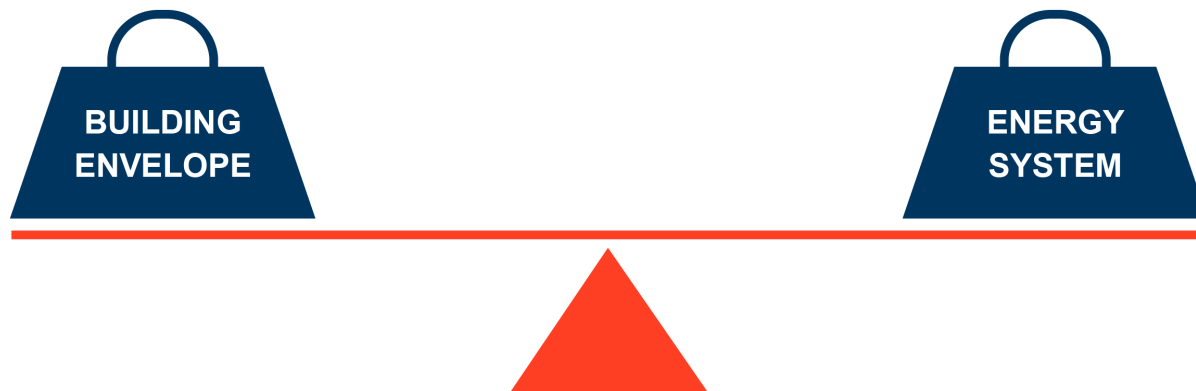# BEST
Advisory

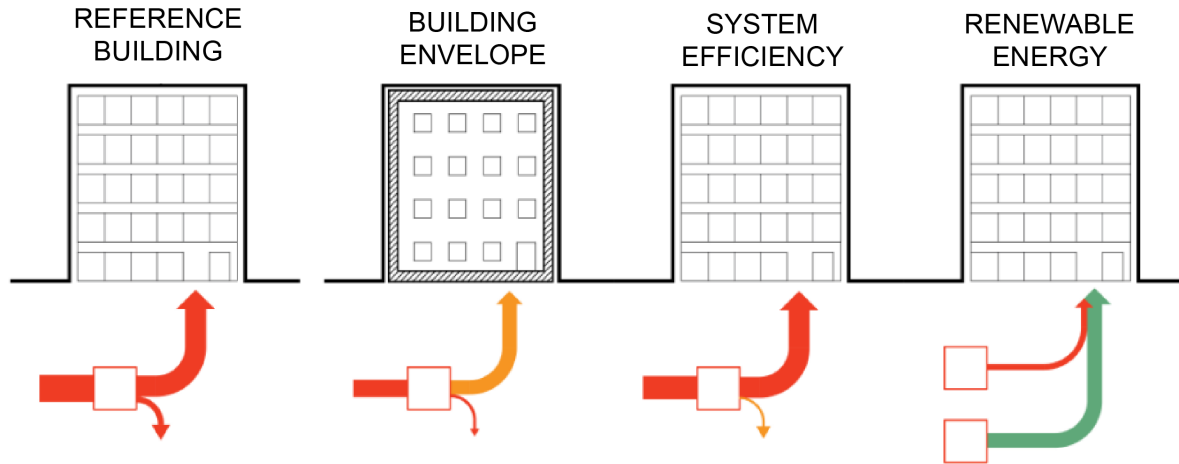## Building Envelope & energy Systems Trade-off (BEST) Advisory

Governments at all levels are introducing more aggressive building codes and standards aimed at lowering carbon emissions from new buildings. Many of these modernized codes and standards, like Vancouver's Zero Emission Building Plan, allow for alternative compliance pathways. Developers can focus on the building envelope, or focus on the energy system. This creates a design question - how do you strike the right balance between building envelope and building energy systems? BEST Advisory will help you answer these initial questions at the concept phase.
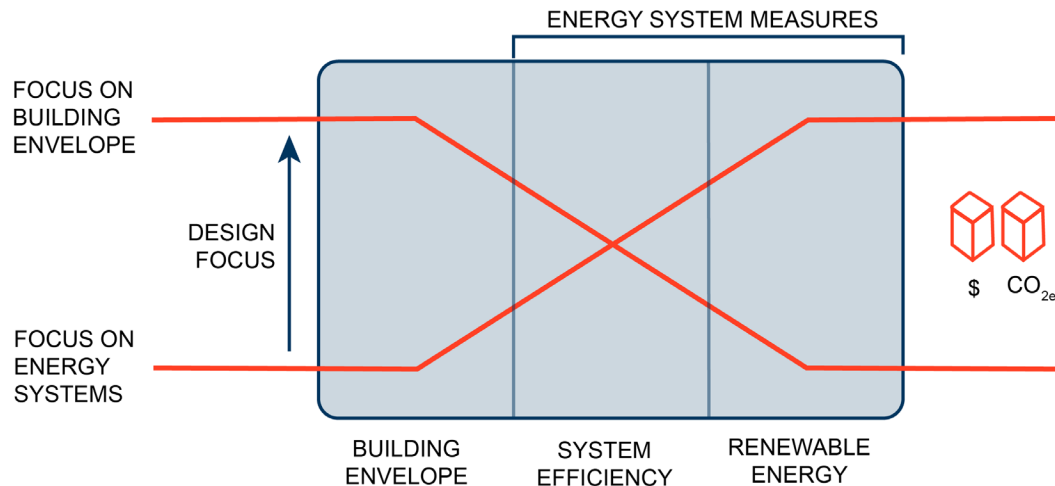

Reshape Strategies and Morrison Hershfield are leaders in the field. We have a wealth of information and experience from real world applications. We are experts at communicating complex problems into an easy to understand framework. We have a culture of system level thinking and are agnostics on pathways to achieve carbon outcomes.

Reshape Strategies and Morrison Hershfield will provide you with a BEST Roadmap to guide you and your design team through the trade-offs so that you can optimize the goals of your project.

There are three main ways to reduce carbon emissions in buildings. Use less energy (focus on building better envelopes), use primary energy sources more efficiently (focusing on energy system efficiency), use more renewable energy (focus on the type of primary energy used in the energy system).

There are many different envelope and energy system combinations which can satisfy these new, alternative compliance path codes. Each pathway will influence the upfront and ongoing building costs. Each pathway will have a particular carbon outcome. The different pathways will also have an impact on the building form and aesthetics, as well as complexity to design, construct and operate. Each pathway will determine the building's exposure to future energy and carbon prices, and it will influence the building's green building certification strategy.

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Morrison Hershfield