### DEEP ENERGY RETROFITS IEA 61 September 15, 2016

### AIR TIGHTNESS OF EXISTING BUILDINGS

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### Retrofit Air Barriers in Existing Buildings

### **Deep Energy Retrofits**

- Exterior assessment
- Condition of exterior materials
  - Masonry
  - Concrete
  - Precast
  - Wood
- Insulation
  - Interior
  - Exterior
- Air barrier
  - Interior
  - Exterior

### **Investigate Existing Conditions**

- Condition Survey
  Material Properties
  Wetting / Drying
- Wetting / Drying Mechanisms
- Exposure History



#### **Deep Energy Retrofits**

- Look at parapets, chimneys
- Masonry in attics
- Rebar and lintel corrosion
- Condition of granite, limestone, marble and brownstone
- Airtightness
  - Inside
  - Outside

## **Condition Survey**

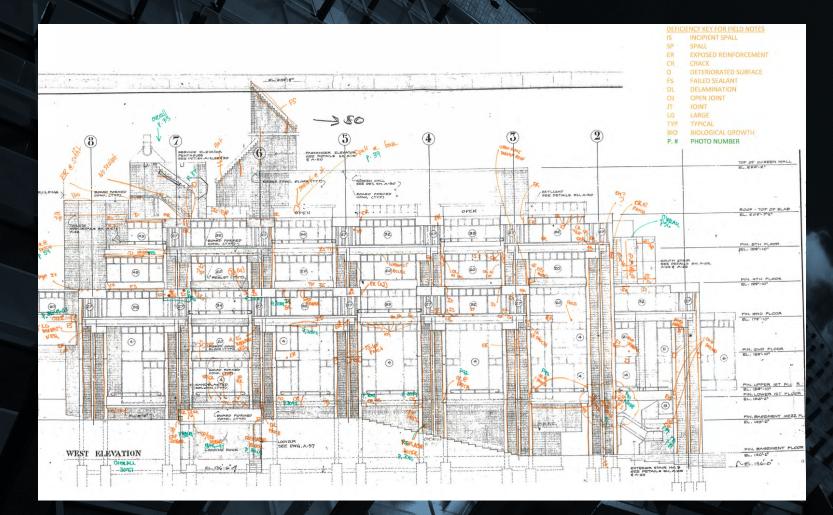
- Close up vs. binocular survey.
- Typical vs. survey observations
- Sounding, tactile or other non-destructive assessments.
- Inspection openings.
- Interview building owner/maintenance



# Types of Damage and Deterioration

- Eroded mortar
- Spalling
- Damaged/Missing Flashings
- Sealant Failure
- Efflorescence
- Corrosion of metal elements
- Coating or paint failure
- Differential movement
- Freeze-thaw damage
  - Indicators of material performance - parapet walls, chimneys

#### **Document Existing Conditions**



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### **Air Barrier Continuity**

 ASTM E1186, Standard Practices for Air Leakage Site Detection in Building Envelopes and Air Barrier Systems



Depressurization testing
Locating air leakage
Infrared thermography
Tracer gas testing or theatrical smoke

# **Depressurization testing**

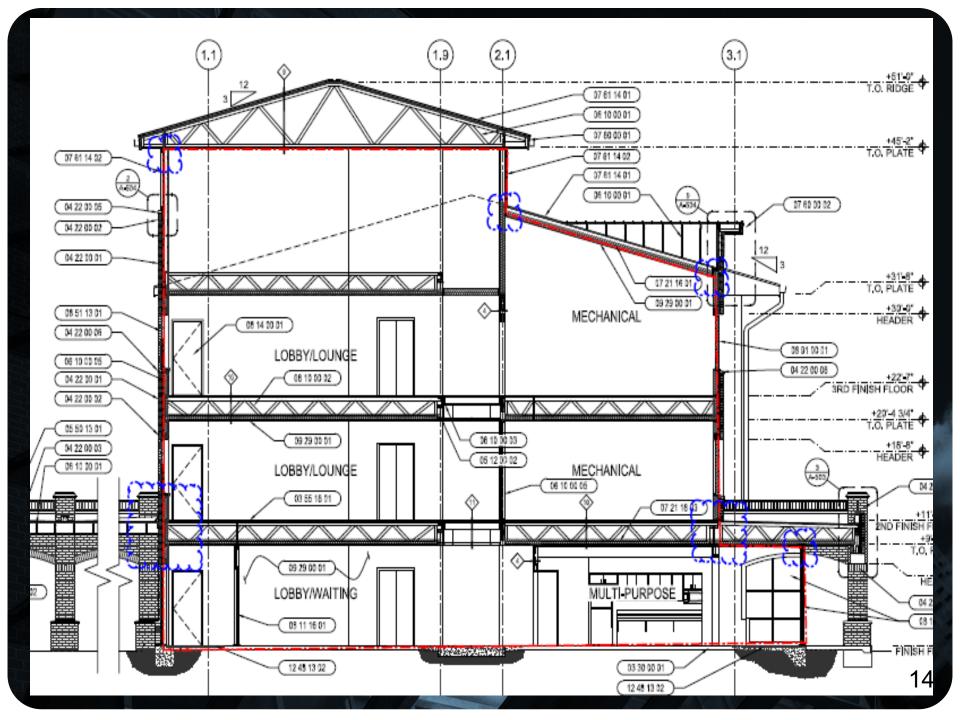
### **Theatrical fog testing**



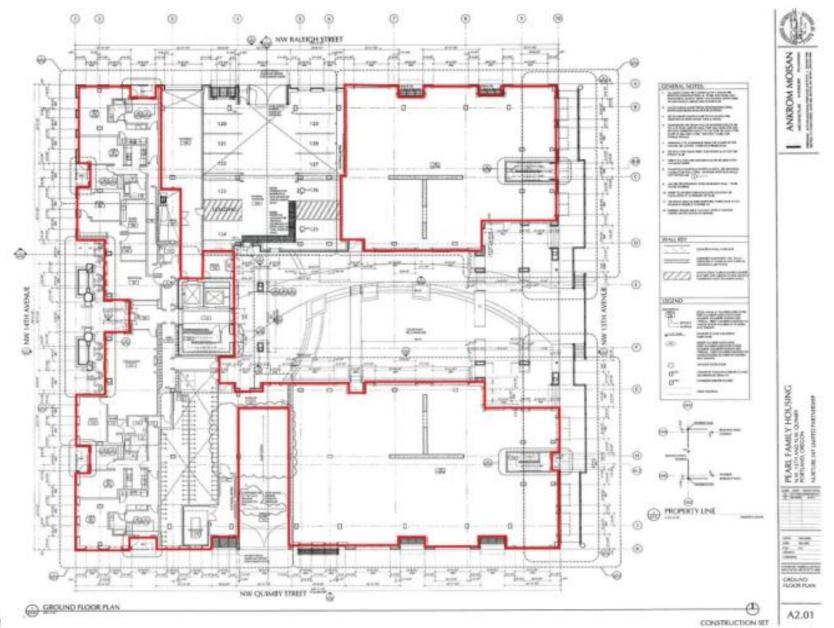
### Look at Building Holistically

#### Air Barrier Boundaries

Green Area: Conditioned Space Air Barrier Yellow Area: Conditioned Space Under Negative Pressure (Interior and Exterior Air Barrier) Red Area = Unconditioned Space with Interior Air Barrier



#### Air Barrier Continuity



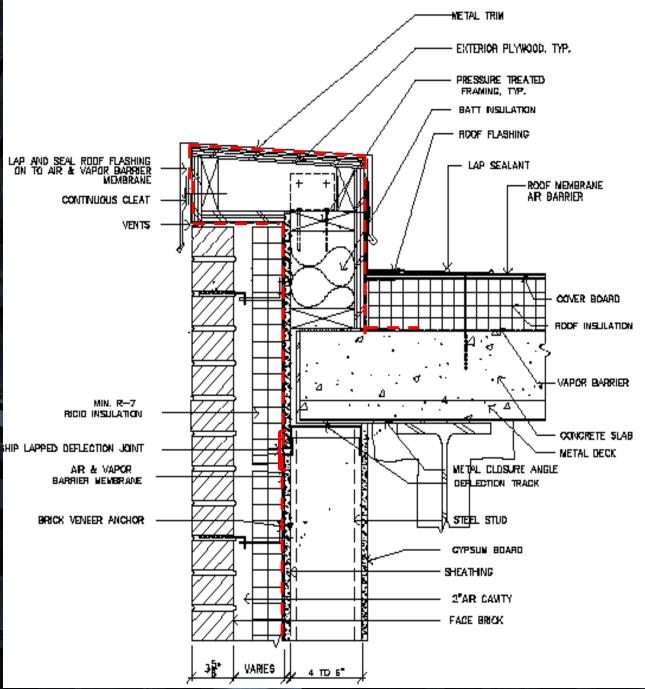
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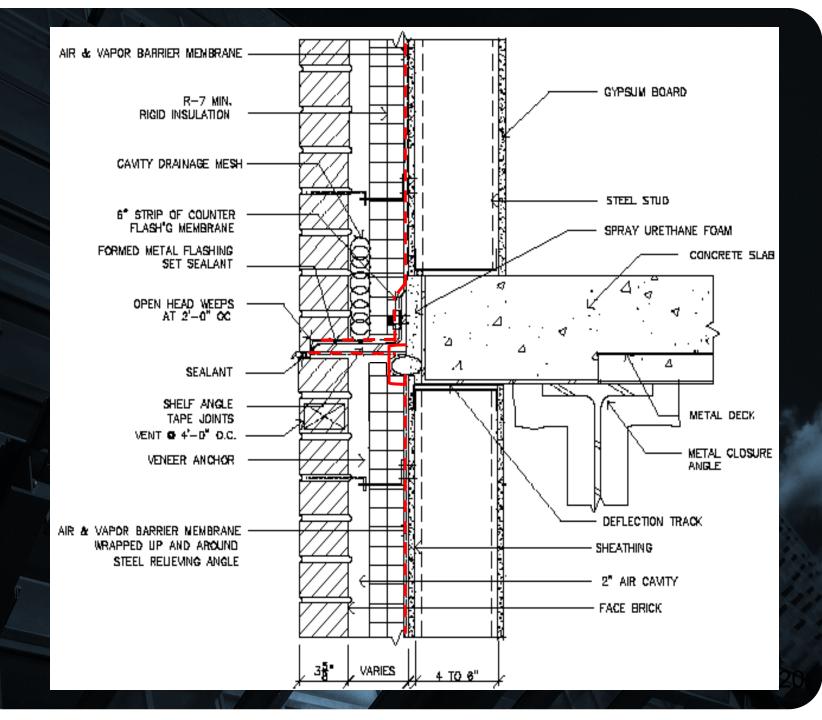
#### Interior or exterior air barrier?

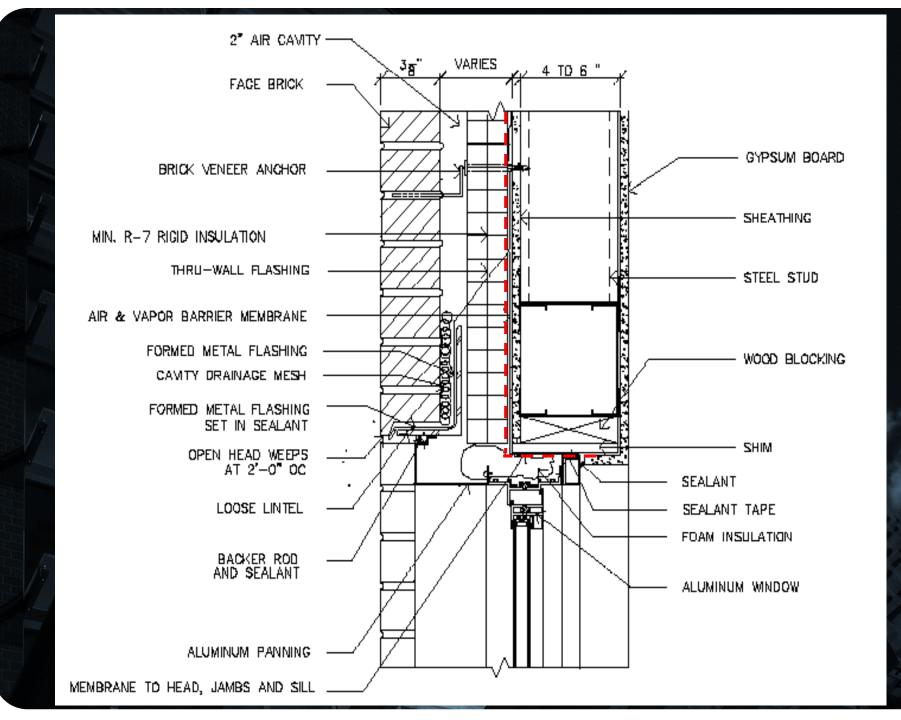
# Exterior air barrier and recladding

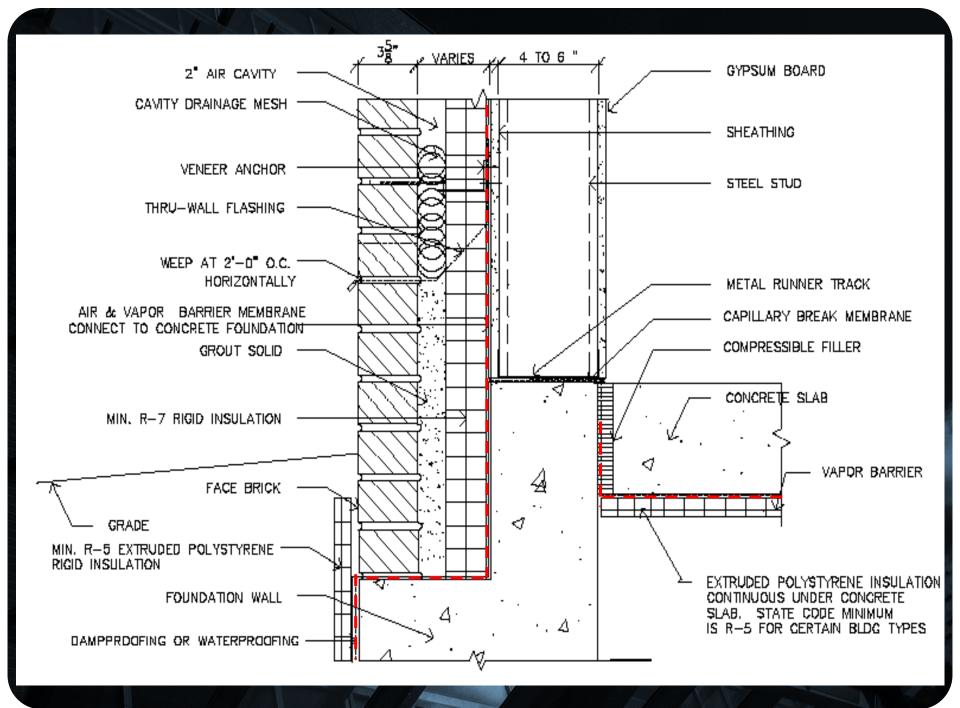
## Air barrier applied to existing wall











#### LBJ Apartments, Cambridge, Massachusetts

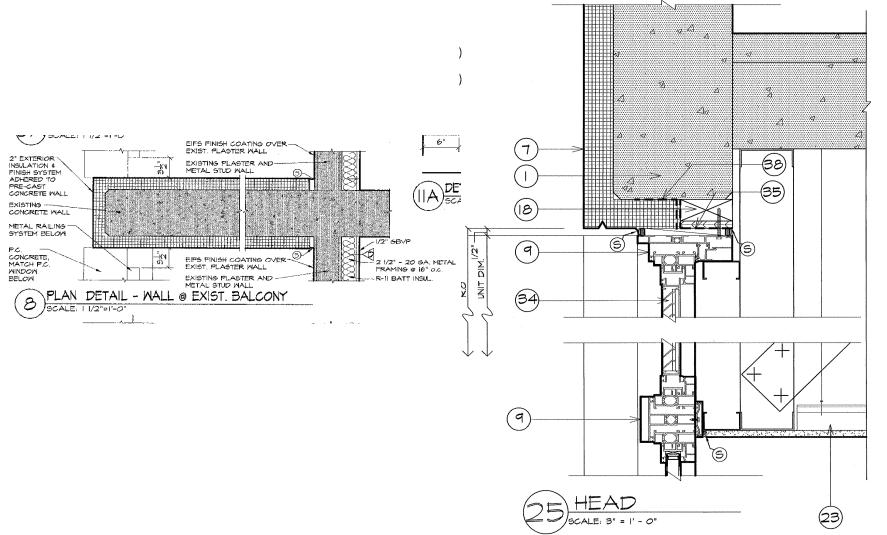
- Existing Construction.
- Cambridge Housing Authority.
- 178 Units.
- Elderly/Disabled.
- Post tensioned concrete structure with precast spandrels and floors.
- Chronically Underfunded.



#### LBJ Apartments: EIFS



#### LBJ Apartments: EIFS



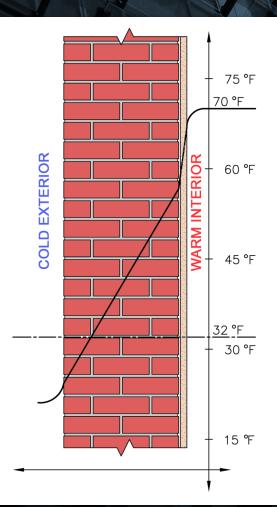
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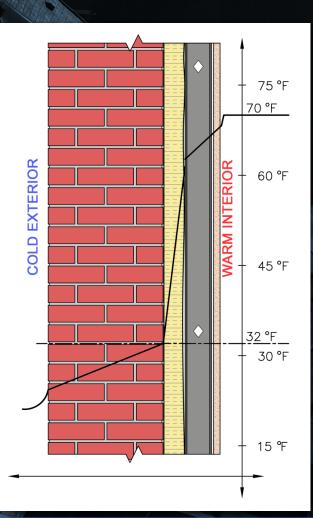
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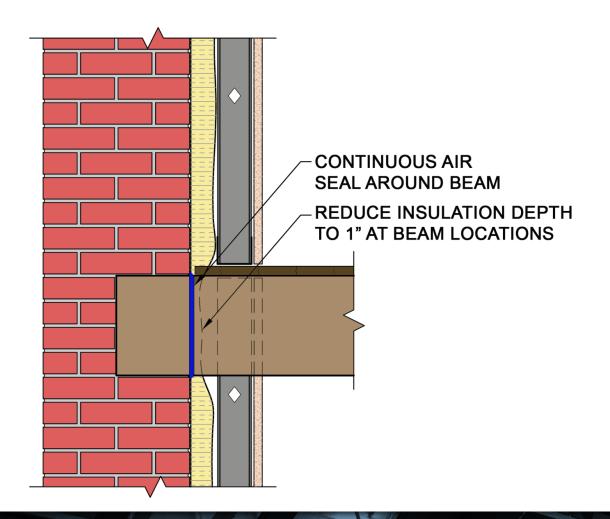
### Gut Renovation Façade restoration Interior air barrier

### How much is too much?





#### **Embedded Structure**



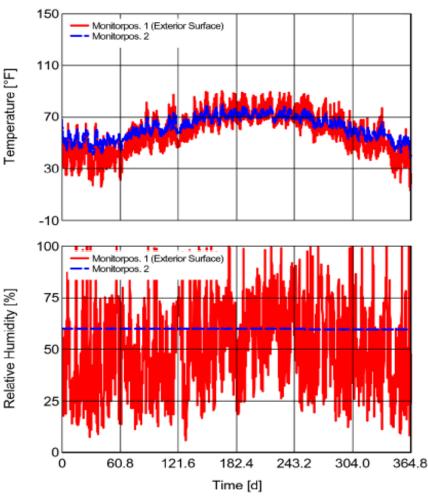
## **Material Properties**

- Material physical properties
  - Dry density
  - Liquid water uptake (A-value)
  - Saturation moisture content
  - Frost dilatometry, Scrit
- Hazardous materials



### Field Testing and In-situ Monitoring

- Local climate and rain water conditions.
- Absorption (Rilem tube, ASTM C1601)
- Water penetration
- Air leakage



#### Vapor Control

### **8760 Hour Calculations**

#### **Transient Hygrothermal Analysis**

WUFI Pro

Delphin

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Relative Humidity [%]

#### Gallatin Hall – HBS – McKim, Mead & White



#### **Gut renovations**



### Gallatin Hall HBS – LEED Gold



### Flashing transitions at windows

### Window flashing transitions



### Insulate and air seal wall and roof

### **Gut renovations - Deerfield Arts**

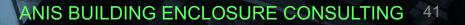


# Window flashings





## Air barrier seal at Window to flashing



# Roofs – A huge opportunity



# Sealing existing buildings (most difficult)

## I. Seal Top of Building

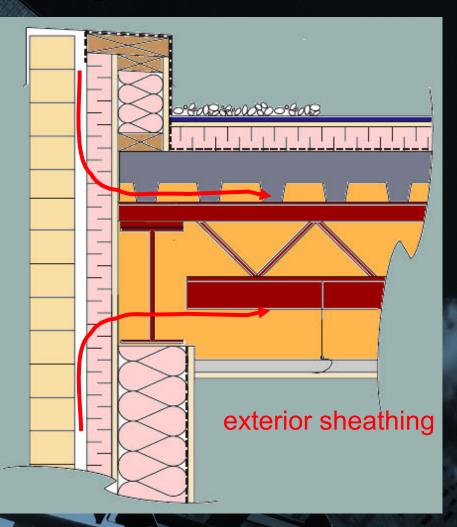
### Seal top of building

- Reroofing AVB
- Attics
- Roof/wall intersections and plenum spaces
- Mechanical penthouse doors and walls
- HVAC equipment penetrations through the roof
- Other roof penetrations, such as plumbing vent stacks

# Air Barrier Continui

### •The plenum

•Air can infiltrate through many different assemblies if air barrier systems are not in place



# Air Barrier Continuity Seal top of building

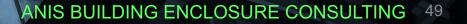




# Air Barrier Continuity Seal top of building







# Weatherstrip existing doors



# II. Bottom of Building

### **Bottom of Building**

- Exterior soffits, canopies and ground floor access doors
- Underground parking access doors and elevators
- Exhaust and air intake louvers and vents
- Pipe, duct, cable and other service penetrations into core and shafts of building
- Sprinkler head penetrations, inspection access doors and hatches.
- Seal core wall to floor slab
- Residential crawl spaces and penetrations, vented or unvented.
- Loading docks

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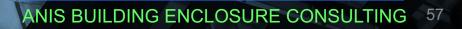
# III. Seal the Vertical Shafts

### Seal the shafts

- Stairwell fire doors
- Fire hose cabinets
- Plumbing, electrical, cable and other penetrations within service rooms
- Elevator rooms- cable holes, door controller cable holes, bus bar openings
- Garbage chute perimeter and access hatches
- Hallway pressurization grille perimeters
- Smoke shaft access doors
- Elevator shaft smoke control grilles
- Mechanical & electrical shafts







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# IV. Seal the exterior walls

### Seal exterior walls

- Seal individual leakage pathways
- Windows
- Sealants
- Radiation piping penetrations
- Floor and ceiling intersections with exterior wall
- Plenums

### **Contact Information**

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