



The NYC Overlay of the 2026 Criteria

**ENTERPRISE GREEN COMMUNITIES
WITH NEW YORK CITY HOUSING, PRESERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT**

March 10, 2026



Today's Session

- 1) INTRODUCTIONS
- 2) WHY THE NYC OVERLAY?
- 3) DEVELOPING THE OVERLAY
- 4) HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2026 OVERLAY CONTENT
- 5) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM STRUCTURE, REMINDERS AND RESOURCES
- 6) EXPECTATIONS FOR THE ROLL OUT

Objectives

- 1) **WHY THE OVERLAY IS IMPORTANT**
- 2) **KEY ELEMENTS OF THE 2026 OVERLAY**
- 3) **HOW TO USE RESOURCES AND TOOLS TO SUPPORT CERTIFICATION**
- 4) **UPCOMING MILESTONES IN THE 2026 LAUNCH**

Impacts



Affordable homes that are healthy, efficient and climate resilient

WHY THE 2026 NYC OVERLAY?

GREEN COMMUNITIES

The NYC Overlay

- Most active market for Green Communities Certification
- Tradition of close, collaborative relationship with department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), and other key NYC agencies
- More rigorous / NY specific energy and building standards for housing
- Overlay builds off national Criteria to ensure NYC projects are challenged in a meaningful way and in a way that leverages local programs and aligns with priorities



Impacts

- Green Communities Criteria is the only national green building standard developed with and for affordable housers
- More than 231,000 homes certified nationwide
- Over 52,000 in NYC alone (nearly 25% of market and translates to over 100 people impacted)

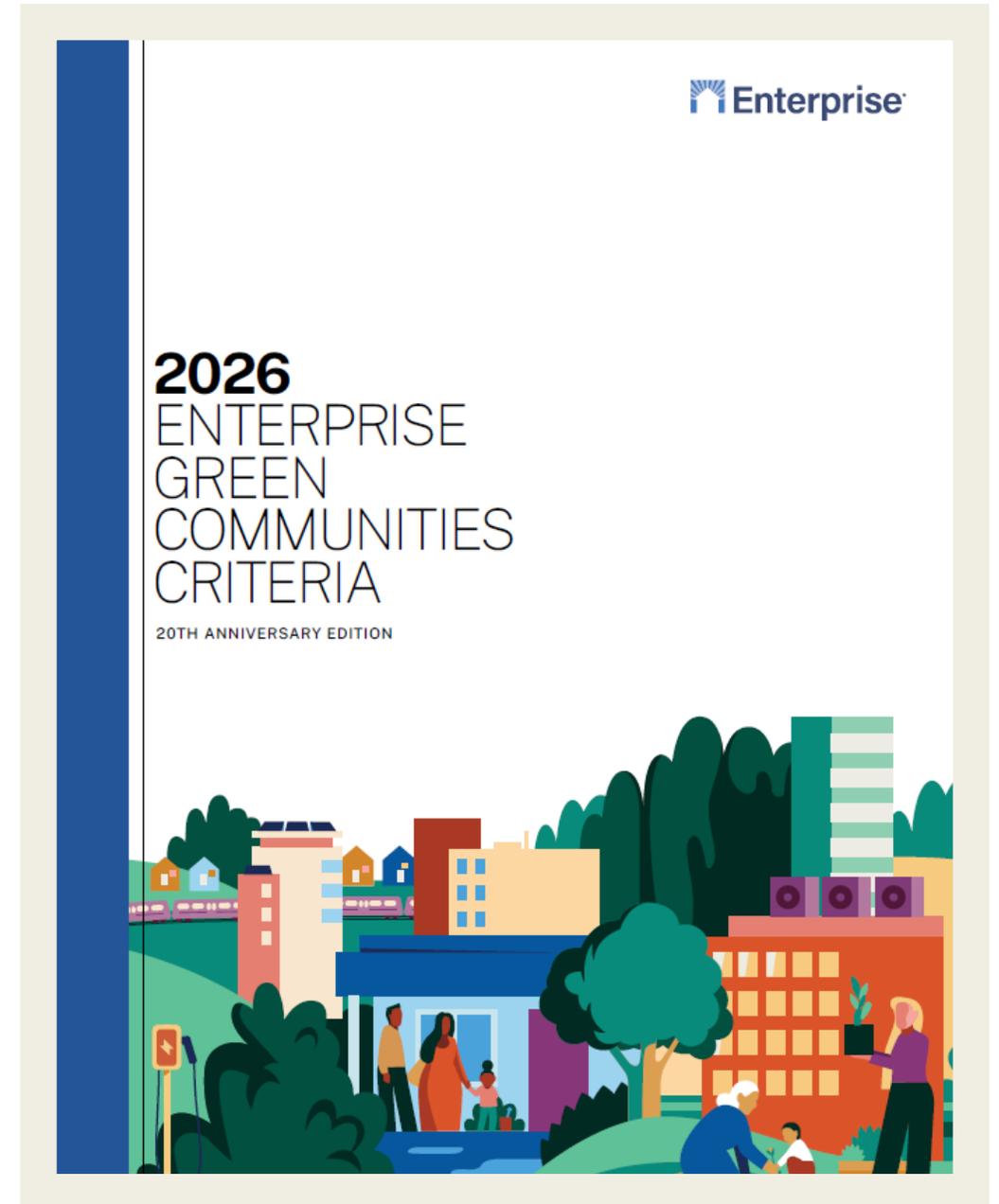


DEVELOPING THE 2026 NYC OVERLAY

2026 Criteria

Updates to the Green Communities Criteria respond to:

- technological advancements
- evaluation outcomes
- environmental, industry, and policy trends
- input from stakeholders



Core principles of the Green Communities Criteria

1. **Achievable** for all affordable housing development types — new construction, substantial and moderate rehab; single family, and low-to high-rise multifamily; urban, suburban, rural & tribal
2. **Cost-effective and proven** green development approaches
3. Designed to deliver **significant health, economic and environmental benefits**, with equity as a primary lens
4. **Technically sound and rigorous** performance standards that are best in class and comparable to other national and regional green residential programs
5. **Measurable and verifiable**, whether through paper or field review

2026 Criteria Development



-  **Energy:** The energy used to construct buildings, and the energy efficiency of those buildings.
-  **Health:** The health and well-being of building occupants.
-  **Resilience:** The ability of buildings to withstand and recover from the worst and most dangerous natural disasters.

2025 ~~6~~ ENTERPRISE GREEN COMMUNITIES CRITERIA

5.5 *Optional: 8 points* Peak Demand Control

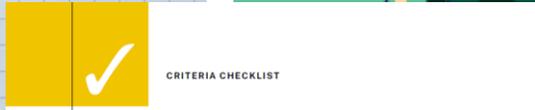
RATIONALE
Once a building is all-electric, its operating emissions



CERTIFICATION PLUS ZERO EMISSIONS
Projects that meet Certification Plus and maximize renewable energy via Criterion 5.7 Renewable Energy will be recognized with a badge demonstrating that they have been designed to meet net-zero energy as well as net-zero scope 1 and scope 2 emissions.

Energy Planning Incorporates All Strategies to Achieve Zero Emissions Over Time

5.1 Energy Planning: Zero Emissions Over Time	5.2a / 5.2b Building Performance: New Const. & Rehabs	5.3 Advanced Building Performance	5.4a Electrical: New Constr.	5.4ab Electrical: Rehab	5.7 Renewable Energy
Certification Plus					
Certification Plus Zero Emissions					



3.9 Resilient Site Design: Wind *Optional: 2 to 16 points* 

Obtain a FORTIFIED™ Designation [Roof: 8 points; Silver: 10 points; Gold: 12 point Supplement]; OR Implement at least two guidance items from any single "one-pager" "Designing for Natural Hazards" series, Volume 1: Wind. [2 points for each one-pager]

YES NO MAYBE

Developing the Overlay – Goals:

- Reflect assumptions of NYC building stock by eliminating documentation for criteria which all projects in NYC will achieve “as of right”
- Provide NYC specific resources for criteria
- Add additional requirements and appropriate rigor for the New York City region

Developing the Overlay – Process:

November 2025

- NYC Overlay partner brownbag
- 2026 Overlay draft v1 complete
- HPD & EGC review first draft
- EGC complete v2 and prepare for public comment



December 2025

- NYC overlay public comment 12/1 – 12/12 & partner listening session 12/09;
- EGC compile feedback
- 2026 Overlay draft v3



2026

- Final review/decisions with HPD & EGC
- Launch PDF of NYC Overlay end of Jan 2026
- Develop interactive checklist
- Overlay in portal mid 2026...



Developing the Overlay – Results:

- “As of right”:
 - 2.2 , 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 3.1, 3.4, 4.3, 4.7
- NYC-specific resources:
 - 3.10, 4.7*,6.5, 8.5
- Tailored requirements applicable to NYC
 - Required for NYC only: 5.2b, 5.4a*, 5.6, 6.4, 6.5, 7.4, 7.7, 7.8*
 - Optional for NYC only: 5.4b**, 5.8



NYC HPD & ENTERPRISE

2026 NYC OVERLAY HIGHLIGHTS

Key updates to the 2026 Overlay

- 2026 Criteria themes and eight categories
- General approach to each category in the 2026 Overlay
- Notable requirements in the NYC Overlay to read up on after today!



Three themes for the 20th anniversary update

ENERGY	RESILIENCE	HEALTH
Eyeing efficiency, emissions, storage, peak demand, embodied carbon	Preparing for common hazards, critical energy loads, post-event livability	Analyzing approaches to materials, acoustics, indoor air quality, and universal design

Navigating themes in the 2026 Criteria

-  **Energy:** Reducing energy use, cost, and emissions
-  **Health:** Enhancing the health and well-being of residents and communities
-  **Resilience:** Preparing now for livability in light of future hazards and risks

Holistic design

1. Integrative Design
2. Location + Neighborhood Fabric
3. Site Design
4. Water
5. Energy
6. Materials
7. Healthy Living Environment
8. Operations, Maintenance and Resident Engagement



1 Integrative Design

A successful integrative design process engages people, identifies collective priorities, and ensures that economic, health, resilience, and environmental objectives are met.



Integrative Design:

2026 Approach: Clarified requirements and streamline administrative lift while ensuring impact

- Clarified requirements for mandatory pathways across the board for pre-design and project management criteria
- Reorganized Project Priorities Survey with specific guidance for compliance, and operationalized topics of energy use, resilience and health for impact
- Same rigor and focus on inclusive and holistic predesign
- General mandatory requirements, with opportunities to go deeper on certain topics
- No NYC-unique pathways

2

Location + Neighborhood Fabric

Locating the project in a neighborhood with existing infrastructure, transportation, and services enhances livability, leads to more responsible and resource-efficient development of land, saves energy, and increases the vitality of the community.



Location + Neighborhood Fabric

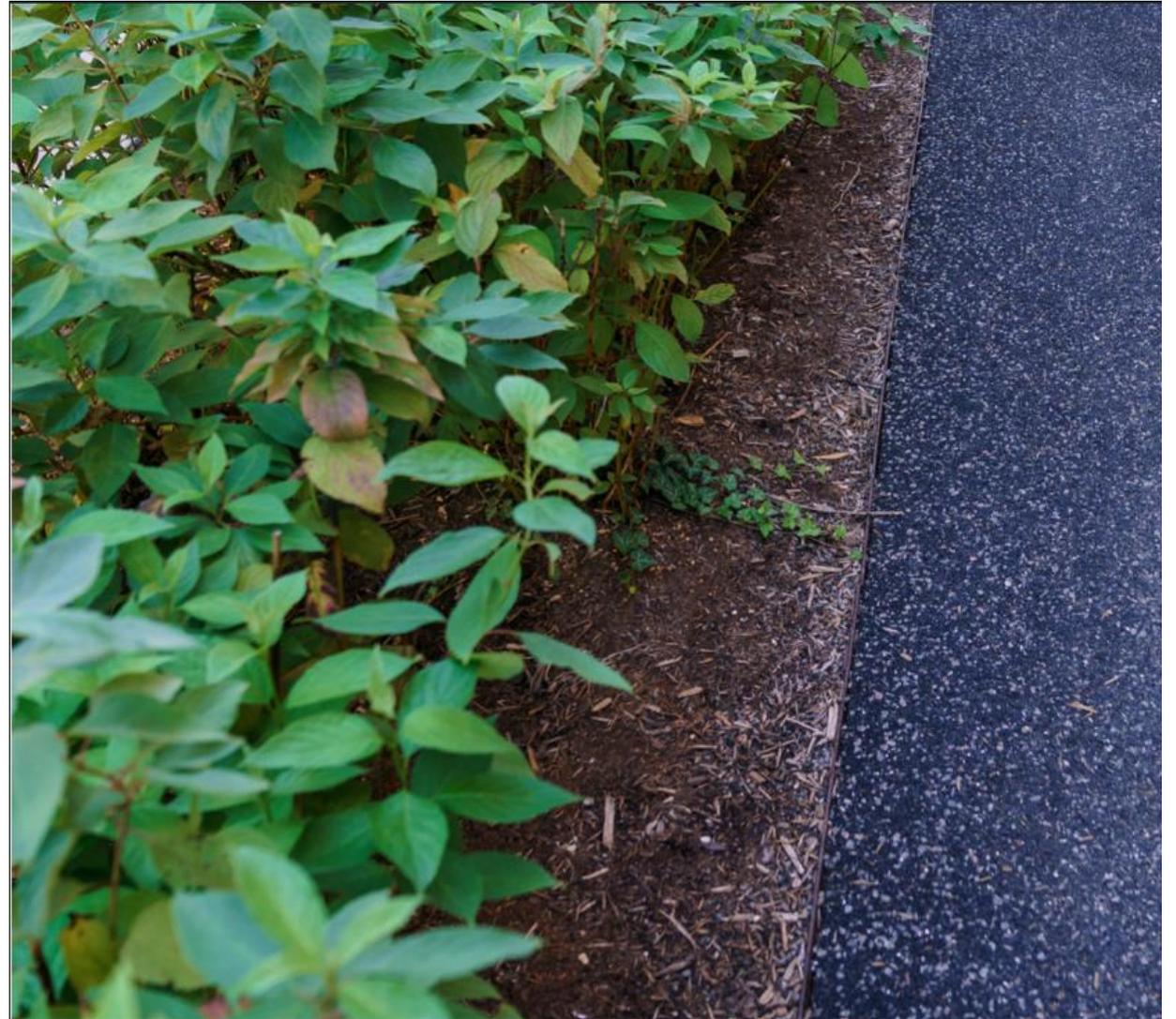
2026 Approach: Expansion of pathways for projects of all types to comply with criteria; right sized requirements across the board based on stakeholder feedback

- “As of right” significant for NYC projects
- NYC carve out for 2.1 given the city’s Resilience Design Guidelines
- More flexibility/opportunities for access to transit / mobility / walkability
- Emphasis on access to fresh food
- Mandatory broadband in common spaces



Site Design

A healthy, thriving site protects people and infrastructure from pollutants, reduces negative project impacts, and boosts community well-being and resilience by leveraging ecosystem services for social, economic, and environmental benefits.



Site Design

2026 Approach: Comprehensive attention to site design opportunities; emphasis on resilience strategies

- Consideration for site disturbance during construction
- Stormwater management
- Tailored site design opportunities in responses to climate risks (wind, flood, fire); Note NYC-specific requirements for flood design.
- Strategies for traffic safety
- Mandatory heat island mitigation path (new construction, sub rehab)
- Exterior lighting now incorporated (category 5 previously)

4 Water

Water quality and conservation are key to healthy, efficient housing. Testing and remediation protect health. Reducing potable water use, managing leaks, and performing regular maintenance save money, conserve water, and reduce the risk of property damage.



Water

2026 Approach: More optional pathways and clarification about certain mandatory provisions for water use and quality

- Additional pathway for advanced water conservation via whole home certification with WaterSense (required criteria for NYC)
- Multiple efficient plumbing pathways available (required for NYC new construction)
- Access to potable water and legionella water management planning align with NYC programming for certain projects and is as of right
- General emphasis on the tried-and-true strategies!

Energy

Manage how energy is used in a building to ensure the property will be efficient, affordable, healthy, and resilient. Start by investing in a foundation of energy efficiency and then consider how to optimize economics, emissions, and resilience.



Energy

2026 Approach: Reinforce essential strategies for energy optimization rooted in energy efficiency practices and energy sources that fuel a property

- Optional pathways to support teams in meeting energy goals i.e. renewables (geothermal and enhanced solar), peak demand control, passive survivability, energy planning (zero-emissions-over-time!)
- Distinct pathways for construction types for electrification; new construction requirement for electric cooking
 - All new construction = all electric
 - Unique rehab electric pathway for space heating and cooling
- A focused EV charging strategy for New Construction and Substantial Rehab (incl. EV charging NYC option)
- Overlay back-up power requirement and NYC "shelter in place" approach
- Folded in lighting, HVAC guidance into the baseline performance standard for rehab projects
- Structure for all projects to go above and beyond baseline performance standard...
- Stringency for rehab performance standard...

2026 NYC 5.2a 5.2b Building Performance Standards

5.2a Building Performance Standard for New Construction:

- ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction (MFNC), ENERGY STAR Manufactured Homes, and/or ENERGY STAR Certified Homes, as relevant

5.2b Building Performance Standard for Rehabs:

- Equivalent to or better than ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2013
- Achieve an Energy Rating Index (ERI)

score of 80 or less (exception for pre-1980's construction as you are familiar with)

- Prescriptive path (similar to what was implemented in last version); to be published this spring
- And this brings us to our “5.2b Ask”...

NYC 5.2b Energy modeling

A desire for compliance pathway based on modeling of existing conditions as a baseline to eliminate need for completing two models (i.e. existing conditions for NYC, ASHRAE or ERI for EGC).

NYC 5.2b Energy modeling

Enterprise would like to support this effort to reduce burden on developers.

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We also need to ensure that all projects achieving certification meet or exceed a certain performance standard.

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We also need to ensure that all projects achieving certification meet or exceed a certain performance standard.

To do that, we need to understand how the average NYC retrofit project performs... compared to our standard.

NYC 5.2b Energy modeling

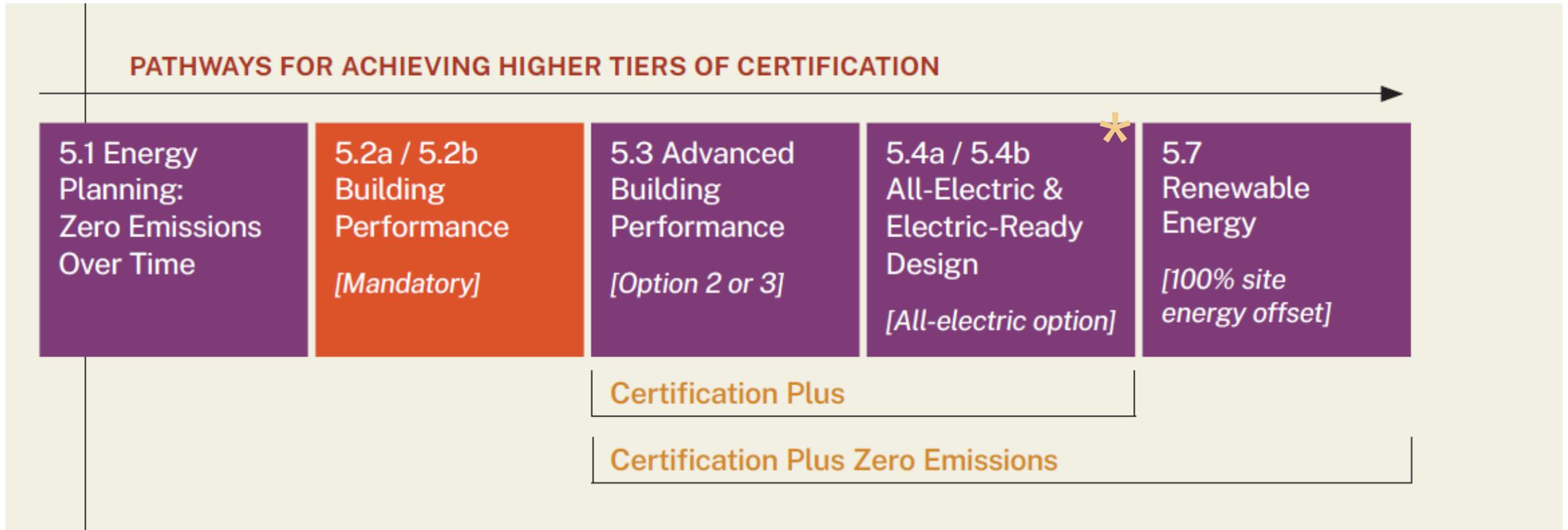
Help us do that by sharing your EGC rehab project data:

- ASHRAE or ERI documentation for projects that certified to the 2020 Criteria;
- Existing conditions data for compliance with HPD, HCR or other NYC program for the same project.

Send performance data by April 1, 2026 to: certification@enterprisecommunity.org

THANK YOU!

Tiers of Certification



* 5.4a All electric Mandatory for New Construction projects in 2026 NYC Overlay

6

Materials

Good design does more with less. By using only what we need and selecting durable, low-impact, and healthy materials across their life cycles, we can reduce costs, protect precious resources, and support health and well-being.



Materials

2026 Approach: Ensure the materials in homes are selected for health and comfort and responsible use of resources; sharpened focus on embodied carbon

- Additional pathways for the reduction of materials and material waste
- Consideration for overall material reduction threaded throughout
- Attention to the end-of use stage of a material's life cycle as well as a similar avenue for construction waste reduction
- Screening process for going above and beyond in material selection for both better health and environmental impacts
- Standards for material selection i.e VOC content and emissions
- Adherence to remediating lead

Healthy Living Environment

A safe home is more than shelter: It is the foundation of health and community. Safe, welcoming, and inclusive homes can nurture social support, connect us to vital resources, and equip communities to withstand life's stresses.



Healthy Living Environment

2026 Approach: A familiar focus on what can be done within the four walls of a property to ensure comfort, health and safety for people; expands the scope of healthy living to consider how a property engages with the community

- Cast category into three topics:
 - A Safe Place to Call Home
 - A Welcoming Community
 - Wellbeing and Empowerment
- Air filtration requirement for all properties with new HVAC
- New standard for Radon testing requirements: AARST 2023
- Detailed requirements for ventilation system performance and maintenance
- Managing moisture broken out by new construction and rehab
- Optional acoustic design pathway
- NYC-unique pathways
 - Smoke-free – policy
 - ERV/HRV
 - IAQ

8 Operations, Maintenance, and Resident Engagement

The integrative process doesn't end with design. Effective communication, training, and documentation set the project up for success and help residents and operators realize long-term benefits from affordability, health, efficiency, and resilience.



Operations, Maintenance, and Resident Engagement

2026 Approach:

- Explicit guidance for Emergency Management Manual
- Inclusion of key resources i.e. Building Readiness Report
- Manual design based on developers existing processes
- Three critical topics to organize materials for
- Utility data collection and monitoring retains flexibility introduced in 2020

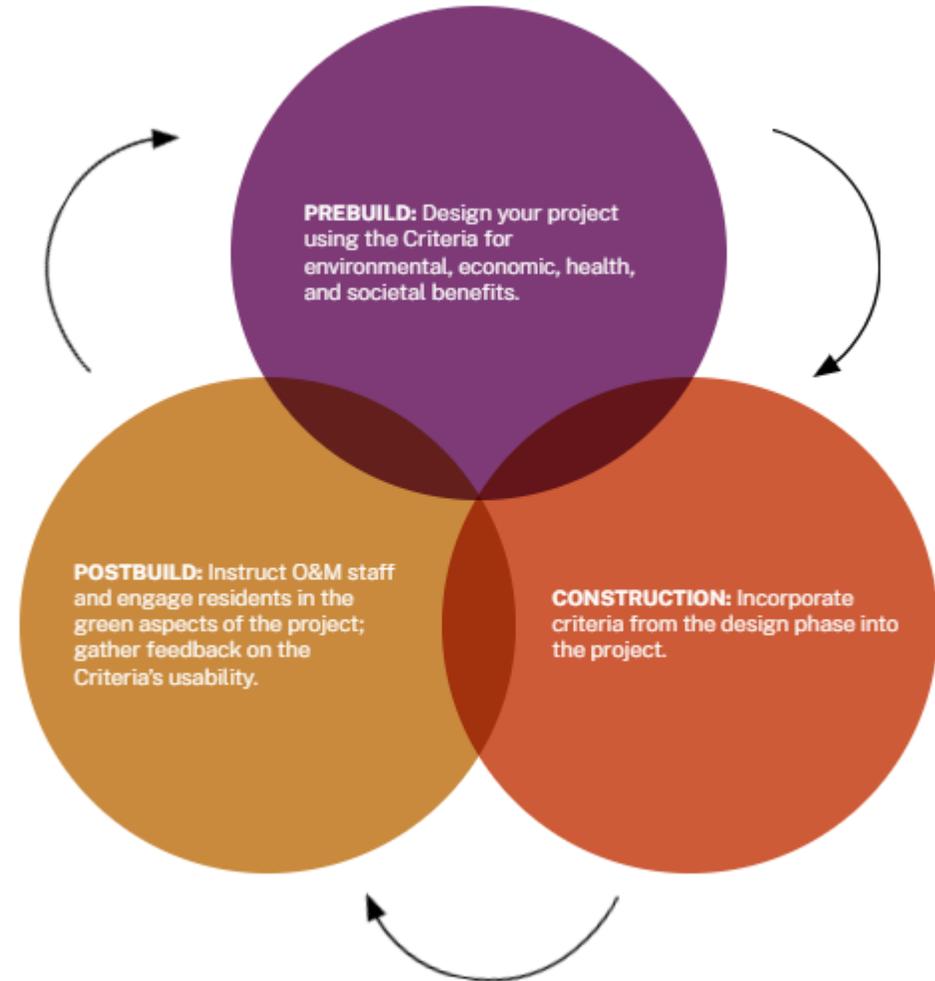
Holistic design



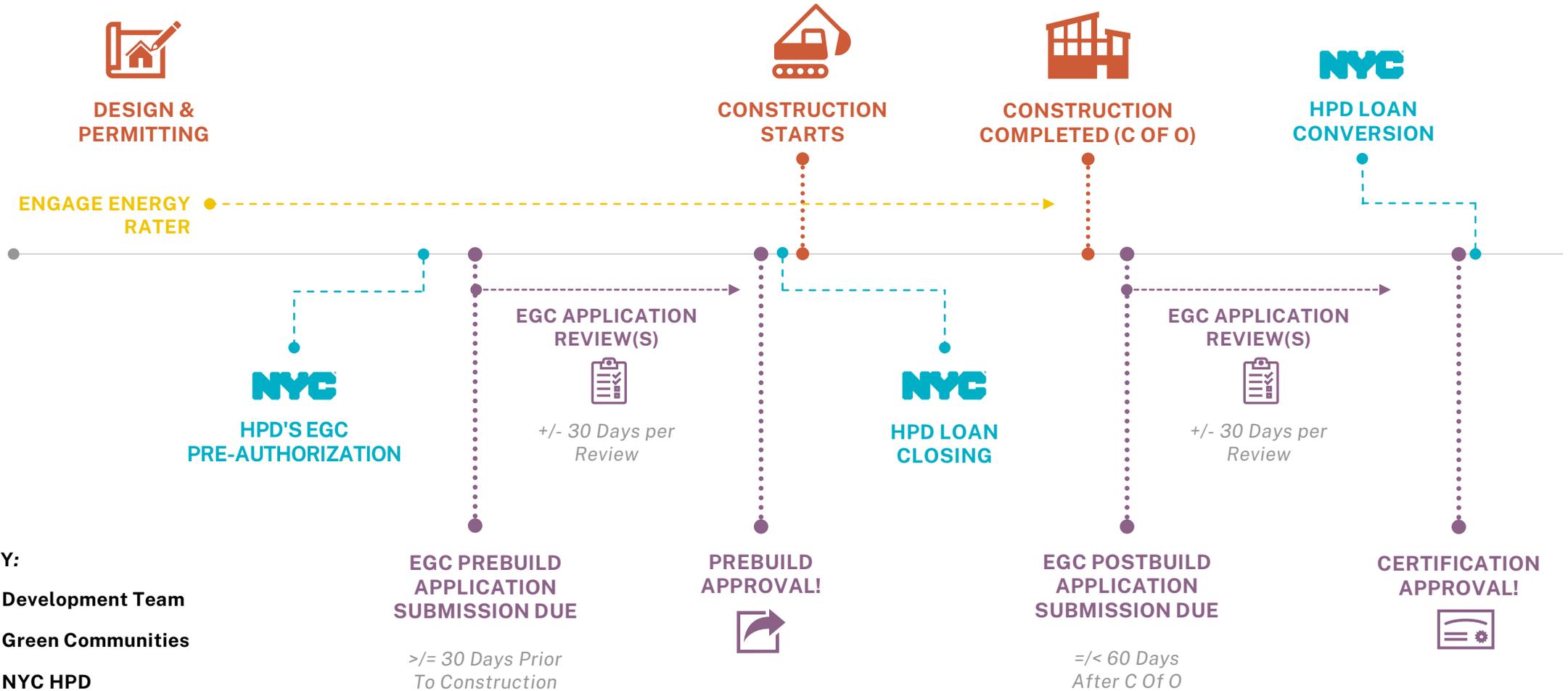
CERTIFICATION AND PROGRAM DESIGN

Certification Process

- Our standard review window is 30 days for all initial and re-reviews
- NYC projects can request an expedited review of 10 business days.
- Expedited reviews incur a fee of \$250 for reach expedited review



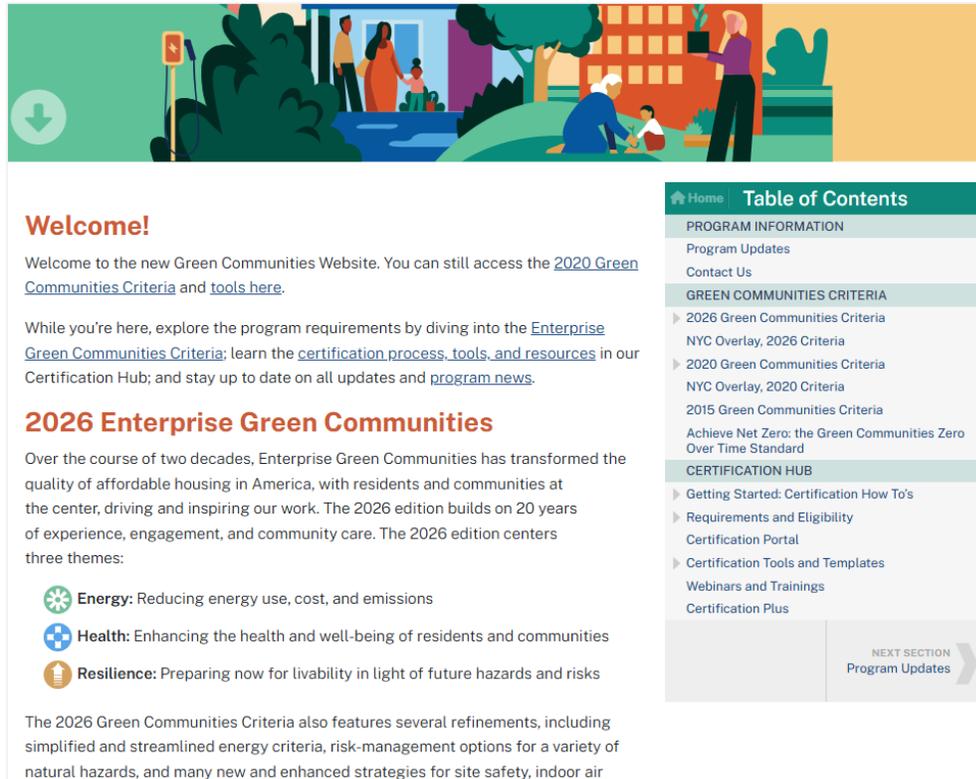
Timeline & Milestones



Online Tools & Resources

Green Communities Website

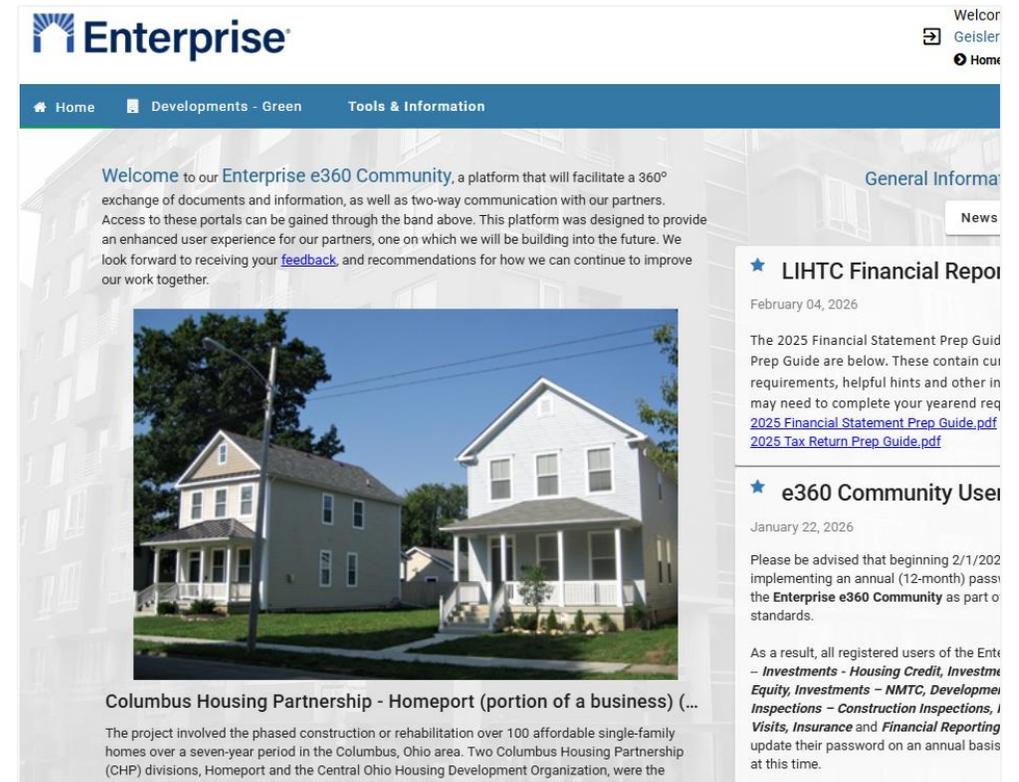
<https://www.greencommunitiesonline.org>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Green Communities Website. At the top is a colorful illustration of a community scene with people walking, a child playing, and a person sitting on a bench. Below the illustration is a navigation bar with a home icon and a 'Table of Contents' link. The main content area features a 'Welcome!' section with a paragraph about the website's purpose and links to '2020 Green Communities Criteria' and 'tools here'. Below this is another paragraph about exploring program requirements, with links to 'Enterprise Green Communities Criteria', 'certification process, tools, and resources', and 'program news'. A section titled '2026 Enterprise Green Communities' follows, describing the organization's history and the themes of the 2026 edition: Energy, Health, and Resilience. A sidebar on the right contains a 'Table of Contents' with links to 'PROGRAM INFORMATION', 'GREEN COMMUNITIES CRITERIA', and 'CERTIFICATION HUB'. At the bottom of the sidebar is a 'NEXT SECTION Program Updates' button.

Application Portal

https://www.e360community.com/ENT_Community_Login_Frm



The screenshot shows the Enterprise e360 Community Application Portal. The top navigation bar includes the Enterprise logo, a user profile for 'Welcor Geisler', and a 'Home' button. Below the navigation bar is a main content area with a 'Welcome' message and a 'General Information' section. A featured article titled 'LIHTC Financial Report' is displayed, dated February 04, 2026, with a sub-headline 'e360 Community User' and a date of January 22, 2026. The article text mentions the 2025 Financial Statement Prep Guide and the 2025 Tax Return Prep Guide. Below the article is a photograph of a two-story house with a porch, identified as 'Columbus Housing Partnership - Homeport (portion of a business)'. The text below the photo describes a project involving the construction or rehabilitation of 100 affordable single-family homes in the Columbus, Ohio area.

Website Overview

<https://www.greencommunitiesonline.org>

What's New: Review 2020 and 2026 comparisons, check for 2026 addendum, and stay up-to-date with program news.

Criteria Content: Explore criteria content. Filter requirements by location, construction type, and theme to determine the best pathway for your project.

Instructions & Resources: Learn how to submit an application. Access resources and templates for Green Communities compliance.



is Website. You can still access the [2020 Green](#)

requirements by diving into the [Enterprise certification process, tools, and resources](#) in our n all updates and [program news](#).

n Communities

rise Green Communities has transformed the a, with residents and communities at 'k. The 2026 edition builds on 20 years unity care. The 2026 edition centers

ost, and emissions

d well-being of residents and communities

rability in light of future hazards and risks

lso features several refinements, including

Home	Table of Contents
●	PROGRAM INFORMATION
	Program Updates
	Contact Us
●	GREEN COMMUNITIES CRITERIA
▶	2026 Green Communities Criteria NYC Overlay, 2026 Criteria
▶	2020 Green Communities Criteria NYC Overlay, 2020 Criteria
	2015 Green Communities Criteria
	Achieve Net Zero: the Green Communities Zero Over Time Standard
●	CERTIFICATION HUB
▶	Getting Started: Certification How To's
▶	Requirements and Eligibility Certification Portal
▶	Certification Tools and Templates
	Webinars and Trainings
	Certification Plus
	NEXT SECTION
	Program Updates

Ways to Explore

Filter criteria by construction type, location (including NYC overlay) and theme

Tally optional points
NYC New Construction: 65 pts
NYC Rehabs: 35 pts

Download checklist as a PDF

Start again! Reset filter selections and/or clear the checklist

The screenshot shows a web application interface with the following elements:

- Home** and **Table of Contents** navigation tabs.
- FILTER BY CONSTRUCTION TYPE AND LOCATION:**
 - Buttons for **New Construction**, **Substantial Rehab**, and **Moderate Rehab**.
 - Buttons for **Rural / Tribal / Small Towns** and **Urban / Suburban**.
 - A checked checkbox for **Project will follow New York City Overlay**.
- FILTER BY THEME:** Icons for **ENERGY**, **HEALTH**, and **RESILIENCE**.
- RESET:** A circular refresh icon.
- CRITERIA TOTAL:** 0 of 46 Mandatory Criteria, 0 of 65 Optional Points.
- DOWNLOAD:** A download icon.
- CLEAR:** A clear icon.
- PROGRAM INFORMATION:** Links for **Program Updates** and **Contact Us**.
- GREEN COMMUNITIES CRITERIA:**
 - 2026 Green Communities Criteria
 - Introduction
 - ✓ Checklist
 - 1 Integrative Design
 - 2 Location + Neighborhood Fabric
 - 2.1 Ecological Conservation and Safer

Enterprise & HPD Definitions

	<p>HPD Moderate Rehab = scope of work includes 2 or fewer building systems, limited work on the building envelope, less than 75% of dwelling units, and limited repairs to the existing heating system.*</p>	<p>HPD Substantial Rehab = scope of work includes 2 or more building systems, substantial work on the building envelope, more than 75% of dwelling units, and replacing or substantially repairing the heating system.*</p>	<p>HPD Gut Rehab = scope of work equates to a substantial rehab plus substantial interior reconstruction, likely requiring tenants to relocate.*</p>	<p>New Construction</p>
	<p>Moderate Rehab</p>	<p>Substantial Rehab</p>	<p>New Construction</p>	
	<p>EGC Moderate Rehab = work area does not exceed 50% of the aggregate area of the building, scope of work approximates less than an ICC level 3 alteration, but the project is still able to comply with the energy-performance requirements of Enterprise Green Communities.*</p>	<p>EGC Substantial Rehab = work area exceeds 50% of the aggregate area of the building, scope of work approximates an ICC level 3 alteration.*</p>		

*For full details visit HPD's [Classification Overview](#) & EGC's [Construction Typology Definitions](#)

Filter & Prioritize

5. ENERGY

5.2a Building Performance: New Construction
Mandatory for New Construction

5.2b Building Performance: Rehabilitation
Mandatory for Substantial and Moderate Rehabs

5.3 Advanced Building Performance
Optional: 16 points maximum

OPTIONS 2 AND 3 ARE PART OF QUALIFYING FOR CERTIFICATION PLUS.

YES	NO	<p>5.4a All-Electric & Electric-Ready Design: New Construction <i>Mandatory, Optional: 15 points</i></p> <p style="color: #e67e22;">PART OF QUALIFYING FOR CERTIFICATION PLUS</p> <p>Mandatory: All cooking equipment is powered by electricity AND all dwelling-unit systems for space heating and water heating are either electric or electric ready as described.</p> <p>Optional: The project is all electric apart from emergency backup power. [15 points]</p> <div style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #ccc; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><small>NYC</small> In addition to the mandatory component of this criterion, New Construction projects are REQUIRED to comply with the optional portion of this criterion.</p> </div>	
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POINTS: 0

5.4b All-Electric and Electric-Ready Design: Rehabilitation
Optional: 12-15 points

PART OF QUALIFYING FOR CERTIFICATION PLUS

Option 1: All-electric or electric-ready dwelling units: All cooking equipment is powered by electricity AND all dwelling-unit systems for space heating and water heating are either electric or electric ready as described. [12 points]

OR

[Home](#) **Table of Contents**

FILTER BY CONSTRUCTION TYPE AND LOCATION:

Project will follow New York City Overlay

FILTER BY THEME: RESET:

ENERGY
 HEALTH
 RESILIENCE

CRITERIA TOTAL DOWNLOAD CLEAR:

0 of 20 Mandatory Criteria

0 of 65 Optional Points

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Updates

Contact Us

GREEN COMMUNITIES CRITERIA

▼ 2026 Green Communities Criteria

Introduction

Checklist

- 1 Integrative Design
- 2 Location + Neighborhood Fabric
- 3 Site Design
- 4 Water
- 5 Energy
- 6 Materials
- 7 Healthy Living Environment
- 8 Operations, Maintenance, and Resident Engagement

▶ 1 Integrative Design

▶ 2 Location + Neighborhood Fabric

▶ 3 Site Design

Dive Into The Details

Checklist

gain a high-level of understanding of mandatory and optional pathways

Enterprise Green Communities Criteria and Certification

7. HEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Select and implement at least two of the listed strategies, which may apply to buildings, dwelling units, or outdoor common spaces.

7.14–7.16 | A WELCOMING COMMUNITY

YES	NO	
		7.14 Social Connection and Accessibility: Design for All Ages and Abilities  <i>Mandatory</i> Implement at least two of the listed strategies. For any strategy impacting dwelling units, include that strategy in at least 25% of the project's dwelling units. The strategies are listed by principle: Universal wayfinding and sensory sensitivity; Opportunities for social connection; Universal mobility and dexterity support; Universal fit.
POINTS: 0		7.15 Access to Nature and Biophilic Design  <i>Optional: 3 or 6 points</i> Provide meaningful and multisensory connections to nature, connecting residents and staff to a living landscape and the natural environment by including two or more of the listed strategies for all dwelling units. [3 points for implementing two strategies of initial list] AND/OR Implement three or more of the listed strategies for interior and exterior common spaces. [3 points for implementing three strategies of second list]
POINTS: 0		7.16 Healing-Centered and Culturally Responsive Design  <i>Optional: 3 or 6 points</i> Incorporate one or two of the listed strategies: Community-generated art; Storytelling through space; Cultural partnerships or programming. [3 points each, maximum of 6 points]

7.17–7.18 | WELL-BEING AND EMPOWERMENT

POINTS: 0		7.17 Active Design: Promoting Physical Activity  <i>Optional: 5 points</i> Option 1: Encourage everyday stair use: Provide a staircase that is accessible and visible from the main lobby and is visible within a 25-foot walking distance from any point in the lobby per the specifications listed. Place point-of-decision signage to encourage use. (Projects where stairs are the only means of travel between floors are ineligible.) OR Option 2: Provide activity spaces: Provide a dedicated on-site recreation space with exercise or play opportunities for adults and/or children that is open and accessible to all residents.
POINTS: 0		7.18 Place-Based Wealth Building  <i>Optional: 4 points</i> Implement one of the following strategies to support resident economic empowerment and wealth-building:

Full Criteria

access criteria details:
rational, requirements, recommendations, & resources

Enterprise Green Communities Criteria and Certification

7.15 *Optional: 3 or 6 points* 
Access to Nature and Biophilic Design

REQUIREMENTS

Design must provide meaningful and multisensory interactions with nature, connecting residents and staff to a living landscape and the natural environment to provide a deeper level of engagement with native flora and fauna as well as with natural cycles, seasons, and rhythms.

For all dwelling units and at least one space accessible to all staff, include two or more of these strategies [3 points]:

- Direct physical connection to a usable outdoor space (e.g., a balcony, patio, terrace, or rooftop garden) that allows access to vegetation with views of the sky, multisensory interactions (e.g., touch, scent, sound), and seasonal or sensory variability
- Biophilic design features—such as indoor installation of live plants, natural materials, or patterns that mimic nature—informed by resident input or cultural preferences
- Tunable circadian lighting systems that 1) shift with natural daylight cycles to support sleep and mood regulation and 2) can be controlled by residents
- Views of biodiverse, native, and intentionally designed landscapes, such as pollinator gardens, tree canopy, or water features (does not include views of parking lots, other buildings, or areas of minimal vegetation)

AND/OR

Across interior and exterior common areas, provide at least three of the following strategies [3 points]:

- Usable outdoor spaces with a mix of native and/or culturally significant vegetation that varies seasonally, along with environmental care practices that support biodiversity (e.g., are pollinator friendly) and use hand or electric maintenance and no chemical herbicides
- Opportunities for residents to interact with plants: raised beds, community gardens, or plantings with a variety of scents and textures
- Fauna-supporting features, such as flowering plants, bird baths, pollinator houses, bat houses, or perches
- Water features (e.g., fountains, rain chains, bioswales) that offer an auditory and visual experience as well as safe and accessible access
- Pet-friendly areas and policies that allow for daily interaction with animals and the natural world

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Consider maximizing outdoor biophilic strategies alongside resilient design options from

Stay Informed

OFFICE HOURS	EMAIL	WEBINARS
Join our monthly office hours	Reach out to certification@enterprisecommunity.org	Register for upcoming webinars and access recordings

COMING SOON: 2026 CRITERIA LAUNCH

Launch Resources

- **Criteria & certification website:** <https://www.greencommunitiesonline.org/>
 - NYC 2026 Overlay Checklist
 - NYC 2026 Overlay filter tool
 - Green Program comparisons
 - 2026 Criteria Manual and national checklists & tools
 - 2026 Criteria Ambassador Brief
- **Links**
 - Webinars: <https://cvent.me/VaBMM0>
 - Stay Updated: <https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/impact-areas/resilience/green-communities#sign-up>
 - 2026 Criteria pdf: <https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/learning-center/resources/2026-enterprise-green-communities-criteria-20th-anniversary-edition>

Launch Events

- NYC Overlay Sessions

- March 19 Technical Panel
- April 13 National Building Museum, Washington, D.C.
- May 14 Certifying to the 2026 Criteria
- Monthly office hours (Zoom) <https://www.greencommunitiesonline.org/>

- Links

- Webinars: <https://cvent.me/VaBMM0>
- Stay Updated: <https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/impact-areas/resilience/green-communities#sign-up>
- 2026 Criteria pdf: <https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/learning-center/resources/2026-enterprise-green-communities-criteria-20th-anniversary-edition>

NYC Green Guide

In-person NYC opportunity!

What's New: Funding Resources for Green Building in New York

- Enterprise New York Office, 1 Whitehall St, 11th Floor
- Tuesday, March 31, 2026 | 9-11ET
- Hear from a panel including NYSERDA, HPD, HCR and KC3 about updates in green building funding programs for affordable housing in New York

Thank You



**We are here
for impact.
We are here
for change.
Join us.**

 **Enterprise**

