation Lunch and Learn is scheduled at the Advanced Energy Center on June 23. Don't miss this chance to get a perfect trifecta: AIA credits, a tour of the Better Building Coach and a chance to see the Advanced Energy Center.

[Click Here to Register](#)

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: HOW TO DEVELOP A SUSTAINABLE URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD

July 7TH 9AM PDT, IPHA Webinar

On the site of the former Prinz-Eugen-Park barracks, the city of Munich realized the largest wooden housing project in Germany, with up to 600 apartments. ArchitekturWerkstatt Vallentin, together with the office Johannes Kaufmann Architektur from Austria, designed a part of this wooden housing community: the Baugemeinschaft TEAM³. The ensemble of the building cooperative TEAM³ is the first quarter worldwide, certified by the Passive House Institute Darmstadt.

[Click Here to Register](#)

•NAPHN ON DEMAND CPHD TRAINING•

ON DEMAND TRAINING

NAPHN

NAPHN's Certified Passive House Designer/Consultant course is the premier training program for Passive House building professionals. Supported by a 25+ year history of global technical leadership by the Passive House Institute, and over 7 years of successful American instruction, from Maine to California, by the Passive House Academy - this course is specifically designed to teach the international Passive House Standard (PHI) to American professionals making Passive House buildings in the U.S. construction industry.

[Click Here to Register](#)

•SHOW US YOUR CA PASSIVE HOUSE BUILDING!•

WE WANT TO SEE YOUR PASSIVE HOUSE PROJECTS IN CALIFORNIA!

We would like to include and possibly showcase your project on the new Passive House California (PHCA) website, incorporate it into events around the International Passive House Open days in June 2021, and post your work on our PHCA social media platforms. If you or anyone involved in your Passive House project is a member of PHCA, please consider submitting the project for inclusion in the Project Database on the PHCA website.

(Note: All projects shall be in compliance with Passive House Institute (PHI) requirements)

and have a verified Passive House Planning Package (PHPP)).

PHI International Passive House Open Days are taking place on June 25-27, 2021.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

PHCA Monthly epiPHany

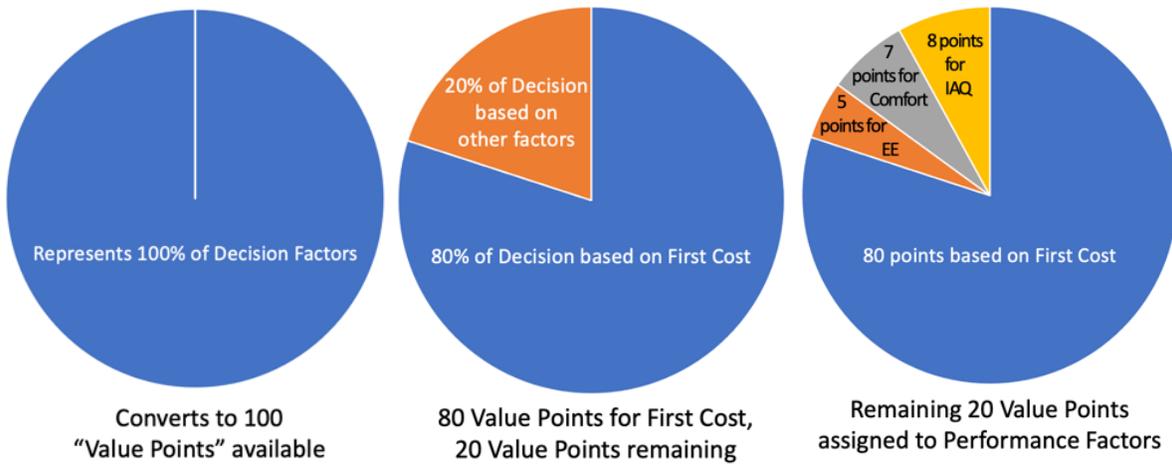
Can you quantify the value of High Performance?

When you shop for a pair of running shoes, you will consider the purchase price and relevant performance-related features (waterproofing, arch support, tread pattern, durability, etc.) but your purchase decision, among similar alternatives, will be based on how they fit your feet (comfort) and how well they “fit with” your intended use. Even if you wind up spending a few dollars more, you are choosing the best value based on your needs, priorities, and preferences.

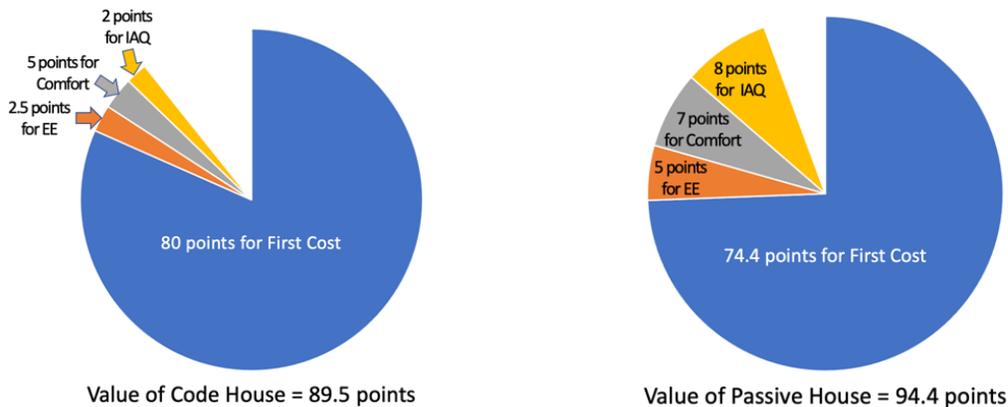
When it comes to the design and construction of a home, the initial cost is easily quantified in dollars, as is any additional investment for high-performance protocols, but determining the value of the high-performance is much more challenging. Too often, that difficulty results in a decision not to employ the protocols that deliver Passive House levels of performance. Fortunately, there is a relatively simple process for incorporating the relative value of high-performance into an objective decision-making process. It does, however, involve math. Consider this hypothetical example.

The situation: You expect to invest around X dollars in the construction of the code-compliant new home that you have in mind. Upgrading to Passive House certification generally adds about 7%, so the total cost would be (X+7%) dollars. So, the math:

<p><u>Step 1:</u> Use a pie chart to represent 100% of the factors that you will take into consideration when making your decision on whether or not to employ Passive House protocols.</p>	<p><u>Step 2:</u> Consider and decide what percentage of your decision will be based on initial cost alone. Almost no-one makes an important investment based on cost alone, but the cost is important, so let’s assume that you decide that 80% of your decision will be based on that first cost.</p>	<p><u>Step 3:</u> Now, consider what factors make up the other 20% of the decision. Because the primary differences are in performance you choose to award 5 points for energy efficiency (EE), 7 points for comfort, and 8 points for healthier indoor air quality. (IAQ)</p>
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Step 4: Assign the points. The code-built home will receive 80 points as the low-cost alternative, while the high-performance home, because of the 7% premium will only receive 74.4 points (93% of the 80 points available). The home that incorporates Passive House protocols receives all 20 of the points related to performance. Applying logic, the code-built home will use about twice the energy, so receives only 2.5 of the points assigned to energy efficiency, will be a little less comfortable, so receives 5 of the 7 points assigned to comfort, and because the house will be leaky and will not have balanced ventilation, the indoor air will contain up to twenty times more airborne pollutants and allergens, so the code-built home receives only 2 of the 8 points available for indoor air quality.



Step 5: When you add up the points, the high-performing home scores 94.4 points (74.4+20) while the code-built home scores 89.5 points (80+2.5+5+2).

The initial cost of the code-built home was 7% less than the high-performing home, but even when you base 80% of the decision on initial cost, the objective analysis shows that the high performing home is clearly the better value and the right choice for the health and comfort of your family. This "value analysis for competitive purchasing" process is often used in business decisions when choosing among different solutions. Modular office furniture systems for example. Purchasing departments and evaluation committees have learned that assigning a high value to the initial cost makes sense, but including other factors enables them to make decisions on value rather than price alone. Homebuyers often appreciate the logic of this process because it provides a way of quantifying an otherwise subjective choice. Common sense favors choosing high performance and the above process provides objective data to support the common sense.



VISIT PASSIVE HOUSE CALIFORNIA WEBSITE

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Passive House California is indebted to our Sponsors for helping us achieve our mission of creating healthy, comfortable, durable, energy- and resource-efficient buildings and communities.

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