Mass Timber at Apex Headquarters: A New Benchmark for Sustainability

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Design partner

William McDonough + Partners Architecture and Community Design

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



Course Description

When tasked with creating the new headquarters for Apex Clean Energy in Charlottesville, Virginia, William McDonough + Partners sought a solution that could provide healthy materials, prioritize occupant well-being and harvest daylight and solar energy. To meet these needs, a mass timber structure combined with rooftop solar array was chosen. In this session, hear firsthand from WM+P on how they navigated the code approvals for a 100 ft tall mass timber office building, how natural daylighting and a green roof were incorporated to enhance occupant comfort and promote biodiversity and stormwater retention, and how the design incorporated circular economy tactics, such as the ability to dismantle and re-use the mass timber products after the building's end of service life.

Learning Objectives

- 1. Discuss the role that exposed mass timber framing played in meeting the client's goals of healthy materials and enhanced occupant well-being.
- 2. Explore the code approvals process for a unique, 100 ft tall mass timber office building.
- 3. Highlight the use of 875 roof-and canopy-mounted solar panels on this project, which is expected to produce 364 MWh of energy per year, enough to equate to net-positive energy use by the Apex offices.
- 4. Review how high-value mass timber elements can be dismantled after the building's service life is complete to be re-used in another structure.

design is the first signal of human intention

did we intend to damage the air the soil the water?

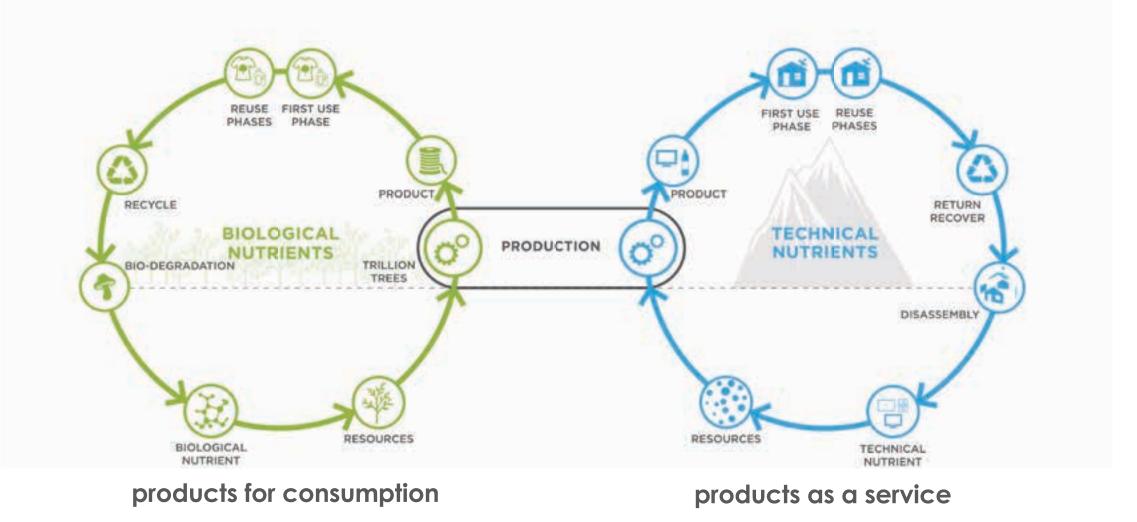


we need a new design

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it is more than just closing the loop... or putting the linear economy in a circle



cradle to cradle circular economy

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C2C an innovation and validation framework





- **Ensuring materials are safe** for humans and the environment
- Enabling a circular economy through product and process design
- Generating clean energy and protecting the climate
- Safeguarding air, water and soil resources
- Embracing safe, fair and equitable labor practices that advance human rights and strong communities





Chemicals and materials used in the product are selected to **prioritize the protection of human health and the environment**, generating a positive impact on the quality of materials available for future use and cycling.





Products are intentionally **designed for their next use** and are actively cycled in their intended cycling pathways.

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Material Health requirements

• All product-relevant process chemicals are assessed as compatible with human & environmental health **PLATINUM** $\bullet \geq 50\%$ of the product by weight is assessed as preferable for human and environmental health • Toxic emissions in the supply chain are addressed by either: Inputs are \geq 75% MHC or \geq 50% C3C Certified w/Gold or Platinum level + strategy to increase percentages OR Environmental & human health impact hotspot LCA + strategy to address identified hotspots GOLD • All chemicals and materials subject to review in the product are assessed (100%) Product is optimized for material health (all chemicals are compatible with human & environmental health) • Product has very low VOC emissions or is inherently non-emitting • Strategy developed to increase the percentage of preferred materials and chemicals in the product OR optimize the chemistry in the supply chain Product is 95% assessed **SILVER** • Product does not contain materials with > 1% C-bonded halogen by weight, recognized PBTs, vPvBs, Cat.1&2 CMRs posing risk, or substances causing an equivalent level of concern Product has low VOC emissions (for products permanently installed in buildings) Product complies with VOC limits (for liquid/aerosol consumer & construction products) Product is in compliance with the Restricted Substances List (RSL) BRONZE • Product does not contain organohalogen substances of special concern (PFAS, HFRs, highly halogenated) or functionally-related, non-halogenated classes of equivalent concern (OPFRs) above relevant thresholds • Product is 75% assessed and 100% characterized by generic material • Strategy developed to phase-out or assess/optimize all unassessed and problematic chemicals

Product Circularity requirements

- At least two intended cycling pathways are defined for the product and its materials
- \geq 99% materials by weight are compatible with intended cycling pathway(s)
- A minimum amount of product is actively cycled
- Monitoring program to track cycling rates/quality and an increase in cumulative rate/quality is demonstrated

PLATINUM

- \geq 90% materials by weight are compatible with intended cycling pathway(s)
- Materials compatible for high value cycling

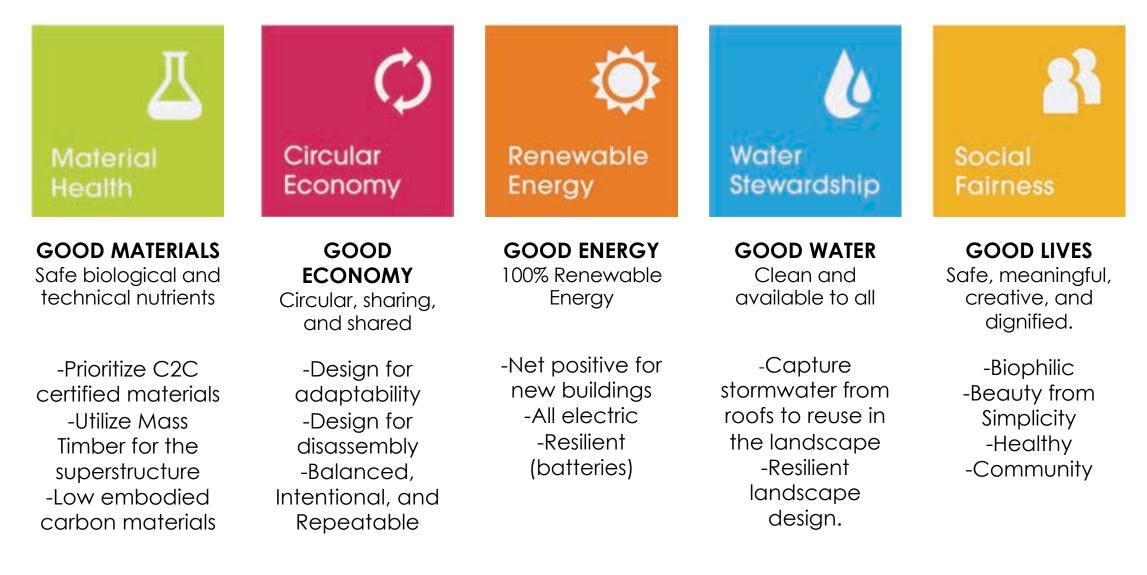
Circular design opportunity implemented

- Product designed for disassembly (if relevant)
- •The product is actively cycled and/or a program is implemented to increase the cycling rate or quality
- of the product's materials after use (also applies at Platinum)
- Cycling partnership(s) initiated
- •≥70% materials by weight are compatible with intended cycling pathway(s)
- Strategy for improving product circularity is developed
- BRONZE

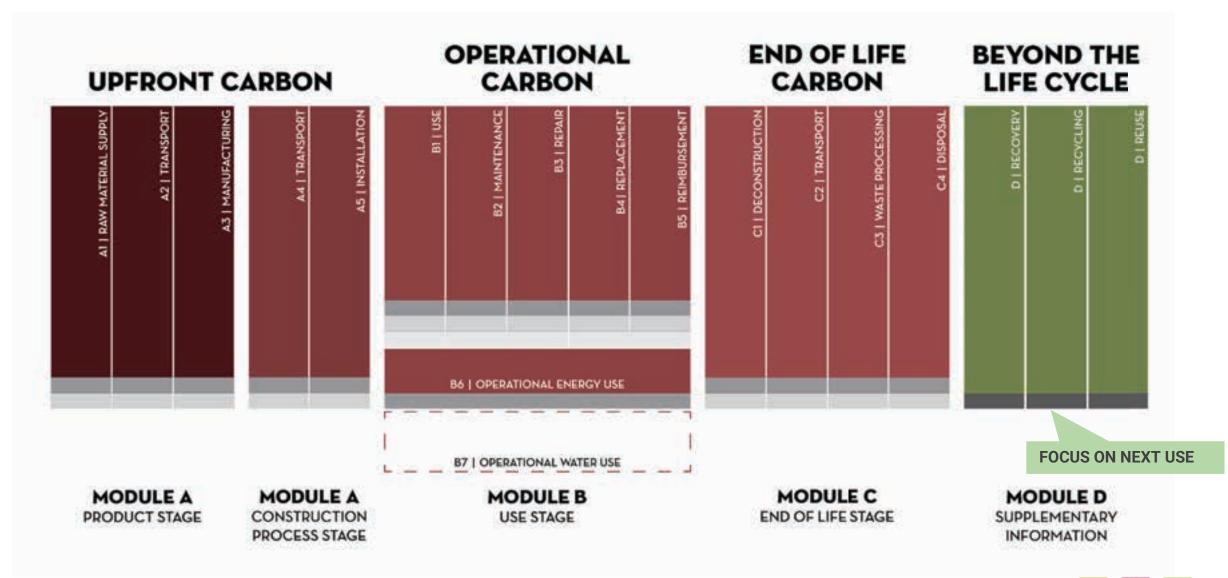
SILVER

- Applicant is involved in a circularity education initiative
- •Intended cycling pathway(s) for the product and its materials are defined
- Plan for improving cycling infrastructure; cycling partnerships identified
- Meets level-specific product/material targets for % cycled or renewable content (targets increase through Platinum) Alternative: limitations are publicly reported
- • \geq 50% materials by weight are compatible with intended cycling pathway(s)
- Circularity data and cycling instructions are publicly available

Cradle to Cradle[®] - inspired The Five Goods[™]



How do our buildings impact the environment | WBLCA





emits oxygen sequesters carbon fixes nitrogen accrues solar energy creates food creates fuel distills water provides habitat creates microclimate changes color self-replicates

a building like a tree goal: carbon positive behavior

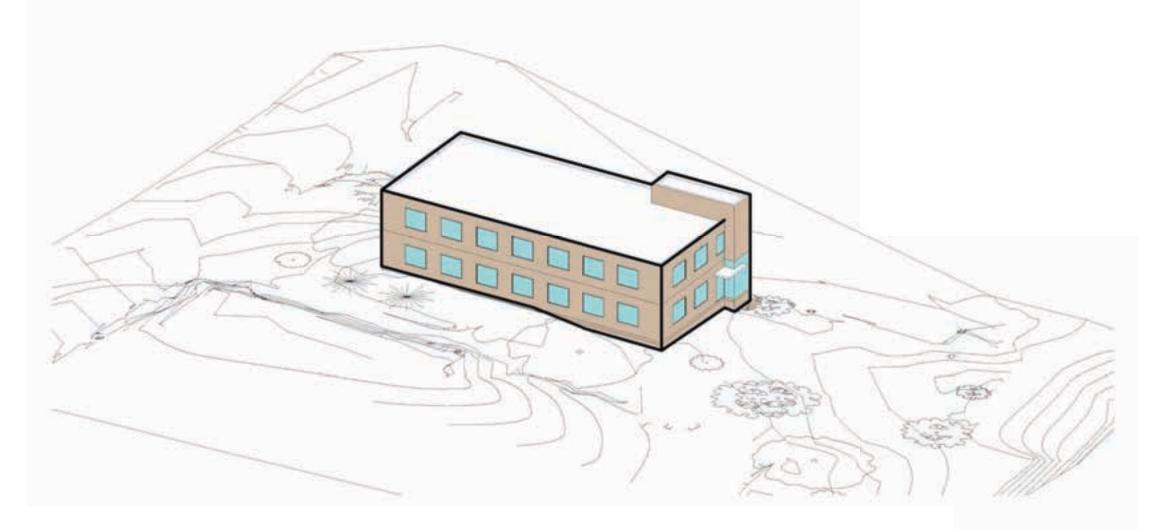
building case studies

Small | MEDIUM | LARGE

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CO|LAB a building like a tree







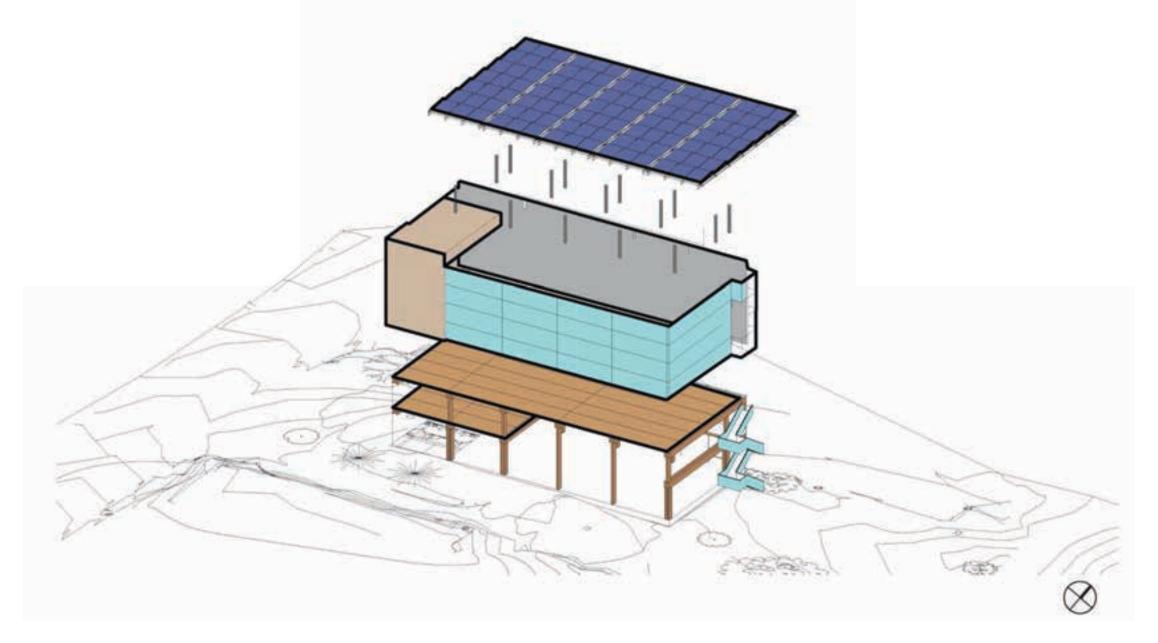


70% of GWP related to the building structure



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Mass Timber | CLT Structure

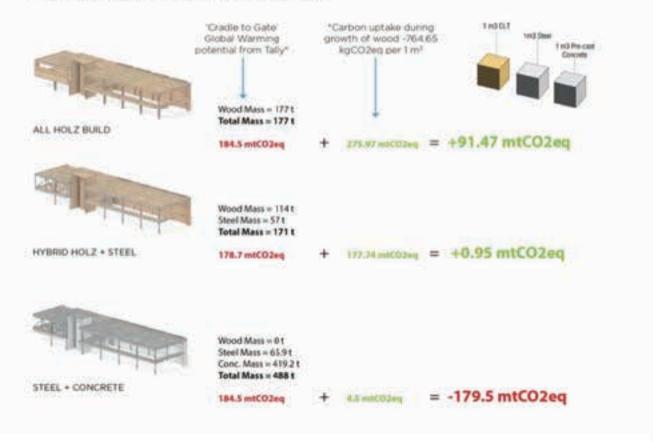


High Performance Skin | Integrated PV Array

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Going beyond zero carbon and toward carbon positive

Using Revit and Tally plugin, the team modeled the wood frame and two alternates (one with a steel frame and CLT decks and walls and one with a full steel and concrete structure. The all wood system was validated as the most environmentally friendly system of the three.

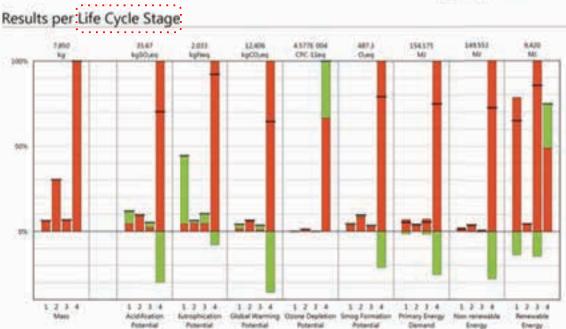


LCA | Carbon Analysis

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Legend





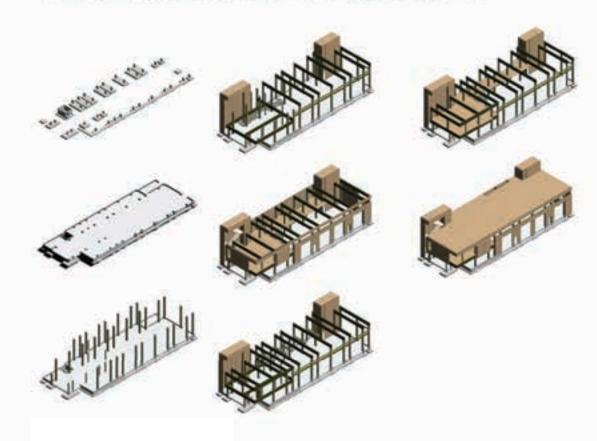
Whole-building LCA Results

Results System Boundary: Cradle to Grave (Ass C)

| Life Cycle Assessment Impact Measures | Baseline Building | Proposed Building | . Grits | Percent Difference (%) |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
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| Needer of mean test with at least 10%, weltering a second of the second | | | | |

Designed for Disassembly in the Circular Economy

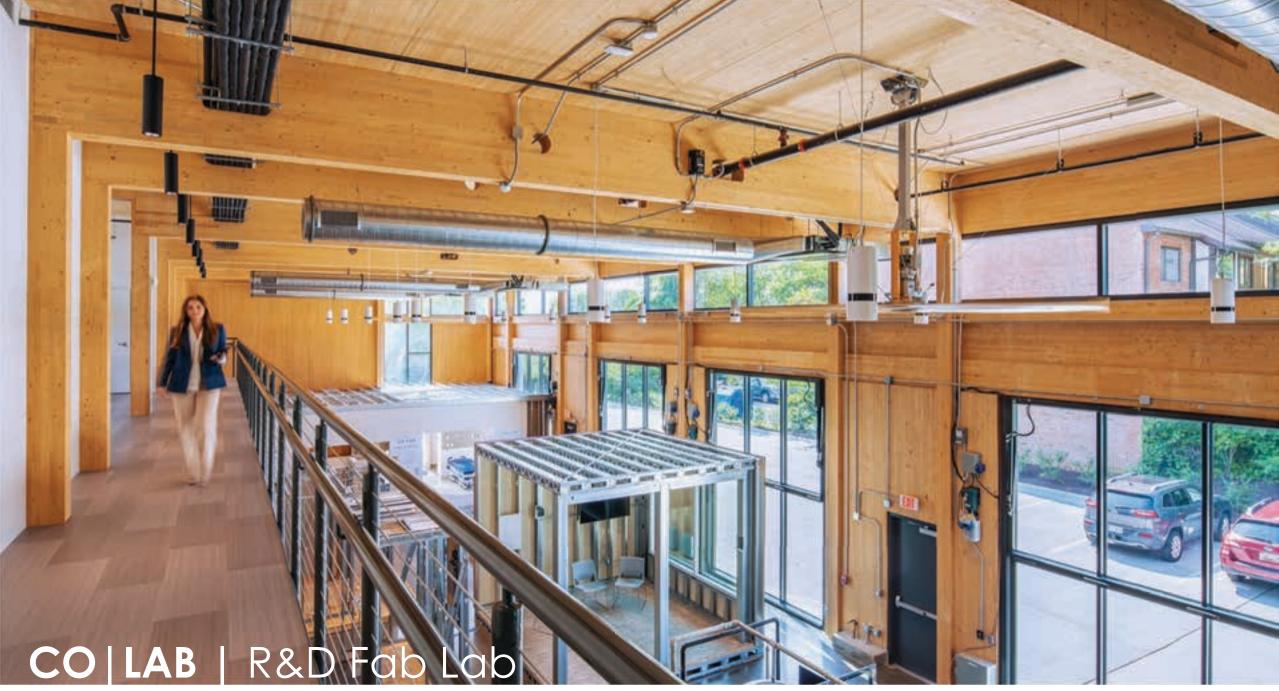
By assembling the building using only mechanical fasteners, the high-value MT elements can be disassembled and then reused or recycled to be endlessly recirculated in a safe, then **circular, economy.** The MT structure provides an interior tactile benefit while also allowing rapid installation of the structural frame and envelope and decreasing the building's carbon footprint.





CO|LAB | Designed For Next Use

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Cost reduction and beauty in using **Cross-Laminated Timber** as a finished product

CO LAB PRESENTATION ©2022 WILLIAM MCDONOUGH + PARTNERS



Safe and healthy materials in a collaborative, flexible workplace



LEED Platinum v4 BD+C Certification

Prioritizing material and human health through the specification of Cradle to Cradle Certified[™] Products, Health Product Declaration, Forest Stewardship Council and Declare products

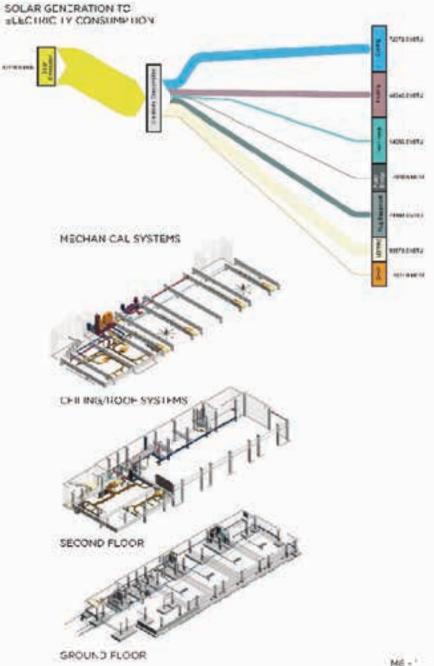




Net-Positive Energy, a model high-performance building

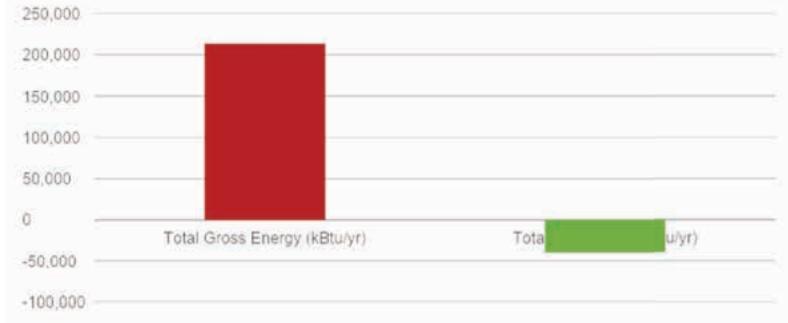


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CO | LAB metrics

designed to be net energy positive



- All Electric VRF
- Predicted Consumed Energy Use Intensity (Site EUI): 25 kBtu/sf/yr
- Predicted Net EUI: -5 kBtu/sf/yr net EUI,
- Carbon emissions: -1.7 lb/sf/yr, net carbon
- Percent from Renewable Energy: 118% integrated for Battery backup & Resiliency

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Apex is working to speed and shape the **energy transition**, pioneering new deployment of clean energy technologies and **decarbonizing** the grid

How do we decarbonize the built environment

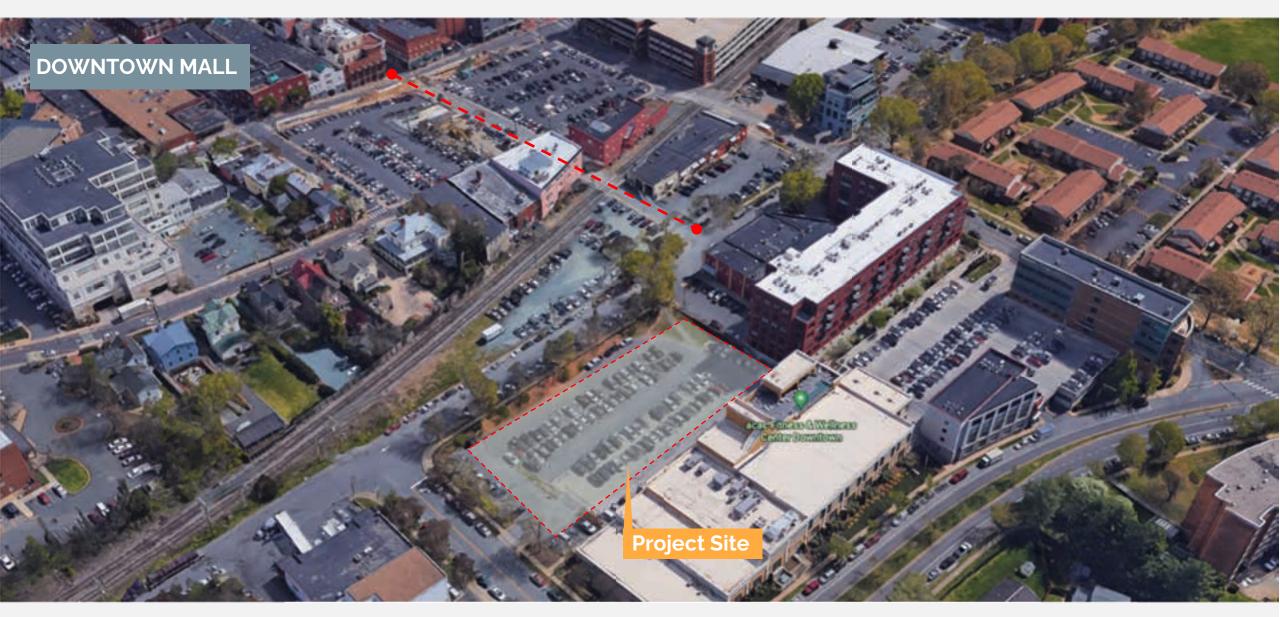
Charlottesville, Virginia



Charlottesville, Downtown Mall

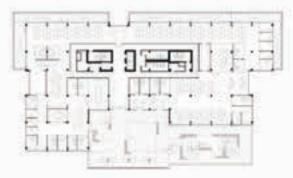


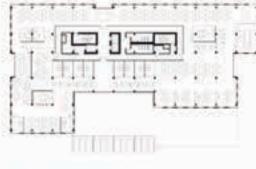
Charlottesville, Downtown Mall



LEVEL 3 WITH ROOF TERRACE





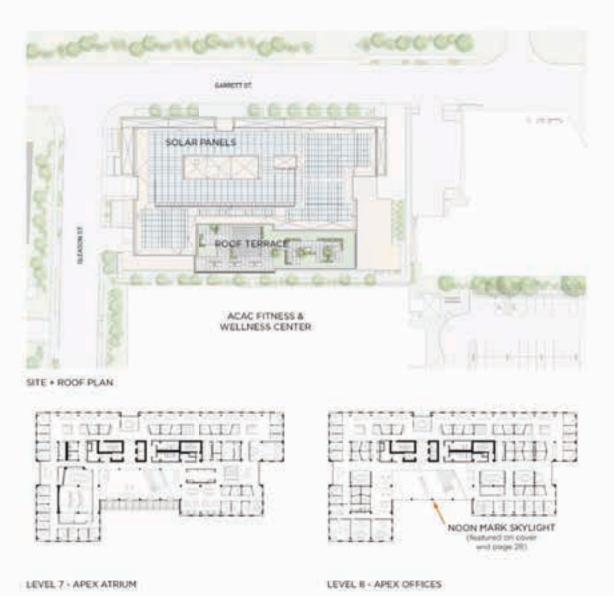




Apex's new offices will bring the company's more

designed for collaboration, health and wellbeing.

than 200 renewable energy experts into one building



Design Positive[™]











Design for Next Use

DfD (Design for Disassembly)



NET ZERO ENERGY

All Electric

No on Site Fossil Fuels

Carbon Free **Renewable Energy**

No Net New Energy Use for APEX spaces

Optimize Operational Energy Use for GhGs

CLIMATE FRIENDLY **MATERIALS**

Mass Timber Structure

Low Embodied Carbon Materials

"Cradle to Cradle Material Approach"

RESPONSIBLE WATER USE

Green Roof

Low Flow and High Efficiency Fixtures.

Stormwater **BMP**

Material Passports

HEALTHY BUILDING

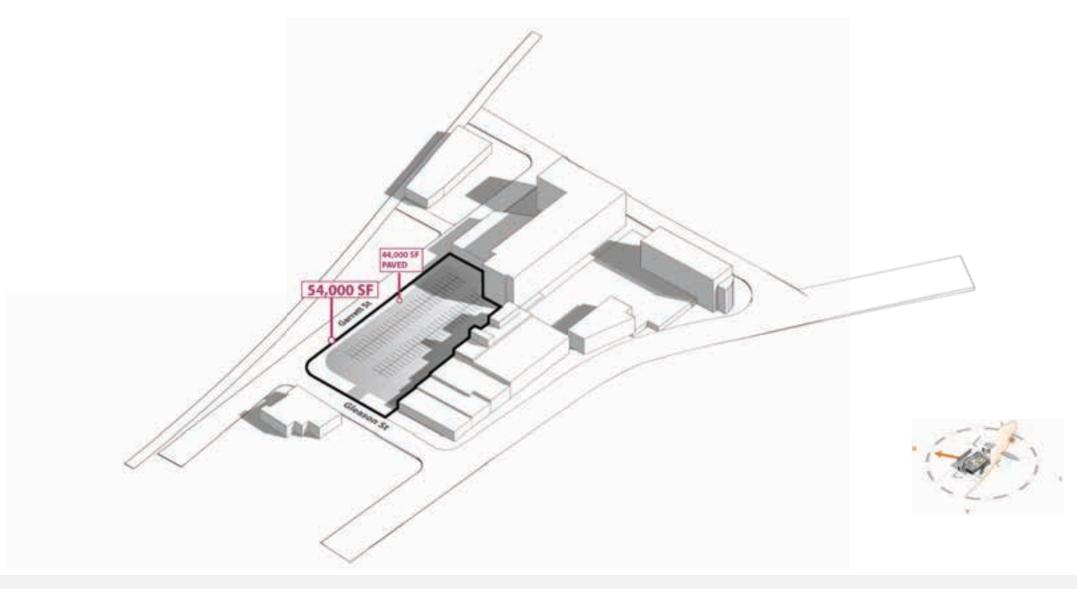
Biophilic

Beauty from Simplicity

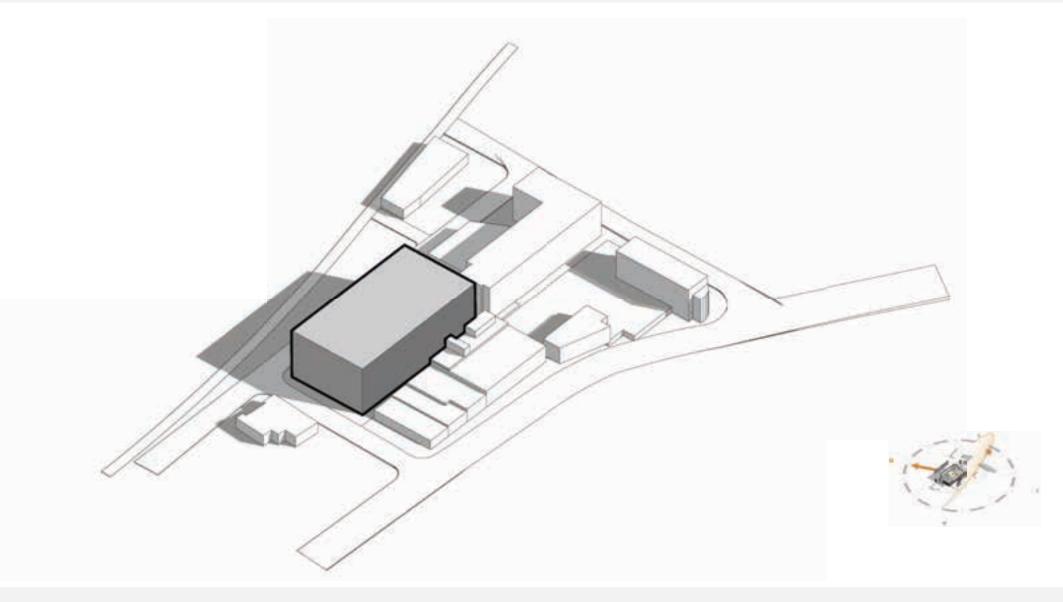
Healthy

Community

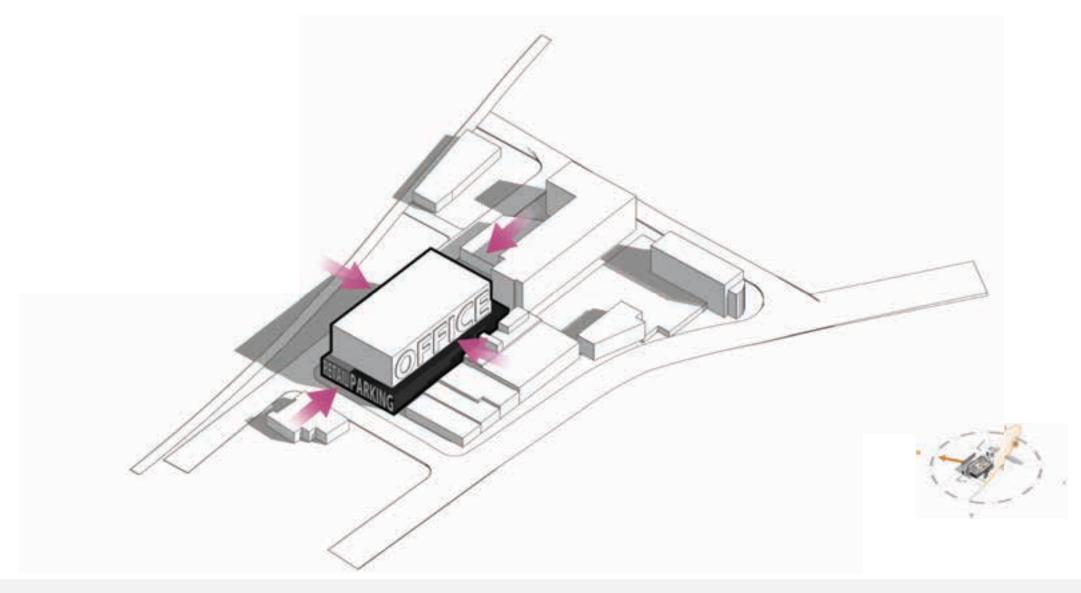
Existing site condition - Downtown Extended corridor ("DE")



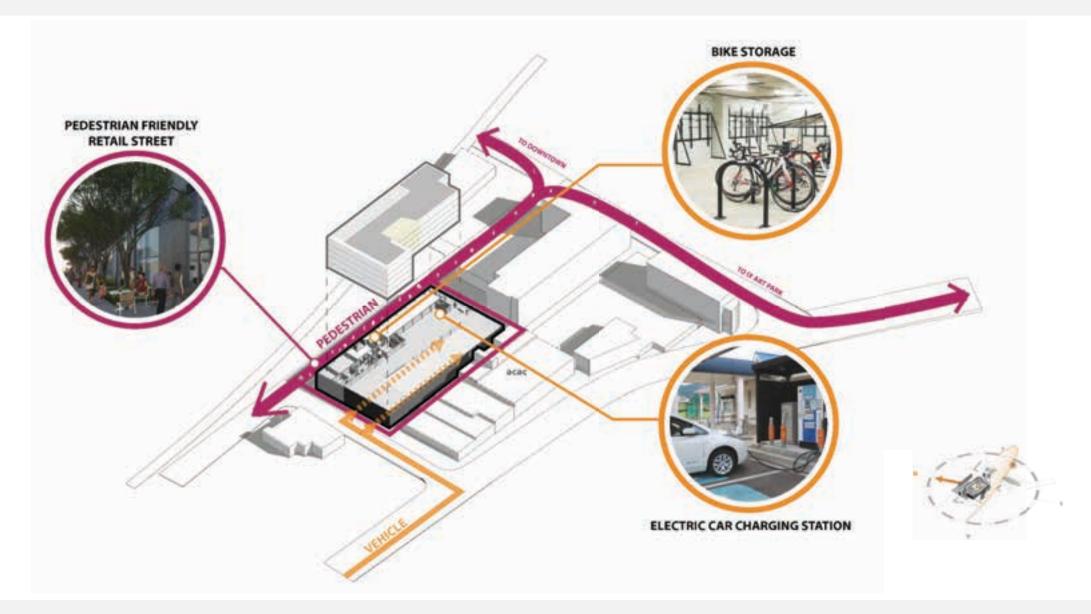
Maximum allowable building envelope - 101' Max Ht



Split massing by program | Step facade per zoning requirement



Ground activities + access



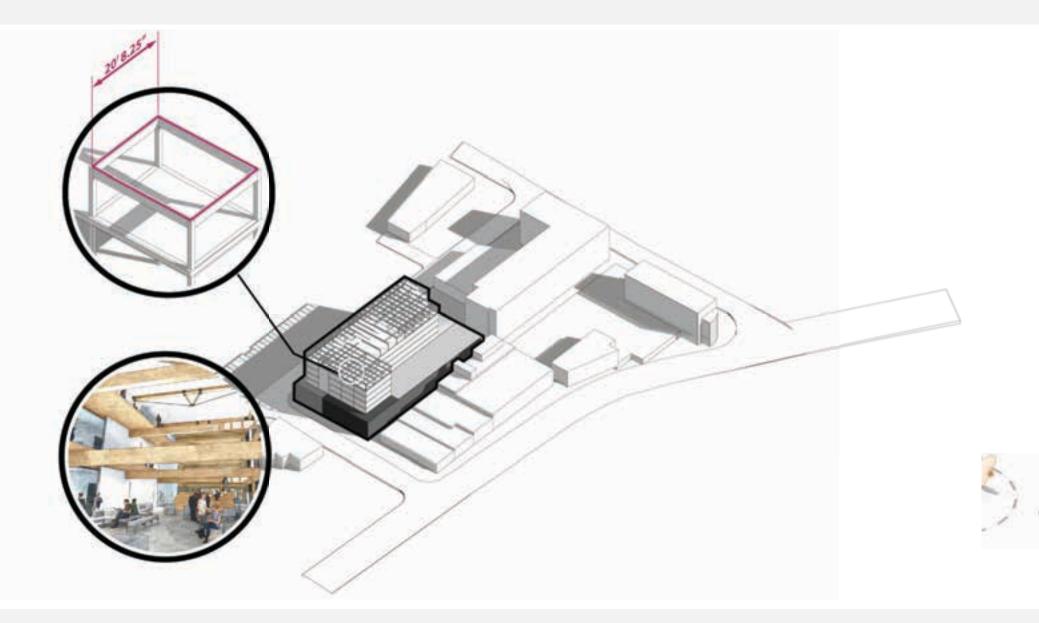
Views and daylighting

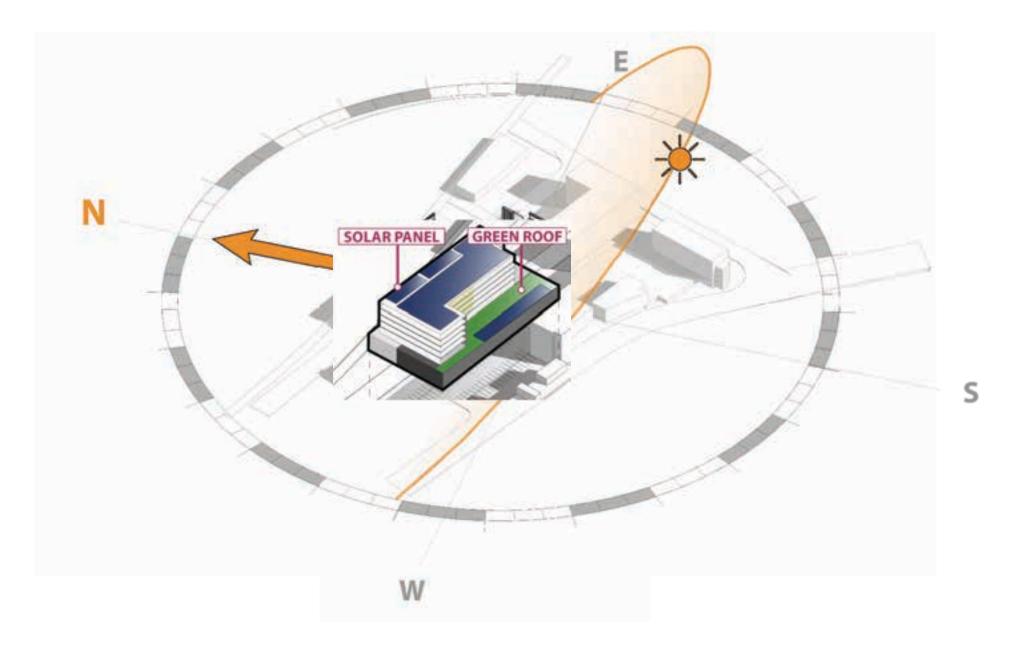
- Respect neighboring building view corridors
- Highlight views
- Optimized floor plate depth for daylighting

10

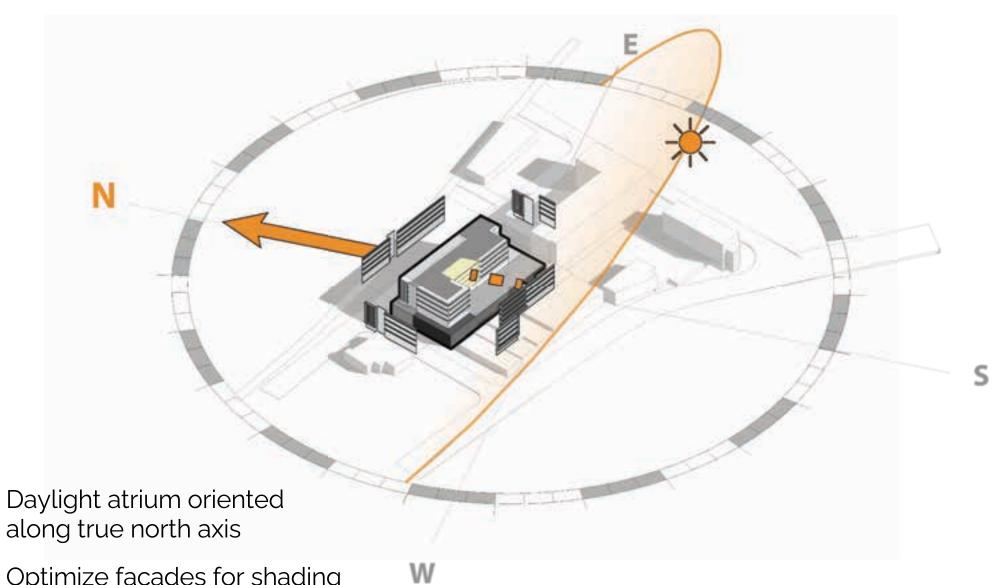


Exposed Mass Timber structure

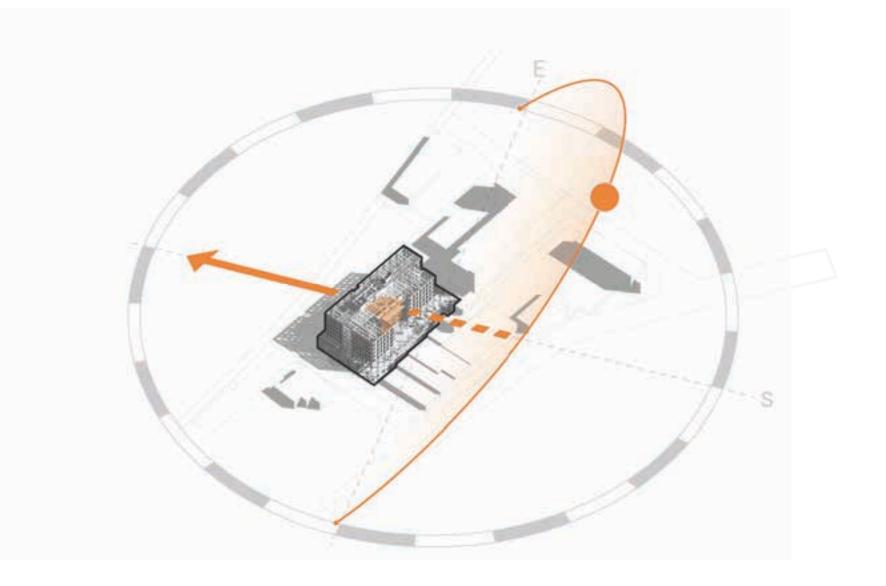




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 Optimize facades for shading based on orientation



The Five Goods[™]



A Framework for a World Class Workplace

Why Mass Timber? | Weight Reduction

LOW CARBON FOOTPRINT | Mass Timber vs. Concrete

Concrete Option

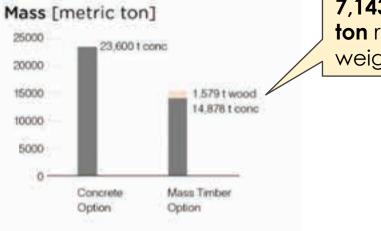
2-way flat slab at office levels: 10" concrete slabs at office levels 18 x 24 concrete perimeter columns 24 x 24 concrete interior columns

Concrete podium: 26x26 concrete interior columns 168x168x36 interior footings

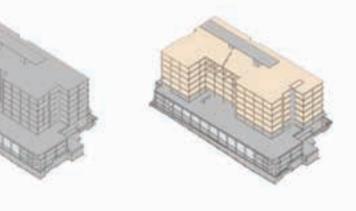
Mass Timber Option

CLT floor slab at office levels: 6 5/8" thick CLT slabs at office levels 12 7/8 x 12 7/8 Glulam perimeter columns 12 7/8 x 18 Glulam interior columns

Concrete podium: 24x24 concrete interior columns 144x144x36 interior footings



7,143 metric ton reduced weight



"Carbon stored in wood from Weodworks" "Crade to Gate' Global Warming potential from Tally"

Why Mass Timber? | Carbon | Weight Reduction

LOW CARBON FOOTPRINT | Mass Timber vs. Concrete

Concrete Option

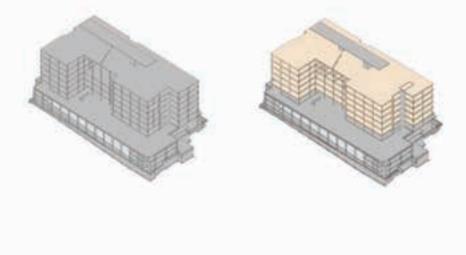
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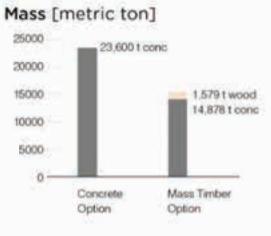
Mass Timber Option

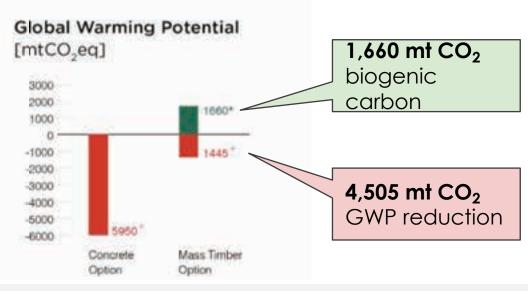
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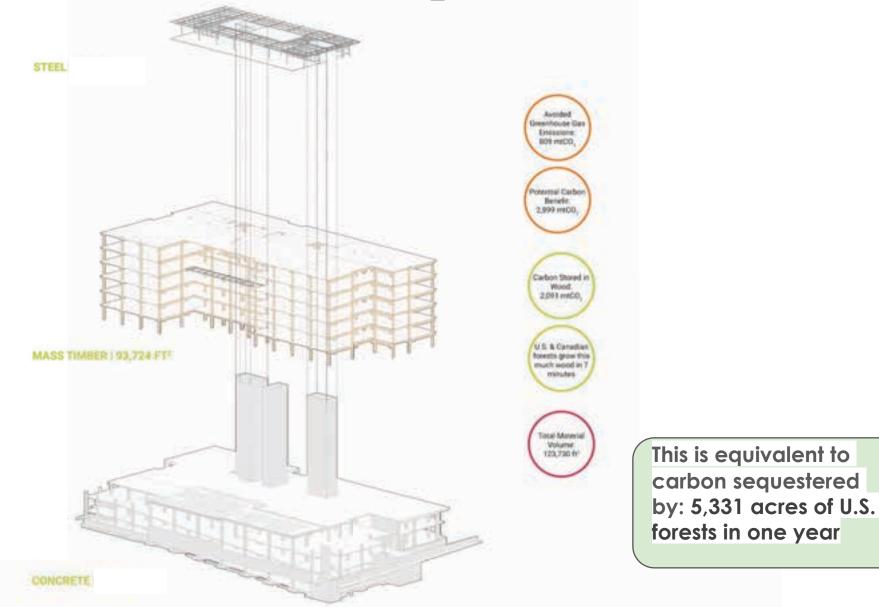


"Carbon stored in wood from Weodworks" "Crade to Gate' Global Warming potential from Tally"

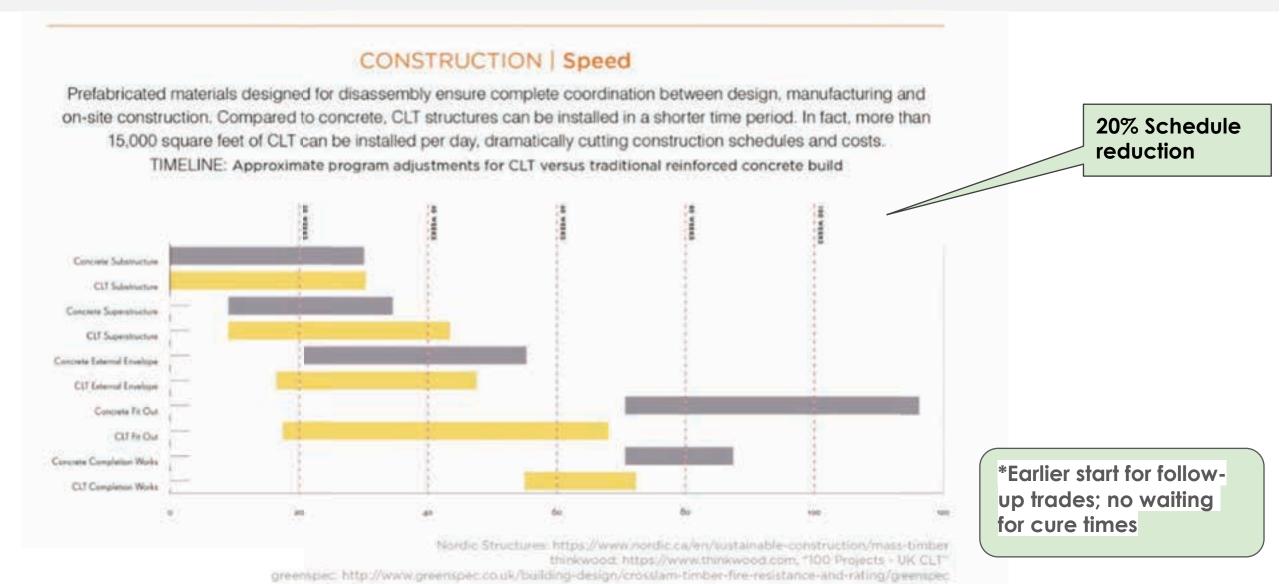




Concrete vs. CLT | 800 mtCO₂ Avoided GWP



Why Mass Timber? | Speed | Carbon | Weight Reduction



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Carbon Positive Design



Going beyond zero carbon and toward **carbon positive**

Carbon sequestration is an important component of building with cross-laminated timber (CLT). Forests act as a carbon "sink," as healthy trees remove carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere, release oxygen and sequester/ store carbon. Using sustainably harvested FSC mass timber as a building structure reduces the carbon footprint by storing CO2 in the same way a healthy tree would (one square meter of timber stores approximately one ton of CO2).

> Carbon Stored in Wood 2.091 metric tons of CO2

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided (use of CLT vs. concrete/steel) 809 metric tons of CO2

2,990 metric tons of CD2 Potential Carbon Benefit

The Five GoodsTM



What if our **buildings were designed like trees** as living organisms participating productively in their surroundings?

GOOD ENERGY

Rooftop Solar - PV Array

2

Annual production 436 MWh of energy - Zero Net Energy use for Apex offices

Solar Array - PV Canopy Provides shade and renewable energy

- 3 High-Performance Glazing Thermally broken window frames, SOLARBAN 90 insulated glazing unit
- 4 High-Performance Opaque Envelope Cross-laminated timber (CLT), DensElement^{**} weather barrier, Thermafiber rigid insulation, thermally broken rainscreen structure, rainscreen cladding
- 5 High-Efficiency Mechanical Systems Variable retrigerant flow equipment, energy recovery ventilator — low energy consumption and low operating costs

GOOD WATER

Green Roof Terrace Provides habitat, biodiversity and stormwater retention

B GOOD MATERIALS

Mass Timber Structure - CLT Sustainably harvested FSC and Cradie to Cradie Certified* mass timber provides carbon sequestration, low embodied carbon footprint and fast construction

Cradie to Cradie Certified* Materials and products assessed for ecological and human health

B GOOD LIVES

9 Daylight and Views + Indoor Environmental Quality

Excellent access to natural light, rooftop landscape and views, lighting controls, occupancy sensors and operable shades

O GOOD ECONOMY

10 Workplace Performance

Efficient, large and flexible floor plates interconnected workplace engages associates and tosters collaboration

11 CLT Framing - Designed for Disassembly Modular, adaptable and cost-effective structure

Tallest MT In the Mid Atlantic | 8 Stories | 101' tall



WHAT MAKES APEX PLAZA DIFFERENT?

William McDonough + Partners' building design is the paramount example of applying the Cradle to Cradle Design" Framework and Circular Economy thinking to a collaborative, multi-tenant office space.

The building is based on a few key Cradle to Cradle and Circular Economy principles that set it apart from a typical office building:

Building like a Tree

Carbon Positive - Carbon Sequestration Net-Positive Energy Designed for Disassembly Cradle to Cradle CertifiedTM Products Health, Wellbeing and Adaptability













16 WEEK ERECTION VS. 20 WEEKS FOR STEEL

LESS CREW

NEEDED VS. STEEL

0% 20% WASTE ON SITE (LITTLE TO NO)

SCHEDULE SAVINGS

50% 90% LESS CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC

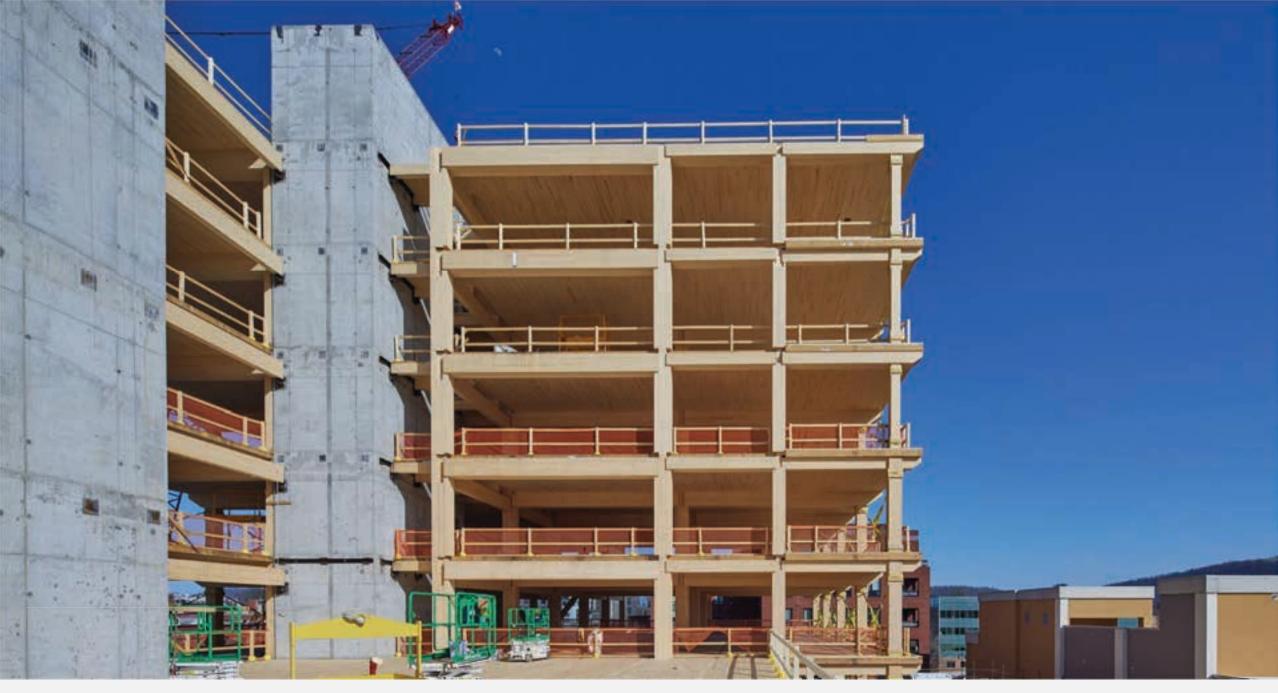
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Construction Benefits | 20% SCHEDULE SAVINGS

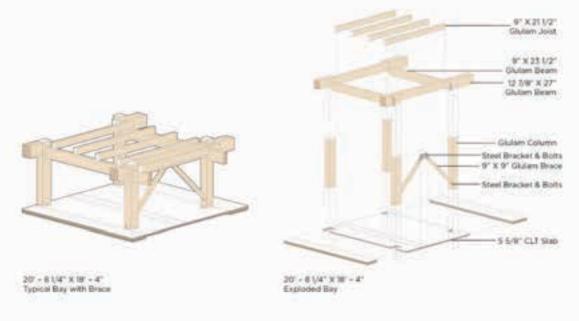






Designed for Disassembly in the Circular Economy

By assembling the building using only mechanical fasteners, the high-value MT elements can be disassembled and then reused or recycled to be endlessly recirculated in a safe, then **circular, economy.** The MT structure provides an interior tactile benefit while also allowing rapid installation of the structural frame and envelope and decreasing the building's carbon footprint.





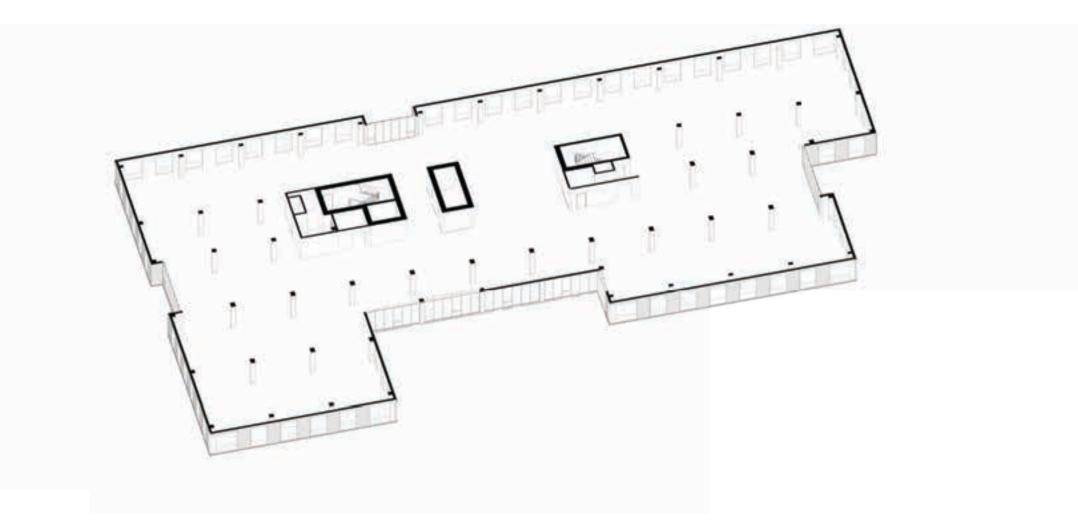
Optimize Spans | Reduce Purlins | Double Beams



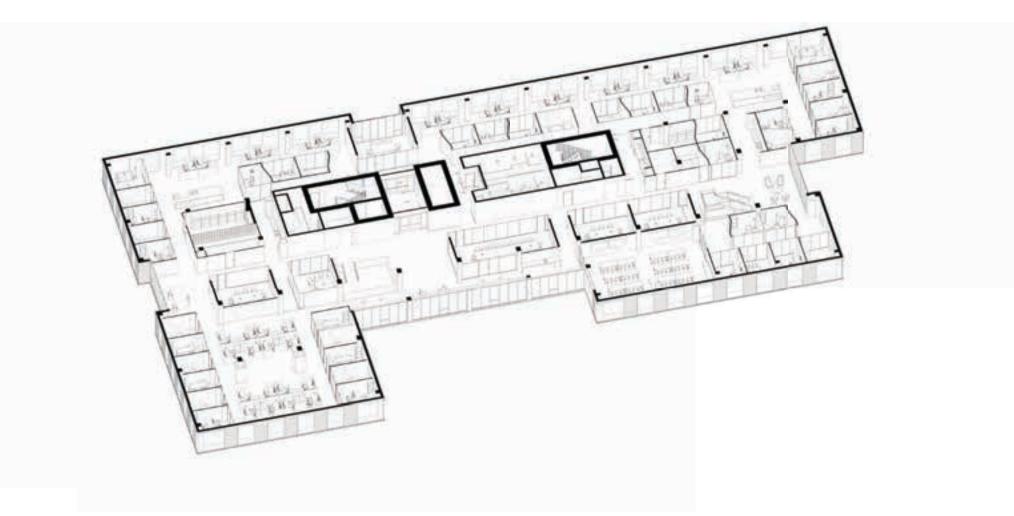
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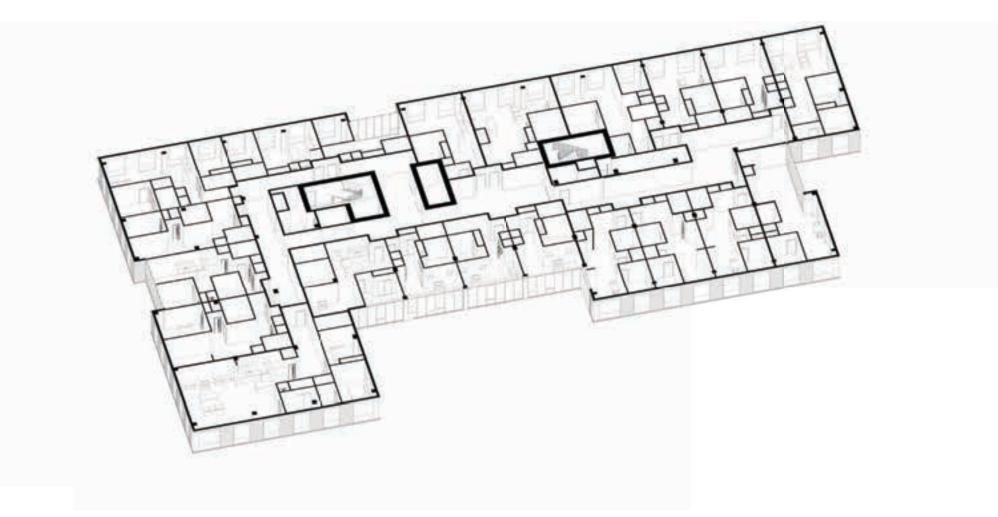
Designed for Next Use | Flexible Grid



Designed for Next Use | Office



Designed for Next Use | Apartment Lofts



Safe and healthy materials in a collaborative, flexible workplace

By prioritizing material and human health, Apex Plaza aims to bring people together in abundantly daylit, flexible spaces. In addition to natural beauty, incorporating Mass Timber from Nordic Structures allows for transparency in material sourcing. Nordic is a vertically integrated company that owns the forest from which Apex's FSC Black Spruce was sourced. They sustainably manage the timber, use all timber in their renewable powered factory and emphasize their employees' experiences. Nordic also achieved Cradle to Cradle Certified[™] for several of their products — a first for the North American market.





Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Silver and Bronze Mass Timber products by Nordic Structures

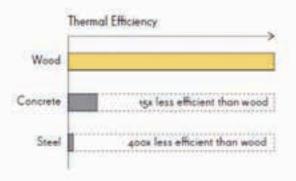
> Total Mass Timber area: 123,730 sq ft.

Health, Wellbeing and Adaptability

The building offers excellent views to natural light, lighting controls and operable shades. Apex Plaza is also designed for next use as housing of the future with flexible floor plates.

OCCUPANCY Thermal Comfort

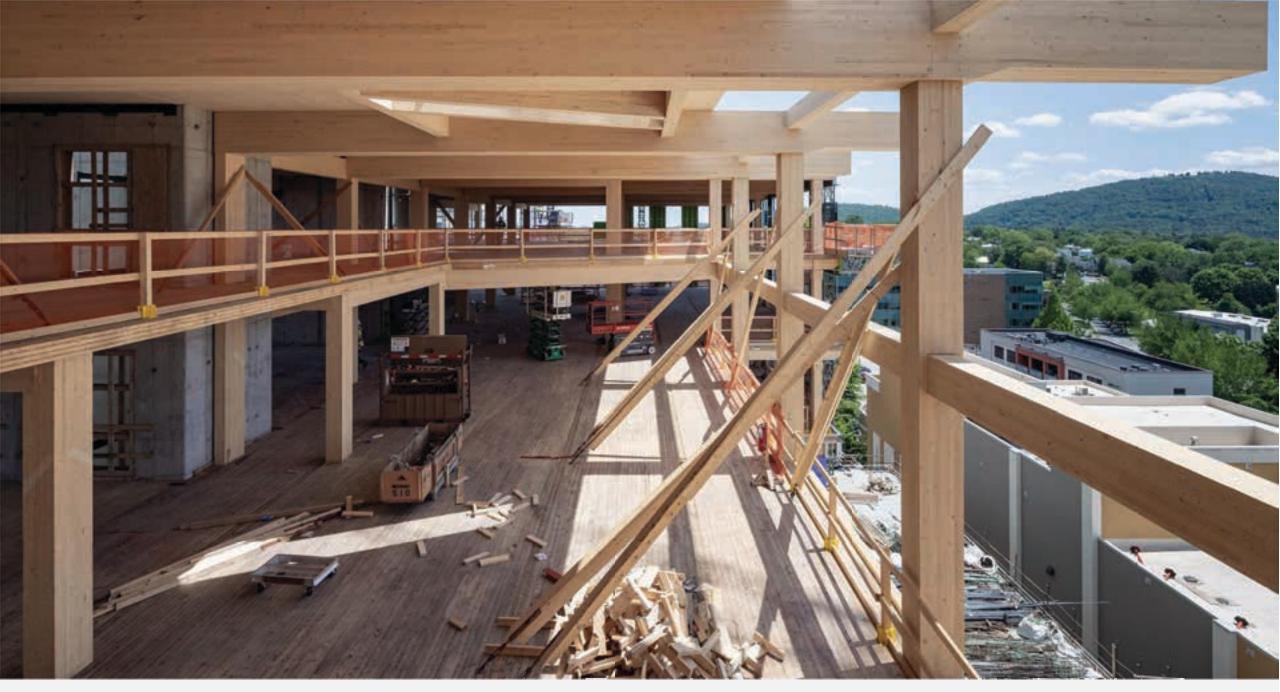
The thermal mass of wood has the ability to compensate for rapid fluctuations in temperature and moderate indoor moisture.

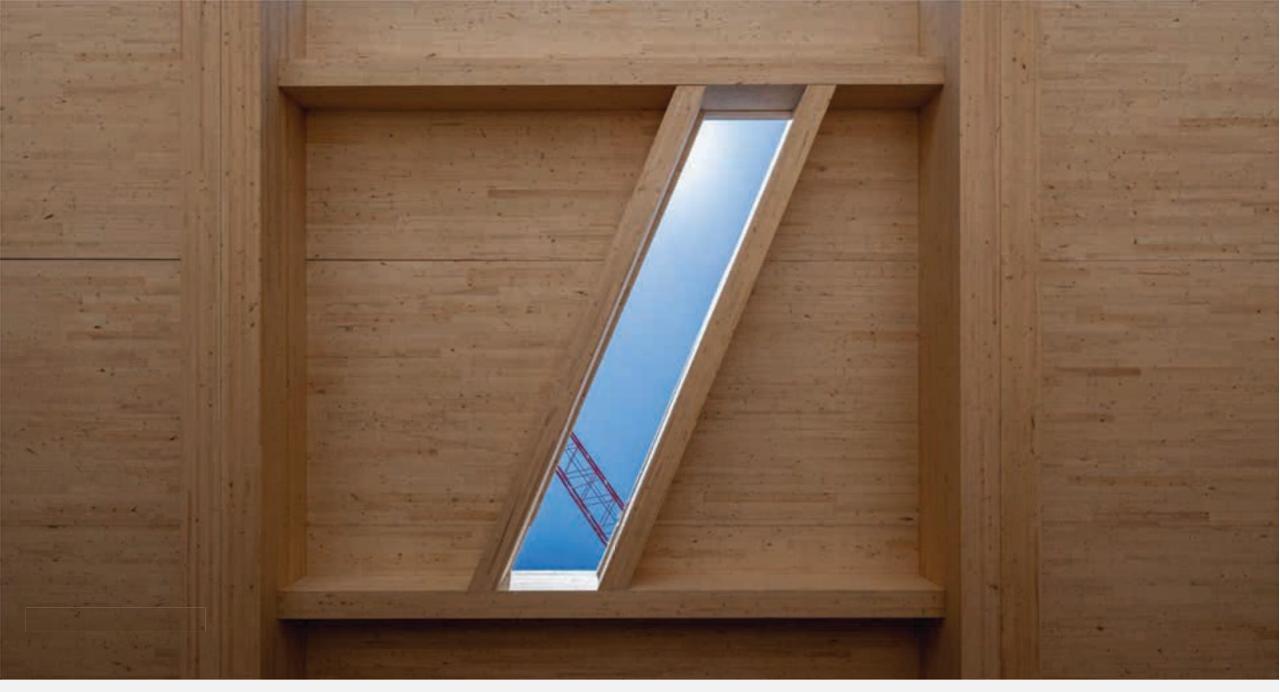














Net-Positive Energy, a model high-performance building

Based on the load analysis APEX tenant office are projected to consume 331,000 kWh/ year of electricity on an annual basis. The new building mounted solar installations are projected to generate 364,000 kWh/year of electricity representing 110% of APEX's annual energy demand, providing APEX with net-zero electricity use. The project will also provide an on site battery energy storage system.

> Apex's Estimated Electrical Energy Consumption -331,000 kWh per year

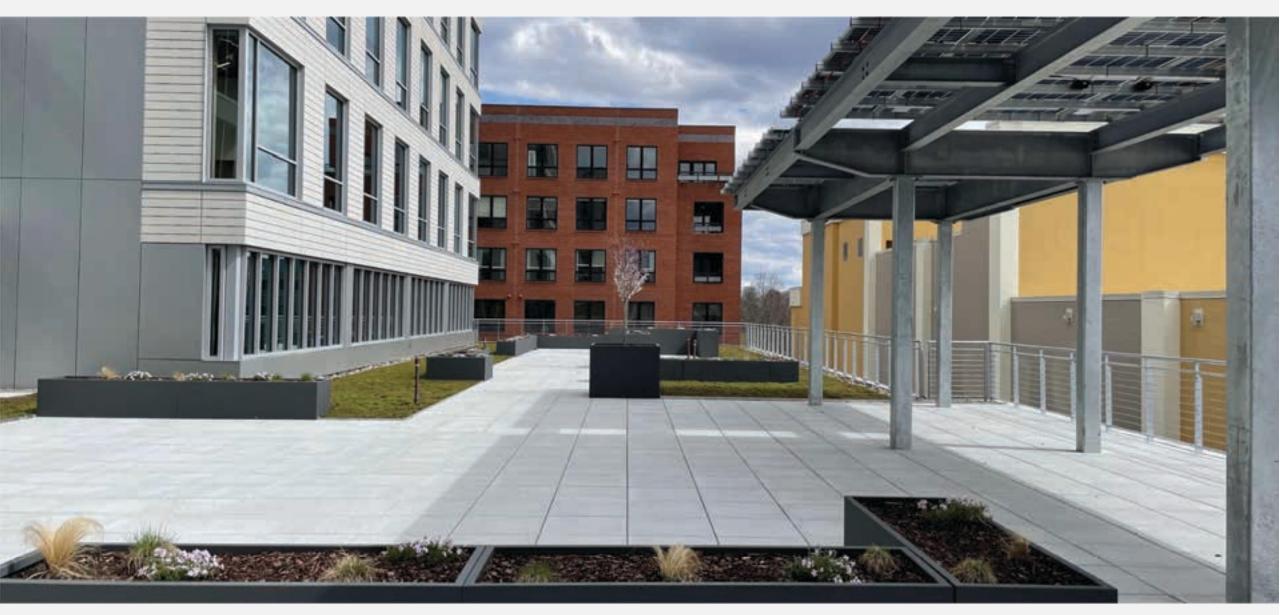
Solar Panel System Electrical Energy Production 364,000 kWh per year

33,000 kWh Electricity Surplus (includes 10% consumption buffer)

REPERT MELIAM MUDONOUGH + PARTNERS 14

3rd Floor | Roof Terrace





9th Floor | Roof Terrace Solar Canopy









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o

901 Cherry | Master Plan



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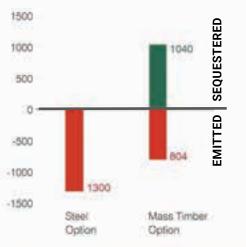
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B2

Embodied Carbon | Mass Timber Carbon Sequestration Potential

Global Warming Potential* [mtCO2eq]



*Olobal Warming Potential calculated with Athena Impact Estimator #

STEEL BASE CASE DESIGN Concrete filled metal deck Steel frame Steel BFRB

MASS TIMBER

CLT Deck with Glulam Framing

Wood BFRB



B2 Mass Timber | CLT

-LARGE FLOOR PLATES -TEAM CONNECTIVITY -VOLUMES OF SPACE -ABUNDANT DAYLIGHT -ACCESS TO NATURE

Nordic X-Lam CLI Cradie to Cradle Certified® Silver

NORKS Q QUALITY





°I



B3 Embodied Carbon | Concrete Optimization

MASS TIMBER

B3 Mass Timber | CLT

Nordic X-Lam CLI Cradle to Cradle Certified® Silver

NORKS Q QUALITY





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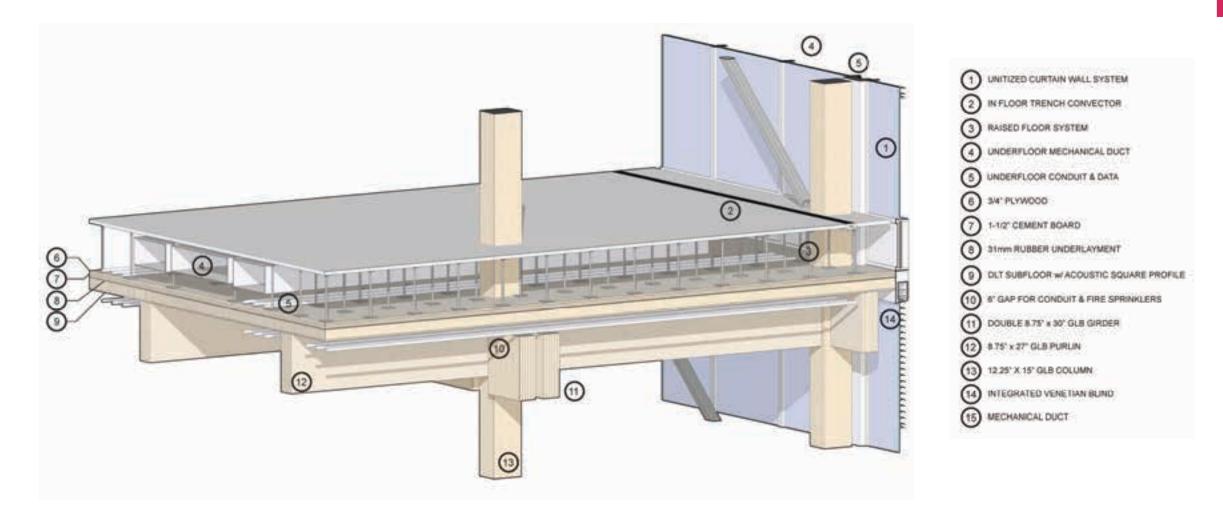
Nordic X-Lam CLT | Cradle to Cradle Certified Silver





Integrated Hvac Systems - RAF and Radiant Ceiling Panels

DfD - Dry Acoustic Mat

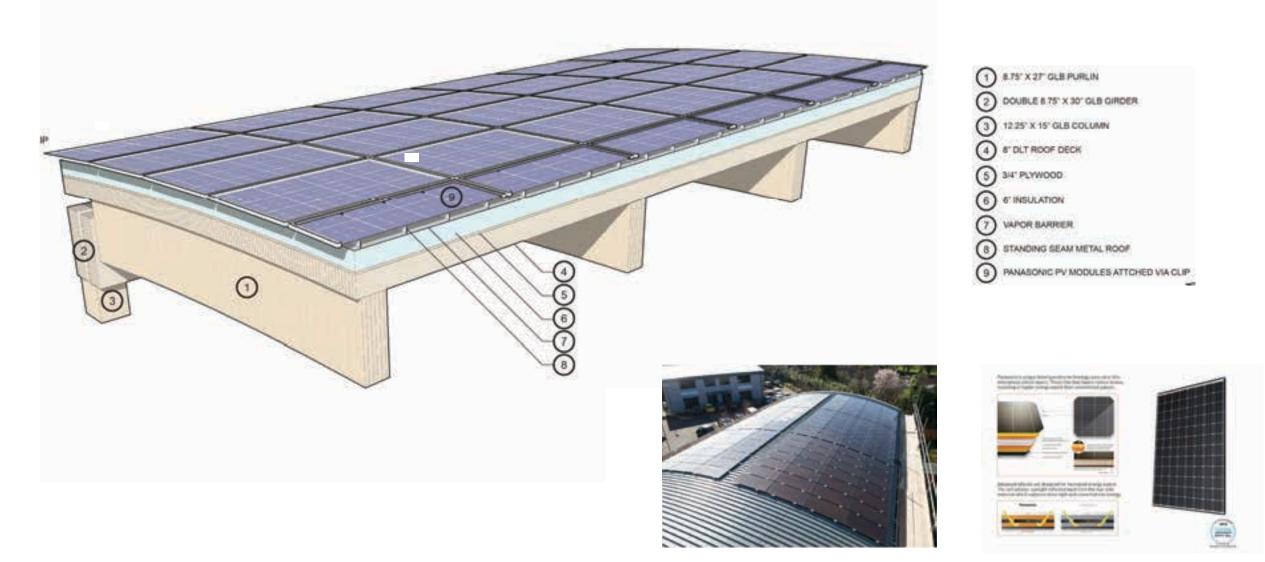


WM+P

85

Integrated Renewable Systems

Mass Timber Structure And Pv's Clipped To Standing Seam Roof



Nardic X-Lam CLT | Cradle to Cradle Certified® Silver



WM+P 901 CHERRY | DR - 88 200612 | GOOD BUILDINGS

Maximize on Site | Renewable Energy

The new building mounted solar installations on buildings 2 and 3 are projected to generate 1,900,000 kWh/year of electricity representing 28% of the annual energy demand. The project will also provide an on site battery energy storage system to the south of Building 3 that will contain (2) 1.25MW Tesla Megapacks. The team is exploring a micro grid configuration for the energy system that would allow select critical functions to stay active for the new buildings in the event of power loss.

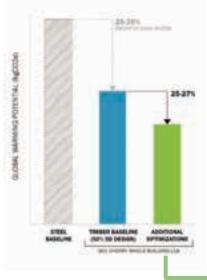
ENERGY RESILIENCY

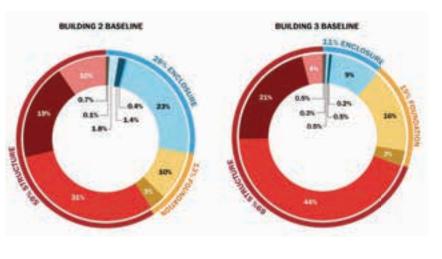
BATTERY YARD 2.5 MW

Carbon Analysis | Whole Building Life Cycle Analysis (WBLCA)

BUILDINGS 2 AND 3 50%-62%

cumulative gwp reduction



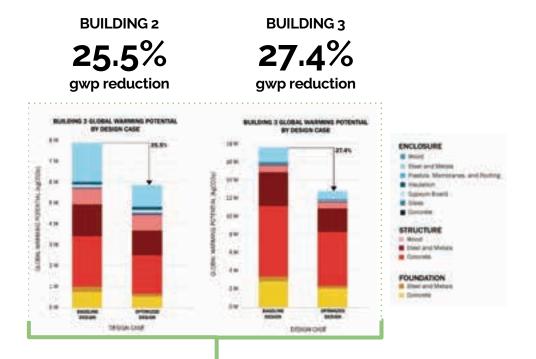


Baseline Measured Against Steel

The 901 Cherry project has the benefit of an existing steel and concrete design that was generated in 1998 before the original project was shelved. The project team will do an in depth analysis of the original design to serve as a one to one benchmark for measuring the GEP reduction benefits that come from the use of Mass Timber.

100% SD Breakdown Characterization by Physical Scope

The 901 Cherry team targeted Mass Timber as the preferred structure from the outset of the concept design phase which conservatively accounts for an initial 25%-35% reduction in GWP from the outset based on that initial decision. The figure above illustrates the GWP from the WBLCA of the B2 and B3 baselines, broken out by scope and material type. Concrete and steel in the structure and are the dominant drivers for both buildings. Their contribution is more pronounced in B3 due to the four levels of below-grade parking. In the enclosure, most of the impact comes from aluminum used in the curtain wall mullions, which are finished with PVDF. PVDF has a significantly higher embodied carbon-impact compared to an anodized finish.



100% SD Impact Reduction Measures

Impact Reduction Measures (IRMs) were analyzed for 901 Cherry throughout the SD Phase. Four of these options, those with the highest impact and viability, were included in the WBCLA results. Results from assembly studies which were not included in the WBCLA results are included for reference in the following section. The figure above compares the cradleto-grave embodied carbon of these IRMs individually in order to quantify the impact of each measure on whole building GWP.

The impact reduction measures accounted for in the figure above include: -Concrete optimization (Carbon Cure, Orca Aggregate, and increased SCM's -Use of 'Nucor' rebar -Use of anodized aluminum for the curtain wall (PVDF coating is still being evaluated)





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designed for next use

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NY ACK



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This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course

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