



## PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

# Sun Crest Heights, Capitol Heights, MD

### Overview

Sun Crest Heights, an affordable apartment complex in Capitol Heights, Maryland, received 250 kW of solar on its rooftops and parking lot carport. The solar installation will provide up to 99% of the building's electric load and result in up to 30-40% savings on the electricity costs for the complex. The building developer, who currently pays the utility bills for all 140 low-moderate income residents, will use the electricity bill savings to fund upgrades to the building, while still maintaining affordable rent.

The building upgrades planned in conjunction with the solar installation are part of an ongoing process that the developer has undertaken to transform the apartment complex from an unsafe apartment building, to a safe, sustainable, and affordable community and home for the tenants.

### Partnership

The project is the result of a partnership between GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic, VNV Development, and HESP Solar.

### Community Impact



**System Size:** 250 kW (DC)

**Lifetime Savings:** \$666,000

**Lifetime CO2 Savings:** 6,520 tons

**Equivalent of trees planted:** 151,650





## Helping People Live Affordably

Sun Crest Heights is the home for approximately 140 low-income tenants, living in 44 units. The solar savings helped the developer pay for multiple upgrades, including:

- A new roof
- Insulation for better heating and cooling efficiency
- Water-saving fixtures and energy star appliances
- LED lighting and electrical system upgrades
- Ground floor flood and water protection systems
- Complete unit interior renovation

## A Solar Carport

The 250 kW system, which consists of 783 solar modules, is split between the apartment rooftops and an adjacent carport. This system will become the largest residential roof-mount solar PV installation in Prince George's County, covering nearly the entire electric load for the whole complex.

## About GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic

GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic is an affiliate of GRID Alternatives, a national leader in making clean, affordable solar power and solar jobs accessible to low-income communities and communities of color. Using a unique, people-first model, GRID develops and implements solar projects that serve qualifying households and affordable housing providers, and offers solar education and hands-on job training to help people jumpstart their solar careers. Our work brings together affordable housing organizations, job training groups, government agencies, municipalities, utilities and local communities to make solar a win for everyone.



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*GRID Alternatives is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to make renewable energy technology and training available to underserved communities. Our vision is a successful transition to clean, renewable energy that includes everyone.*

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