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DESIGN AND PLANNING OF COMMERCIAL BUILDING WITH MEP CONNECTIONSBY USING REVIT

K. NAGARAJU[1], K. VINAY KUMAR[2], K. NAGAKISHORE[3], P. CHAKRAVARTHI[4],V. MANI KANTA[5] ,
T. SAMBASIVA RAO[6]

[1,2,3,4,5]UG Student, [6]Assistant Professor

[1,2,3,4,5,6] Department of Civil Engineering, VVIT, Nambur, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA

Email:[2]vinaykumar300000@gmail.com , [6]tsambasivarao.civil@vvit.net

ABSTRACT

Autodesk Revit, a premier Building Information Modelling (BIM) tool, provides a robust platform for detailed 3D modelling. The project involves creating a shopping complex, complete with floor plans, sections, elevations, and realistic 3D views of architectural and engineering systems. Focus is placed on spatial organization, including retail layouts, corridors, elevators, and emergency exits, while ensuring compliance with building codes and accessibility standards.A key aspect is the careful modelling and coordination of MEP systems, such as HVAC, electrical wiring, and plumbing, within the Revit environment. This integration identifies and resolves potential clashes between structural and service components early in the design process, improving overall efficiency and functionality.

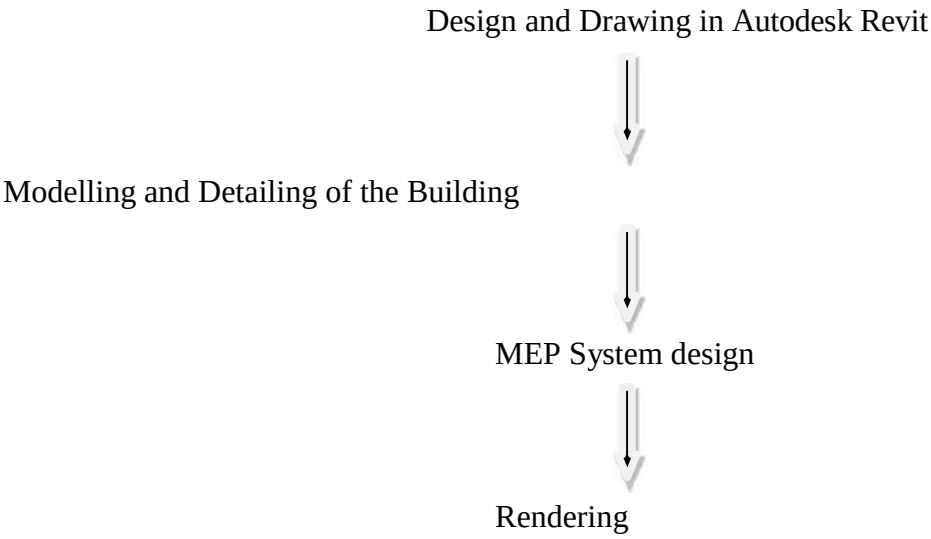
The BIM model proves beneficial beyond design. It aids in cost estimation, material take-offs, and energy analysis, contributing to the sustainability of the project. Such features not only optimize construction but also enhance future facility management.Ultimately,this study underscores Revit's importance in managing complex projects like shopping malls. It highlights the tool's ability to foster collaboration among architects, engineers, and contractors, resulting in efficient, accurate, and cost-effective designs with fully integrated MEP systems.

KEYWORDS: ***Autodesk Revit, Building Information Modelling (BIM), 3Dmodelling, Shopping complex, Architectural systems, Spatial organization, Retail layouts, MEP systems, HVAC, Electrical wiring, Plumbing, Integration, Clashes resolution, Energy analysis, Facility management, Collaboration, Cost-effective design***

I. INTRODUCTION

The project entails the comprehensive planning, design, and 3D modeling of a state-of-the-art shopping complex with a focus on functionality, sustainability, and aesthetic appeal. It integrates Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) systems to ensure seamless operation, including advanced HVAC systems, efficient electrical networks, and robust plumbing solutions for water supply, drainage, and fire protection. The architectural plan emphasizes space optimization, smooth customer flow, and accessibility features like elevators and ramps, alongside dedicated spaces for retail, dining, entertainment, parking, and storage. Sustainability is a key focus, incorporating energy-efficient technologies such as LED lighting, solar panels, low-flow water fixtures, and rainwater harvesting systems. The project leverages Building Information Modelling (BIM) to create an integrated 3D model, enhancing collaboration among architectural and engineering teams and resolving system conflicts using Revit's clash detection tools to save time and resources. It adheres to local safety and regulatory standards, ensuring compliance with fire safety systems and accessibility requirements. Phased design and construction timelines, combined with site analysis and conceptual planning, ensure an efficient and systematic approach. By adopting eco-friendly materials and technologies, the project aims to achieve modern green building standards while maintaining cost-effectiveness and operational efficiency, ultimately delivering a high-performance and sustainable shopping complex.

I. METHODOLOGY



The shopping complex design begins with architectural planning in Autodesk Revit, creating detailed and compliant floor plans, elevations, and sections. This blueprint forms the foundation for subsequent structural and engineering work. In later phases, MEP systems, including HVAC, electrical, and plumbing, are seamlessly integrated using Revit's advanced modeling tools. Clash detection ensures early resolution of conflicts, minimizing errors and enhancing efficiency. Energy-efficient solutions like LED lighting and low-flow fixtures support sustainability goals. Revit fosters collaboration among stakeholders, streamlining the

design process and ensuring a functional, cost-effective, and environmentally sustainable shopping complex, showcasing its value in modern construction.

After finalizing the architectural layout, the design of Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) systems is initiated using a specialized template in Autodesk Revit. The shopping complex file is linked to this template to ensure coordination across all components. Preparatory settings, such as "Copy and Monitor," are configured to align architectural and MEP models while maintaining consistency. Spaces and zones are defined to optimize service distribution, followed by heating and cooling load calculations based on room dimensions and environmental factors to design an efficient HVAC system. This method ensures seamless integration, operational efficiency, and alignment with sustainability objectives.

The mechanical design phase of the shopping complex begins with calculating heating and cooling loads based on room dimensions, occupancy, insulation, and environmental factors. These calculations guide the selection of centralized HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems that best align with the building's design and project requirements. Key components integrated into the design include roof-based Air Handling Units (AHUs), Variable Air Volume (VAV) boxes, chillers, ducts, flex ducts, air terminals, and grills. Air terminals are strategically placed to optimize air distribution and occupant comfort, then connected to flex ducts, which link to rectangular ducts and VAV boxes. These VAV boxes are, in turn, connected to the AHUs for efficient air handling throughout the building.

To ensure seamless integration, all connections are rigorously reviewed and refined using Revit’s clash detection tools, which identify and resolve conflicts between system components early in the design process. This approach prevents errors, minimizes delays, and ensures functional and efficient system operation. The methodical process enhances the mechanical system's quality and reliability while supporting sustainability goals and meeting modern standards for operational performance in complex commercial projects like shopping complexes. This professional workflow highlights Revit’s capabilities as an indispensable tool for mechanical design in construction.

The design and implementation of electrical connections for a shopping complex are guided by a systematic and precise approach using Autodesk Revit. It begins with a comprehensive Lighting Analysis to determine the required light intensity based on room dimensions, functionality, and occupancy. Following this, lighting fixtures and switches are strategically positioned across the building according to the analysis results. These fixtures are connected to well-designed electrical circuits, ensuring optimal functionality and compliance with safety standards. To distribute electricity efficiently, panel boards are created and linked to these circuits through conduits and cable trays, ensuring organized and secure electrical routing. Revit’s advanced tools are utilized to detect and resolve clashes between electrical components and other systems, enabling seamless integration. This method enhances the reliability and efficiency of the electrical system while supporting the project’s operational goals and sustainability objectives, delivering a high-quality and coordinated design solution.

The integration of plumbing and fire protection systems in a shopping complex is a crucial aspect of the design, ensuring efficient water distribution, sanitation, and emergency response capabilities. Autodesk

Revit facilitates seamless coordination by strategically placing plumbing fixtures and designing water and septic tanks to support sanitary and water supply systems. Fire protection elements, including sprinklers, fire extinguishers, and reel cabinets, are incorporated into the design and connected to a pump room that houses water tanks and electric pumps for emergency situations. Using Revit's clash detection tools, potential conflicts between plumbing and fire protection components are identified and resolved, ensuring smooth installation and functionality. This methodical approach enhances efficiency, minimizes errors, and guarantees compliance with safety regulations. By integrating these systems within the Revit environment, the design promotes sustainability and operational effectiveness, delivering a shopping complex with well-coordinated and reliable plumbing and fire protection infrastructure.

II. RESULTS

3D Modelling Results: The 3D architectural design created in Autodesk Revit spans a plot area of 40,000 square feet. The layout ensures optimal spatial harmony by aligning the placement of rooms for each floor with the principles of Vastu Shastra, blending traditional architectural science with modern BIM technology for precision and efficiency.

Fig 1:3D view of Shopping Complex

III. MEP RESULTS

MECHANICAL CONNECTIONS:

Here are the detailed plans, sections, and 3D visualizations of the mechanical system designs, highlighting the integration of HVAC components such as ducts, air terminals, VAV units, and roof-based AHUs. These comprehensive representations ensure precision, seamless coordination, and

effective communication among stakeholders, supporting informed decision-making during project planning and execution.

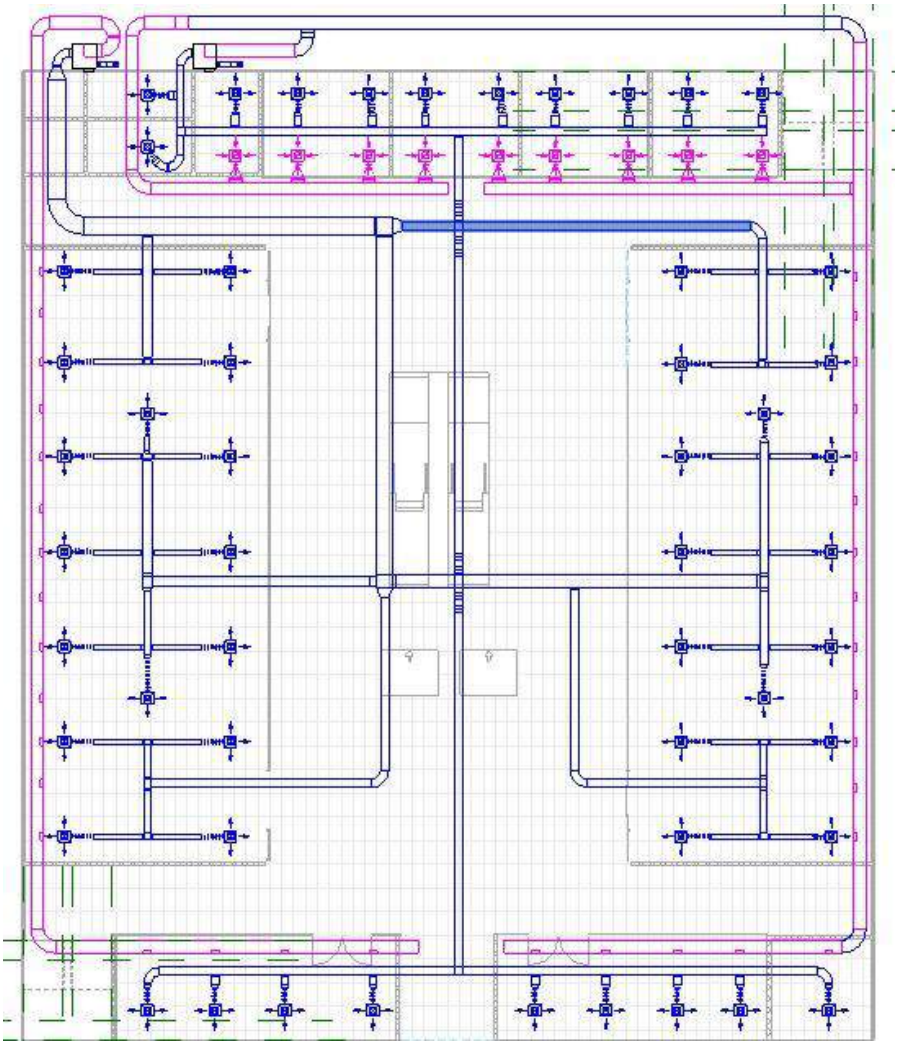


Fig 2: Plan of Ground Floor after placing HVAC Elements

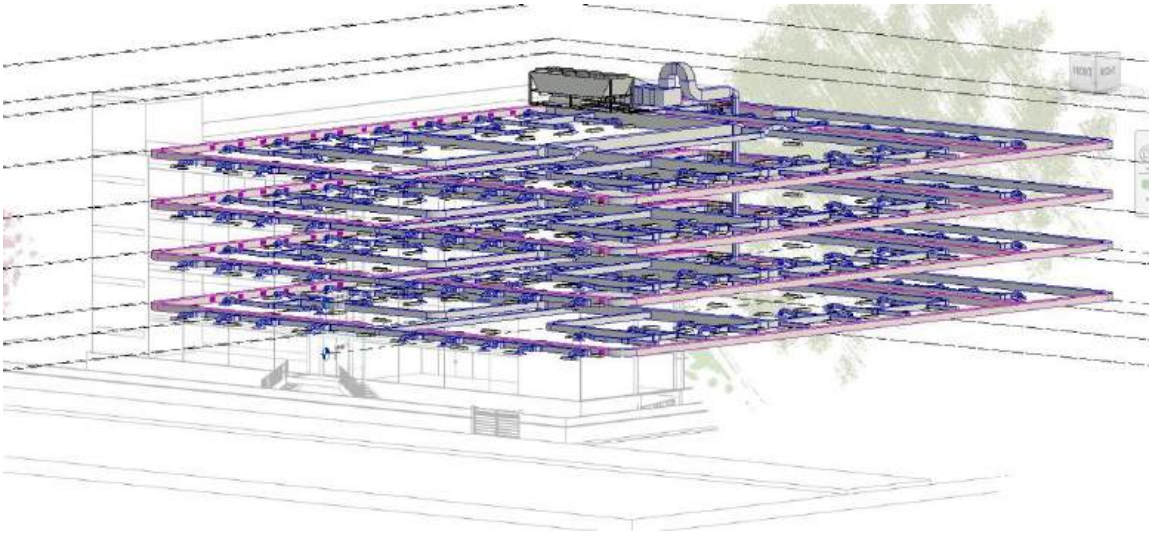


Fig 3:3D View

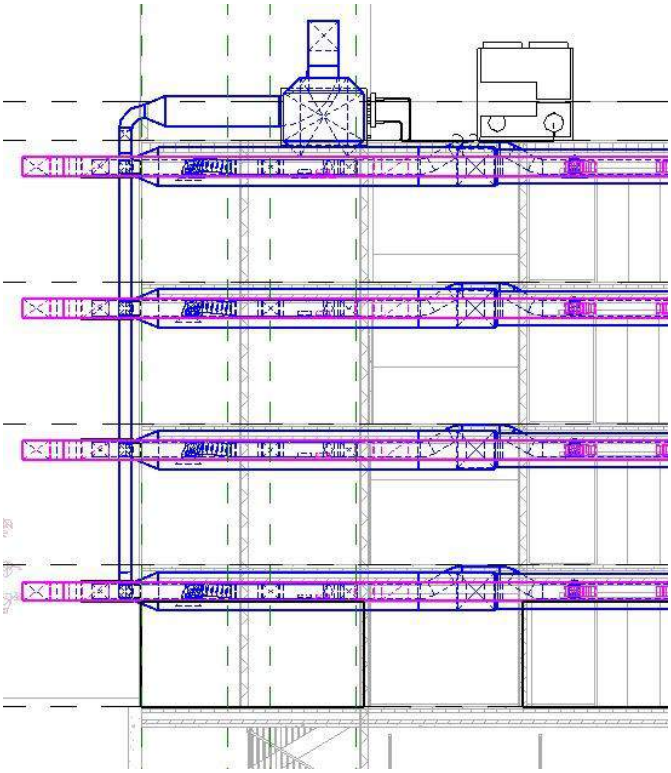


Fig 4: Section View

<Heating and Cooling Load Analysis>

A	B	C	D	E	F
Number	Name	Level	Calculated Supply	Actual Supply Airflow	Difference
1	Open Space	Level 1	13466.8 CFM	0.0 CFM	-13466.8 CFM
2	Super Market	Level 1	7807.7 CFM	7811.2 CFM	3.4 CFM
3	Fashion Mart	Level 1	7669.5 CFM	7671.2 CFM	1.6 CFM
4	Food Stall - 1	Level 1	1733.4 CFM	1740.0 CFM	6.6 CFM
5	Food Stall -2	Level 1	1675.5 CFM	1680.0 CFM	4.5 CFM
6	Supply Room	Level 1	473.1 CFM	480.0 CFM	6.9 CFM
7	Stall - 1	Level 1	864.1 CFM	870.0 CFM	5.9 CFM
8	Stall - 2	Level 1	864.1 CFM	870.0 CFM	5.9 CFM
9	Stall - 3	Level 1	863.8 CFM	870.0 CFM	6.2 CFM
10	Stall - 4	Level 1	864.1 CFM	870.0 CFM	5.9 CFM
11	Hand Washroom	Level 1	358.5 CFM	360.0 CFM	1.5 CFM
12	Ladies Urinals	Level 1	202.3 CFM	210.0 CFM	7.7 CFM
13	Gents Urinals	Level 1	332.0 CFM	340.0 CFM	8.0 CFM
14	Toilets	Level 1	168.4 CFM	0.0 CFM	-168.4 CFM
15	Toilets	Level 1	148.5 CFM	0.0 CFM	-148.5 CFM

Table 1: Heating and Cooling Load Analysis

ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS:

Here are detailed plans, sectional drawings, and 3D visualizations of the electrical system designs, showcasing the layout of lighting fixtures, circuits, panel boards, and conduits. These professional representations emphasize precision, safety compliance, and effective coordination, ensuring optimal functionality and seamless project execution.

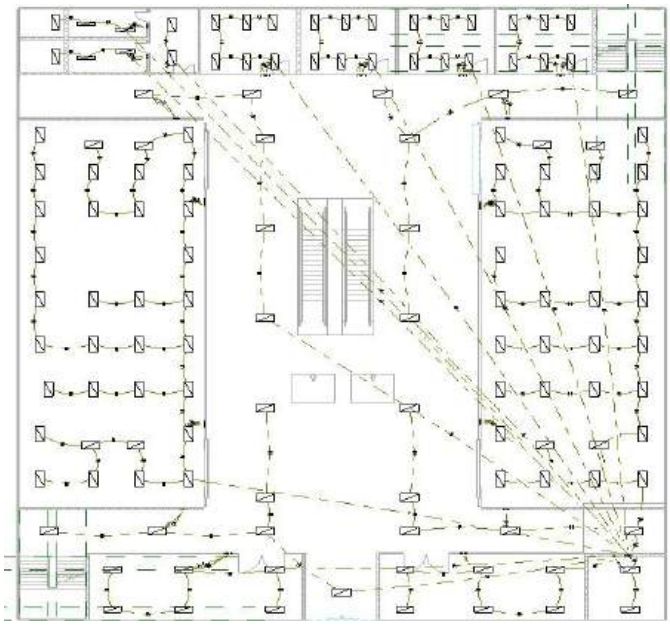


Fig 5: Plan of Ground Floor after placing Electrical Elements

Fig 6:3D View

<lighting Analysis>

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Number	Name	Level	Space Style	Required lighting	Average Estimated Illumin	Difference
1	Open Space	Level 1	Verendah or Corrido	100 lx	130 lx	30 lx
2	Super Market	Level 1	Super Market	500 lx	501 lx	1 lx
3	Fashion Mart	Level 1	Fashion mart	500 lx	503 lx	3 lx
4	Food Stall - 1	Level 1	Food Stall / Cafeteri	300 lx	259 lx	-41 lx
5	Food Stall -2	Level 1	Food Stall / Cafeteri	300 lx	267 lx	-33 lx
6	Supply Room	Level 1	Supply Room/Stora	200 lx	217 lx	17 lx
7	Stall - 1	Level 1	Retail shops	500 lx	528 lx	28 lx
8	Stall - 2	Level 1	Retail shops	500 lx	528 lx	28 lx
9	Stall - 3	Level 1	Retail shops	500 lx	528 lx	28 lx
10	Stall - 4	Level 1	Retail shops	500 lx	528 lx	28 lx
11	Hand Washroom	Level 1	Rest rooms	300 lx	313 lx	13 lx
12	Ladies Urinals	Level 1	Rest rooms	300 lx	291 lx	-9 lx
13	Gents Urinals	Level 1	Rest rooms	300 lx	315 lx	15 lx
14	Toilets	Level 1	Rest rooms	300 lx	293 lx	-7 lx
15	Toilets	Level 1	Rest rooms	300 lx	271 lx	-29 lx

Table-2: Lighting Analysis

PLUMBING CONNECTIONS:

Here are the detailed plans, sectional drawings, and 3D visualizations of the plumbing system designs, highlighting water supply, sanitation, and fire protection integration. The designs showcase efficient placement of plumbing fixtures, tanks, and fire safety components while ensuring seamless coordination, regulatory compliance, and optimal functionality.

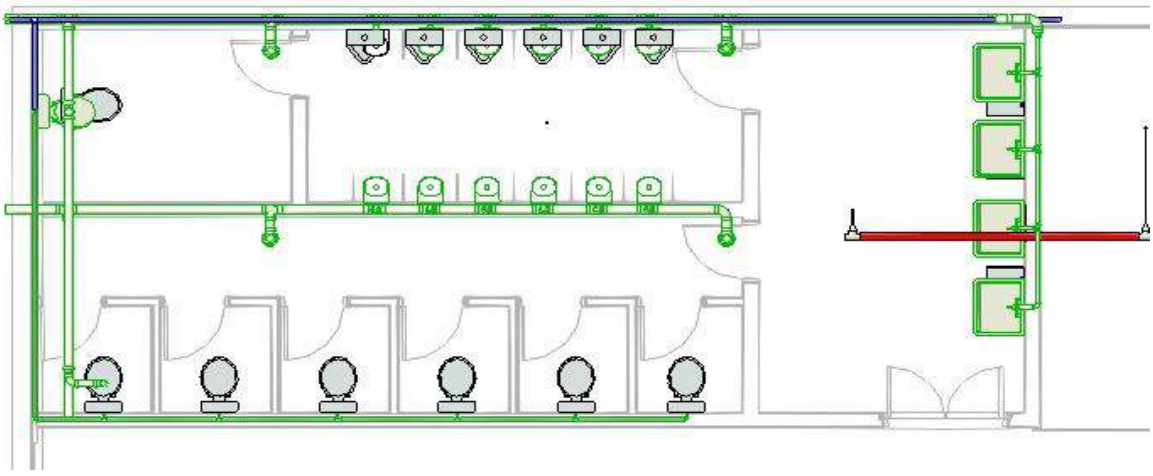


Fig 7: Plan of Ground Floor after placing Plumbing Fixtures

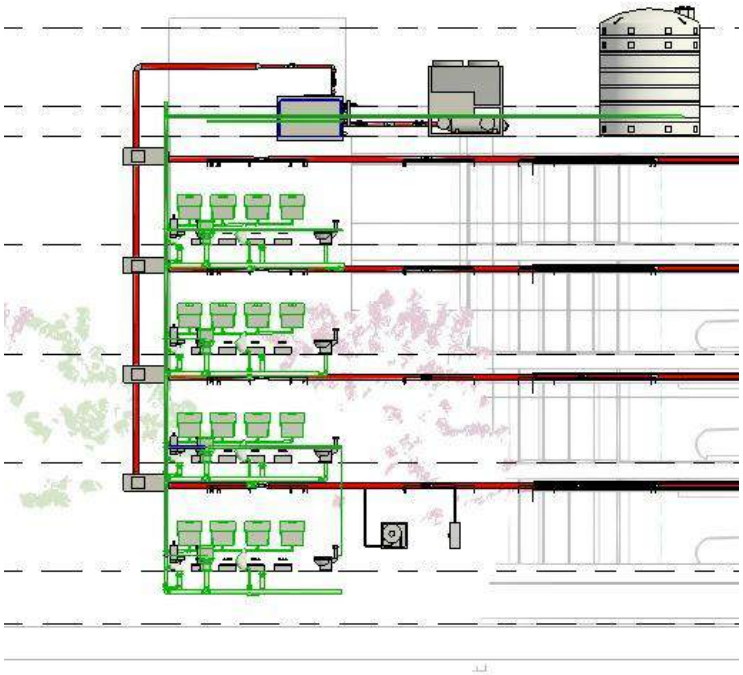


Fig 8: Section view

FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEMS:

Here are the detailed plans, sectional drawings, and 3D visualizations of the fire protection systems, highlighting the integration of sprinklers, fire extinguishers, and reel cabinets. The designs demonstrate compliance with safety standards and efficient routing, with connections to a pump room equipped with water tanks and electric pumps for reliable emergency response.

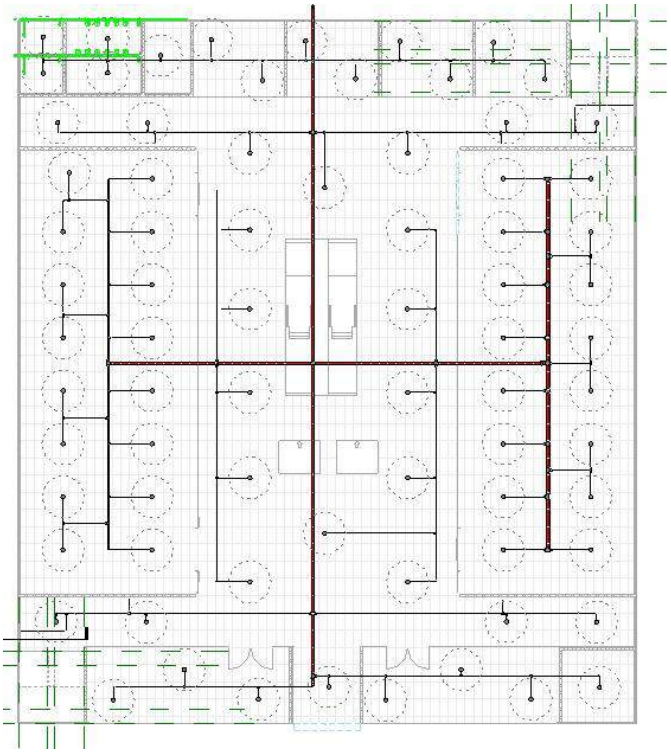


Fig 9: Plan of Ground Floor after placing Fire Fighting Elements

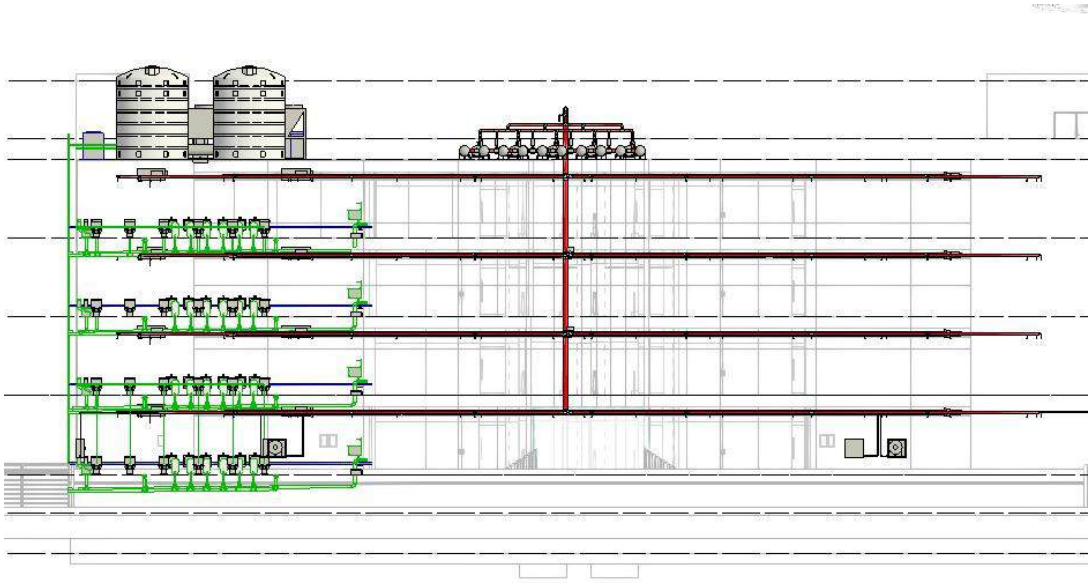


Fig 10: Section View

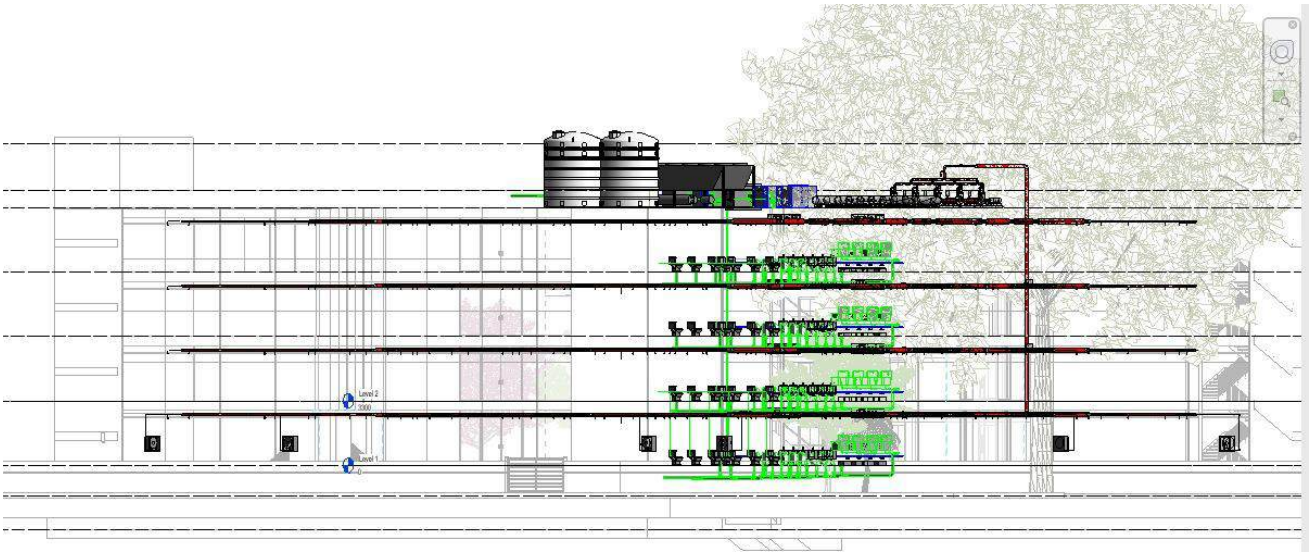


Fig 11: 3D View

IV. CONCLUSION

Using Autodesk Revit for the design and modeling of commercial complexes with MEP connections streamlines the construction process by addressing challenges through effective clash detection, adherence to best practices, and efficient data management. Revit's ability to provide accurate 3D models allows for early identification and resolution of potential conflicts, reducing costly rework and ensuring a smoother workflow. It supports precise documentation, including schedules and construction drawings, maintaining accuracy and consistency throughout the project lifecycle.

Revit's collaborative platform enhances coordination among stakeholders and empowers designers to create well-coordinated, sustainable, and high-quality building solutions. By combining advanced modeling and analytical capabilities, Revit revolutionizes traditional construction practices, driving efficiency, reducing errors, and fostering innovation in the design and execution of commercial buildings with MEP systems. It is an indispensable tool for delivering functional, cost-effective, and environmentally sustainable construction projects.

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