Garfield Green
Site: East Garfield Park, Chicago

Project Summary Garfield Green is a new residential community, which lives up to its name not only by generating 100% of its power on-site and processing 100% of its storm water on-site, but also thanks to its resilient design prepared for the future climate change challenges that Chicago will face.

Designed to Passive House standards and built using the latest modular building science technology in a factory just four miles southwest of the site, the development will bring innovative, high-quality housing (rental and ownership), and retail/office development to a neighborhood in need of investment.

Garfield Green is unique for its commitment to the holistic development of the neighborhood. The project is only considered to be successful if it is developed with a commitment to equity and inclusion. The buy-in of the majority of the neighborhood, robust community engagement, and sensitivity to the neighborhood’s assets and story are central to its perceived success.

The truly innovative Garfield Green creates an attractive space for health care, a café and restaurant, and extensive public space in the form of a park and a memorial plaza.

Key Components & Solutions
- Garfield Green is a net-zero carbon and net-zero energy housing project.
- Designed to Passive House standards and built using the innovative modular building developed by local factory, the project is highly replicable
- Strong biodiversity benefits via an oak arboretum and a rooftop garden dedicated to urban agriculture. Green spaces will cover almost 2000 m² and the project will offer experimental support to the neighbouring high school and associations.
- The project will host start-ups that promote environmental sustainability.
- Several resiliency & adaptation solutions, including building’s green roof and passive bioclimatic design to palliate the heat-island effect; and 100% of its storm water process on-site

Main members of the team
Team leader: POAH Preservation of Affordable Housing,
Architects: Perkins + Will & Nia Architects
Environmental expert: Terra Engineering

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