

# Decarb Lunch

Series

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**UBC's Latest & Greatest:  
Passive House, All-Electric  
and Solar**

Fri Oct 28, 2022,  
from 12- 1pm PDT  
Free Webinar | [zeb.org](https://zeb.org)



mood provided by: spring gang  
song: Papa Funk



Metro Vancouver



Edmonton

Calgary



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## PODCASTS



Listen on

Apple Podcasts



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**The ZEBx Podcast is now on  
Spotify, Apple & Google**

## RESOURCES

SORTING:



## Categories:

- ☐ Articles
- ☐ Case Studies
- ☐ Past Events
- ☒ Podcasts
- ☐ Reports
- ☐ Videos & Slides

## Series:

- ☐ Decarb Lunch
- ☐ Deep Emissions Retrofit Dialogue
- ☐ NZER Challenge Playbook Series
- ☐ NZER Challenge Winners Series
- ☐ Tech Demonstration

## Systems:

- ☐ Building Enclosure
- ☐ Domestic Hot Water Heat Pump
- ☐ Geothermal
- ☐ Mechanical
- ☐ Solar Energy



PODCAST &amp; SLIDES

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CLF

**The ZEB<sup>x</sup> Podcast  
Decarb Lunch****Reducing Embodied Carbon  
for Step Code Homes**

Season 2 Episode 1

The ZEBx Podcast Decarb Lunch  
Jan 2022: Reducing Embodied  
Carbon for Step Code Homes

PODCAST &amp; SLIDES

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BC HOUSING

**The ZEB<sup>x</sup> Podcast  
Decarb Lunch****From Net-Zero Energy to  
Near-Zero Emissions**

Season 1 Episode 8

The ZEBx Podcast Decarb Lunch  
Oct 2021: From Net-Zero Energy to  
Near-Zero Emissions

PODCAST

zeb<sup>x</sup>

UDI

**The ZEB<sup>x</sup> Podcast  
Decarb Lunch****Developer/Builder Recipes for  
Low-Cost, All-Electric, Step 4  
Residential Construction**

Season 1 Episode 5

The ZEBx Podcast Decarb Lunch  
Jul 2021: Developer/Builder  
Recipes for Low-Cost, All-Electric,  
Step 4 Residential Construction

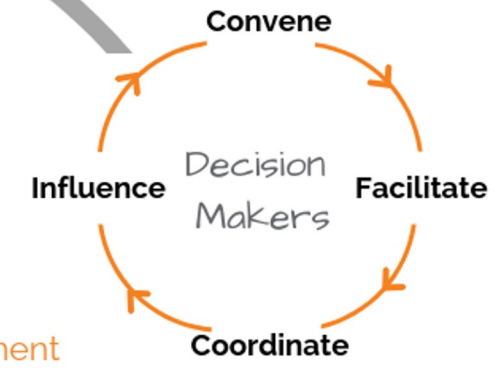
**COLLABORATE**  
Accelerate Solutions



Designers  
Builders  
Academia  
Developers  
Manufacturers



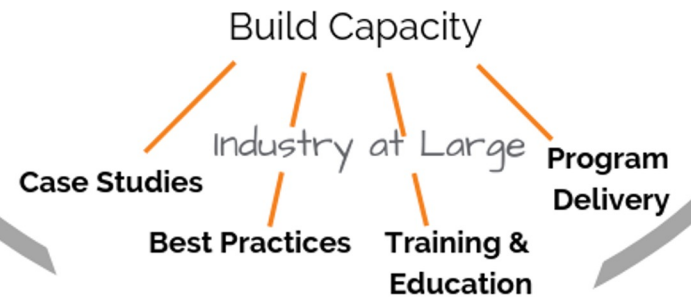
~~**ADVANCE**~~ **ACCELERATE**  
Remove Barriers &  
Identify Opportunities



Government  
Global Experts  
Mission-Aligned Organizations  
Industry Associations



**SCALE**



zebx.org





## Become a Member

Becoming a member of B2E is simple and free. As a member you will enjoy the following benefits:

- Numerous collaboration opportunities with industry leaders through working groups, subcommittees, B2E events, case study development, and publishing online articles;
- Early access to building electrification news, updates and events;
- Recognition on B2E website and acknowledgement that your organization is fully engaged in the decarbonization of the building sector.

[Join B2E](#)

## What is Building Electrification?

Building electrification is about making the shift away from fossil-fuels and using low-carbon electricity for space heating, hot water and cooking.

Instead of using natural gas or propane to run appliances like furnaces, kitchen stoves, washers and dryers, everything is electric.

Read more about building electrification on our FAQ page.

[View FAQ](#)



We are a broad **coalition working together** to electrify buildings in British Columbia in order to reduce their climate impacts and reliance on fossil fuels.



[b2electrification.org](http://b2electrification.org)



Carbon  
Leadership  
Forum  
**Vancouver**

joins



ZEBx is proud to announce the **Carbon Leadership Forum, Vancouver** has joined our organization.

[clfvancouver.com](http://clfvancouver.com)







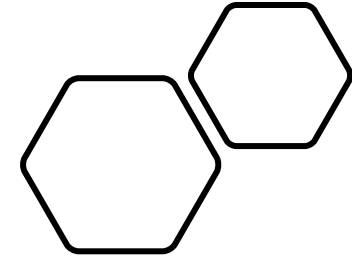
# CASE STUDY

## Skeena Residence

Net-Zero Energy-Ready Challenge Winners Series

February 2021

zeb<sup>x</sup>



When the University of British Columbia decided to add another student residence to their Okanagan campus in 2017, the UBC Board of Governors decided to pursue Passive House certification for the project to affirm UBC's reputation as a leader in sustainability. This was an ambitious goal. Not only was this going to be UBC's first Passive House project, but no other educational institution in Canada had yet attempted Passive House certification for a student residence.



# CASE STUDY

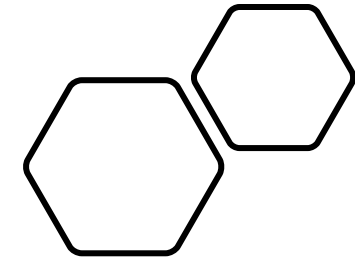


**OSO**

Net-Zero Energy-Ready Challenge Winners Series

October 2022

**zeb**x



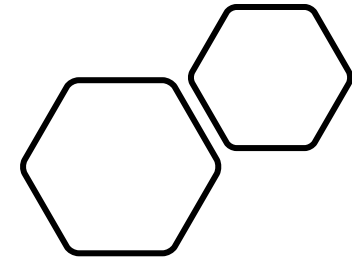
What makes the OSO residential development in Golden BC impressive is not just the fact that the buildings are all-electric (climate-friendly), energy-efficient (top step of the BC Energy Step Code), and climate-resilient, but also how they were constructed in a highly cost-effective way. This had a lot to do with the developer/builder that has several high-performance building projects under its belt. Check out our most recent, in-depth case study on this finalist of the CleanBC Net-Zero Energy-Ready Challenge.

# The ZEBx Podcast

## Decarb Lunch

### Overheating: Will the need for cooling accelerate decarbonization?

Season 2 Episode 5



Can the need for resilient buildings translate into a need for all-electric buildings? This past May, ZEBx was joined by the City of Vancouver for this event focused on overheating, featuring speakers from the University of British Columbia and RDH Building Science. New developments and building retrofits must take future climate conditions into consideration to ensure occupants remain safe in their residences. Cooling is part of this consideration, but can it be a path to a future where zero-emissions buildings are the norm?



POLL 1

Tell us about yourself!

Three-part anonymous poll







# Evolve--Staff & Faculty Rental Housing

*UBC's Latest And Greatest: Passive House, All-Electric and Solar*

John Madden | Director Sustainability and Engineering  
Campus and Community Planning | University of British Columbia





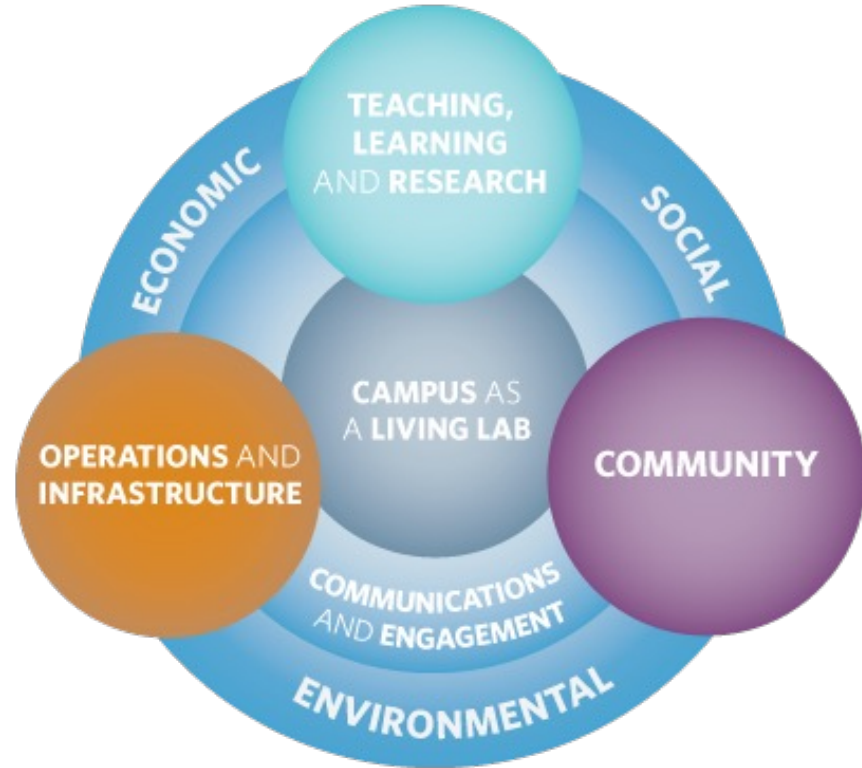
# UBC CONTEXT

## Vancouver Campus

- 1000 acre campus
- 44,000+ students (FTE)
- 13,000+ staff and faculty (FTE)
- 20,000 residents
- 500+ buildings
- 15 million sf building floorspace
- 90,000+ daytime population

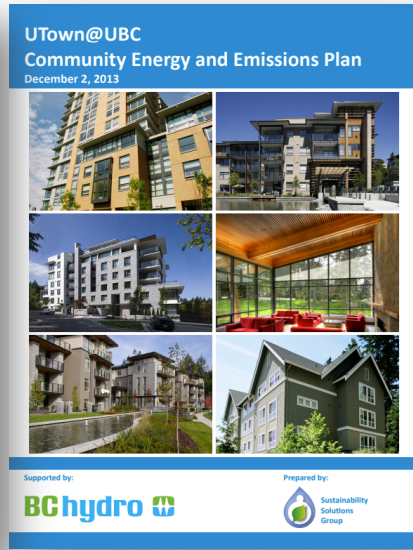
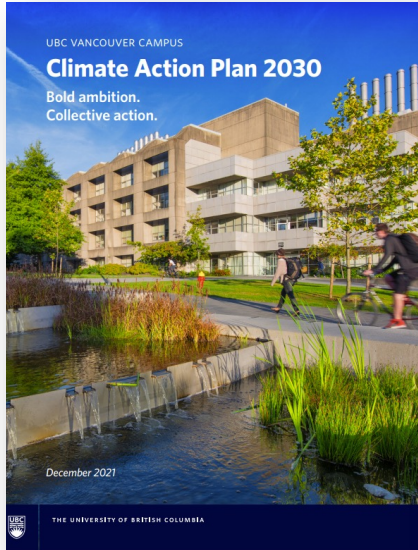


# UBC CAMPUS AS A LIVING LAB

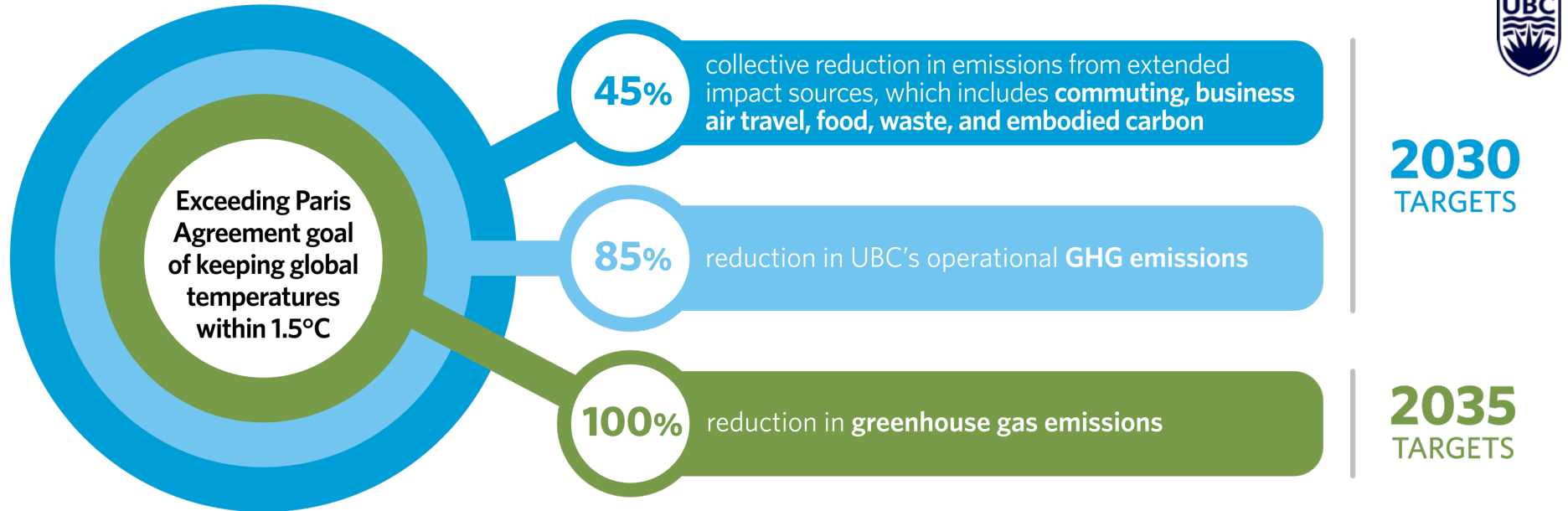




# UBC POLICY CONTEXT



# CAP 2030 TARGETS





# UBC NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEM



- PHASE 1:**
- Building Connection
  - Piping
  - Energy Centre
- OTHER PHASES:**
- Building Connection
  - Piping
  - TRIUMF Cooling Loop (2024)
  - Energy Sources

# EVOLVE FUNDING CONTRIBUTION FROM NRC GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FUND



The screenshot shows the Government of Canada website with the following content:

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Search Canada.ca

Canada.ca

## Canada Invests in UBC Green Infrastructure Demonstration Projects

From: [Natural Resources Canada](#)

### News release

July 23, 2019      Vancouver, British Columbia      Natural Resources Canada

The Government of Canada believes that clean energy technology innovation must be affordable, reliable and sustainable to support Canadians as we build a low-carbon economy. To these ends, Canada is delivering more options for families to make greener choices while creating good, middle-class jobs.

The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, today announced \$5.8 million in funding to the University of British Columbia (UBC) for two projects that will improve Canadians' quality of life and reduce pollution as we build a clean energy future.

The first project, in partnership with BC Hydro and Cypress Power, will support a system for electric vehicle charging stations, with an investment of \$2.3 million. This project will also help inform the development of guidelines for wireless charging and give UBC access to a fleet of two dozen electric vehicles.

The second project, in partnership with UBC Properties Trust, will build a six-storey certified passive house for staff and faculty at the UBC Vancouver campus and install state-of-the-art monitoring equipment in a second building, with an investment of \$3.5 million. The project will evaluate and compare the two multi-unit residential buildings (MURB) to gather data such as energy use, emissions and indoor environmental quality to speed up the adoption of more net-zero energy MURBs throughout Canada.

Funded through the Green Infrastructure Program, these demonstration projects will provide significant data for future clean energy projects throughout Canada.

Canada's climate plan includes over 50 measures to protect the environment and leave a healthier planet for future generations, including actions to protect our oceans, phase out coal-fired electricity, invest in renewables and public transit and reduce plastic pollution. Zero-emission vehicles and energy efficiency in buildings play a key part of Canada's plan to combat climate change, while growing the economy.

- 30 -

- **UBC received \$3.5 M from Natural Resources Canada (NRC Green Infrastructure Fund) to help support achieving Passive House Certification and Net Zero Energy Ready (Step 4)**
- **Research and Monitoring UBC School of Architecture + Landcape Architecture**







THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

John Madden | Director | Sustainability + Engineering |  
UBC Campus & Community Planning

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## POLL 1

What did you tell us about yourself?





PASSIVE HOUSE

**Part 2**  
Construction



EVOLVING



WE ARE HERE

2

**Construction**  
October 2022

1

**Strategy,  
Process &  
Design**  
February 2021  
[Read more >](#)

3

**Performance  
& Occupant  
Evaluation**  
2024



Introduction

ENR CALIFORNIA

2018  
Design Firm  
of the Year

NEW BUILDINGS INSTITUTE

2018  
Top Zero Energy  
Architect

Projects of all scales with a focus  
on innovation, human performance  
& environmental stewardship.



760+  
Employees

60+  
in Vancouver

7  
Offices

- Vancouver
- Seattle
- Portland
- Los Angeles
- Denver
- New York
- Washington DC

ZGF

17

Net-Zero  
Energy  
Projects

7

Passive House  
Projects

8

Net-Zero  
Carbon  
projects



Introduction



Founded in  
**1992**

Offices in  
**Vancouver  
Seattle**

**5**  
Passive House  
Projects

**400+**  
Units completed  
in Passive House  
Projects

**Señákw—Canada’s largest  
Net Zero Carbon project**





# Why *Evolve*?



**Lot 11 (late DD)**

**Lot 4 (late SD)**



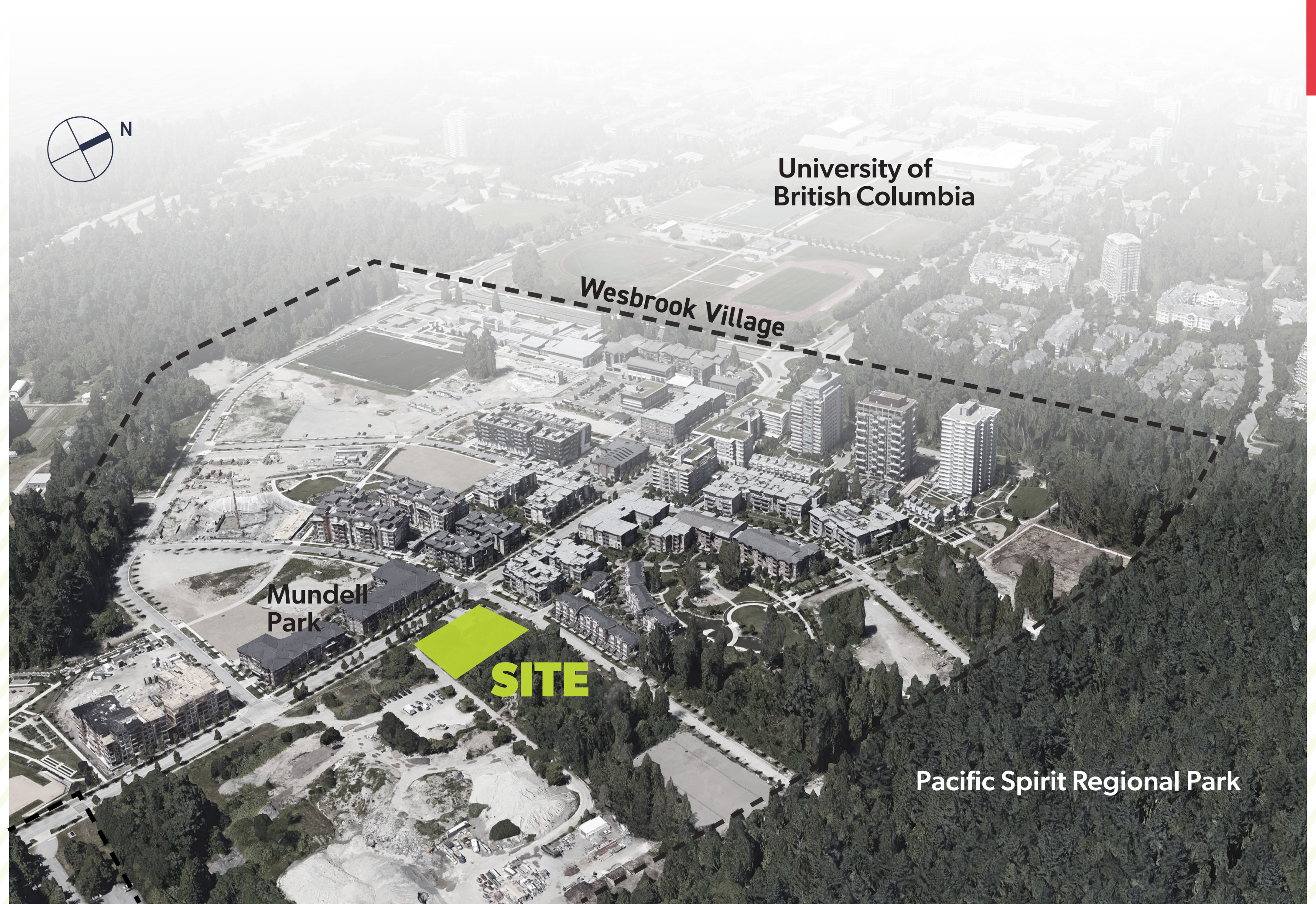
*Evolve*



## Introduction

# About *Evolve*

- 103,000 SF
- 6 storeys
- Wood-frame
- 110 rental units
- Faculty & Staff Housing at UBC Point Grey Campus
- Occupancy Aug 2022





# About Evolve



Passive House Certification targeted	Evolve	Req's
Heating Demand kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /yr	12.3	≤15
Heating Load W/m <sup>2</sup>	8.1	≤10
Cooling Demand kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /yr	0.3	≤15
Cooling Load W/m <sup>2</sup>	0.0	≤10
Frequency of Overheating %	0	≤10
Air Tightness ACH@50	0.3	0.6
Primary Energy Renewable kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /yr	65	≤72



# Building Performance Strategies

## Passive House Principles



## Beyond Passive House



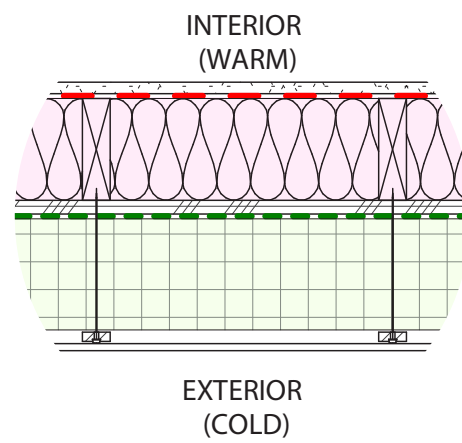
### High Performance Windows

Triple Glazed



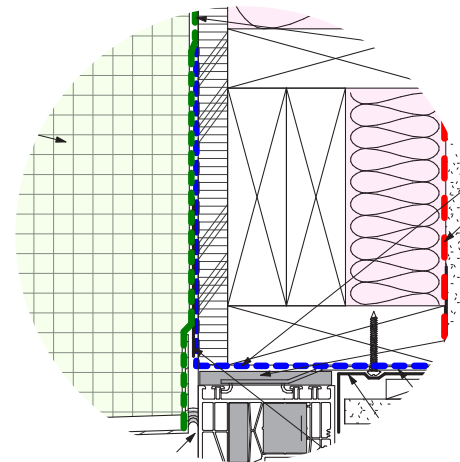
### High-Efficiency Mechanical

Heat Pumps,  
HRV



### Thermal Insulation

R-40+ Walls / Roof



### Building Envelope Continuity

Airtight /  
Thermal-Bridge-Free



### Exterior Shading

Operable &  
Fixed Shades



### Renewable Energy

Photovoltaic Panels



### Energy Metering

Occupant  
Dashboards





### Shading

- Operable and fixed exterior shades and fin walls on east/west elevations help mitigate solar heat gains.
- Shading strategy designed specifically for each elevation.



### Partial Cooling

- Cooling coil integrated in HRV for partial cooling.
- Zoned HRVs (north/south wing and west/east wing) with 85% efficiency provide simultaneous heating and tempered cooling throughout.





LESSONS LEARNED

**Design and  
Construction  
Collaboration**

User  
Centered  
Design

Design Intent  
Constructability  
and Reality



# Integrated Team

- UBC SALA: research
- NRCan: funding body
- AME Group
- Jarvis Engineering Consultants
- Aquacoast
- RDH
- RJC

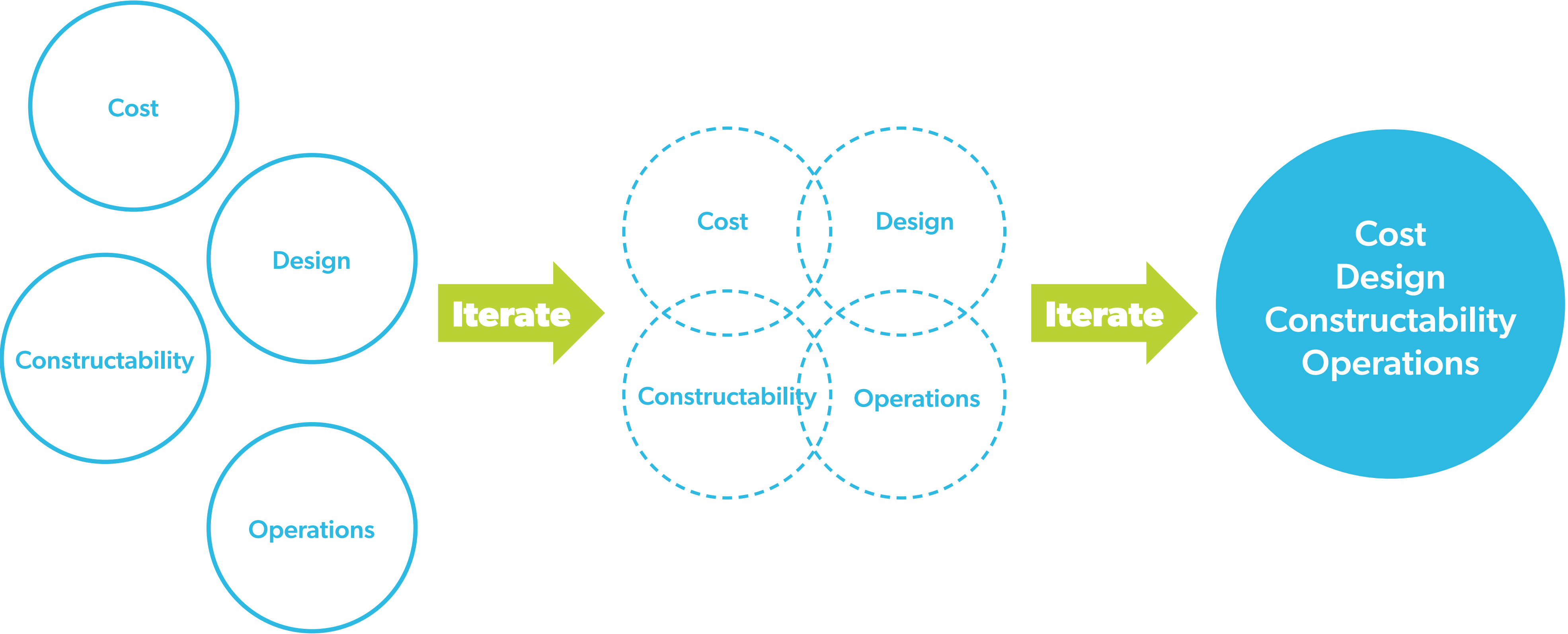


ZGF

**UBC PROPERTIES TRUST**

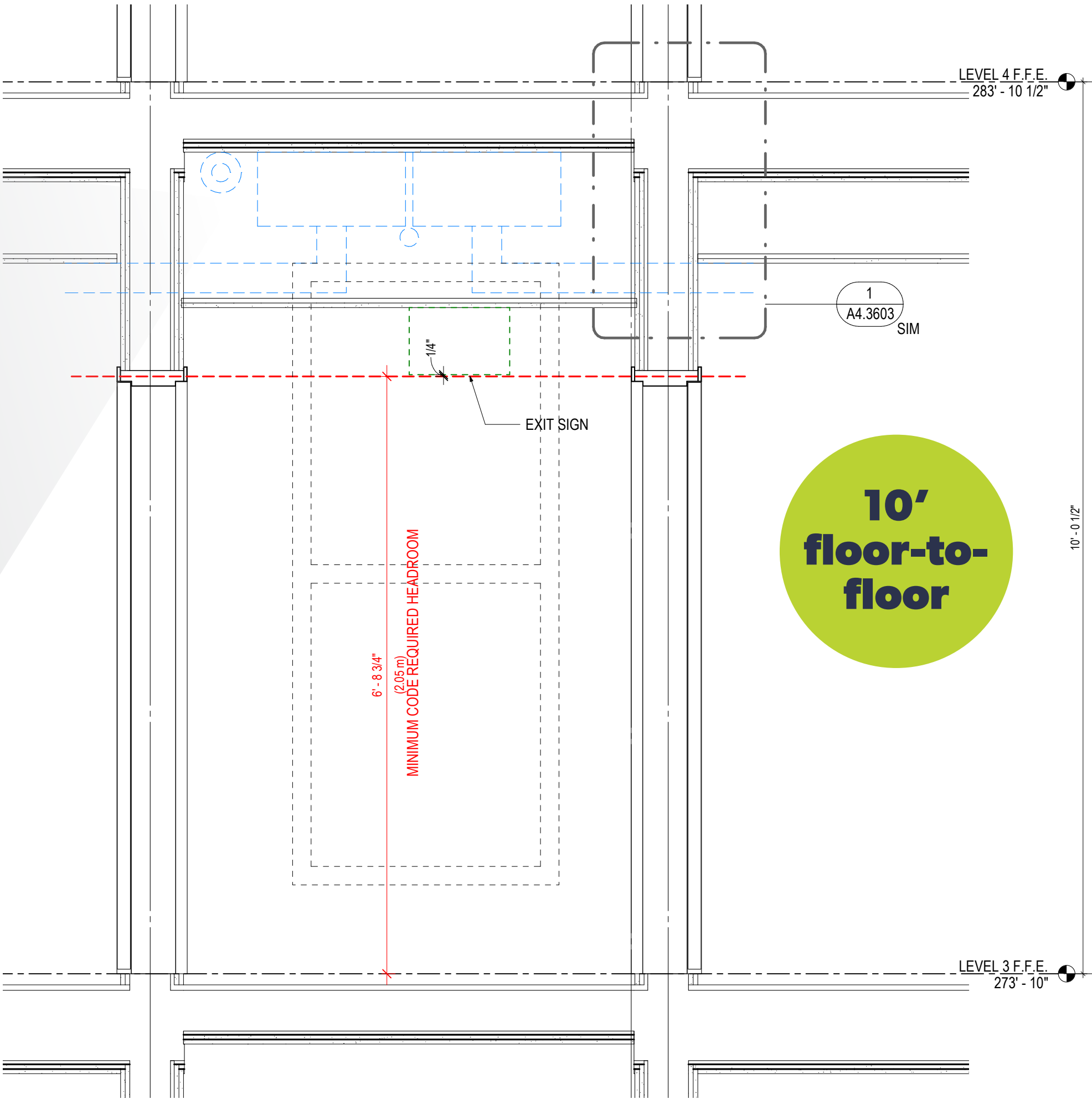
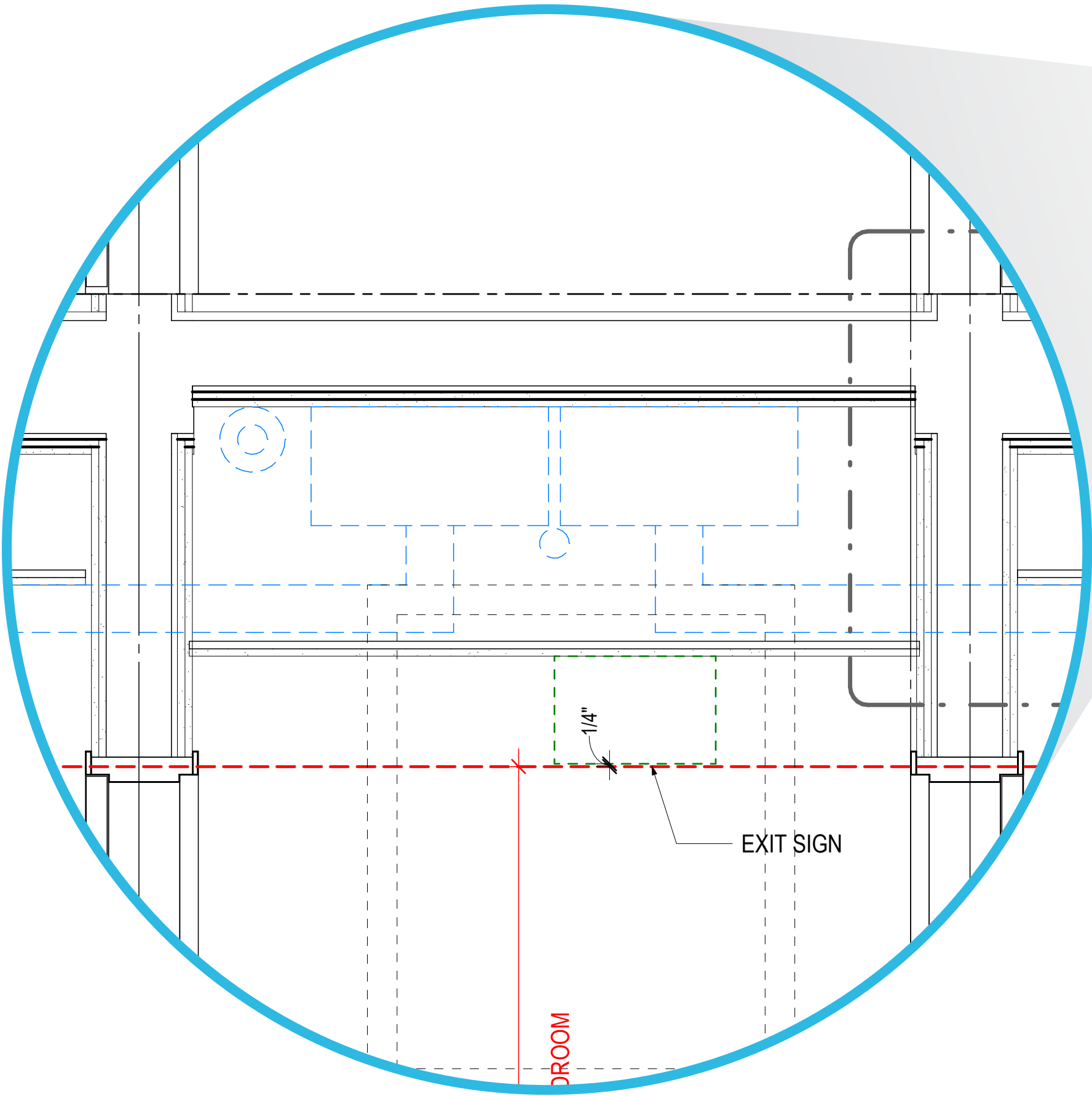
**PEAK**  
CONSTRUCTION GROUP

- Perry + Associates
- CFT: code consultant
- Terratek: PV
- Enerpro: metering
- CADmakers:  
Constructability review





Typical Corridor Section





Description	Ventilation Equipment	Htg. Equipment	Clg. Equipment	Vent. Equip. Layout	Equip. Layout	Htg./Clg. Plant	Fire/Smoke Damper Issue	Ventilation Notes	Maintenance Considerations	Benefits	Negative Considerations	Average Cost Per Suite Heating & AC	Average Cost Per Suite Ducting for distribution SA & Return Air & Suite Ventilation	Vertical Shaft	Horizontal Shaft	FSD's	Elec BB	Total Cost
Suite by Suite (4-pipe FCU) Note the drawings have 1A & 1B reversed, I priced based on this description	Swegon	Jaga	Jaga	In-Suite	Roof/In-Suite	Aermec NRL (1 Htg, 1 Clg)	No FSD's required.	Min. Vent = Smaller distribution duct sizing	In-Suite (Fan & Filters), Mech. Rm. (Pumps etc.)	No FSD's, suite-by-suite controlability (Clg. Only), optimized floor plans, no floor space requirements for Mech.	Ceiling height to accommodate equipment, increased maintenance within suites (quarterly), more thermal bridges thru wall penetrations.	\$14,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$18,000.00
Suite by Suite (VRF)	Swegon	Mitsubishi	Mitsubishi	In-Suite	Roof/In-Suite	Mitsubishi	No FSD's required.	Min. Vent = Smaller distribution duct sizing	In-Suite (Fan & Filters), Roof (VRF Cond. Units)	No FSD's, suite-by-suite controlability (Clg. Only), optimized floor plans, no floor space requirements for Mech.	Ceiling height to accommodate equipment, increased maintenance within suites (quarterly), more thermal bridges thru wall penetrations.	\$11,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$15,500.00
Floor by Floor	Swegon	Baseboard/Vent	Vent (VRF @ HRV)	Mech Rm.	Roof/In-Suite	Mitsubishi	FSD's on all distribution ducting.	Vent. Ducting sized for partial Clg at unit, ductwork larger than min. vent	Mech. Room (Fan & Filters), Roof (VRF Cond. Units)	Optimized floor plans, most maintenance in a owner accesible locations, reduced equipment, reduced piping distribution.	Significant Mech. Rm. Floor area required, FSD's on SA and EA, potential crossovers and impacts on ceiling heights No Individual Suite Control on Cooling, interlock needs to hppen so ther is no simultaneous heating and cooling	\$5,500.00	\$7,000.00			\$1,600.00	\$1,275.00	\$15,375.00
Floor by Floor (serving 2 floors)	Swegon	Baseboard/Vent	Vent (VRF @ HRV)	Mech Rm.	Roof/In-Suite	Mitsubishi	FSD's on all distribution ducting.	Vent. Ducting sized for partial Clg at unit, ductwork larger than min. vent	Mech. Room (Fan & Filters), Roof (VRF Cond. Units)	Optimized floor plans, most maintenance in a owner accesible locations, reduced equipment, reduced piping distribution.	Mech. Rm. Floor area required, FSD's on SA and EA, potential crossovers and impacts on ceiling heights No individual Suite control On Cooling interlock needs to hppen so ther is no simultaneous heating and cooling	\$5,000.00	\$8,000.00		\$500.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,275.00	\$16,375.00
Floor by Floor (serving 3 floors)	Swegon	Baseboard/Vent	Vent (VRF @ HRV)	Mech Rm. OR Roof	Roof/In-Suite	Mitsubishi	FSD's on all distribution ducting.	Vent. Ducting sized for partial Clg at unit, ductwork larger than min. vent	Mech. Room (Fan & Filters), Roof (VRF Cond. Units)	Optimized floor plans, most maintenance in a owner accesible locations, reduced equipment, reduced mech. Space requirements, reduced piping distribution.	FSD's on SA and EA, potential crossovers and impacts on ceiling heights No individual Suite control On Cooling interlock needs to hppen so ther is no simultaneous heating and cooling	\$4,500.00	\$9,500.00		\$1,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,275.00	\$17,875.00
Vertical Distribution w/ Partial Clg	Swegon	Baseboard/Vent	Vent (VRF @ HRV)	Roof	Roof/In-Suite	Mitsubishi	FSD's only required on S/A ducting.	Vent. Ducting sized for partial Clg at unit, ductwork larger than min. vent	Mech. Room (Fan & Filters), Roof (VRF Cond. Units)	Most maintenance in a single location, reduced number of FSD's, reduced equipment, least amount of piping distribution.	Mech. Shafts requirements for ducting, FSD's on SA	\$3,500.00	\$8,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$1,275.00	\$16,075.00
Fully Centralized HRV (4-pipe FCU)	Swegon	Jaga	Jaga	In-Suite	Roof/In-Suite	Aermec NRL (1 Htg, 1 Clg)	FSD's only required on S/A ducting (Potentially none).	Min. Vent = Smaller distribution duct sizing	Roof (Fan & Filters), Mech. Rm. (Pumps etc.)	Most maintenance in a single location, potentially no FSD's, suite-by-suite controlability (Clg. Only)	Mech. Shafts requirements for ducting, maintenance within suites (yearly) (6500 + 3000 controls)	\$9,500.00	\$9,000.00	\$3,000.00				\$21,500.00
Fully Centralized HRV (VRF)	Swegon	Mitsubishi	Mitsubishi	In-Suite	Roof/In-Suite	Mitsubishi	FSD's only required on S/A ducting (Potentially none).	Min. Vent = Smaller distribution duct sizing	Roof (Fan & Filters), VRF Cond. Units)	Most maintenance in a single location, potentially no FSD's, suite-by-suite controlability (Clg. Only)	Mech. Shafts requirements for ducting, maintenance within suites (yearly) (5000 + 3000 controls)	\$8,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$3,000.00				\$20,000.00



Decision Matrix

	Maintenance Considerations	Benefits	Negative Considerations	Cost
System 1	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	\$\$
System 2	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	\$\$\$\$\$
System 3	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	\$\$\$
System 4	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	\$\$\$\$

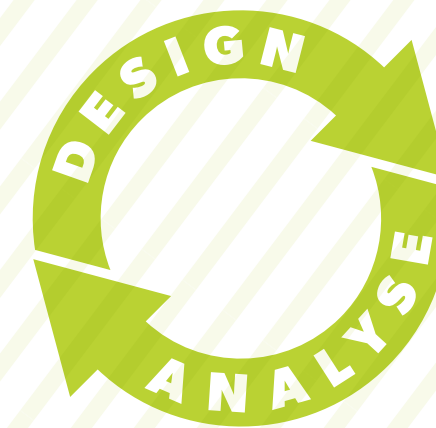
# Iterate together.



**Schematic  
Design**



**Design  
Development**



**Construction  
Documents**



**Construction  
Administration**



Design and  
Construction  
Collaboration

User  
Centered  
Design

**Design Intent  
Constructability  
and Reality**

LESSONS  
LEARNED



## Mid-construction testing



### The Issue

Testing highlights potential issues prior to fully sealing the building and full airtightness testing.

### The Cause

Testing identified that tape left voids. In operation air would escape into building structure causing:

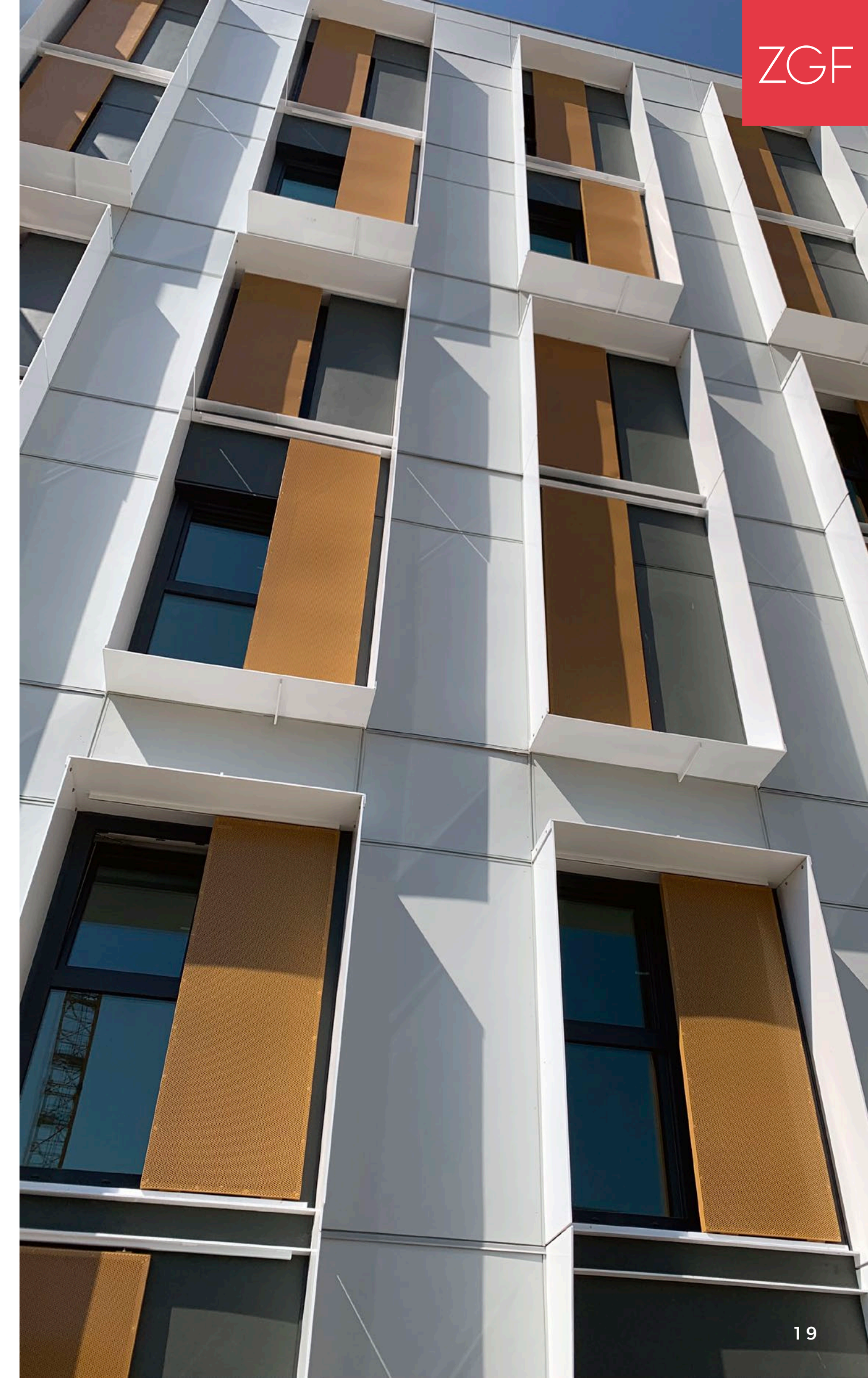
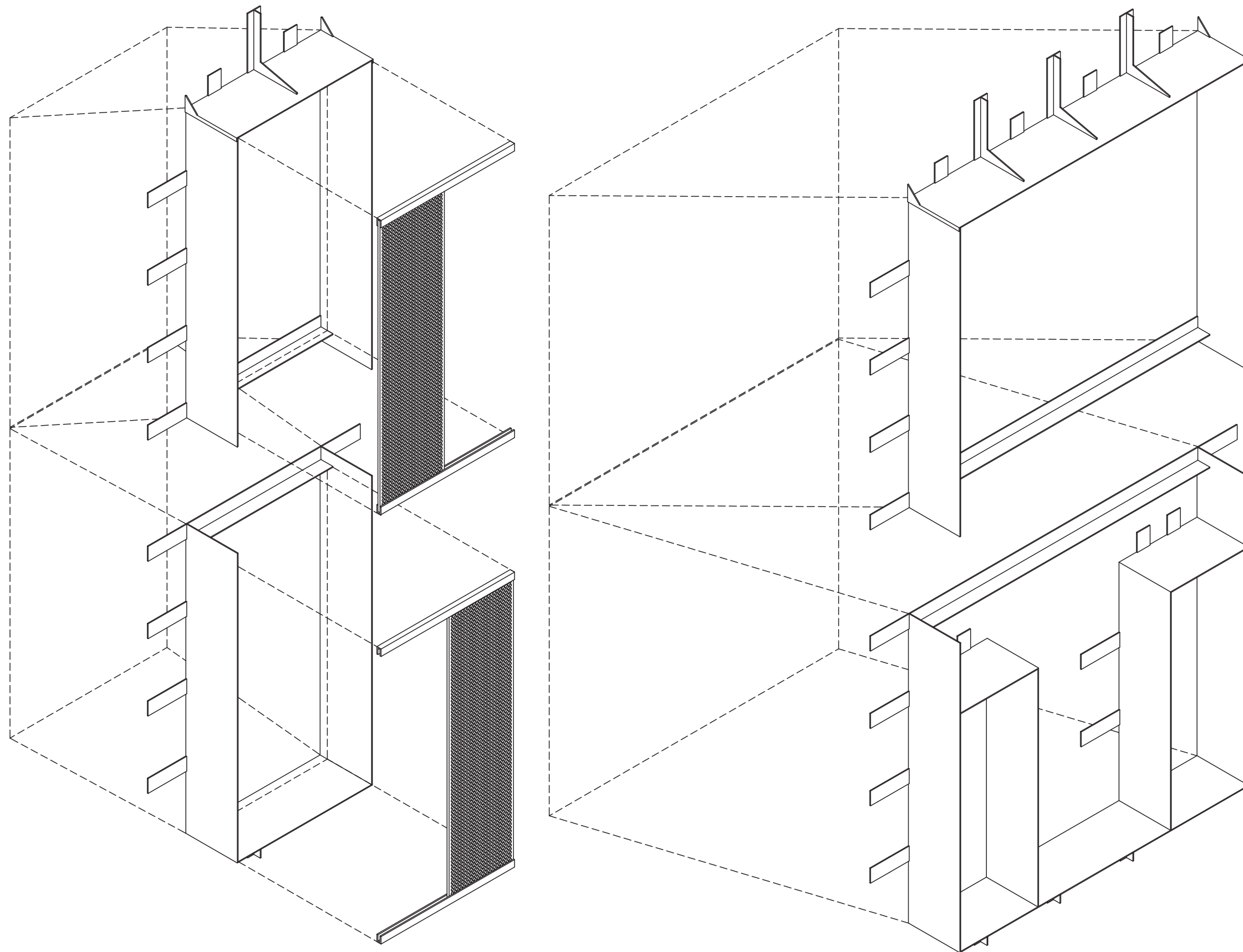
- dampness
- reduced energy efficiency
- potential thermal comfort issues

### The Fix

Testing allowed more cost effective corrective action to be implemented with less impact on schedule.



## Window Shroud Assembly

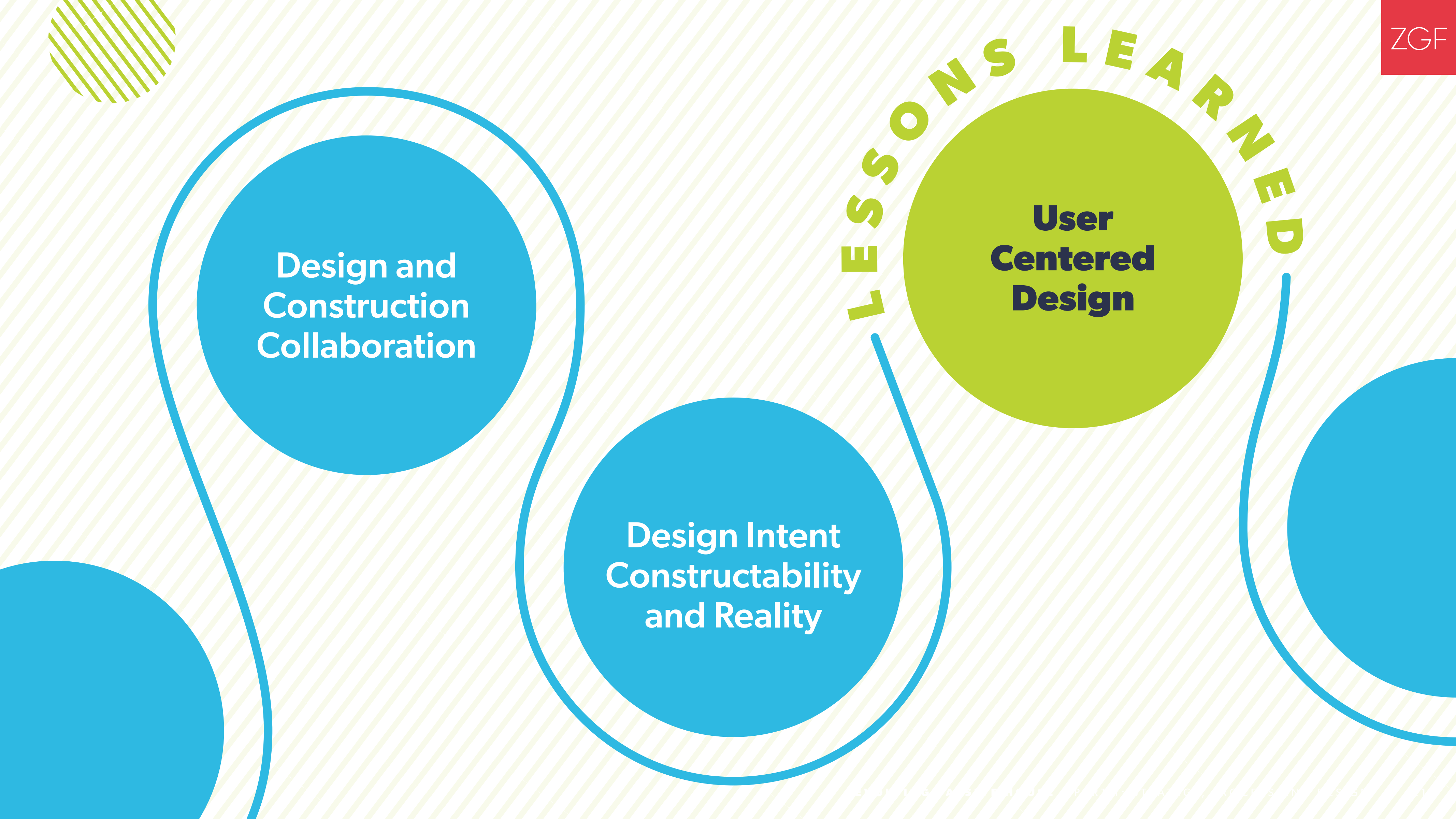




**Respond to issues together  
before they grow.**







LESSONS LEARNED

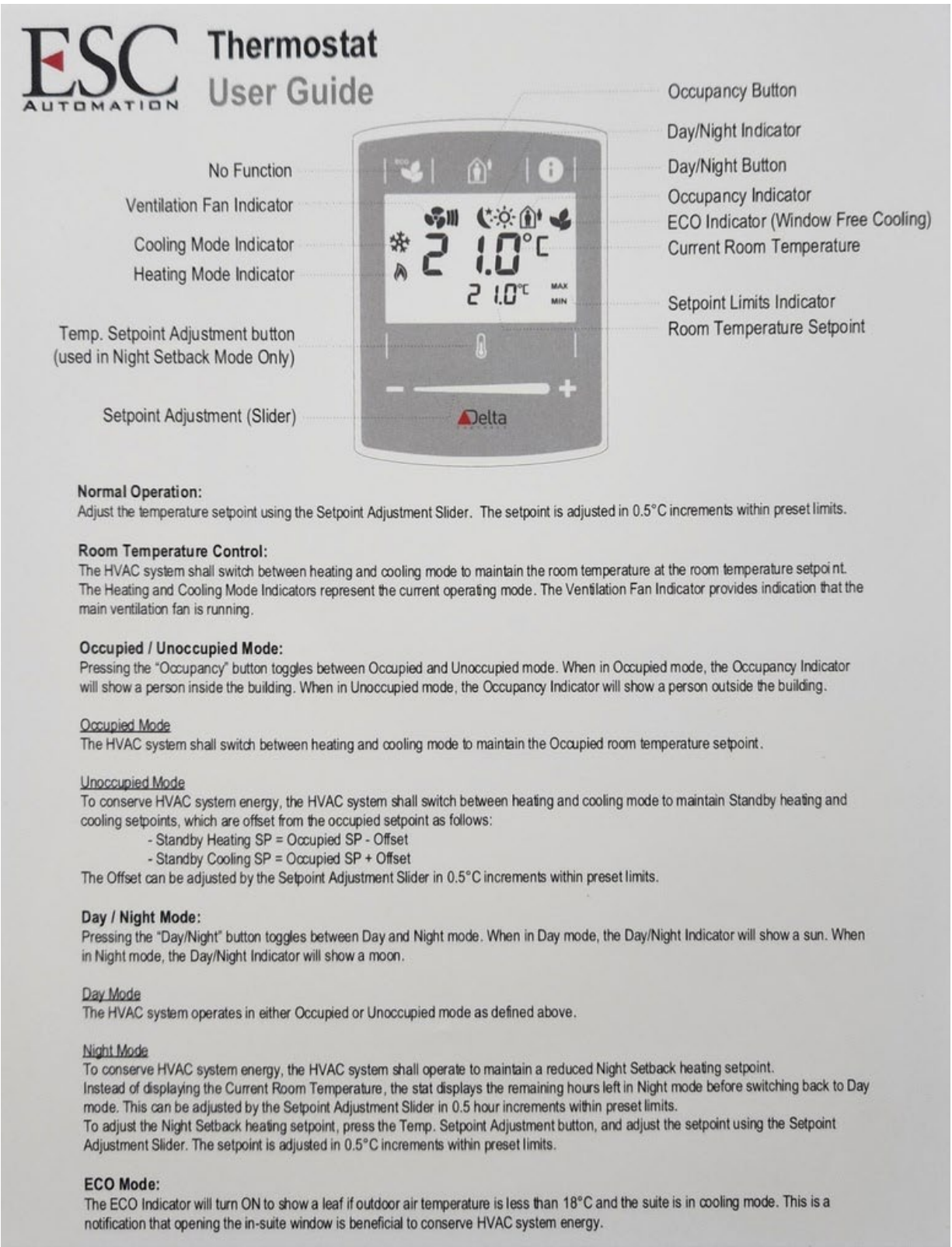
**User  
Centered  
Design**

**Design and  
Construction  
Collaboration**

**Design Intent  
Constructability  
and Reality**



Fire Damper Light



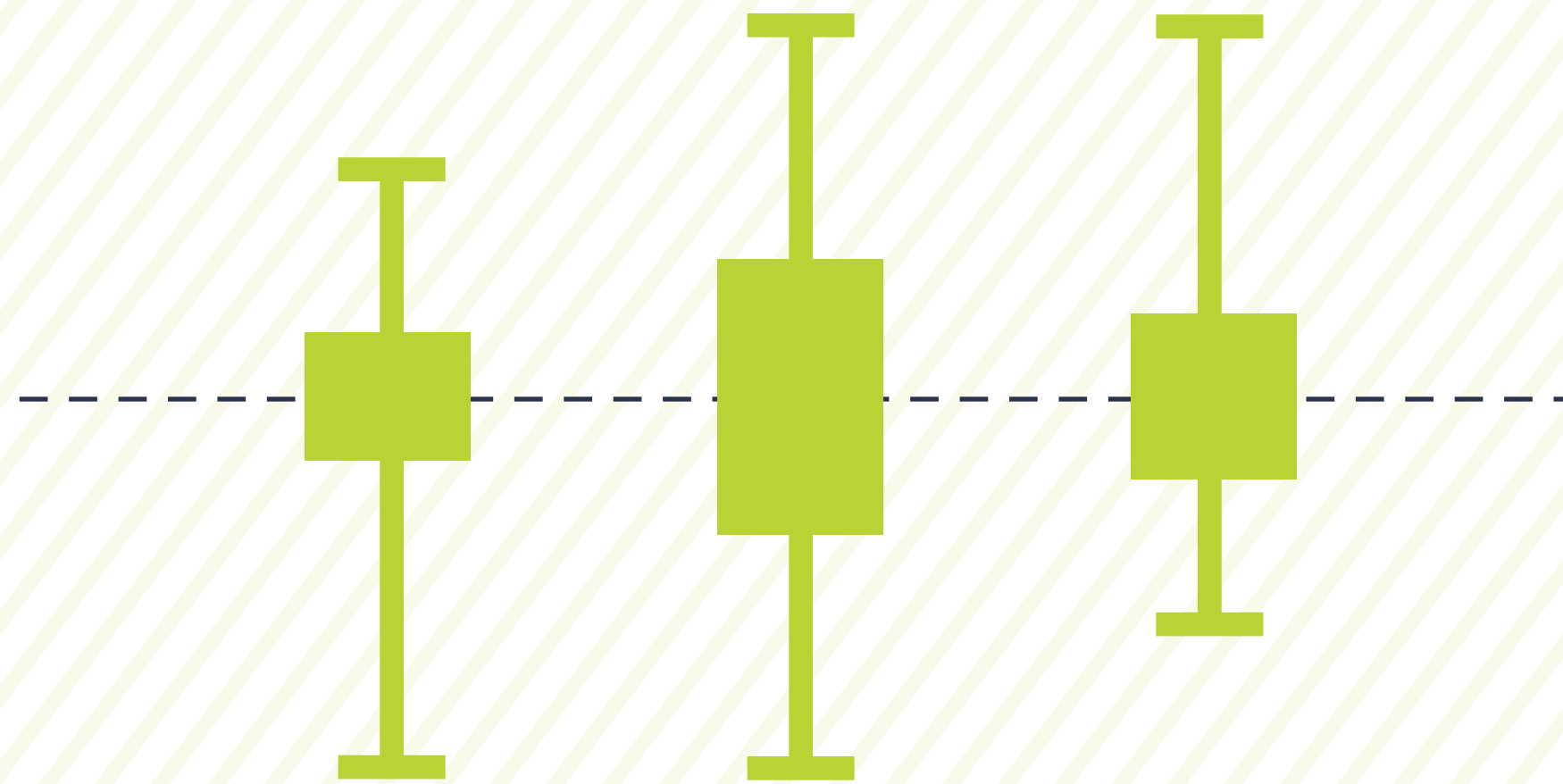
Thermostat User Guide



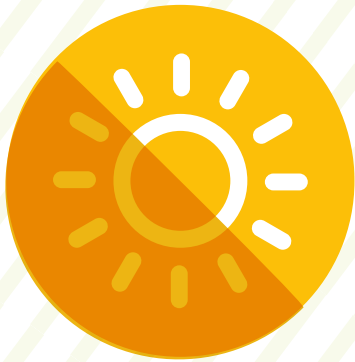




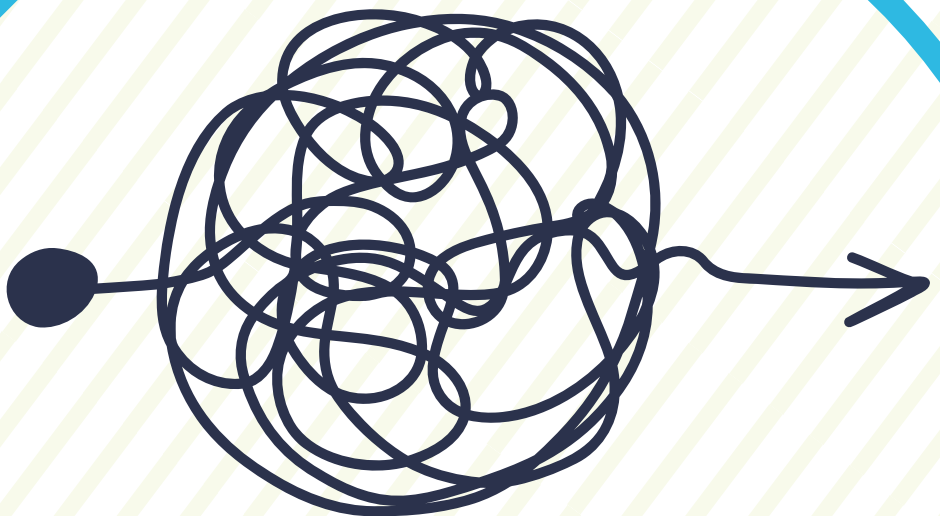
**Design for how people and systems are,  
not for how you want them to be.**





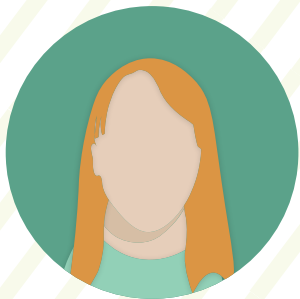


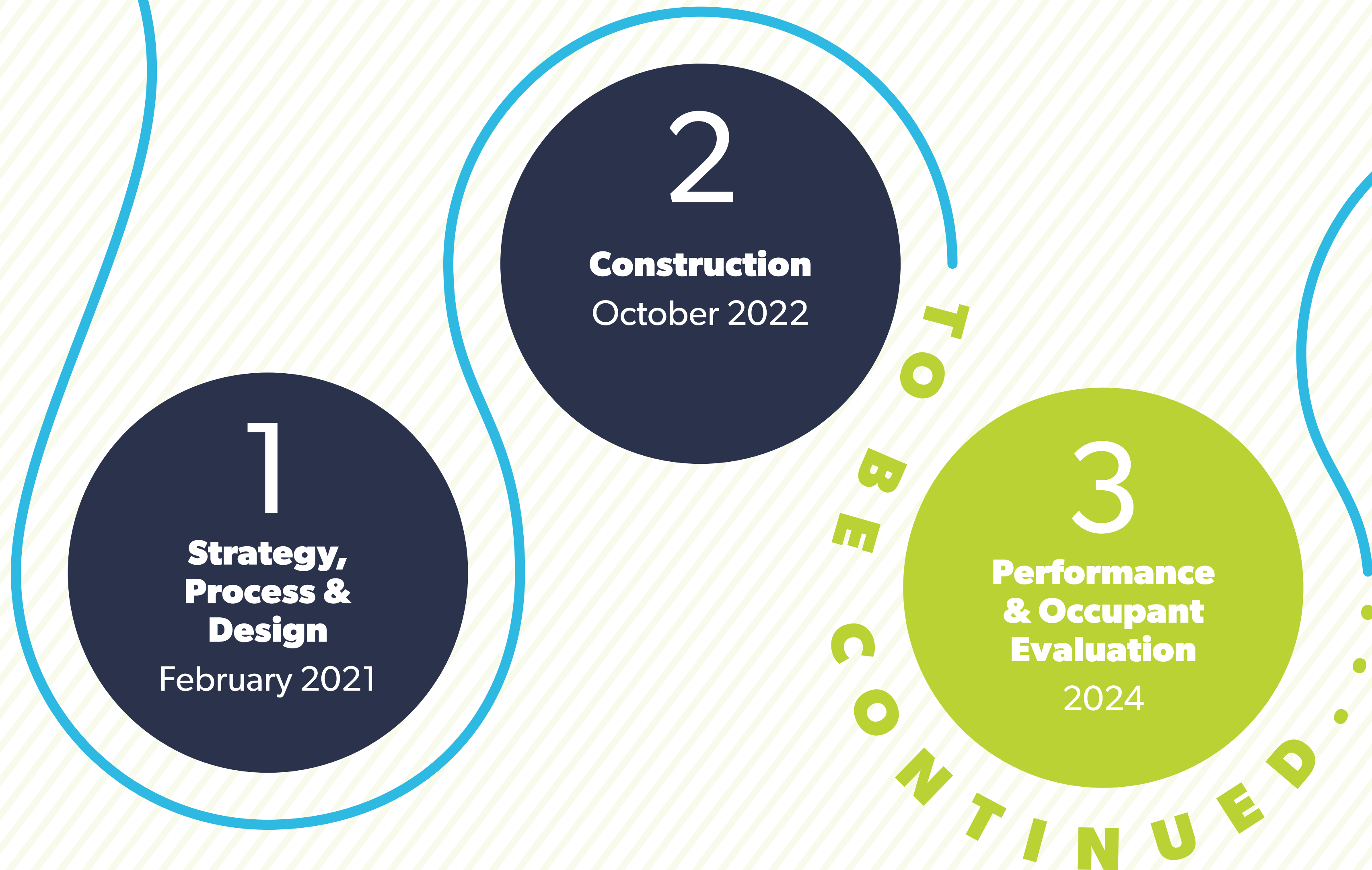
**Thermal comfort  
over certifications**



**Keep it simple**

**Understand  
User Profiles**









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