

Entire House

\$250,000 to \$500,000



Client Wishlist

Client Story

Settled At Last! ***A Safe Place To Call Home***

After several recent moves trying to find the right fit, our empty nest couple needed a permanent landing spot that matched to their health and artistic motivations.

Living with Parkinson's Disease means approaching remodeling with a careful eye to current and future needs - for both the person and the caregiver. Our mission was to create not only a forever home that simplified daily life in pragmatic way, but also a beautiful place so they could concentrate on savoring their time together.



Remodeling Desires:

- Joyful and organized kitchen
- Low-maintenance surfaces
- Aging-in-place features
- Artistic elements reflecting their interests
- Flexible space for entertaining large groups
- Forever home that feels safe and comfortable



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--Maya Angelou

Pain Points - Unengaging Kitchen



A key component for this project was creating a kitchen that increased the joy for the main cook and that was adaptable for entertaining.

Both homeowners come from large families and love hosting, so frequent gatherings happen throughout the year. The kitchen needed to connect to adjoining spaces, but also be defined.

The existing kitchen was basic and nice, but lacked more countertop space for meal prepping and serving, organized storage, and personality.

Pain Points - Closed-off Kitchen & Transitions

The kitchen was secluded even with the opening.

In this condominium kitchen, much of the prep areas faced away from guests rather than toward them.

Narrow doorways and change of flooring materials would be roadblocks to maneuver easily for someone living with Parkinson's Disease.



Pain Points - Livability Constraints



Aging-in-place elements can be defined differently based on what the future holds for older adults.

In the existing condominium set-up, some elements of the floor plan and room layouts would be daily challenges for someone living with advanced stages of Parkinson's Disease and the caregiver. Various flooring transitions would pose tripping hazards, the narrow doorways could be harder to navigate if a walker or wheelchair were needed, and the primary bathroom as it is would make hygiene care frustrating and possibly unsafe.

Pain Points - Standard Issue Colors



While neutral, the bland wall and carpet colors were not appealing.

Our homeowners sought a blend of creative colors as well as display spaces to live in an inspiring home.

Drawn to create artwork as well as to purchase meaningful handcrafted pieces, our homeowners wanted their space to mirror their interests.

Pain Points - Fixed & Impersonal

Two other goals were flexible spaces for entertaining and a custom, personalized feeling.

The couple wanted the space to feel comfortable and right-sized whether there was just the two of them or the whole family was coming over for the annual chili cook-off. They also wanted their home to be - their home. The entire space needed to be a unique dimension that was truly theirs and not a carbon copy of another condo down the hall or across the street.

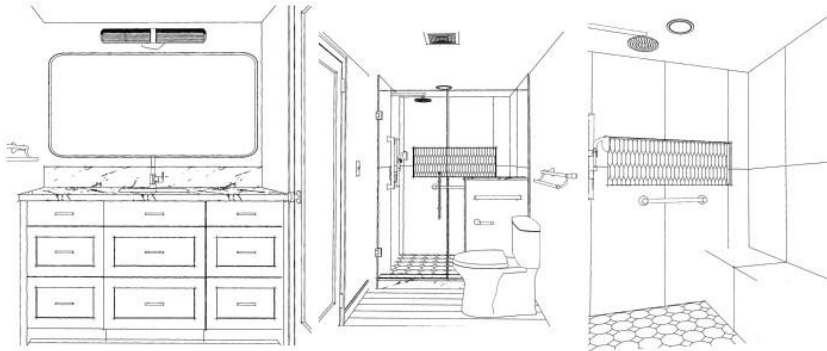
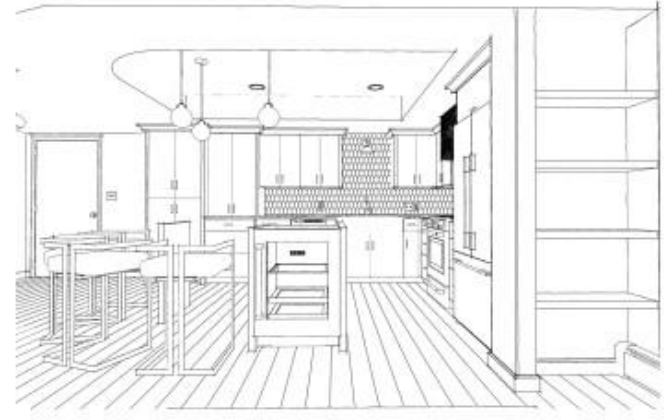


Presenting Concepts to the Clients

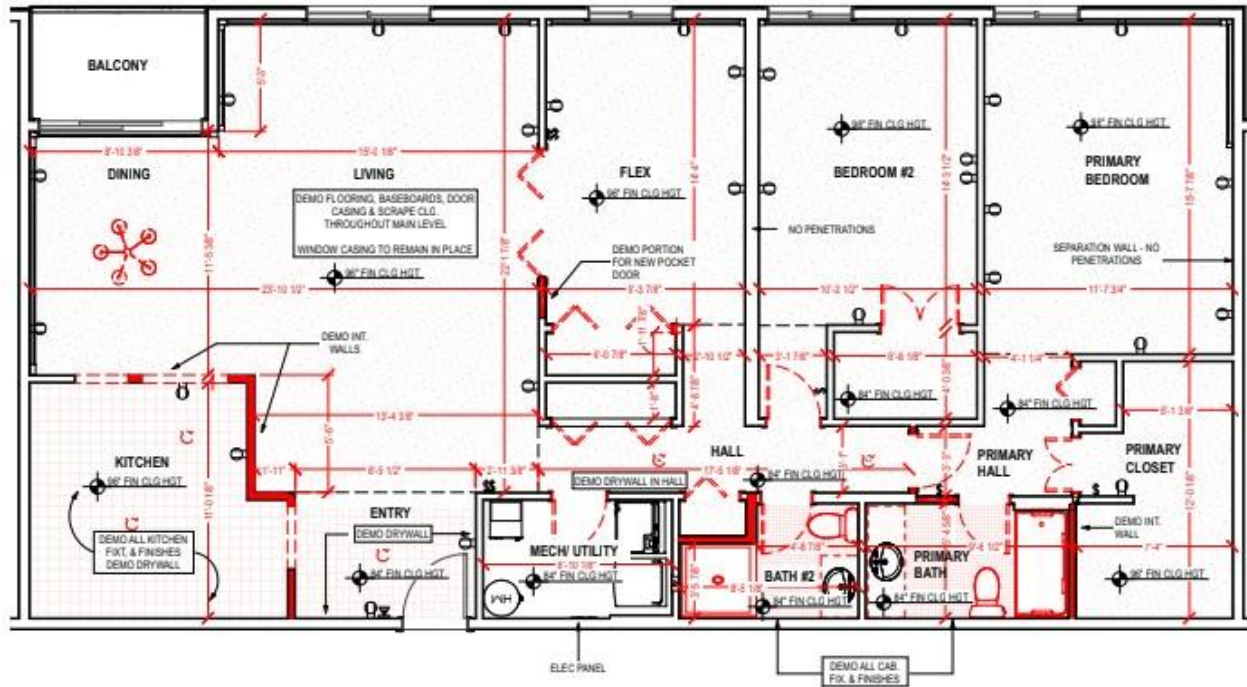
Now, for the exciting part - the first reveal!

Listening is a central part of what makes a remodeling project come alive. **For our clients, feeling heard and validated holds power.** Seeing what's possible for your own home are golden moments.

The concepts that drew them in were ones with curved, open layout to the kitchen, zero-threshold shower, organized storage, flexible uses, and strong focal point elements.



Floor Plans - Existing: Condo Layout



MAIN LEVEL DEMO PLAN
1/4" = 1' 0"

After more listening sessions and refinements, the final floor plan was determined.

With a focus on daily living and budget, demolition took out barriers, removed limiting bathroom fixtures, existing floor coverings, and changed doorways.

Original Main Level Floor Plan
With Demo Notations

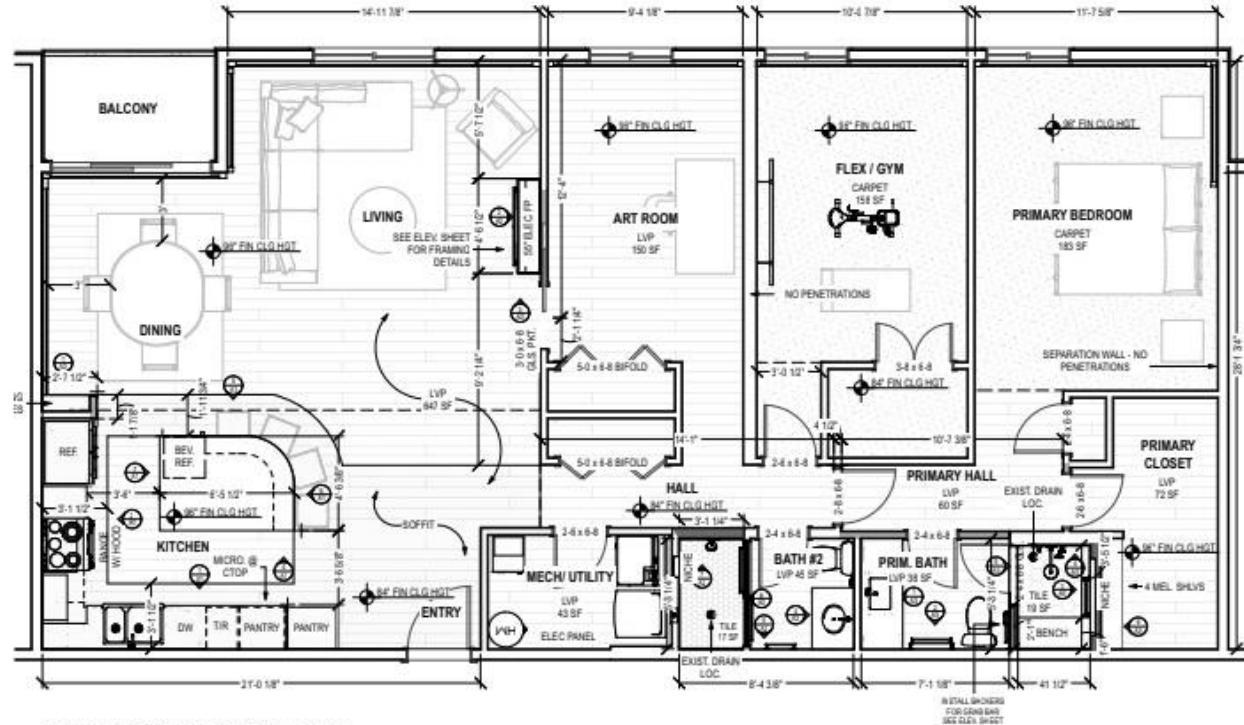
Floor Plans - New: Condo Layout

New Floor Plan Main Level

The new floor plan stays in tune to open spaces for easy movement and observation, interaction with guests, and flexible uses.

The remodel also considers organizational advantages and low-maintenance materials.

Bathrooms, closets, flex rooms, and cabinetry were key changes to enhance daily living and guest experiences.



MAIN LEVEL REMODEL PLAN

1/4" = 1' 0"

Presenting Concepts to the Clients



Inspired Living! Artistic Impressions! Heightened Personal Style!

Going from mundane to magnificent, this condominium transformation is like no other. It takes aging in place to another level - even with a restrictive building limitations.



Solution - Joyful & Connected Kitchen

- Open & Connected
- Artistic & Engaging
- Sweet Place To Cook
- Cohesive



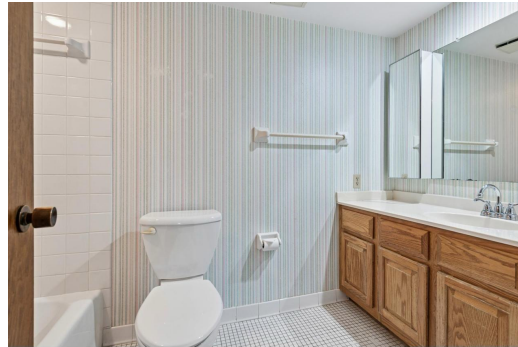
Before



Solution - Beautiful Easy-To-Care Spaces



- Aging in place doesn't need to be boring.
- Roll-in shower with seating and gorgeous grab bars elevate the experience of hygiene care for another person.
- Durable surfaces make cleaning easy.



Before



Solution - Personalized Areas of Interest

- No more bland walls
- Built-in shelving, unique lighting, rich colors, and unique wall coverings bring an art show quality to their new home.



Before



Solution - Designed to be Flexible for Life



- Wide pathways for ease as mobility becomes limited
- Defined zones for variety
- Clear sight lines to observe activity when needed
- Flexible to easily accommodate large family for celebrations with adjoining office/art room and workout/spare bedroom.

Before



Solution - Safe Forever Home



- Our homeowners now have a sense of calm in their new condominium home.
- Safe surfaces and travel routes throughout
- Personalized to bring joy and contentment

Obstacles - Building Restrictions

Condominiums inherently have restrictions since you don't have the option to build on or change windows and outside doors. Built in 1980, this condominium was solid structurally, but we still **needed to make mechanical changes** for the bathroom, kitchen, and fireplace. This **required working around concrete and existing runs**.

Another restriction was **respecting the building neighbors**. This was a critical concern for our clients who hadn't even met their new neighbors. We needed to **carefully plan our daily work schedule** to reduce disruptions for noise, minimize elevator use, and meet our supply delivery drivers. Thankfully, the neighbors got to know us as being thoughtful and respectful - and in the end were very curious about what we had done. Our **clients had an open house for neighbors** to show off the remodel.



Obstacles - Timeline & Budget



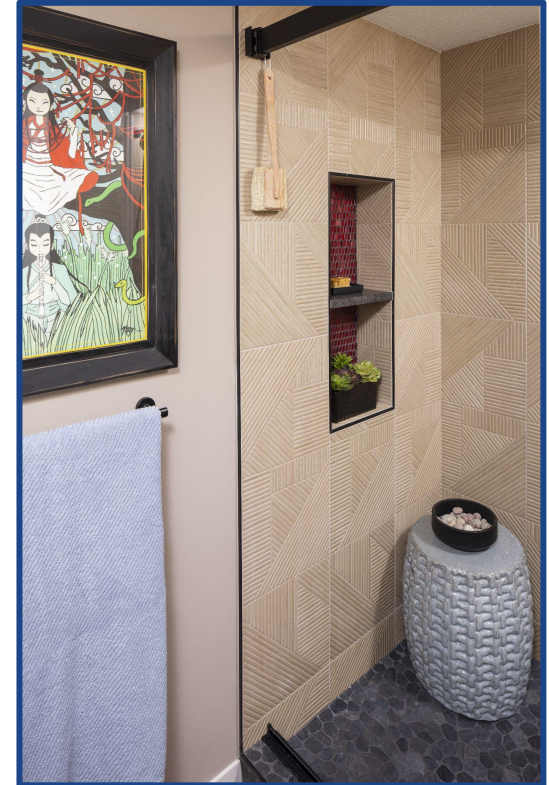
From the start, our clients had substantial concerns about what a remodel was going to **cost and the length** of time the design + build process was going to take.

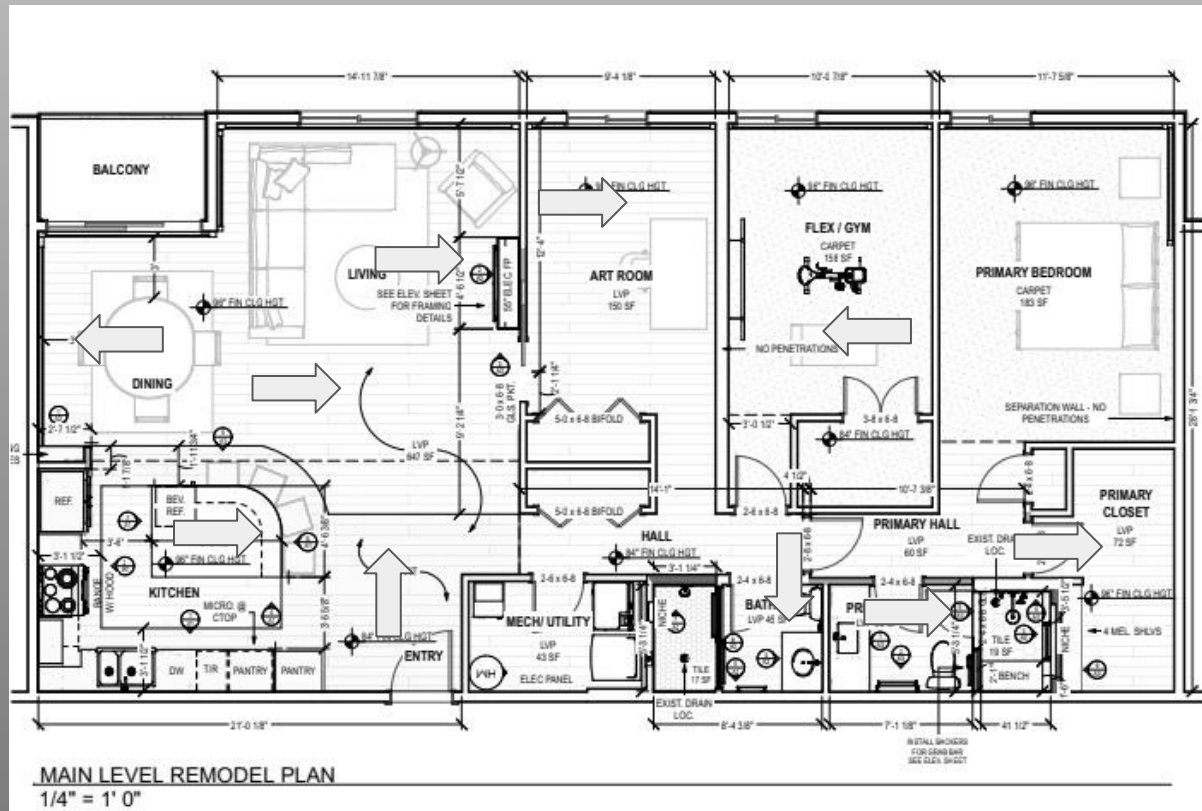
Concerns:

- Not being able to live in new condo during design and construction phases
- **Paying 2 monthly bills** for housing
- Controlling budget to accomplish goals

Resolutions:

- **Built trust** in the collaborative process to acknowledge the importance of lasting enjoyment and safety
- **Long-term benefits outweighed the short-term** overlaps
- Higher than anticipated cost accepted based on the client values on design, selections, and **forever home goals**
- Excitement of the personal features included like the **Asian-inspired guest bathroom** (pictured)
- **Compressed build schedule** by getting selection decisions done ahead of time





10 Key Areas - Going Clockwise

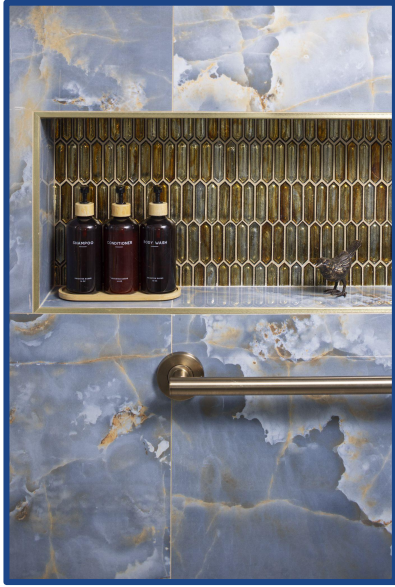
1. Dining room wallcovering, shelving, and lighting
2. Focal point fireplace and art frame TV in living room
3. Smooth luxury vinyl flooring and wide traffic patterns throughout main areas to reduce falls
4. Art room/office/sitting area flex space with pocket door and storage
5. Gym/flex room for required exercise to maintain strength and balance plus for overnight guests
6. Organized primary closet for shoe collection and accessibility
7. Aging-in-place primary bathroom for easy hygiene care
8. Asian-infused guest bath to honor daughter's adoption
9. Flexible space to adapt from cozy living for 2 to hosting large family gatherings
10. Joyful kitchen with curves, colorful oven hood, dramatic lights

Client Satisfaction -Pragmatic Details



- Organization - thoughtful storage solutions so everything has a home in cabinets & closets
- Flexible spaces like the office/art studio/sitting area and workout room/guest room
- Easy-to-clean countertops, flooring, bathrooms, backsplashes, and hardware

Client Satisfaction - Artistic Details



- Not your grandparents' condo!
- Dynamic tile, hardware, wallcoverings, lighting, soffits and shelving
- Cohesive colors, cabinetry and flooring
- Homeowners are so thankful they were patient because the finished results are extraordinary - just like they wanted it to be - their OWN home, safe and comfortable.

Homeowner's Experience & Story In Their Words

EXPERIENCE

"I had specific priorities for the remodel: budget, aesthetics, functionality (particularly for my husband), and ease of maintenance/cleaning.

"Your team was extremely conscientious and respectful of the neighbors and making sure common areas were kept clean. I had nothing but glowing reports about them from my neighbors.

"Overall, the process was a bit more expensive than I had anticipated, but that was all on me. Your company was very thorough about accurately budgeting the cost of everything and advising me of the financial impact of various decisions, etc."

END RESULT

"Best of all, from my perspective the end result is truly beautiful and extremely functional. My husband can get around our unit easily without tripping/falling hazards and our bathrooms were designed to incorporate grab bars, etc., that blend in with the overall decor. Cleaning our unit is a breeze and there is a logical home for everything. As someone who loves to cook - my new kitchen layout and appliances are a dream to work with.

"Since we love our space and have more room than in our previous apartment, we've done a lot of entertaining since we moved in. We recently had a larger party and afterward, I received this note from a guest that I'd like to share:

'Your home is gorgeous - so fun to see all your splendid choices! It's genuinely a work of art that surrounds everyone with beauty, comfort, and exquisite utility - absolutely love it!!' "





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