

Case Study: 310-312 West 122nd Street, New York City



The Story

In January 2017, UHAB introduced the board of 310-312 West 122nd St to the Here Comes Solar team at Solar One. Here Comes Solar staff provided the board with a costs/ savings estimate, performed an onsite assessment, and met with the board to go over the savings estimate and answer questions about solar. The co-op was already committed to sustainability in their building, and the board president had experience with green design in his work as an architect for the city, so solar was immediately attractive for the building.

That summer, a board member joined Here Comes Solar and UHAB for a solar tour of a building that had gone solar the year before and was able to see how the system worked and talk to the residents about their experiences. Here Comes Solar gave a presentation at their shareholder meeting in September, and the shareholders voted to move forward with the solar project as part of the Solar Uptown Now campaign, a buyers group primarily made up of affordable co-ops in Northern Manhattan facilitated by WE ACT, UHAB, Sustainable CUNY, and Solar One.

Project Snapshot

Client: 310-312 W 122nd Street HDFC
Building Type: Limited-income cooperative
Location: Harlem, NY

Financing: Direct Purchase
Solar Installer: Grid City Energy
System Size: 15.8 kW-DC
Modules: 44 LG 360-W
Inverters: Fronius

Lifetime Solar Production: 418,301 kWh
Lifetime CO2 Reduction: 510,327 lbs.

“We wanted to go green and do something for the environment. The \$125,000 savings over the course of 25 years was a motivation as well.”

-Sybille RG.

The campaign ran a collective bidding process for a solar installer, and in the spring of 2018 selected Grid City Energy as the contractor. Grid City Energy designed the solar array over the summer, secured permits in the fall, and the system was turned on in February 2019.

Unique characteristics

Expandable

As the system was being installed, the board president toured the installation with HCS staff and noticed that there was more space available on the roof than had been used. They asked if the system could be expanded, and the installer was able to change the design mid-installation to add 4 more panels, increasing the size and production of the final system.

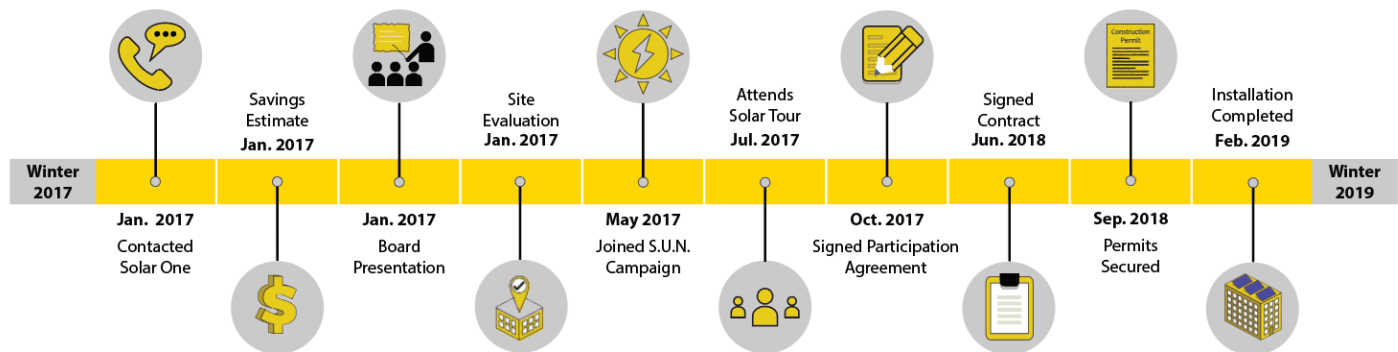
Seperate But Together

310 and 312 West 122nd are separate buildings but a single co-op, so the solar installer was able to price and install it as a single project, despite having to file permits for each building separately.

New Racking

The system was designed with a new form of ballasted racking that maximized the number of panels they could fit in their limited roof area.

Timeline



Economics

Project Cost	\$42,768
Incentives	\$36,036
Net Cost	\$6,732
Annual Savings	\$5,762
Payback Period	3 years
Lifetime Savings	\$131,387

For more information contact us:
 Phone: 212-505-6050
 Email: herecomessolar@solar1.org