In 2018 Interface, a modular flooring company opened its headquarters in Midtown Atlanta’s Arts District to create a more collaborative and inspiring workspace with a commitment to sustainability for their staff and customers. While Interface is a small project, it addresses how to redevelop a vacant, under-utilized building in the fabric of one of Atlanta’s major urban cores with almost 90% of the interior and exterior materials being diverted or recycled.

The building’s design highlights health and wellness with features that include natural light through exterior features, open staircase to encourage movement, robust water and air filtration systems. To ensure relevance into the future, the design is adaptable and changeable, including movable furniture, flexible seating, and modular flooring. The zero-lot-line conditions and narrow sidewalks restricted street landscaping opportunities so the design team sought other solutions. A more active street presence was designed by including seating walls, bicycle parking and an iconic monumental sign for “selfie” moments. The building’s dedicated greenspace was addressed on the rooftop terrace by installing a green roof with large planters, incorporating elements of nature into the overall building design.

The collective and creative effort of the entire development team helped to breathe new life into an existing urban-core structure, focus on sustainability, and reduce the building’s carbon footprint. Interface’s design has created an example of what can be accomplished with an unassuming Class B office space into something quite remarkable.