

Community Preservation Corporation

OPTIMIZING BUILDING ENVELOPES AND VENTILATION

DANIELLE DONNELLY AVP, SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS CPC

Danielle Donnelly is the AVP of Sustainability Programs, leading the company's efforts to improve the built environment and mitigate the effects of climate change on our communities. She is responsible for working with CPC's internal originations and equity staff, as well as its borrowers and external partners to advocate for, and implement financing solutions to improve the built environment and support the development of high-performance housing.

Since joining CPC in March 2018, Danielle has played a key role in developing and implementing the company's sustainability initiatives and practices to encourage adoption of high-performance retrofits and new construction practices as part of its strategic loan offerings and equity investments. Danielle works with CPC's customers, community partners, and housing agency partners to advocate for common-sense climate and energy policies, develop resources highlighting new technologies and programs to support decarbonization, and provides technical assistance to CPC borrowers pursuing energy efficiency and high-performance design projects.



CPC WEBINAR

TODAY'S AGENDA

Welcome and Setting the Stage
Envelope Construction
Ventilation Systems
Building Health and Maintenance
Ventilation Systems Building Health and Maintenance

Open Q&A

- Danielle Donnelly, CPC
- Alisia Colon, Steven Winter Associates
- Leia Sims, BlocPower



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ALISIA COLON BUILDING SYSTEMS ANALYST Steven Winter Associates

Alisia Colon is a Building System's Analysts at Steven Winter Associates where she specializes in field inspections and performance testing for projects pursuing Passive House certification. She currently holds the Phius+ Verifier certification and is workings towards certification to verify projects pursuing the new Energy Star Multifamily New Construction (MFNC) program. She primarily works on multifamily affordable housing projects in New York City but has experience with both residential and commercial projects across the Northeast region. She consults with project teams throughout design and construction, with early involvement in plan reviews and later final testing to ensure actual performance meets design specifications.

Her engineering education, along with hands-on experience, allows her to collaborate and problem-solve with project teams to ensure that the design intent is carried out in construction and continues in the operation and maintenance of these high-performance buildings.





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LEIA SIMS *VP OF ENGINEERING SERVICES* **BlocPower**

Leia grew up as part of a renewable energy family business; it was this upbringing that helped pave her passion for making buildings more energy efficient. She has held numerous certifications from the Building Performance Institute since 2006 and has dedicated her career to assessing buildings as a system and taking a holistic approach to retrofits. Leia uses these fundamental concepts when educating owners, operators and tradespeople, diagnosing buildings of all sizes and implementing the most cost-effective solutions to reduce energy use in buildings.

Currently, Leia is the VP of Engineering Services at BlocPower where she works with a dedicated team, to decarbonize and electrify buildings across the country.





HOW TO OPTIMIZE BUILDING PERFORMANCE?



HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUILDING

High-Efficiency Heating and Cooling System Heat/Energy Recovery Ventilation **All-Electric or Electric-Ready Systems Design** High-Perfomance Windows INDOOR UNIT Thermally Broken, Airtight Envelope Continuous Insulation

High-Performance Building Principles

- Continuous insulation
- Minimize thermal bridging
- Airtightness
- Mechanical ventilation systems

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CONTINUOUS INSULATION

- Insulation is like the sweater that keeps you warm; air sealing is the shell that keeps the wind out. No gaps in either!
- Insulation continuity is critical at intersection points including:
 - Floor to wall connections
 - Wall to roof connections
 - Wall corners



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 Thermal bridging is the movement of heat across a conductive surface; can be a major source of heat (& energy) loss in buildings

Typical thermal bridge locations include:

- Floor to wall connections
- Wall to roof connections
- Exterior wall cladding attachment systems (brick ties/ anchors, panel clips etc.)
- Windows & doors
- Balconies & terraces







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MINIMIZE THERMAL BRIDGING

- How to minimize thermal bridging?
 - Continuous insulation
 - Use less conductive materials



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AIRTIGHTNESS

- Air leakage is <u>uncontrolled</u> air exchange via gaps and cracks between spaces (between the indoors & outdoors or between two rooms)
- What are the problems associated with air leakage?
 - Draughts & discomfort
 - Increased asthma, allergies & other health issues
 - Localized moisture & condensation problems
 - Heat (& energy) loss
 - Increased space heating & cooling demand
 - Increased total energy consumption

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AIRTIGHTNESS

- Airtightness is the process of eliminating gaps, cracks, and holes in the building envelope
- Air barrier continuity is critical at intersection points including:
 - Floor to wall connections
 - Wall to roof connections
 - Windows & doors
 - Storefront canopies





- THERMAL ENVELOPE (AIR, VAPOR, & THERMAL)
- PH ENVELOPE
- COMPARTMENTALIZED SPACE

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- To optimize building performance, you can't have one without the other!
- Now that the building is insulated and airtight, a ventilation system is needed to bring in fresh, filtered air and exhaust indoor pollutants, CO2, odors, and moisture to the outdoors



- Remove moisture
 - Cooking, condensation, sweat, bathing
- Remove gases
 - Carbon Monoxide
 - Carbon Dioxide
 - Radon
- Remove smells
- Remove airborne pollutants
 - Dust, pollen and other allergens
- Provide fresh air





- Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) the air quality within buildings
 - IAQ affects the heath, comfort and well-being within buildings
 - Poor IAQ has been linked to:
 - Asthma and other respiratory diseases
 - Sick building syndrome
 - Impaired learning in schools
 - Reduced productivity
 - Highly discussed with the spread of COVID-19



- No Ventilation
- Natural/Passive Ventilation
- Exhaust-only Mechanical Ventilation
- Supply-only Mechanical Ventilation
- Balanced ventilation
 - Essential for maintaining good indoor air quality (IAQ)







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HRV – Heat Recovery Ventilator

- ✓ Saves energy
- ✓ Transfers heat
- ✓ Ensure adequate air changes per hour (ACH)
- Remove airborne pollutants, contaminants, and smells
- ✓ Remove excess moisture

ERV – Energy Recovery Ventilator

- ✓ Saves energy
- ✓ Transfers heat
- ✓ Ensure adequate air changes per hour (ACH)
- Remove airborne pollutants, contaminants, and smells
- ✓ Remove excess moisture
- ✓ Maintains desired humidity levels





A Holistic Approach

Ventilation and insulation work together to create a healthy indoor environment



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A Holistic Approach

- Tighten the envelope
 - Air seal
 - cracks and gaps around windows, seams and other building connections to outdoors
 - plumbing and electrical penetrations
 - Properly install continuous insulation, on all sides of the thermal envelope
- Install properly sized mechanicals
 - Heating
 - Ventilation
 - Air Conditioning
- Implement an effective maintenance plan

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How to maintain building performance for years to come?

- O&M manual why were the systems installed and how do they work?
- O&M staff training how do you properly maintain systems?
 - Environmental factors
 - Filters and system maintenance
- Occupant/ residential manual why pays for what and what do these systems do for tenants?







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Questions?

THANK YOU FOR TUNING IN

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Learn More www.communityp.com/sustainability



- CPC Verifi: Explore utility savings and financing options for energy upgrades. <u>https://www.Cpcverifi.com</u>
- NYC ACCELERATOR: Free, expert guidance to future-fit New York

City. <u>https://www1.nyc.gov/site/nycaccelerator/index.page</u>

Climate Friendly Homes Fund: Learn more and sign up for email

updates. https://bit.ly/climatefriendlyhomes

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