





Our Home cohousing projects are founded on the concept that inclusive and diverse communities are stronger communities.

Our Home cohousing projects are envisioned and organized by Our Home, Inclusive Community Collaborative – an Oregon nonprofit.



The Cathedral Park Neighborhood rallied around an artist's Black Lives Matter painting along North Edison.



St. John's Bridge, Cathedral City Park
PHOTO BY WHITNEY GEIER

OUR COMMUNITY

Our Home – Cathedral Park will be a unique cohousing community and the flagship development of [Our Home, ICC](#). The project will champion a groundbreaking approach to building community, combining innovative design and thoughtful management to host a variety of home ownership opportunities for individuals and families of diverse abilities, ages, and income levels.

This new community will reside in the heart of Portland's iconic Cathedral Park neighborhood in the shadow of the St. Johns Bridge. The incredible location is just minutes from downtown, convenient to public transportation, a short hike to Forest Park, and comfortably walkable to many restaurants, bars, shops, and the beautiful Cathedral Park.

Ambitious plans such as these do not come together on their own. Our Home, ICC and the Founding Neighbors of Our Home–Cathedral Park have set up an entity to oversee the project known as Platypus Community, LLC. This organization is working to complete the OHCP community by bringing together the OHCP community members and is benefiting from the committed assistance of skilled and generous partners:

- [Community Vision](#), a local nonprofit working to support families and individuals experiencing disability
- [Proud Ground](#), the largest Community Land Trust in the Pacific Northwest
- [Urban Development + Partners](#), a Portland development firm with extensive experience in multi-family construction and cohousing development

OUR PLAN

Our Home projects are founded on the belief that communities that are built with the values of inclusion and diversity at the forefront create stronger communities. With this in mind, Our Home, ICC strives to create inviting, thoughtfully designed places where all sorts of people, including a representative population of those who experience disability, who want to age in place, or who are below the median income, can come together and enjoy the mutual benefits of caring, trusted neighbors.

OUR VALUES

We believe that all members of our community should be able to play an equal role in the development of our shared identity and vision:

- Growing together as a community and as individuals
- Creating an authentic sense of belonging
- Making decisions cooperatively
- Sharing resources
- Respecting and embracing differences
- Giving and receiving
- Enjoying each other's company
- Connecting with our surrounding neighborhood, city, and region

EMBRACING DIVERSITY: A COMMUNITY FOR ALL

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EMBRACING DIVERSITY

Because a house alone does not make a home, Our Home - Cathedral Park embraces the different backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences that contribute to strong, healthy, and sustainable communities. Located amongst some of the most vibrant and culturally diverse neighborhoods in North Portland, Our Home – Cathedral Park is designed to promote engagement within and beyond our walls, harnessing the strength of our diversity.

Recently, neighbors of our project site rallied around an artist's Black Lives Matter painting along North Edison St. We are grateful to be moving into a neighborhood that so proudly and prominently champions values that we share and will help to promote.

While this brochure is an introduction to our cohousing framework, Our Home – Cathedral Park is not complete without your voice. We welcome you to help fill in the blanks, and in doing so build a shared home that extends the benefits of cohousing to a broad, representative community and sets a high standard for future Our Home projects to emulate.

WHAT IS COHOUSING?

Contemporary cohousing originated in Denmark 60 years ago and planted its first roots in the US in the 1990s. The concept combines homeownership with shared values and communal spaces to create an environment where individuals and families can build their lives and community together.

THE DETAILS

- Estimated completion: 2022
- Located at North Edison Street and North Burlington Street in North Portland
- Accessible, universally-designed condo homes including studio, 1, 2, 3 bedroom units
- Conventional ownership of individual units
- Shared landscaped courtyard and interior community gathering spaces
- Several subsidized units for qualifying individuals
- A strong, supportive, and fun community of neighbors!



Good design should accommodate all user needs.

Cohousing provides the opportunity to support the needs of all residents through community support and demands an architecture that reflects these values. Our Home—Cathedral Park considers not just Universal Design, but also overlapping needs of specific users to produce spaces that are inclusive for all.



PHOTO BY HELENA LOPES FROM PEXELS



Neurodiversity

Designing for neurodiversity considers the variation of cognitive functioning within our communities, allowing users control over sensory stimulation providing organizational clarity.



DeafSpace Guidelines

DeafSpace design is an architectural approach to the built environment that responds to the way Deaf and Hard of Hearing people perceive and inhabit space.



Universal Design

Universal design makes all elements and spaces accessible to all people to the greatest extent possible.



Blind & Visually Impaired

Designing for the blind and visually impaired creates sensory rich spaces that work with touch, sound, and experience beyond the visual.



Staying in Place

Staying in place is the flexibility to accommodate economic or health challenges in order to live comfortably in one's own home and community.



Trauma-informed Design

Trauma informed design provides connection to community, comfort and uses design strategies that promote healing.



TO GATHER AND COME TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY

Our Home – Cathedral Park gathers around a large, flexible courtyard and common house on the main entry level. A variety of spaces – with varying amenities and spatial qualities – promote community building at multiple scales. Personal space at each front door creates an invitation for visitors to your new home.



PLACEMAKING AND A BEACON TO THE COMMUNITY

Our Home – Cathedral Park is a community of 28 homes on a site overlooking the Willamette River, the St. Johns Bridge, and Forest Park. The open and airy common house greets the Cathedral Park neighborhood with floor-to-ceiling windows and a rooftop terrace.



YOUR NEW HOME

Each unit provides an open and flexible layout that allows for an abundance of natural light. Select units offer spectacular views of the St. Johns Bridge and the West Hills beyond. Connections to the Our Home community are enhanced by Juliet balconies and courtyard-facing kitchens.

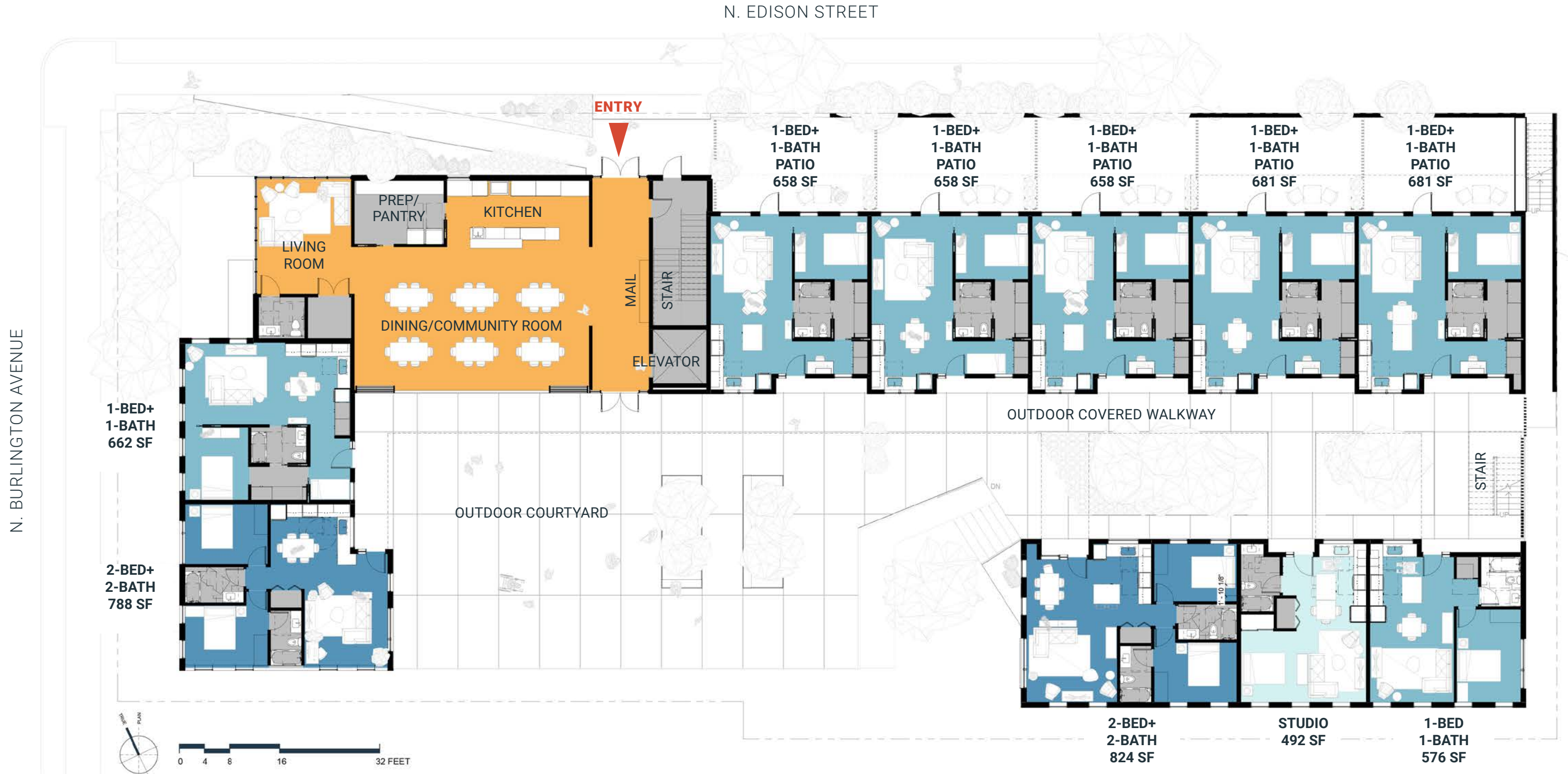




FLOOR PLAN LEVEL 01

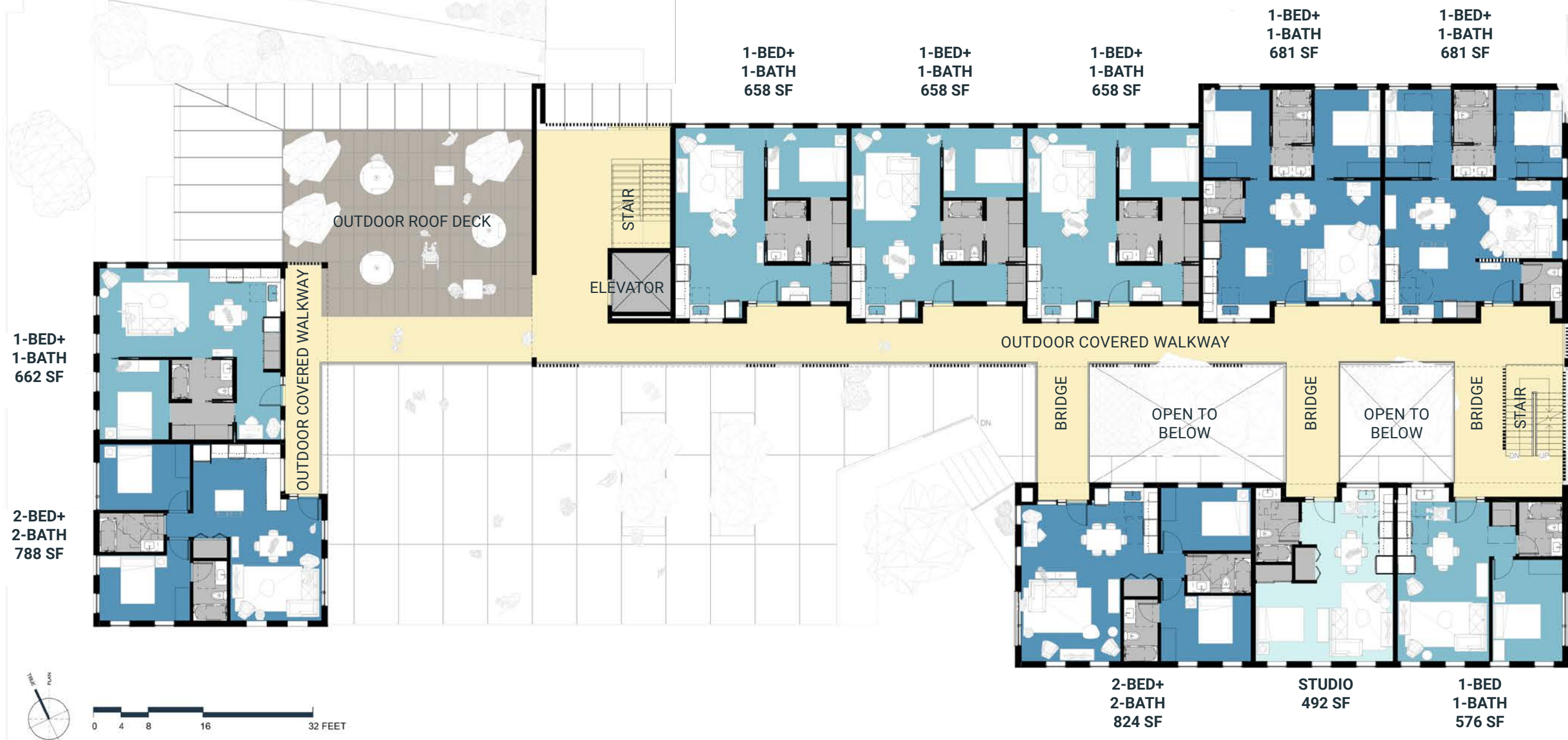
This is the basement level of Our Home – Cathedral Park, and it contains shared amenities such as parking for 15 vehicles, oversized bike storage, a dog washing station, laundry facilities (all units also include washer/dryer connections), and a trash/recycling/compost room.

There is also a private guest suite for residents who have family, friends or a caretaker visiting for an overnight stay.



FLOOR PLAN LEVEL 02

This is the main level of Our Home – Cathedral Park and it contains shared amenities, including a mail area and community spaces such as a living room, kitchen and a multi-use dining space. (Please note that the community space layouts are not finalized and we look forward to design input from early community members.) There are ten units on this level and five of these units have private patios.

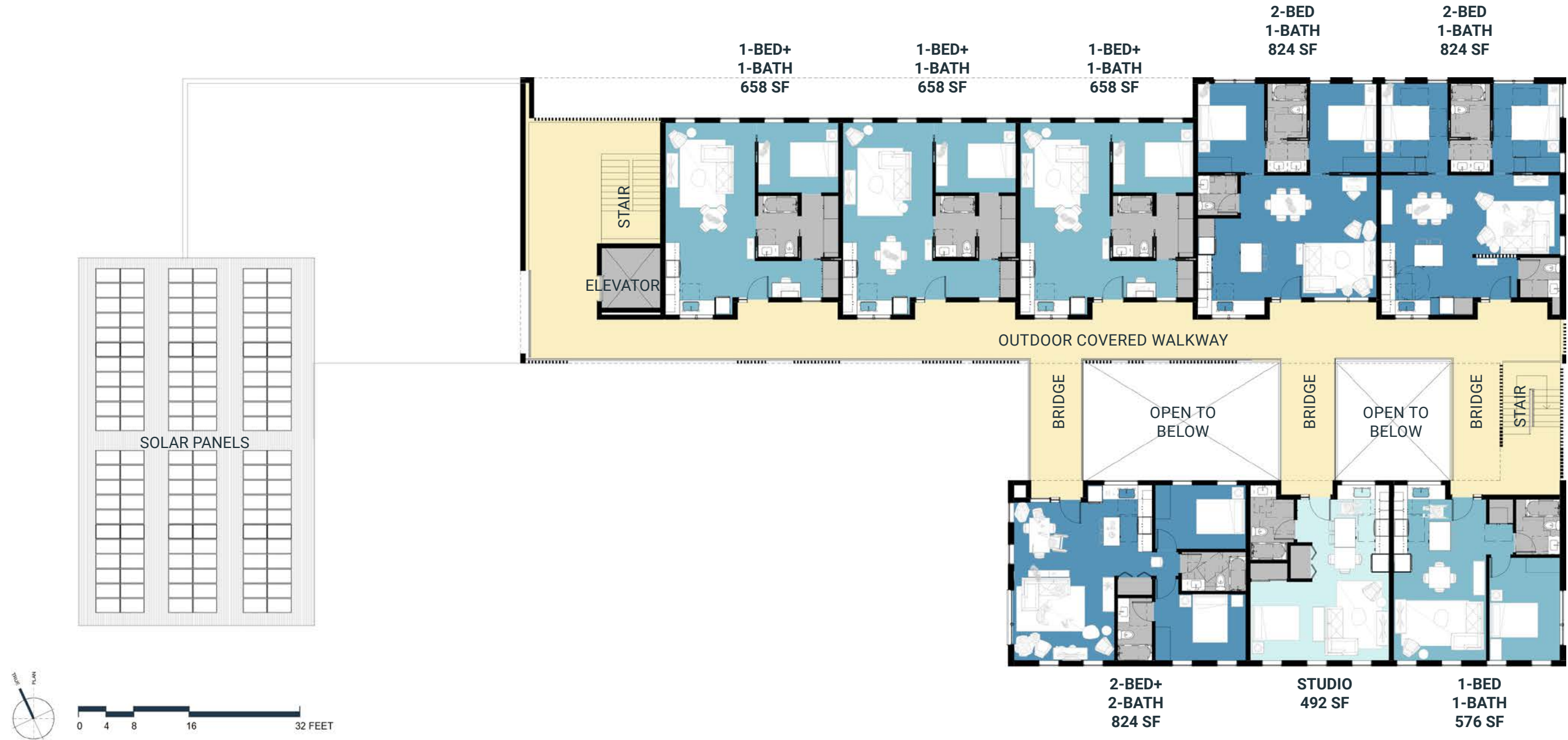


FLOOR PLAN LEVEL 03

This is level three of Our Home – Cathedral Park. There are ten units on this level connected by outdoor covered walkways and bridges. A large roof deck is available for use by all residents, regardless of which floor they live on.

N. BURLINGTON AVENUE

N. EDISON STREET



FLOOR PLAN LEVEL 04

This is level four of Our Home – Cathedral Park. There are eight units on this level connected by outdoor covered walkways.

Our Home is solar-ready, with ideal rooftop orientations to maximize on-site generation of electricity (as shown above).



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS!

Our Home – Cathedral Park is located just 10 miles north of downtown Portland and 12 miles west of Portland International Airport.

A myriad of shops, restaurants, bars, movie theaters, and grocery stores are all within walking distance from your new home.

Forest Park, Cathedral City Park, St. John's City Park, and St. John's Community Garden give you easy access to an abundance of nature.





Alicia with her daughter, Neva and her mother, Jane

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