

# **Implementing Green Fitout Projects in LEED Platinum Core and Shell Commercial Science Buildings**

**October 2025**

# Learning Objectives

1. Understand the impact of Tenant/Landlord leasing agreements and the tenant demands, priorities, and expectations.
2. Define the elements of a LEED Platinum Core and Shell Buildings, identifying their impact on energy consumption and emissions.
3. Discuss infrastructure trends and opportunities and how they impact “green” fitout strategies.
4. Review and discuss case studies that showcase successful green fit-out projects and identify lessons learned and best practices.

# Buro Happold I2SL Partnership



Buro Happold is a Sponsor of the Labs2Zero program and is engaged in several of the Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) for the Labs2Zero program.

## Measures and Impacts TAC Contributions

### Measure Name

Wind-Responsive Exhaust Fan Control

IEQ Monitoring-Based Control of Exhaust Fans

Convert Staged or CAV Exhaust Fan Controls to VAV Control

Staged Control for Constant Volume Exhaust Fans

Convert CAV HVAC System to VAV

Demand Based Control of Ventilation Using IEQ Sensors

Unoccupied Room Airflow Setback

Decommissioning or Hibernating Unused Hoods

Purchase High Efficiency ULT Freezers

Freezer Challenge -- All Energy Actions

Fume Hood Shut-the-Sash Program

Exhaust-Air to Outside-Air Heat Recovery Systems

# Universal Laboratory Trends

- Safe, Healthy and Sustainable Environment
- Talent Recruitment and Retention
- Flexibility and Adaptability: Modular Solutions and Ease of Access to Building Services
- Less Wet Lab, More Computational and Automated Science Space
- Integration of Technology and Data Sciences: AI, Automation and 3D Visualization
- Shared Services, More Amenity Space and Resources Optimize Collaboration and Convergence
- The Convergence of Data Sciences, Healthcare and Life Science Research



# Laboratory Infrastructure Trends

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## LAB DESIGN: TRENDS & TECHNOLOGIES SHAPING THE FUTURE

ACCESSIBILITY

ERGONOMIC DESIGN

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

SUSTAINABILITY

FLEXIBILITY AND MODULARITY

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## INFRASTRUCTURE CONSIDERATIONS FOR MODERN LABS

Scalability

Connectivity

Flexibility

Safety and Security

Sustainability

Compliance and Standards

Technology and Automation

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# Landlord/Tenant Assumptions

## GENERAL

- Base Building space/shaft to support (1) 10,000 SF tenant vivarium
- Base Building systems to support 1 tenant/floor on average
- LEED V4 Core and Shell Platinum

## HVAC

- 1.5 CFM/SF to lab space
- 0.35 CFM/SF to office space
- 60/40 Lab to Office ratio
- N+1 pumping for all systems
- Manifoldd lab exhaust with glycol energy recovery, N+1 exhaust fans
- Tenant SF allowance: space provided in penthouse for dedicated systems

## ELEC

- Electrical service loads for Tenant spaces will be designed as follows:
  - 15 watts/SF for lab
  - 6 watts/SF for office (Tenant loads only)
- Diesel generator for base building life safety and optional standby. Sizing will include 0.2 w/sf for tenant life safety egress lighting
- Any additional office and lab Tenant optional stand-by power service to be provided by the Tenant.

## P/FP

- Base Building: 4" lab waste and vent risers to each lab floor. Qty 4 per floor
- Base Building: 4" san waste and vent risers to each lab floor. Qty 4 per floor
- Base Building: Lab waste on L1 by base building
- Base Building: Local hot water heaters to serve core bathrooms, janitor, showers
- Base Building: Tempered water heaters (assumes multi tenant building)
- Base Building: Space for tenant provided equipment in penthouse
- Base Building: Plumbing closet stacked (current and future services)
- Base Building: Building grease interceptors
- Base Building: Accessible shaft space
- Tenant : Non-potable/potable water heaters
- Tenant: Lab gases, air compressor, vacuum system, RO

# Flexible Laboratory Considerations

- Building program (office to lab ratio)
- MEP space planning (plant rooms, shafts, roof)
- Access to MEP services
- Future equipment/systems/distribution
- Floor-Floor calibration
- Resiliency
- Modular systems (operations, redundancy)
- Smart building operations



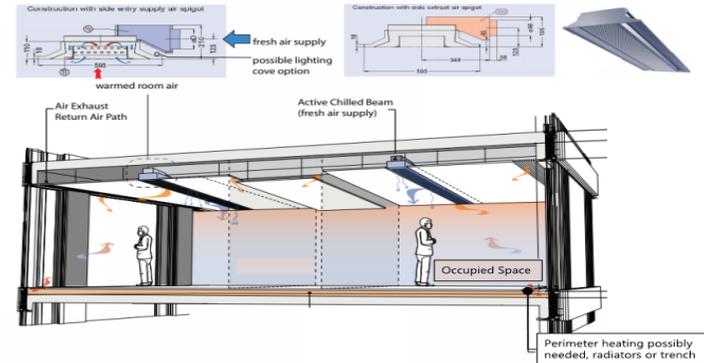
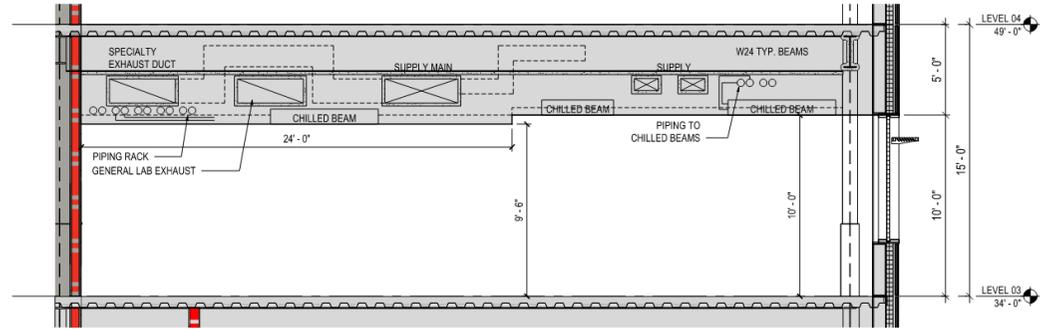
	Clear Height	Plant Area & Distribution	Heating & Cooling Output	Maintenance	Life Span	Sustainability/ Energy Performance	Flexibility	User Controllability	Compatibility with natural ventilation	Compatibility with exposed soffit	Coordination with Structure	System Cost	Acoustics	Compliance with Brief	TOTAL SCORE
Chilled Beams (passive or active)	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	38
Fan Coil Units	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	35
Chilled Ceiling	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	1	2	3	3	2	3	3	35
Chilled Slab	3	2	1	3	3	3	2	1	2	3	2	1	3	3	32
All Air - Variable Air Volume	1	1	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	29
DX Split / Variable Refrigerant Flow	2	1	3	1	0	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	1	0	25

Scoring: Good Fair Poor Not Compliant

# Lab Flexibility Assumptions

## HVAC

- Airside allowances
  - Lab: 1.5 to 2 CFM/SF
  - Office: 0.35 CFM/SF
- Hydronic allowances
  - Tonnage/flow for process cooling
- Modular systems
  - Manifoldd equipment (redundancy, optimization of part-load operation)
- Resiliency
  - N+1 for pumping systems
  - N-1 or N+1 for fan systems
- Future needs
  - Indoor/outdoor space for specialty equipment
  - Accessible shafts with allowance for future duct and pipe risers



# Lab Flexibility Assumptions

## ELEC

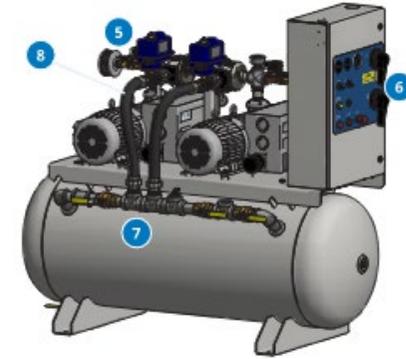
- Electrical service loads will be designed as follows:
  - 15 to 40 watts/SF for lab/research
  - 6 watts/SF for office/classroom
  - 35 to 100 watts/SF for café/kitchen
- Busduct risers for compact, flexible distribution
- Emergency Power for base building life safety and optional standby.
  - Sizing often includes 0.2 w/sf for life safety egress lighting
  - Any additional office, classroom and lab optional stand-by power service
  - Tie-into emergency system feeders
- Resiliency
  - Generators (fossil fuel)
  - UPS/Battery back-up
  - Fuel Cells



# Lab Flexibility Assumptions

## Plumbing

- Centralized Equipment
  - PH Neutralization
  - Compressed Air & Vacuum
  - Exterior Tank Farm and any specialty gas manifolds.
  - Process pure water RO System
- Lab waste and vent risers every other column for flexible sink and equipment locations.
- Lab services to overhead grid of ceiling panels with quick connects to allow for flexible lab bench layouts.
- Wet utilities (RO, lab H&CW and tepid water) looped throughout each lab floor for flexible sink and equipment layouts.



# Smart Buildings



# WiredScore

## What is Measured?

Digital connectivity is essential to modern working life. WiredScore ensures that developments are technologically forward-thinking and ready to attract the next generation of business tenants. We do this through a careful assessment of:

- Resilience
- Tenant Experience
- Mobile Coverage
- Choice of Providers
- Future-Readiness

## What are the Results/Benefits?

### Leasing

Translate complicated telecommunications and engineering language into clear value for owner and tenants

### Asset Management

Gain benchmarking analysis to help guide future-proofing decisions and investments



### Technical Support

Get ahead of the fast-changing and complex tenant technology demands

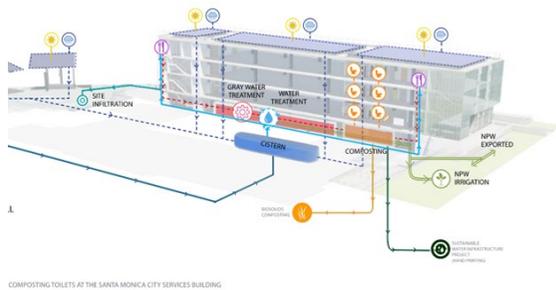
### Brand & Marketing

Help brand businesses and assets as technologically forward-thinking

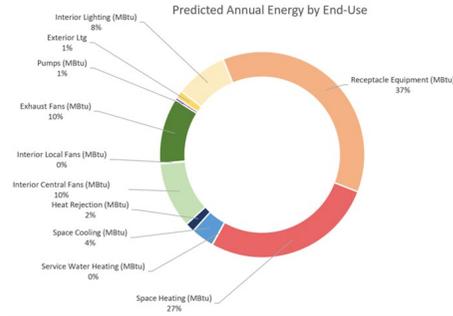
# Typical Elements of a LEED Platinum C&S Design



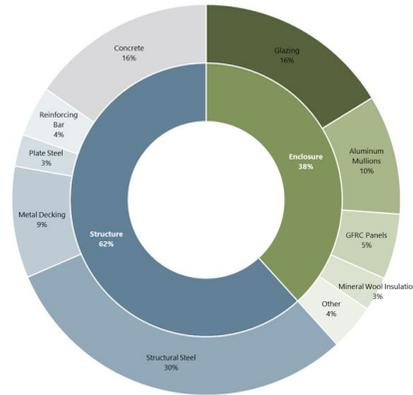
Deep Energy Reductions



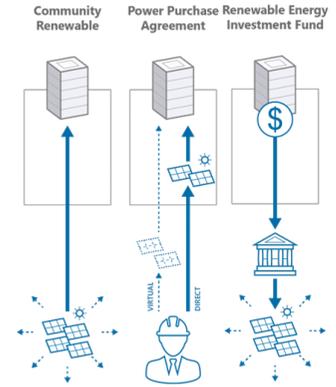
Water Conservation/Reuse Strategies



Advanced Energy Metering



Embodied Carbon Reductions

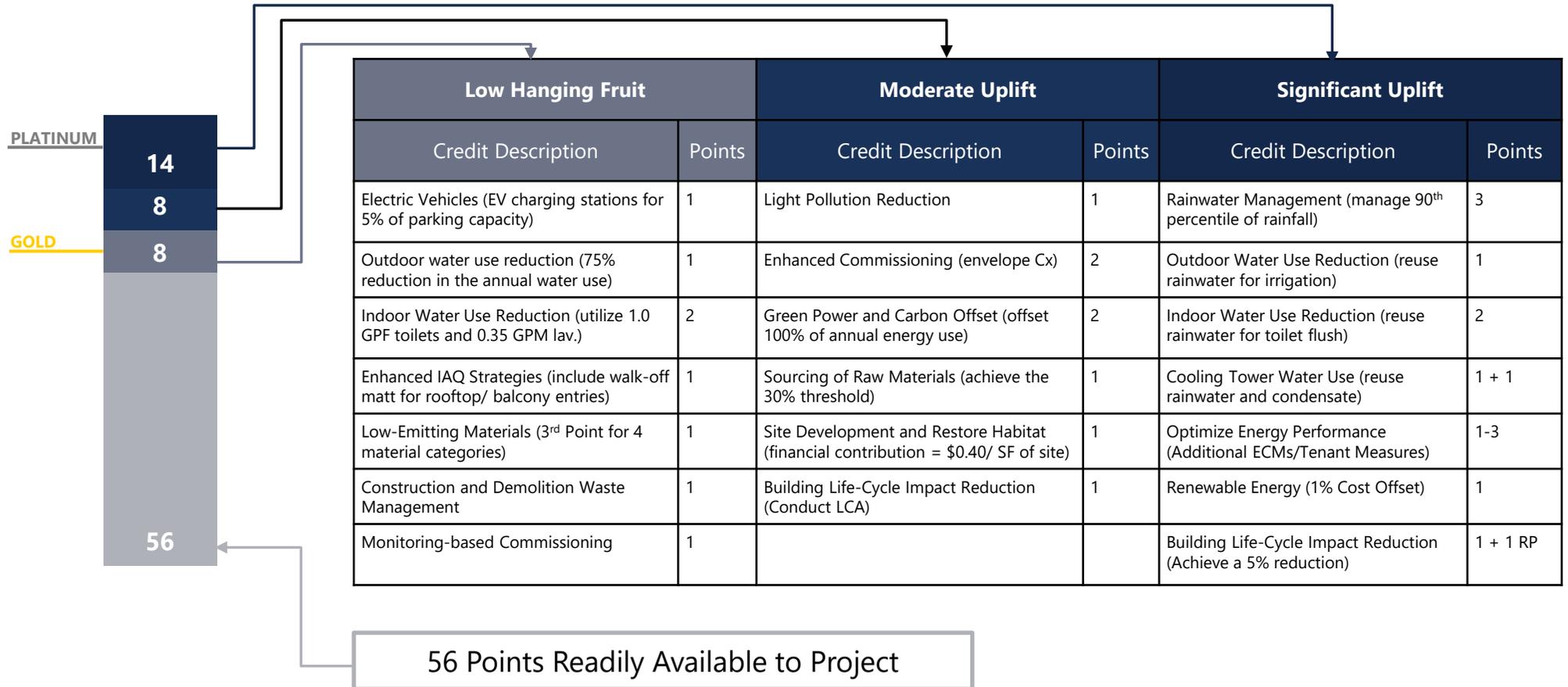


Renewable Energy



Enhanced Commissioning

# LEED Core & Shell - Sample

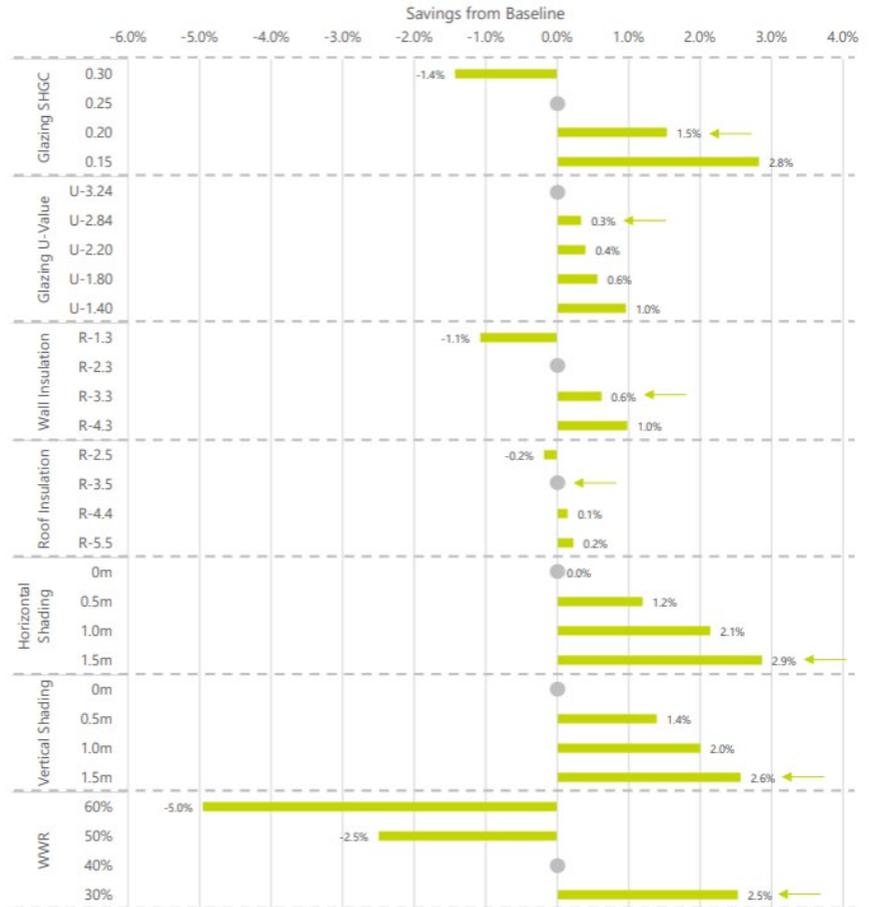


# Passive Considerations Iterative Design Studies

## Massing and Orientation



## Envelope Performance

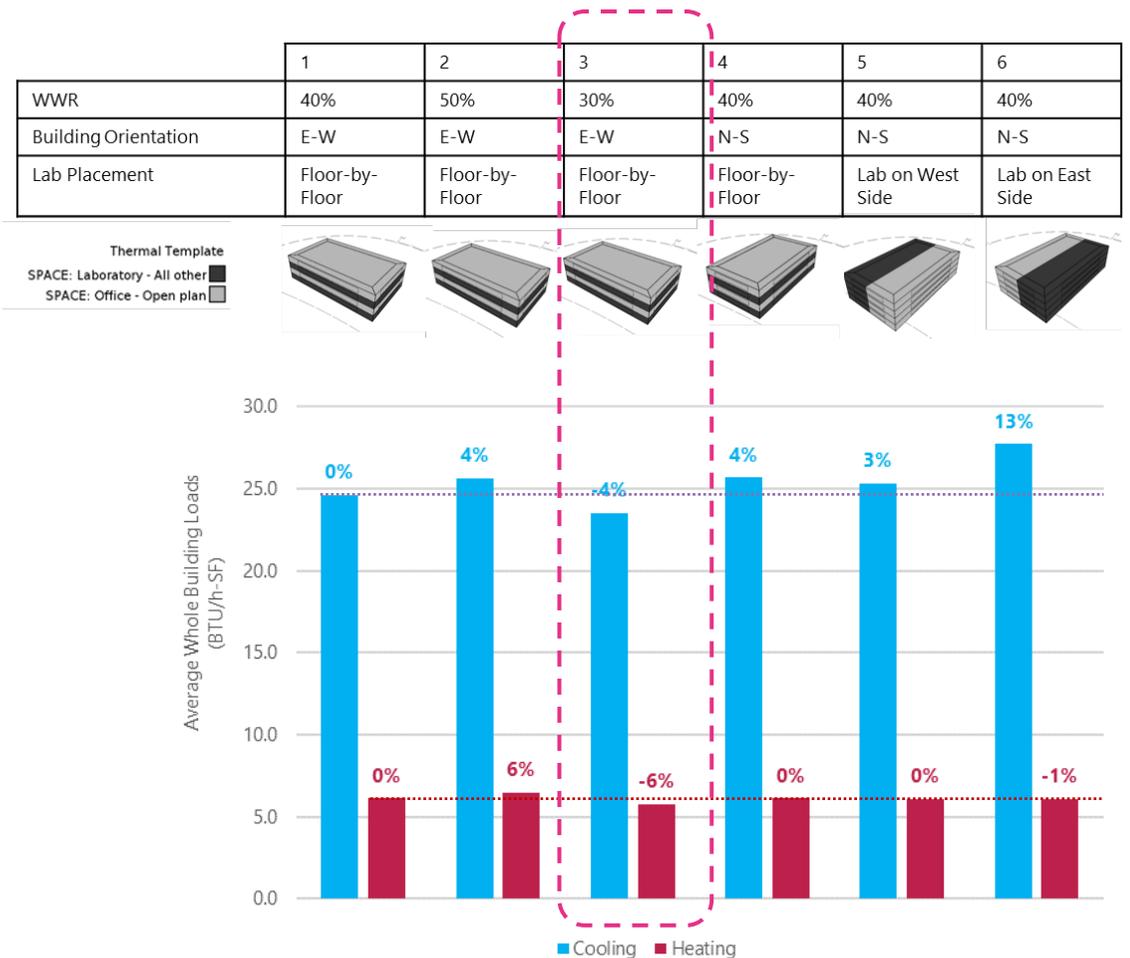


# Iterative Design Strategies

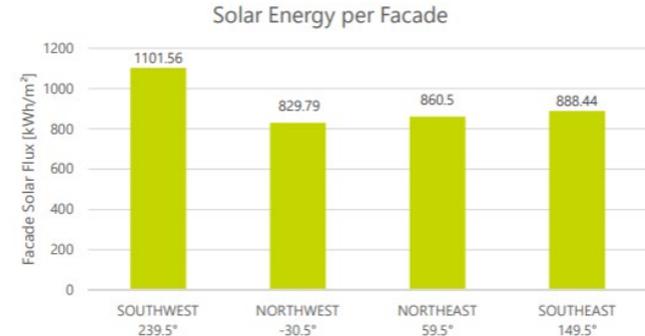
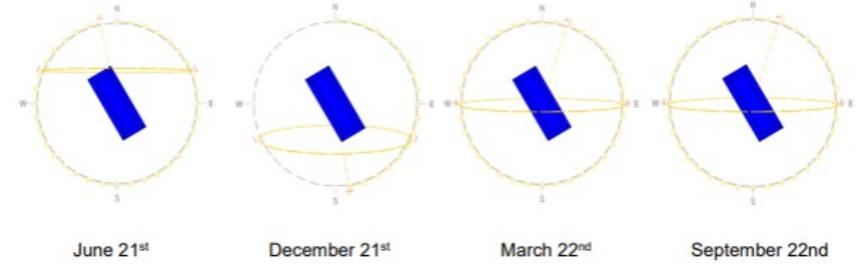
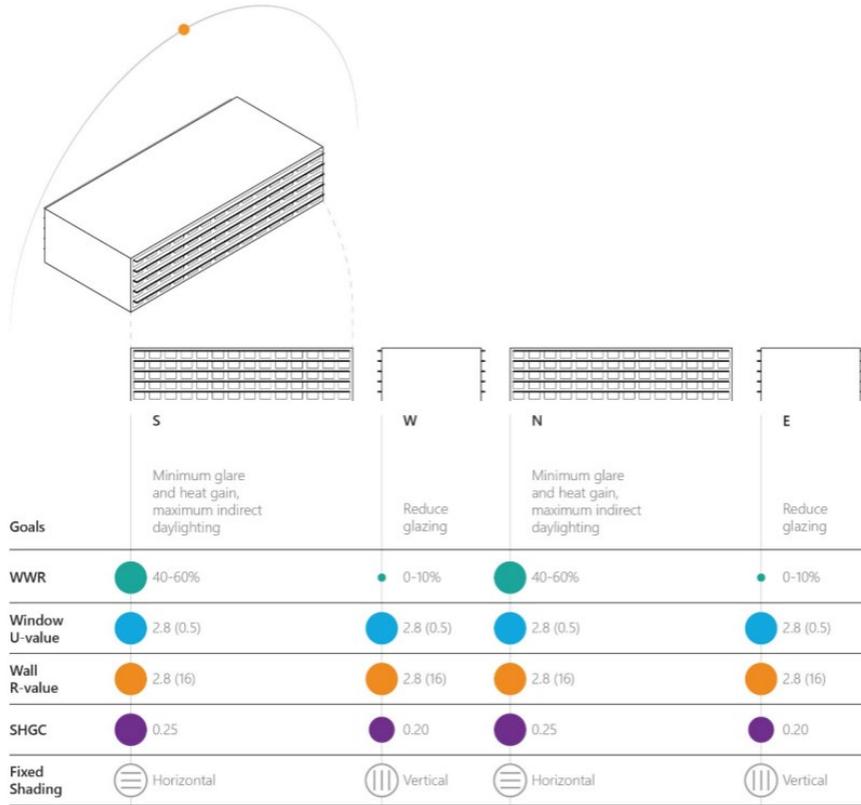
## Programming

### Reduce Peak Demand and Energy Consumption

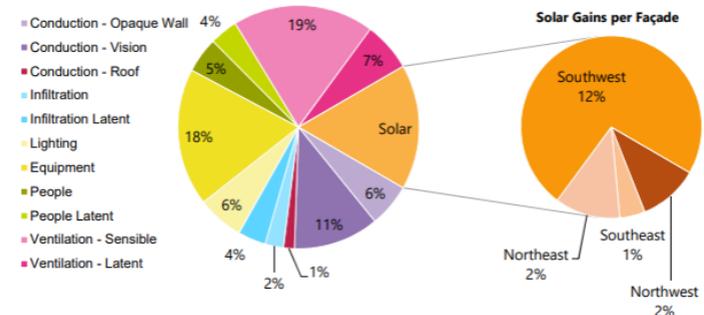
- East-West orientation has a 4% lower peak cooling load compared to North-South orientation
- Reduced WWR reduces peak cooling and peak heating load
- Labs should be evenly distributed throughout floor plate and should not be isolated to the east side of building.



# Iterative Design Studies

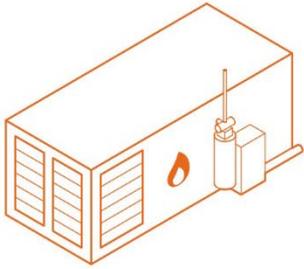


## Internal Cooling Gain Breakdown



# Redundancy & Resiliency

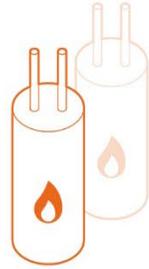
Many options are available to engineer back-up power to maintain building operations.



## Large Generator (fossil/bio fuel)

Fossil Fuel

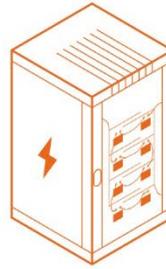
Fossil fuel generators are currently industry standard, and biofuel options are becoming available.



## Back-Up Natural Gas Boilers

Fossil Fuel

Maintaining gas boilers in a system for back-up only can limit large generator upsizing for electric heating systems.



## Batteries (small, large)

Electric

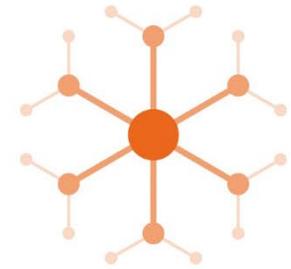
Technological improvements and cost reductions will support the ongoing feasibility of large battery back-up. Reliability must include appropriate time period for backup (e.g. 3 days).



## Back-Up Electric Resistance Boilers

Electric

These boilers may be applicable for back-up only in cold climates where air-source heat pumps may be challenged in the coldest temperatures. This would require careful consideration for peak electrical loads.



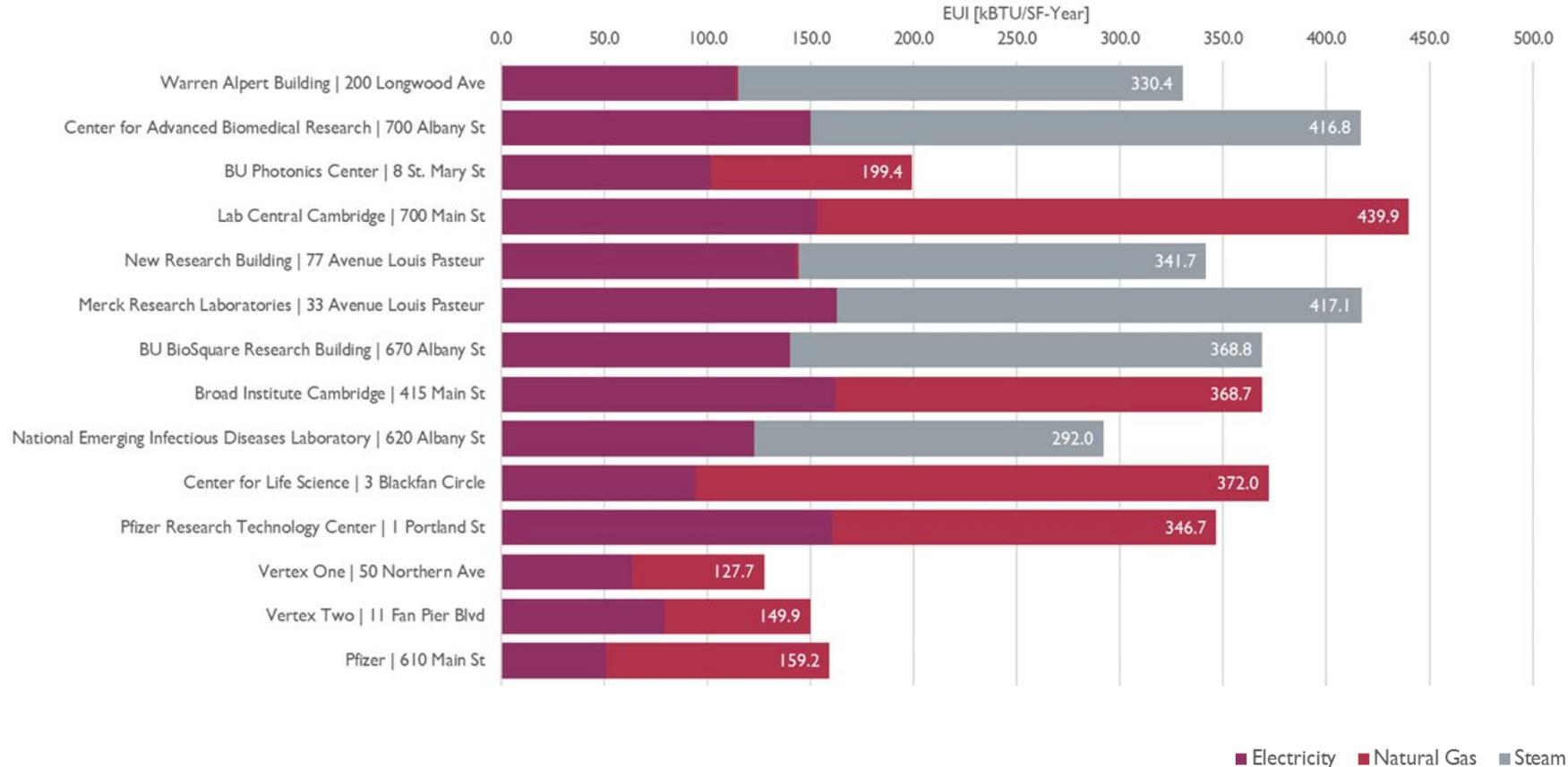
## Microgrids

Various

Deployed at building or district scale, dynamic controls can island their energy supply in the event of a power disruption.

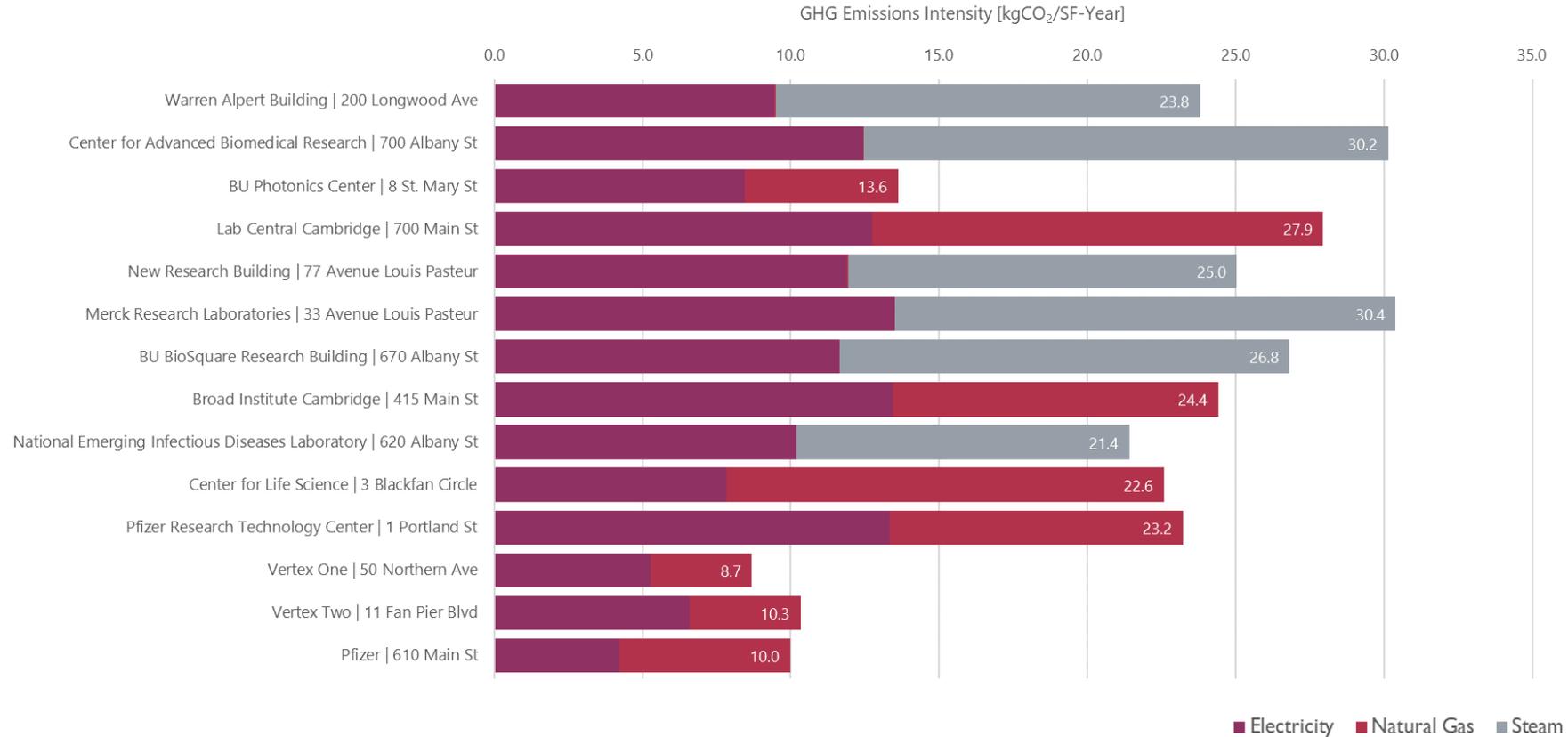
# Benchmarking – Boston Area Labs

## Energy Use Intensity



# Benchmarking – Boston Area Labs

## Operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity



# Grid Carbon Factors: MA



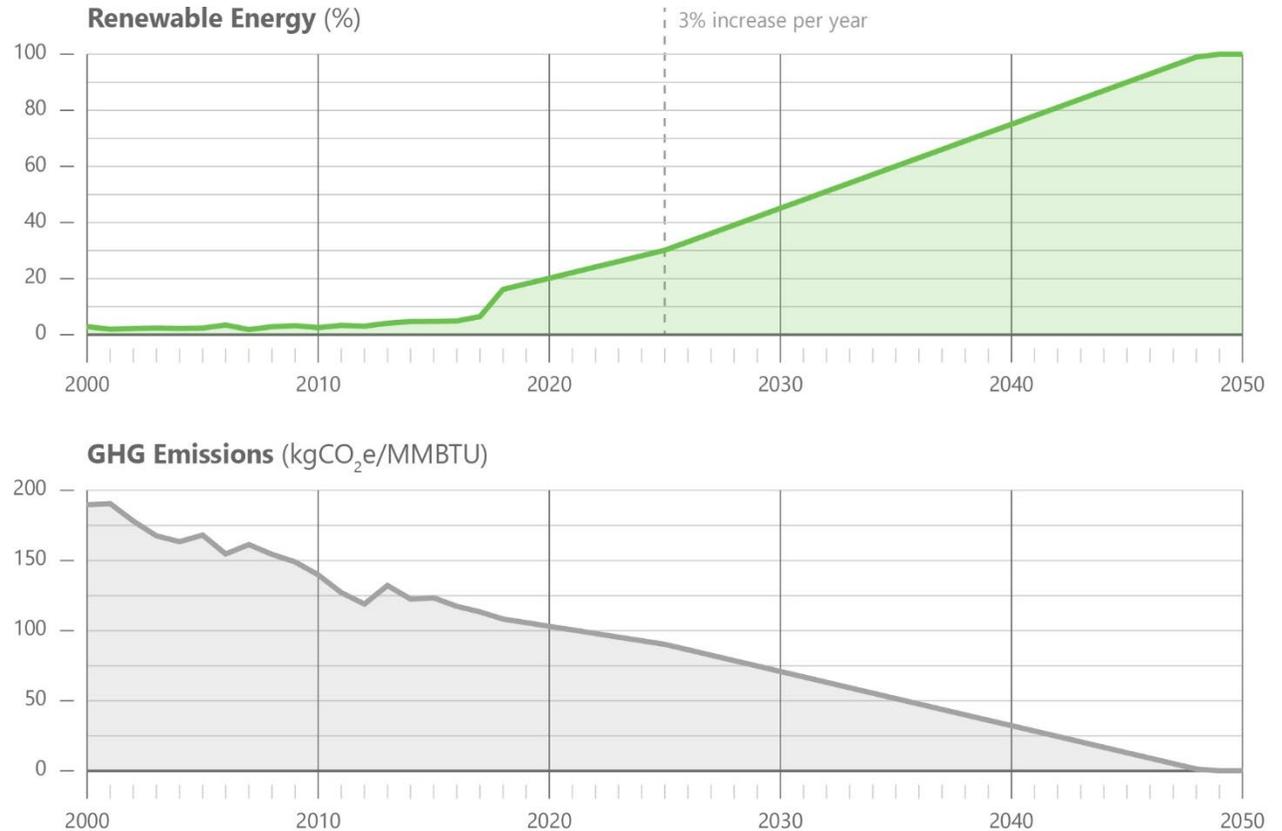
## State Policy Example: Massachusetts

The 2021 Massachusetts Climate Bill increases the year-over-year proportion of renewables engaged on the grid from 2% to 3% starting in 2025.

Therefore:

- The GHG Emissions associated with the grid, in accordance with the Clean Energy Standard, are reduced each year.
- Ultimately, this policy results in a 100% clean grid by 2050.

Many of the following slides study all-electric feasibility in Boston, MA to illustrate implementation in a cold climate.

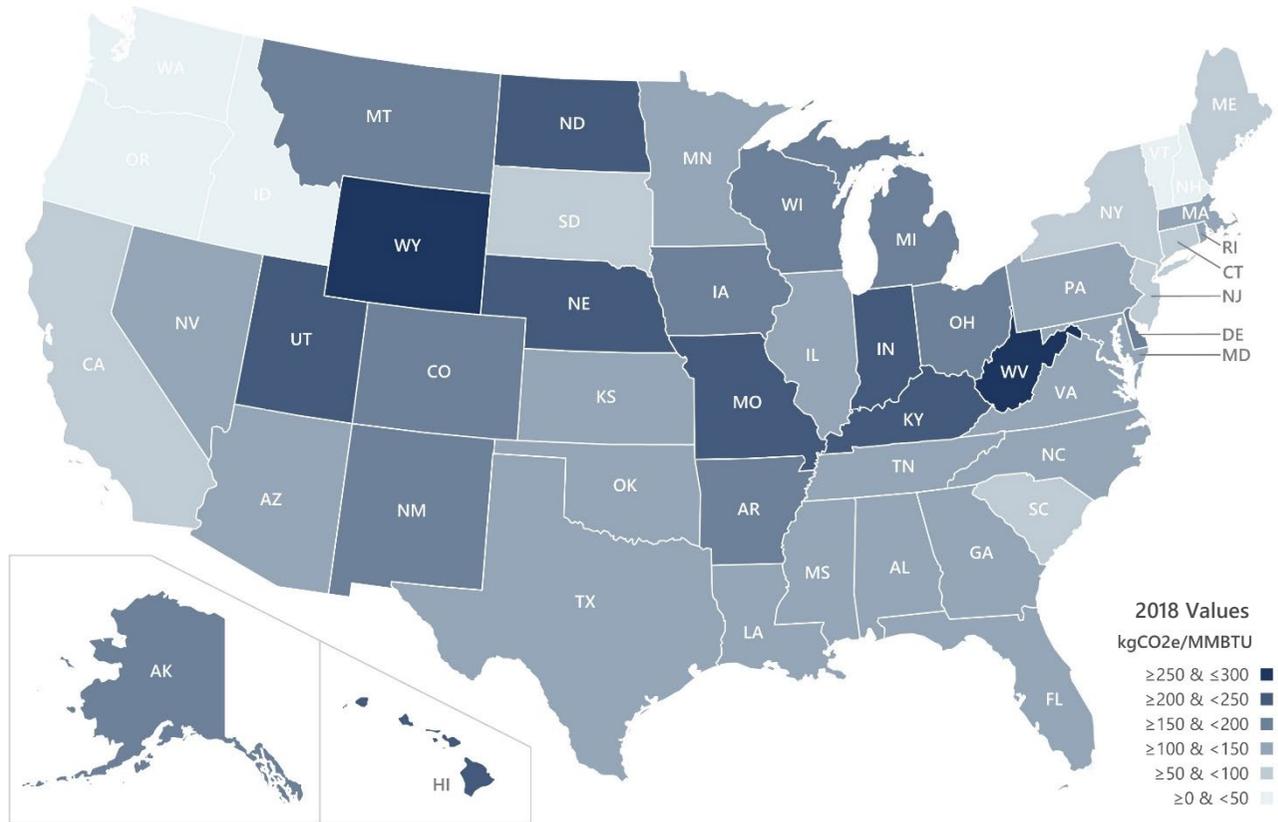


# Grid Carbon Factors: USA

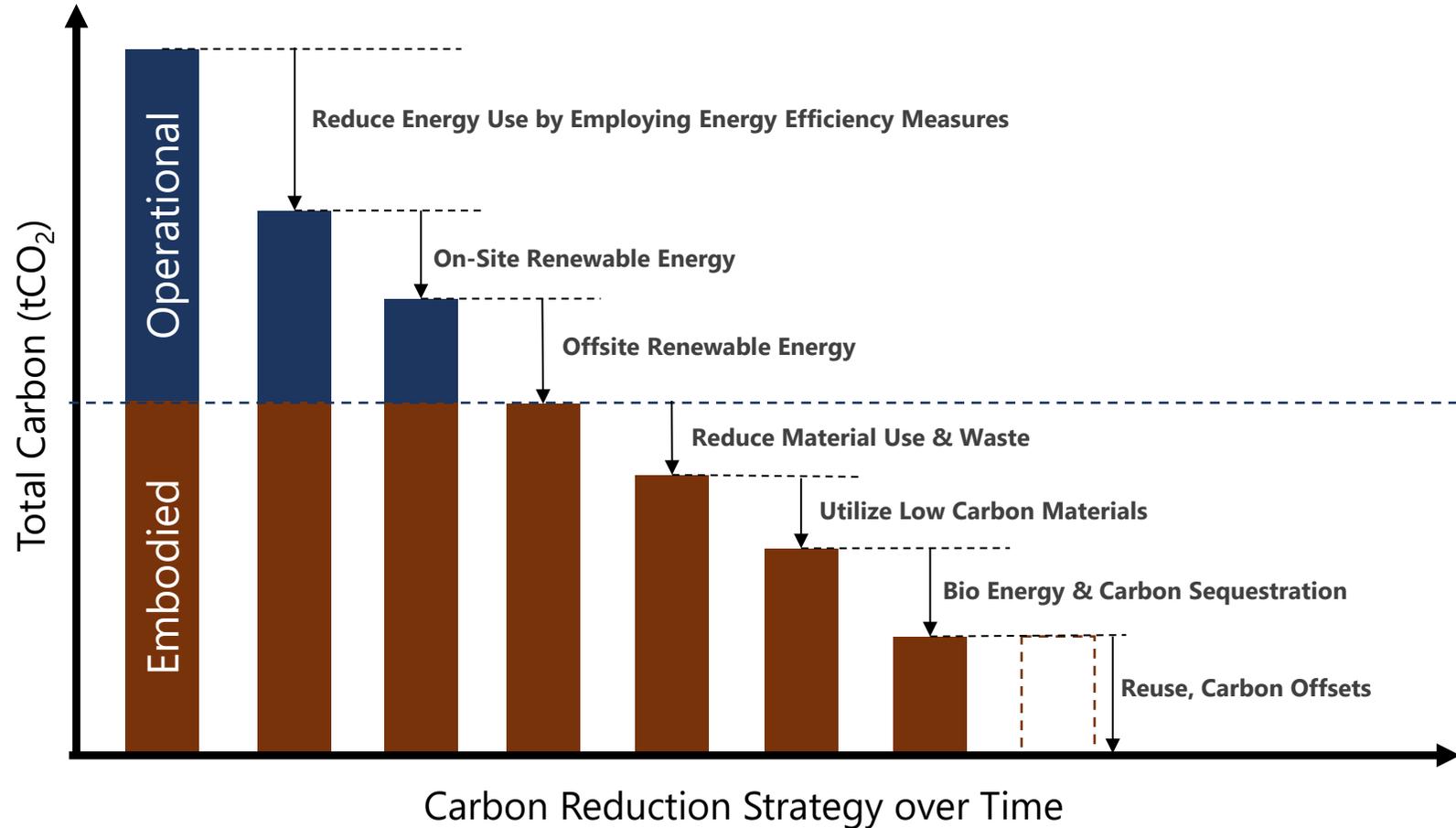


There is currently a wide range of carbon factors across the US.

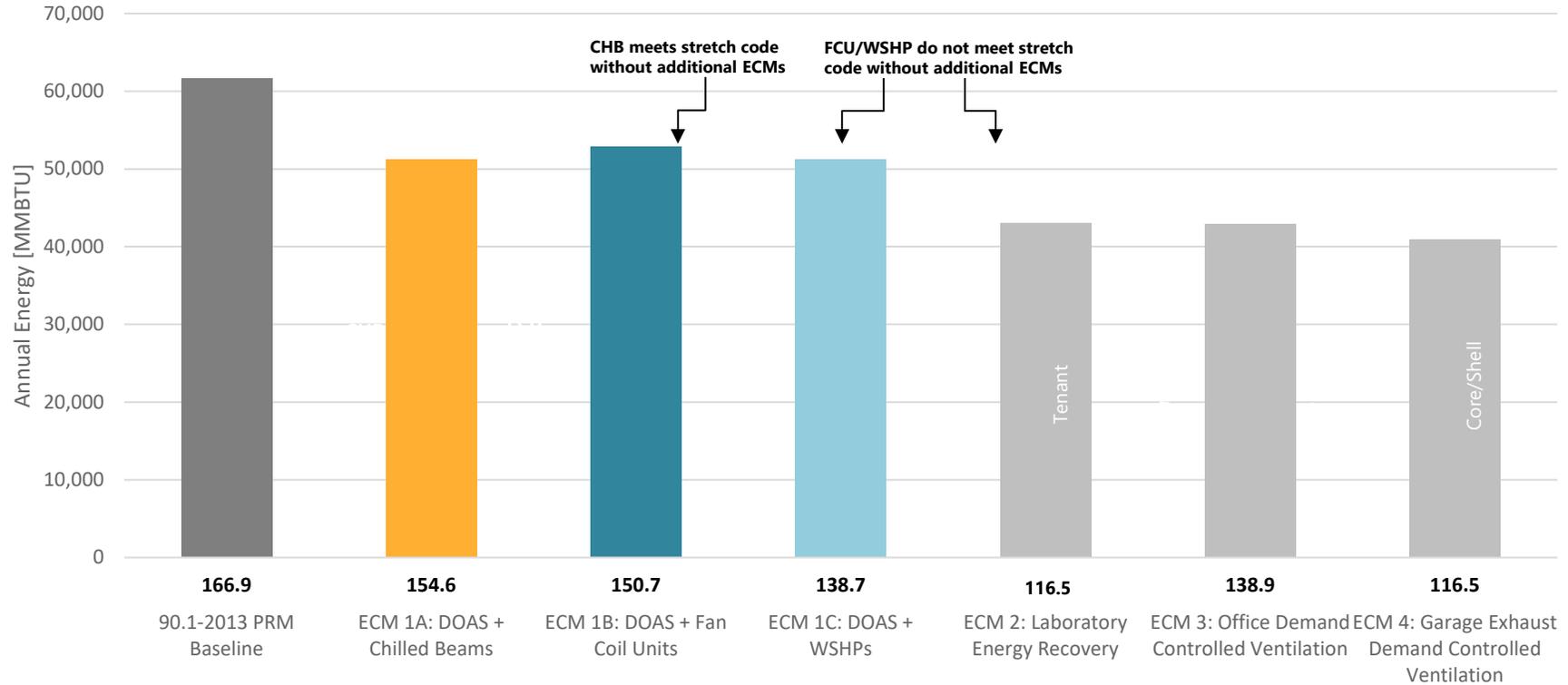
- All projects must evaluate current carbon factors for all fuel sources based on location.
- If the local grid is not yet renewable enough, then identify renewable power procurement opportunities and all-electric preparedness.
- The next slide indicates how this might affect a near-term versus long-term approach.



# Whole-Building Carbon Reduction

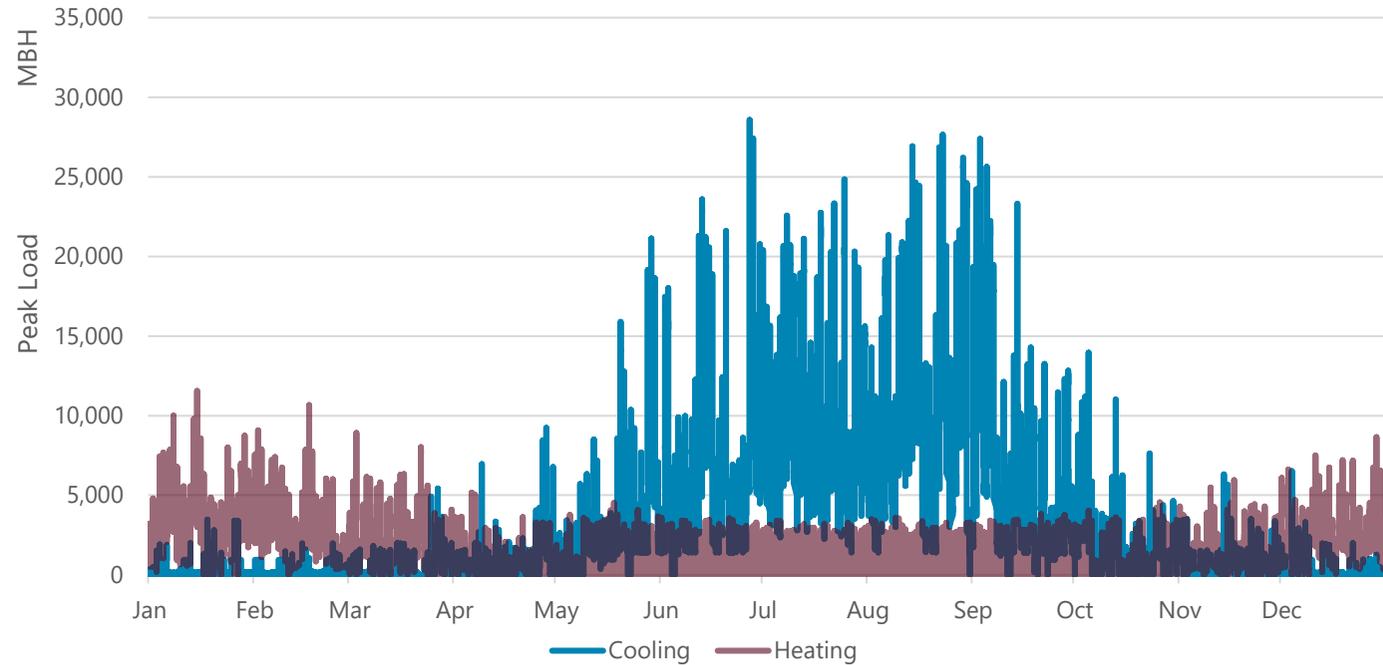


# HVAC System Fit-out Options and ECM's



# Waterside Heat Recovery

- Waterside heat recovery can meet nearly all of the summer reheat load



# HVAC System Options



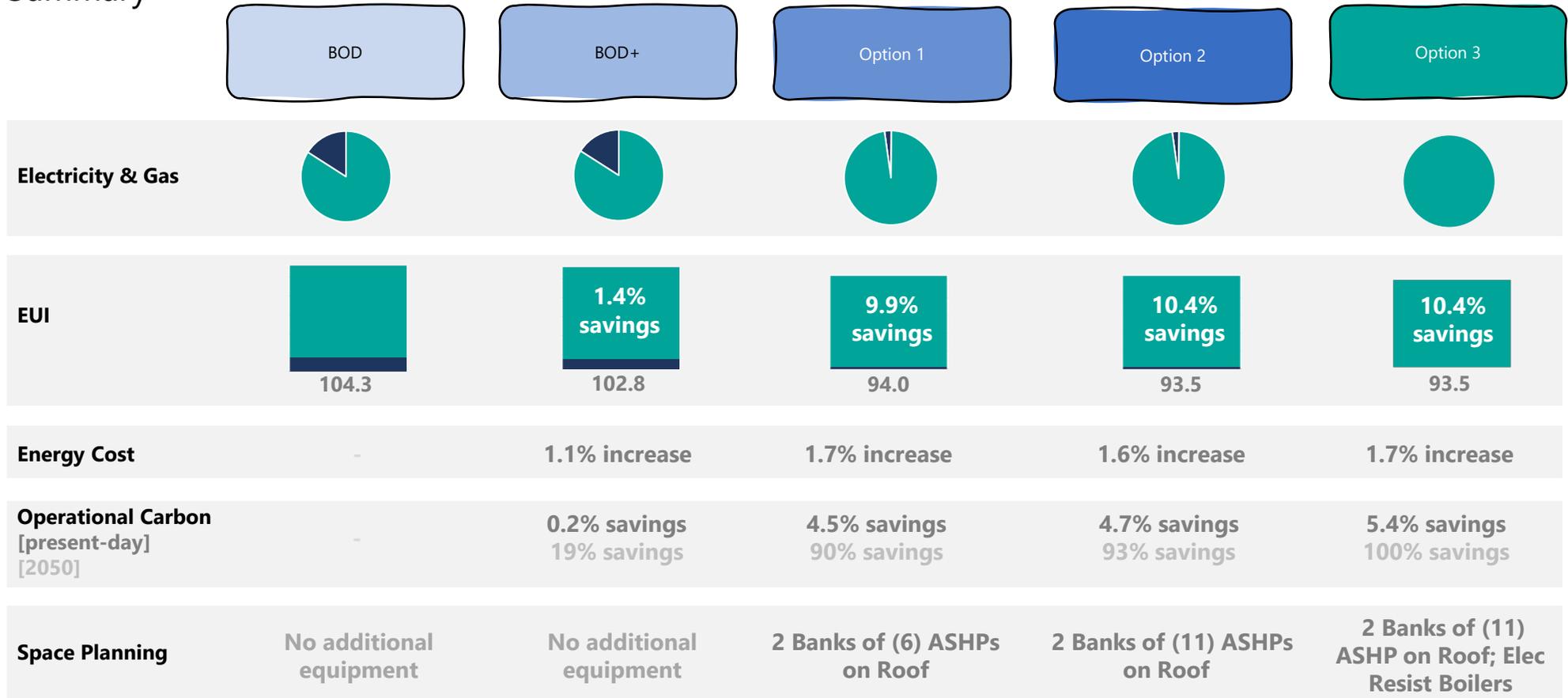
	BOD	BOD+	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
<b>SYSTEM OUTLINE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centrifugal Chillers</li> <li>Condensing boilers</li> <li>Glycol energy recovery for all spaces</li> <li>Free Cooling Heat Exchanger</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove free cooling heat exchanger</li> <li>Add Heat Recovery Chillers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove one gas boiler</li> <li>Remove free cooling heat exchanger</li> <li>Add Heat Recovery Chillers</li> <li>Add air source heat pumps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove one gas boiler</li> <li>Remove free cooling heat exchanger</li> <li>Additional air source heat pumps</li> <li>Add Heat Recovery Chillers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove two gas boilers</li> <li>Remove free cooling heat exchanger</li> <li>Add two electric boilers</li> <li>Add Heat Recovery Chillers</li> <li>Air source heat pumps</li> <li>4th Transformer Needed</li> </ul>
<b>% All-Electric</b>	0%	Peak: N/A* Hours: 71.8% Energy: 49.2%	Peak: 25.0% Hours: 95.5% Energy: 87.5%	Peak: 50.0% Hours: 99.9% Energy: 99.2%	Peak: 100.0% Hours: 100.0% Energy: 100.0%
<b>ENERGY RECOVERY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Spaces: Glycol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Spaces: Glycol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Spaces: Glycol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Spaces: Glycol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Spaces: Glycol</li> </ul>
<b>CHILLED WATER</b>					
<b>HEATING HOT WATER</b>					
<b>BACK UP EQUIPMENT</b>					

\*Heat Recovery Chiller primarily supports cooling season simultaneous heating, and therefore typically is less beneficial in heating season, and thus is not applicable to peak heat load.

# Results

## Summary

Electricity  
Natural Gas



# What does it look like to deliver a sustainable fit-out, when lab buildings are increasingly having greater demands?

## Ventilation and HVAC

- Demand Controlled Ventilation & Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment
- Optimized Lab Exhaust
- Waterside and Airside Energy Recovery on fit-out equipment
- Waste Heat Recovery (from Servers, chillers, etc.)
- Decouple Ventilation from Heating and Cooling



# Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

## The LVRA is a focused risk assessment

- First of a two-part building assessment process
- Surveys of lab environments and associated exposure control devices
  - “Below-the-ceiling” study
- Relative risk is determined using weighted algorithm method that establishes a control band representing a range of hazard emission scenarios
- Control banding techniques correlate with risk band values with minimum operating specifications



Risk Control Band	Description
0	Negligible
1	Low
2	Moderate
3	High
4	Special (Extreme)

- Address protective capabilities for the labs
- Development of room-based airflow specifications
- Harmonization with EHS standards
- Addressing the elements of “ventilation effectiveness” (VEFF)
- Creation of ECD inventories, risk matrices for future reference and updates
- Opportunities for sustainable initiatives
- Smart Labs onboarding

# What does it look like to deliver a sustainable fit-out, when lab buildings are increasingly having greater demands?

## Smart Building Controls and Technology

- Building Automation Systems
- Smart Lighting
- Airflow Sensors
- Smart Energy and Water Use Monitoring



# Our Clients



# Case Studies

## 400 Summer Street Boston, MA



- **LEED Platinum**
- Triple-Pane Glazing
- High performance energy recovery equipment

## 100 Chestnut Street Somerville, MA



- **LEED Platinum**
- Triple-Pane Glazing
- All-Electric Ready with large heat pump equipment
- High performance energy recovery equipment

# Complex Systems with High Expectations

*A design that is committed to accommodate world class research space within the LEED platinum building while not sacrificing the intended high-performance operation of the buildings MEP systems.*

At the CRADL Vivarium fit-out, the team integrated the vivarium exhaust into the building heat recovery system, which helped to balance the OA/EA loads and maximize energy recovery effectiveness.

cradl

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# High Power Needs without Sacrificing Operation

*Account for diversities of power and air within automation lab without sacrificing intended user operation*

XtalPi's use of intelligent, state-of-the-art laboratory infrastructure is designed to not only boost research efficiency but also enhance safety through high automation and digitization.



# Flexible Solutions for Optimal Efficiency

***Flexibility is the backbone of sustainable lab fit outs, because the greenest space is the one that adapts, not rebuilds.***

The *Hatch.Bio Labs* suites are designed with flexibility at their core, with spaces that adapt to evolving scientific needs. Modular infrastructure and scalable layouts allow for quick reconfiguration, minimizing downtime and costly renovations. From custom exhaust systems to robotics-ready flooring, every element supports tailored fit outs without compromising speed or safety.



# Productivity Enhanced through Indoor Environmental Quality

*Prioritizing daylight, health, and wellbeing transforms sterile spaces into thriving ecosystems for science and scientists alike.*

ADA Forsyth is a top-tier NIH-funded research institute focused on exploring the connections between oral health and overall well-being.

In their new Massachusetts lab, abundant daylight and outdoor views elevate the daily experience for scientists, which is complemented by maintaining precise indoor air conditions through the building management system.



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# A Fit-Out Alignment to Corporate Sustainability

***When a high-performance core and shell meets a smart fit-out strategy and a bold sustainability policy, the result isn't just a building, it's a mission-ready ecosystem for innovation and impact.***

- Establish business commitment
- Operating in a safe and environmentally responsible manner
  - Lifecycle impact reduction of products
  - Measure and report environmental impact
  - Laboratory waste diversion
  - My Green Lab certification



**BURO HAPPOLD**

## Our corporate responsibility program

At Ultragenyx, our corporate responsibility strategy helps us identify, manage and communicate on topics relevant to our business and stakeholders and is structured around six key pillars:

- Innovation
- Patients
- People
- Communities
- Planet
- Governance



By focusing on these pillars, we strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those affected by rare and ultra-rare diseases.



### Commitment

We are committed to implementing an environmental strategy that helps to minimize our environmental footprint across our business.

### Aspiration

To conduct business in an environmentally responsible manner and strive to continuously improve our performance to benefit our employees, patient and physician communities, the localities where we work, and the environment.



# **Implementing Green Fitout Projects in LEED Platinum Core and Shell Commercial Science Buildings**

**John Swift, PE, CEM, LEED BD+C**

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