

Meeting: 10/18/2023
Project: Sunsphere Visitor Center
Applicant: Kathryn Greer McCarty Holsaple McCarty

Property Information

Location: 810 Clinch Ave. **Parcel ID** 94 M C 006
Zoning: DK (Downtown Knoxville)
Description:

c.1982 monument to the 1982 World's Fair, featuring six double steel truss columns supporting a seven-story glass sphere.

Description of Work

Level II Addition to an Existing Building/Structure

Exterior rehabilitation and new addition to the Sunsphere. New entry canopy over third-level entry stairs, to feature a steel canopy structure with a transparent roof system and extend to the northeast away from the Sunsphere base. New metal canopy to wrap around walkway on the third level.

New addition at the third level of the Sunsphere's base, projecting to the southwest. The addition will project outward from the base, featuring a flat roof with rooftop solar panels, an exterior of metal wall panels, and a full-light storefront window system facing southwest. To accommodate the new addition and the new canopy, the metal roof and guardrail on the third level will be removed.

A new mural will be painted on the existing CMU cladding on the second and third levels. New signage will be submitted separately.

Applicable Design Guidelines

Downtown Design Guidelines

B. PRIVATE REALM

- 1a. Maintain a pedestrian-scaled environment from block to block.
- 1c. Use building materials, cornice lines, signs, and awnings of a human scale in order to reduce the mass of buildings as experienced at the street level.
- 1d. Divide larger buildings into 'modules' that are similar in scale to traditional downtown buildings. Buildings should be designed with a recognizable base, middle, and top on all exposed elevations.
- 1e. Avoid blank walls along street-facing elevations.

3. BUILDING MATERIALS

- 3a. Use complimentary materials and elements, especially next to historic buildings.

4. ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER

- 4a. Encourage first floor uses that draw walk-in traffic; businesses that do not require pedestrian traffic should be located on other floors.
- 4b. Enhance pedestrian interest in commercial and office buildings by creating a largely transparent and consistent rhythm of entrances and windows.
- 4c. Scale first floor signs to pedestrians.
- 4d. Differentiate the architectural features of ground floors from upper floors with traditional considerations such as show-windows, transoms, friezes, and sign boards.
- 4e. Design top floors to enhance the skyline of the block through cornices and details that are harmonious with adjacent architecture.
- 4f. Encourage the use of 'green roofs' and other sustainable practices, while minimizing the visual impact from the street.

5. GROUND FLOOR DOORS AND WINDOWS

- 5a. Use consistent rhythm of openings, windows, doorways, and entries.
- 5b. Orient primary front entrances to the main street; secondary entrances should be clearly defined and oriented to streets or alleys, as appropriate.
- 5c. Design entrances according to the proportions of the building's height and width.
- 5d. Consider corner entrances at the ends of blocks.
- 5e. All windows at the pedestrian level should be clear
- 5f. Recess ground floor window frames and doors from the exterior building face to provide depth to the façade

Comments

While the design guidelines are more easily applied to buildings and public improvements such as streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities than a structure such as the Sunsphere, the proposal meets the intent of the design guidelines. The addition will be located at the base of the steel truss structure, close to ground-level, and will not detract from the existing architectural design or shape of the Sunsphere. The addition is modest in size and the proposed metal and glass materials are compatible with the existing structure. New metal canopies will replace the existing metal canopies. The proposal also meets the guidelines by creating easier and more clear pedestrian access to the Sunsphere.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of Certificate 10-C-23-DT as submitted.





DESIGN REVIEW REQUEST

- ☐ DOWNTOWN DESIGN (DK)
- ☐ HISTORIC ZONING (H)
- ☐ INFILL HOUSING (IH)

Applicant

Date Filed Meeting Date (if applicable) File Number(s)

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence related to this application should be directed to the approved contact listed below.

- ☐ Owner
- ☐ Contractor
- ☐ Engineer
- ☐ Architect/Landscape Architect

Name Company

Address City State Zip

Phone Email

CURRENT PROPERTY INFO

Owner Name (if different from applicant) Owner Address Owner Phone

Property Address Parcel ID

Neighborhood Zoning

AUTHORIZATION

Lindsay Crockett
Staff Signature Please Print Date

Applicant Signature Please Print Date

REQUEST

DOWNTOWN DESIGN

Level 1:

- ☐ Signs ☐ Alteration of an existing building/structure

Level 2:

- ☐ Addition to an existing building/structure

Level 3:

- ☐ Construction of new building/structure ☐ Site design, parking, plazas, landscape

See required Downtown Design attachment for more details.

☐ Brief description of work: _____

HISTORIC ZONING

Level 1:

- ☐ Signs ☐ Routine repair of siding, windows, roof, or other features, in-kind; Installation of gutters, storm windows/doors

Level 2:

- ☐ Major repair, removal, or replacement of architectural elements or materials ☐ Additions and accessory structures

Level 3:

- ☐ Construction of a new primary building

Level 4:

- ☐ Relocation of a contributing structure ☐ Demolition of a contributing structure

See required Historic Zoning attachment for more details.

☐ Brief description of work: _____

INFILL HOUSING

Level 1:

- ☐ Driveways, parking pads, access point, garages or similar facilities ☐ Subdivisions

Level 2:

- ☐ Additions visible from the primary street ☐ Changes to porches visible from the primary street

Level 3:

- ☐ New primary structure
☐ Site built ☐ Modular ☐ Multi-Sectional

See required Infill Housing attachment for more details.

☐ Brief description of work: _____

STAFF USE ONLY

ATTACHMENTS

- ☐ Downtown Design Checklist
☐ Historic Zoning Design Checklist
☐ Infill Housing Design Checklist

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Property Owners / Option Holders

Level 1: \$50 • Level 2: \$100 • Level 3: \$250 • Level 4: \$500

FEE 1:	TOTAL:
FEE 2:	
FEE 3:	

An aerial photograph of downtown Knoxville, Tennessee. In the foreground on the left is the large, golden, geodesic dome of the Sunsphere. The background shows a dense urban landscape with various buildings, green spaces, and a river. The sky is clear and blue.

SUNSPHERE VISITOR CENTER

Downtown Design Review Board
29 September 2023



McCARTY HOLSAPLE McCARTY

PHOTOS EXISTING

LEGEND / KEY NOTES

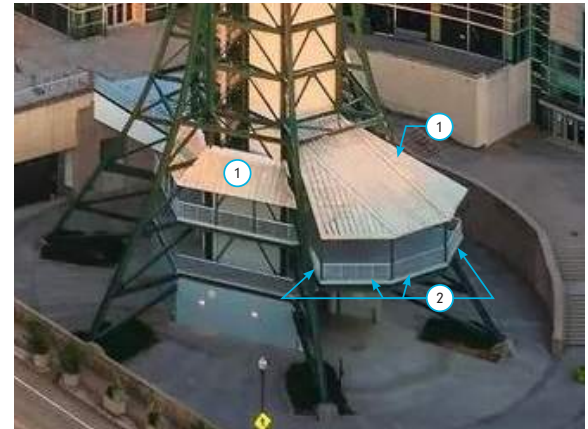
- ① REMOVE METAL ROOF & SUPPLEMENTAL NON-PRIMARY STRUCTURE AT LEVEL 3
- ② REMOVE GUARDRAIL AT LEVEL 3 OVERLOOK



VIEW FROM LEVEL 3 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE



VIEW FROM CONVENTION CENTER PLAZA



AERIAL VIEW FROM NORTHWEST

RENDERING
EXTERIOR



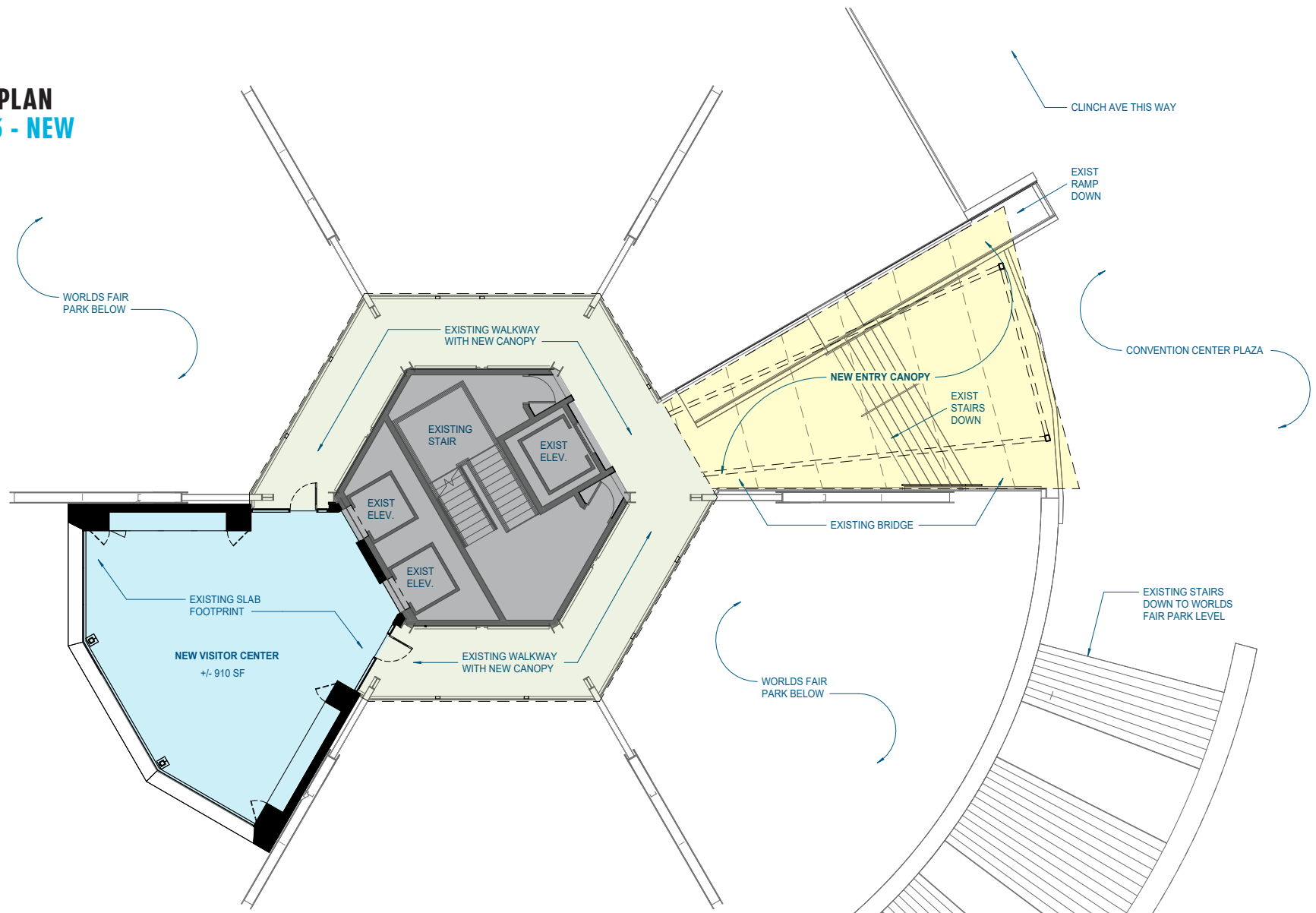
RENDERING
INTERIOR



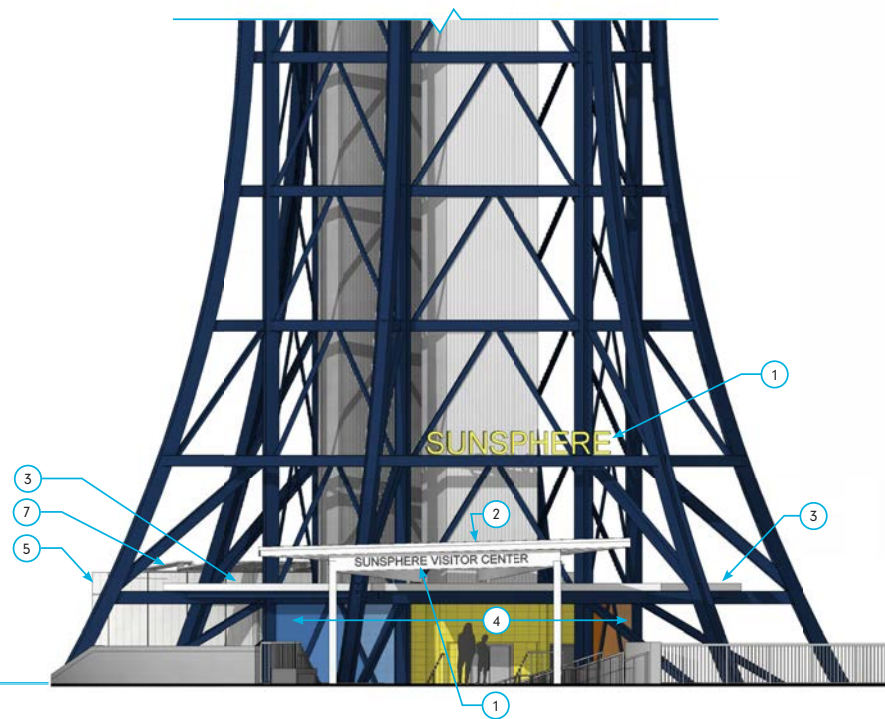
MHM

VISIT
KNOXVILLE
TENNESSEE

FLOOR PLAN LEVEL 3 - NEW



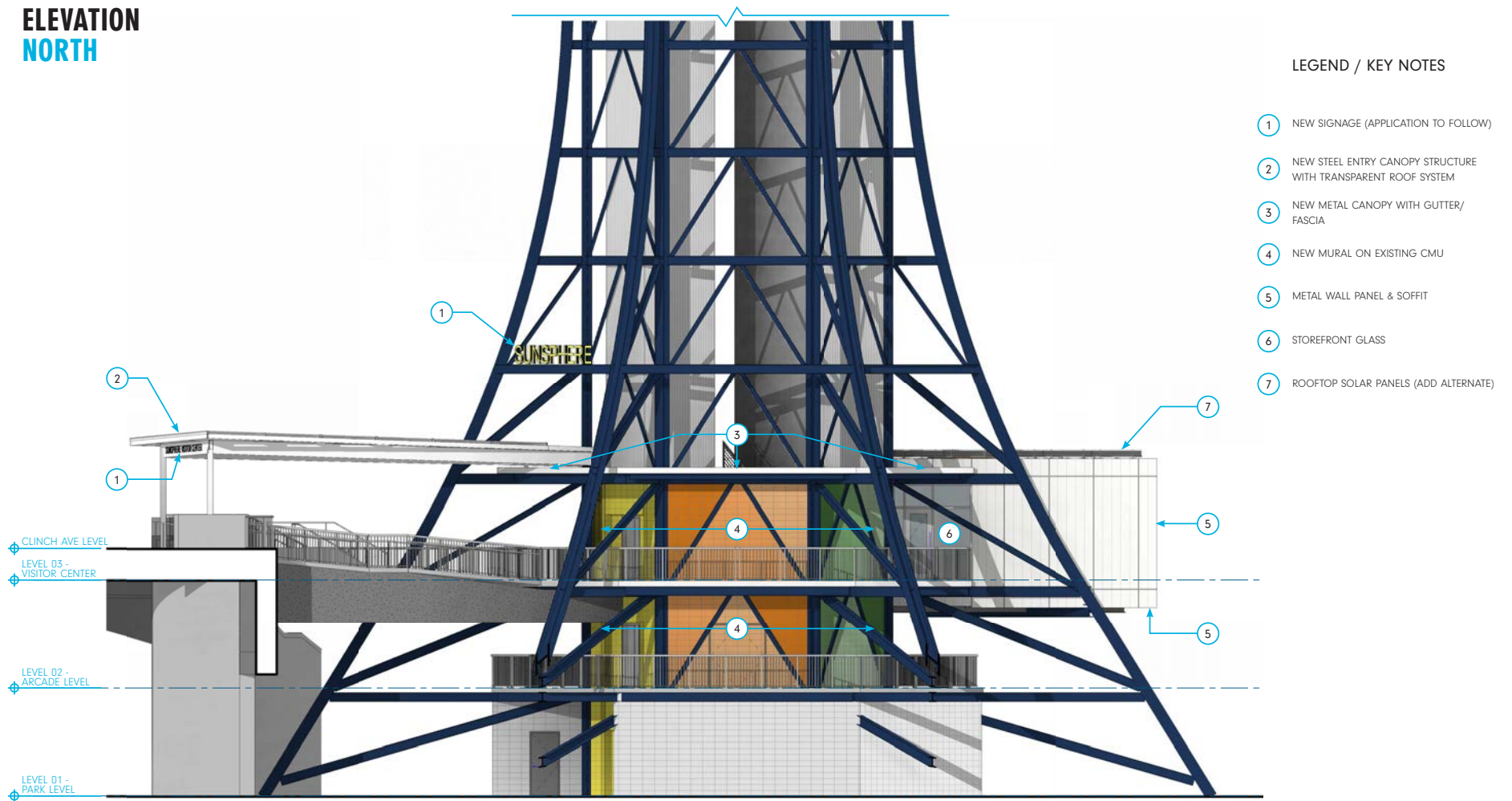
ELEVATION EAST



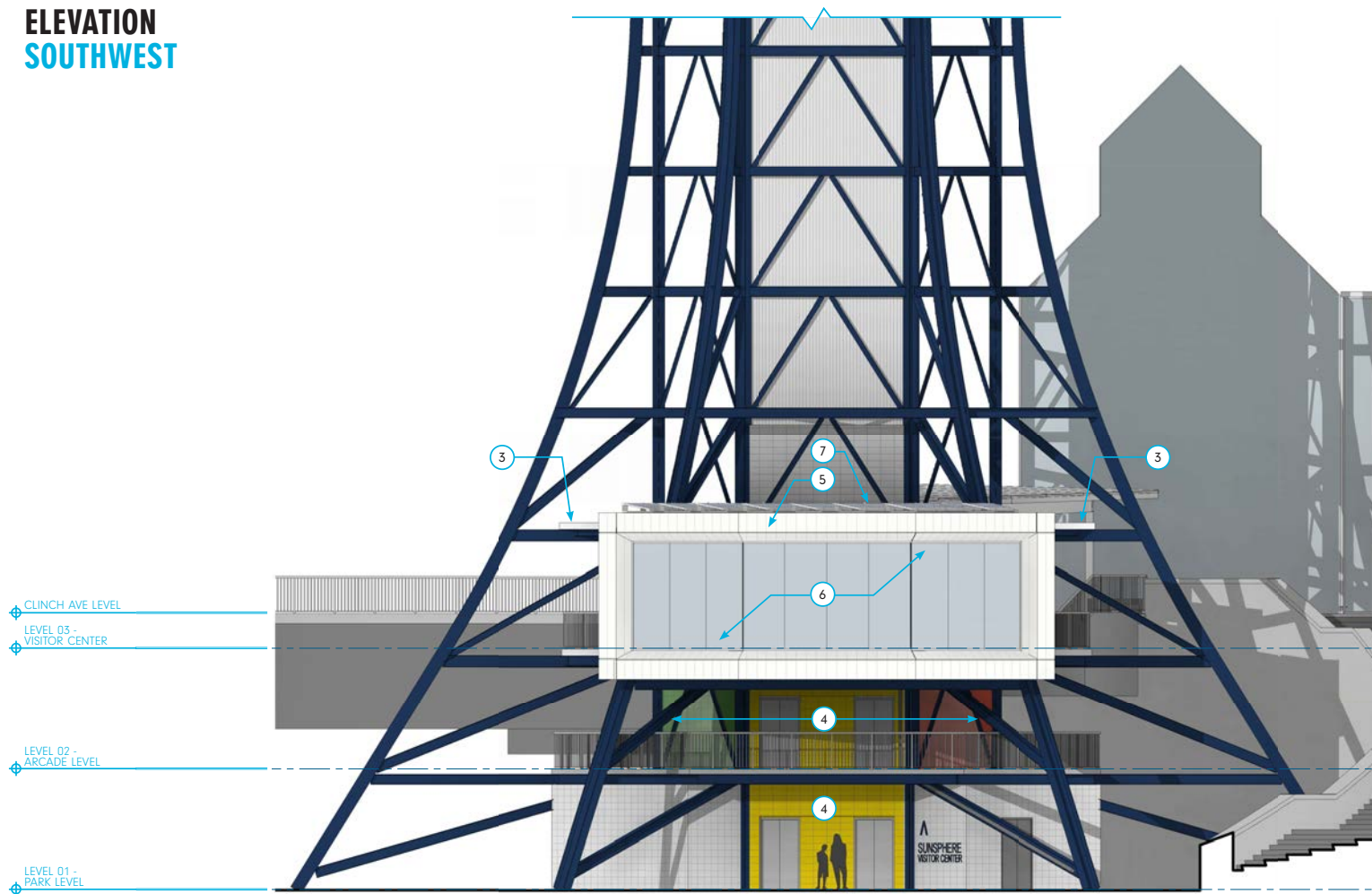
LEGEND / KEY NOTES

- ① NEW SIGNAGE (APPLICATION TO FOLLOW)
- ② NEW STEEL ENTRY CANOPY STRUCTURE WITH TRANSPARENT ROOF SYSTEM
- ③ NEW METAL CANOPY WITH GUTTER/ FASCIA
- ④ NEW MURAL ON EXISTING CMU
- ⑤ METAL WALL PANEL & SOFFIT
- ⑥ STOREFRONT GLASS
- ⑦ ROOFTOP SOLAR PANELS (ADD ALTERNATE)

ELEVATION NORTH



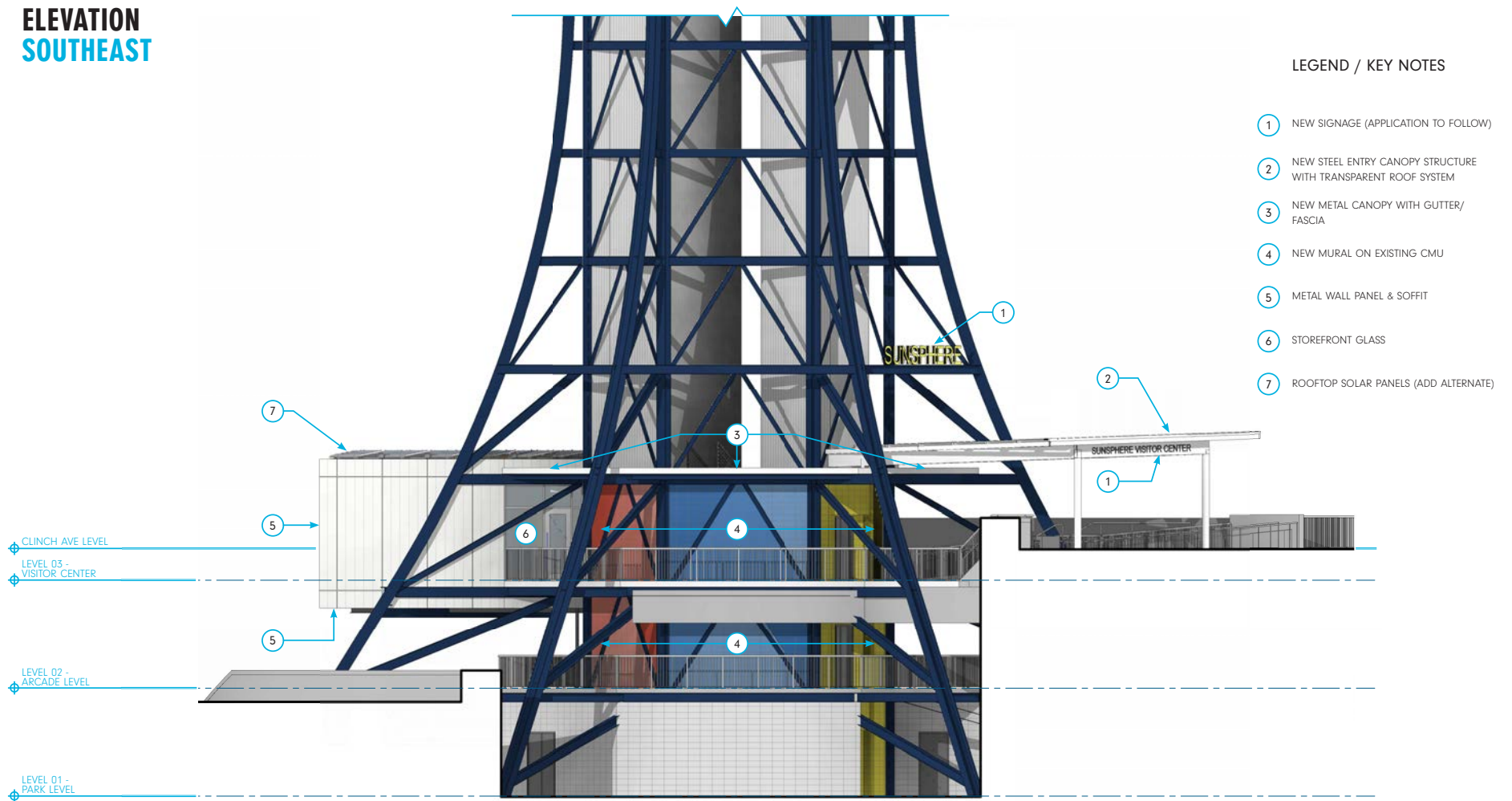
ELEVATION SOUTHWEST



LEGEND / KEY NOTES

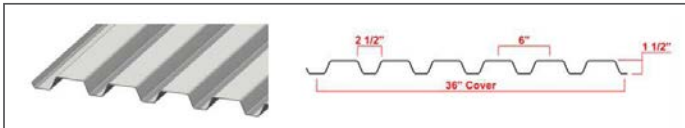
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- 6 STOREFRONT GLASS
- 7 ROOFTOP SOLAR PANELS (ADD ALTERNATE)

ELEVATION SOUTHEAST






CUT SHEETS METAL CANOPY & GUTTER/FASCIA

TYPE B STEEL DECK



GALVANIZED G-90, SHOP PRIMED, & PAINTED

B Deck Finishes:

 <p>Galvanized G-60 zinc coated steel is the standard in the deck industry.</p>	 <p>Galvanized G-90 is typically specified for exterior applications or project specific needs.</p>	 <p>PTD or primer painted is an impermanent, provisional coating and is gray on top and bottom.</p>
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CUT SHEETS

METAL WALL PANEL & SOFFIT

FLUSH WALL PANELS

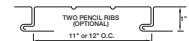
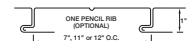
MATERIALS

.032 aluminum 24 gauge steel
.040 aluminum* 22 gauge steel*

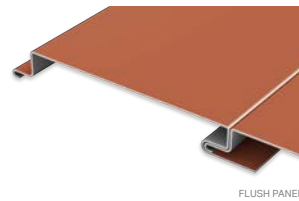
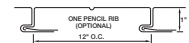
SPECS

7", 11" or 12" O.C. 1" High

FLUSH PANEL



FLUSH PANEL W/ CLIP (OPTIONAL)



FLUSH PANEL



FLUSH PANEL W / CLIP (OPTIONAL)**

PRODUCT FEATURES

- ▶ Leveled for fitness
- ▶ Available with up to two pencil ribs
- ▶ Rounded interlock leg provides improved flush fit
- ▶ 30-year non-prorated finish warranty
- ▶ Panel lengths from 4' to 25'

MATERIAL

- ▶ 43 stocked colors (24 gauge steel)
- ▶ 16 Stocked colors (22 gauge steel)
- ▶ 36 stocked colors (.032 aluminum)
- ▶ 22 stocked colors (.040 aluminum)
- ▶ Galvalume Plus available

ASTM TESTS - FLUSH

- ▶ ASTM E330 tested - 12" only
- ▶ ASTM 1592
- ▶ ASTM E283
- ▶ ASTM E331
- ▶ AAMA 501.1-05

FLORIDA BUILDING PRODUCT APPROVALS

Please refer to pac-clad.com or your local factory for specific product approval numbers for Flush panels.

*Limited color availability. 12" O.C. has reduced fastening flange. A complete specification is available online at pac-clad.com.

**Clip is available only on 12" panels.



800 PAC CLAD | PAC-CLAD.COM

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REVEAL WALL PANELS

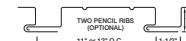
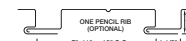
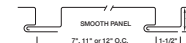
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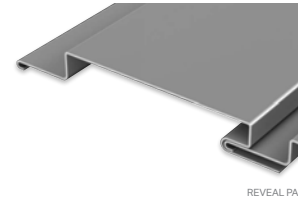
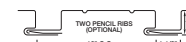
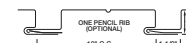
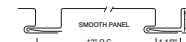
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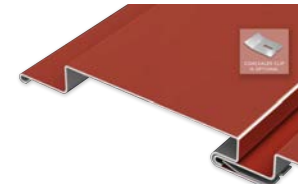
REVEAL PANEL



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COLOR SELECTION



BONE WHITE

EXAMPLE PROJECT



CUT SHEETS STOREFRONT GLASS

6

32
Trifab® VersaGlaze® 451/451T Framing System
JANUARY, 2023
BASIC FRAMING DETAILS (FRONT - Inside Glazed - Stops Down)
EC 97911-281
Additional information and CAD details are available at www.kawneer.com

ELEVATION IS NUMBER KEYED TO DETAILS

NUMBERS IN BRACKETS ARE THERMALLY BROKEN MEMBERS

SCREW SPLINE

SHEAR BLOCK

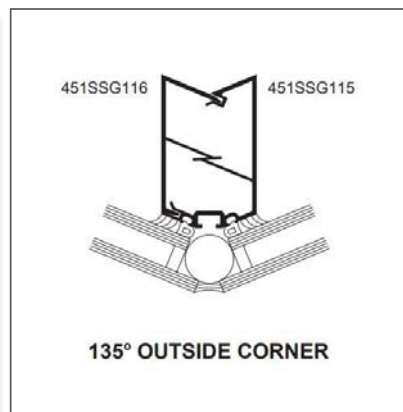
STICK

* HP Sill Flashing shown with optional gasket.

* HP Sill Flashing shown with optional gasket.

ADMCD40EN

kawneer.com



Building Legacies

KAWNEER ANODIZED FINISHES

Kawneer gives you a wide variety of anodized finishes with attractive alternatives. The benefit of a durable, anodized finish is married to the beauty of some very dynamic and exciting colors.

At the start of every design, there's a choice of how you want to finish. Contact your Kawneer sales rep for the information on these and other finishes available from Kawneer.

	KAWNEER FINISH NO.	COLOR	ALUMINUM ASSOCIATION SPECIFICATION	OTHER COMMENTS
	#14	CLEAR	AA-M10C21A41	Architectural Class I (0.7 mils minimum)
	#17	CLEAR	AA-M10C21A31	Architectural Class II (0.4 mils minimum)
	#40	DARK BRONZE	AA-M10C21A44	Architectural Class I (0.7 mils minimum)
	#29	BLACK	AA-M10C21A44	Architectural Class I (0.7 mils minimum)

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Technology Park/Atlanta
555 Guthridge Court
Norcross, GA 30092

770.449.5555 TEL

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