

# FINE TUNING RADIANT SYSTEMS:

Challenges and Lessons Learned from Commissioning Large-scale Commercial Buildings



**REDCAR**  
**ANALYTICS**

## Symposium on Optimizing Radiant Systems

Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

Red Car Analytics  
4460 Chico Ave.  
Santa Rosa, California  
95407  
[redcaranalytics.com](http://redcaranalytics.com)





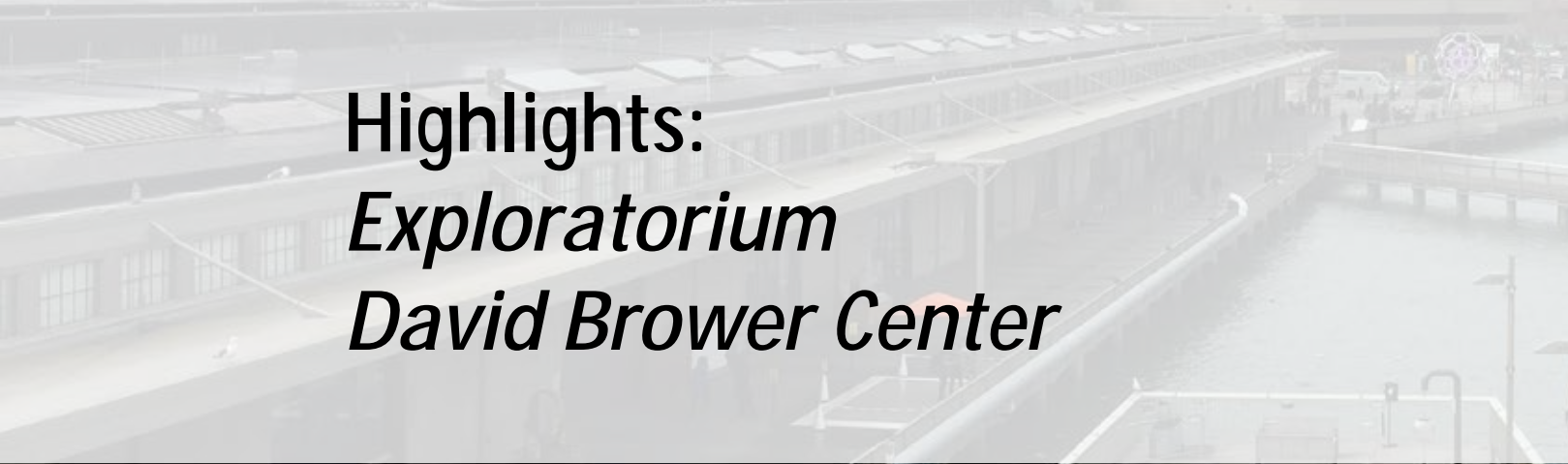
Commissioning experience + 10 years

10 In-slab Radiant Projects

Highlights:

*Exploratorium*

*David Brower Center*



# Where are we now?



*Constant Flow ..... Constant Temperature*  
*Constant Flow ..... Varying Temperature*  
*Varying Flow.... Constant Temperature*  
*Valve ON/OFF..... Valve Modulating*  
*2 pipe..... 4 pipe*  
*Primary Pump..... Circulating Pump*



## Share Your Story

- 
- 
- 



25,000 ft<sup>2</sup> Library  
located in East Bay

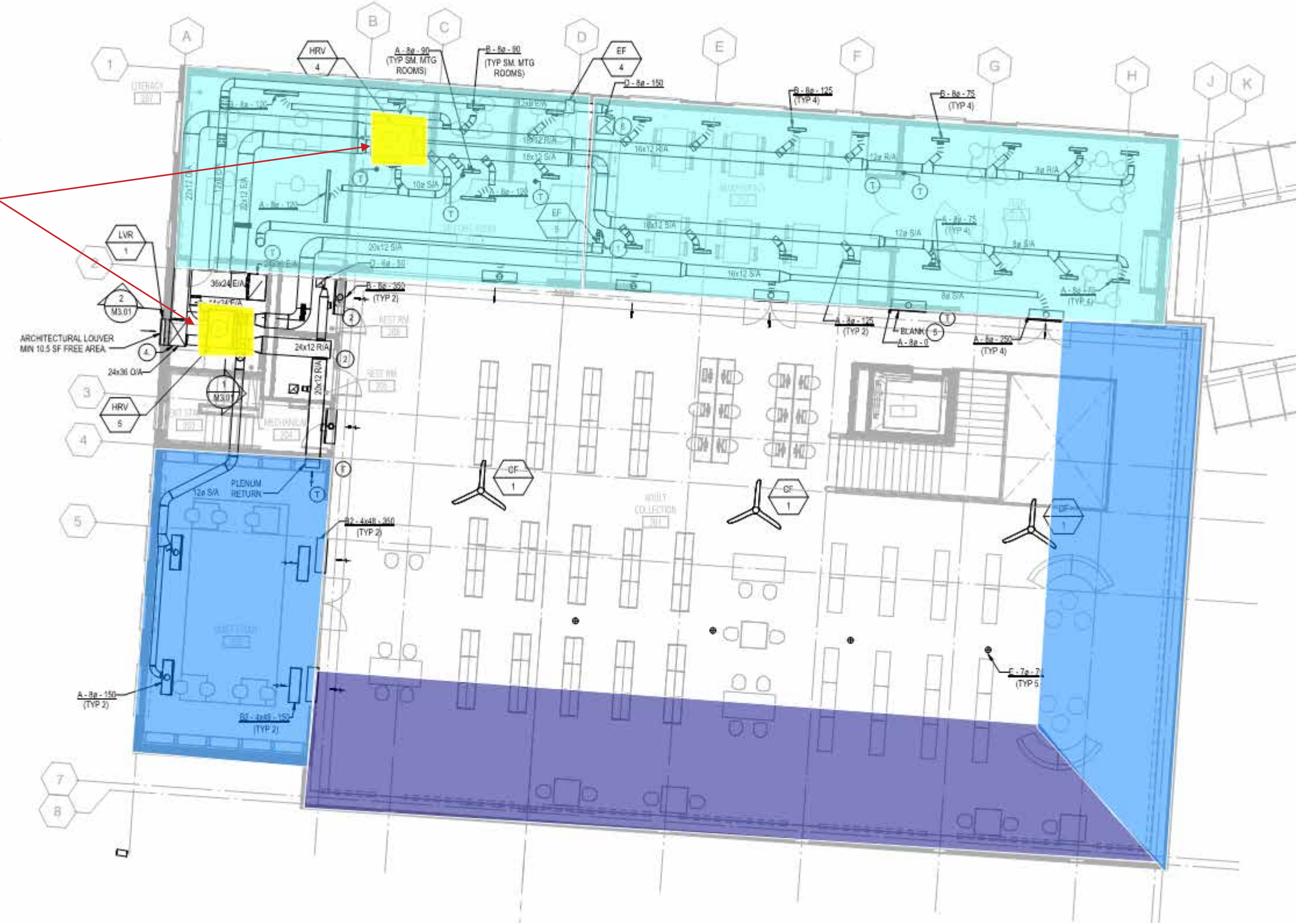
Performance Goal: ZNE  
Target

System: In-Slab Radiant,  
Heat Recovery Ventilators  
(HRVs), Natural Ventilation  
Ceiling Fans, Automated  
Shading

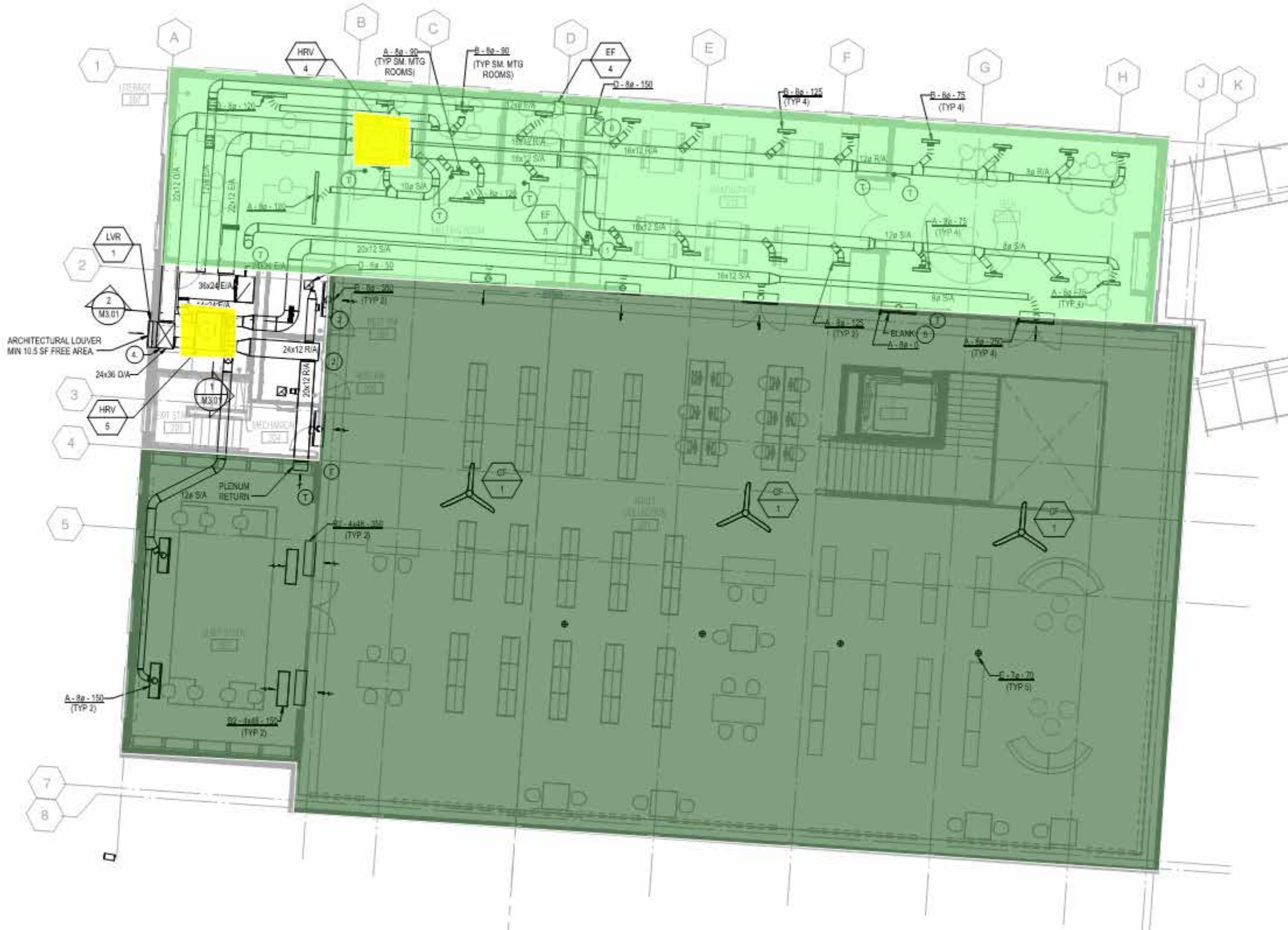


# Natural Ventilation Zones

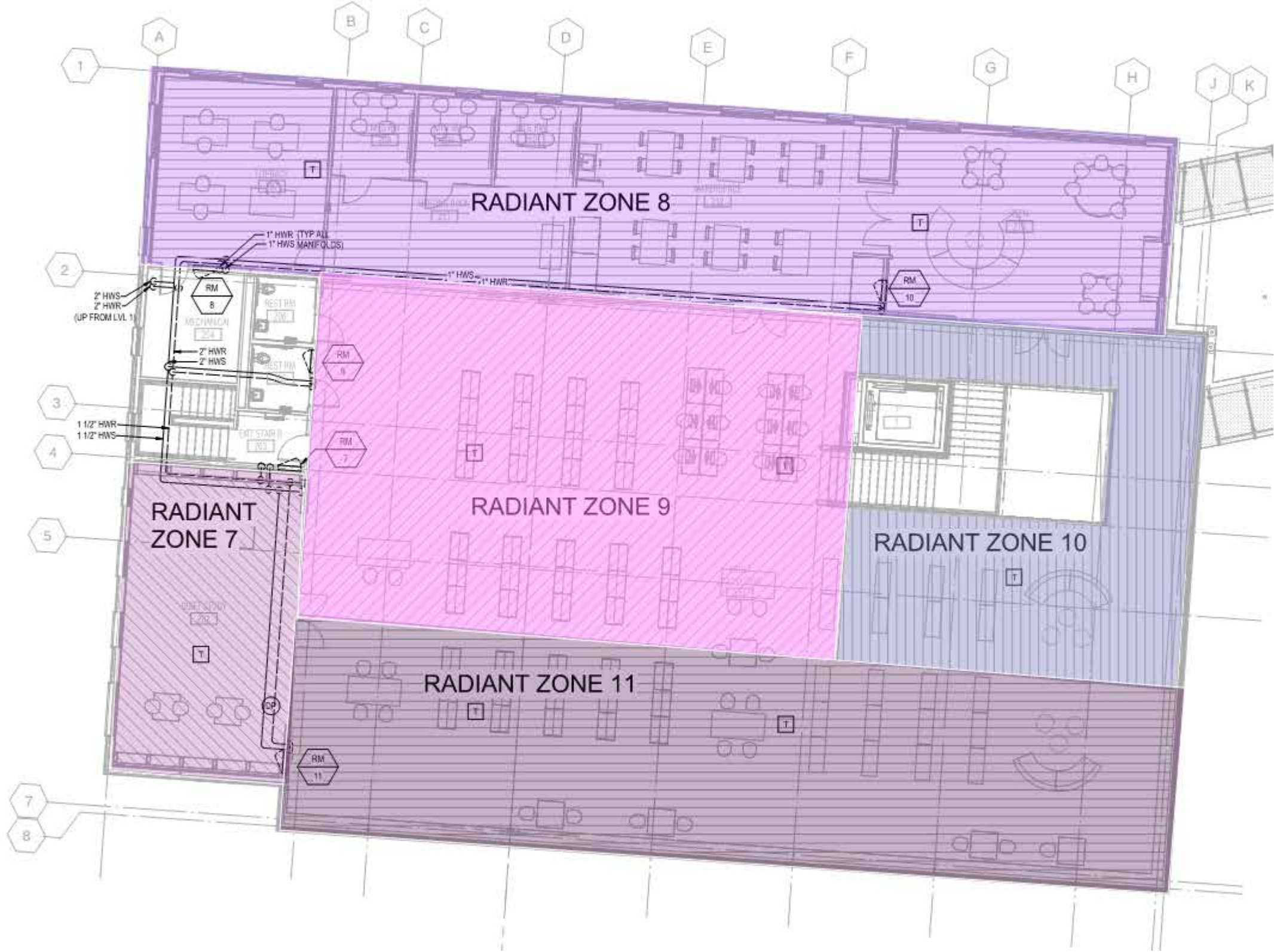
Heat Recovery Ventilators



# Heat Recovery Ventilator Zones

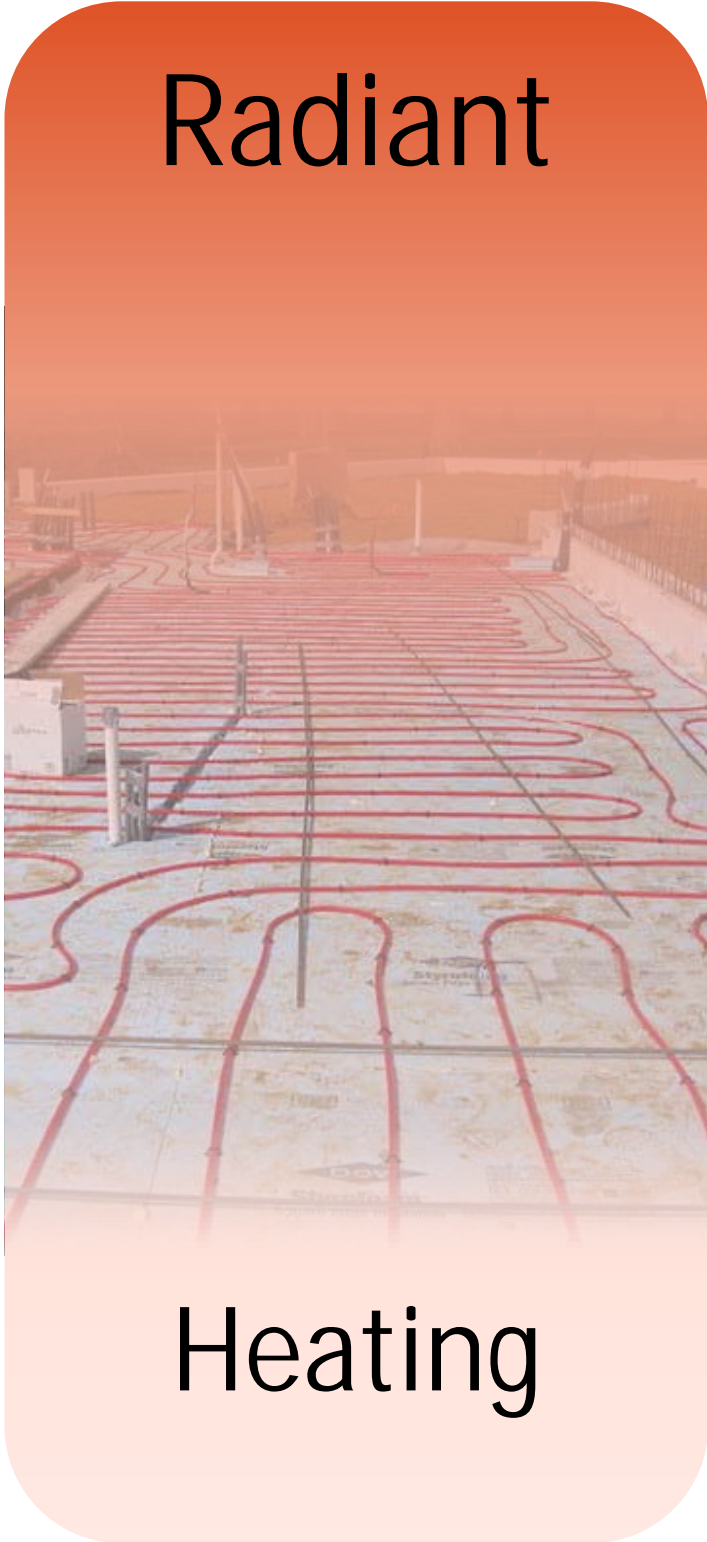


# Radiant Zones



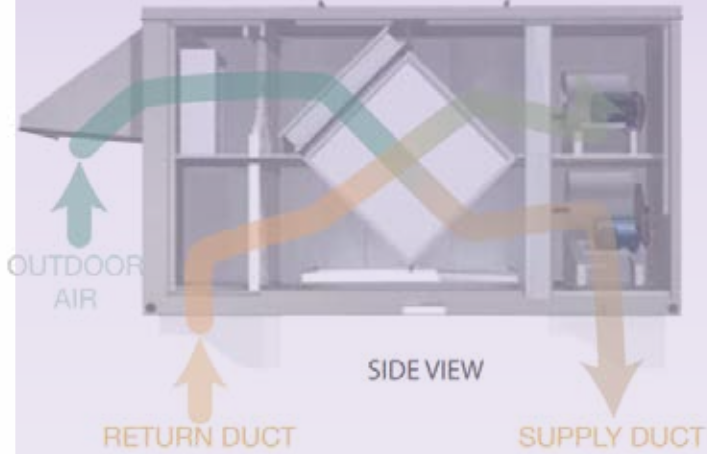
# Diagram of Systems

Radiant



Heating

Mechanical Ventilation (HRVs)



Ventilation

Natural Ventilation



Cooling

# Diagram of Systems

**Radiant**

*Stand Alone Control*



**Heating**

**Mechanical Ventilation (HRVs)**

*Stand Alone Control*



**Ventilation**

**Natural Ventilation**



*Control Integration*

**Cooling**



58,000 ft<sup>2</sup> Library located in East Bay

Performance Goal: ZNE Target

System: In-Slab Radiant, Dedicated Outside Air System (DOAS), Ceiling Fans, Automated Shading, Lighting Integration to HVAC.



# Dedicated Outside Air System (DOAS)



## Radiant +DOAS

Ventilation

Warm

On at Night

Supplemental Cooling

Little Temp Setback

Dehumidification?

## Standard VAV

Heating + Cooling

Morning Warm up

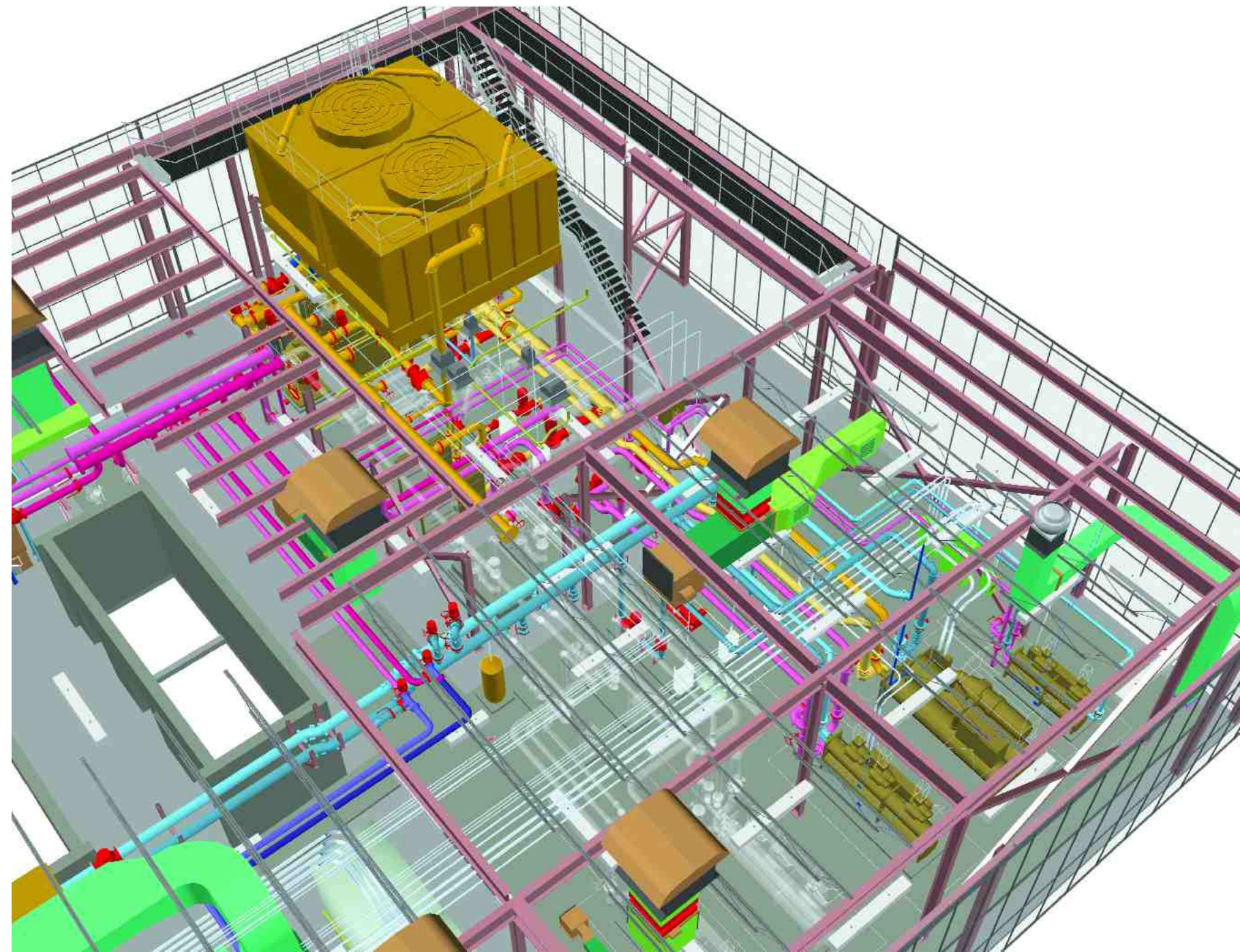
Unoccupied Schedule

Primary Cooling

Temperature Setback

# Basis of Design

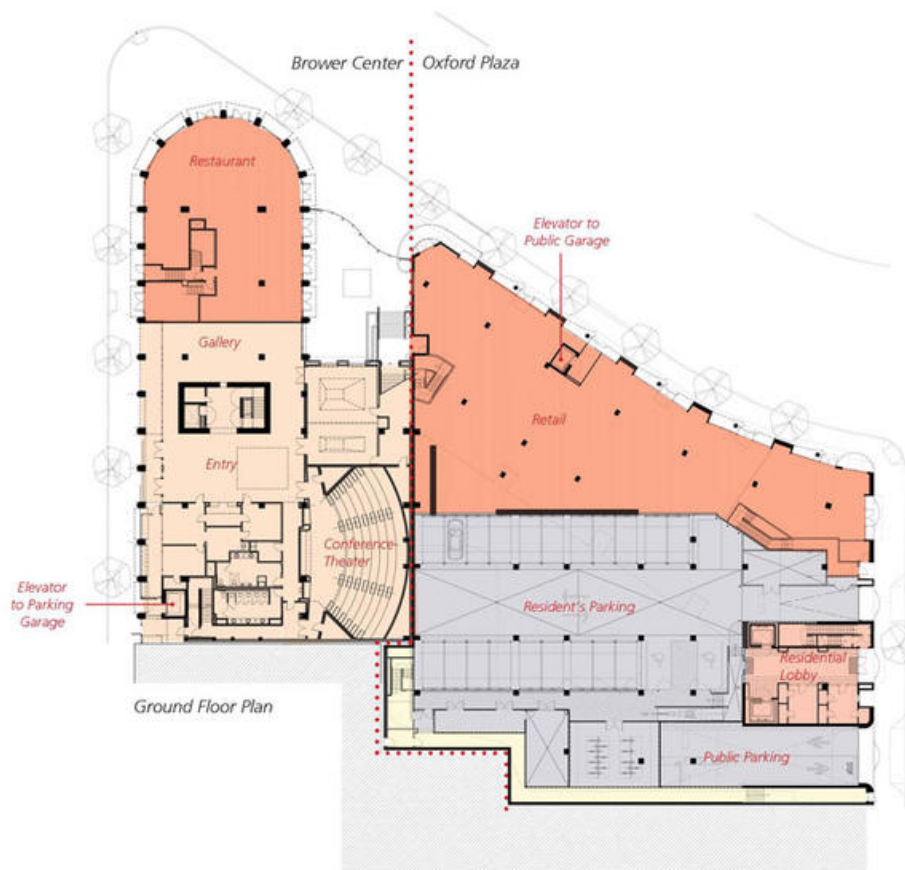
- More important than EOR realize
- Needs to provide the “Why”
- Include with Sequence of Operations
- Updated through construction and into Occupancy



# David Brower Center, Berkeley CA 46,000ft<sup>2</sup>

Performance: LEED Platinum

System: In-Slab Radiant  
Heating, Under Floor Air  
Distribution (UFAD),  
Operable Windows





# 12 Months On Going Commissioning

## TABS Radiant Cooling Design and Control in North America: Results from Expert Interviews

A Study within the "Optimizing Radiant Systems for Energy Efficiency and Comfort" Project

### Authors

**TRC Energy Services**  
Gwelen Paliaga, PE  
Farhad Farahmand, PE

### Center for the Built Environment

Paul Raftery, PhD  
Jonathan Woolley

### Project Lead

UC Berkeley Center for the Built Environment

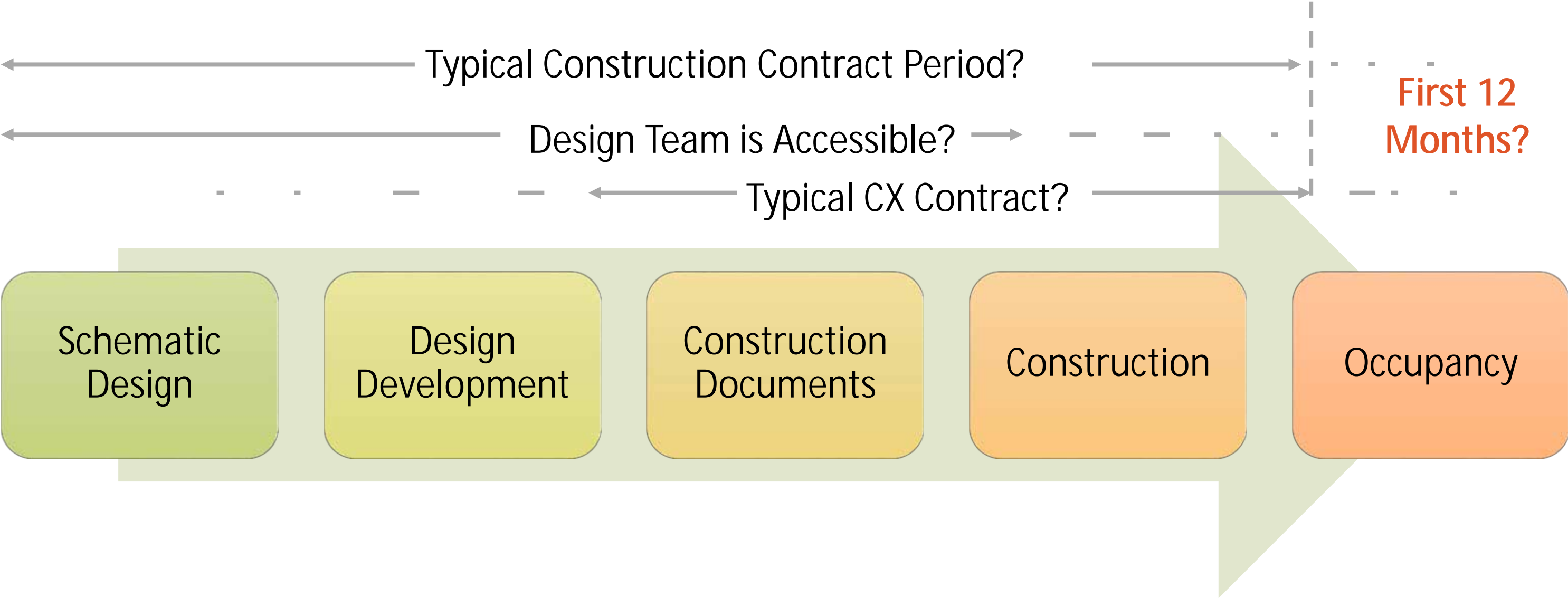
### Prepared for

California Energy Commission  
EPC-14-009  
CEC Manager: Jackson Thatch

June 2017



# Typical Construction Contracting Timeline



# Training

- More than just Equipment, System Level is a must!
- Design Intent = EOR
- Don't forget building users
- Repeat after occupied



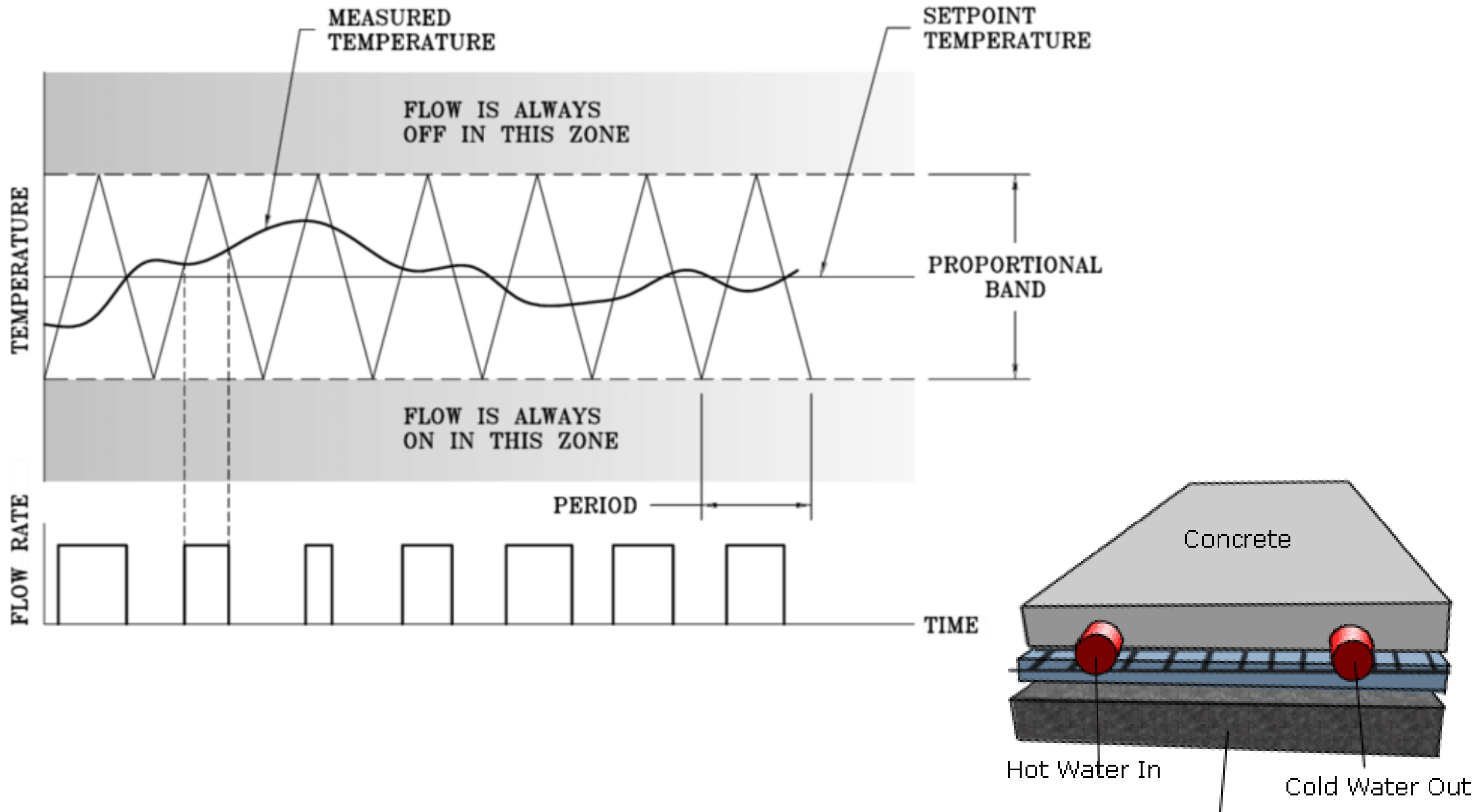
Lab located in East Bay  
80,880ft<sup>2</sup>

Performance: LEED Platinum

System: In-Slab Radiant  
Heating and Cooling, Chilled  
Beams, DOAS with D/X,  
Ceiling fans, Lighting  
Integrated to HVAC, Fan Coil  
units



# Pulse Width Modulation used to Control Slab Temperature



- Benefits from Standardization
- More + Accessible information
- Don't forget the instrumentation!
- Keep it simple!



**ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013**  
 (Supersedes ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2010)  
 Includes ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Addenda listed in Appendix F

# **Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings (I-P Edition)**

See Appendix F for approval dates by the ASHRAE Standards Committee, the ASHRAE Board of Directors, the IES Board of Directors, and the American National Standards Institute.

This standard is under continuous maintenance by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the standard. The change submittal form, instructions, and deadlines may be obtained in electronic form from the ASHRAE Web site ([www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)) or in paper form from the Manager of Standards. The latest edition of an ASHRAE Standard may be purchased from the ASHRAE Web site ([www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)) or from ASHRAE Customer Service, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305. E-mail: [orders@ashrae.org](mailto:orders@ashrae.org). Fax: 404-321-5478. Telephone: 404-636-0400 (worldwide), or toll free 1-800-527-4723 (for orders in US and Canada). For reprint permission, go to [www.ashrae.org/permissions](http://www.ashrae.org/permissions).

© 2013 ASHRAE

ISSN 1041-2336



# Where are we going?

What is the “standard radiant system configuration” which will scale in construction markets to make radiant HVAC a plug-and-play option?

What building-blocks in HVAC controls should be created today for future radiant systems?

Are radiant systems the best system to meet our CA 2030 ZNE goal?



*The future is not a place you get to go. It's a place you get to create.*

# Questions?

Thank you!

Michele Sagehorn

[michele@redcaranalytics.com](mailto:michele@redcaranalytics.com)

707.591.4555



**REDCAR**  
ANALYTICS

