A Tech Rescue for Tired Buildings

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Meet the Team





MARVEL

WSP

GARD ANALYTICS

ELLANA CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS

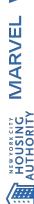
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

COMPREHENSIVE

MODERNIZATION TEAM

ARCHITECTURE AND

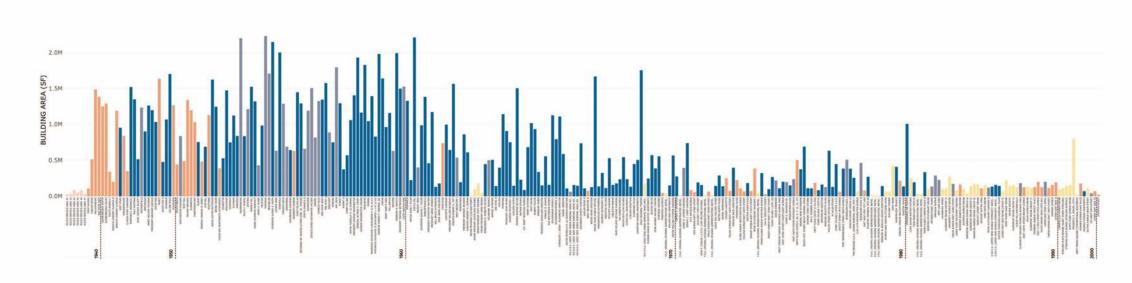
ENGINEERING SERVICES





The New York Housing Authority (NYCHA) manages 335 developments, housing over 530,000 residents - a population larger than that of Sacramento or Atlanta.





NYCHA sites classified by building floor area



X Watertightness



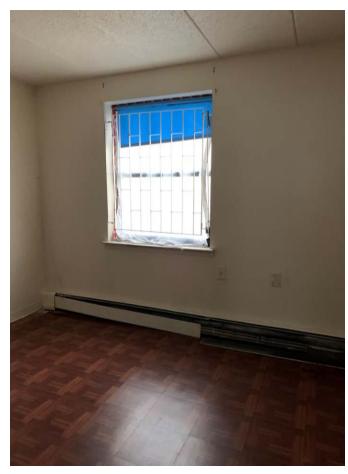








Leaky windows exacerbated by unused, unsealed through-wall AC penetrations



Maintenance difficulties with typical fin-tube radiators

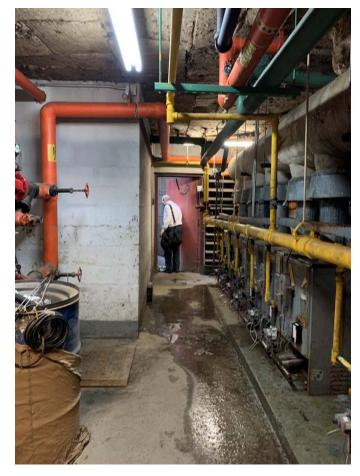
X Monitoring











Exposed bus bars with risers arranged to serve multiple apartments preclude submetering

Steam boiler system runs year-round to provide hot water in addition to seasonal heating

Evidence of major flooding on wall adjacent to open flame gas-fired boilers

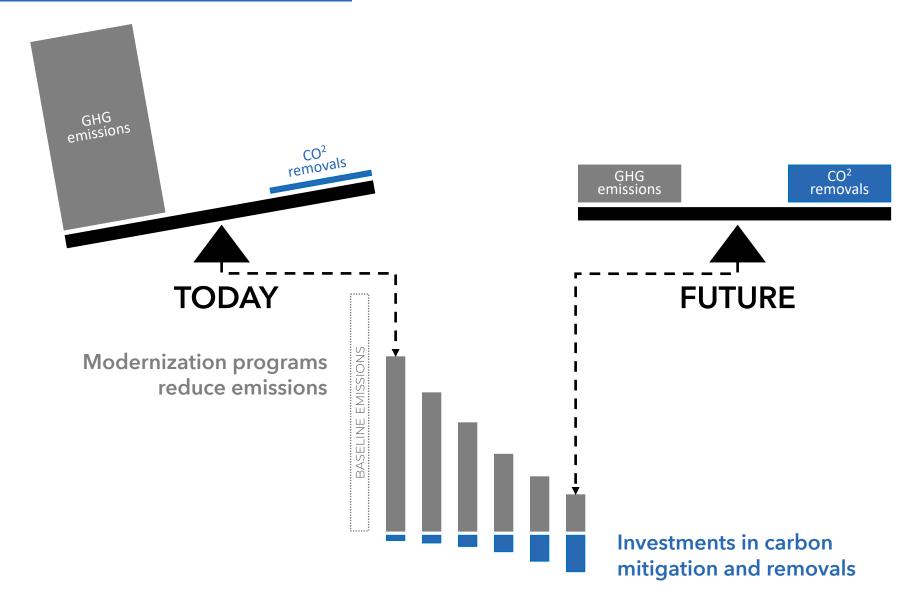
As of 2017, the Physical Needs Assessment conducted by NYCHA estimated \$45.2 billion in costs for repair needs.

NYCHA is on the path to taking on one of the biggest decarbonization initiatives in the country.

There are several Departments that work to implement decarbonization efforts across various programs: including Real Estate, Comprehensive Modernization, Sustainability, and Architecture & Engineering Services.

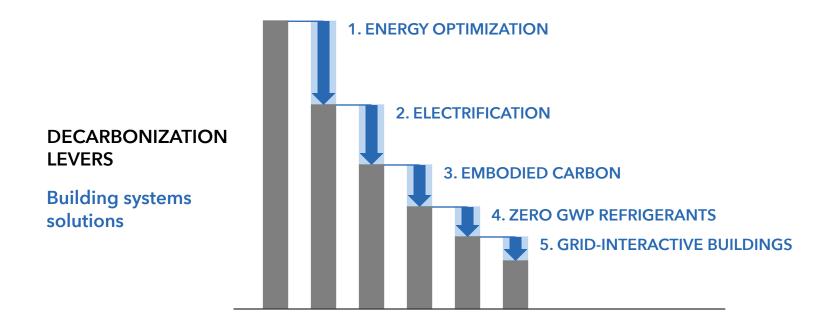


Investments in long-term building decarbonization are important for achieving interim targets and advancing the journey to Net Zero emissions.

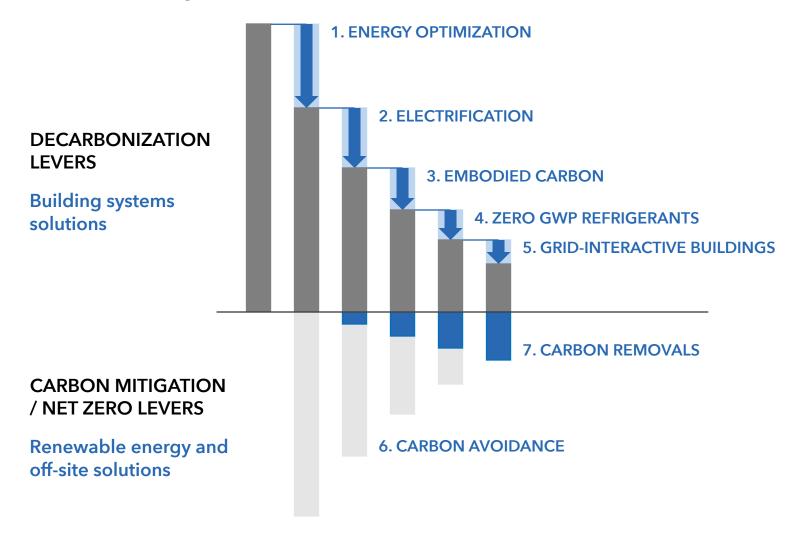


The five levers for decarbonizing buildings start with

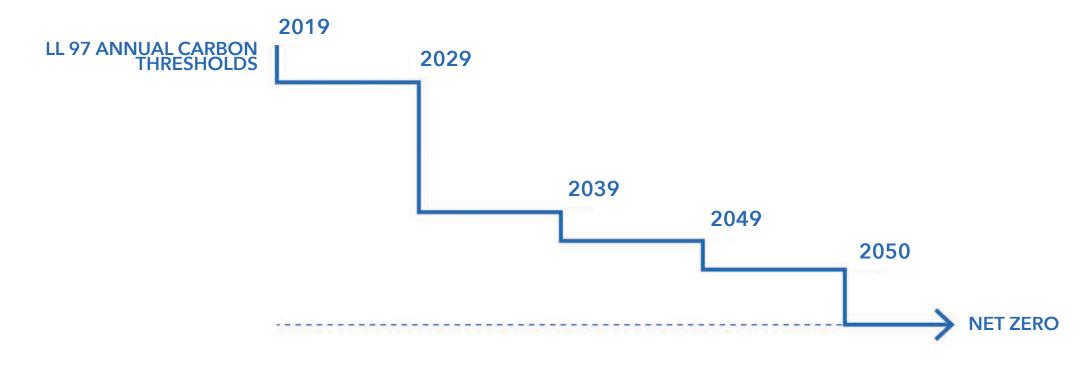
energy optimization and electrification.



The five levers for decarbonizing buildings start with energy optimization and electrification. Additional offsite solutions are required to achieve Net Zero carbon.

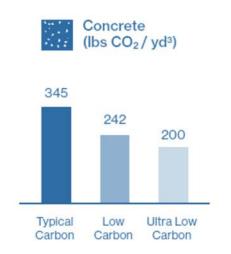


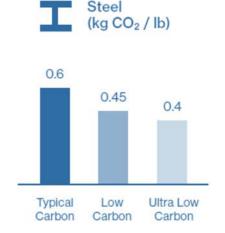
New York City's Local Law 97 of 2019 is one of the first laws of its kind to require existing buildings to measure and reduce carbon emissions.

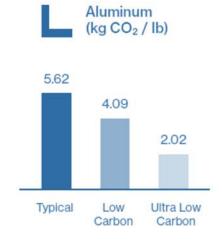


As part of its 2023 Sustainability Action Plan: PlaNYC, New York City adopted embodied carbon targets in addition to the operational carbon targets.

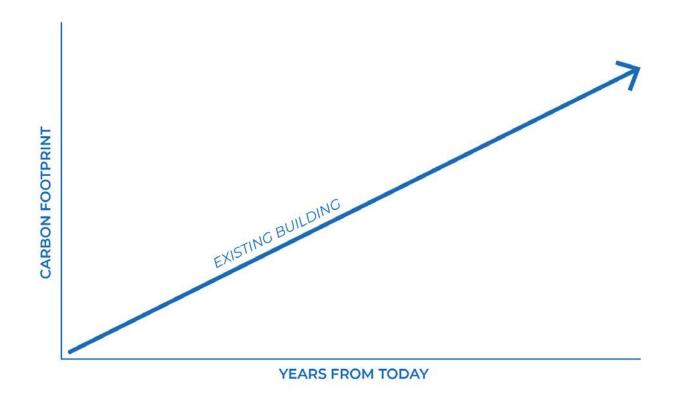
EMBODIED CARBON RANGES FOR SELECTED CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS



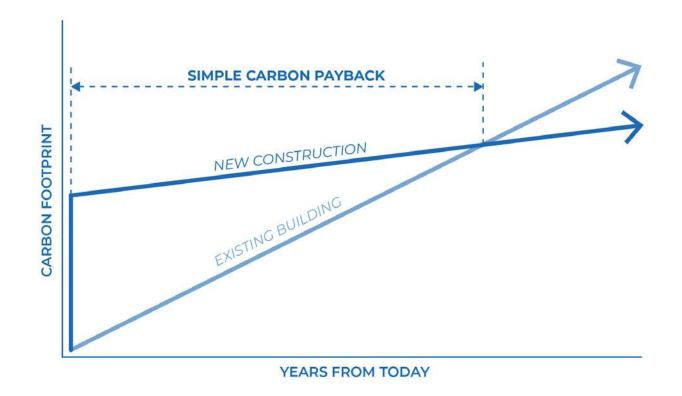




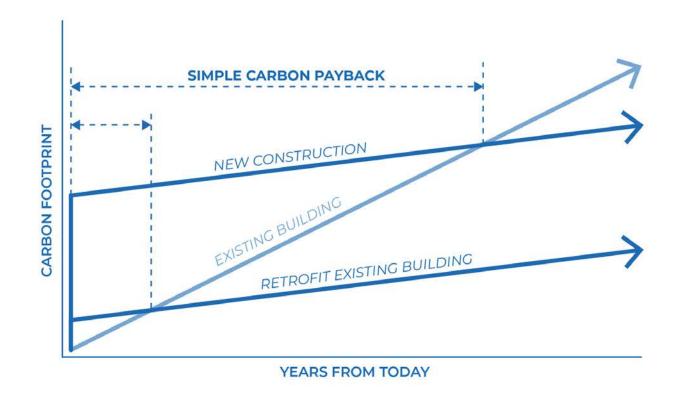
Building retrofits are the only path forward that meet both operational and embodied carbon targets.



Building retrofits are the only path forward that meet both operational and embodied carbon targets.



Building retrofits are the only path forward that meet both operational and embodied carbon targets.



This boiler upgrade is 34% more costly than upgrading all apartments to PTHP units and consumes up to 82% more energy.

Our data shows that NYCHA can't afford to replace in kind. Every dollar spent on critical repairs can double as an energy conserving measure.



Example of existing boilers at Chelsea Houses



Example of upgraded boilers at Baychester Houses

What does whole building energy modeling look like today?

- **X** Complicated process led by consultants
- **X** Each building analyzed individually
- **X** Limited opportunity for iteration
- Results take too long to generate

335 developments

x 100+ days traditional energy modeling per building

171.8 years to evaluate the NYCHA portfolio using a traditional approach

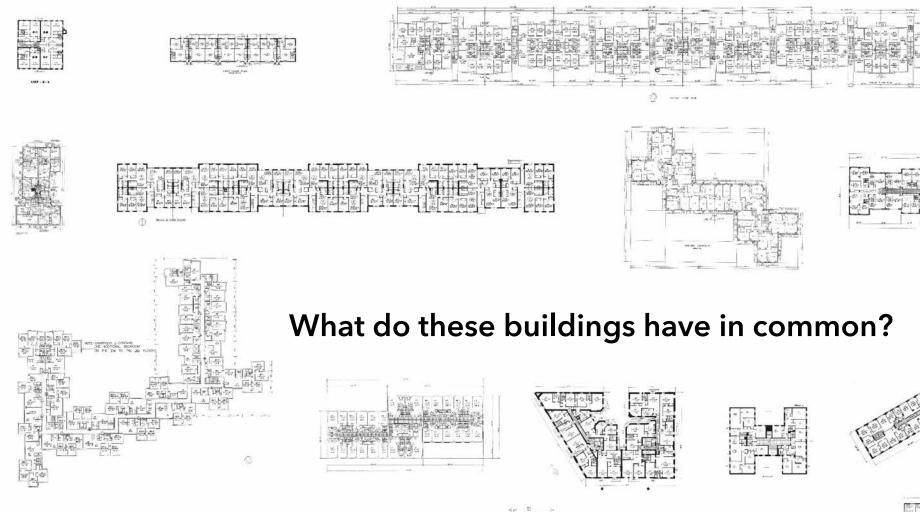
When owners ask "what would it take to model this project" the answer is often something like...

"Eight weeks and \$80,000"

Owners and developers need another way to make smart decisions about building performance.



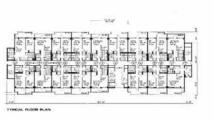
THE PROCESS













Source Data:

18 Case Study Developments

- Construction drawings
- Documentation of replacements and upgrades
- Utility usage data
- Site visits

NYCHA Property Directory

 Data such as height, number of buildings, floor area, construction year, etc.

We studied two types of parameters:

Those which may impact energy performance Those which may impact feasibility of various interventions

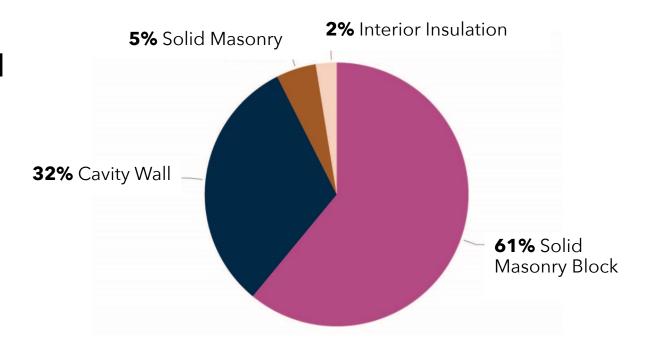
Developments One of a few analysis tables generated from the 18 case studies.

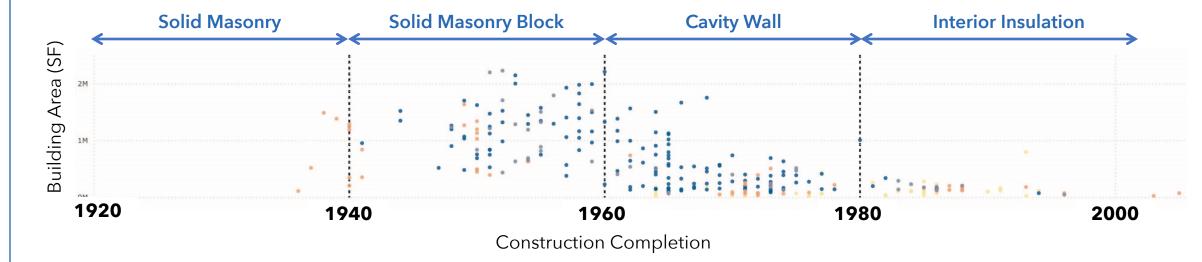
Parameters

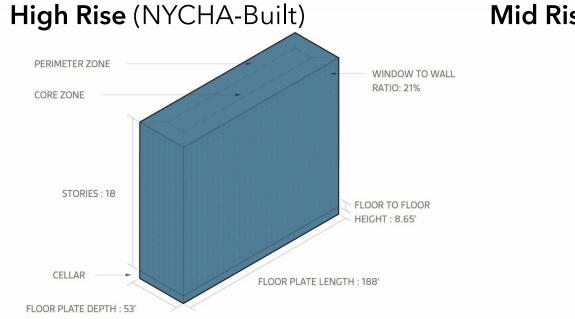


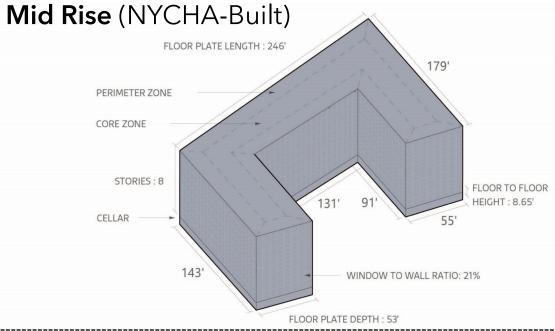
For example, 98% of NYCHA building stock has uninsulated wall construction.



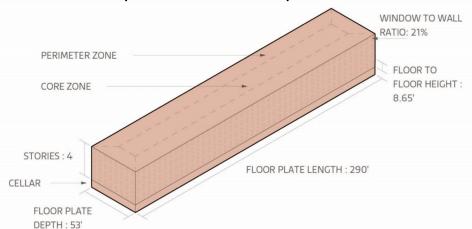




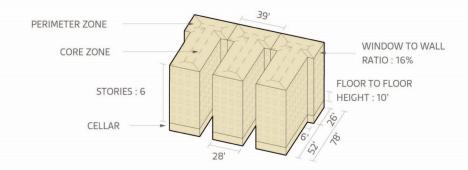




Low Rise (NYCHA-Built)



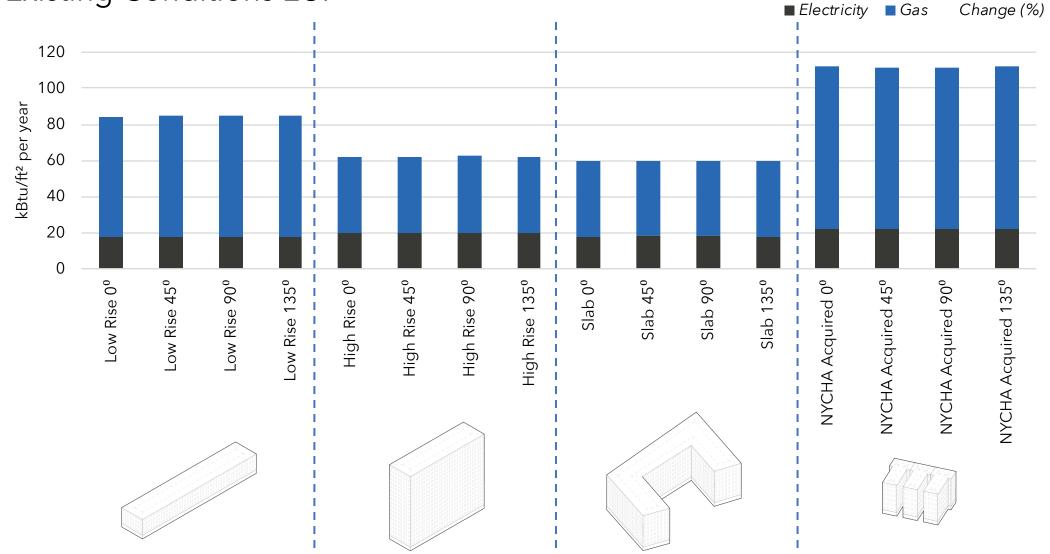
Low Rise (Acquired)



HOUSING MARVEL WSD

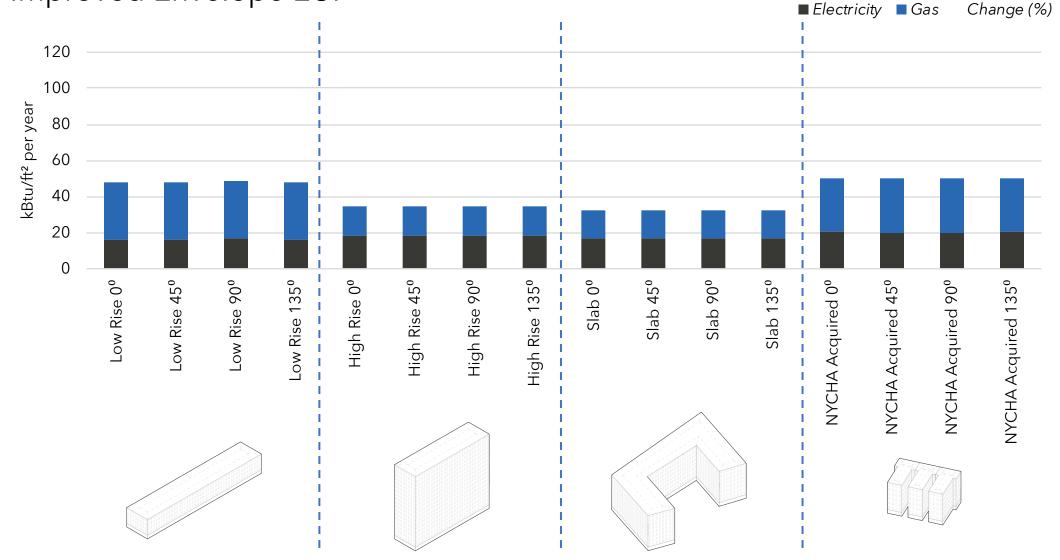
Typology Sensitivity Study

Existing Conditions EUI



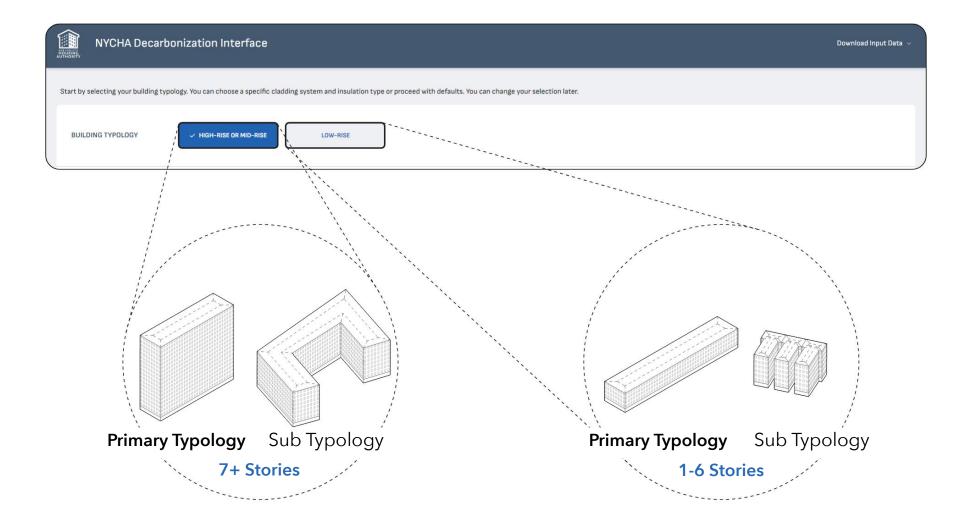
Typology Sensitivity Study

Improved Envelope EUI





Every one of NYCHA's buildings can be organized into two primary typologies and two sub-types.



Interventions included in the study:

Envelope

WALL

Existing Wall R-4 exterior ci

R-8 exterior c.i.

R-12 exterior c.i.

R-16 exterior c.i.

FIFS

Cement Board Panels Insulated Metal Panel

Modular Metal Panel Dextall D-Wall

R-4.5 effective interior ins-

R-10.5 effective interior ins.

ROOF

Keep Current Roof

- Improve solar reflectance index (SRI) only

__Ralow-dock insulation

Above deck insulation + improve SRI

GLAZING

Keep current glazing

-Window insert over existing windows

Dual-pane IGU

Triple-pane/Heat mirror IGU

WINDOW FRAMES

Keep current frames

Aluminum double hung

-Aluminum casement

Fiberglass/PVC casement*

-Fiberalass/PVC double huna

SHADING

No external shading

-1 ft overhand

-2ft overhand

-3ft overhand

Building Systems

HEATING & COOLING

Do nothing

Boiler VFD & oxygen trim

-Boiler blow-down heat recovery

- Boiler stack economizer

100% AC

Electric boilers

Central VRF

PTHP

HPAC 2.0

Dedicated mini-split VRF system

Water source HP

Ground source HP

DOMESTIC HOT WATER

Use building heating source for DHW

Central fossil fuel DHW Central electric DHW

Central DHW heat pump

- Dedicated DHW heat pumps

Dedicated electric instantaneous heaters

-DHW pre-heating with condenser loop

Local DHW heat exchanger

ON-SITE GENERATION

No on-site generation

Rooftop PV

Rooftop solar hot water

South wall BiPV

-Combined heat & power (CHP)

- Microgrid with heat recovery

-Microturbine with heat recovery

VENTILATION

Rely on infiltration

Central make-up air no heat recovery (HR)

- Central make-up air no HR + air curtains

-Roofton FRV

Rooftop ERV + air curtains

-Facade FRV

- Facade ERV + air curtains

Fixtures/Appliances

PLUMBING

Keep plumbing fixtures

Water conserving fixtures VFD Pumps

-Wastewater heat recovery system

COOKING

Gas range cooking Electric range cooking

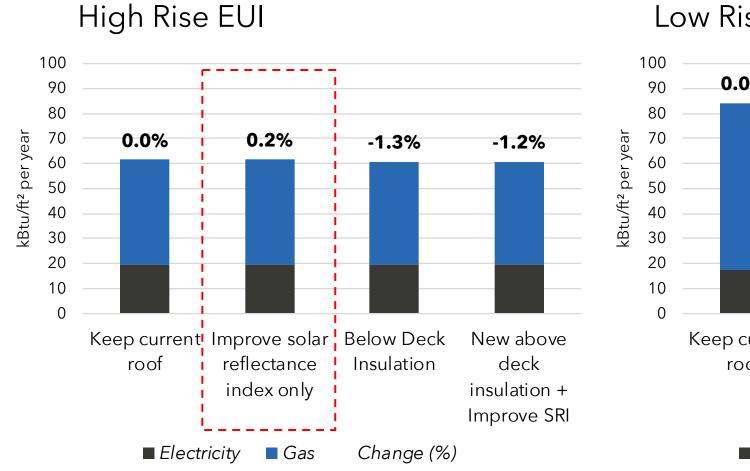
Magenta text =

eliminated through sensitivity study results

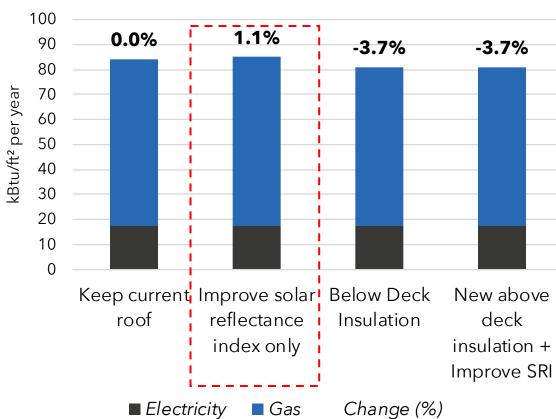
Orange text = not recommended by engineering team due to feasibility and ease of implementation issues

Gray text = "base case" (existing conditions)

Example Sensitivity Study: Roof Interventions



Low Rise EUI



Interventions Included in the **NYCHA Decarbonization** Interface:

Envelope

WALL

Existing Wall R-12 exterior c.i.

FIFS

Cement Board Panels **Insulated Metal Panel** Modular Metal Panel Dextall D-Wall

R-10.5 effective interior ins.

ROOF

Keep Current Roof Above deck insulation + improve SRI

GLAZING

Keep current glazing Dual-pane IGU Triple-pane/Heat mirror IGU

WINDOW FRAMES

Keep current frames Aluminum double hung Fiberglass/PVC casement*

Blue text = cladding sub-options, web app does not support energy model results for these suboptions

Gray text = "base case" (existing conditions)

Building Systems

HEATING & COOLING

Do nothing

Boiler VFD & oxygen trim

100% AC

Electric boilers

Central VRF

PTHP

HPAC 2.0

Dedicated mini-split VRF system

Water source HP Ground source HP

DOMESTIC HOT WATER

Use building heating source for DHW

Central fossil fuel DHW Central electric DHW

Central DHW heat pump

Dedicated electric instantaneous heaters

ON-SITE GENERATION

No on-site generation

Rooftop PV

Rooftop solar hot water

South wall BiPV

VENTILATION

Rely on infiltration

Central make-up air no heat recovery (HR)

Rooftop ERV + air curtains

Fixtures/Appliances

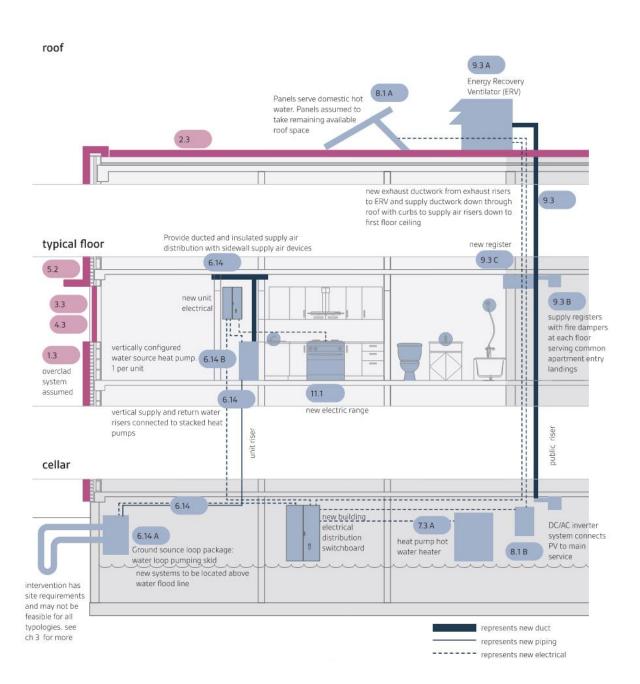
PLUMBING

Water conserving fixtures

COOKING

Gas range cooking Electric range cooking A deep energy retrofit with 10 energy conserving measures can lower a high-rise building's EUI from 60 kBtu/ft²/yr to 16 kBtu/ft²/yr.

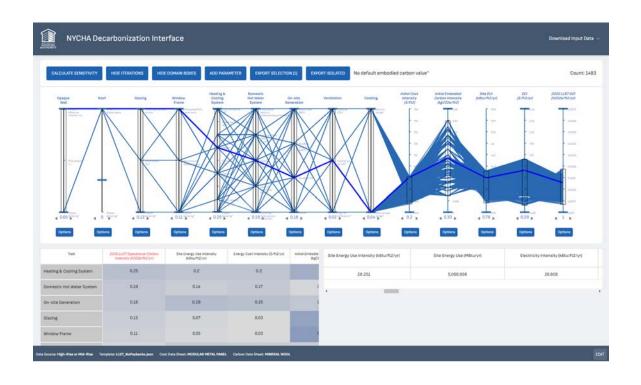
Legend =
gray = existing condition to remain
purple = envelope upgrade
blue = building system upgrade



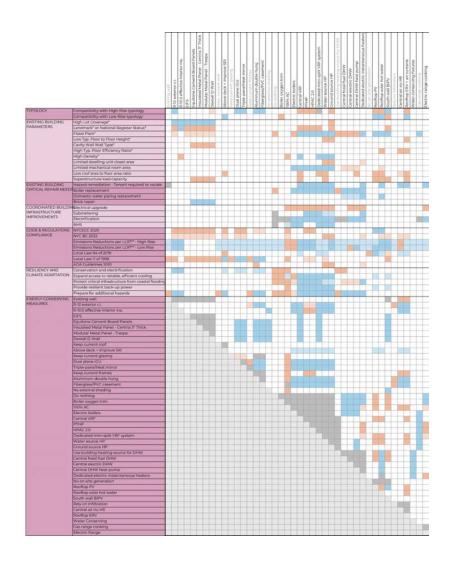


HOUSING MARVEL WSI)

The Web App



The Interactions Table



THE APPROACH AND TOOLS

The NYCHA Decarbonization Interface is a web-based platform that allows NYCHA project teams and program managers to interact with a wide variety of building retrofit scenarios and explore the <u>operational</u> carbon, <u>embodied carbon</u>, <u>first costs</u>, and <u>life cycle costs</u> of each.



Parallel Coordinates Graph

A graph that visualizes the relationship between multiple input and output parameters

All parameters are visualized as columns, and individual entries are displayed as lines connecting the columns

Input Parameter

An input variable used to simulate different retrofit projects

Output Parameter

A variable calculated either through EnergyPlus (energy model simulation engine) or the web app

Intervention

A single building improvement

Intervention Type

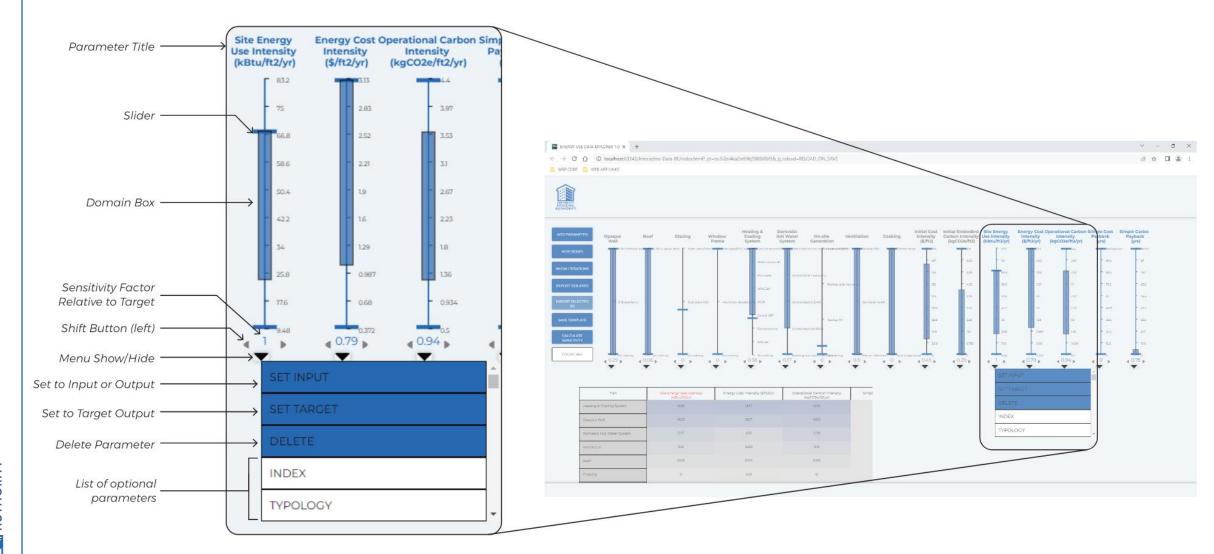
An input parameter that contains a category of interventions considered for every project (e.g., Wall cladding, Heating and Cooling systems, etc.)

Iteration

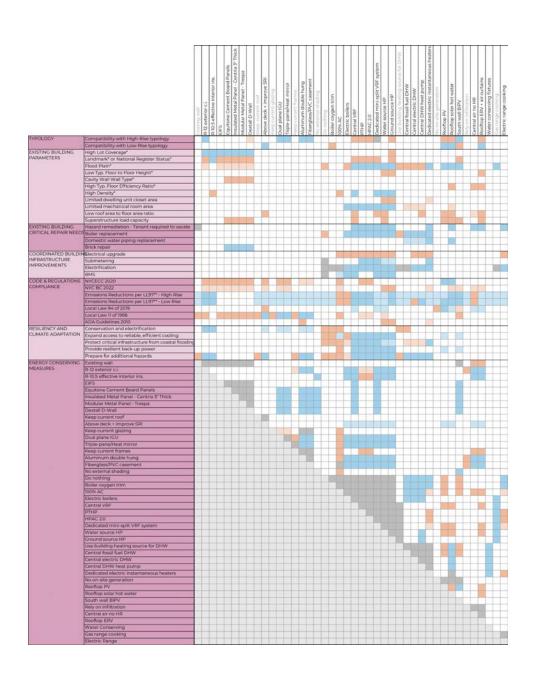
A unique set of interventions representing a single retrofit project



Interface Structure:



The Interactions Table includes qualitative information related to individual building characteristics and considerations such as trade coordination, regulations, and resiliency for each retrofit intervention.



How to start:

- 1. Know your site
- 2. Know your limitations
- 3. Determine your targets

You can use any of these parameters to begin using the Decarbonization Interface.



1. Use the Interactions Table to identify compatible interventions for a high rise building with desired submetering in a flood zone.

WHAT IS THIS?

This workbook is a tool intended to supplement the web app in the process of decision-making. The web app is a repository of quantitative data including operational and embodied carbon, as well as initial and life cycle cost. While this information may guide a deep-energy retrofit, there are qualitative design interactions that should be considered concurrently. Existing conditions pose many physical and logistical challenges to potential designs, regulations and guidance pertaining to alterations may pose questions of interpretation in unique cases, and interventions should be selected to work cohesively as a system. There are numerous interactions, and the traditional process relies on professional expertise during the design phase to work through them. The Interactions Table has been assembled as a live document to catalog key knowledge that NYCHA can use in pushing forward a wider range of ideas at different stages in the process and with any team.

HOW DO LUSE IT?

- 1. Consider a list of interventions that might be of interest
- 2. Go to the Interactions Table TOC sheet. You can click on the "GO>" link below. Use Ctrl+Shift+F1 to view in full screen.
- 3. Find the columns corresponding to the interventions of interventions of interventions of interventions of interventions of the colors of cells in that column can give a general idea of how many positive or negative interactions that intervention might cause.
- 4. To read about specific interactions, click on the corresponding cell in the matrix. It will take you to the full text. You may easily return to the Interactions Table TOC by clicking the link at
- 5. To find additional information about the range of interventions, refer to one of the supplementary sheets listed below. Return here by clicking the link at the top.

NOTE: Rather than starting with an intervention of interest, you may also look up a specific exsting condition, resiliency concern, etc. on the left side of the TOC.

EDITS: Building techologies are evolving fast, particularly for retrofit applications. This tool is meant to remain live and editable as a way of staving up to date and maximally useful. To make any additions or edits to the interactions table, enter text directly into the "Interactions Table" sheet. Manually use "paste special" to copy formatting only to the "Interactions Table TOC" sheet after editing. Note rows 26 and 27 of the TOC are conditionally formatted based on the values in the Interactions Table - avoid copying formatting to those rows.

SHEETS IN THIS WORKBOOK:

START (this page)

GO> INTERACTIONS TABLE TOC

GO> INTERACTIONS TABLE

GO> ENVELOPE INTERVENTIONS

GO> BUILDING SYSTEMS INTERVENTIONS

GO> EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS (LL97) - HIGH RISE

GO> EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS (LL97) - LOW RISE

SECTIONS OF THE INTERACTIONS TABLE:

TYPOLOGY

Interventions may be more or less compatible with different building typologies, and some may be entirely incompatible. This section outlines the main typological considerations for each intervention identified during the course schematic design studies applied to representative buildings of the High-Rise and Low-Rise types.

INTERACTIONS TABLE TOC | INTERACTIONS TABLE | ENVELOPE INTERVENTIONS | BUILDING SYSTEM INTERVENTIONS | EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS LL97 - HR | EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS LL97 - LR

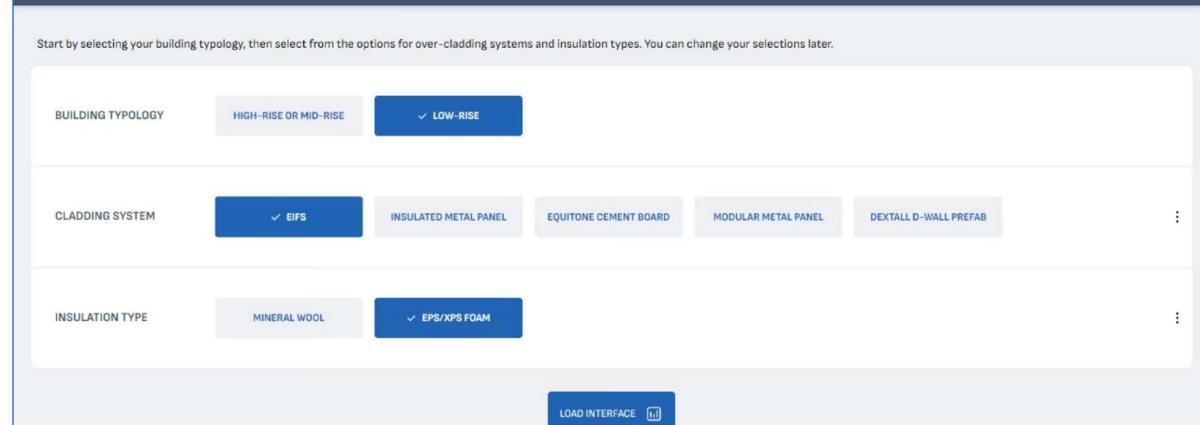
4

2. In the web app, select the High Rise typology



NYCHA Decarbonization Interface

Download Input Data ~



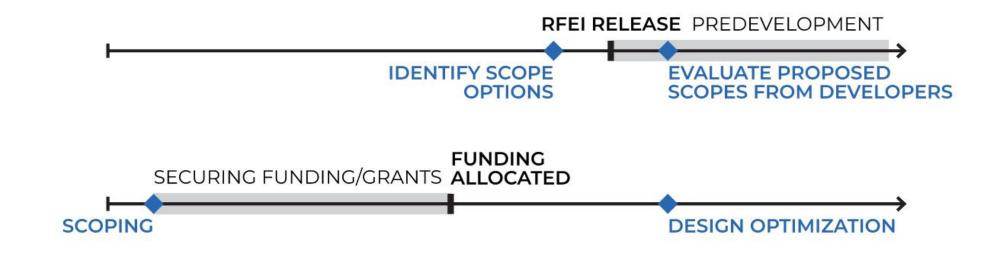






This tool allows portfolio managers to make data-driven decisions and anticipate key scope impacts before a full design team can be onboarded onto the project.

An integrated design process can begin on day one.





Program Level

- Inform R&D projects
- Advocate for gap financing
- Establish design standards

Policy Level

- Inform inter-agency coordination
- Make recommendations for affordable housing city-wide

Project level

- Identify scope options
- Securing finding/grants
- Back up cost and scope negotiations
- Design optimization

Where do we go from here?

Closing the gap between simulated and real-world performance

Tracking project improvements at the portfolio scale

Feedback on why specific options are not recommended

Evolving to reflect the market and drive R&D of new options











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