## DOWNTOWN CALGARY RETROFIT STUDY

CASE STUDY: EAU CLAIRE PLACE





# Real Estate Sector Advisory Committee Recommendation – Downtown Vibrancy One-pager



## **RESAC: 3 FOCUS AREAS**

Vibrant Downtown, Low Tax Base, Ease To Do Business

A VIBRANT DOWNTOWN MAKES FOR A VIBRANT CITY!



Residential will bring vitality and vibrancy to the downtown.



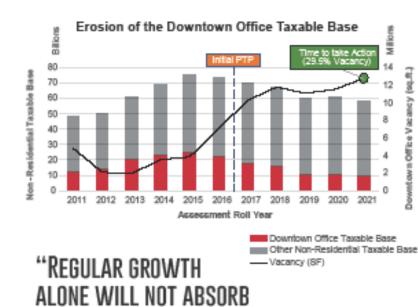
Amenities are critical to make residential projects viable and economic to attract investment and make downtown a desirable place to live.



Suitable Office Buildings for Residential Conversions are rare. Conversions are uneconomic without meaningful incentives.

2021 VACANCY RATE

Since 2015 The City has lost **\$16 Billion** in Downtown Office value and over \$320 Mill in Property Tax.



2031 VACANCY RATE

THE EXISTING VACANCY

WAY FOR 10+ YEARS"

IN ANY MEANINGFUL

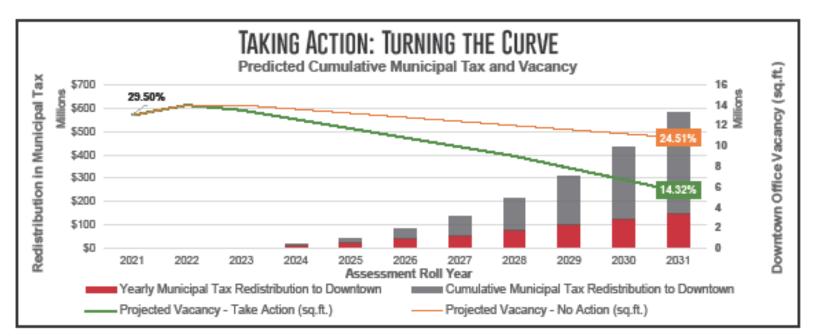
### TAKE ACTION VS. NO ACTION

Eliminate 6M SF ACTION of downtown office. Vacancy Rate from 29.5% to 14.32% **TAKE** in 10 years

\$450 Mill

2031 TAX REVENUE INVESTMENT INCENTIVES/GRANTS CREATED \$594 M

Residential, Education, Talent, Amenities (Parks, Art and Culture, Entertainment). 77



Will not attract new investment capital for commercial real estate of any kind in the downtown making it difficult to convince current building owners to invest in their assets to make them more attractive for companies and talent.

"THE TAKE ACTION APPROACH ALONG WITH A CLEAR VISON AND BRANDING OF CALGARY'S DOWNTOWN WILL NOT ONLY CREATE VIBRANCY AND GROWTH **BUT IT WILL STIMULATE PRIVATE** INVESTMENT AND LURE COMPANIES AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TALENT INTO OUR CITY SETTING US UP FOR AN EXCITING, DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY"

## DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PLAN

## Retrofitting with the intent to:

- Create vibrancy
- Activating the street
- Creating amenities to keep and attract people
- Creating active programming
- Contributing to the "night economy"
- Promote residential conversions for a mixed economy
- Encouraging programming to contribute to the above

## **Current cost offsetting initiatives include:**

- \$45m available for conversions and upgrades
- Max \$10m per project
- 2021 Q3 report will have more details

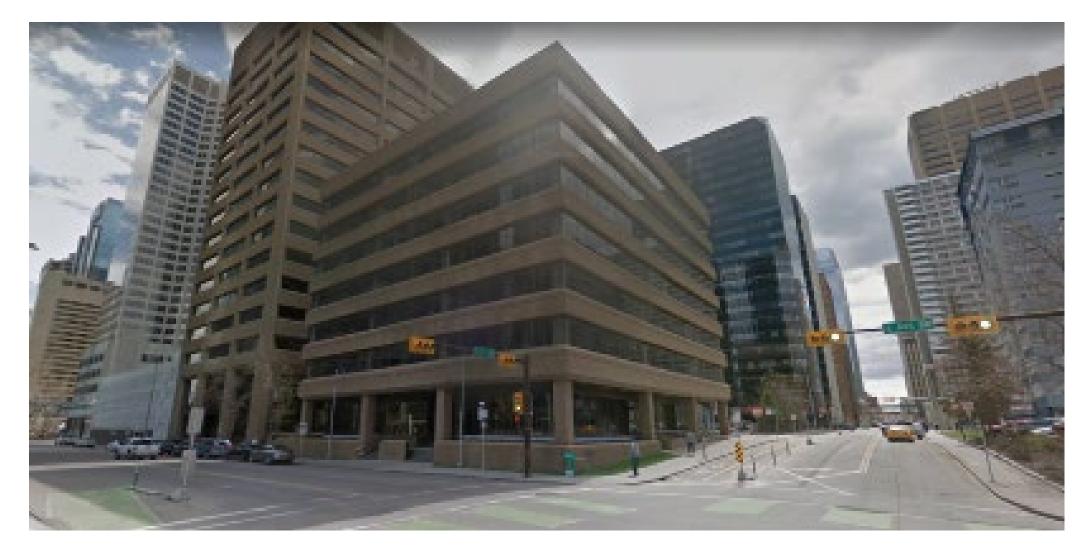
Key take away's and 'must-do's' if you want to be considered for City funds

#### Your retrofit must:

- Create vibrancy
- Activate the street
- Bring new and/or attractive amenities to the DT
- Create activity based programming
- Contribute to the night economy
- Create potential partnerships with social organizations



## **EXISTING CONTEXT**

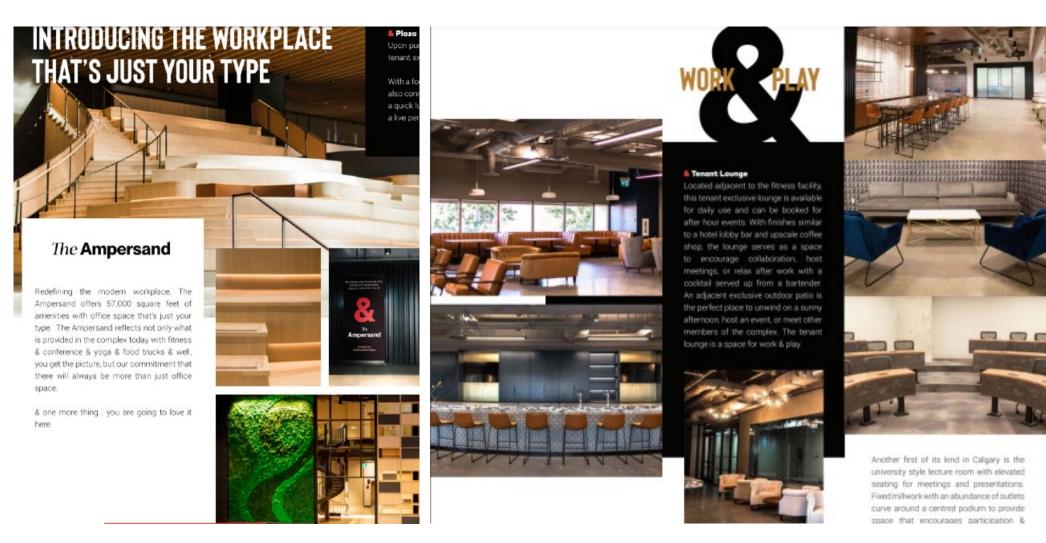




**EXISTING EAU CLAIRE PLACE CONDITIONS** 



#### **ACROSS THE STREET**



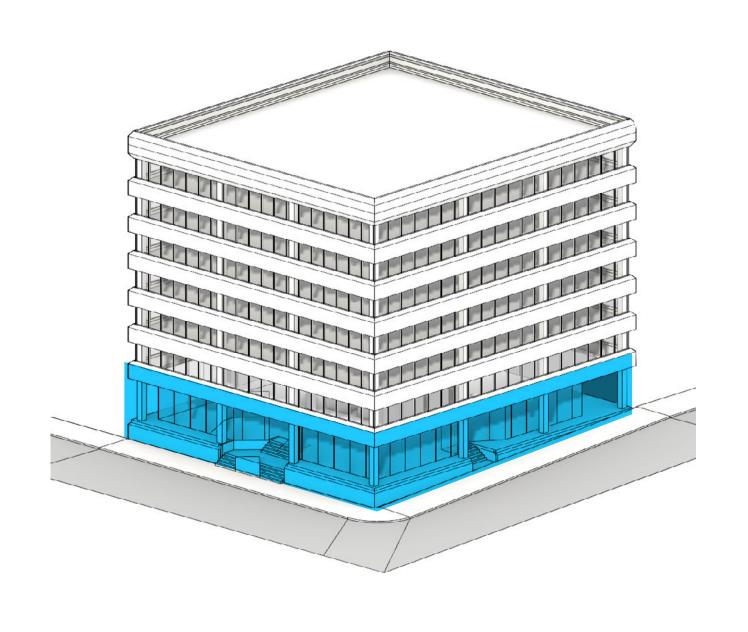
**NEWLY REFURBISHED: THE AMPERSAND (SUNLIFE)** 

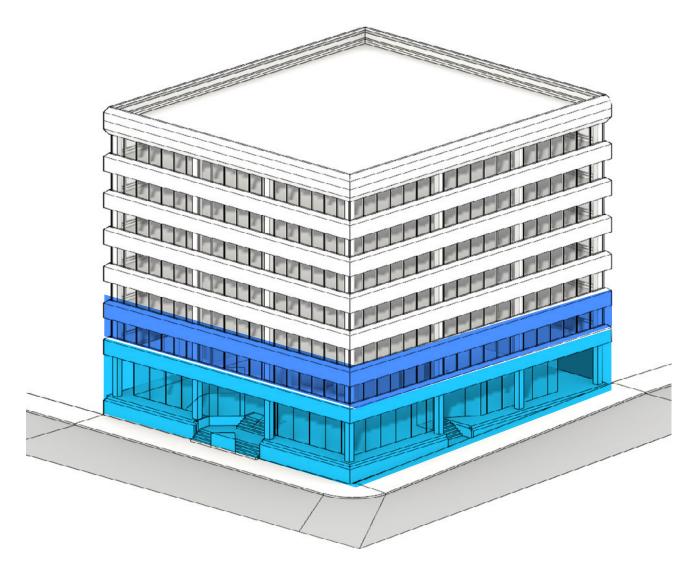


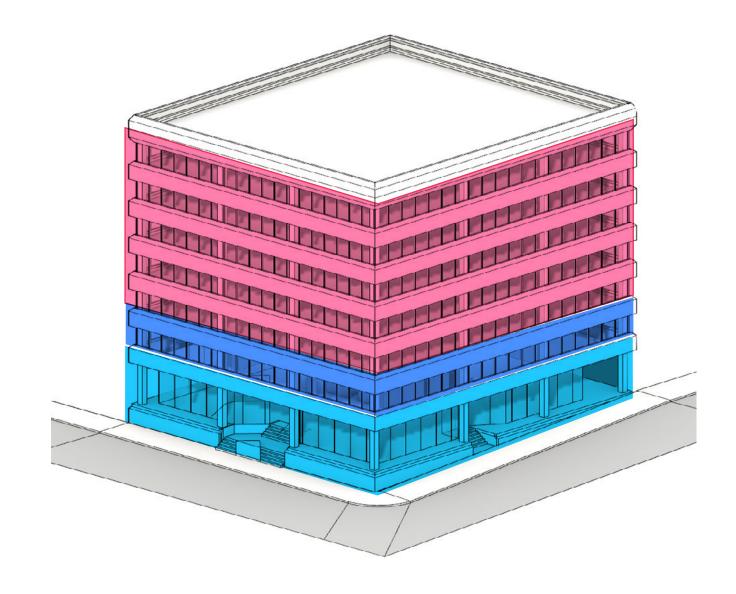
### RETROFIT SCALABILITY

## MINIMAL INTERVENTION ———— EXTENDED INTERVENTION ————









#### IMPROVEMENTS TO MAIN FLOOR

- Increasing transparency
- Encourage active programming
- Provide minor architectural gestures
- Improve edge conditions

## IMPROVEMENTS TO MAIN AND SECOND FLOOR

- Extending improvements to the second floor
- Increased area for active programming

#### **CONVERSION RETROFIT**

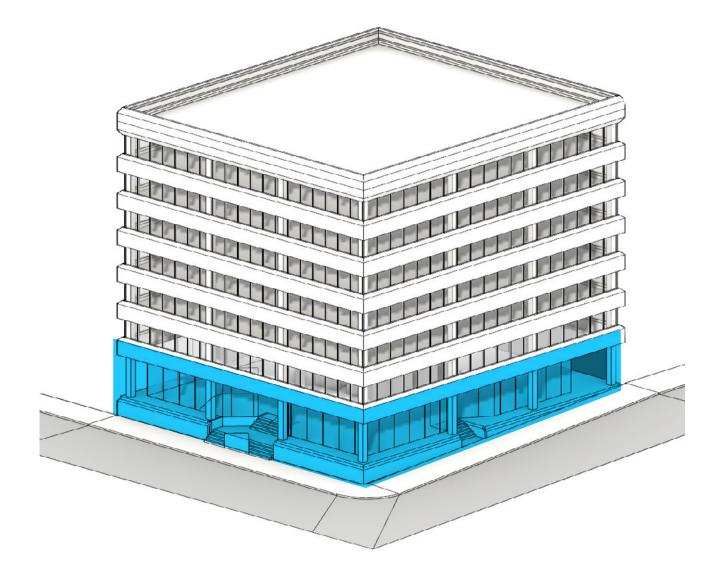
- Extending improvements to all the upper floors
- Residential conversions



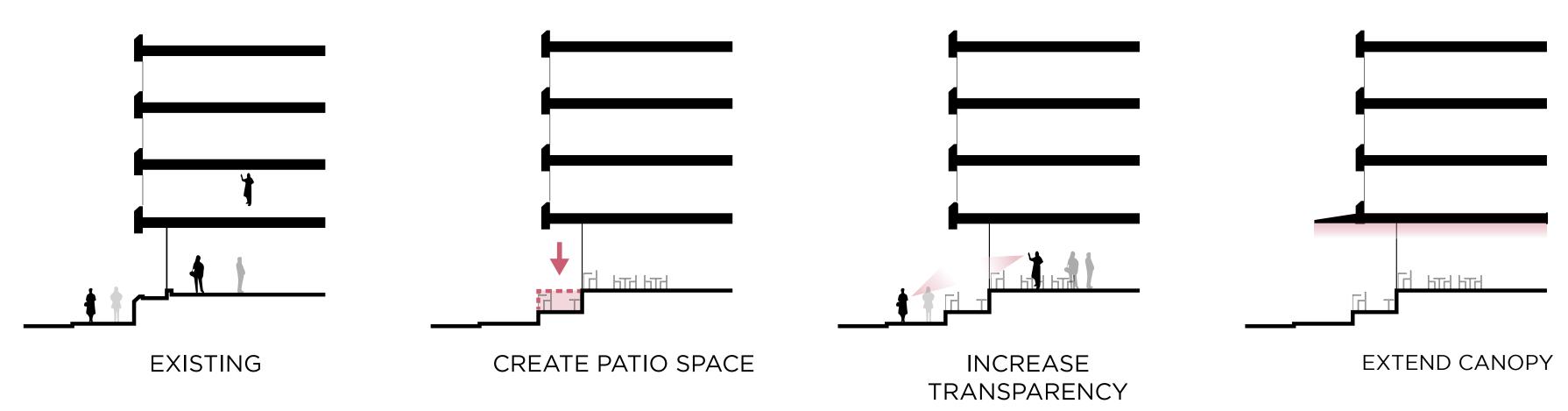
### MINIMAL INTERVENTION

#### **IMPROVEMENTS TO MAIN FLOOR**

- Increasing transparency
- Encourage active programming
- Provide minor architectural gestures
- Improve edge conditions



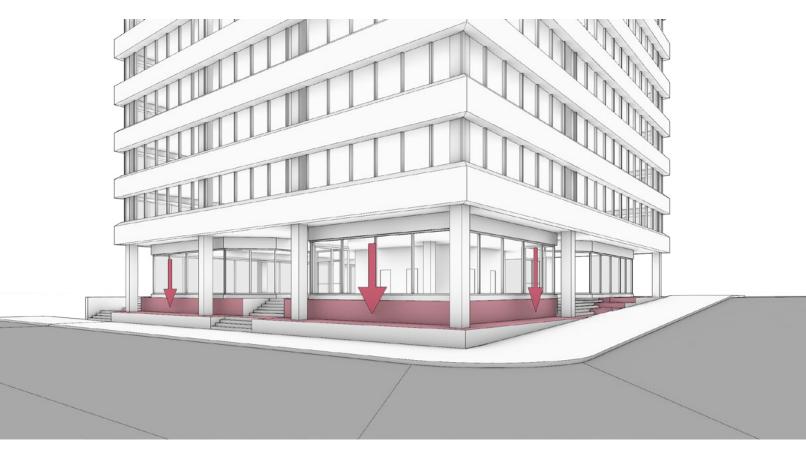
#### HOW TO CONVERT A MONOLITHIC PODIUM INTO AN INVITING, TRANSPARENT AND VIBRANT MAIN FLOOR

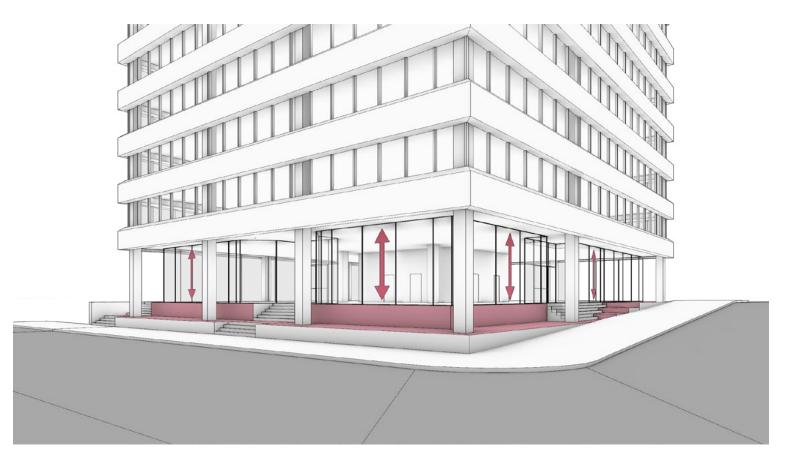




## STEP-BY-STEP







**EXISTING** 

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO ACTIVATE SIDEWALK

**INCREASE TRANSPARENCY** 



MAKE ARCHITECTURAL GESTURE TOWARDS SIDEWALK



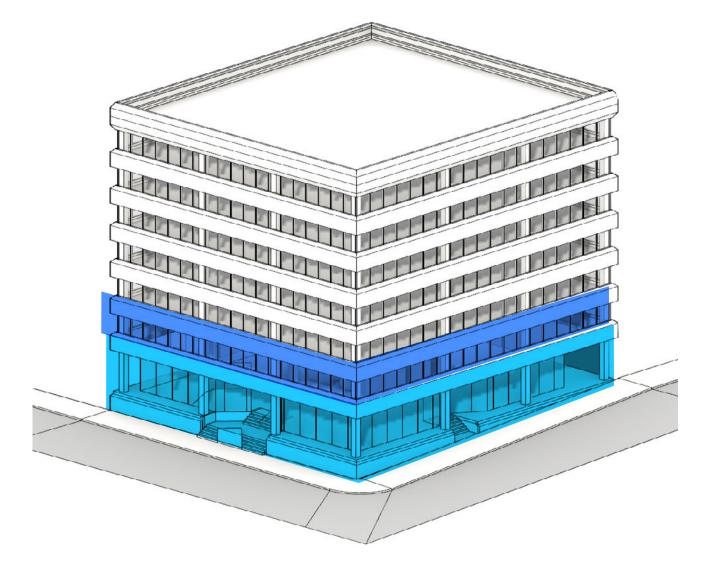
ENCOURAGE NEW TYPES OF PROGRAMMING TO FACILITATE ACTIVITY



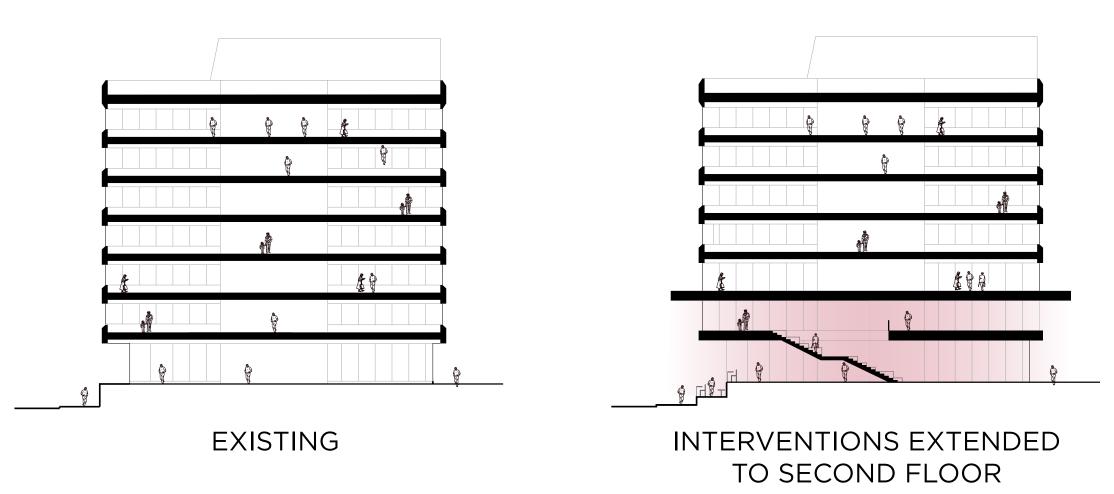
### **EXTENDED INTERVENTION**

## IMPROVEMENTS TO MAIN AND SECOND FLOOR

- Extending improvements to the second floor
- Increased area for active programming



#### HOW TO INTRODUCE PROGRAMMING TO ACTIVATE AND CONNECT THE FIRST TWO FLOOR OF YOUR RETORFIT





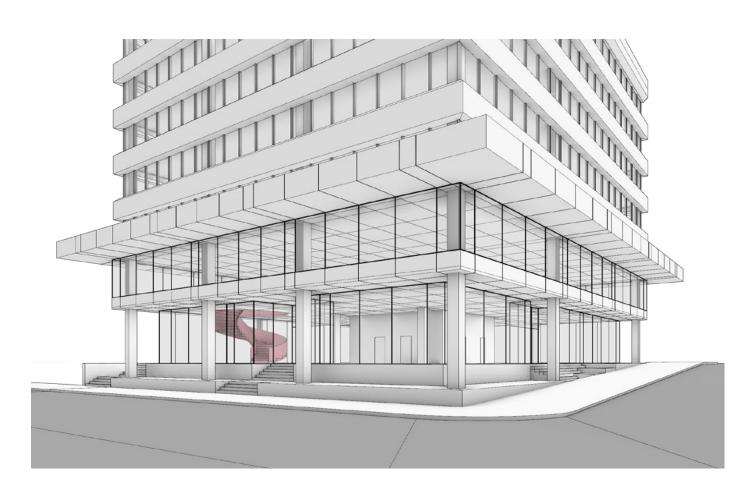
## STEP-BY-STEP



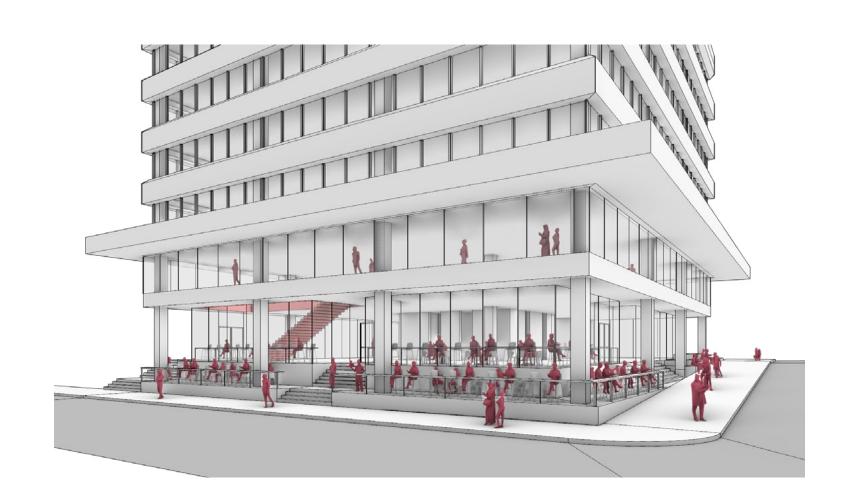
**ENHANCE GROUND FLOOR** 



RAISE CANOPY EXTENSION TO UPPER PODIUM LEVEL



WHERE POSSIBLE CREATE STAIR AND INTERIOR CONNECTION TO SECOND FLOOR



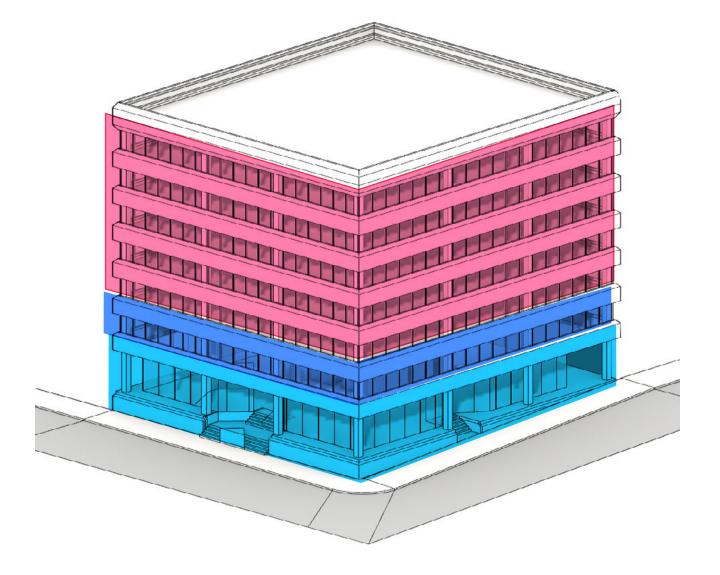
PROVIDE TRANSPARENCY AT UPPER PODIUM LEVEL TO STREET



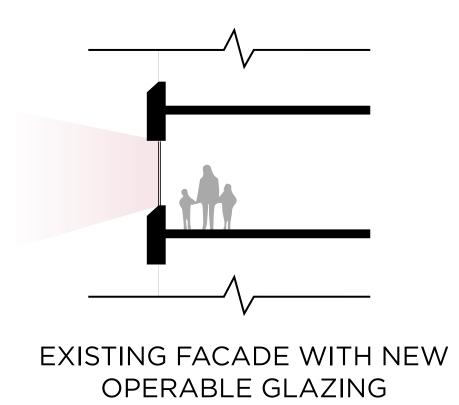
### **MAXIMUM INTERVENTION**

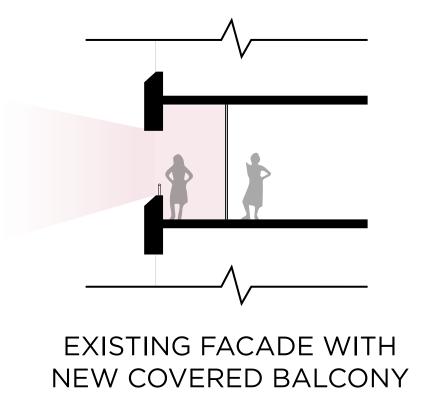
#### **CONVERSION RETROFIT**

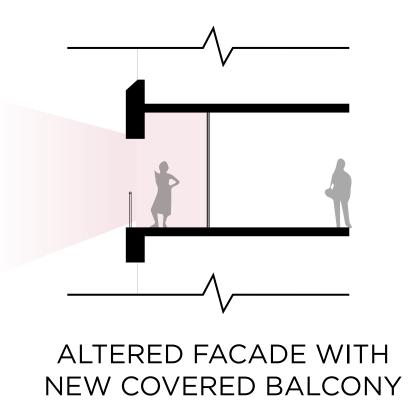
- Extending improvements to all the upper floors
- Residential conversions



#### HOW TO CONVERT AN EXSITING OFFICE FACADE INTO A RESDENTIAL OUTDOOR AMENITY SPACE

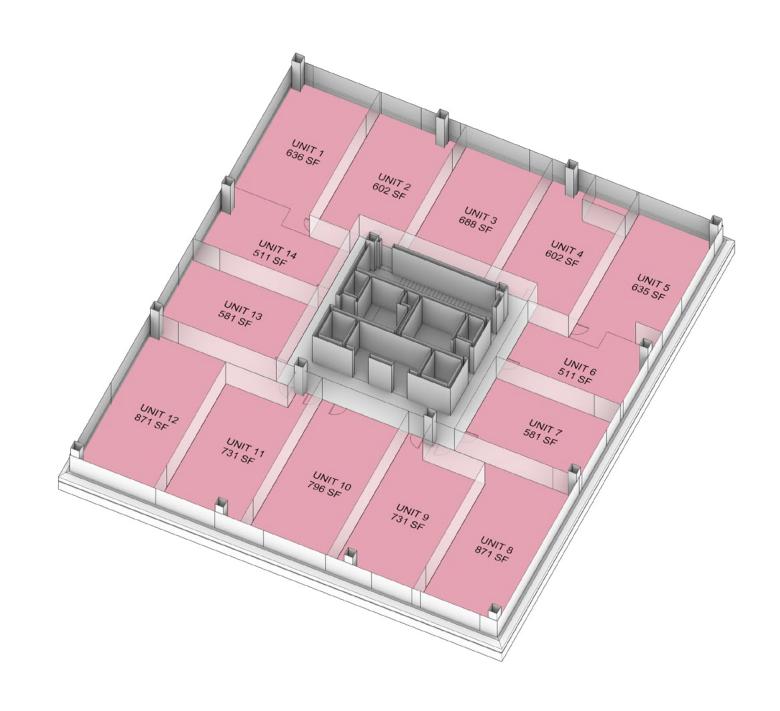




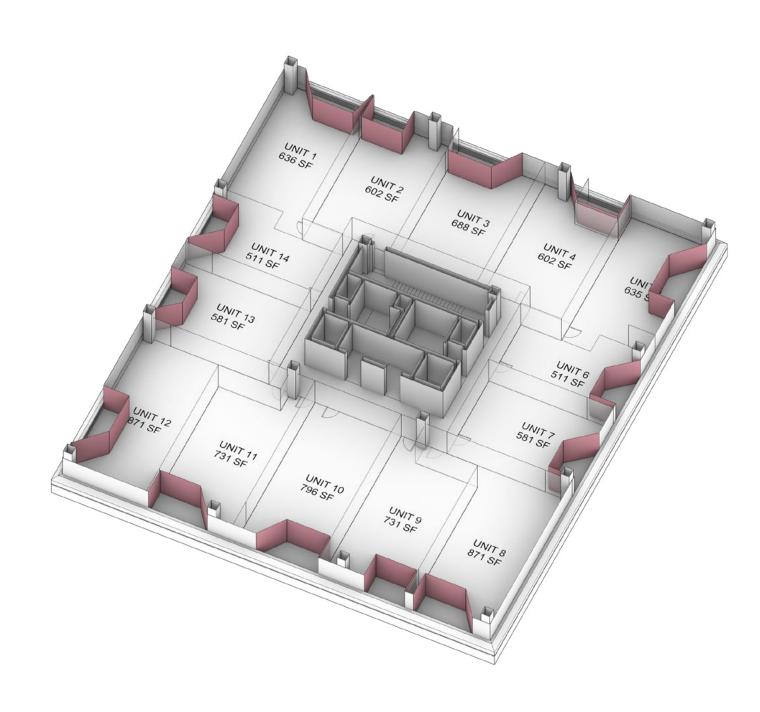




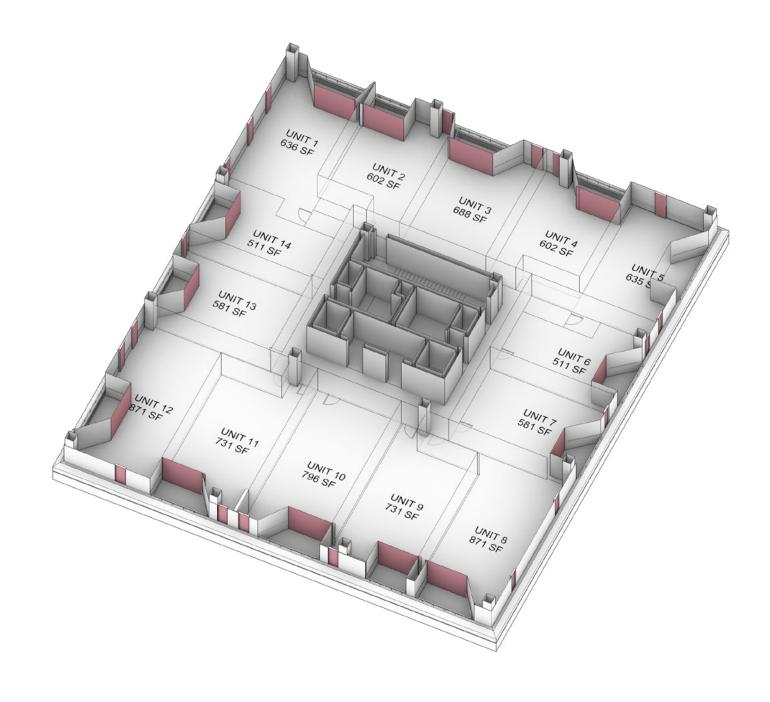
## STEP-BY-STEP



PARTITION FLOOR AREAS



REPLACE EXTERIOR
GLAZING AND CREATE
PATIO SPACE

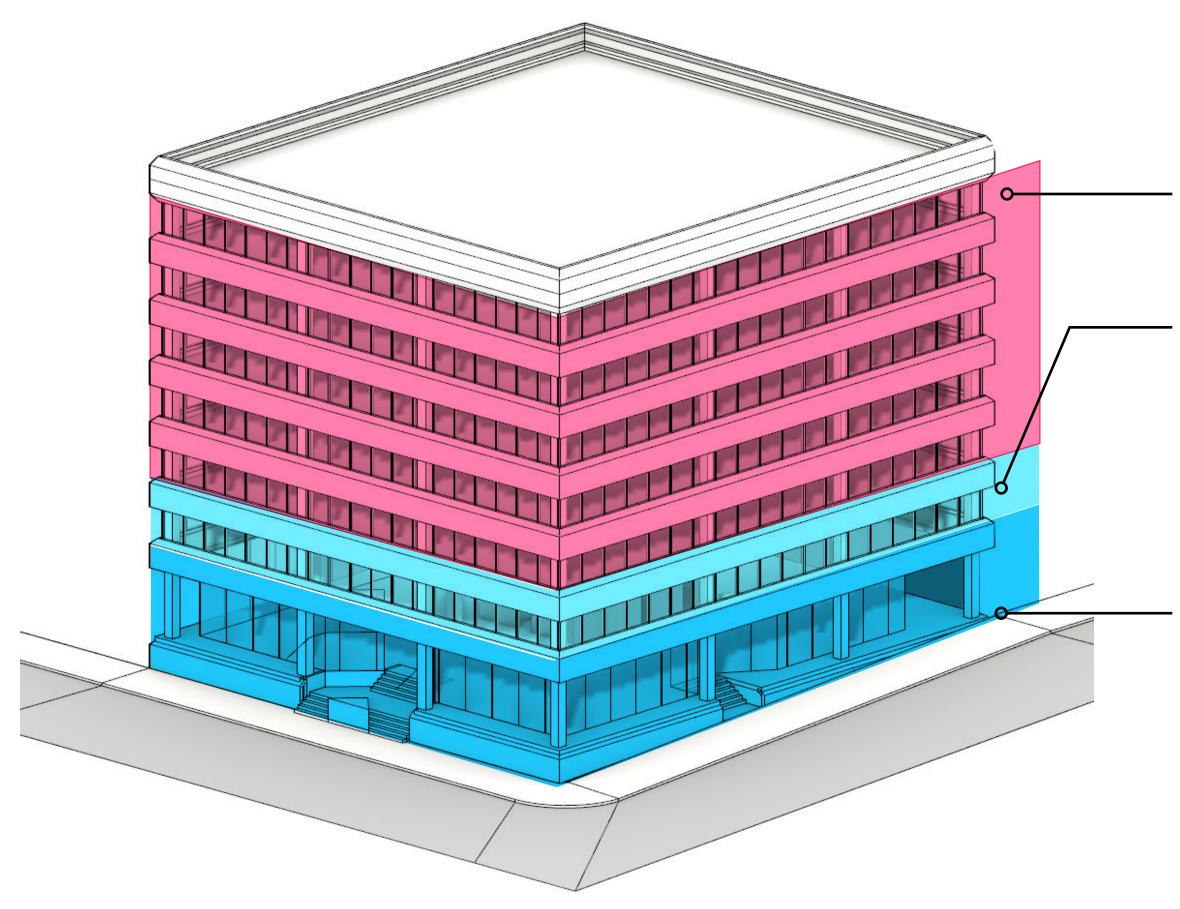


ADD GLAZING WHERE UNIT LAYOUT REQUIRES





### **IN SUMMARY**



#### **UPPER LEVELS**

- Consider another program if proforma works
- Consider a mix of residential / office programming

#### SECOND FLOOR / +15 LEVEL

- Extend the renovation to the second floor
- Add curtain wall window system to the second floor to provide visual connection of interior activity to the street
- Potentially add interior stairs to the second floor
- Provide private amenity spaces
- Encourage innovative tenant use: IKEA, Costco, flagship stores

#### **MAIN FLOOR**

- Remove barriers
- Add patio, seating, public activation
- Add canopy and other architectural improvements
- Visually connect the main floor program to the street with the use of curtain wall window system
- Encourage tenant programming such as restaurant and cafe spaces which generate activity and create vibrancy

