

JOIN THE ACTION

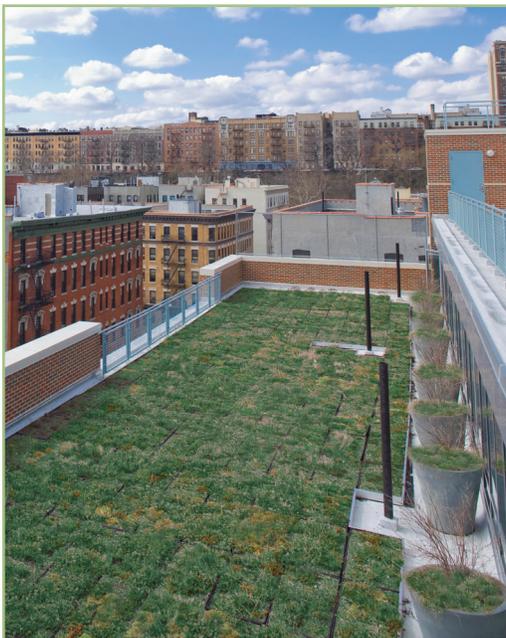
As part of the next generation of Enterprise Green Communities, Enterprise calls for a new national commitment by the public, private and nonprofit sectors to make all affordable housing – new and existing – green by 2020.

Leading with a Bold Commitment

In 2004, Enterprise set out to prove that it was possible to bring the health, economic and environmental benefits of green building to low-income communities nationwide. Conventional wisdom said it could not be done. But through action, research and wide-ranging partnerships, we exceeded our own ambitious goals to change how America thinks about, designs, preserves and locates affordable housing.

In just five years, the Enterprise Green Communities initiative invested \$700 million to build and preserve nearly 16,000 green affordable homes – while transforming local, state and national policies. These policies validate a national commitment to healthier, greener affordable homes in the halls of the U.S. Congress – and in legislative chambers and communities across the United States.

Enterprise will continue to lead and build on this important momentum with the next generation of Enterprise Green Communities – for every generation. The next exciting juncture of our award-winning initiative will deliver new tools, services and products that put into practice the findings on the cost-effectiveness of meeting the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria. Once again, we are making a sizable commitment to demonstrate what's possible and providing the resolve to make it actionable. Our far-reaching strategy for the next generation of Enterprise Green Communities includes:



- Committing \$4 billion over the next five years – one of the largest private investments in green, affordable housing
- Creating a turnkey green-retrofit service that features a green retrofit protocol for holistic building performance
- Developing an industry-wide data system to track energy and water usage, plus financial metrics, to ensure buildings perform as designed over the long term
- Introducing new funding sources such as the Green Communities New Markets Tax Credit fund, green equity funds and the Green Communities Offset Fund
- Sharing in-depth research on best practices, and the cost and benefits of green affordable housing

A Healthier, Happier Place to Call Home

Asthma marked Nicki Alhagi's first years of motherhood. Her daughters, now 4 and 6, wheezed incessantly through the night. She held them close and prayed they would breathe normally. But the growing mold on the discolored walls of her family's rented home in Portland, Ore., wreaked havoc on the children's respiratory systems.



Alhagi and her husband longed for a cleaner, safer environment. But they couldn't find anything affordable on their incomes, and already struggled to pay their heating bills while budgeting for nutritious, healthy food and other necessities. Meeting the family's basic needs was becoming a mounting challenge for the Alhagis. "All we've ever wanted was to be able to provide for our children and give them a nice place to grow up," says Alhagi.

Today, the Alhagi children spend time outside each day at their community's playground, no longer struggling to breathe. Set within preserved land, Oleson Woods in Portland, Ore., a Green Communities development, offers low- and moderate-income families proximity to public transit, schools and other services and amenities. The development's green features include adequate fresh air intake and ventilation, and light bulbs and water fixtures that save money.

"Since we moved here, we've all been so much healthier," says Alhagi. "Every day, I'm like, 'Thank you, thank you, thank you.' Living here has been so positive for my family."

The Alhagi's story is among the myriad of positive outcomes that have inspired us to take Enterprise Green Communities to the next level, and to ensure that every child, every adult, and every generation enjoys the benefits of green homes and communities.



Enterprise Green Communities Criteria: A Cost-Effective Investment

Meeting the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria requires an upfront investment of only 2 percent above total conventional development costs of building affordable housing, and significantly reduces long-term operating costs.

Those are just two key findings from a first-of-its-kind study released by Enterprise in announcing the next generation of Enterprise Green Communities. *Incremental Cost, Measurable Savings: Enterprise Green Communities Criteria* captures the findings of a study evaluating the cost effectiveness of the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria. The Criteria are the only national framework for building and preserving green affordable housing.

According to the report's findings, available at www.greencommunitiesonline.org, we can now project that the lifetime savings in total utility costs for every affordable housing unit that meets the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria is nearly \$5,000.