



# Crest Apartments | 13604 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA

## → Sustainable Building at Skid Row Housing Trust

Crest Apartments is one of Skid Row Housing Trust's (the "Trust") premiere projects that utilizes innovative design to promote a healthy living environment for homeless and low-income individuals. The Trust has capitalized on local public amenities, such as public transportation to connect our community at Crest Apartments around Van Nuys and greater Los Angeles. The Trust is also committed to implementing sustainable strategies in its building to minimize our impact on the environment.



## → LEED for Homes

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a non-profit organization that advocates for sustainable or "green" design that minimizes impacts on the natural environment. It is primarily interested in improving the energy and cost efficiency of the built environment. USGBC has developed the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating and certification systems, which encourage designers to employ sustainable strategies in their work to meet desired environmental standards.

LEED for Homes is the certification system for new residential projects, and Crest Apartments is expected to receive a LEED Platinum certification. For more information on USGBC, the LEED rating system, and the LEED for Homes program, visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).



## → Sustainable Features at Crest Apartments

### *Community Garden, Kitchen and Laundry Room*

Crest Apartments' outdoor space features a community garden for interested residents. In addition to the fresh and healthy produce grown right on-site, the garden also helps residents save money and encourages food security. The landscaping at the Crest Apartments is also equipped with smart irrigation technology (drip system and mini-click rain sensors) to help save water. The building also includes a community kitchen and laundry room that features high-efficiency appliances to help conserve water and energy.

### *Bicycle Storage*

Los Angeles is a city known for traffic congestion and air pollution. At Crest Apartments, the design and construction team have added to the effort to promote green living and a reduction in both pollution and congestion with bicycle storage featured in the building. Seventy bicycle spots are available for residents' use, conveniently and securely located in the rear of the property.

### *Energy Efficient Appliances*

Energy Star is a program managed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); the program evaluates products' energy performance with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs. All residential units, and common areas, are equipped with Energy Star appliances.

### *Construction Materials*

Permanent materials with lower impacts on human health and the environment were used as often as possible throughout the building process. Crest has low VOC (volatile organic compound) finishes to improve indoor air quality. Other materials include high albedo materials, drought tolerant plants, and energy efficient fixtures.

### *Solar Hot Water System*

Crest Apartments provides heated water by absorbing solar energy through solar collectors that are circulated through the panels. The heated water is then stored in a boiler for use at the Crest. The solar panels are located on the roof of the building for maximum performance.

## ➔ **Overall Building Performance**

Crest Apartments is projected to achieve LEED Platinum Certification.



Left Image by Iwan Baan  
Upper Right Image Courtesy of Skid Row Housing Trust  
Lower Right Image by Iwan Baan