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BELMONT, MA

MEETING MINUTES

2019 JUN 24 AM 8:59

Project: Belmont Library
Belmont, MA

Meeting Date: May 21, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: Belmont Library – Flett Room

Meeting: Library Building Committee - #12

Report By: Alicia Monks

Attending: Clair Colburn, Chair
Bob Schafer
Stephen Sala, PBC
Sally Martin
Kathy Keohane
Steve Engler
Jenny Fallon
Heli Tomford

Marcie Schorr Hirsch
Bob McLaughlin
Conrad Ello, Oudens Ello Architecture
Noel Murphy, Oudens Ello Architecture
Phil Chang, Oudens Ello Architecture
Chris Schaffner, The Green Engineer
Alison Zuchman, The Green Engineer
Alicia Monks, Daedalus Projects

Absent: Steven Dorrance
Bart Nelson

Peter Struzziero, Library Director
Sara Eardensohn, Oudens Ello Architecture
Glen Valentine, Stimpson
Julia Shapiro, Stimpson

Item	Action
12-1 Amended Meeting Minutes dated May 7, 2019 from the Building Committee meeting were approved. MOTIONED by Bob McLaughlin and SECONDED by Kathy Keohane.	
12-2 Invoice Approval included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peter Struzziero’s reimbursable expenses for the Community Meeting for \$57.49 were reviewed and approved MOTIONED by Sally Martin and SECONDED by Bob Schafer. - Staples printing expenses for the Community Meeting and Town Day for \$180.97 were reviewed and approved MOTIONED by Sally Martin and SECONDED by Bob Schafer. - Daedalus’ Invoice for \$2,000 was reviewed and approved. MOTIONED by Sally Martin and SECONDED by Bob McLaughlin. 	
12-3 Town Day. The Library Building Committee had a table at Town Day to promote the Public Forum and the library project. There was a variety of citizens with a range of knowledge about the project that stopped by the table to discuss the future project.	
12-4 The Community Meeting on Sunday May 19 had approximately the same number of people as the previous Community Meeting which was approximately 80 people. The attendees were engaged and the discussions at the break-out session were very productive and informative. <p>Noel reviewed some highlights from the Forum which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New space would include maker space / digital lab, children’s program space, quiet study rooms, Library of Things and an after-hours zone. - The process of how the Committee determined that a two story building was the most efficient layout. - The floor plans were reviewed. - Views from within and from outside were identified. - Brick as the primary exterior material was well received <p>There was generally a positive excitement for the library project. The larger concerns were about the site / landscape maintenance and the energy efficiency / consumption of the building. Both concerns will continue to be reviewed by the design team.</p>	
12-5 Project updates and messaging will continue to be shared through newspaper and cable tv interviews as well as future events such as the June 5 th Town Meeting and Meet Belmont in August.	

APPROVED

12-6 A draft of the Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Report was presented by Chris Schaffner. A copy of the draft report has been attached to these notes.

Highlights of the presentation include:

- There are five primary areas of focus for any low energy building: reduce demand, harvest site in terms of available energy and daylight, maximize efficiency, renewable energy sources and commissioning and maintenance.
- By removing the use of fossil fuels, there is a large reduction in green house gas emissions.
- A rough estimate of the solar capacity of the site is 100 Kw, which could offset approximately 23% to 49% of the building's energy. It would not be possible to offset energy use 100% without installing solar panels offsite. It was noted, that there are significant pressures on all the potential available areas in town for this application.
- Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP) were discussed as they seem like a logical choice as they are being used at the high school project across the street. However, the high school is a larger project and is well suited for GSHPs. The anticipated premium for GSHP would be \$847,000 for the library project.
- A Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) system is being recommended for this project based on initial cost, anticipated use, and estimated life cycle costing.
- Some assumptions were made for this report which include: R60 roof assembly, R40 wall, and R5 windows. These assumptions are estimated to increase construction costs by approximately \$1M.
- There are more details to be resolved as the overall design is developed.

Some of the public comments that were expressed include:

- Managing and/or reducing the amount of glass
- Tilting the roof to maximize solar panel output

12-7 The Committee agreed on the following direction to the design team:

- Memorialize the landscape design in the Schematic Design documents, identifying all by the essentials as bid add alternates
- Architect will continue to refine the floor plans and review the overall glazing including the clerestory
- 2A+ system VRF mechanical system will be basis of design
- There are polarized views on having some level of food service incorporated into the design. The design team to identify an informal gathering space where it will be appropriate for people to eat. The Committee to determine if vending machines or other food options will be available at the library.

12-8 The Historical Society provided feedback on the design. Their comments will be forwarded to the design team.

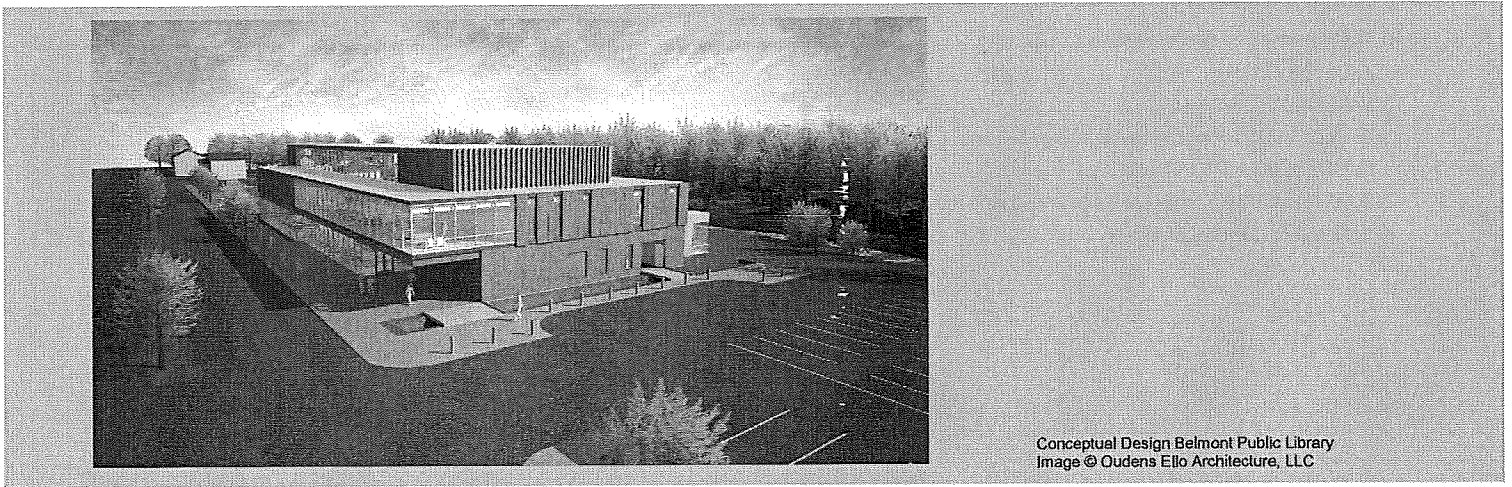
12-9 The Building Committee would like to get a public questionnaire survey on the library's website within the next couple of weeks.

12-10 The meeting was ADJOURNED.

Next meeting: Tuesday June 4, 2019. Meeting will be held in the Flett Room of the Library.

Reminder

Attached: ZNE DRAFT Report by The Green Engineer dated May 2019.



CONCEPT PHASE - ZERO NET ENERGY ANALYSIS (DRAFT)
BELMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

DRAFT
May 20, 2019

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DRAFT

I. Executive Summary

The purpose of this study is to outline a set of performance goals for the Belmont Public Library project, both to identify potential options for optimizing energy performance and to identify a pathway for achieving a zero net energy (ZNE) building.

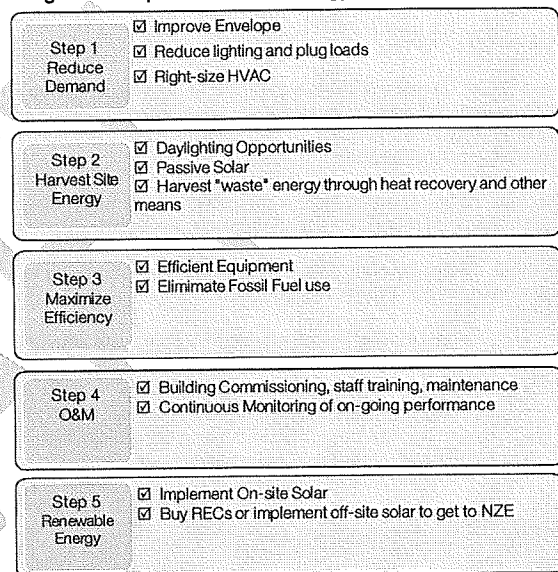
To get to ZNE, we must go beyond simply reducing energy consumption. No matter how efficient we make the systems, some energy must be consumed. Once we have reduced loads and consumption, we must generate enough renewable energy to offset the rest. Therefore, the first step to achieve a ZNE building is to design a highly efficient building that has a low site energy consumption and uses no fossil fuels. This makes it a ZNE "ready" building. Once a low site energy consumption target has been set, to get to ZNE, renewable energy generation is implemented either on site or off-site to get to the net zero goal.

The site energy consumption is typically measured as Energy Use Intensity (EUI) in kBtu/SF/year. The lower the EUI the closer the building is to being net zero. The preliminary analysis indicates that this project can achieve an EUI of 27 kBtu/SF by implementing industry standard energy conservation measures beyond those required by the new MA Energy Code (effective January 2020) and by eliminating the use of fossil fuels. If the project pursues aggressive energy conservation measures, the EUI of 23 kBtu/SF is achievable without any renewable energy for a high-performance building.

There is a potential to implement some on-site solar for the project. Based on the available roof area for solar, the building EUI can be reduced by 10.6 kBtu/SF. With an optimized on-site PV system the EUI for Option 2A can 16.4 kBtu/SF. To get to ZNE EUI of 0 kBtu/SF the project will then have to consider off-site PV generation or Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to offset net site energy consumption of 16.4 kBtu/SF.

We propose that the target performance goal for the project be between 23 kBtu/SF to 27 kBtu/SF, not including any on-site renewables.

Figure 1: Steps to Zero Net Energy Building



This study is based on conceptual design options, preliminary energy analysis, and high level preliminary incremental cost estimates.

II. Preliminary Energy Analysis

A. Design Options

Energy Use Intensity (EUI) is a measure of how much energy a building uses. EUI is expressed as energy use per square foot per year. It is calculated by dividing the total energy consumed by the building in one year (often measured in kBtu) by the total gross floor area of the building. A lower EUI signifies better energy performance. EUI of 0 signifies a Net Zero building, often achieved through a combination of load reduction, energy efficient systems and renewable energy systems.

Discussions were held to identify the potential for improvements beyond a standard library building and to create a list of Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs) for the preliminary energy analysis. In addition, it was recognized that the project will potentially be built under the new MA energy code that goes into effect in January 2020. The new MA energy code is more stringent and requires several additional efficiency options to be included in the design. Based on these discussions, six different design options pertaining to envelope, lighting and HVAC improvements were shortlisted for further analysis. Figure 2 below summarizes the shortlisted ECMs.

- Option 1A: New MA energy code building with conventional HVAC - DX VAV and condensing boilers (VAV)
- Option 1B: Super-insulated envelope with conventional HVAC - DX VAV and condensing boilers (VAV)
- Option 2A: New MA energy code building with all electric HVAC - Variable Refrigerant Flow system (VRF)
- Option 2B: Super-insulated envelope with all electric HVAC - Variable Refrigerant Flow system (VRF)
- Option 3A: MA energy code building with all electric HVAC - Ground Source Heat Pump system (GSHP)
- Option 3B: Super-insulated envelope with all electric HVAC - Ground Source Heat Pump system (GSHP)

Figure 2: Summary of ECMs discussed for preliminary energy analysis

		Envelope Options		LPD Options		HVAC Systems		Renewable Energy	
		New MA Code 20% Better Envelope	Super-insulated Envelope	New MA Code Improved Lighting & Controls	40% Better Than MA Code Lighting	Conventional System DX VAV Condensing Boilers	All Electric HVAC Systems	On-site PV on roof	Off-site PV
Convention System DX VAV unit w/ Condensing Boilers	Option 1A	X		X		X		X	
	Option 1B		X		X	X		X	
All Electric VRF Systems	Option 2A	X		X			X	X	X
	Option 2B		X		X		X	X	X
Ground Source Heat Pump	Option 3A	X		X			X	X	X
	Option 3B		X		X		X	X	X

B. Energy Use Analysis

Preliminary energy analysis was performed to estimate annual site energy use, source energy use, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, annual energy cost, and site EUI for the six options identified for the project. The results of the energy analysis indicate that:

- **Option 1A** uses fossil fuels, has the highest EUI, and high greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Option 2A** is an all electric design option. It reduces site energy use and greenhouse gas emissions significantly, both important descriptors for ZNE building. This option has an EUI at the upper limit of the target EUI range.
- **Option 2B** option is all electric and has a more stringent envelope and lower lighting power density. It reduces site energy use by 50% and GHG emissions by 41% when compared to option 1A.
- **Options 3B** (all electric GHSP) has the lowest site EUI, site energy use, annual energy cost, and greenhouse gas emissions. This option reduces site energy use by 53% and GHG emissions by 45% when compared to option 1A.

Figure 3 Site Energy Use and Cost

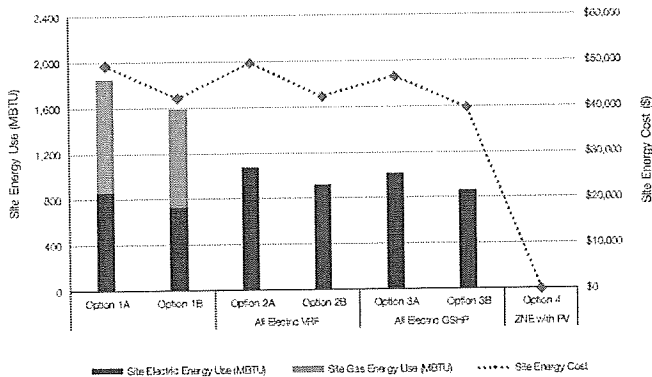


Figure 4: GHG emissions and EUI

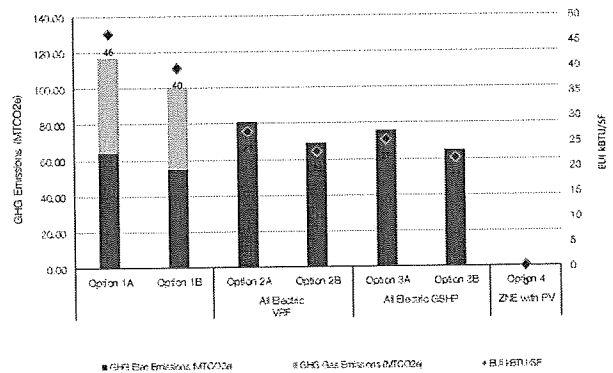


Figure 3 above presents the annual site energy use and annual energy costs for each of the options analyzed. Site energy consumption for Option 2A is 42% lower than Option 1A compliant option. Annual energy costs for Option 1A vs Option 2A are comparable. The annual energy costs are driven by changes to the utility pricing structure.

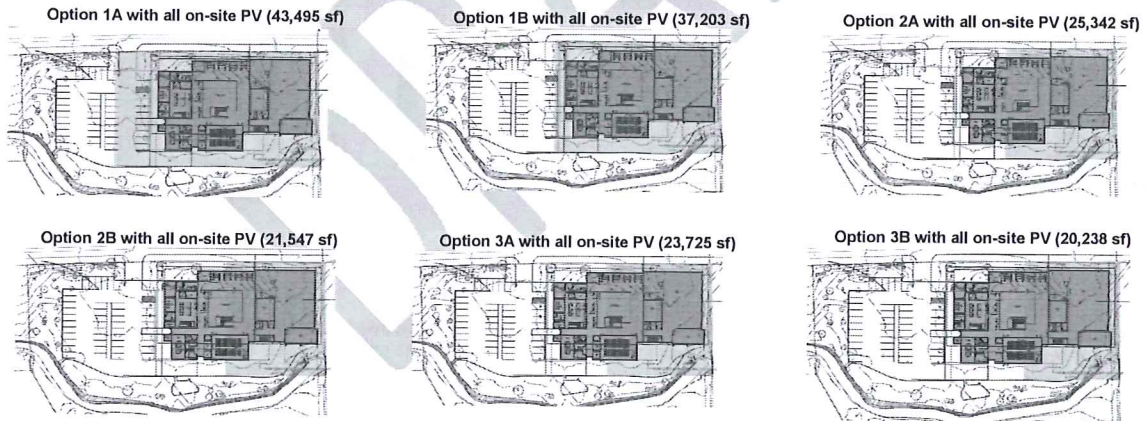
Figure 4 above presents the GHG emissions and site EUIs for each of the options analyzed. Site energy consumption for Option 2A has 31% lower GHG emissions when compared to Option 1A compliant option. Options 2A, 2B, 3A, and 3B can all enable the design to meet the target EUI but all have capital cost, utility pricing, and other implications.

C. Solar PV to achieve zero net energy building

To get to ZNE building enough renewable energy must be generated to offset the site energy use. Preliminary calculations were performed to estimate the total PV array size that would be required to offset the total site energy consumption for each of the six options. Figure 5 below lists the estimated PV array size for each of the options and approximate installed PV cost.

Figure 5: Total PV Array Size for Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Building					
Scenario	Estimated PV Output to offset site energy use (kWh)	Estimated installed PV Capacity (kWp)	Approximate Installed PV SF	Approximate Installed PV Cost per Watt (\$)	Approximate Total PV Cost (\$)
Option 1A	543,686	435	43,495	\$3.00	\$1,304,846
Option 1B	465,019	372	37,202	\$3.00	\$1,116,045
Option 2A	316,771	253	25,342	\$3.00	\$760,251
Option 2B	269,334	215	21,547	\$3.00	\$646,401
Option 3A	296,564	237	23,725	\$3.00	\$711,753
Option 3B	252,980	202	20,238	\$3.00	\$607,152

Figures below are diagrammatic representation of the extent of the PV array on the site to offset total energy use for each option. The PV arrays would span more than the roof area of the project for each of the options.



D. On-site Solar PV Potential

Based on the early discussions with the design team, under current library design the available area for a rooftop PV installation is estimated to be approximately 10,000 SF (Figure 6). This would accommodate a 100 kW(p) PV system on-site. A 100 kW(p) system offsets between 23% to 49% of the project's energy use for the six design options. The remainder of the renewable energy required to achieve ZNE design would need to be procured through off-site PV, community solar, renewable energy credits (REC's) or carbon offsets.

Figure 7: Percentage of on-site PV vs net energy use for the available roof area

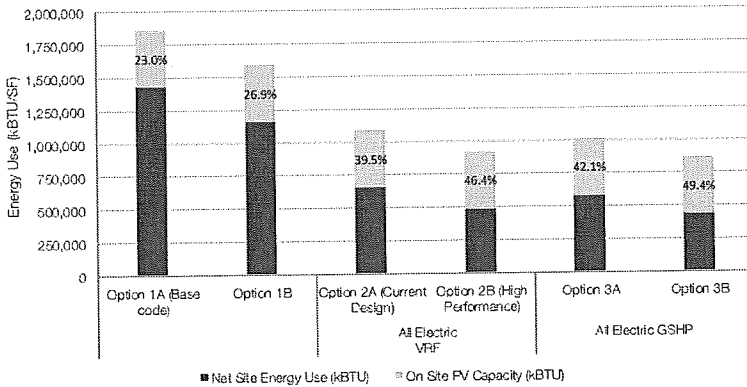
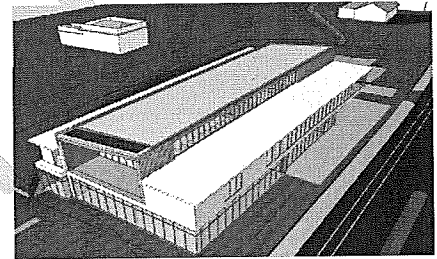


Figure 6: Potential available roof area for PV array



For a 100 kW(p) PV array system on-site, the maximum offset of site energy used is for Option 3B, where this system offsets about 49.4% of total site energy consumption. In comparison, for Option 1A, the on-site PV only offsets 23% of the site energy consumption.

E. VRF vs GSHP energy comparison and path to zero net energy

The four all electric options (Options 2A, 2B, 3A, and 3B) require significantly smaller renewable energy generation systems when compared to the fossil fuel options (Option 1A and 1B). Of these, the lowest EUI options are Option 2B and Option 3B. Option 3B requires the least amount of renewable energy generation to get to ZNE as it has the lowest site energy consumption (Figure 8 below). Option 2B and 3B can achieve a site EUI of 23 kBTU/SF and 22 kBTU/SF respectively, which meets the lower threshold for the target EUI range. Additionally, Option 3B saves about \$2,568 in site energy cost per year over Option 2B since GSHPs are more efficient than the VRF systems.

Figure 8 : Summary - VRF vs GSHP options

Options	Site EUI (kBTU/SF)	Site Energy Use (kWh)	Site Energy Cost (\$)	Energy Cost Savings (\$)	Source Energy (MBTU)	GHG Emissions (MTCO2e)
Option 2B - All Electric VRF	23	269,334	\$42,285		2,573	68.87
Option 3B - All Electric GSHP	22	252,980	\$39,718	\$2,568	2,417	64.69

As indicated above, all electric options require renewable energy generation to get to the goal of ZNE building. Figure 9 below compares the amount of installed PV that will be required to get to ZNE for Option 2B and Option 3B. The associated installed PV costs are lower for Option 3B since it requires smaller installed PV capacity. However, this option has additional cost associated with the ground wells that are required to implement the GSHP option. Adding the cost of ground wells to the installed PV cost to achieve ZNE, option 2B turns out to be a lower first cost option when comparing the two.

Figure 9 : Option 2B vs Option 3B - path to net zero

Options	Estimated PV Output to off-set site energy use (kWh)	Estimated installed PV Capacity (kWp)	Approximate Installed PV SF	Approximate Installed PV Cost per Watt (\$)	Approximate Total PV Cost (\$)	Total Cost to achieve Net Zero	Notes
Option 2B - All Electric VRF	269,334	215	21,547	\$3	\$646,401	\$646,401	No additional well cost
Option 3B - All Electric GSHP	252,980	202	20,238	\$3	\$607,152	\$847,152	Additional GSHP cost, @ \$10,000 per well for 18 wells and \$60,000 for the system.

III. Life Cycle Costing Analysis

In this analysis, method used for life cycle costing is called Total Equivalent Annual Cost (TEAC). It amortizes the upfront cost over the life span of the envelope, lighting, and equipment, and adds that to the operating cost. Another way to think of it is: operating cost + the bond payment on the capital cost. The IESNA (Illuminating Engineering Society) recommends this specifically for comparisons of lighting options, but it works well for comparing alternatives with different life spans.

Basic Formula used for LCCA is:

$$\text{TEAC} = \text{Annual Operating Cost} + \text{Initial Costs} \times \left[\frac{i(1+i)^n}{(1+i)^n - 1} \right]$$

where

i = discount rate
n = expected service life

Few things to note for the LCCA analysis

- Incremental costs for each of the options have been considered for calculating the TEAC for simplification purposes.
- Total Equivalent Annual Cost (TEAC) was determined for each option, based on preliminary energy analysis of the concept design options, high level preliminary incremental cost estimates, and rough estimates of maintenance costs for each of the six options.
- Typically, super-insulated buildings result in lower HVAC system sizing and therefore lower first costs for the HVAC options. The incremental cost estimates in this LCCA analysis do not include such details.

The LCCA results show

- Options 1A and 2A have similar life cycle costs (TEAC), but Option 2A has much lower greenhouse gas emissions, site energy use, and EUI.
- Option 3A has a higher life cycle cost but provides comparable EUI and GHG emissions when compared to Option 2A.

Figure 10: Life Cycle Costing Analysis

Description	Conventional Fossil Fuel System VAV AHUs + Condensing Boilers (VAV)		All Electric Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRFs)		All Electric Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP)	
	Option 1A	Option 1B	Option 2A	Option 2B	Option 3A	Option 3B
	VAV	VAV	VRF	VRF	GSHP	GSHP
	20% Improved Envelope 20% reduction in lighting	Super insulated envelope 40% reduction in lighting	20% Improved Envelope 20% reduction in lighting	Super insulated envelope 40% reduction in lighting	20% Improved Envelope 20% reduction in lighting	Super insulated envelope 40% reduction in lighting
Project Area	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Discount Rate (i)	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Expected Service Life (n) -Envelope	50	50	50	50	50	50
Expected Service Life (n) - Lighting	10	10	10	10	10	10
Expected Service Life (n) - HVAC	20	20	15	15	20	20
Expected Service Life (n) - Ground Well					40	40
Annual Maintenance Costs (\$)	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200
Annual Maintenance Costs (\$/SF)	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$0.23	0.23
Initial Cost Envelope (\$) (Incremental)*	\$ 480,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 480,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 480,000	\$ 1,400,000
Initial Cost Lighting (\$) (Incremental)*	\$ 40,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 120,000
Initial Cost HVAC (\$) (Incremental)*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
Initial Cost Ground Wells (\$) (Incremental)*					\$ 260,000	\$ 180,000
Initial Costs (\$) (Incremental)*	\$ 520,000	\$ 1,520,000	\$ 520,000	\$ 1,520,000	\$ 840,000	\$ 1,760,000
Energy Cost (\$) From Preliminary Energy Analysis	\$ 49,273	\$ 42,024	\$ 49,733	\$ 42,285	\$ 46,561	\$ 39,718
Annual Operating Cost (\$)	\$ 58,473	\$ 51,224	\$ 58,933	\$ 51,485	\$ 55,761	\$ 48,918
Total Equivalent Annual Cost (\$)	\$ 79,967	\$ 114,296	\$ 80,427	\$ 114,558	\$ 91,461	\$ 123,010
TEAC (Incremental Cost/SF)	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.86	\$ 2.01	\$ 2.86	\$ 2.29	\$ 3.08
GHG Emissions (MTCO ₂ e)	117.21	100.18	81.00	68.87	75.83	64.69
Site Energy Use Intesity (kBTU/SF)	46	40	27	23	25	22

* Initial costs are based on incremental costs for each option.
Discount rate of 2.5% is used

Cost estimate assumptions for the LCCA analysis are listed below:

- 20% better than ASHRAE 90.1-2016 envelope - incremental cost of \$12/SF, when compared to 90.1-2016 compliant envelope
- 20% better than ASHRAE 90.1-2016 lighting - incremental cost of \$1/SF, when compared to 90.1-2016 compliant lighting
- Super-insulated envelope - Incremental cost of \$35/SF, when compared to 90.1-2016 compliant envelope
- 40% better than ASHRAE 90.1-2016 lighting - incremental cost of \$3/SF, when compared to 90.1-2016 compliant lighting
- VAV HVAC option - capital cost of \$45/SF, no incremental cost.
- All Electric VRF option - capital cost of \$45/SF, no incremental cost, when compared to VAV HVAC option
- All Electric GSHP option - capital cost of \$46.5/SF, incremental cost of \$1.5/SF, when compared to VAV HVAC option.
- Ground wells - capital cost of \$10,000 per well.

DRAFT

END OF REPORT