

Passive House: Reducing Energy Use and Increasing Resiliency

Michelle Tinner, *Director - Passive House, Sustainable Comfort, Inc.*

Chris Straile, *Sustainable Comfort, Inc.*

ABSTRACT

A major key to reducing carbon emissions, and creating buildings that are healthy and resilient for residents is to reduce energy use by focusing on the building enclosure. The Passive House program provides a roadmap to designing an efficient cost-effective building envelope that is durable, conserves energy, and is air tight. Are you interested in learning how to design passive house level enclosures? Please join us as we demonstrate various examples of how to design efficient envelopes using real life case studies. We will get into the nitty gritty on reducing thermal bridging, detailing connections, and material and insulation quality. We will also highlight multiple Passive House projects including Pan American Square, West Side Homes, and Baird Road all affordable housing projects in NY. Learn how functional resilience of these buildings bolsters the developers overarching goal of building community resilience and economic justice in Buffalo.

BIOGRAPHY

Michelle is Director of Passive House Services at SCI where she consults on residential and commercial building projects with a focus on high-performance, quality assurance and health. She supports teams to make data driven decisions using energy analysis and best practice building science. Throughout her 10+ years of work in a variety of programs in various capacities including performance testing, extensive energy modeling, as well as program implementation and management, she continually strives to bind innovation with sustainability and affordability. Michelle is currently serving in her second term as president of the Hudson Valley Passive House Alliance Chapter where she has been able to secure substantial funding to promoting passive house as the mainstream building standard, support the education of building professionals, and facilitate knowledge sharing among the passive house community.