

# JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

·NEWS & EVENTS FROM PASSIVE HOUSE CALIFORNIA·



## Net Zero Conference 2022

September 14th-15th Los Angeles, CA

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2021's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report reinforced and accentuated the challenge we face and the urgency that is necessary concerning the climate crisis. Over the last nine years, the Net Zero Conference has brought together those who understand it takes all of us to overcome climate change. This year's focus areas are:

- Carbon
- Climate
- Equity
- ESG
- Net-Zero

- Resilience

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

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## PHCA Monthly epiPHany

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### How is Integrated Design Analogous to a Winning Football Team?

We are experiencing increased interest and awareness of the possible integration of Passive House strategies in the affordable multifamily industry to increase energy efficiency, healthy indoor air quality, and resilience. Affordable multifamily developers have consistently been early adopters of environmentally responsible practices in the design and construction of their projects. Most recently, in their quest to reduce greenhouse gasses (GHGs) and provide the best possible living conditions for occupants, they are shifting away from onsite fossil fuel combustion and moving to all electric buildings. The next logical step is the integration of Passive House strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change by further reducing GHGs, and increasing resilience as we face extreme heat, smoke from wildfires, and power outages.

The concept of **Integrated Design**, as applied to multifamily buildings, can reference the early engagement of the design and construction team (architects, engineers, contractors, etc.) and most recently, the integration of elements from multiple building certification programs. In California, the primary certification programs associated with affordable multifamily are LEED and CALGreen. LEED is based on point accumulation in seven categories and CALGreen provides comprehensive checklists in six divisions. Both provide broad and excellent guidelines for environmentally responsible design, construction, and operation of buildings. \*(Details below) When integrated with LEED and CALGreen, Passive House's performance-based standards for airtightness of the envelope and operational energy required can deliver significant benefits.

The key building science enabler to affordable ZNE/ZNC & healthy IAQ is Passive House

The key data science enabler to evidence-based performance is physics-based modeling and simulation

## Integration of Passive House Standards

- The standard that **most affordably enables energy efficiency, healthy indoor air quality, and resilience** is Passive House.
- Passive House standards deliver the most aggressive reduction of energy consumption, making the path to zero energy and zero carbon **more predictable and less risky**.
- The integration of Passive House **works synergistically with other standards** because PH is more stringent **and sets a bar higher in terms of energy efficiency, healthy indoor air quality, and resilience**.

(Venn diagram graphic from The Auros Group Aurosgroup.com)

For the “AHA” moment, I often make the analogy between LEED Categories and/or CALGreen Divisions, and assembling a professional football team. For a high-level football team, it is important to find well qualified individuals to play at each position. Depending on positions, you may look for speed, quickness, agility, strength, balance, ability to throw, to catch, to tackle, and on and on. To win games, team members must also have a comprehensive playbook and then follow a detailed game plan for each specific opponent.

The Passive House Planning Package (PHPP) serves as the play book and integrates the necessary planning and implementation into a game plan that achieves the specific performance requirements for the airtight envelope, indoor air quality, energy required for operations, and resilience – wins for occupants and owners.

*\*LEED Categories: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, Innovation in Operations & Regional Priority. It is possible to go beyond the minimums and gain certifications of Standard, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. CALGreen is California’s state-mandated green building code and is formally known as the California Green Building Standards Code, Title 24, Part 11, of the California Code of Regulations. CALGreen provides checklists in six divisions: Planning and Design, Energy Efficiency, Water Efficiency and Conservation, Material Conservation and Resource, Environmental Quality. Tier 1 adds additional requirements beyond the mandatory measures. Tier 2 further increases the requirements.*

By Jay Gentry

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•NEWS & EVENTS FROM OUTSIDE PHCA•



**"Project Spotlight: Ken Soble Tower -  
A pathbreaking retrofit in EnerPHit  
standard for the old large scale building  
stock worldwide"**



with **Graeme Stewart**,  
Principal - ERA Architects



**Joshua Vanwyck**,  
JMV Consulting



**Raphaël Vibert**,  
Herz & Lang

**Wednesday, September 7**

**One appointment:**

6pm Frankfurt / 5pm London  
9am San Francisco / 12pm New York

Project Spotlight: Ken Soble Tower - Hamilton Ontario

A pathbreaking retrofit in EnerPHit standard for the old large scale building stock worldwide

September 7th, 9 AM PT

One of the first such retrofit projects in North America, the 18-story Ken Soble Tower was recently awarded the EnerPHit standard. The architect, the Passive House designer, and the Passive House certifier will present the details of the project and give an insight into their collaboration, which was fundamental for the successful realisation.

This iPHA member webinar will last approximately 90 minutes and is worth 2 Passive House Continuous Education (CEPH) credit points.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



# Policy Accelerants

Strategies from  
Passive House Network

August 10, 2022 | 11am-12pm PT

Hosted by:



Presented by: Bronwyn Barry



Policy Accelerants: Strategies from Passive House Network  
August 10th 11-12 PM PT, Passive House Network and Build It Green

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**Build It Green** (BIG) is delighted to host Bronwyn Barry, Principal at Passive House BB and a Director on the Passive House Network (PHN) Board, for a conversation on PHN's latest report: ***Policy that Works***, an investigation into policies driving Passive House adoption in North America.

Bronwyn Barry will be giving a talk and leading a discussion on effective policy strategies from the report, which is the product of a two-year search to identify **which policies are actually scaling deep building decarbonization here in North America, where this is happening, and why and how these policies and programs are working.** Intriguingly, almost all of the most successful programs and policies are supporting and scaling the affordable, multifamily building sector.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

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FREE Certified Passive House Tradesperson Hands-On Training  
In Person in Santa Barbara- Offered to those in the Tri-County Area  
October 10th-14th with 3CREN and EMU

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3C-REN is offering a hands-on Certified Passive House Tradesperson Training and Exam through industry leading provider Emu Systems FREE (normally a \$2,000 value) to contractors and tradespersons who are residents of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura County.

Find more details about the Certified Passive House Tradesperson hands-on training and exam by visiting the Emu Systems

Website: <https://emu.systems/training/passive-house-boot-camp/>

This free 5-day in-person training will be held at Santa Barbara City College from **Monday, October 10th to Friday, October 14th**. If traveling, accommodations are conveniently located nearby.

**General Training Agenda:**

- Two days of classroom learning
- Two days of a hands-on Passive Pod workshop
- Half-day exam and optional materials expo

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

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Ask The Passive House Certifiers: Multifamily Buildings  
August 11th 9-10 AM PT Passive House Network

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Are you embarking on your first Passive House building? Have some Passive House experience and have gathered questions you'd like answered? Looking to go deeper into a specific certification issue you need advice on? Want to get to know the certifiers? (And did you know there are over 20 certifiers working in the US?!)

Build your expertise and familiarity with the certification processes and issues. Register, and then send your questions in advance. Sessions will be focused on

single-family, multifamily, and commercial use types, on a rotating basis. Join the conversation.

This session will be focused on Multifamily Certification.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

## •PHCA MEMBERSHIP•

### PASSIVE HOUSE CALIFORNIA MEMBERSHIP

Consider becoming a member or recommending a friend for some new benefits:

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#### PHCA Job Board:

- Only Members & Sponsors can post employment opportunities/jobs
- Everyone can see the professional postings

Check it out! <https://passivehousecal.org/jobs/>

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

- Everyone can post
- Only Members can see and respond as a membership benefit

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.

Check it out! <https://passivehousecal.org/post-a-job/>

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



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