

An aerial photograph of a coastal region, likely San Francisco. The image shows a large body of water (the bay) in the lower-left corner, with a city (San Francisco) situated along the coast. The surrounding area is characterized by steep, forested mountains and hills. A large, irregularly shaped body of water (the bay) is visible in the center, with a city (San Francisco) situated along its northern and western shores. The surrounding area is characterized by steep, forested mountains and hills. The text "ZERO Island" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

ZERO Island

Mariana Liebman-Pelaez, Hadley Piper, Ramon Weber, Elizabeth Young

4.433 Modeling Urban Energy Flows: Towards Sustainable Cities and
Neighborhoods

C. Reinhart

Spring Semester 2020 / MIT



Mare Island

Vallejo

Richmond

Oakland

San Francisco

Mare Island




1 km





Site

1 km



Nature
Park and Wetland

This is an aerial photograph of a coastal region. A large area of land, primarily green, is highlighted with a semi-transparent green overlay. A smaller, elongated area of land, primarily orange, is highlighted with a semi-transparent orange overlay. The green area is adjacent to a large body of water on the left. The orange area is adjacent to a body of water on the right. The background shows a dense urban area with a grid of streets and buildings.

Waterfront
Old warehouses
and factories



1 km

Highway access

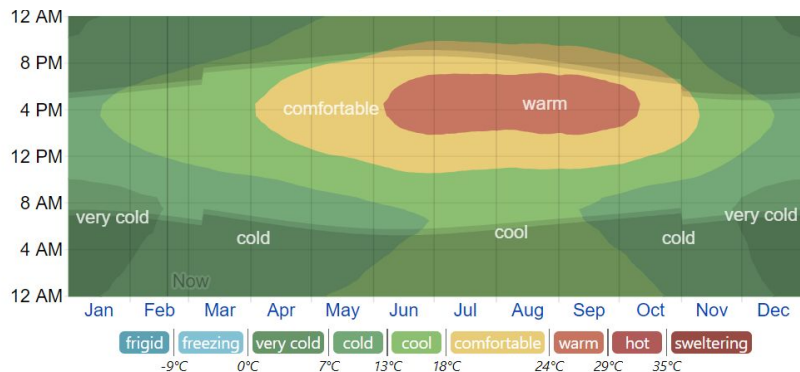
City Grid

High Speed Ferry

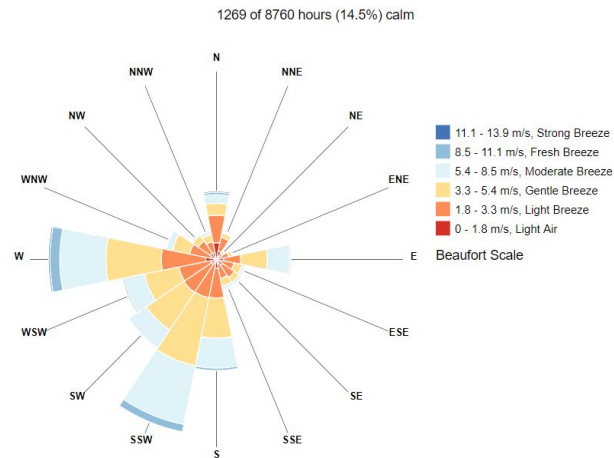


1 km

Today's Climate

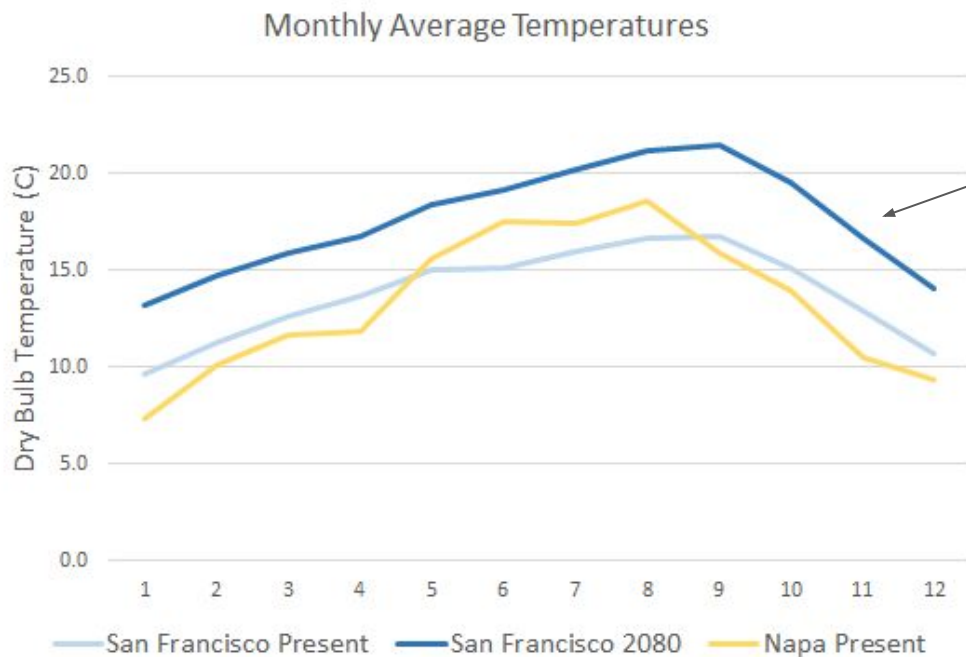


Average hourly temperature



Wind rose

Design for the Future

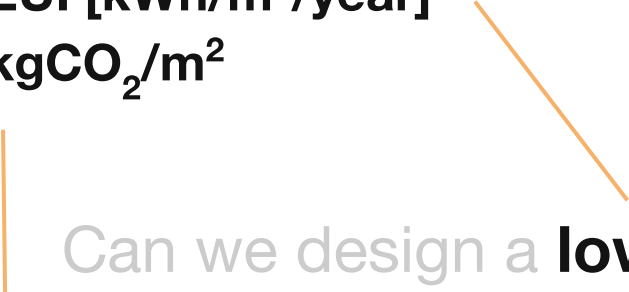


Can we design a **low carbon** community with
resilient energy supply and human-powered **mobility**?

Building Energy

EUI [kWh/m²/year]

kgCO₂/m²



Can we design a **low carbon** community with
resilient energy supply and human-powered **mobility**?

Building Energy

EUI [kWh/m²/year]

kgCO₂/m²

Can we design a **low carbon** community with

resilient energy supply and human-powered **mobility**?

Urban grid layout

% of year

thermally comfortable

Building Energy

EUI [kWh/m²/year]

kgCO₂/m²

Can we design a **low carbon** community with

resilient energy supply and human-powered **mobility**?

On-site PV

% demand met

during a heat wave

Urban grid layout

% of year

thermally comfortable

1. Building Energy
2. Urban Layout + Mobility
3. Grid-independence

1. Building Energy

—
EUI
kWh/m²/year

2. Urban Layout + Mobility

—
kgCO₂/m²

3. Grid-independence

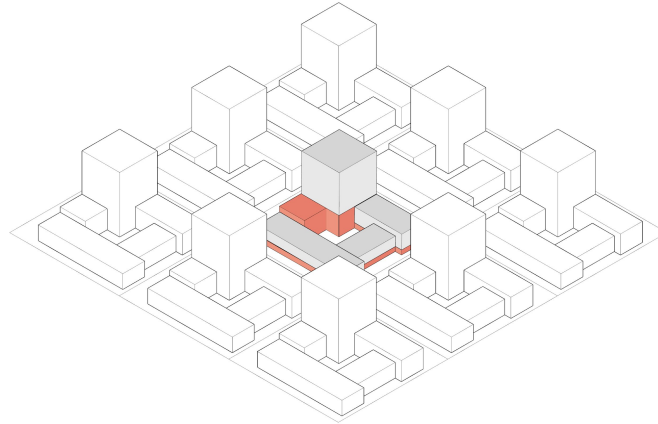
—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Baseline Scenario



High-Density San Francisco
Neighborhood



70% Residential
30% Commercial

—
EUI
kWh/m²/year

—
kgCO₂/m²

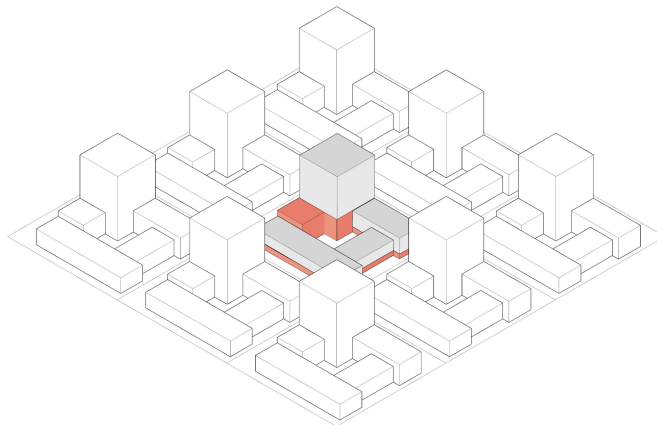
—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Baseline Scenario



High-Density San Francisco
Neighborhood



70% Residential
30% Commercial

82
EUI
kWh/m²/year

18.4
kgCO₂/m²

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

1. Building Energy

2. Urban Layout + Mobility

3. Grid-independence

82

EUI
kWh/m²/year

18.4

kgCO₂/m²

—

% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—

of year
Thermally
Comfortable

1. Building Energy

Building Massing

High performance upgrades

82
EUI
kWh/m²/year

18.4
kgCO₂/m²

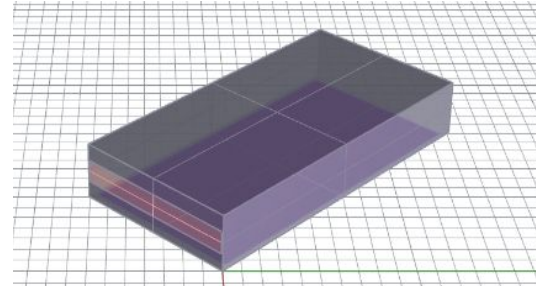
—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

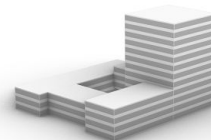
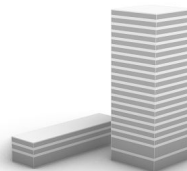
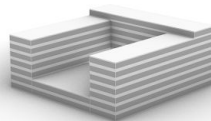
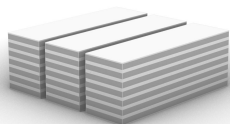
Building Energy | Massing Design

Parametric Analysis

- Window Wall Ratio
- Depth
- Orientation



Protoblocks



Name	Reference
sDA	35.10%
Floor Area (m2)	13,448
Walkability	high
Occupancy Ratio	92.23%
Courtyard Area	0
FAR	4.6

A
74.20%
14,760
high
100.00%
1620
5.1

B
91.00%
15,120
low
45.68%
1584
5.2

C
100.00%
12,540
high
71.60%
828
4.3

Building Energy

Baseline vs.

High Performance

82
EUI
kWh/m²/year

61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

18.4
kgCO₂/m²

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Building Energy

Baseline vs.

High Performance

- Insulation
- Cooling System Efficiency
- Natural Ventilation

82
EUI
kWh/m²/year

61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

18.4
kgCO₂/m²

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

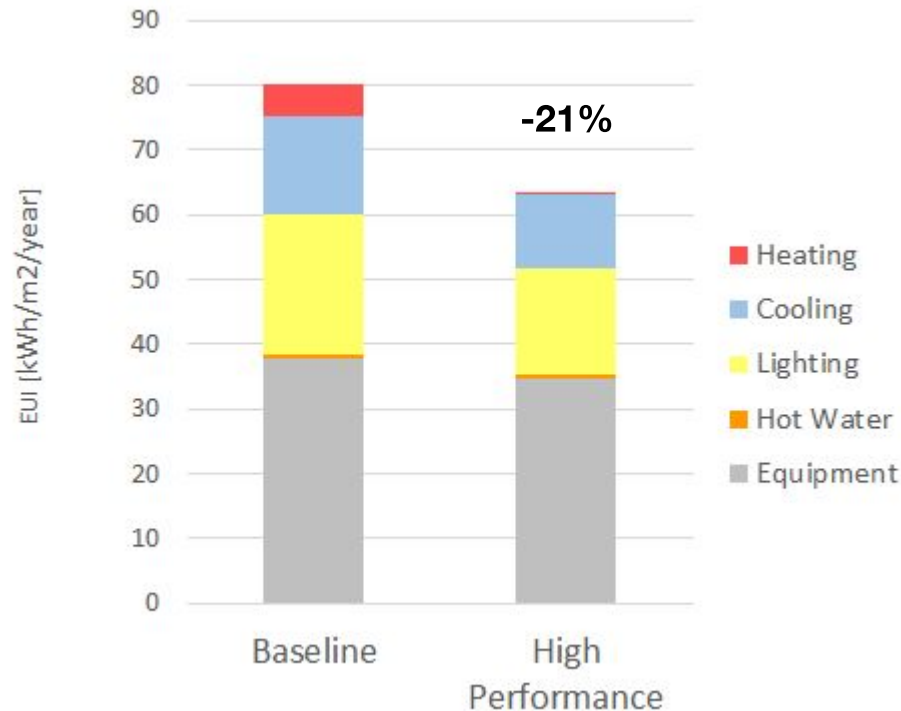
—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Building Energy: Baseline Vs High Performance



61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

1. Building Energy

2. Urban Layout + Mobility

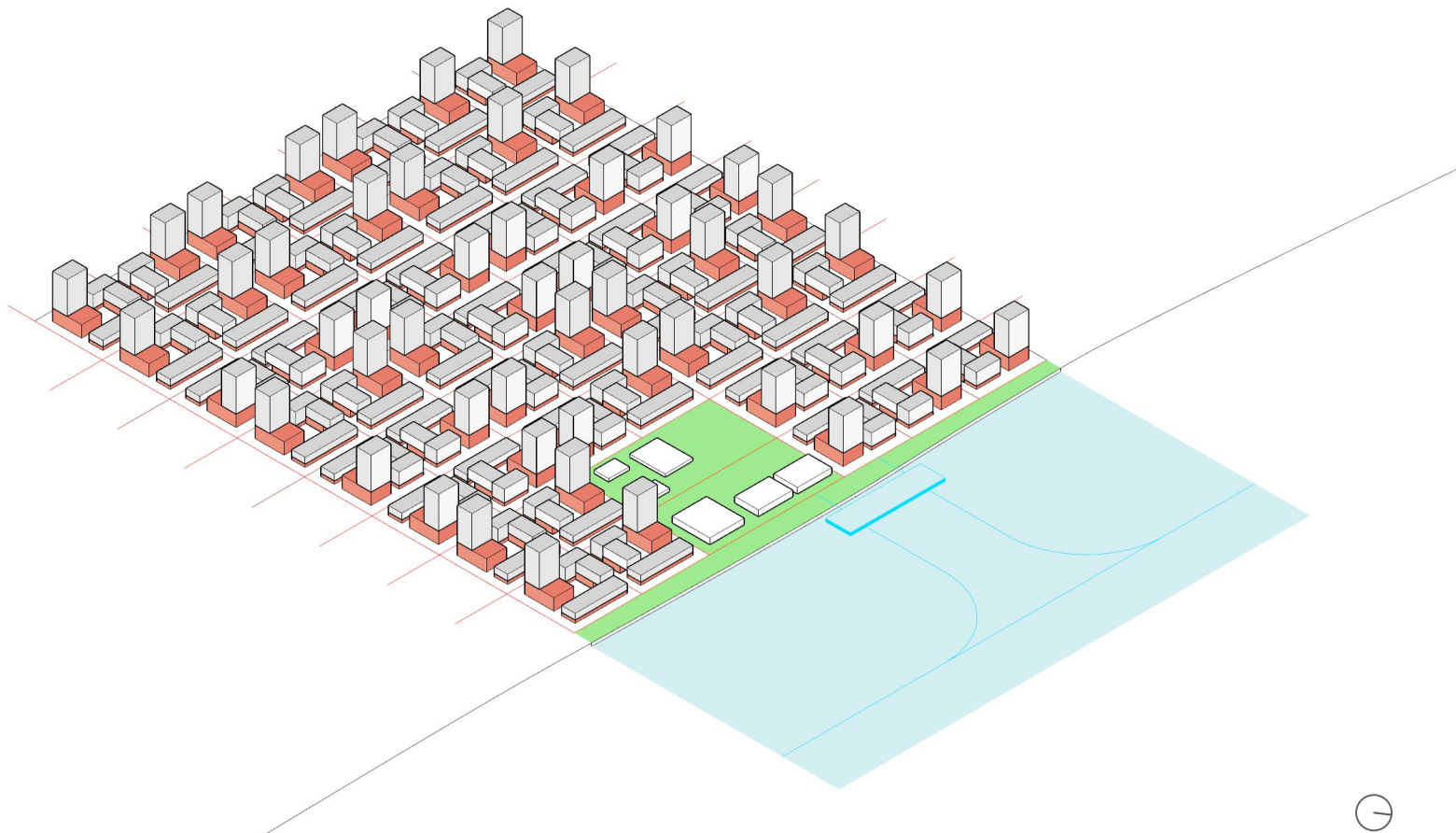
3. Grid-independence

61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

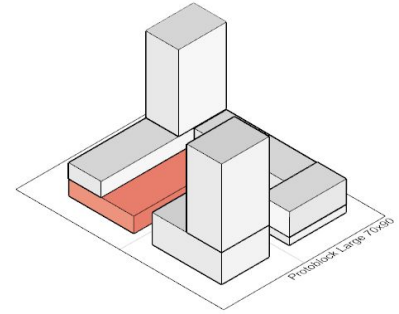
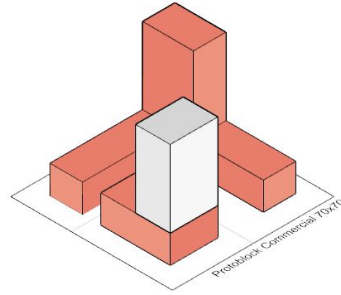
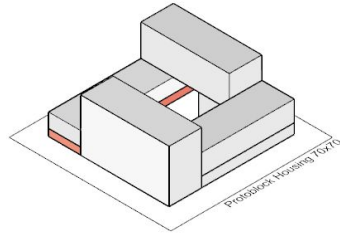
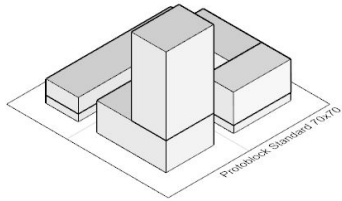
14.35
kgCO₂/m²

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

—
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

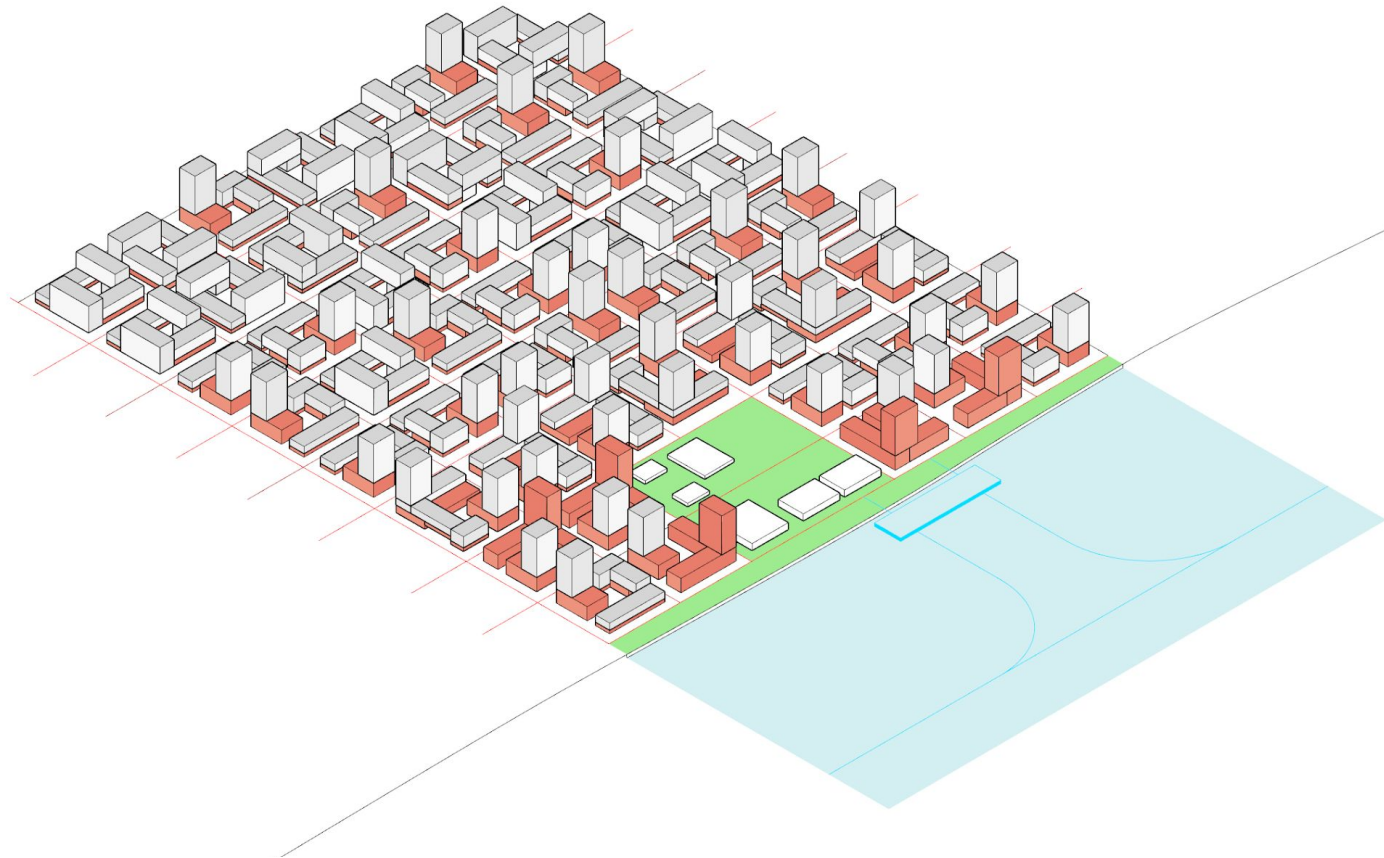


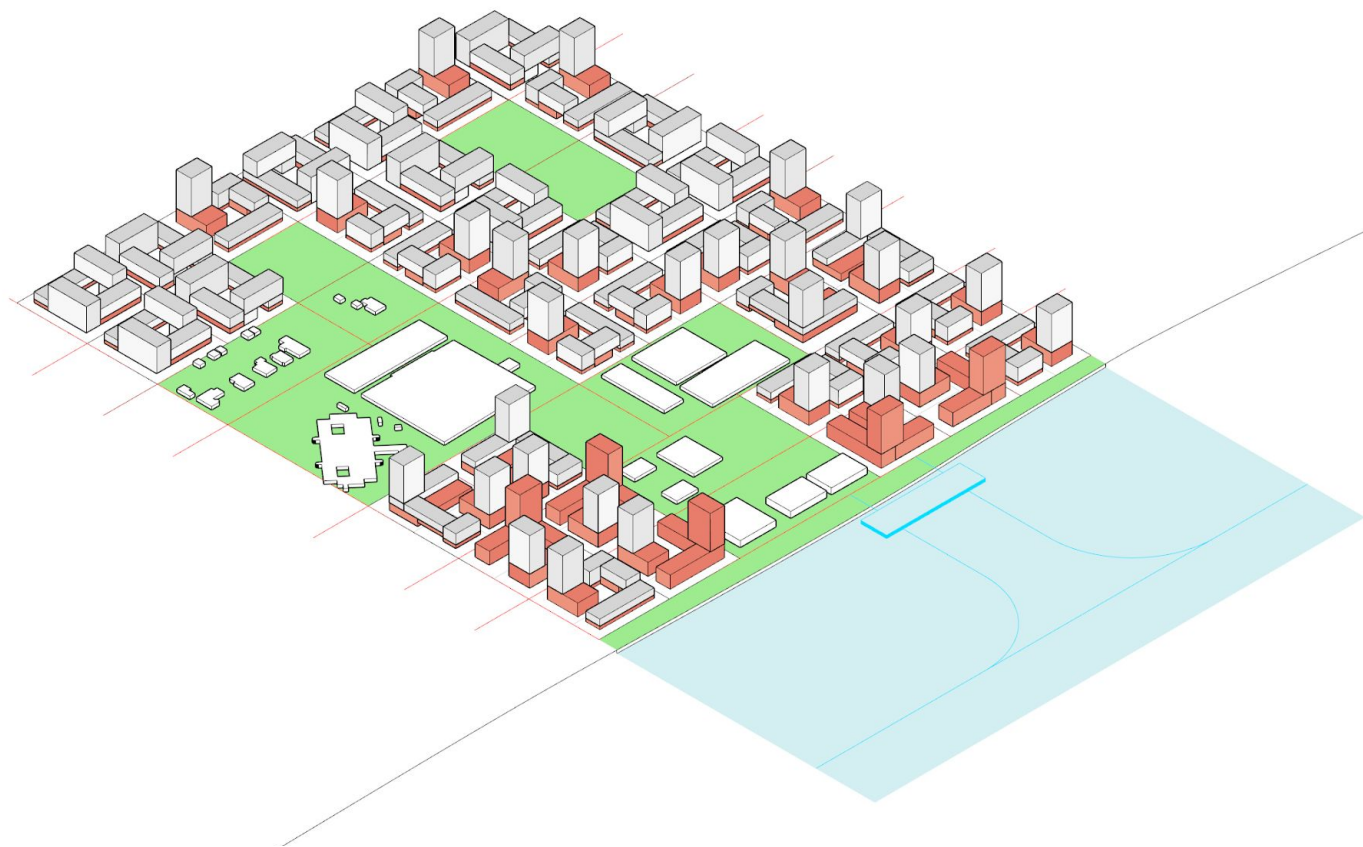
Protoblock Variations

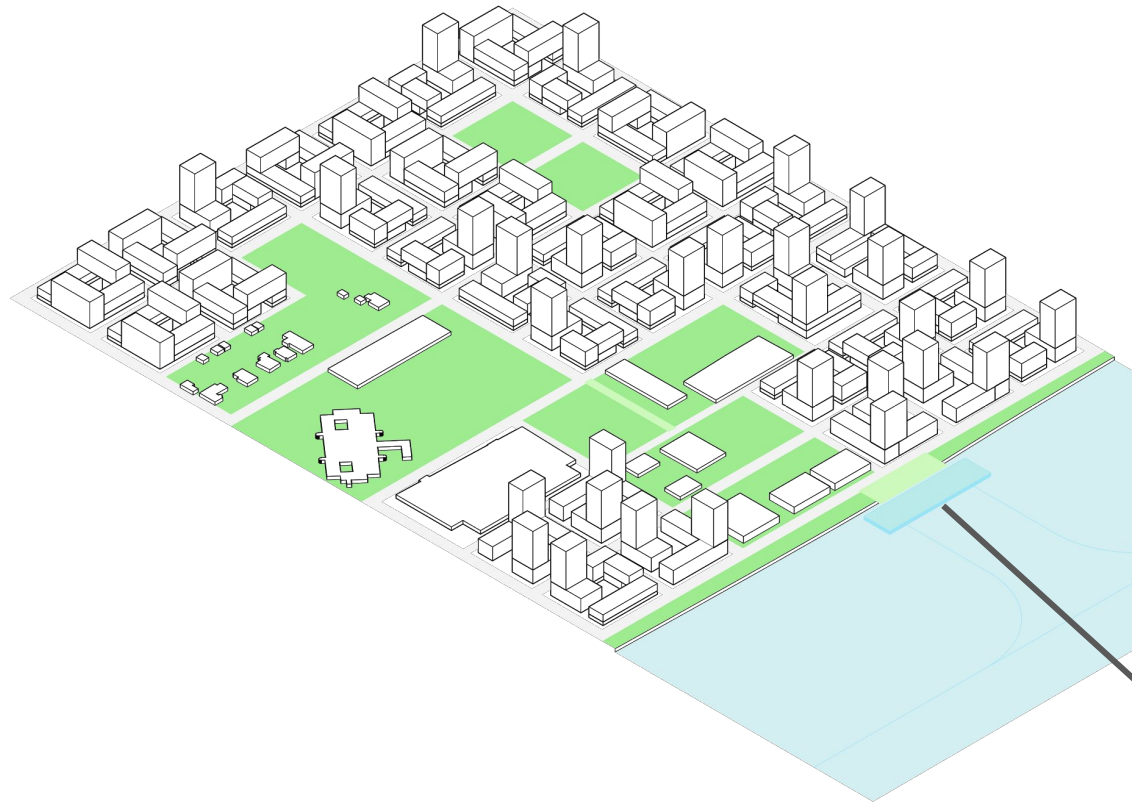


Commercial Space indicated in Red

Label this





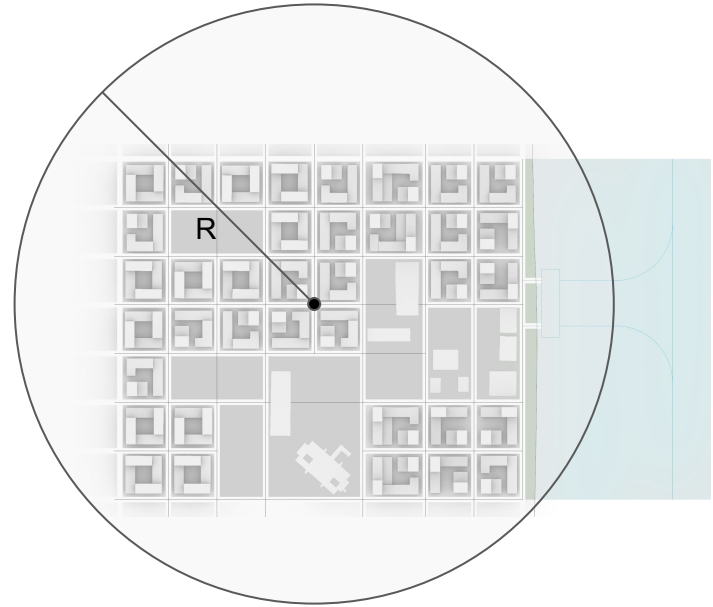


Ferry terminal

Mobility

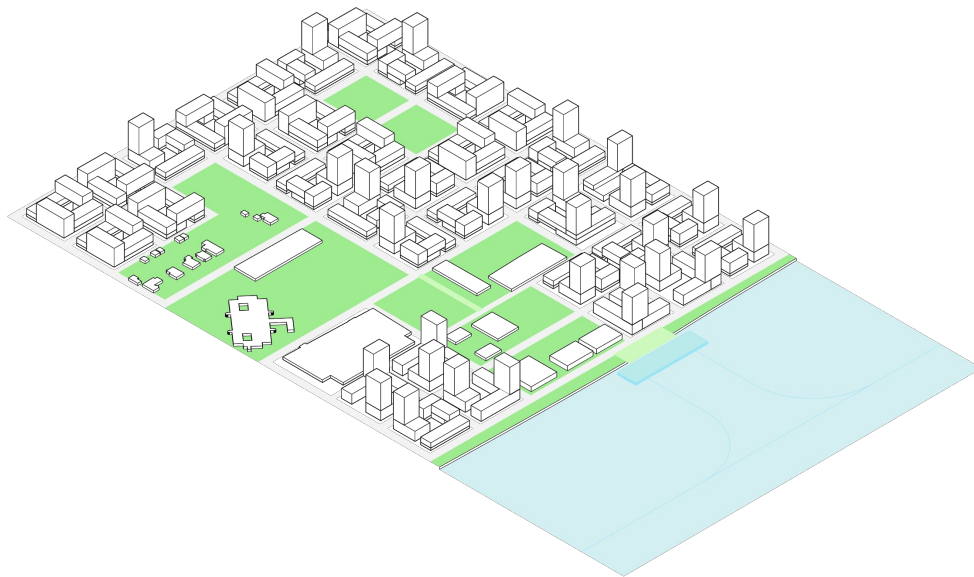


Walk Score of 94: High due to small site area

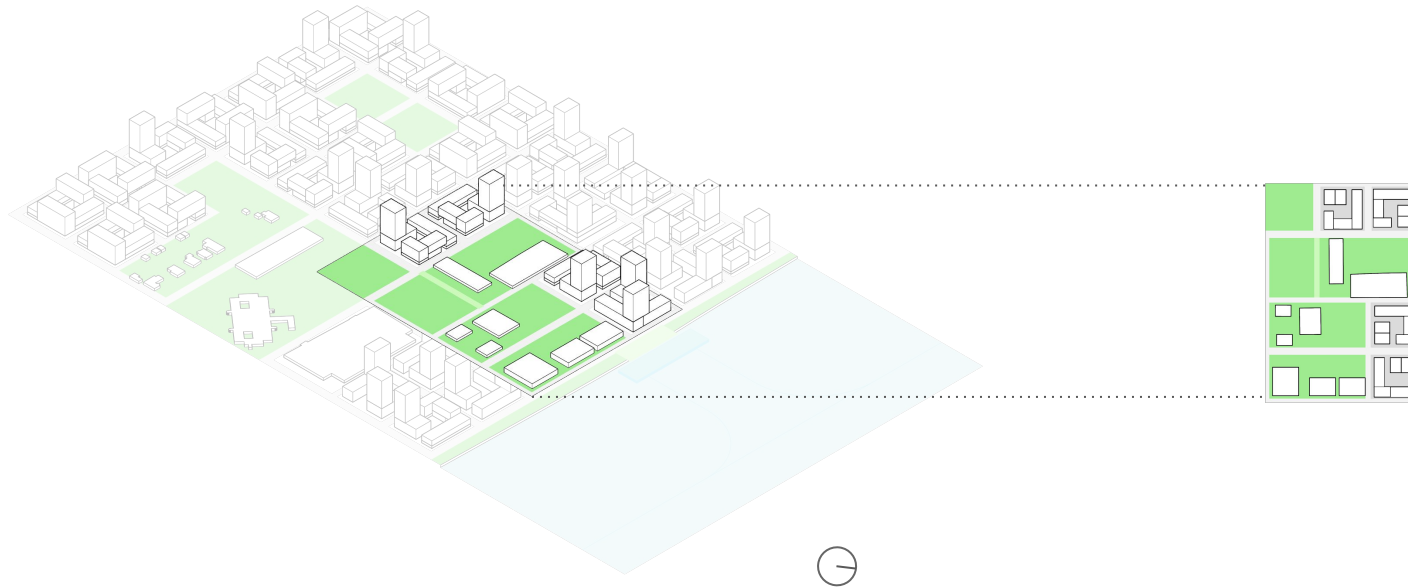


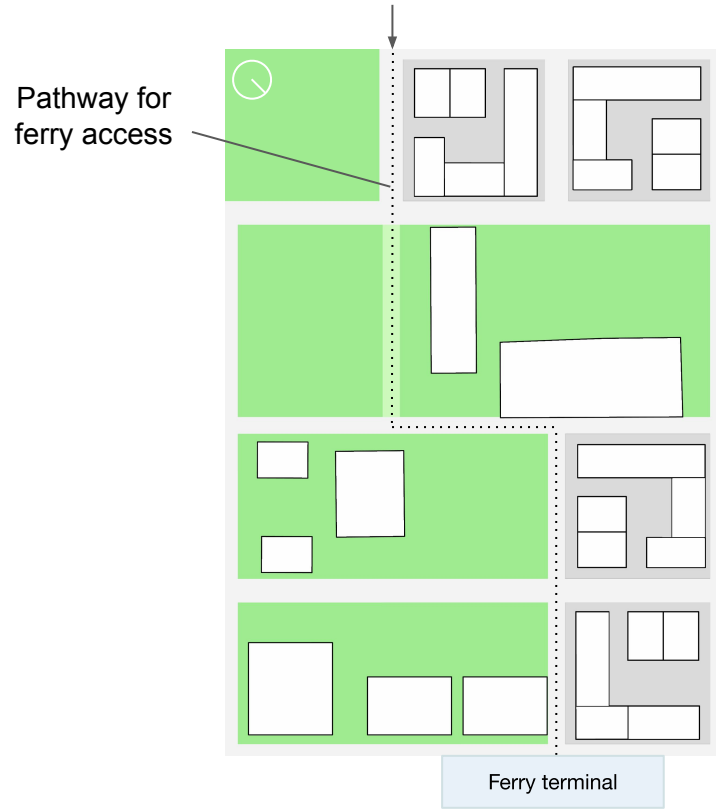
R = 400 m ~ 5 minute Walk

Enabling Mobility through Outdoor Comfort

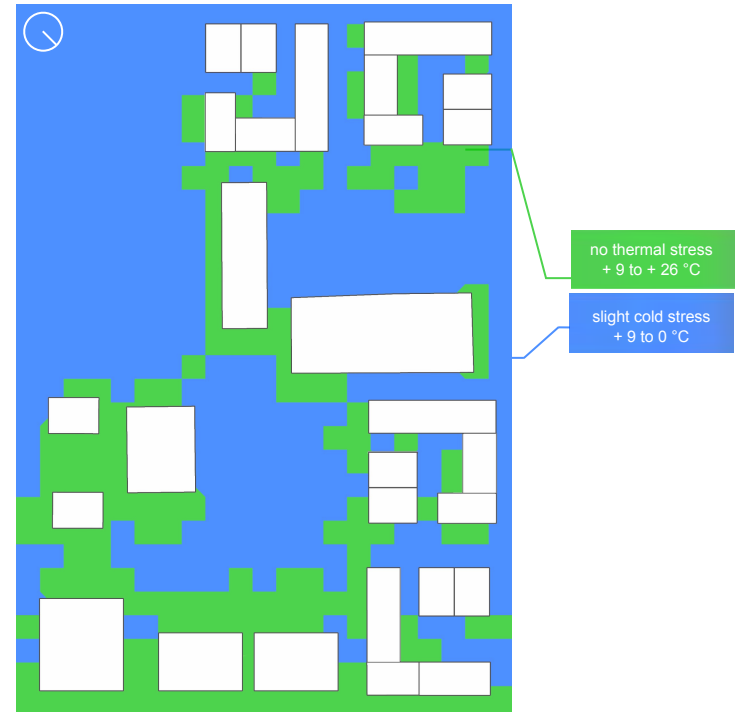


Targeted UTCI Analysis



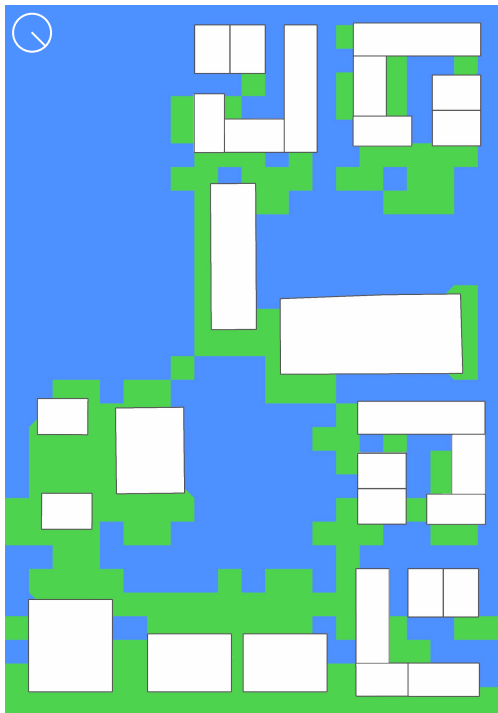


Plan



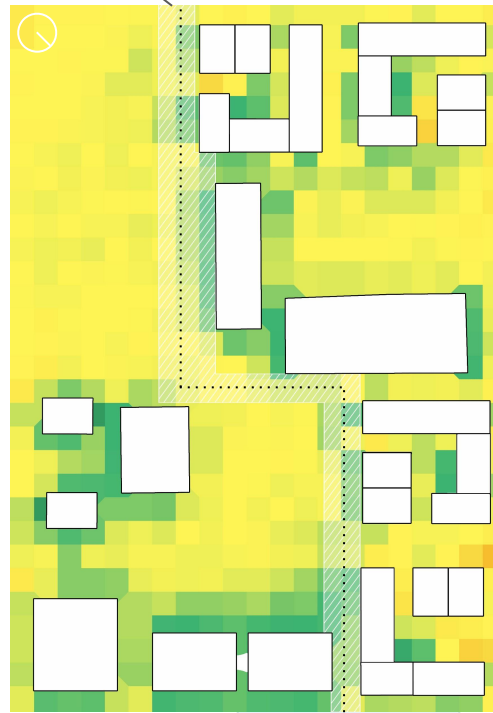
UTCI distribution today May 7 at 9am

Pathway is comfortable at 9am for **55%** of year
without shading



UTCI distribution today May 7 at 9am

365 Day
Evaluation



Annual comfortable hours [%]

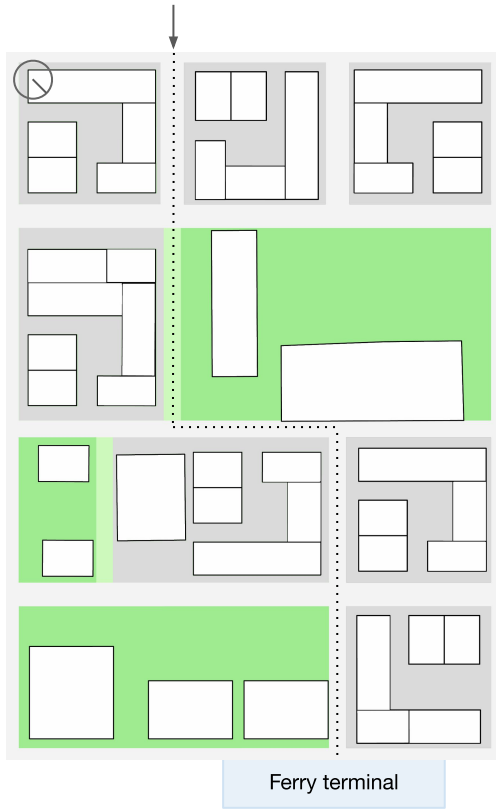
61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

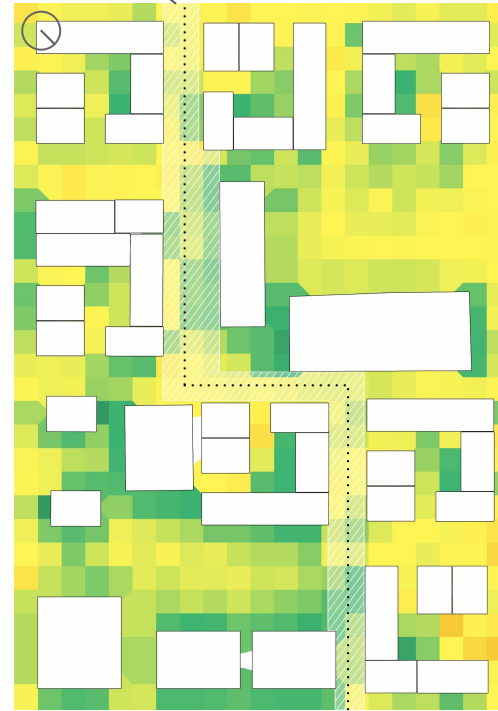
—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

55%
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Pathway is comfortable at 9am for **51%** of year
without shading



365 Day
Evaluation



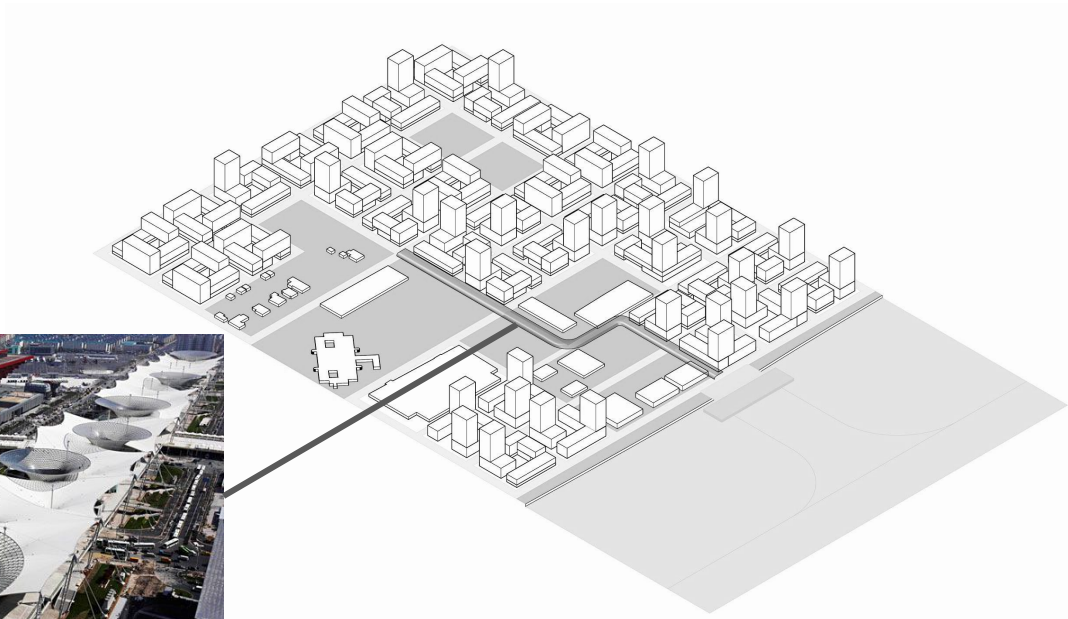
61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

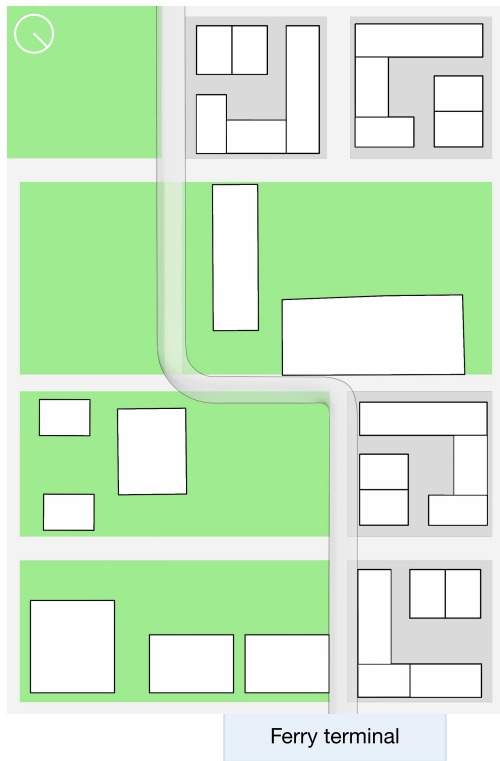
55%
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Architectural Intervention



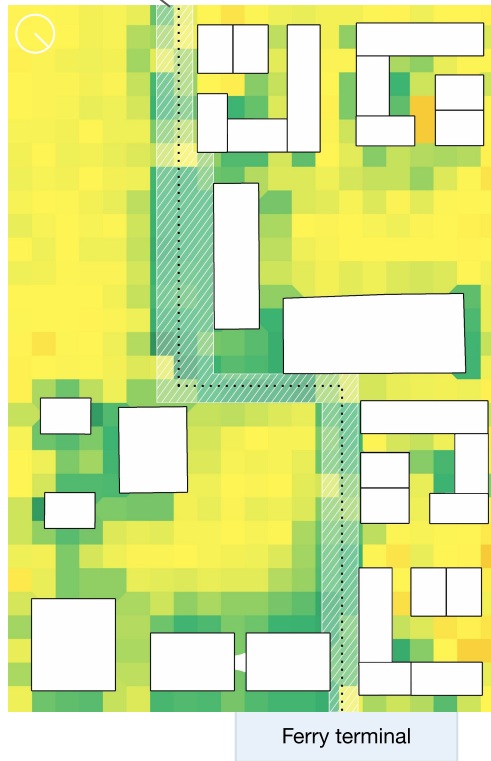
Covered area in Park

Pathway is comfortable at 9am for **70%** of year
with shading, a **54 day increase!**



Plan with sun and wind
shaded pathway

365 Day
Evaluation
→



Annual comfortable hours [%]

61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

70%
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

1. Building Energy Demand

2. Urban Grid Layout

3. Grid-independence

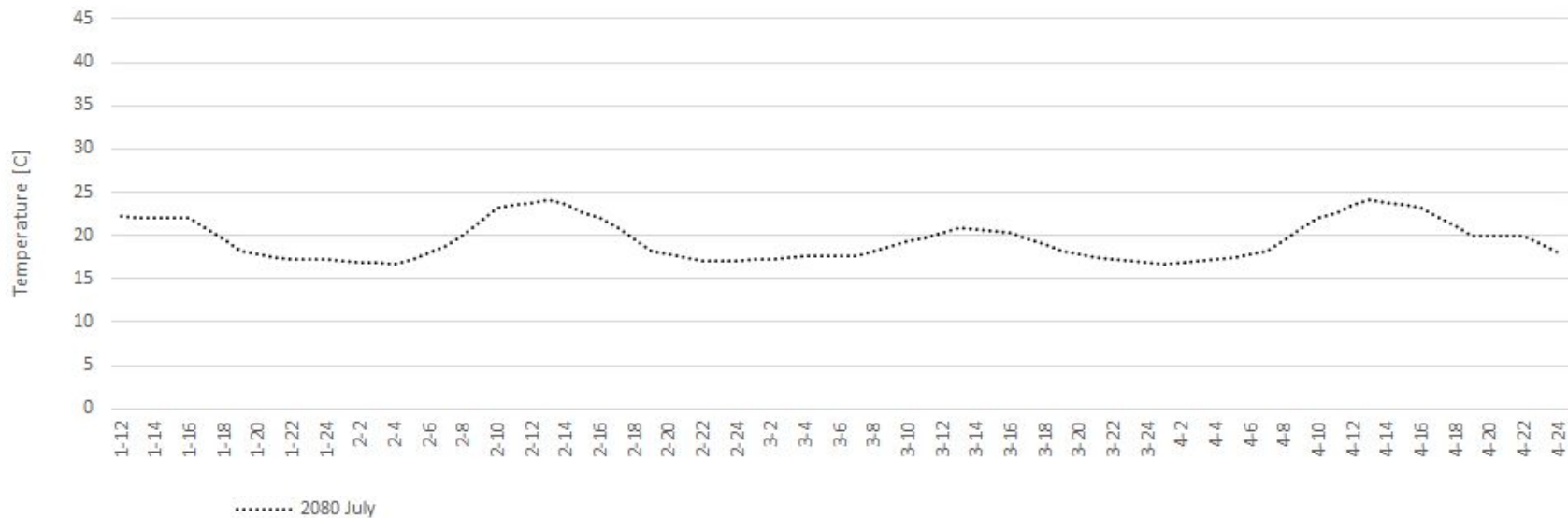
61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

14.35
kgCO₂/m²

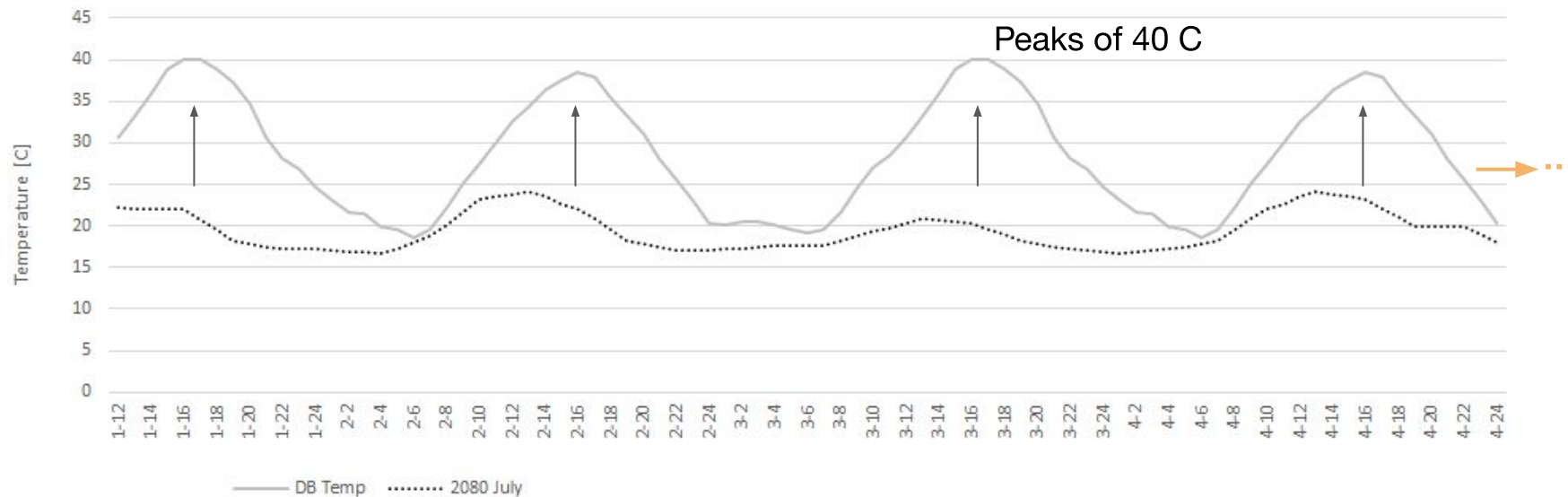
—
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

70%
of year
Thermally
Comfortable

Heat Waves | CA July, 2006

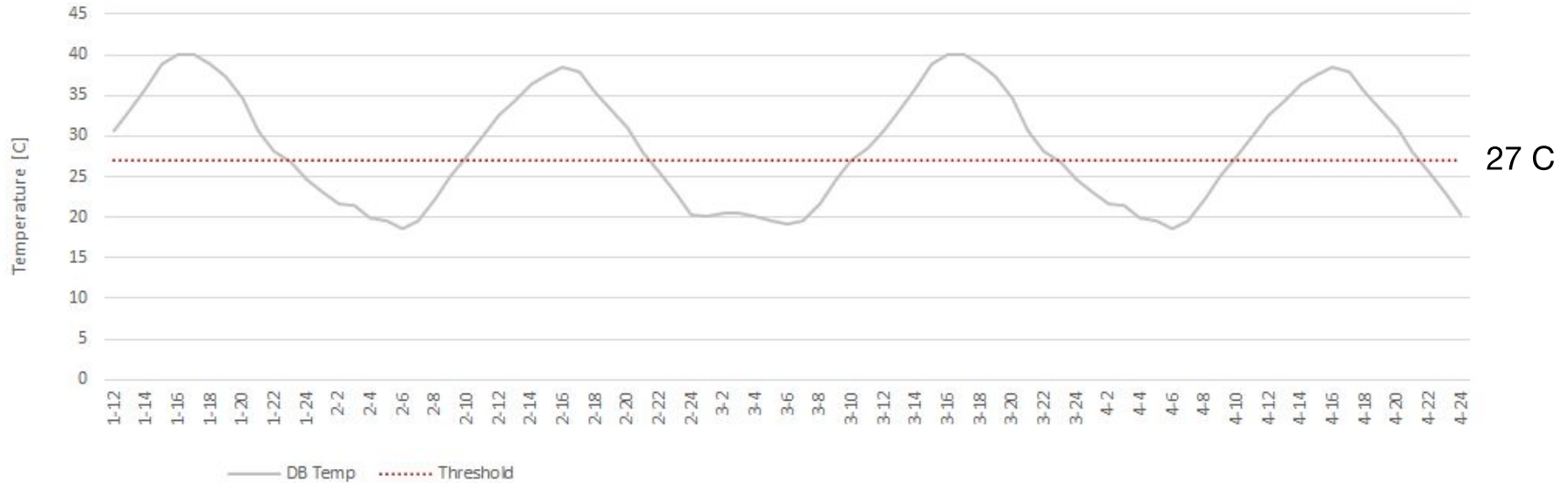


Heat Waves | CA July, 2006

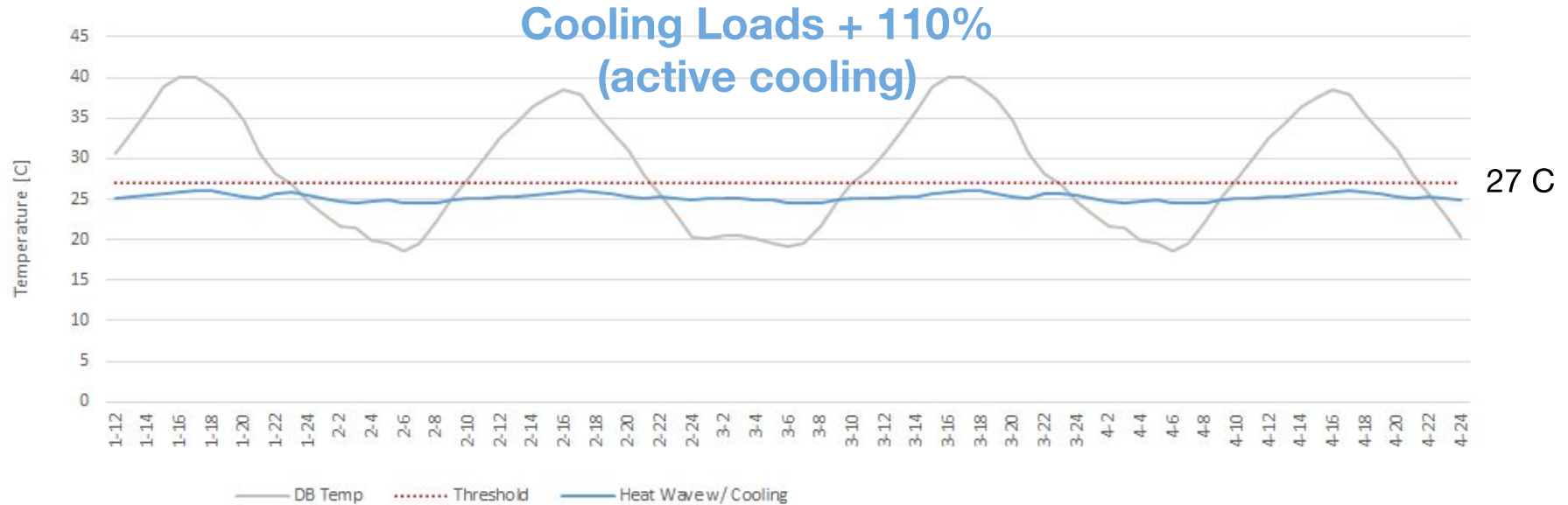


... continues to total 7 days

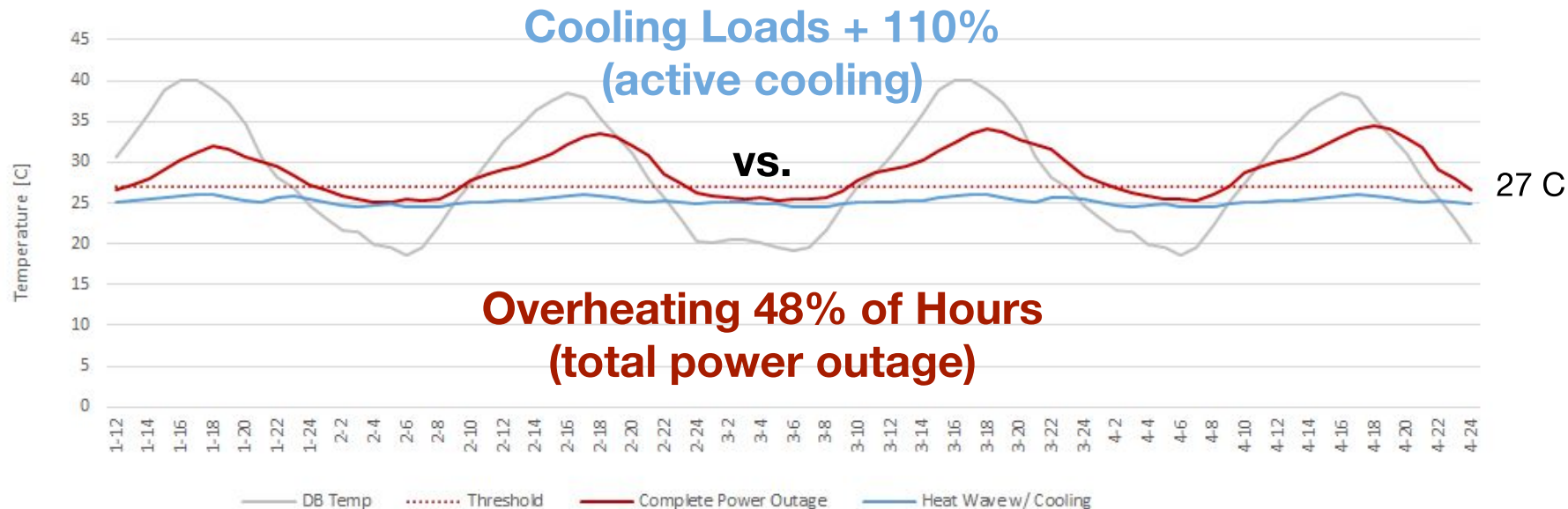
Heat Waves | Safe Indoor Temperatures



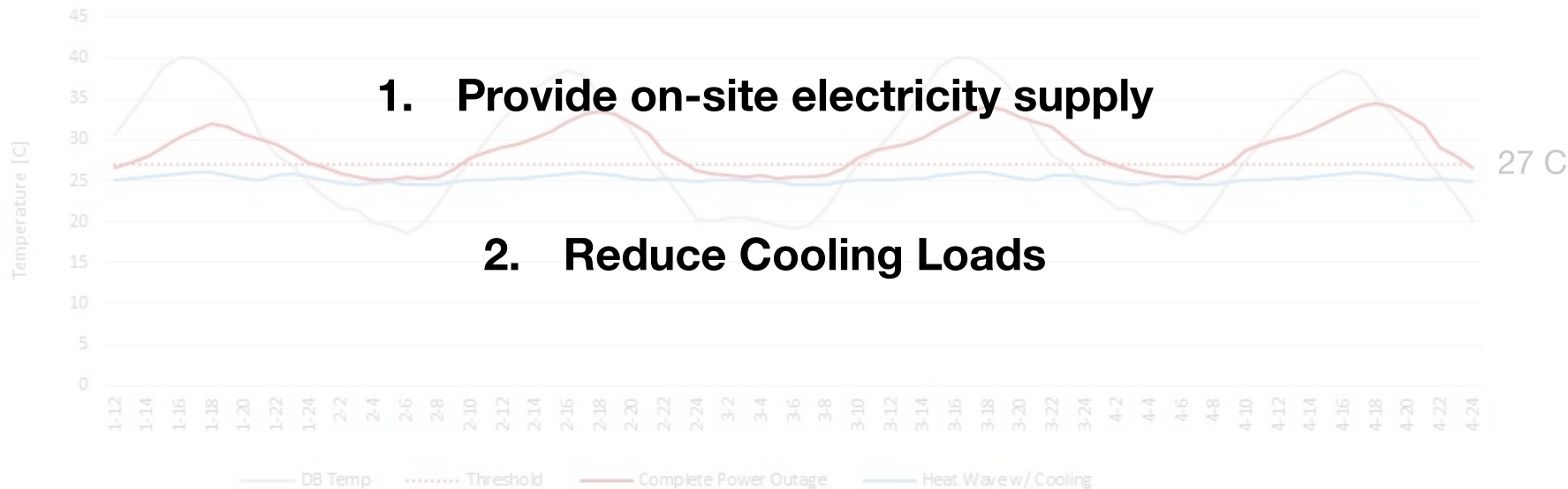
Heat Waves | Safe Indoor Temperatures



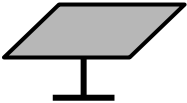
Heat Waves | Safe Indoor Temperatures



Heat Waves | Achieving Grid Independence



On-site Electricity Supply | Rooftop PV + Batteries



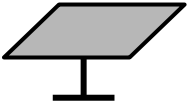
**All Roof Area
(75% available)**



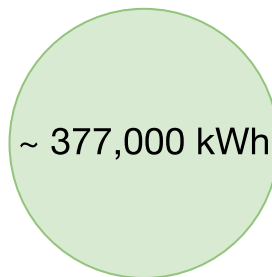
~ 377,000 kWh

Max. Supply

On-site Electricity Supply | Rooftop PV + Batteries



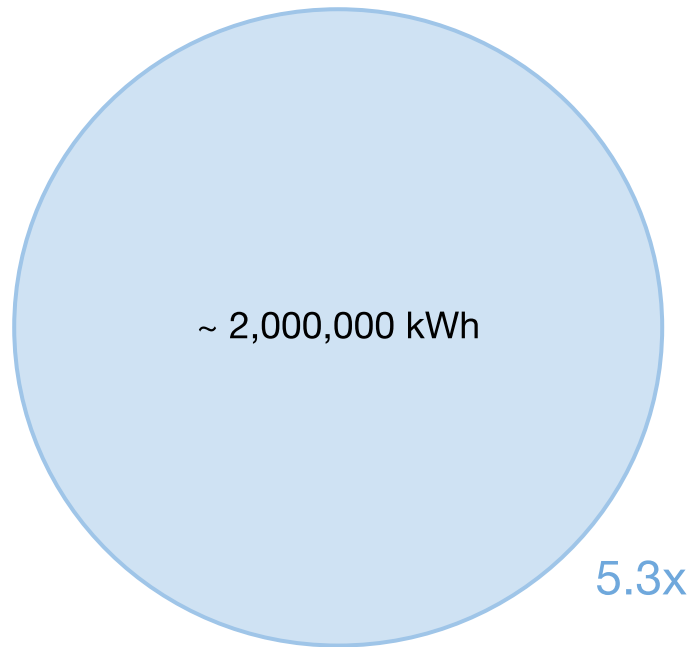
**All Roof Area
(75% available)**



Max. Supply



**Only meets 19% of
demand**

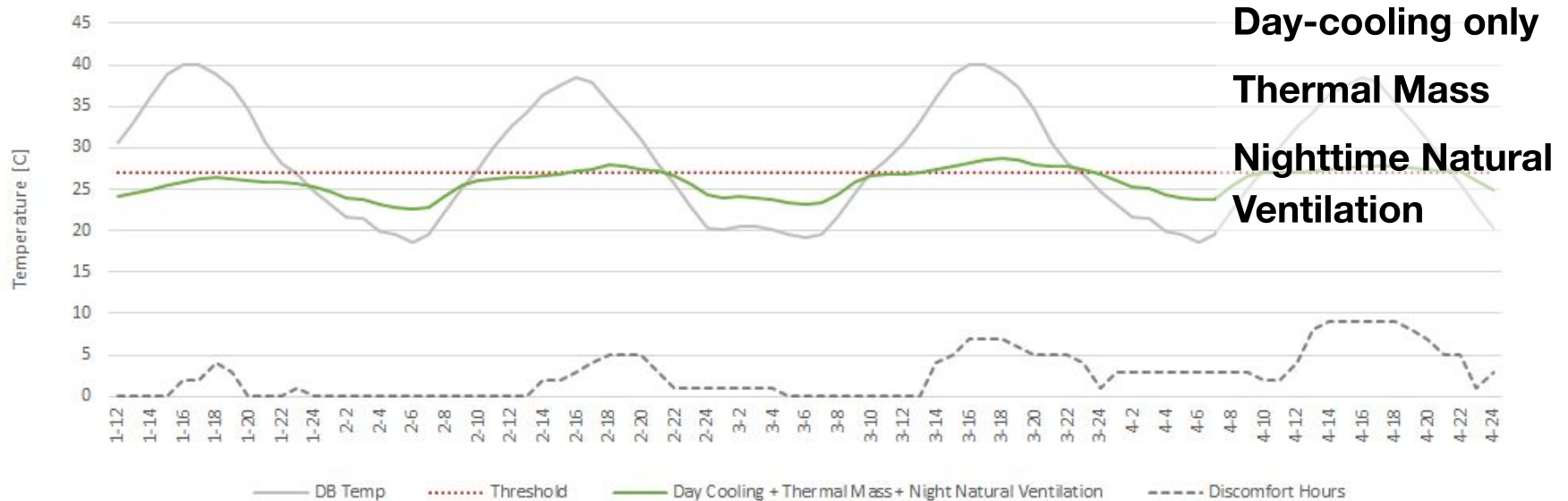


5.3x

**Heat Wave
Site Demand**

Load Reduction + Low Discomfort Hours

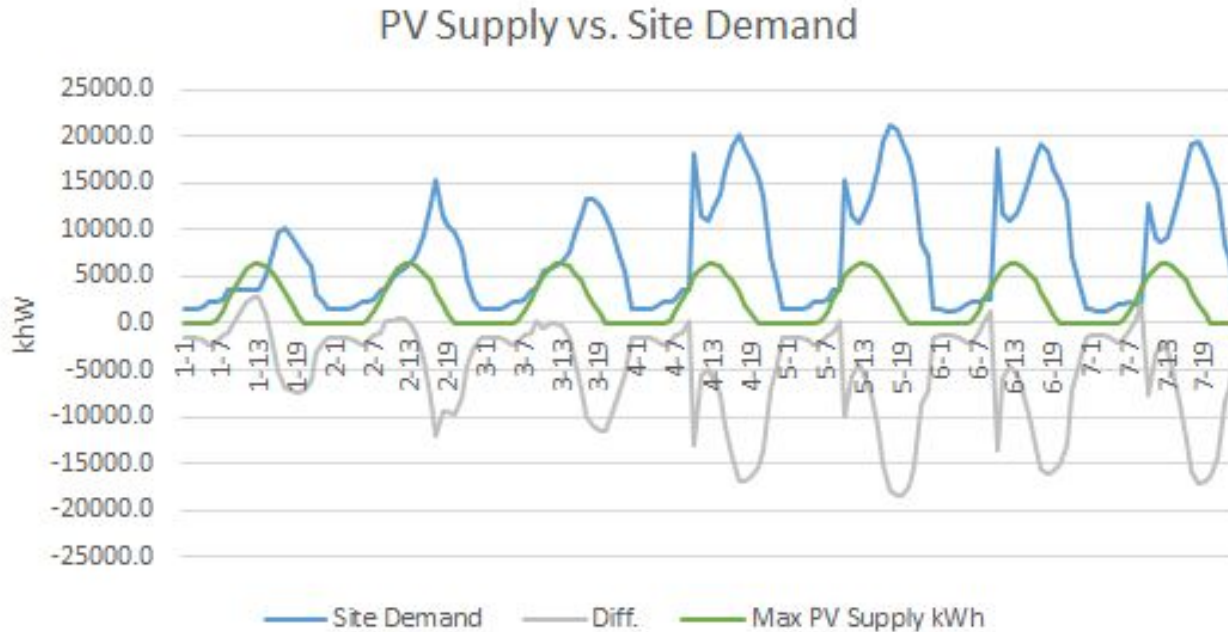
Load Reduction + Low Discomfort Hours



**Discomfort
Hours** : 1%

**% of energy
demand** : 30 % vs. 19 %

Load Reduction + Low Discomfort Hours



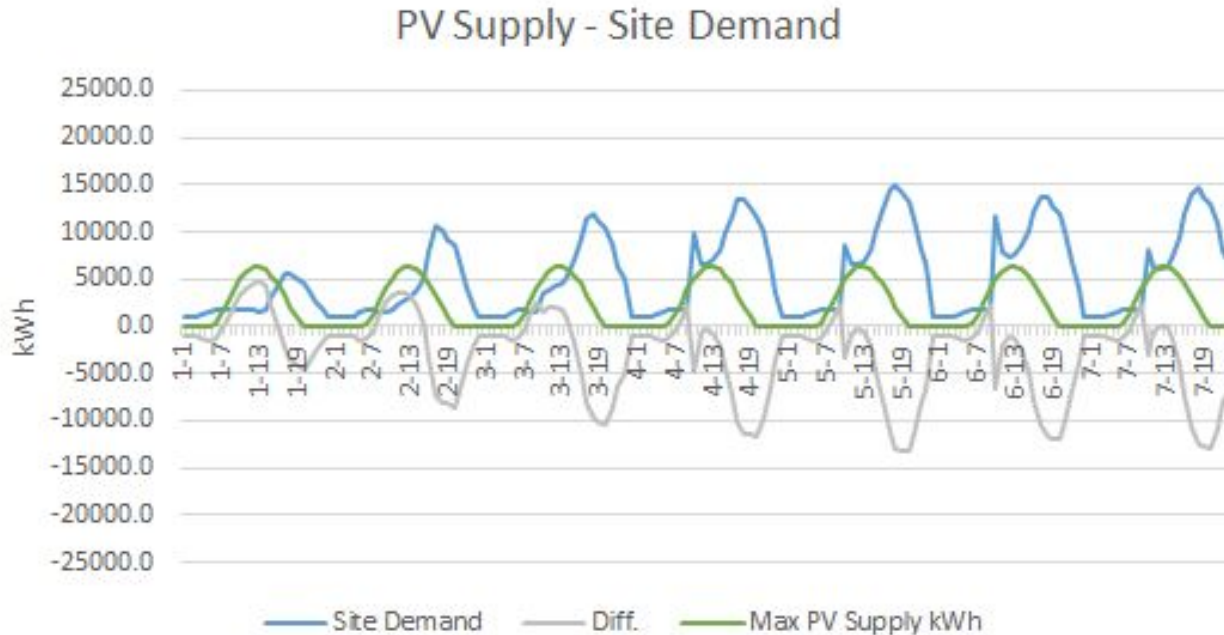
Day-cooling only
Thermal Mass
Nighttime Natural Ventilation

**energy
demand met:**

30 %

Further Load Reduction

- 20% of most
energy intensive
commercial space



energy
demand met:

43 %

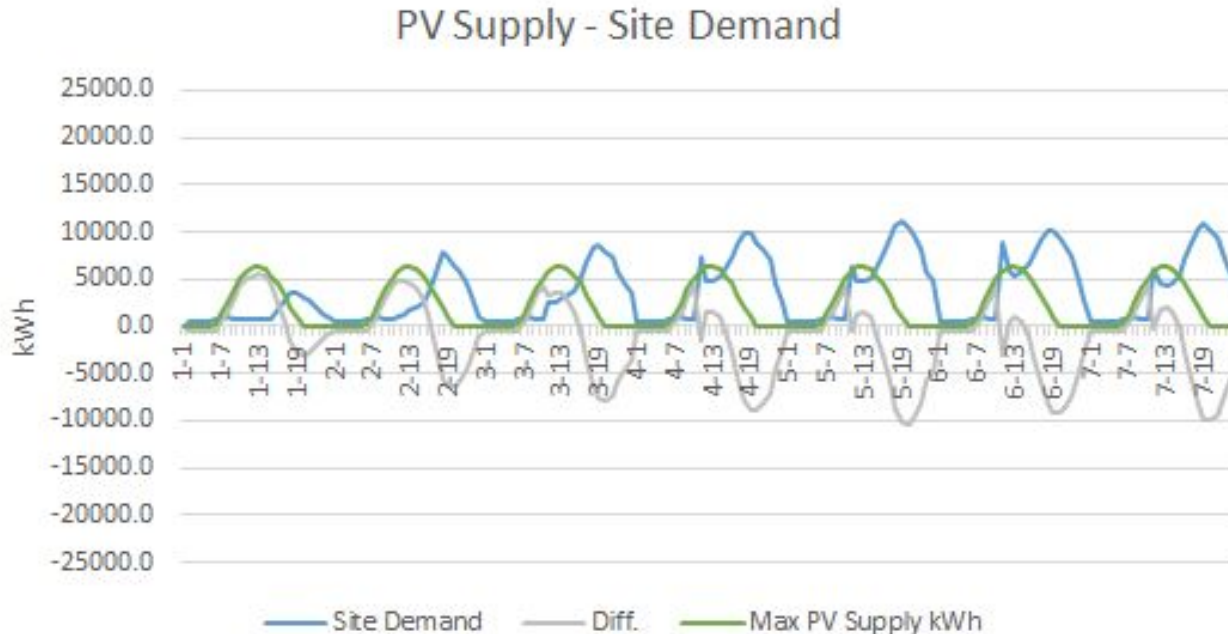
Further Load Reduction

- 20% of most
energy intensive
commercial space

Reduced lighting
and equipment
loads 50%

energy
demand met:

63 %



Further Load Reduction

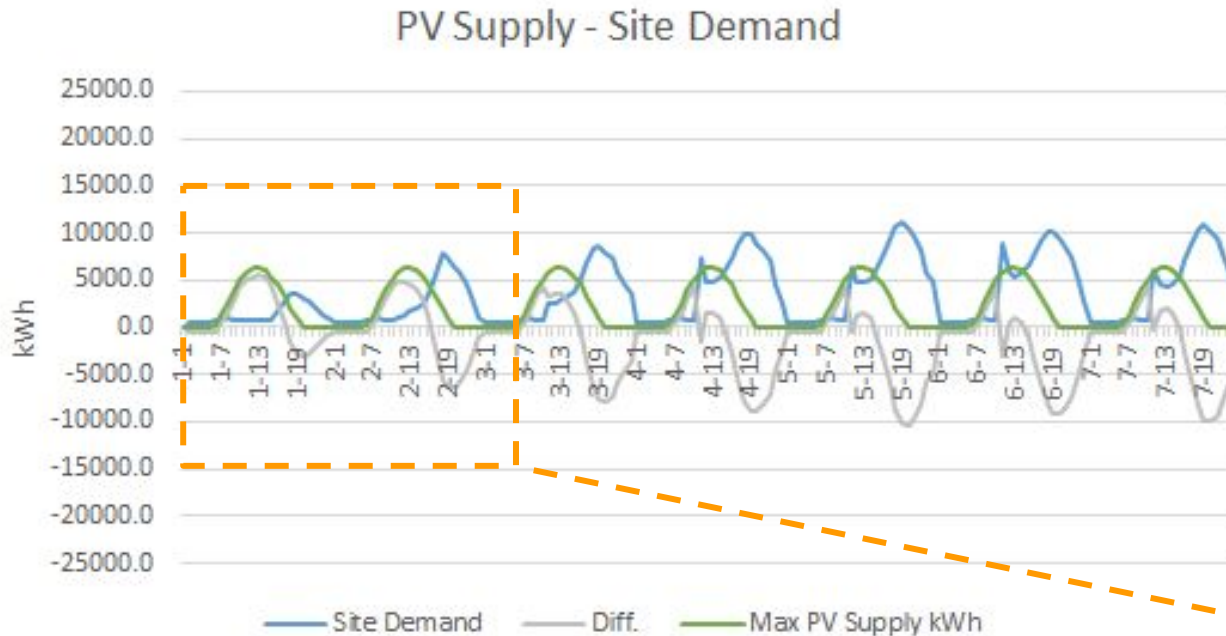
- 20% of most
energy intensive
commercial space

Reduced lighting
and equipment
loads 50%

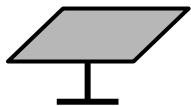
energy
demand met:

63 %

116%



PV Effects of Annual Energy Supply



**All Roof Area
(75% available)**



Upgrades to Energy Supply

Business As Usual

Net Zero + 7 days of battery storage

	Business as Usual	Net Zero	
tCO2eq	5,839	1,932	
tCO2eq / ppl	0.40	0.13	-67%
kgCO2eq / m2	14.35	4.75	

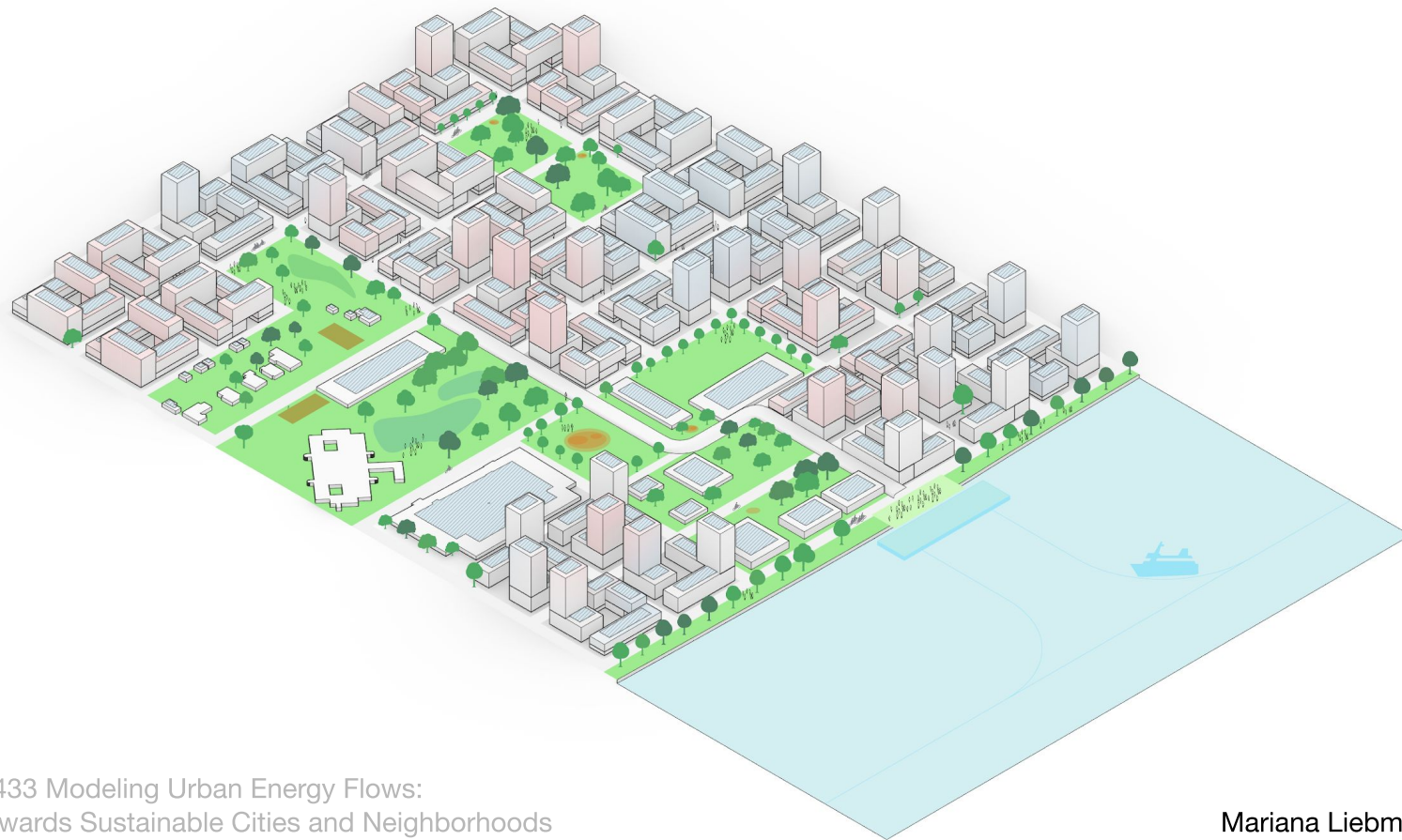


61
EUI
kWh/m²/year

4.75
kgCO₂/m²

116
% demand met
by PV during
heat wave

70%
of year
Thermally
Comfortable



ZERO Island

4.433 Modeling Urban Energy Flows:
Towards Sustainable Cities and Neighborhoods
C. Reinhart / Spring Semester 2020 / MIT

Mariana Liebman-Pelaez, Hadley Piper,
Ramon Weber, Elizabeth Young

Upgrades to Energy Supply

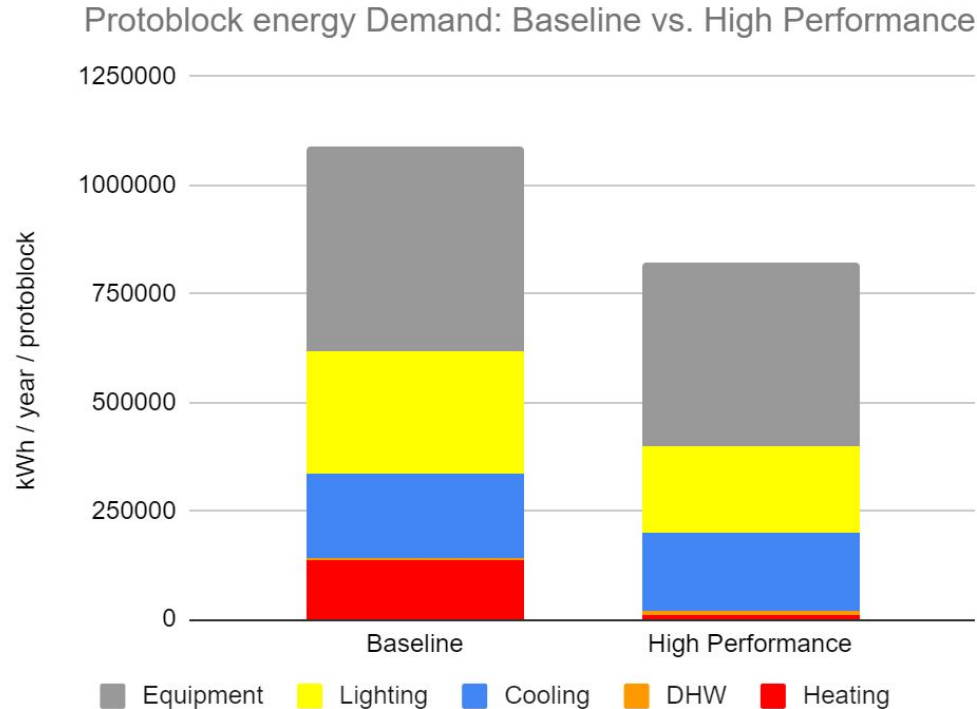
[Placeholder: visual for existing scenario vs. upgrades to all electric grid]

Energy Model Templates [rcp 8.5]

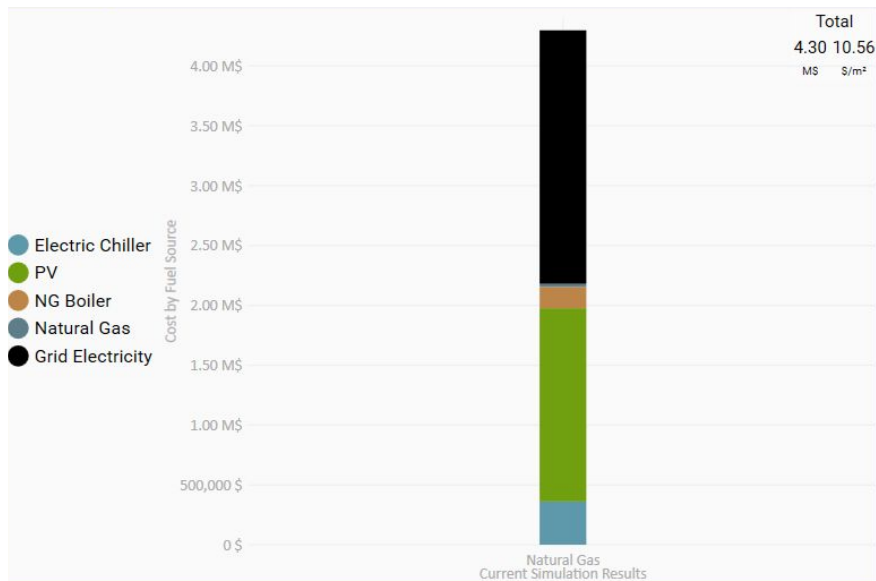
		Residential - Base	Commercial - Base	Residential - HP	Commercial - HP
Internal Loads	Equipment Power Density (w/m2)	5.38	10.76	5.38	8.608
	Lighting Power Density (W/m2)	5.38	10.76	5.38	8.608
	Illuminance target [lux]	500	500	300	300
	Dimming type (on/off)	off	off	continuous	continuous
Cooling + Ventilation	Cooling COP	3.66	3.66	5	5
	Natural Ventilation	off	off	on	on
	Nat. Vent. Setpoint (C)	--	--	23	23
	Nat. Vent. min outdoor air temp (C)	--	--	21.1	21
	Mech. Vent. Heat Recovery	--	--	sensible	sensible
Construction	Infiltration (ACH)	0.42	0.1	0.2	0.1
	Roof R-Value (IP)	R-15	R-15	R-40	R-40
	Facade R-Value (IP)	R-10	R-10	R-30	R-30
	Window Type	single pane	single pane	double pane Low E2	double pane Low E2
EUI (kWh/m2/year)		177	155	103	92

60% WWR, Shading Used | 70% Residential, 30% Commercial

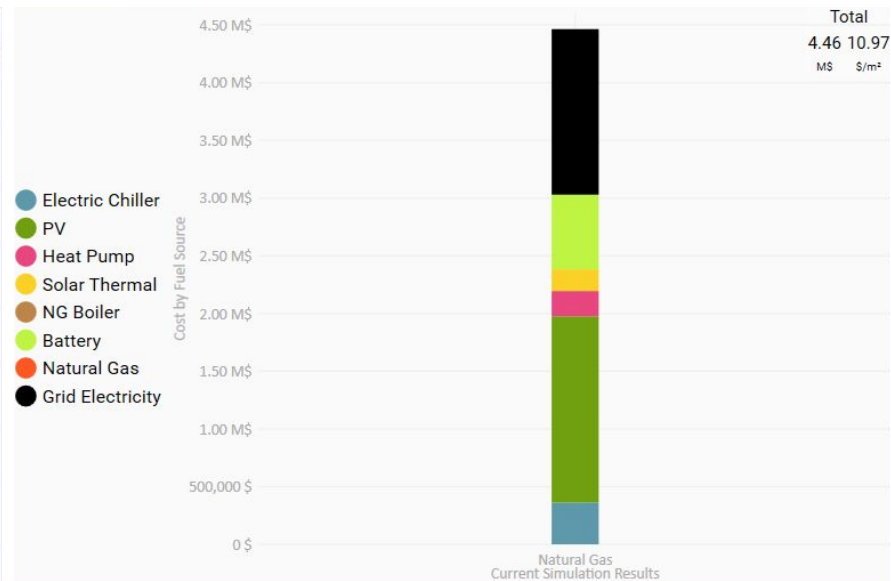
Present Climate Energy Demand Comparison



Costs



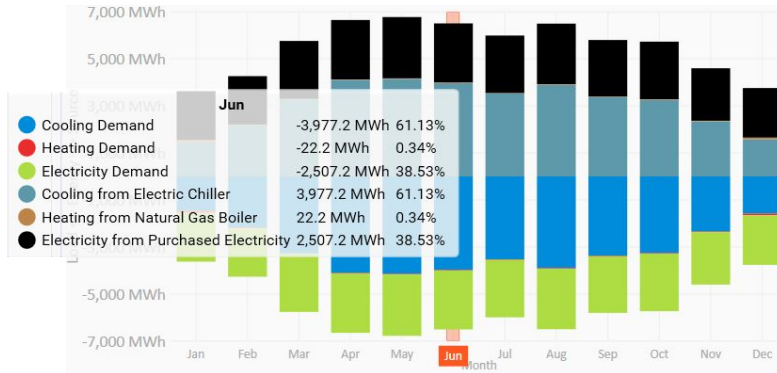
Business As Usual



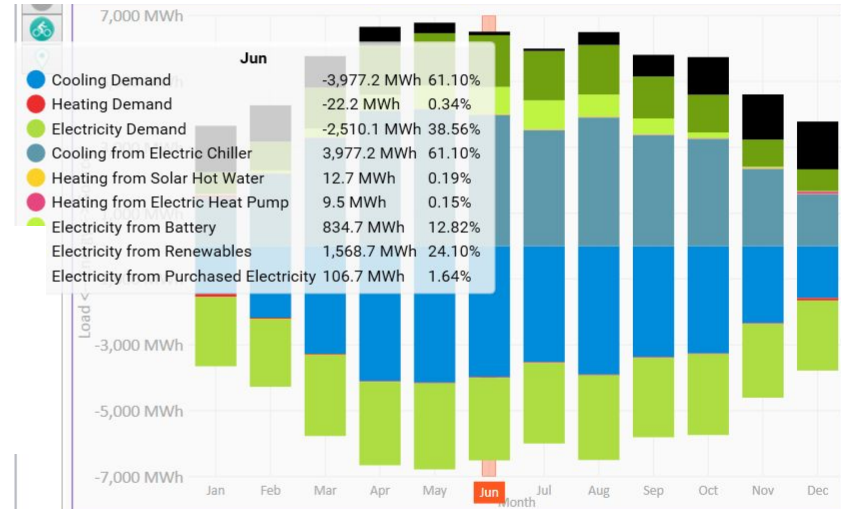
Net Zero + 7 days of battery storage

Preliminary District Energy Results

Business As Usual

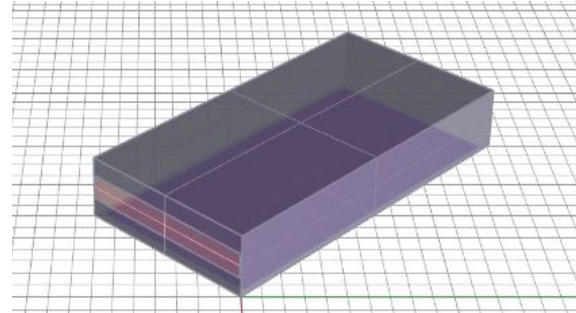


Net Zero + 7 days of battery storage



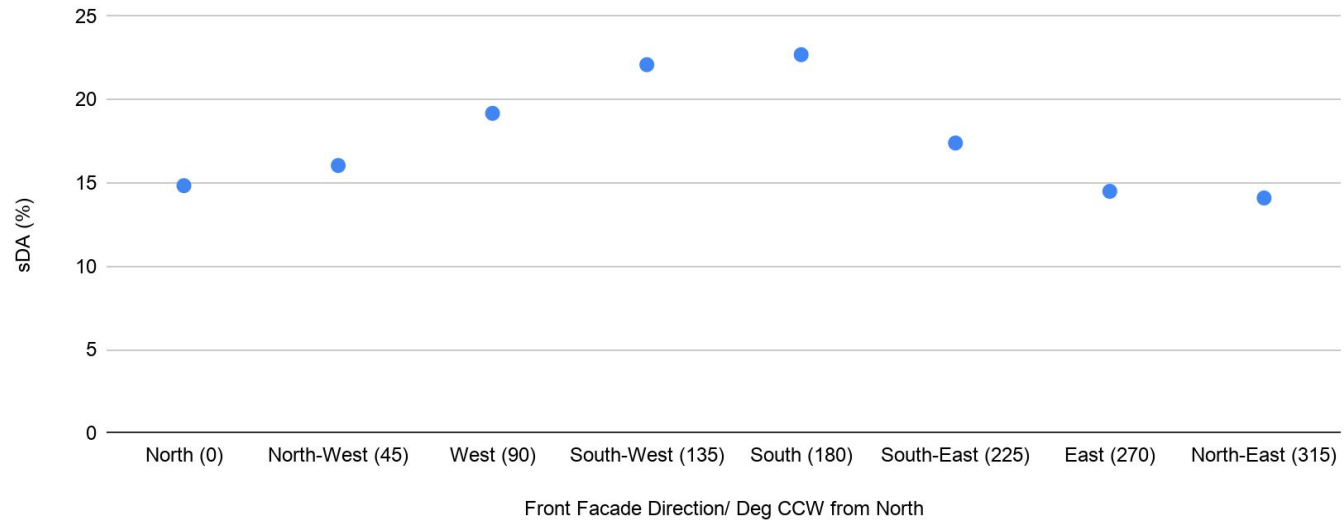
Building Primitive Assumptions

room height	3m
workplane offset	0.6m
sensor spacing	0.76m
Occupancy	8am - 6pm with DST
floor material	Floor LM83
room material	Wall LM83
window material	Double IGU Clear Tvis 39%



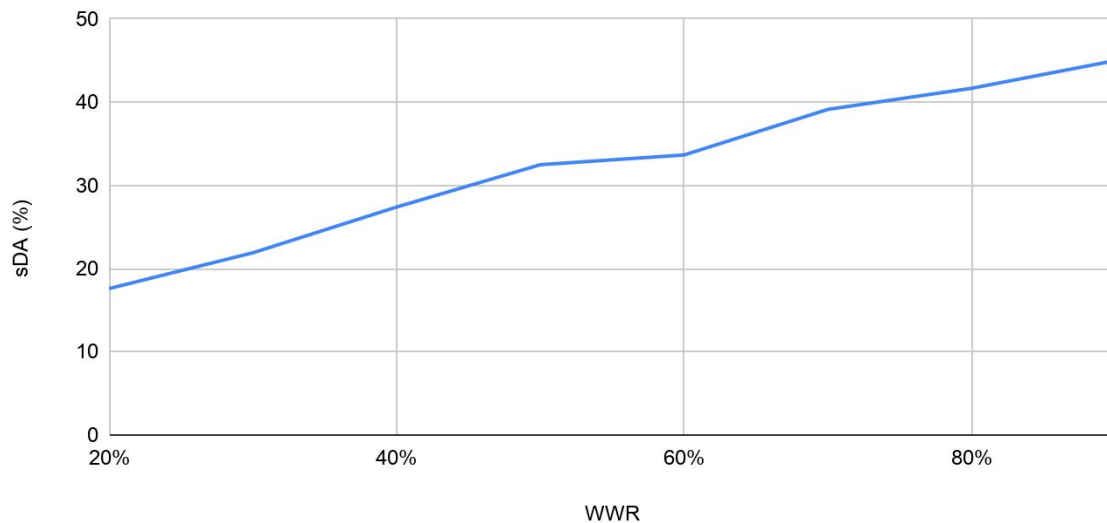
Building Primitive Orientation

sDA (%) vs. Front Facade Direction/ Deg CCW from North



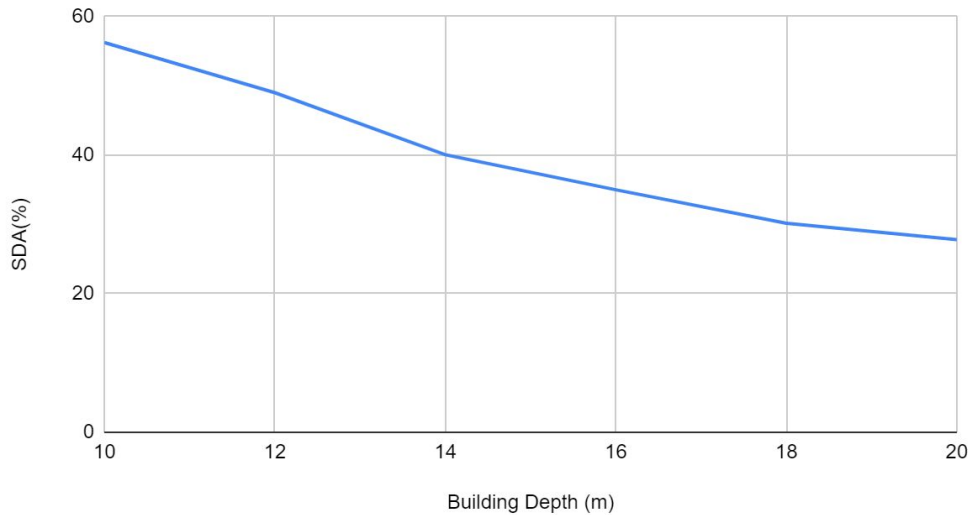
Building Primitive WWR

sDA (%) vs. Window-to-Wall Ratio

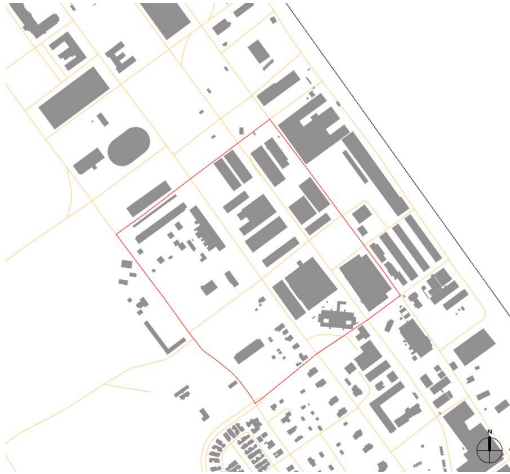


Building Primitive Building Depth

SDA(%) vs. Building Depth (m)



Street Grid



Site Boundary



Existing Street Grid

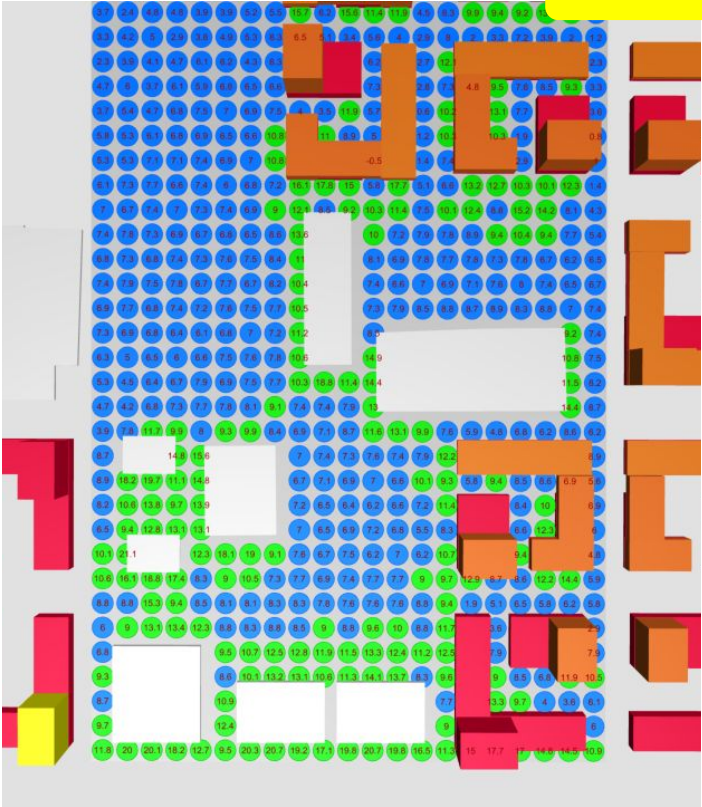


Proposed Street Grid

Mobility from Thermal Comfort

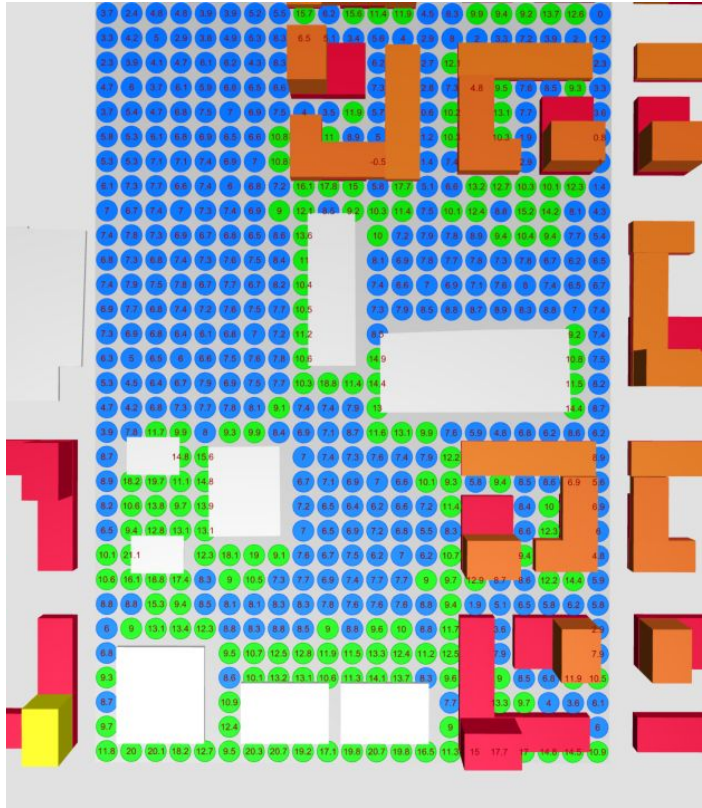
UTCI distribution today May 7 at 9am

Screenshot 1



Mobility from Thermal Comfort

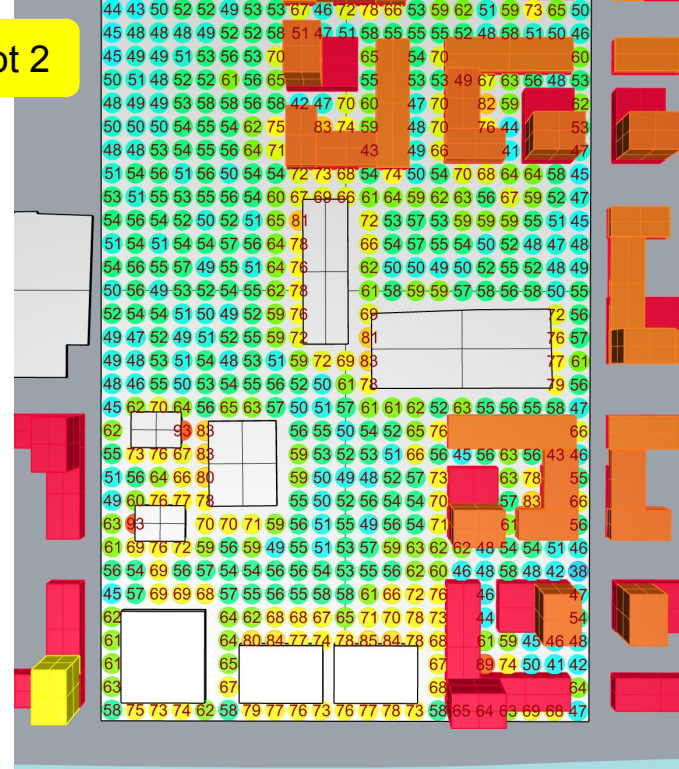
UTCI distribution today May 7 at 9am



Screenshot 2

Evaluate comfort at
9am for 365 days

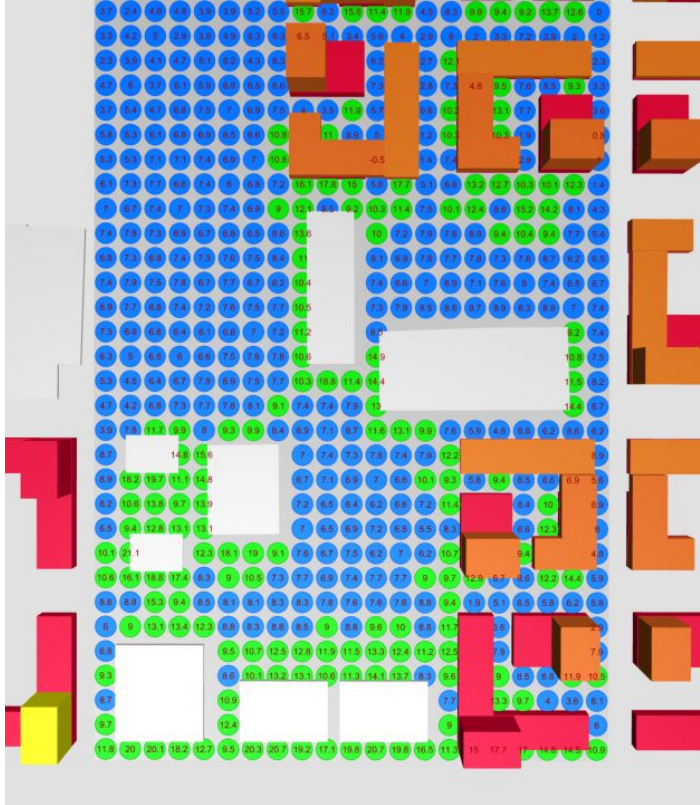
Percent of comfort hours at 9am for the whole year



Mobility from Thermal Comfort

Pathway is comfortable at 9am for 55% of year **without shading**

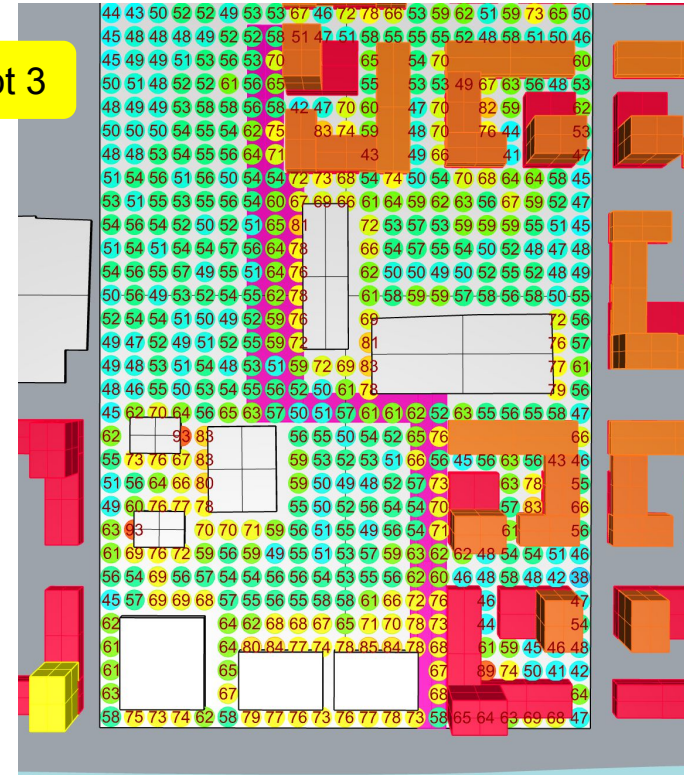
UTCI distribution today May 7 at 9am



Screenshot 3

Evaluate comfort at
9am for 365 days

Percent of comfort hours at 9am for the whole year



Mobility from Thermal Comfort

Pathway is comfortable at 9am for 51% of year

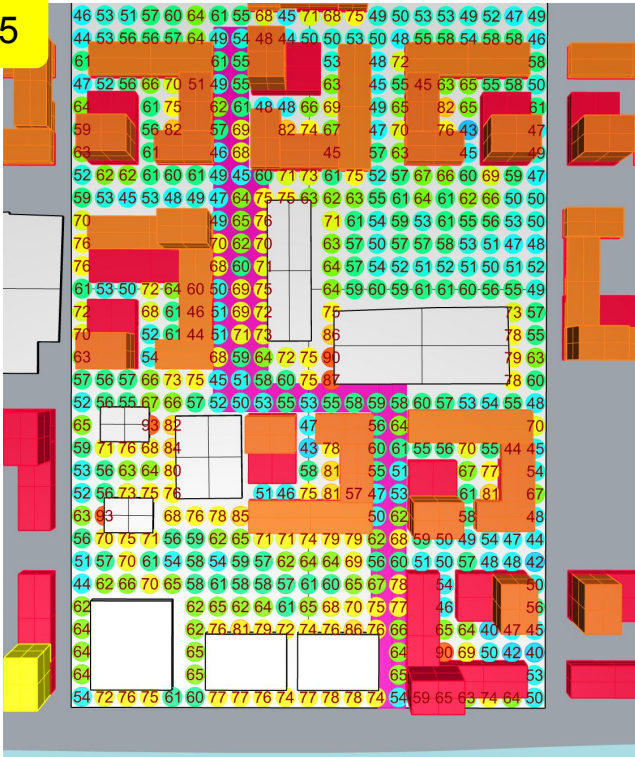
Modification 1: Redistributing park space

Percent of comfort hours at 9am for the whole year

Screenshot 4

Insert nice screenshot of variant 3 with split park

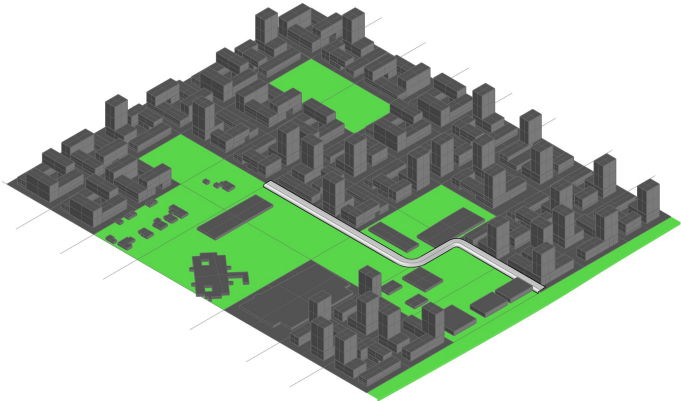
Screenshot 5



Mobility from Thermal Comfort

Pathway is comfortable at 9am for 70% of year **with shading** => **54 days increase!**

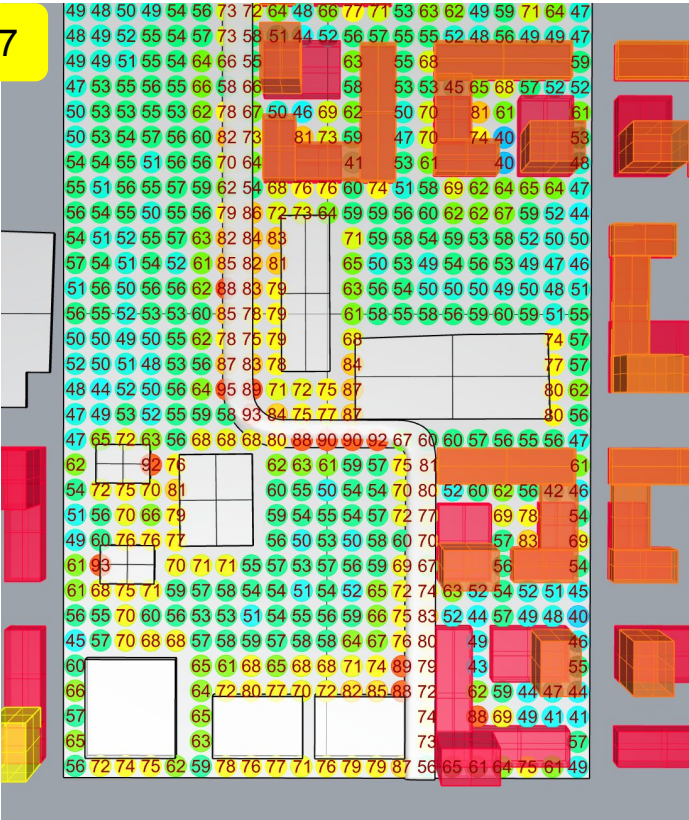
Proposed Shaded Pathway



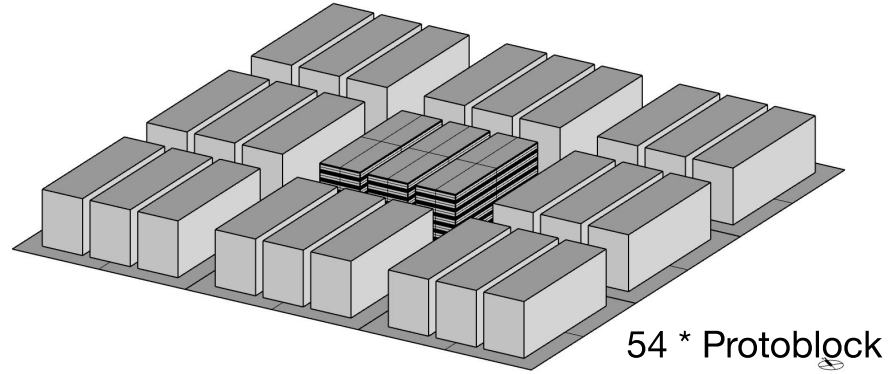
Screenshot 6

Screenshot 7

Percent of comfort hours at 9am for the whole year

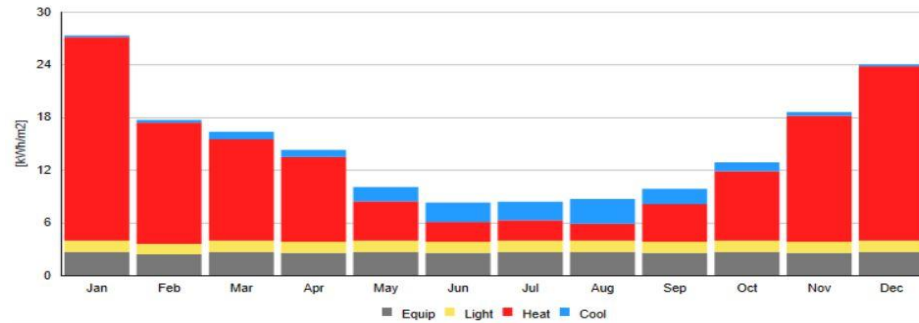


Baseline Scenario

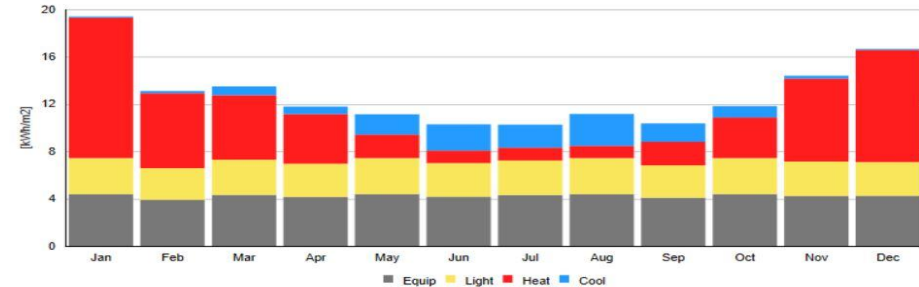
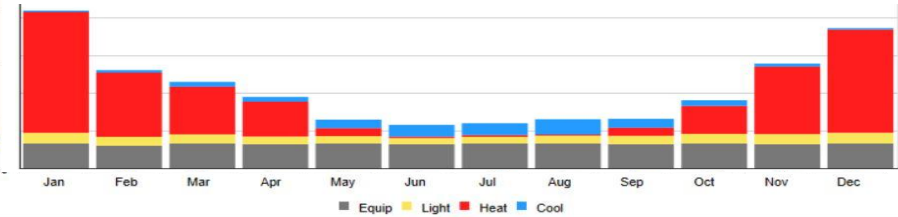


Category	Factor	Notes
Heating	0.1888 [1,2]	60% natural gas, 20% electricity, 20% other (assume oil)
DHW	0.1888 [1,2]	assume same as heating
Cooling	0.202 [2]	assume all electric
Lighting	0.202 [2]	all electric
Equipment	0.202 [2]	all electric

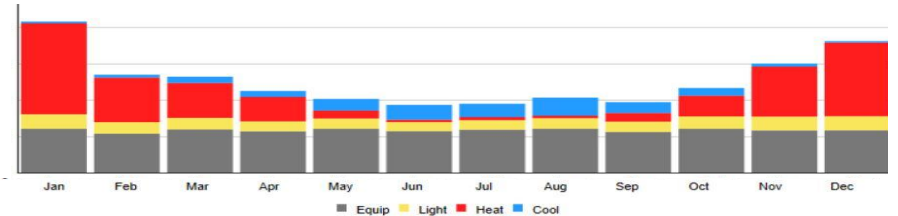
Building Energy: Baseline Vs High Performance



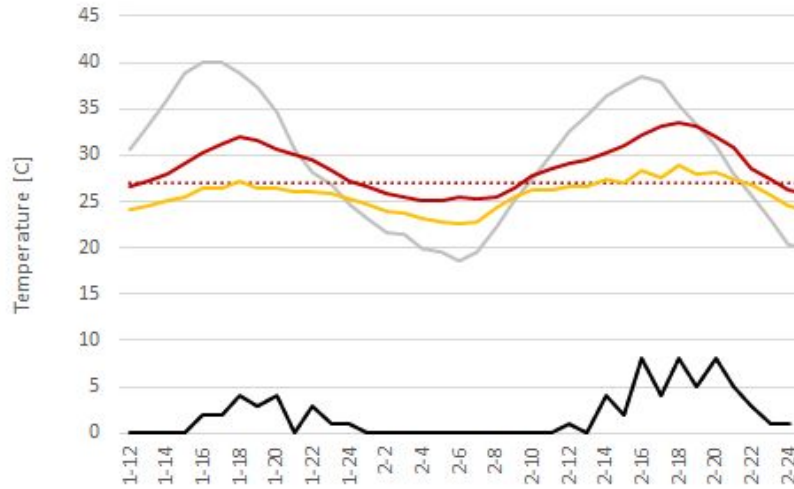
Residential



Commercial



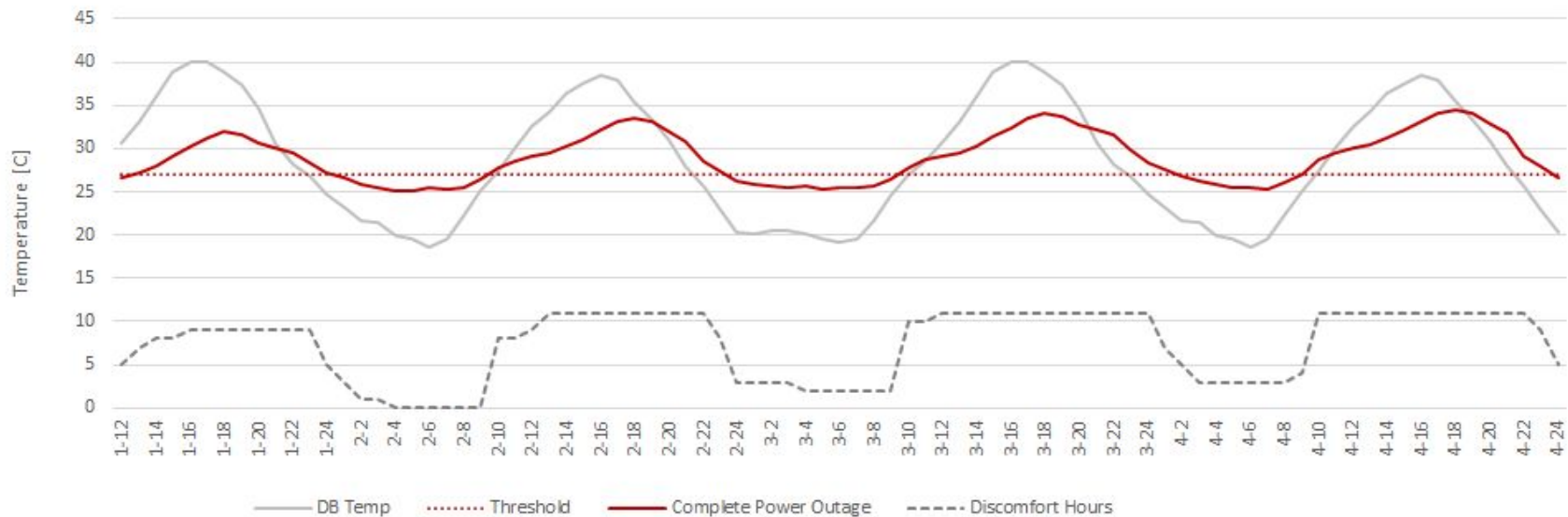
Intermittent-cooling + Thermal Mass + Nighttime Natural Ventilation



Discomfort
Hours : 0%

% of PV
Supply : 156%

Cooling Load Reduction



**Discomfort
Hours : 48%**

PV Area : 0

Building Energy

EUI [kWh/m²/year]

kgCO₂/m²

Can we design a **low carbon** community with

resilient energy supply and human-powered **mobility**?

On-site PV

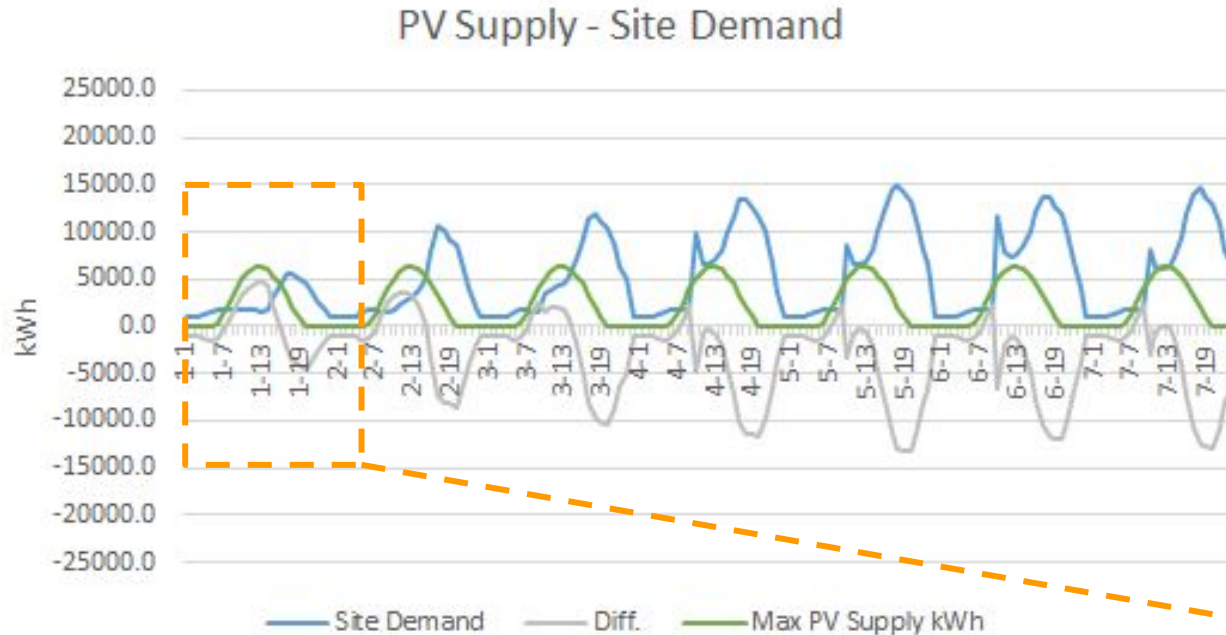
**number of grid independent
days during a heat wave**

Urban grid layout

**% of year
thermally comfortable**

Further Load Reduction

- 20% of most
energy intensive
commercial space

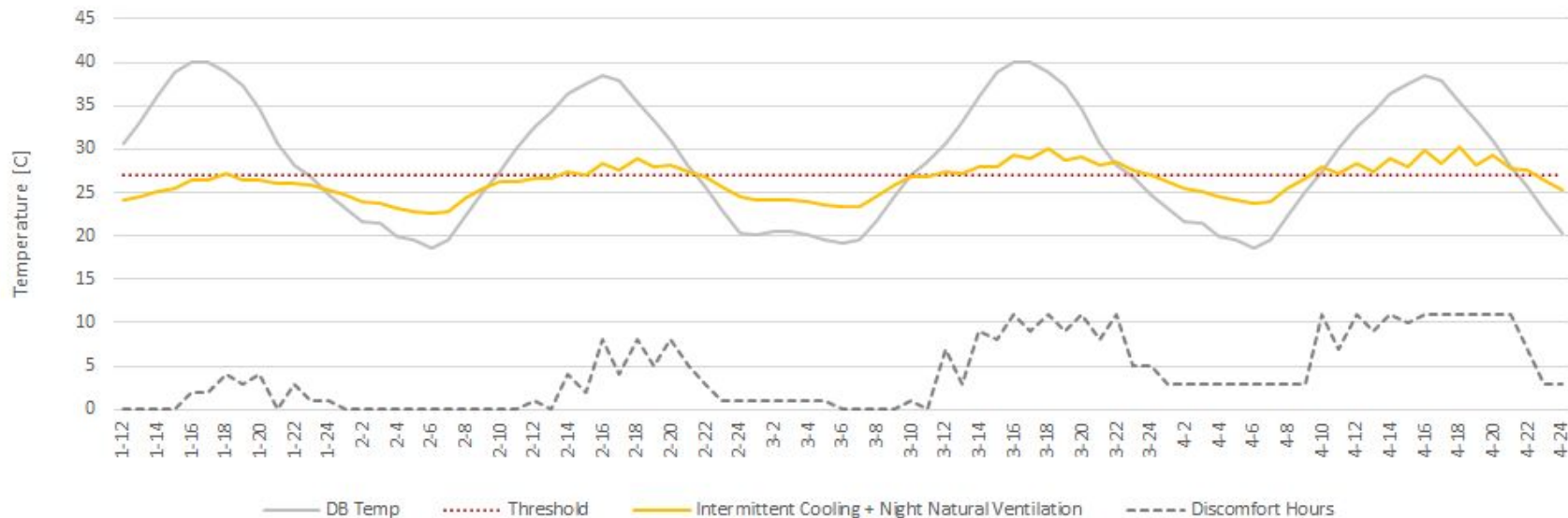


energy
demand met:

43 %

93%

Intermittent-cooling + Thermal Mass + Nighttime Natural Ventilation



**Discomfort
Hours** : 32%

**% of PV
Supply** : 240%

*Thermal mass reduced cooling energy by ~20%