

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC



Artist rendering of pool at Aura at Camelback

Aura list checks sustainability

"We are committed to building a project that offers sustainable luxury living, which is something new to buyers."

Chad Gifford,
president and founder of Catalyst Communities

Catalyst Communities, the developer of Aura at Camelback, a 36-unit sustainable luxury living community to be built in Phoenix, launched a "Sustainable Luxury Living Checklist." The checklist outlines key features consumers can look for when shopping for an environmentally friendly home and is available for free download at www.auraatcamelback.com.

The Sustainable Luxury Living Checklist is designed around Aura at Camelback's three strategic pillars: sustainability, luxury and community. For instance, sustainable homes should be environmentally designed at the system level, optimized to improve energy efficiency in all home systems – interior and exterior.

Aura at Camelback is a 36-unit townhome project located in a bustling business, shopping and entertainment district known as the Camelback Corridor, one of the most sought-after residential destinations in Arizona. Units at Aura range from 2,469 to 3,147 square feet and are priced from \$900,000 to \$1.3 million. Each of the 36 residences will be fitted with a solar photovoltaic system from Agenera, a Phoenix-based solar utility provider that will generate up to 100 percent of the electricity needs

of the unit. The solar electricity system is so efficient that Catalyst Communities is offering a zero electricity bill "guarantee" for the first five years of residence at Aura at Camelback.

Aura at Camelback is designed as Silver LEED for Homes (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), a national benchmark from the U.S. Green Building Council for the design, construction and operation of high performing green buildings. The checklist's eco-friendly aspects are designed around many of the features of the LEED program.

Senior Rae Kristoff Architecture of Phoenix handled the design for Aura at Camelback while Urban Edge Builders of Scottsdale will build the community. Aura at Camelback will break ground in spring 2008 with completion scheduled for mid-2009.