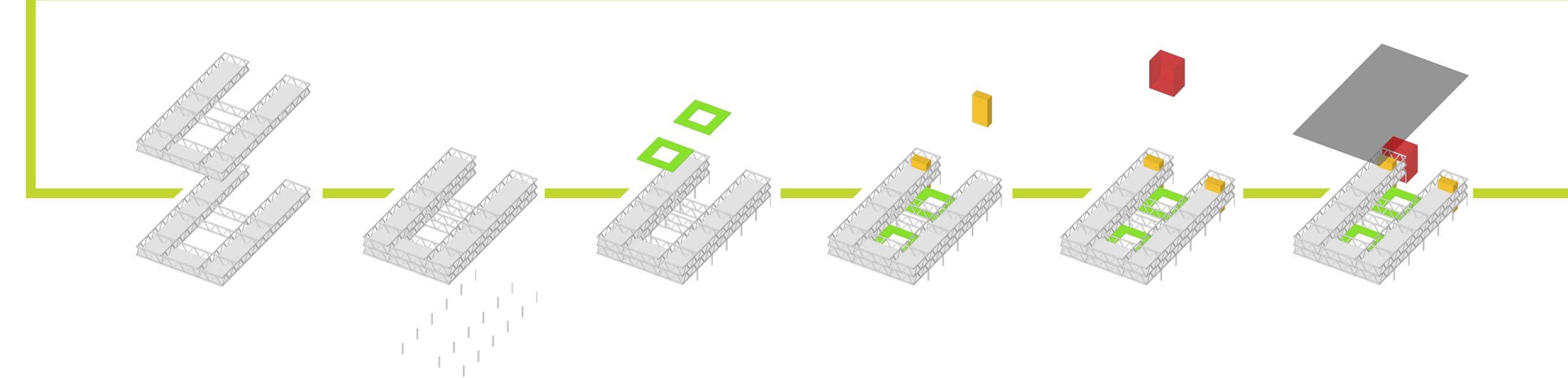
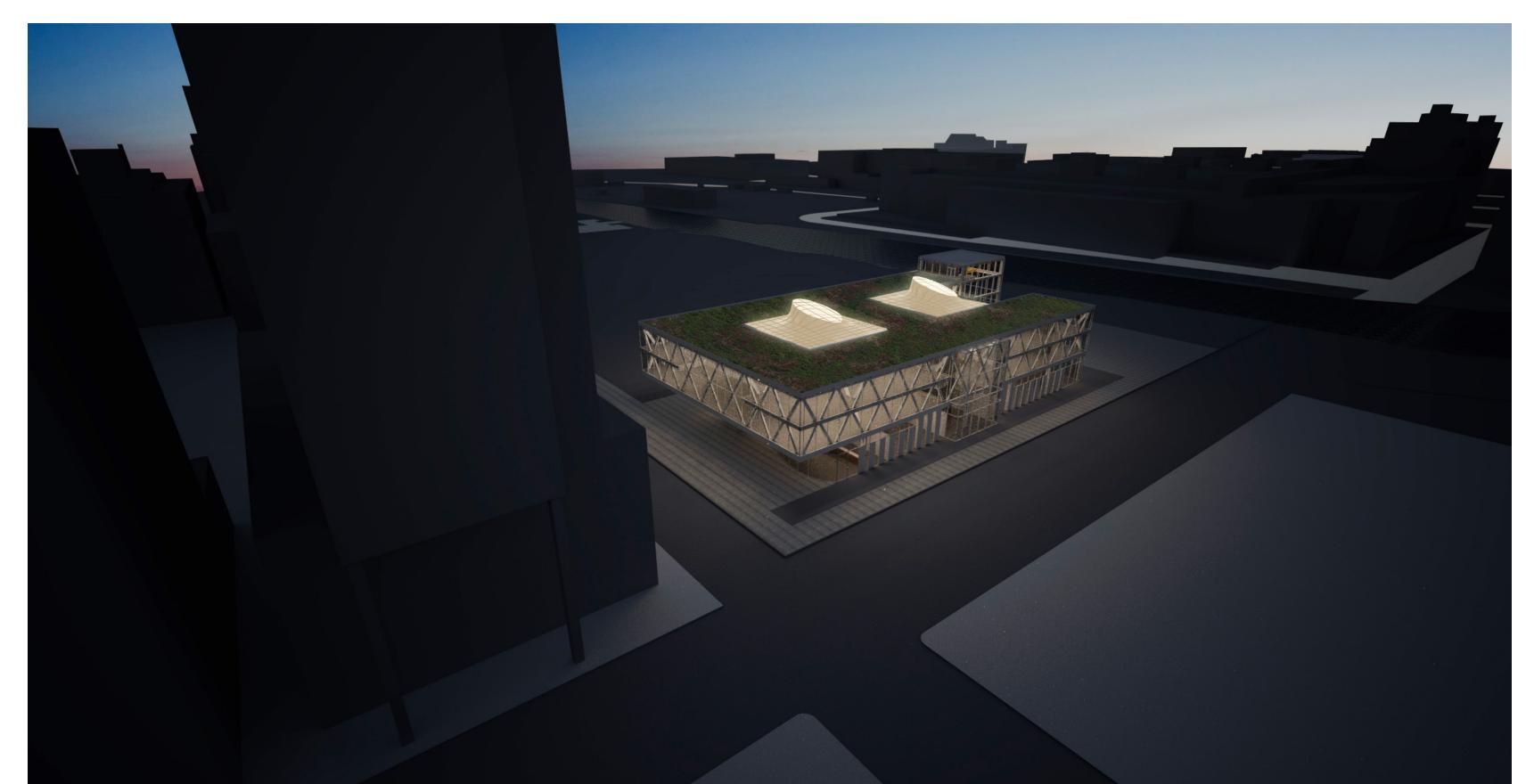
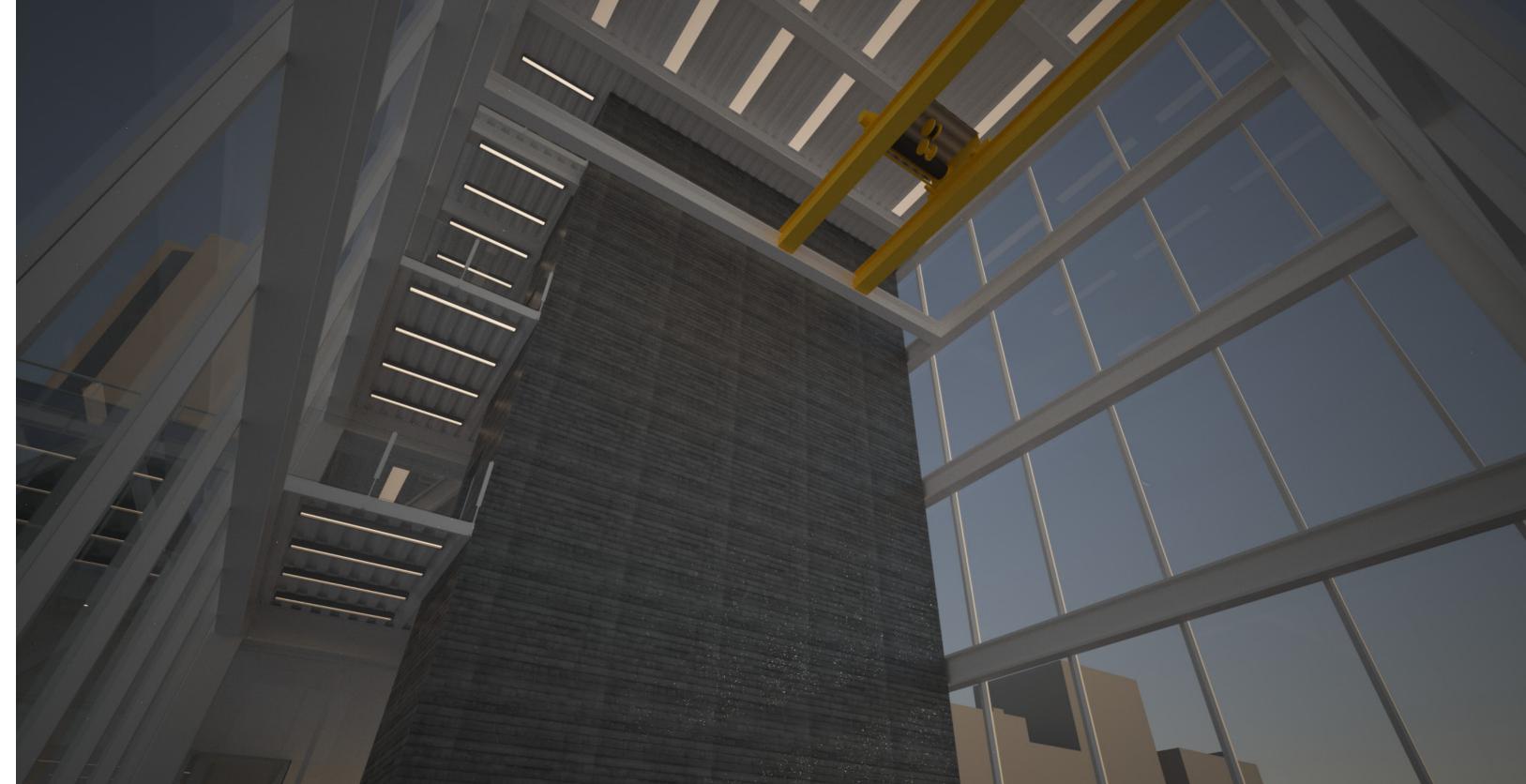


The design concept begins by placing three 40' wide single-loaded structural bays side-by-side, then removing the center bay to provide an atrium space. This concept is then stacked a second time on top of the first, then placed upon paired columns that anchor the building to the Chicago street. Fire stairs at the West ends of the outer bays help anchor the upper floors, and stabalize the Southern cantilever. A large 3-story construction space is added to the southern bay, and finally a green roof and atrium glass unites the structure.







One would think that the ever-increasing pervasiveness of digital communications could have only strengthened our relationships and the communities that we live in. Unfortunately, our obsession with digital gratification has only made us more lonely - and the cities we live in

A large part of this problem is the structure of living in a dense urban environment. Access to a computer is simple, and takes up little space within a small dwelling. There is no town square, no creative meeting point. The realm of creative meeting space is too often left to barren and isolated corporate plazas.

The West Loop Community Workshop is essentially a simple idea - a sort of community "garage" that through membership would allow access to tools, space, and equipment many would have difficulty with in Chicago's inner city. The building houses eight 40' x 100' workshops designed to flexibly adapt to revolving needs and equipment. However, some likely activities would include textiles, welding & metal working, wood working, and digital modeling.

It is through working with the tangible world and providing a communal building that all can access that we can bring people out from their isolated condos and apartments in tall glass towers. The West Loop Community Workshop is the center Chicago needs to start rebuilding its forgotten neighborhoods, one community at a time.



