# Basalt Vista

A net zero affordable housing community



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## Background

- 27 units total
- 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom floor plans
- 23 units complete

#### **Partners**









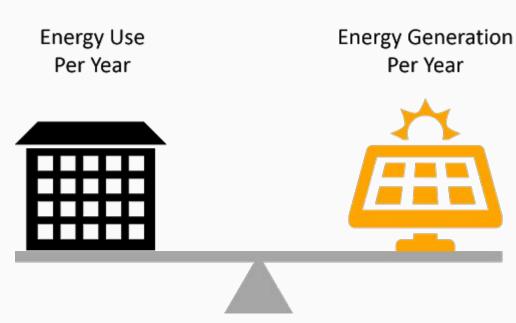






#### Factors to consider

- All electric
  - \$28,000 saved on infrastructure by not installing gas
- Building Envelope
- Appliances
- HVAC system
- Water heating
- Lighting
- Solar



### Insulation



Ceiling

R-49 Loose Fill Fiberglass Insulation

- Rim Joists & Sills: R-29 Hybrid with R-10 foam
- Foam all penetrations, doors, windows
- Air seal and caulk all gaps and stud packs



#### Exterior Walls and Garage

- R-23 blown in blanket insulation
- R-5 exterior blue board

#### Midfloor Joists and Interior Walls

R-19 batt insulation

## Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs)

- Testing SIPs on 2 buildings to analyze:
  - Installation speed
  - Blower door test results
- Improves overall R value. Overall R=21.4
- Eliminates exterior blue board and interior blown-in insulation
- More volunteer friendly?



#### Windows

Shop for Performance		
For Windows Facing:	Cold Climate	Warmer Climate
North	Lowest U-factor you can afford	Low U-factor
South	Highest SHGC, Lowest U-factor you can afford	Low SHGC (and lots of shade), Low U-factor
East	Low SHGC (or shaded)	Low SHGC, Low U-factor
West	Low SHGC (or shaded)	Low SHGC, Low U-factor

Source: US Dept of Energy www.energy.gov

- Double pane, casement windows
- Weighted Average U-Factor = 0.29
- Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)
   Weighted Average = 0.21

Low U-value = better insulated

Low SHGC = Low heat transfer (range 0-1)



## **Appliances**



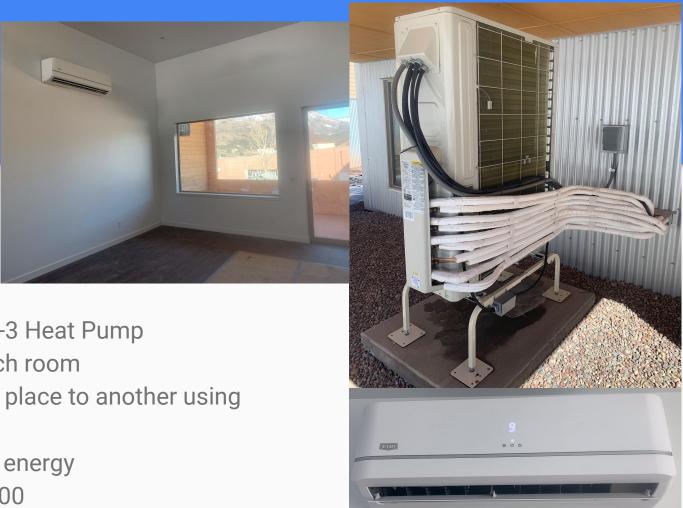


- All electric & energy star appliances
- Induction range
  - o more efficient & superior heating performance
  - 1.5x the price of traditional electric ranges
  - 90% efficiency (standard electric ranges ~55%)

### HVAC



- Carrier 38MGRQ48E-3 Heat Pump
- Ductless units in each room
- Move heat from one place to another using electricity
- Uses up to 50% less energy
- System cost ~\$25,000



## **Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV)**

- Model: RenewAire EV130
- Provides a controlled way of ventilating a home while minimizing energy loss
- Reduces energy costs by extracting warm air in the winter and cool air in the summer
- Cost included in total HVAC price



## Heat Pump Water Heater

Model: HPTU-50N-130

• 2x price of traditional electric water heater

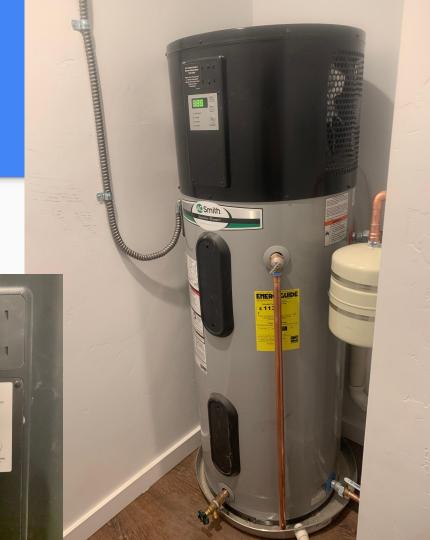
(without rebates)

Holy Cross rebate \$450

Total cost \$800 after rebate

• 2-3x more efficient

Emits cold air



#### Solar



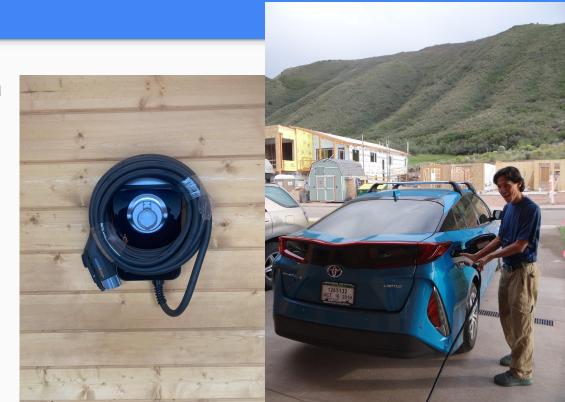


- 11.85 kW solar array
- 48 kWh battery backup total
- System size based on home's load calculations from electrician
- Holy Cross Energy donated monitoring and batteries
- System cost \$19,500 per home (2 bedroom)



## **EV** Charging

- Homes are equipped with a Level-2 EV charger
- Charger provided by Holy Cross Energy at no charge
- Installation cost ~\$500



#### Outcomes

### Lessons Learned

- Utility costs ~\$13/month collecting credits for 1 year
- HOA reserve funding is set aside for long term maintenance
  - Warranties
    - HVAC: 10 yrs
    - Solar Panels: 25 yrs
    - Roof: 25 yrs
- NREL partnership to monitor homes for energy use at different times of the day

- Ductless HVAC system
  - Reduces material and labor costs
  - Eliminates duct blast testing
- Heat Pumps in Cold Environments
  - Need to be raised off the ground
  - Should be installed in direct sunlight
- Roof design to Maximize Solar Efficiency
  - Current system is oversized due to roof angles

## Thank you!

Questions?





"Today I got to see the future (and present!) of affordable housing at Basalt Vista. It was inspirational to see this amazing net-zero energy affordable housing. It's a true model for Colorado and our country." - Governor Jared Polis