

INTERIOR DESIGN[®]

SEPTEMBER
2024



a whole new view

"At investment firm Cohen & Steers, we focused on amenities that enhance physical and mental well-being. The inclusion of tech-free rooms to recharge, central staircases that encourage more active work patterns throughout the day, and settings with access to daylight and views support each employee's personhood and productivity. Freedom of choice, with employees being able to select workspaces according to preference, is crucial in attracting staff back to the office."

—Santanna Cowan, TPG Architecture



"The workplace is not only a place in which to do your life's work but also one where you have a second family who cares for you. Building those relationships can be as simple as scheduling a day where leadership hangs out with staff, cooking or sharing a meal and having discussions about what's happening in the world outside the office."

—Primo Orpilla, Studio O+A



SHOPtalk

How have you attracted staff back to the office in a recent commercial project?

"We repositioned the roof deck at a Tishman Speyer property in Los Angeles as a place for tenants to connect during their workday, immersing them in a lush outdoor landscape."

—Robert Norwood, NBBJ

"In redesigning the Community Transit Hardeson Road & Service Operations Building, we prioritized employee experience, with amenities like sleep rooms to recharge throughout the day."

—Bethanne Mikkelsen, Ankrom Moisan



"In a recent project, we found even small touches like an oven for baking cookies or an entry closet for coats helped bring the comforts of home into an environment that better supports employees' work."

—Jennifer Janus, Pophouse



"Robot-operated barista cafés, specialty-beverage bars, or guest-chef cooking classes are now the status quo. For a large law firm, we developed a speakeasy wine bar where attorneys can celebrate case closings and host team happy hours and clients. We're also adapting programs to support individual growth and personal interests, integrating creative outlets like podcast suites and maker spaces."

—Tara Roscoe, HOK

