

# WINTERGREEN

WinterGreen is a monthly publication from **Steven Winter Associates** designed to keep you updated on the latest news and information regarding energy efficiency, sustainability, and high performance buildings.



## PARTY TIME: SWA LAUNCHES BLOG

The team at Steven Winter Associates would like to wish you a happy and healthy holiday season. See you in 2015!

Par-ty wall [pahr-tee wawl] *noun* **1** A party wall is a dividing partition between two adjoining buildings (or units) that is shared by the tenants of each residence or business. **2 Party Walls** is a blog written by the team at Steven Winter Associates, Inc., created as a place to learn, share, and discuss the built environment.

SWA recently unveiled the long awaited revival of the Party Walls publication; formerly a newsletter, it has been reincarnated as SWA's new blog! Written by various team members across the company, the blog was created as a dynamic, informational place.

Party Walls is the casual Friday of SWA communications, where layman's terms are king and behind the scenes stories will be abundant — a place for our readers to get to know the team here just a little better. Topics will range from accessible design and construction, architecture, and the latest and greatest certification stories to energy efficiency, green living, and stories about SWA's work and our team.

Above all else, SWA strives to improve the structures and communities in which all people live work and play. We aim to share this passion, along with findings and information, while providing a glimpse of the folks behind the work here at SWA in our Party Walls blog. We hope you enjoy it!

Check out [Party Walls Blog](#)

## BRINGING CHANGE AND VITALITY TO AN EAST NEW YORK NEIGHBORHOOD

A recent announcement by the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) reinforced the positive change occurring in East New York. HPD announced Phase II of the Livonia Avenue Initiative, the most comprehensive affordable housing plan in the City's history and largest municipal housing plan in the nation. The goal of the Livonia Ave project is to help address New York City's affordability crisis by reaching more than half a million New Yorkers ranging from very low incomes to the middle class, all of whom face ever-rising rents.



The Livonia Ave Initiative was launched under Housing New York: a Five-Borough, 10 Year Housing Plan, Mayor Bill de Blasio's plan to create and preserve 200,000 units of affordable housing. Phase II includes four newly constructed energy efficient buildings with a total of 288 affordable apartments, a commercial kitchen that will provide culinary training, and a Career Exploration Center (CEC) that will provide vocational training to





Livonia Ave Rendering—Courtesy of HPD

students of the New Vision Charter High School in Bronx, NY. The buildings will incorporate a host of sustainable measures for water conservation, energy efficiency, and improved indoor air quality. SWA is excited to be supporting ENERGY STAR® MF High Rise certification as the NYSERDA MPP partner, and LEED for Homes Multifamily Midrise certification as the LEED for Homes Provider and Rater.

Phase I of the initiative, also known as the Livonia Commons Project, is still under construction and will create 278 units that will be 100% affordable with a portion of the units set aside for people with disabilities, as well as those transitioning out of the City's shelter system. The project also includes Brooklyn's first Boys' Club of New York, providing youth programming and facilities for the young men and women of the community.

The second phase of the Livonia Avenue Initiative continues to advance the overall development plan, which will ultimately include approximately 791 affordable housing units, and hopes to transform the neighborhood into an exciting mixed-use area by adding density and creating retail opportunities along Livonia Avenue, while acting as a catalyst for future development.

This is the first project to be developed under the guidelines of HPD's new Extremely Low and Low-Income Affordability (ELLA) program. The project will also include services by the national nonprofit organization HELP USA that will work with the New York City Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to identify tenants.

Read the full HPD Press Release [here](#).

For more information, please contact Maureen Mahle at [mmahle@swinter.com](mailto:mmahle@swinter.com).

SWA IS NOW A  
PSEG LONG ISLAND  
TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE  
PARTNER

SWA is excited to announce that it has been approved as a PSEG Long Island (PSEG LI) Technical Assistance Efficiency Partner (TA EP). As such, SWA can now provide expertise to developers, building owners, and architects by determining which PSEG program best fits existing buildings and new construction projects throughout PSEG's Long Island territory.

On January 1, 2014, PSEG LI took over the management of the Long Island Power Authority's electric system. This year, several progressive energy efficiency programs have been introduced, which require the involvement of a pre-approved TA EP. SWA has been approved for the following services: Energy Modeling for LEED Applications, Commissioning for LEED Applications, Energy Star Benchmarking Services, and Energy Engineering Studies.



For further information, please contact Lauren Brust for Existing Building programs, at [lbrust@swinter.com](mailto:lbrust@swinter.com) and Paula Zimin for New Construction program, at [pzimin@swinter.com](mailto:pzimin@swinter.com).



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