

Professional work | healthcare | multi-level interior finish coordination

BOSTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
KARP ATRIUM

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS | 2023

LEAD INTERIOR DESIGNER

NAIXIN REN

OVERVIEW

As Lead Interior Designer, I developed the finish strategy, material coordination, design visualization, and selected construction documentation for repeated atrium and lounge conditions within Boston Children's Hospital. The project required a system that could remain visually cohesive across multiple Karp levels while making each destination easier to recognize for patients, families, and staff.

A shared neutral foundation was paired with distinct accent-color families so the repeated spaces could support orientation without feeling visually disconnected. Furniture, flooring, paint, and supporting finishes were coordinated as one system from concept development through documentation.



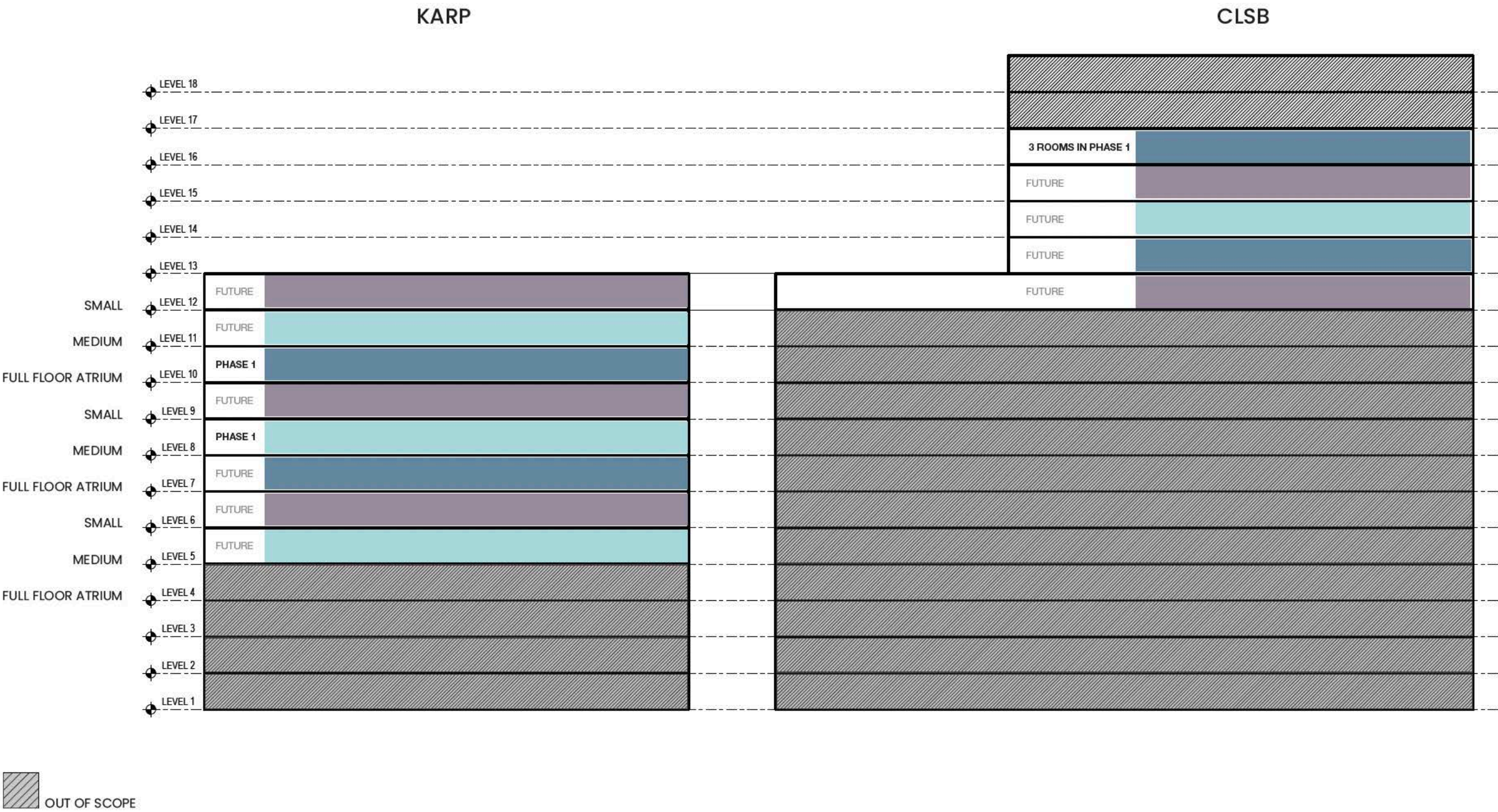
Karp Atrium | lounge visualization

Wayfinding strategy | color as an orientation layer across repeated floor groups

COLOR-BASED WAYFINDING

The interior uses a color-coded wayfinding system to distinguish repeated atrium and lounge destinations across the Karp floors. Rather than relying on signage alone, orientation is reinforced through finish color: related floor groups are assigned distinct blue, teal, and violet families that recur in wall paint, Flotex flooring, and selected furniture elements.

Color therefore becomes a secondary navigational cue - helping users build visual memory and recognize destinations - while the shared neutral field palette maintains continuity across the hospital.



Floor color scheme | repeated destinations organized by accent-color family

Material strategy | common field finishes + floor-specific accent families

MATERIAL + COLOR PALETTE

The conceptual palette establishes a durable, repeatable finish framework for the project. Common field finishes create consistency across levels, while controlled accent-color changes provide the visual distinctions needed for wayfinding.

Paint, Flotex carpet, tile, laminate, solid surface, and rubber base were coordinated together so the color system could remain legible at both the room scale and the larger circulation scale.

Kitchenette



MCT
Forbo Dove Grey



Glass Tile
Crossville Blue Grotto

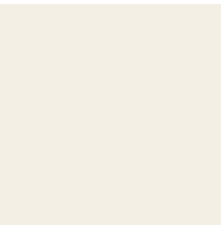


Cabinet PLAM
Formica Folkstone



Solid Surface
Corian Juniper

Paint



Field Color
B. Moore Atrium White PPG



Trim Color
B. Moore Half Moon Crest

Wall Base



Rubber Base
Roppe Light Grey

Carpet (Field)



Blue Scheme: Level 4,7



Flotex
Forbo Metro Lagoon



Accent Color
B. Moore Blue Nose

Purple Scheme: Level 6, 9,12



Flotex
Forbo Metro Grape

Option 1



Accent Color
B. Moore Persian Violet

Option 2



Accent Color
B. Moore French Lilac

Teal Scheme: Level 5,11



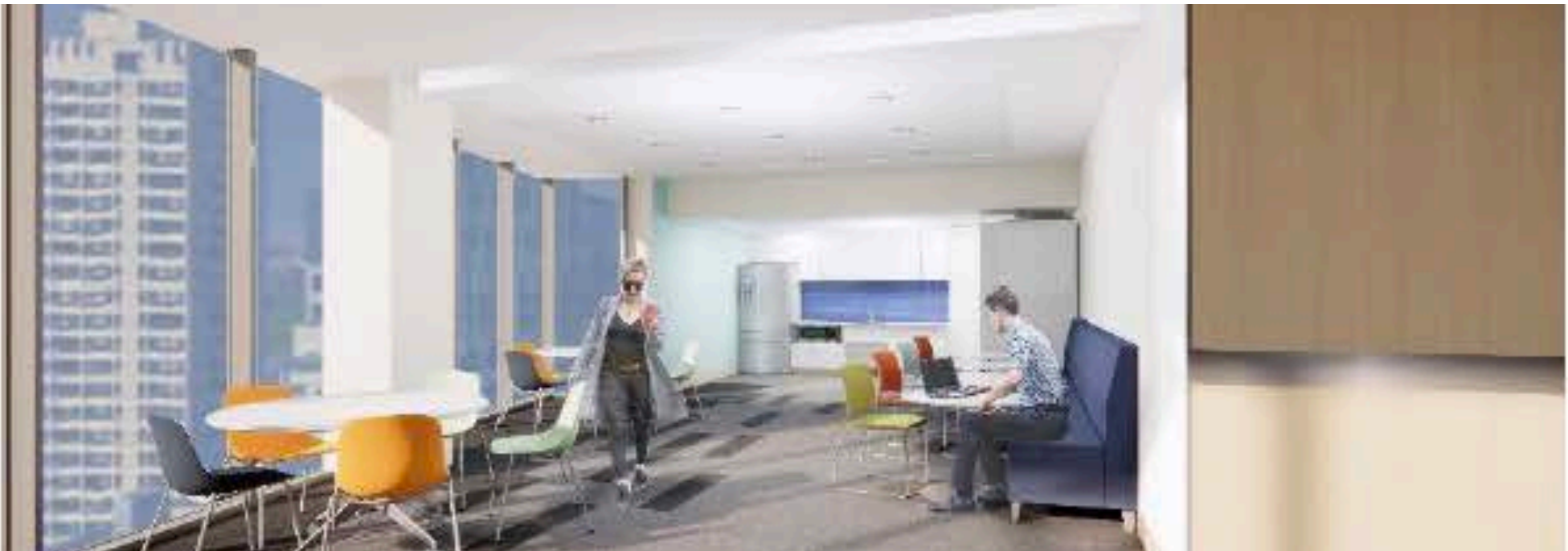
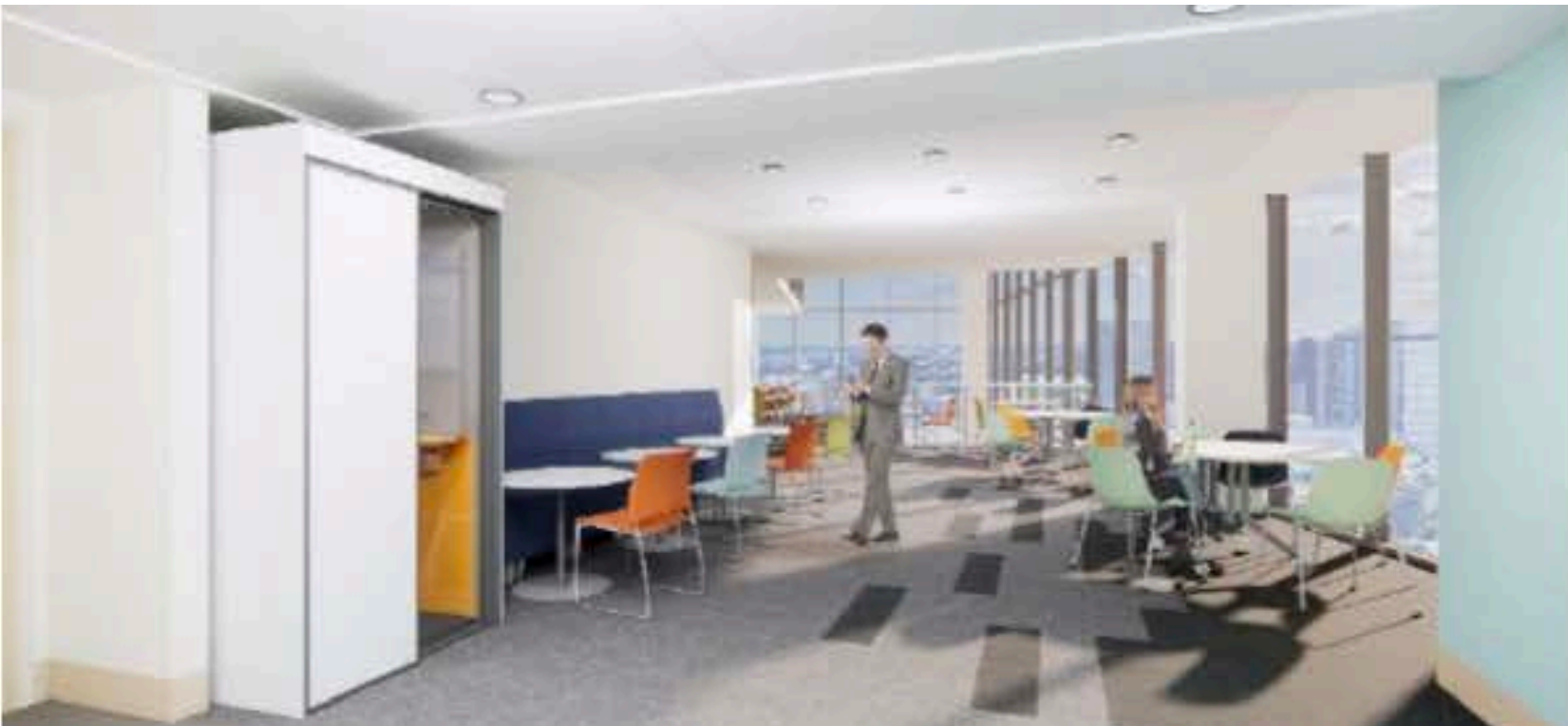
Conceptual palette | shared base materials with blue, violet, and teal wayfinding families

Finish development | enlarged studies from the coordinated floor palette

FINISH DEVELOPMENT | TEAL FAMILY

For the teal floor group, the wayfinding color is concentrated in selected wall and flooring accents while the surrounding field finishes remain quiet and consistent. This keeps the repeated lounge condition visually connected to the larger hospital environment while giving the destination a recognizable identity.

The enlarged studies show how the accent color reads in both the atrium edge and the enclosed lounge condition, alongside the coordinated material palette.



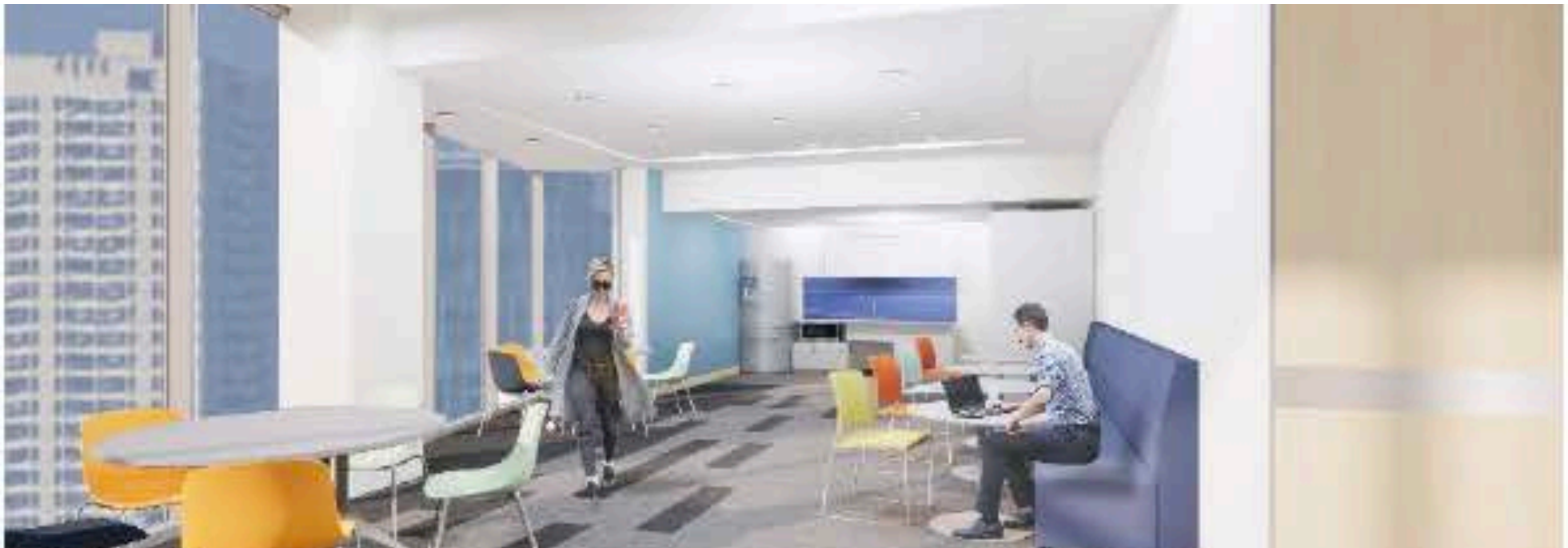
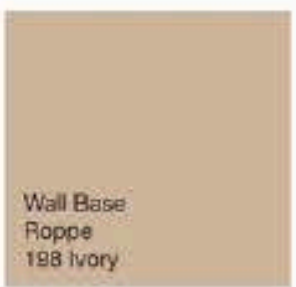
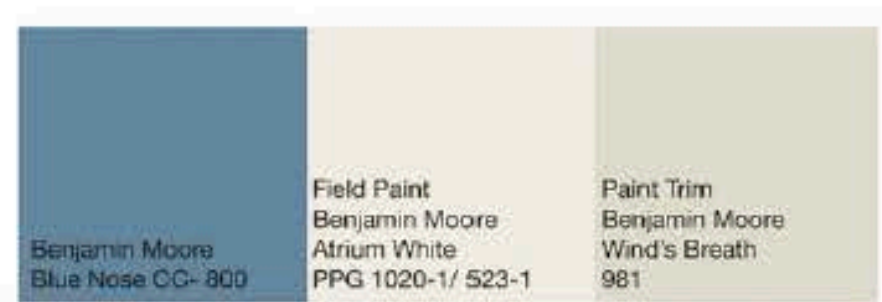
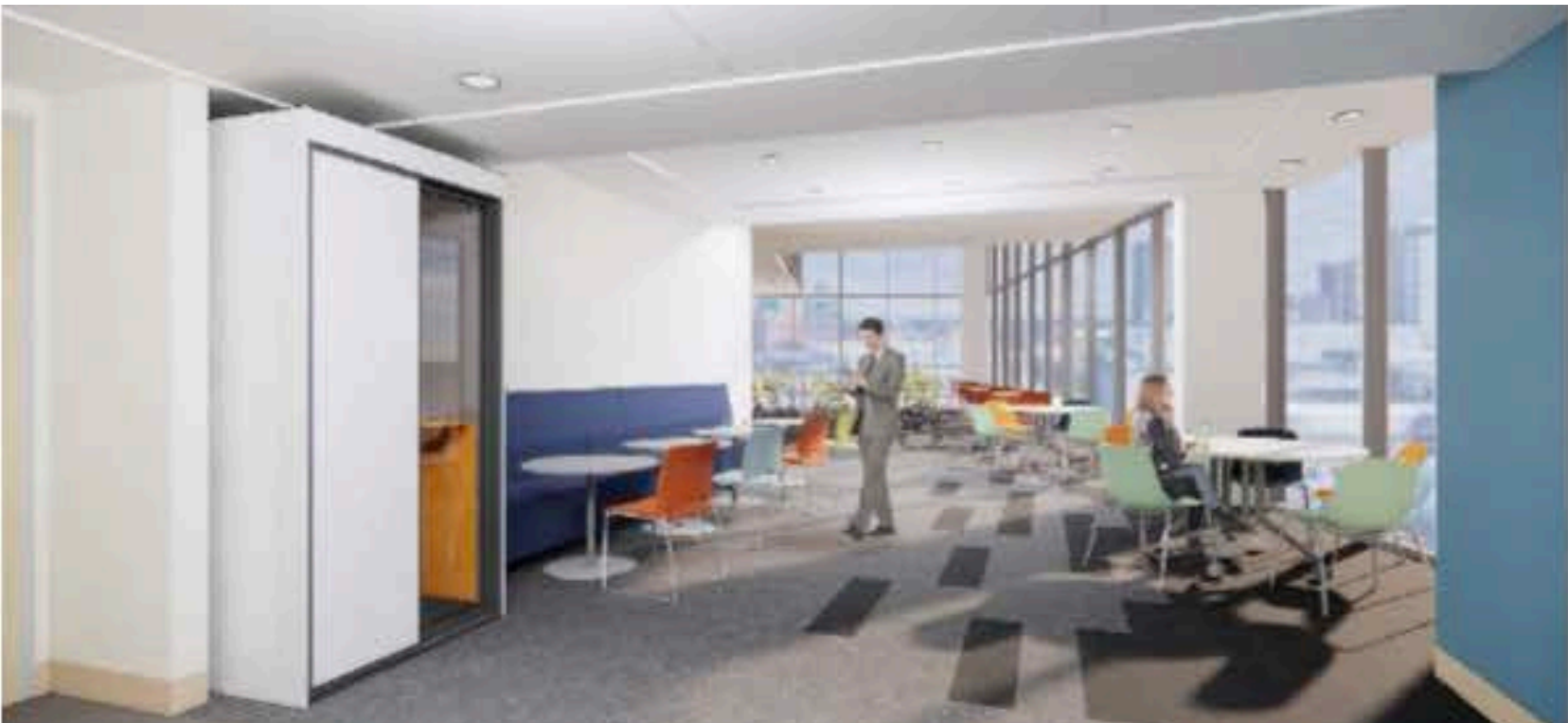
Karp Levels 5, 8, 11 | atrium /lounge finish study

Finish development | enlarged studies from the coordinated floor palette

FINISH DEVELOPMENT | BLUE FAMILY

The blue family applies the same material framework with a different accent identity. Repeating the base palette allows furniture, flooring, and architectural finishes to remain consistent, while the blue elements create a distinct visual cue for another group of floors.

Using variation within a controlled system makes the wayfinding strategy easier to understand and avoids creating unrelated design languages from floor to floor.



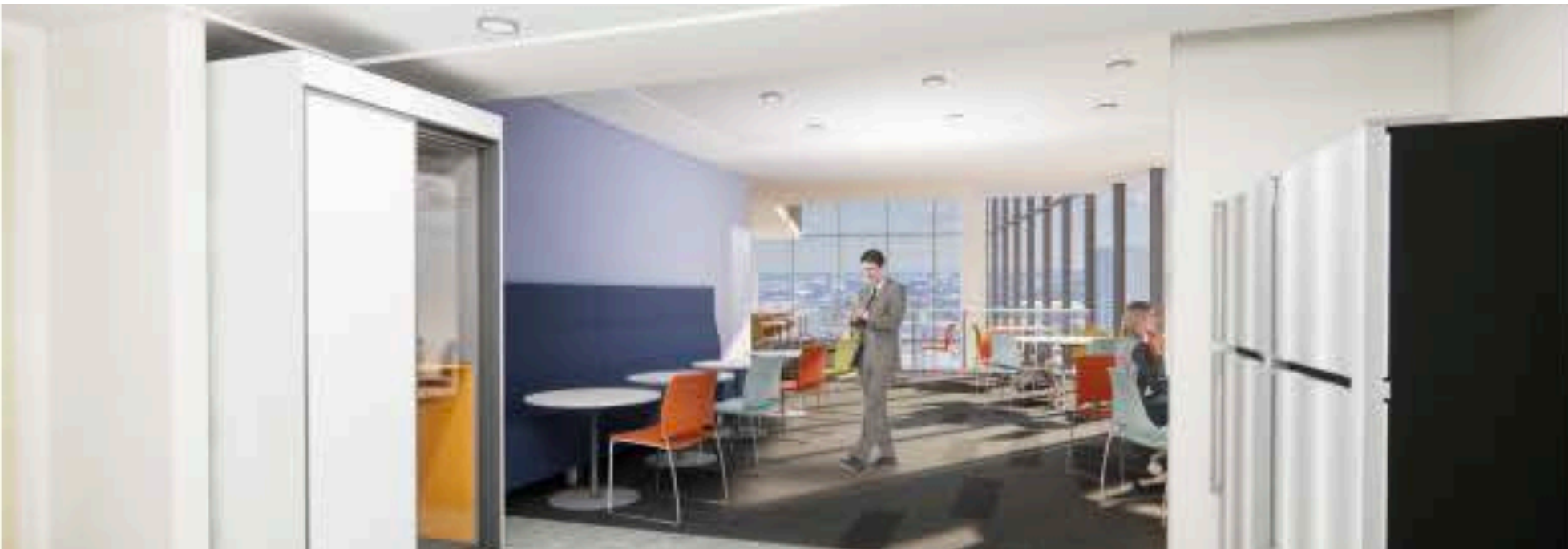
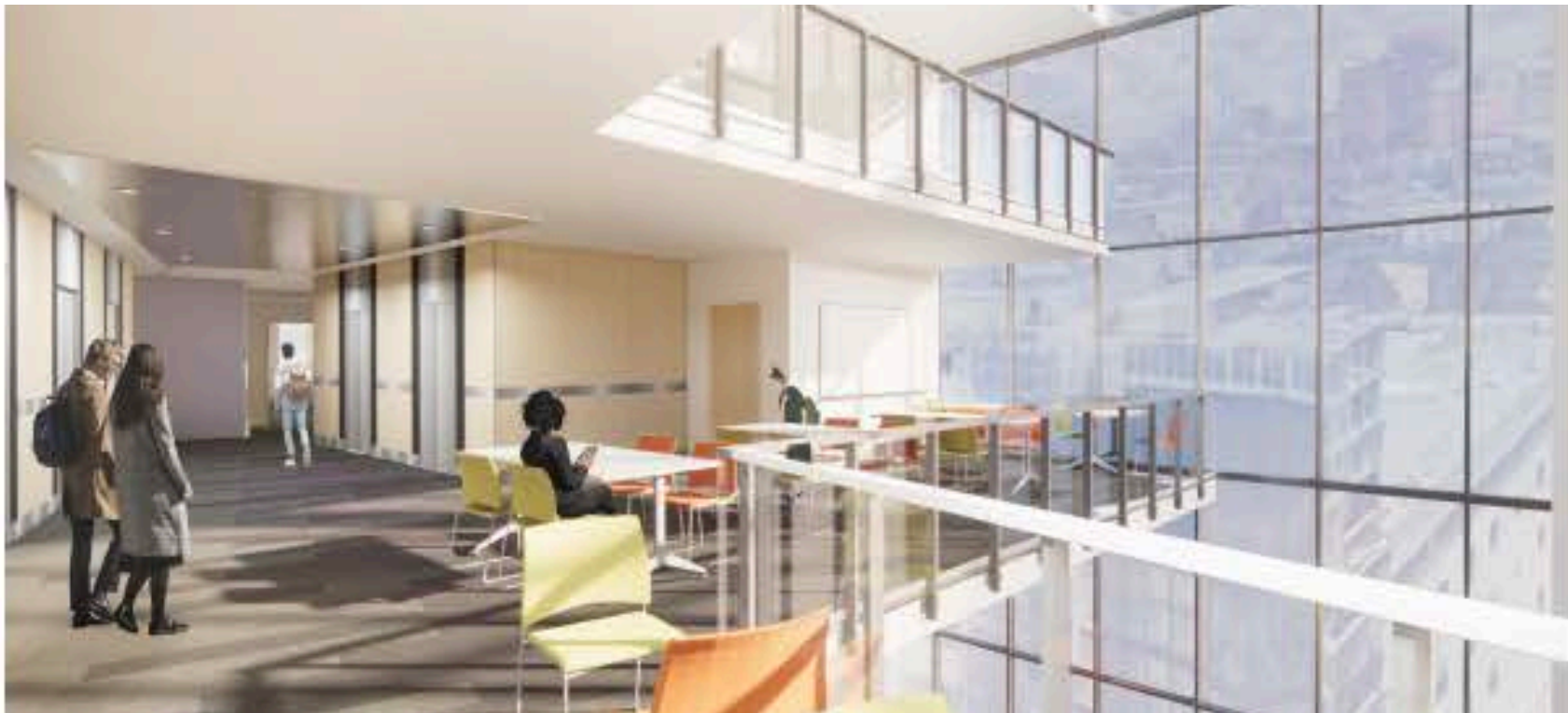
Karp Levels 7, 10 | atrium /lounge finish study

Finish development | enlarged studies from the coordinated floor palette

FINISH DEVELOPMENT | VIOLET FAMILY

The violet family was tested through multiple accent-paint options to confirm the right balance between visibility and visual calm. The color shift differentiates the floor group while preserving the same neutral architectural background and repeated furniture language.

These studies allowed the team to compare how small changes in hue affected the overall atmosphere before finalizing the finish direction.



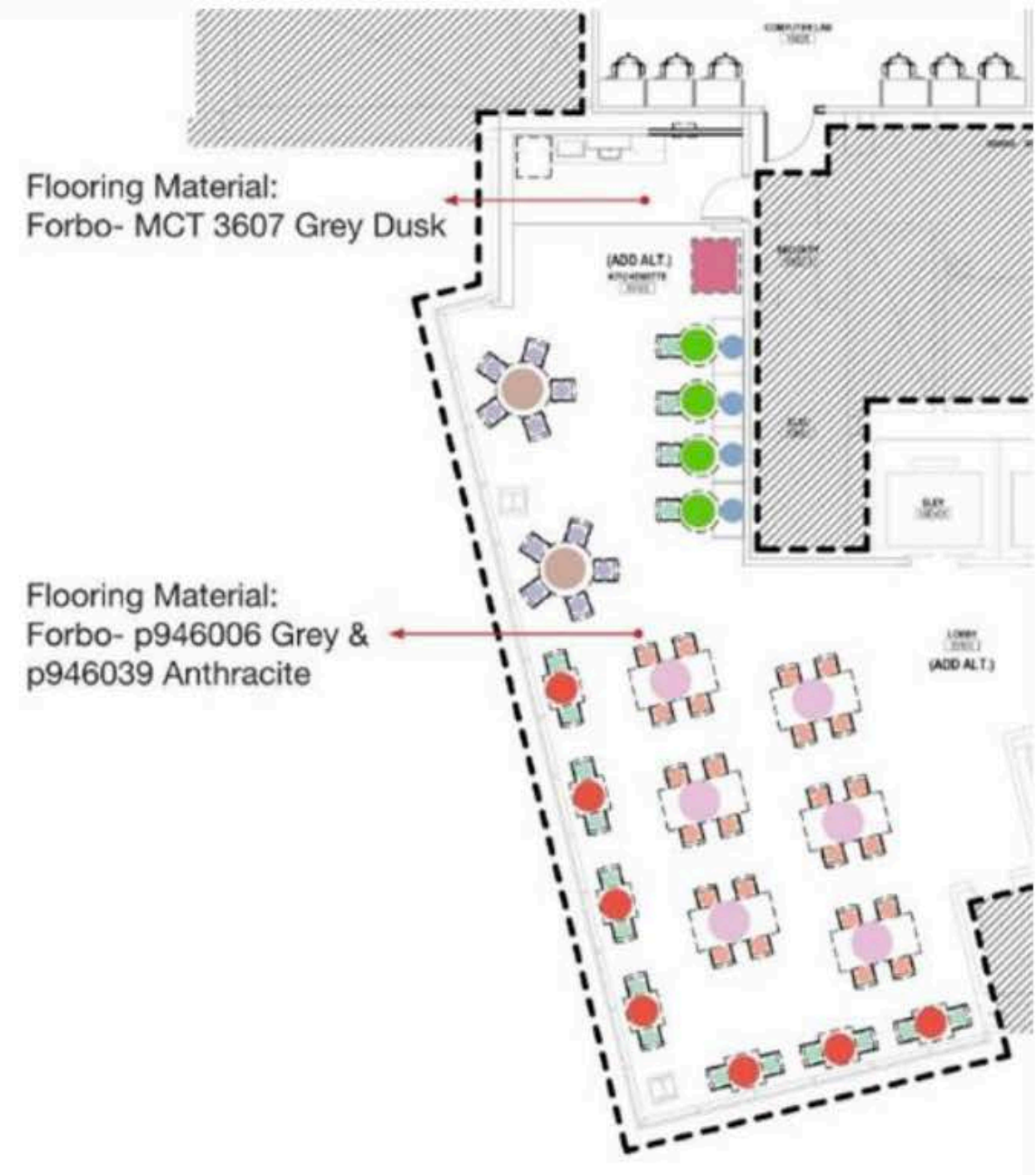
Karp Levels 6, 9, 12 | atrium / lounge finish study

Furniture + finish coordination | FF&E integrated with the wayfinding palette

FURNITURE + FINISH COORDINATION

FF&E was developed as part of the same wayfinding framework rather than as a separate layer. Seating, tables, workstation elements, and finish selections were coordinated with the floor-specific color families so that the lounge areas would read as complete environments.

The plan-based study links furniture placement with material selection, helping maintain consistency in circulation, seating density, and finish relationships across the repeated atrium levels.



Plan + FF&E coordination | furniture types, material relationships, and repeated lounge planning



Design visualization | testing atmosphere, circulation, and color balance

DESIGN VISUALIZATION

Renderings were used to test how the wayfinding colors would read under daylight, how the accent palette would register from circulation paths, and how the repeated lounge areas would feel as occupied destinations.

Warm wood, a neutral field palette, and concentrated color accents create a bright, welcoming environment while keeping the visual system disciplined and easy to read.



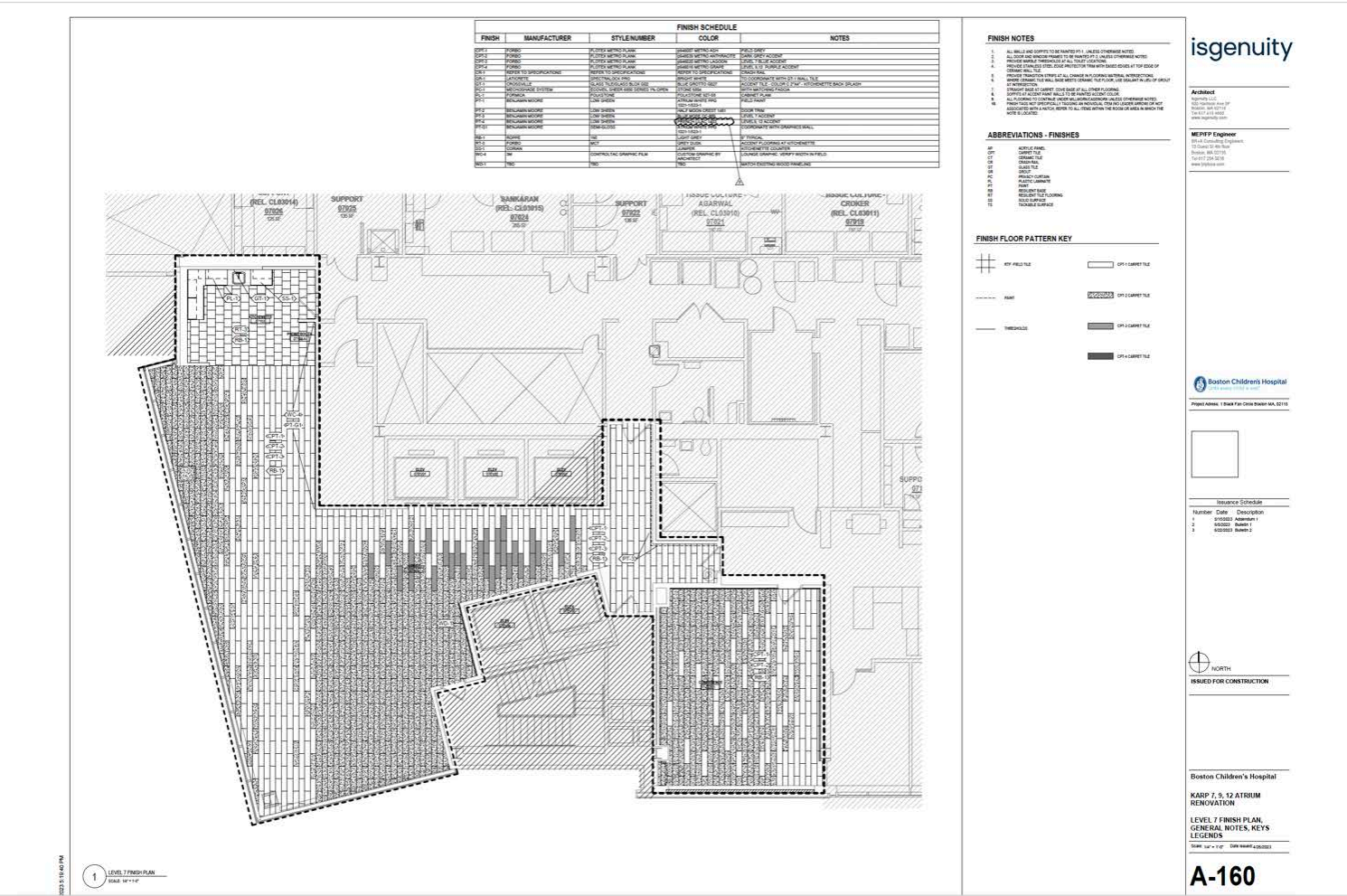
Karp Atrium | lounge and kitchenette visualizations

Construction documentation | grouped drawing sheets by recurring floor type

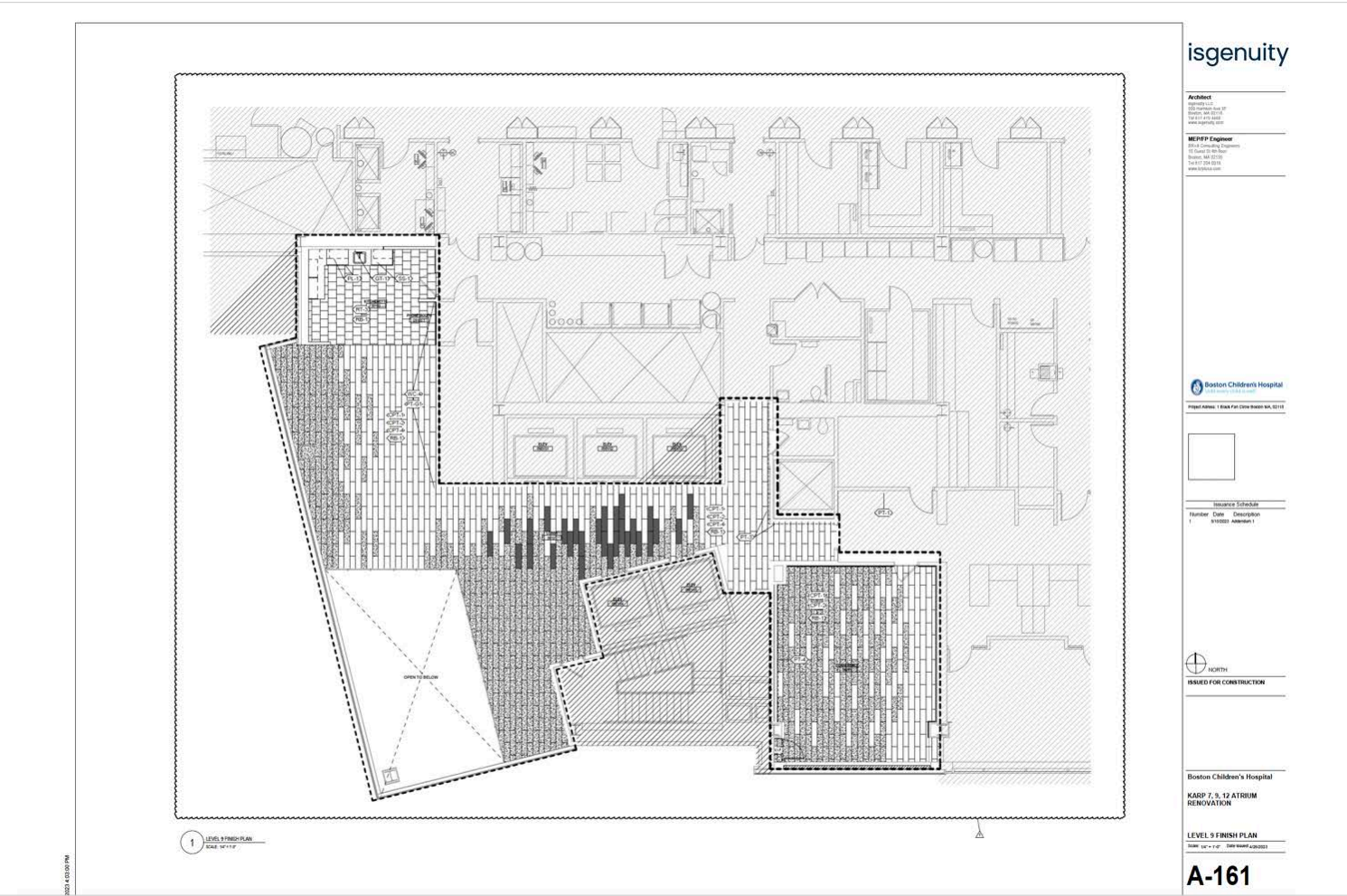
SELECTED DRAWING SET | A-160 - A-162

Selected sheets are grouped by drawing type so the repeated floor-to-floor logic is easy to compare. Each portfolio page keeps the complete drawing sheet and title block while placing related levels together.

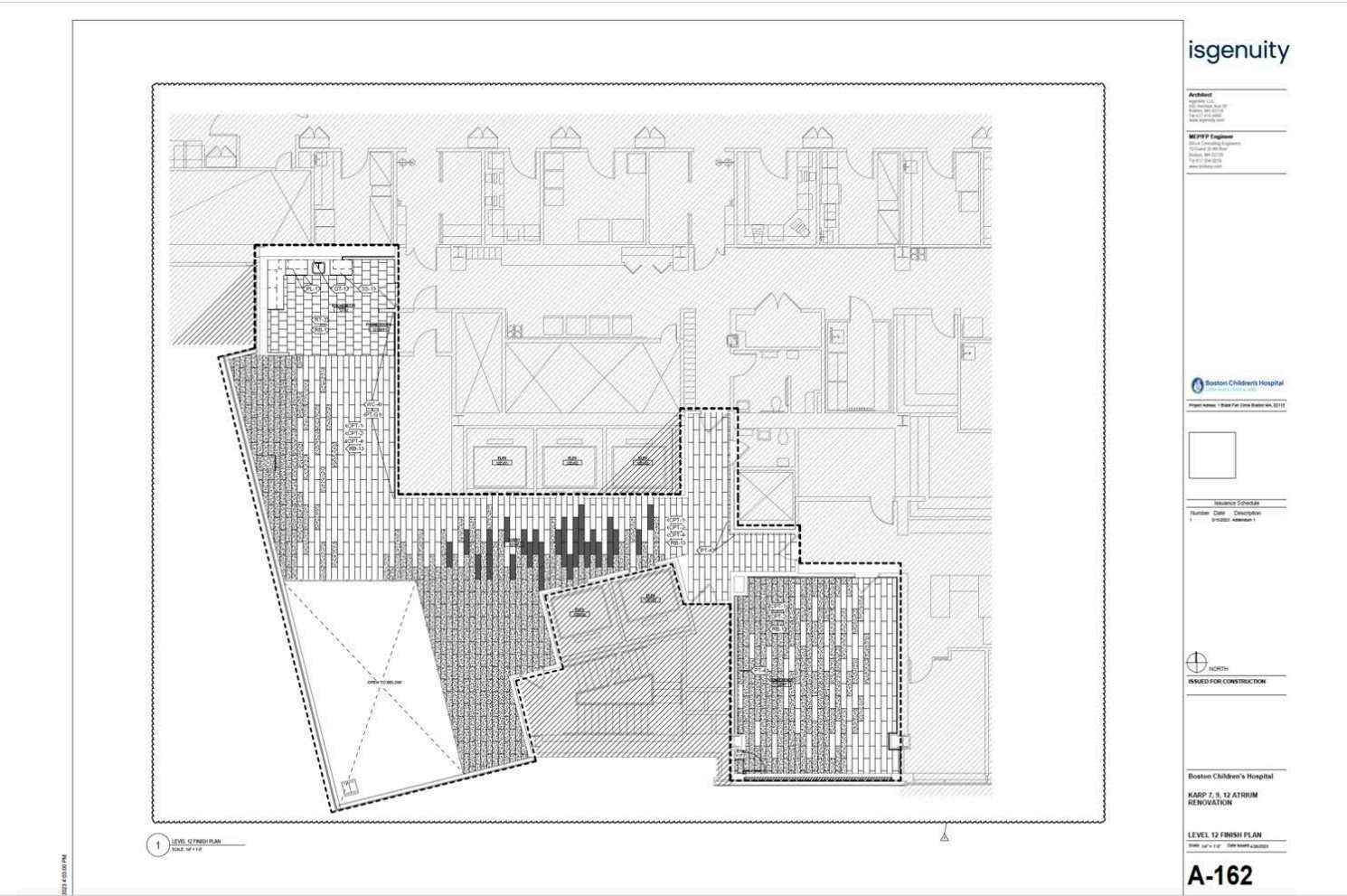
A-160



A-161



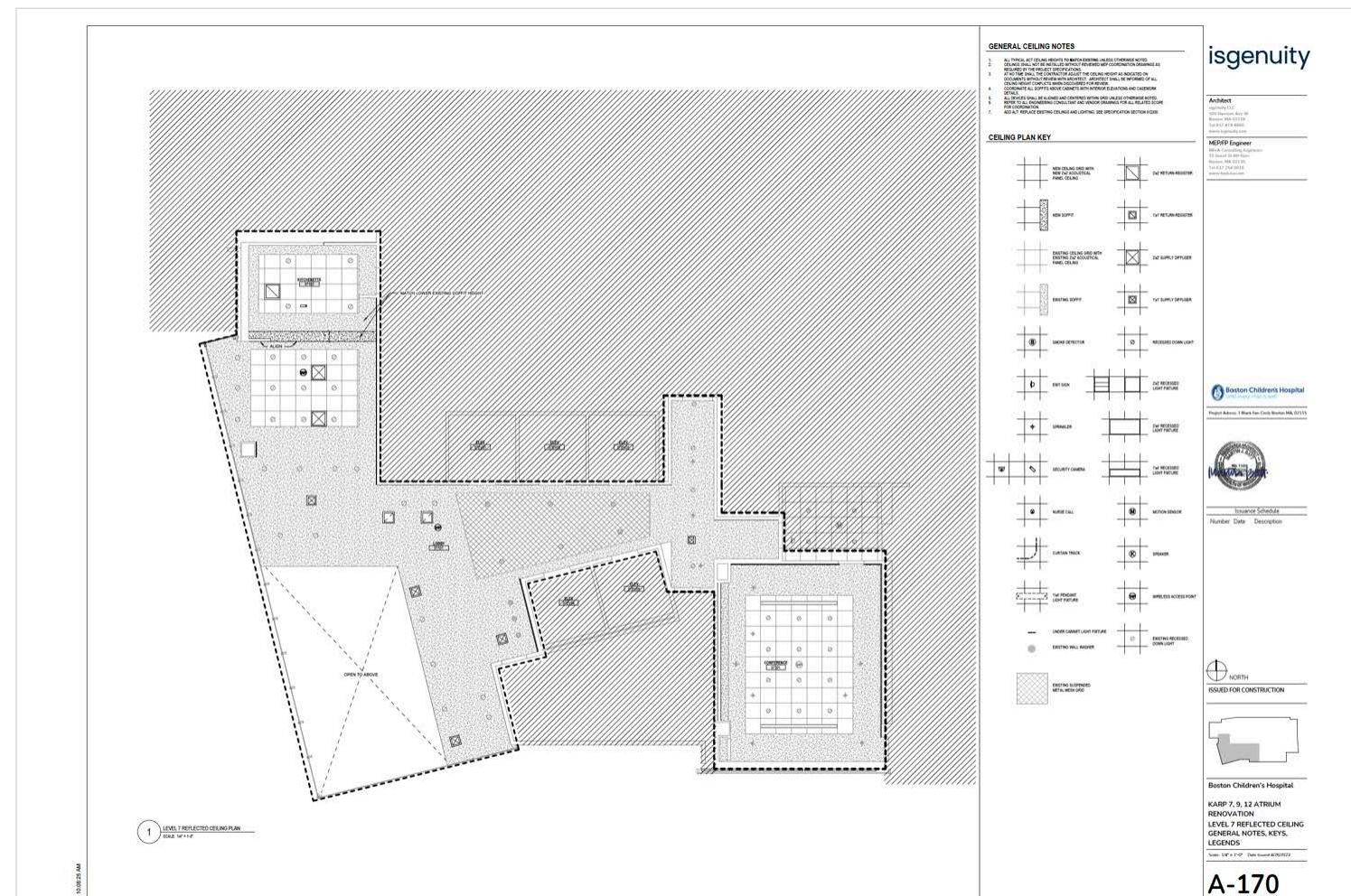
A-162



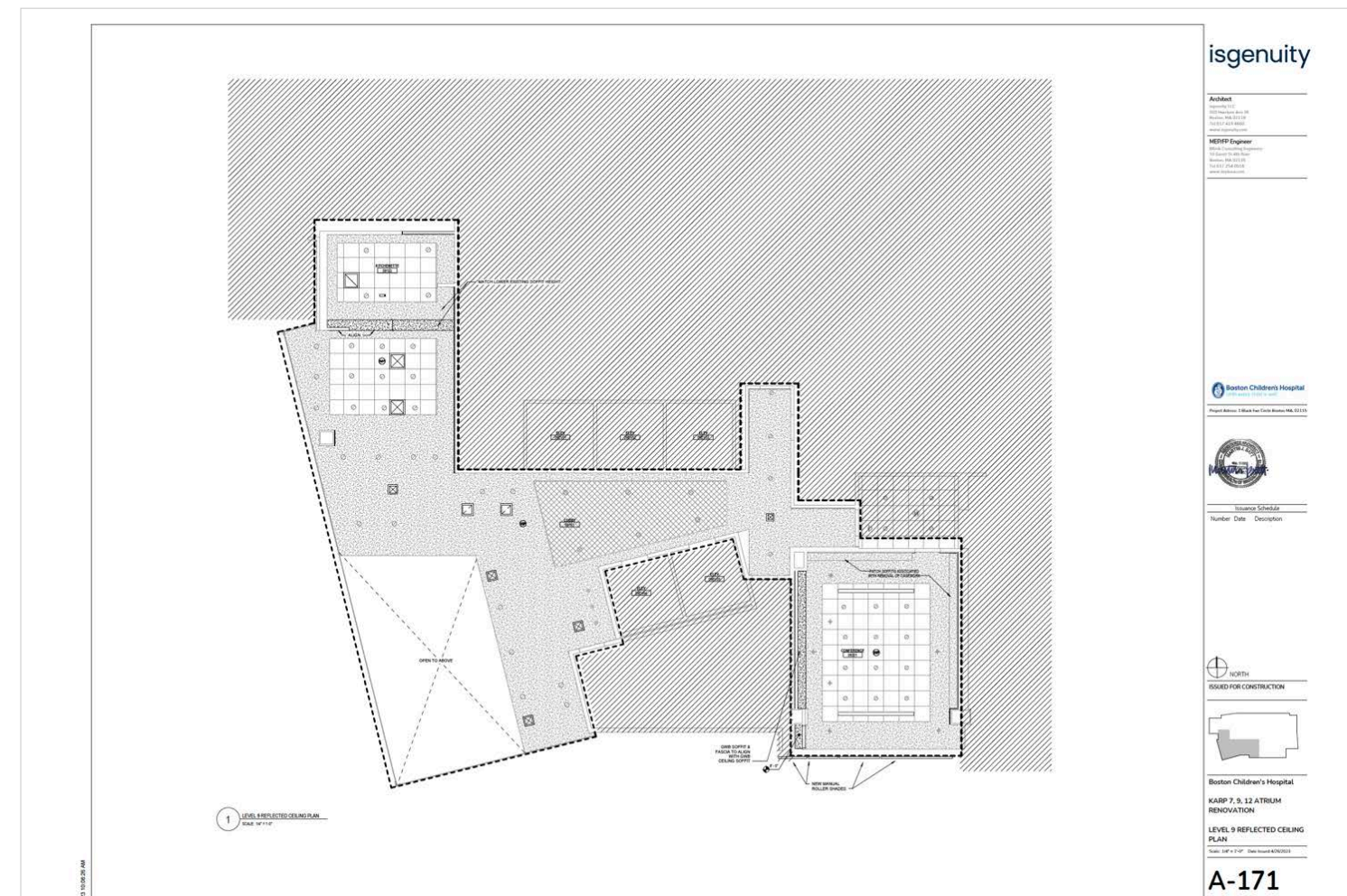
Selected construction documentation | complete sheets grouped by drawing type

SELECTED DRAWING SET | A-170 - A-172

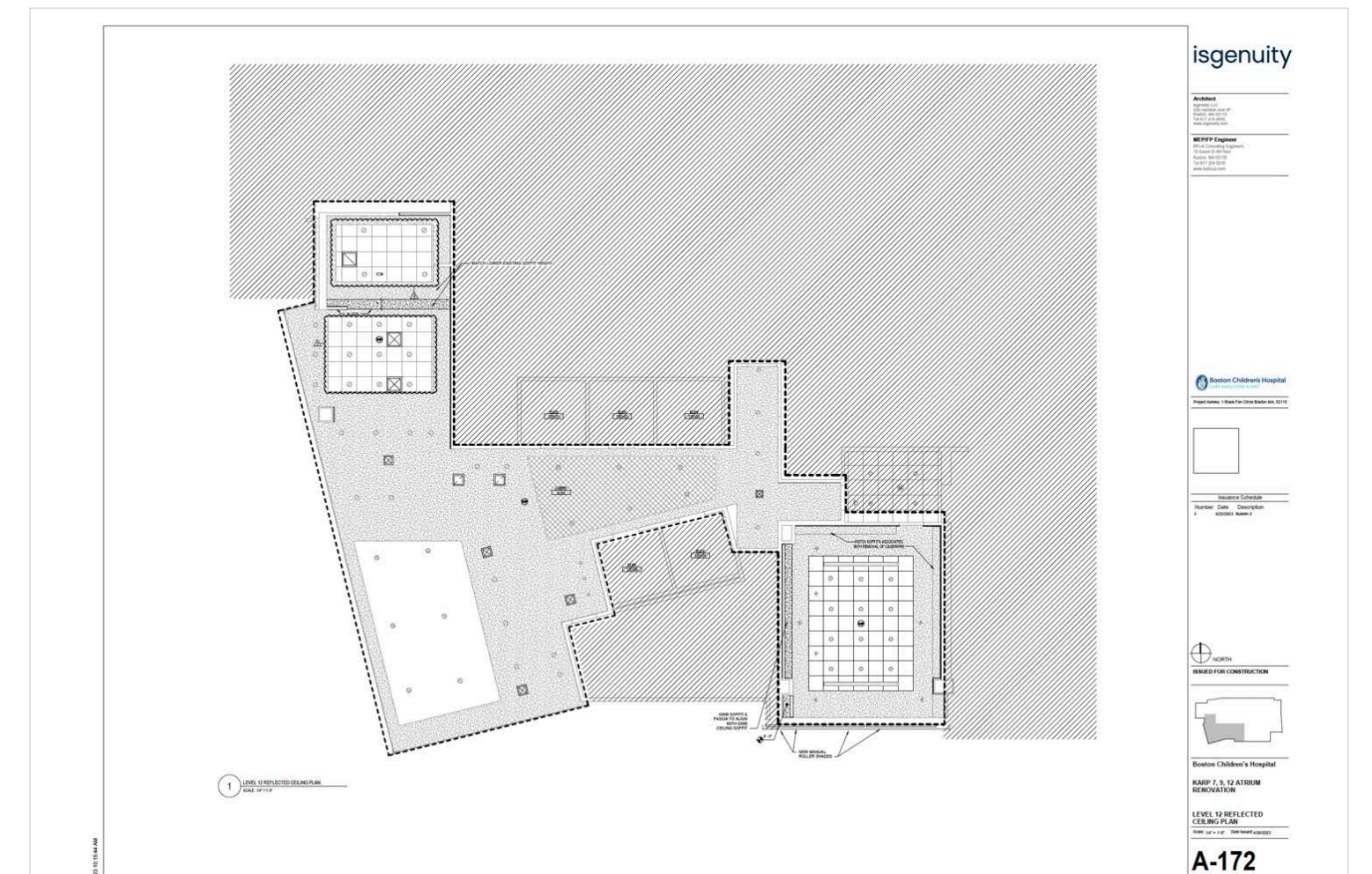
A-170



A - 171

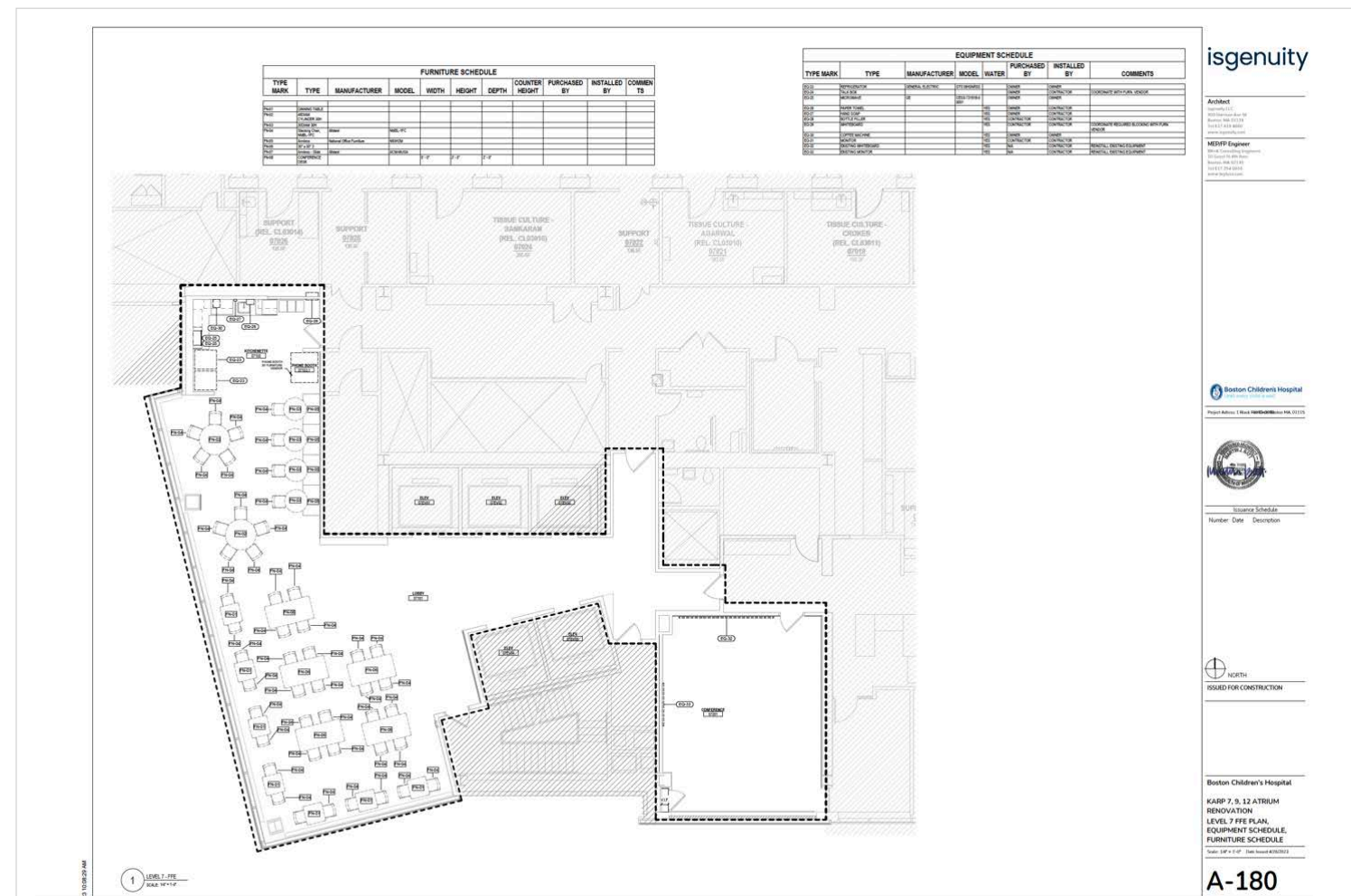


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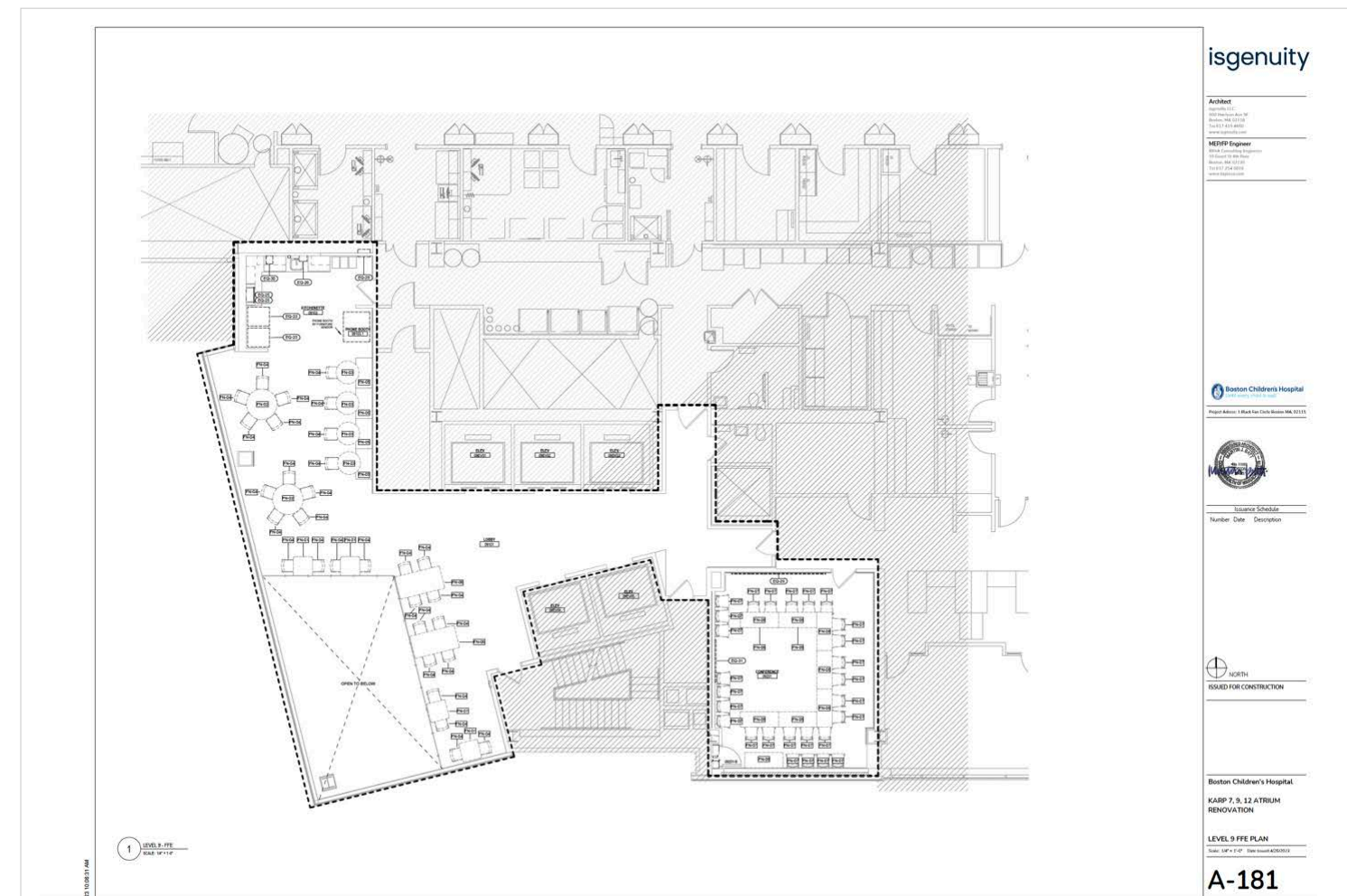


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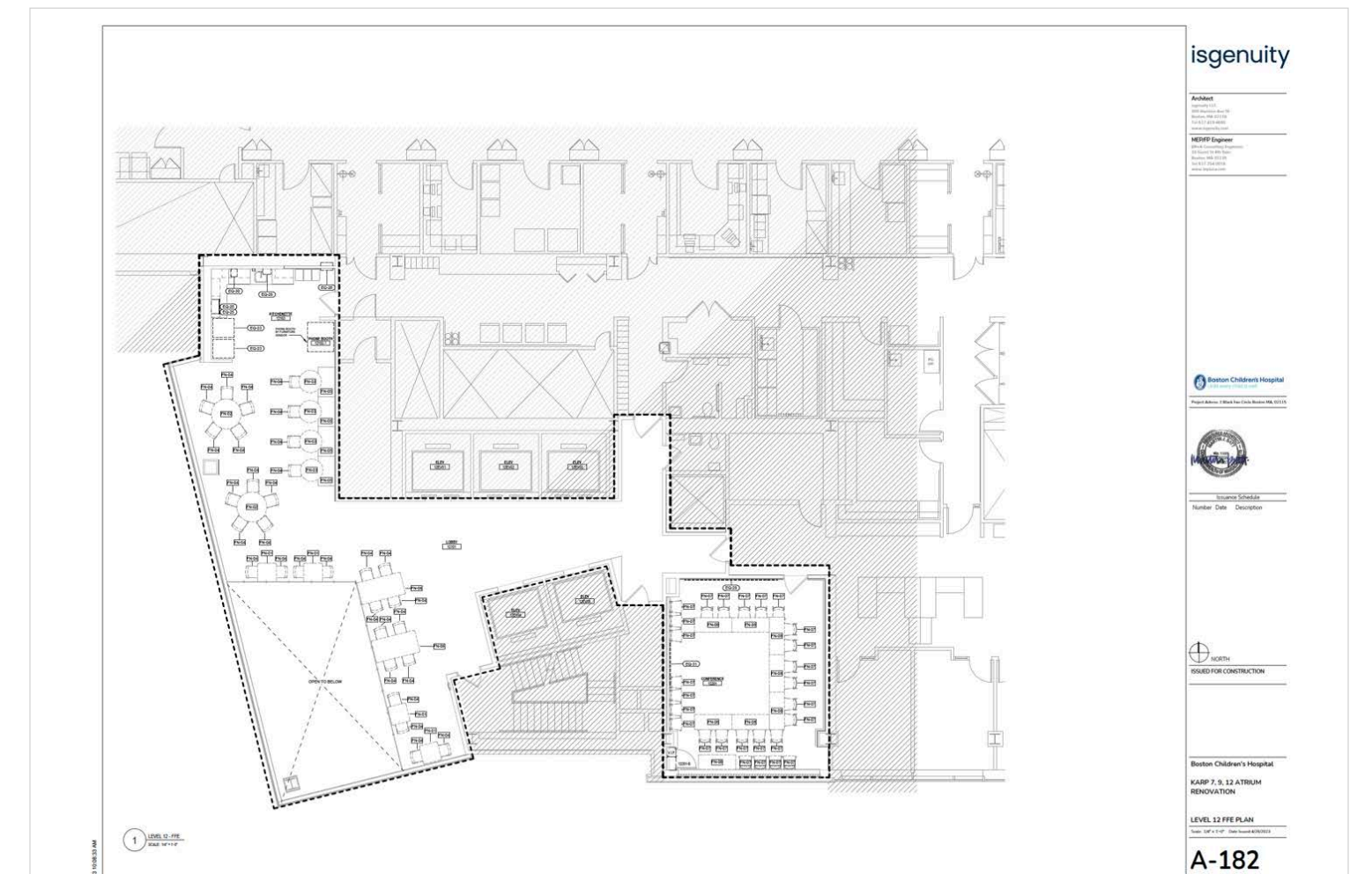
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A - 181



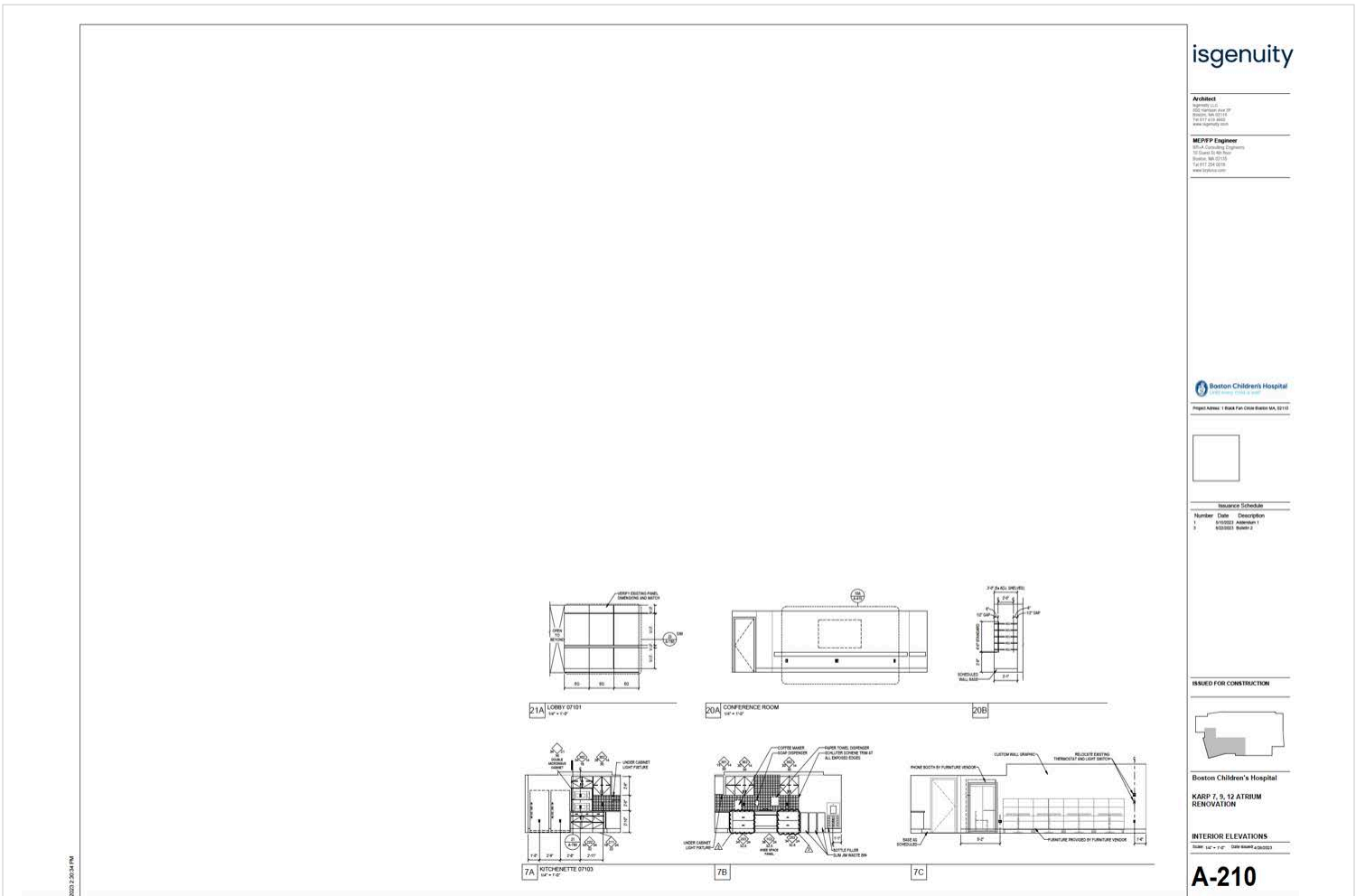
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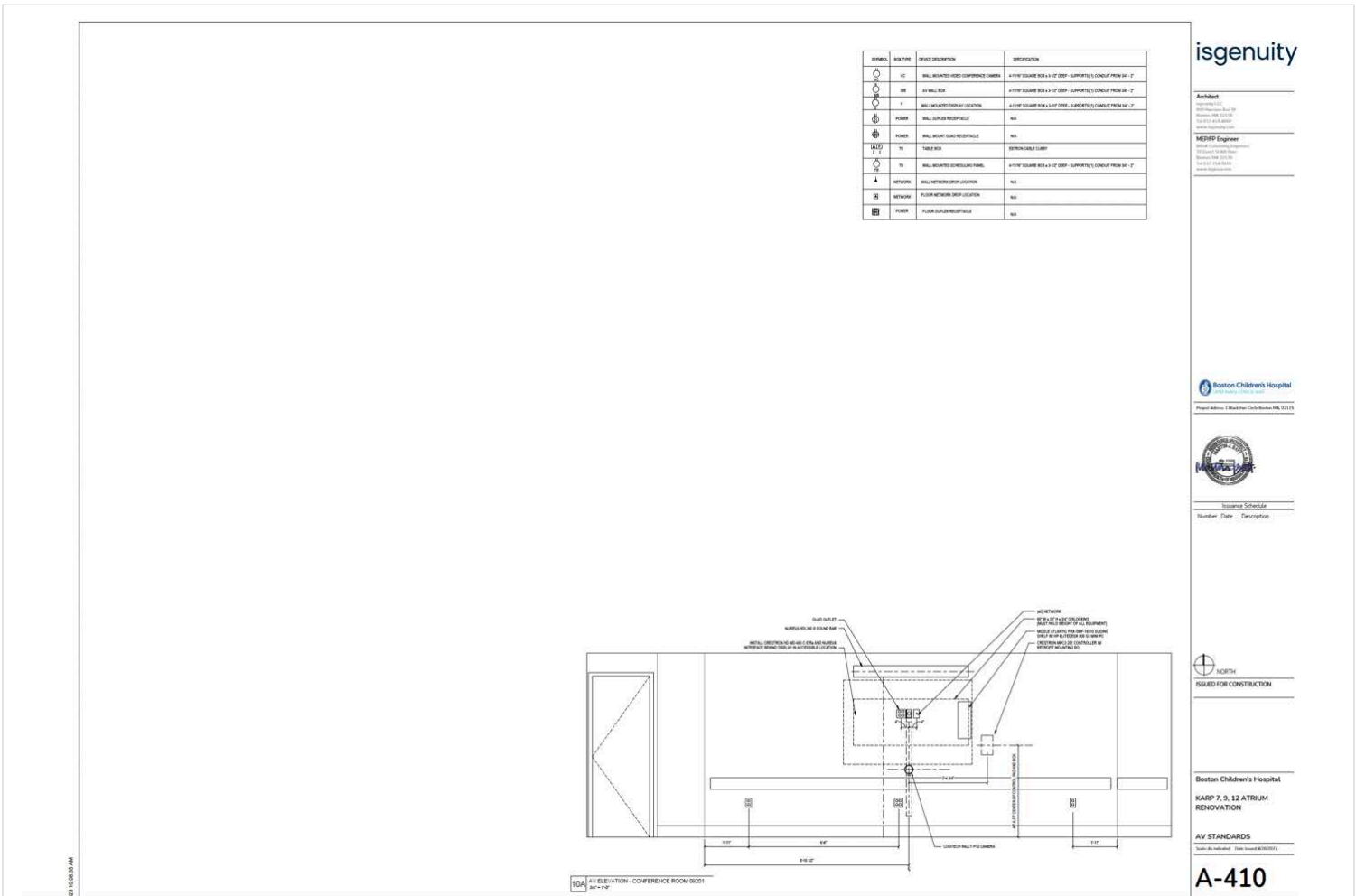
Construction documentation | grouped drawing sheets by recurring floor type

SELECTED DRAWING SET | A-210 / A-410 / A-780

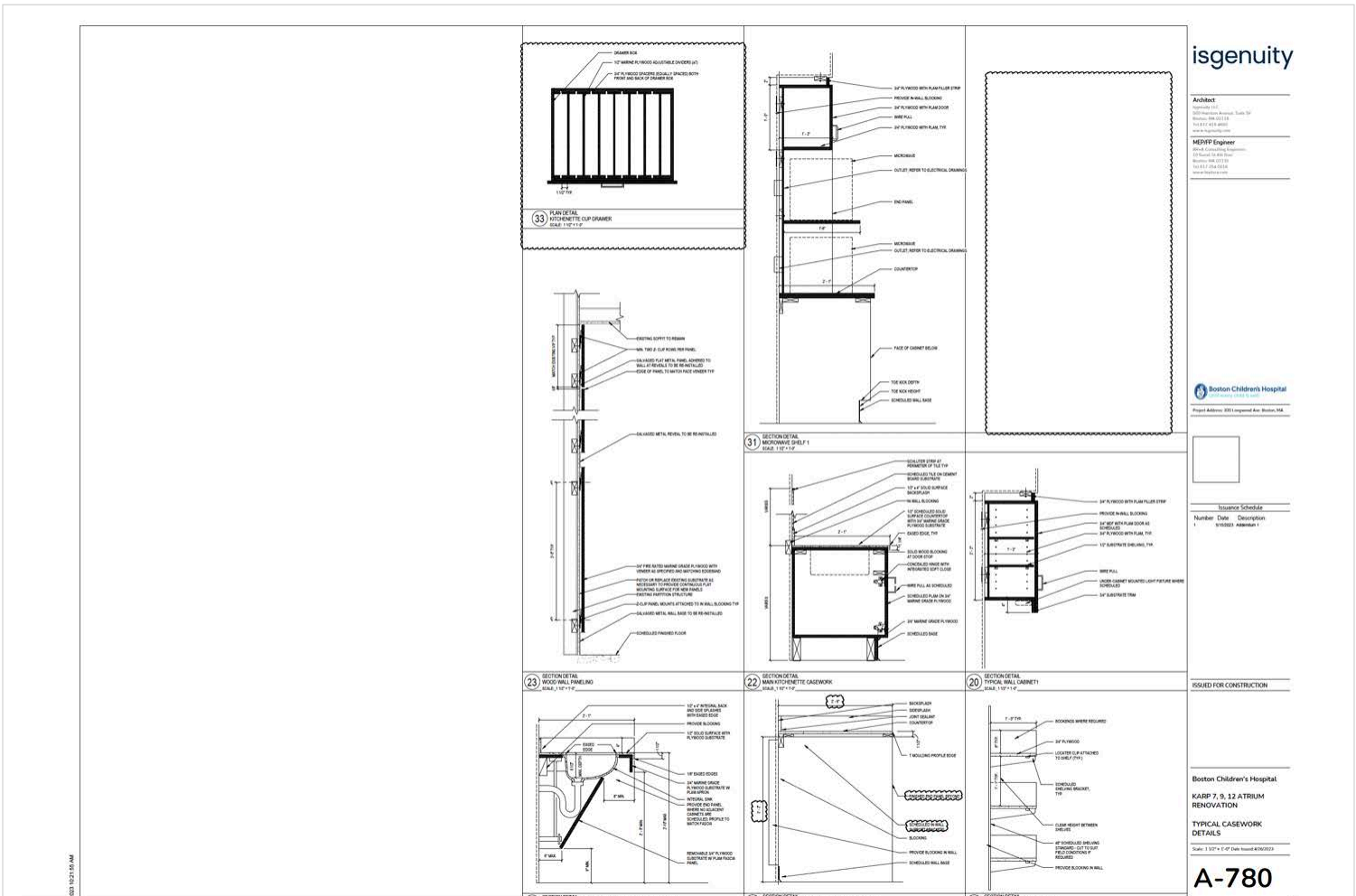
A-210



A-410



A-780



Selected construction documentation | complete sheets grouped by drawing type