

# **Fremont Urban Apartments**

Recommendation Meeting 3623 Fremont Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103



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## PROJECT INFORMATION

Address: 3623 Fremont Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103

**SDCI Project Number:** 3024574

**Legal Description:** LOT 7, BLOCK 11, DENNY & HOYT'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SEATTLE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 2 OF PLATS,

PAGE 136, RECORDS OF KING COUNTY, WA.

Parcel #: 1972201050

Site Area: 3,357 sf

Zoning: LR3

Overlays: Fremont Hub Urban Village

Misc: Detached ADU's, Frequent Transit, Infiltration Evaluation Not Req'd

ECA: None

Existing Use: Existing Building & Garage

**Max FAR:** Apartments:  $2.0 (3,357 \times 2.0 = 6,714sf)$ 

Max Density: Apartments: No Limit

Height: 44' Above AGP Allowed/Provided (5-Stories Including Partially Below Grade Level

Meeting SMC Exemption per Use/Zone)

Project Team:

Owner: Claremont Partners LLC
Architect: Lemons Architecture PLLC

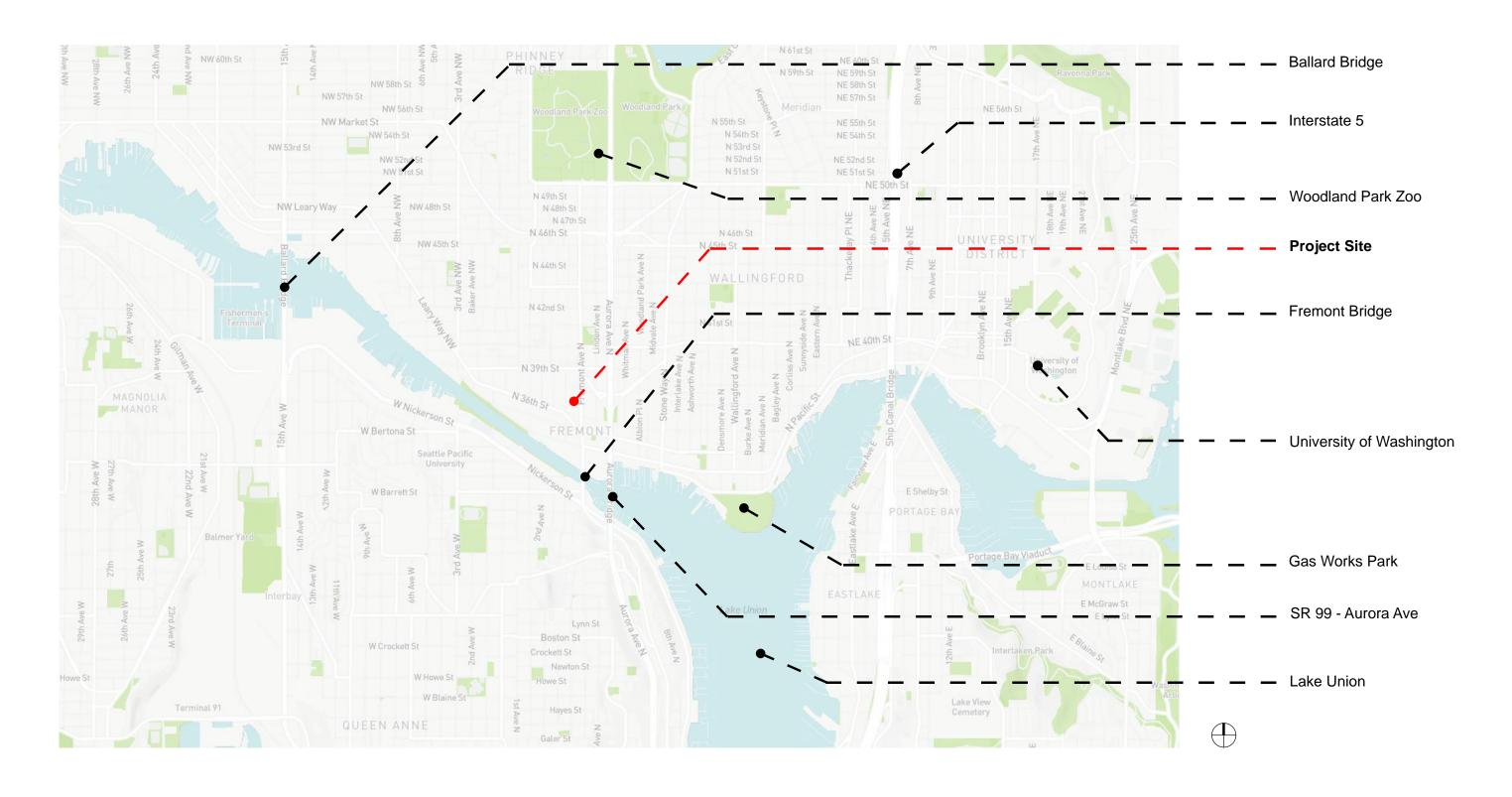
Landscape Architect: Roof of Design

Structural Engineer: Malsam Tsang Structural Engineering

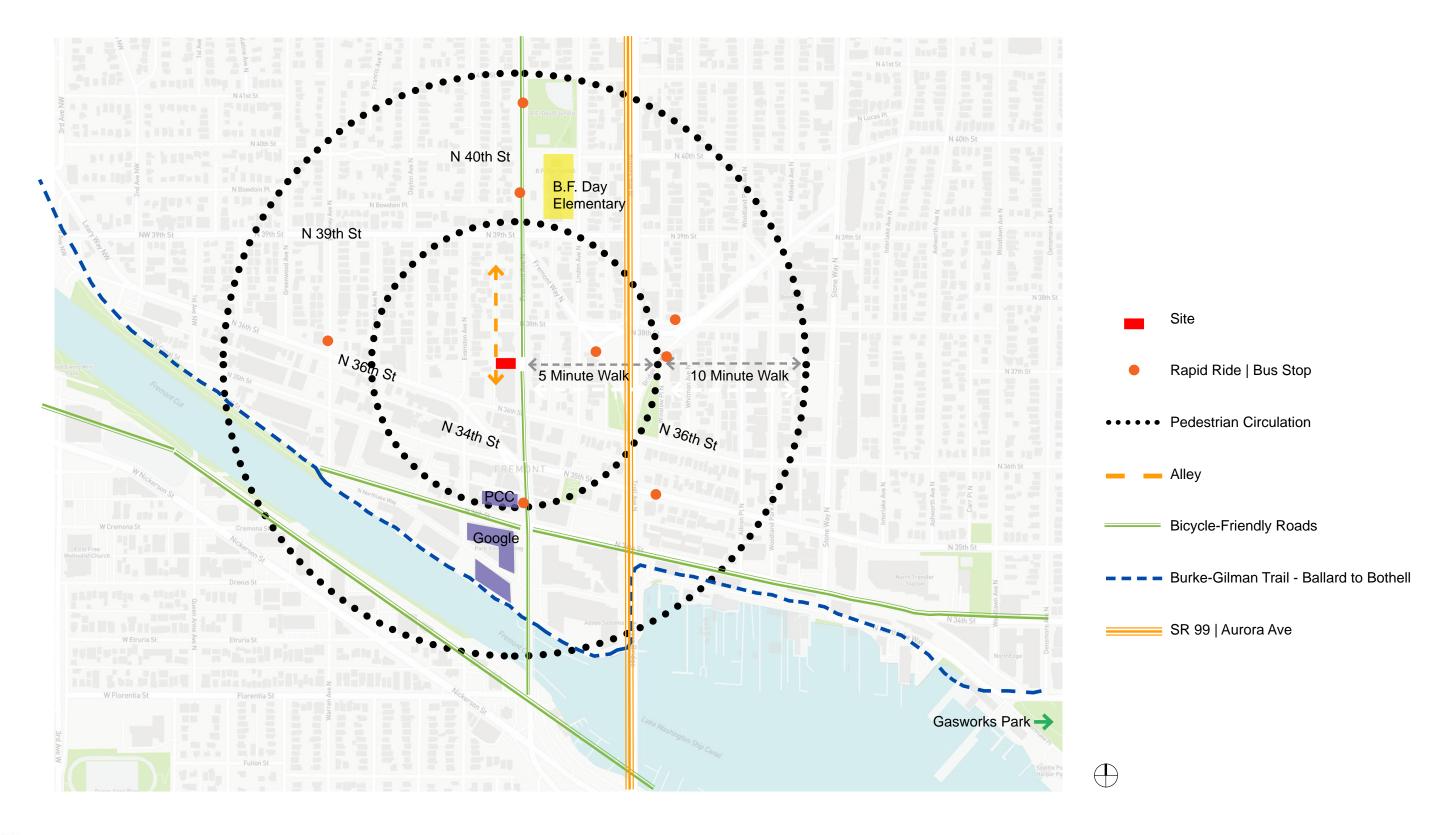
Civil Engineer: Davido Consulting Group

**Surveyor:** Chadwick & Winters Land Surveying





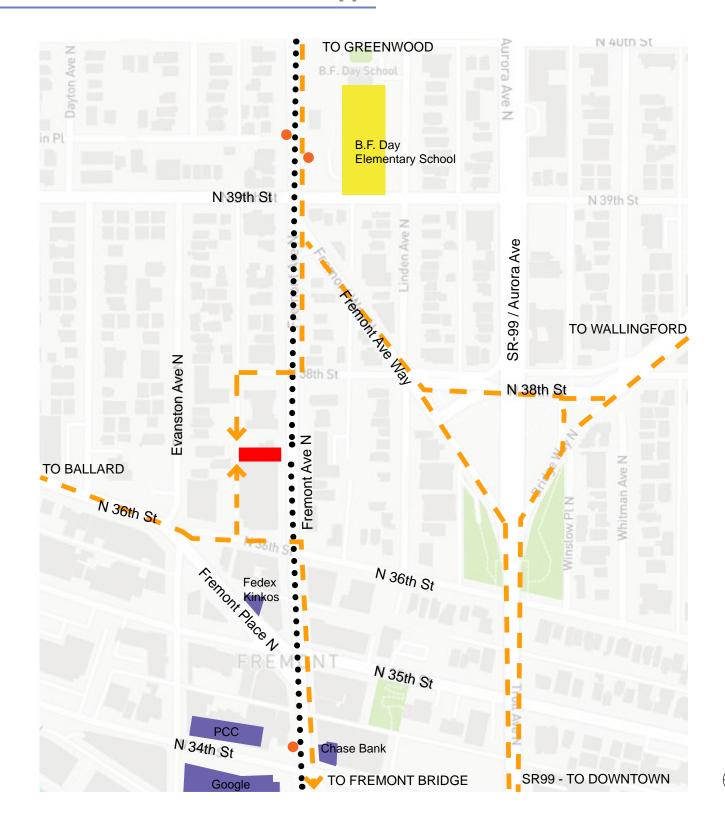


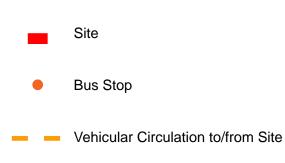




**Design Recommendation** 

## CONTEXT ANALYSIS - TRANSIT NETWORK

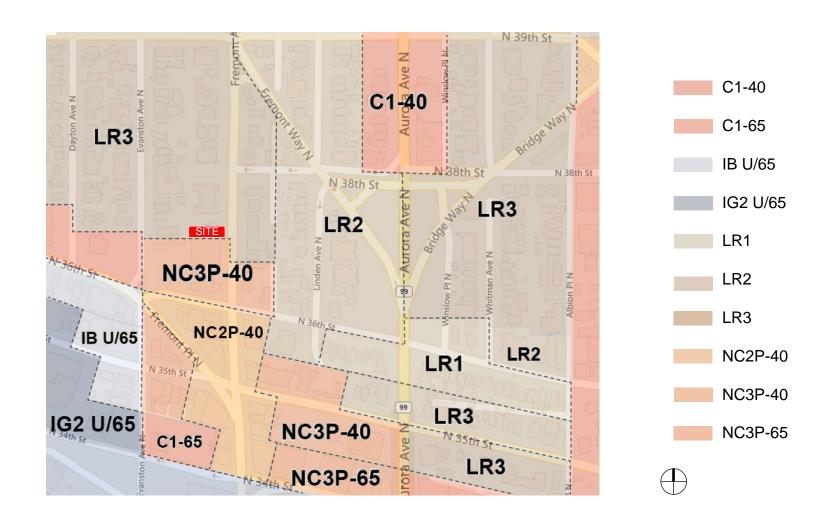




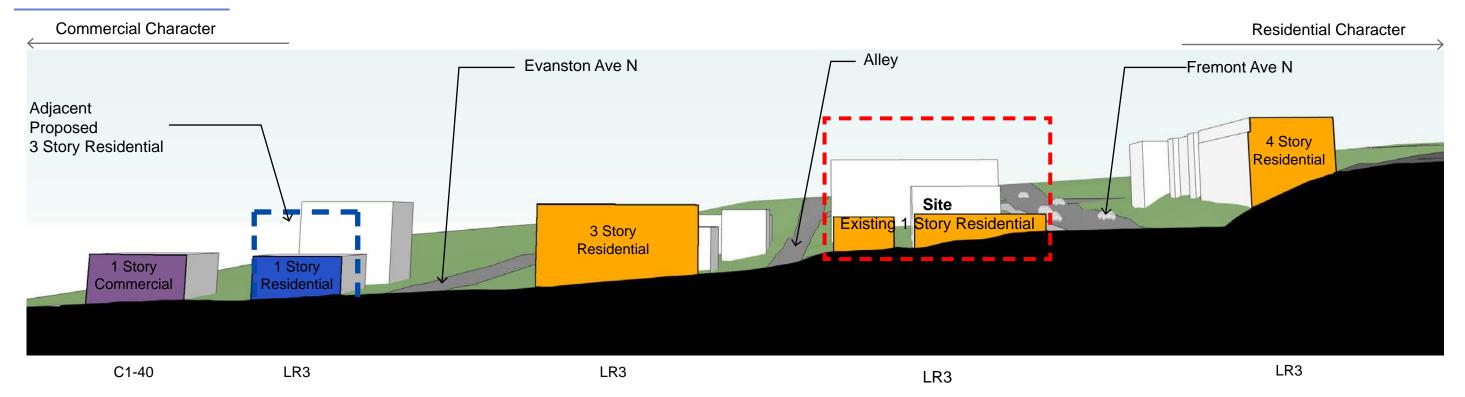
• • • Pedestrian Circulation

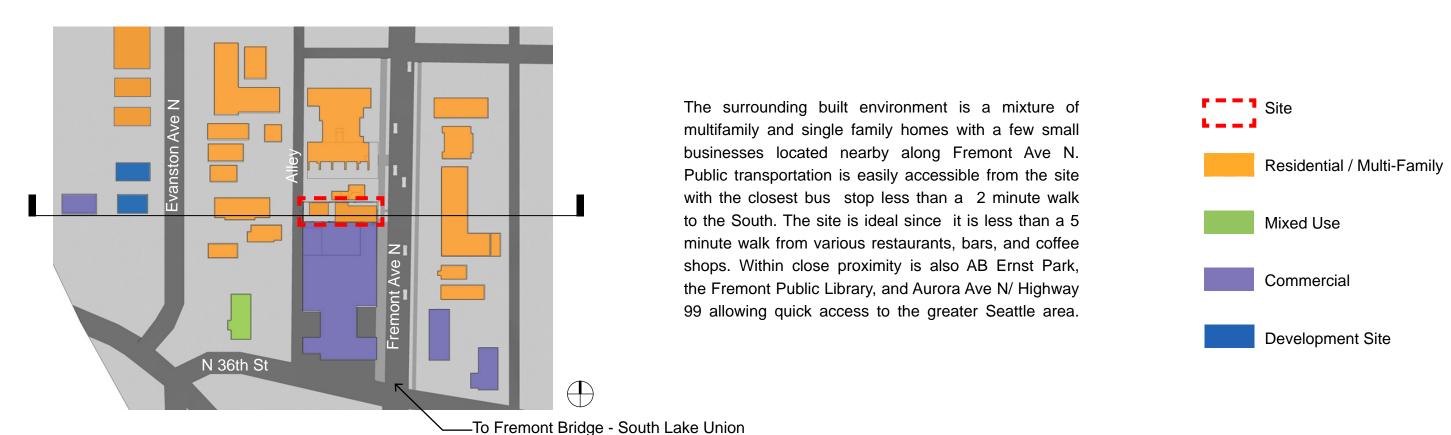


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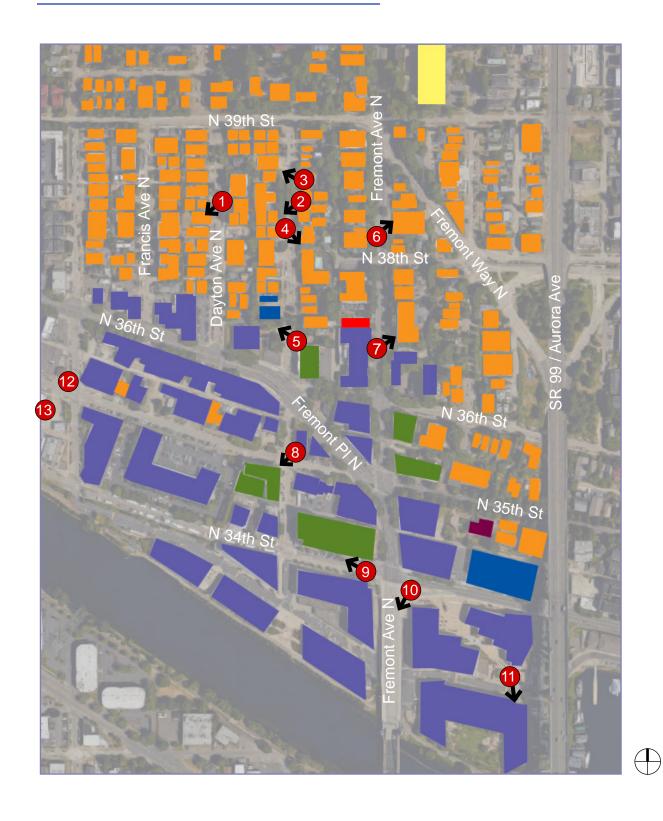


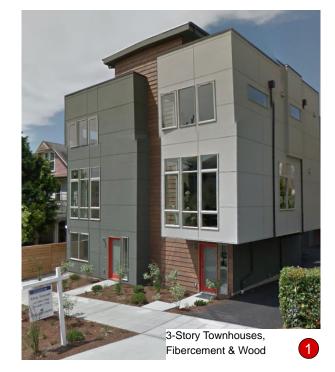




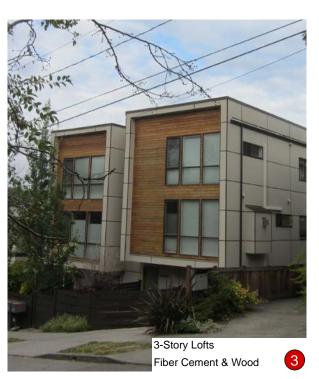


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Site

Mixed Use

Commercial

Institutional

Library

Development Site

Residential / Multi-Family





















Fremont **Urban Apartments** 3623 Fremont Ave N SDCI #:3024574



- 1 Statue of Lenin (0.1 mile)
- 2 The Rocket (0.2 mile)
- 3 Fremont Sunday Market (0.2 mile)
- 4 Fremont Canal Park (0.5 mile)
- 5 Fremont Troll (0.2 mile)
- 6 Seattle Public Library Fremont (0.2 mile)
- Waiting for the Interurban (0.2 mile)
- 8 Gasworks Park (1.0 mile)
- 9 Fremont Abbey Arts Center (0.5 mile)









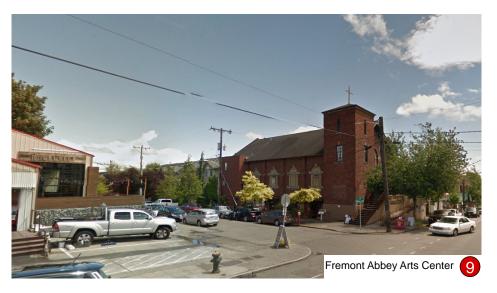






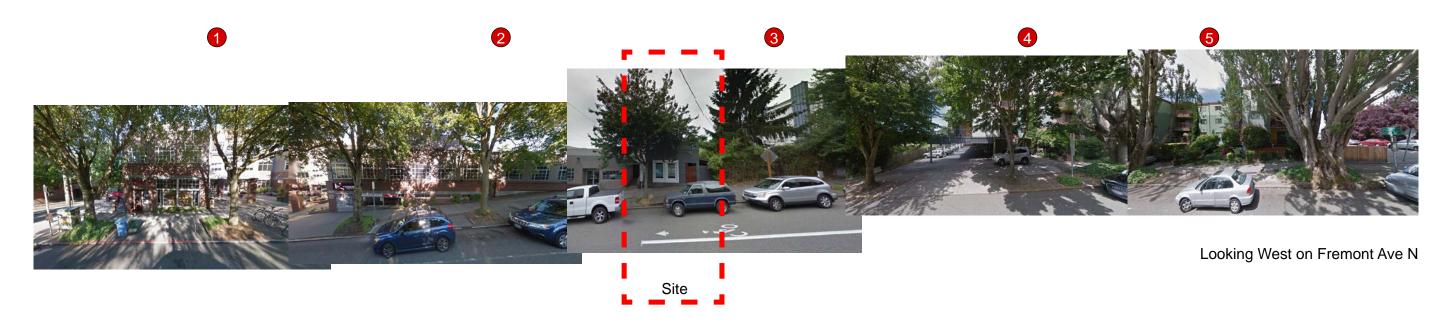


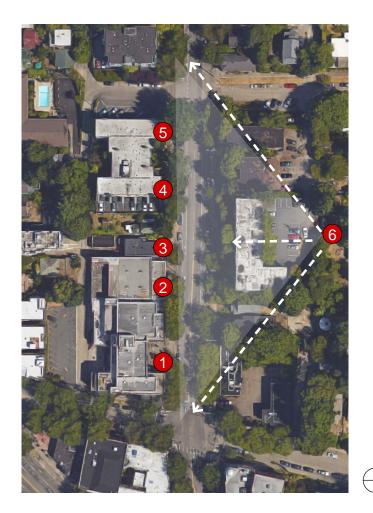


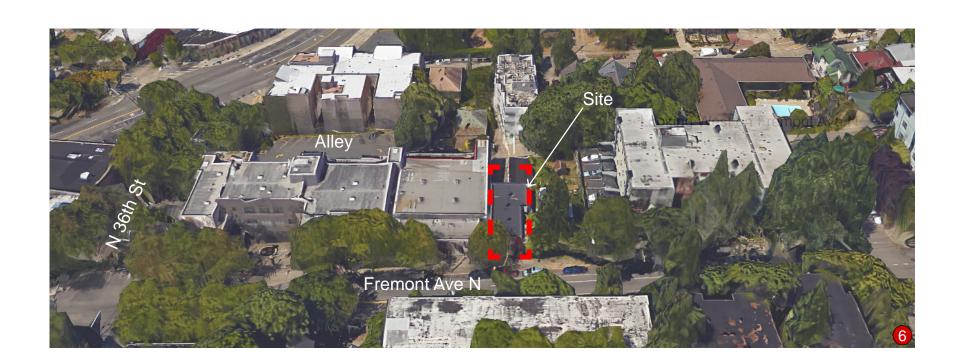




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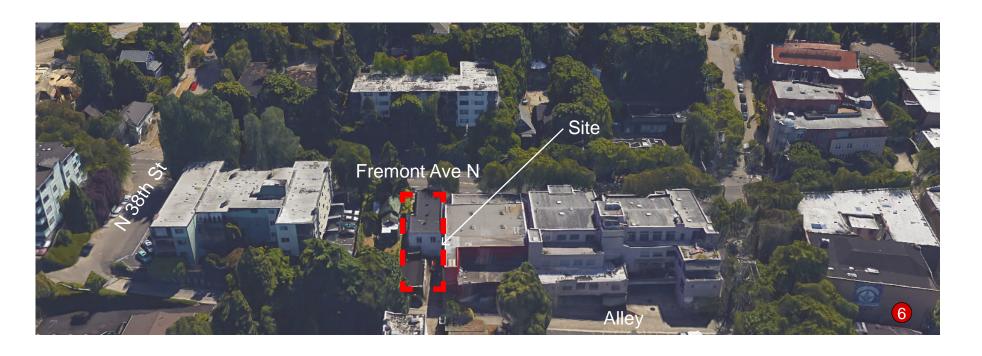








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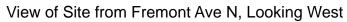


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## **EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS**







Looking North in Alley



View from Fremont Ave N and N 38th S, Looking West



View of Site From Alley, Looking NE



**Building at West of Site** 



Multi-Family Apartment Across Street, From Site to East

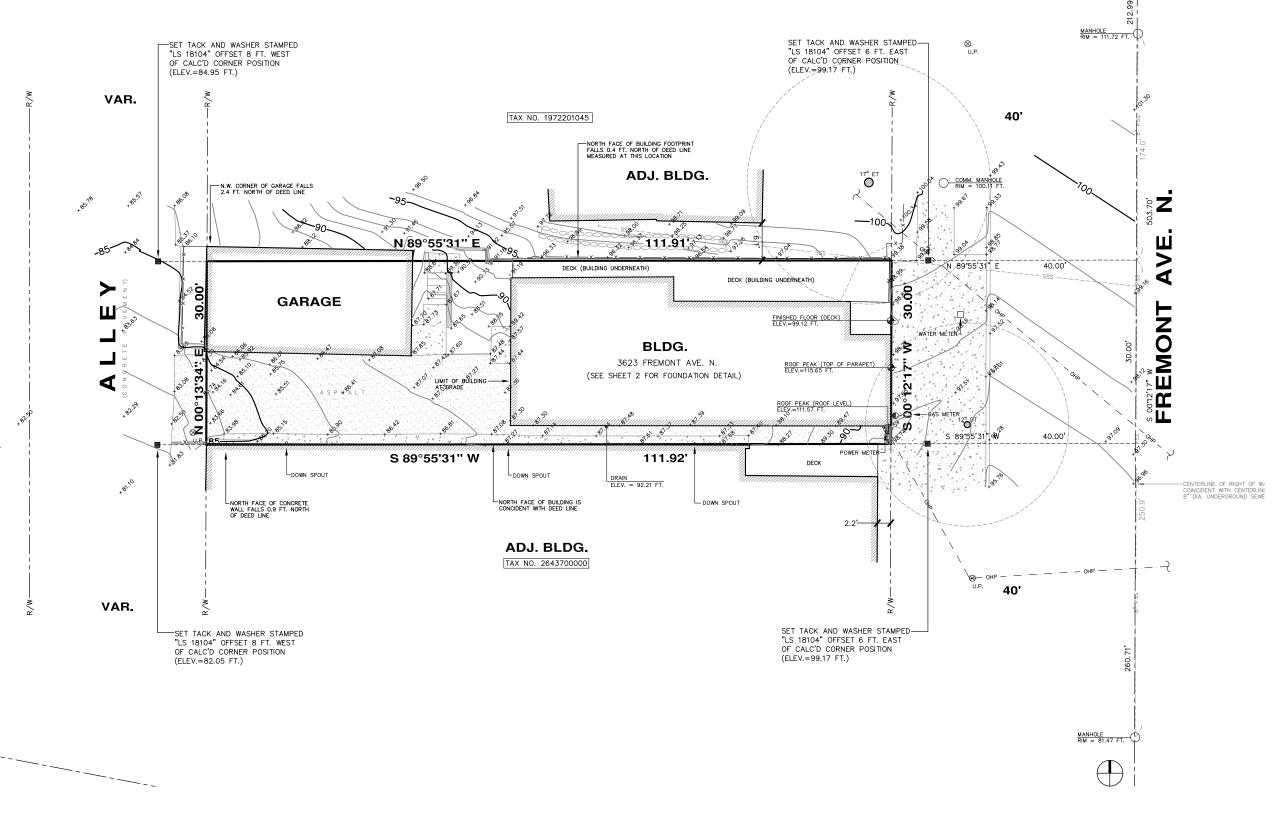




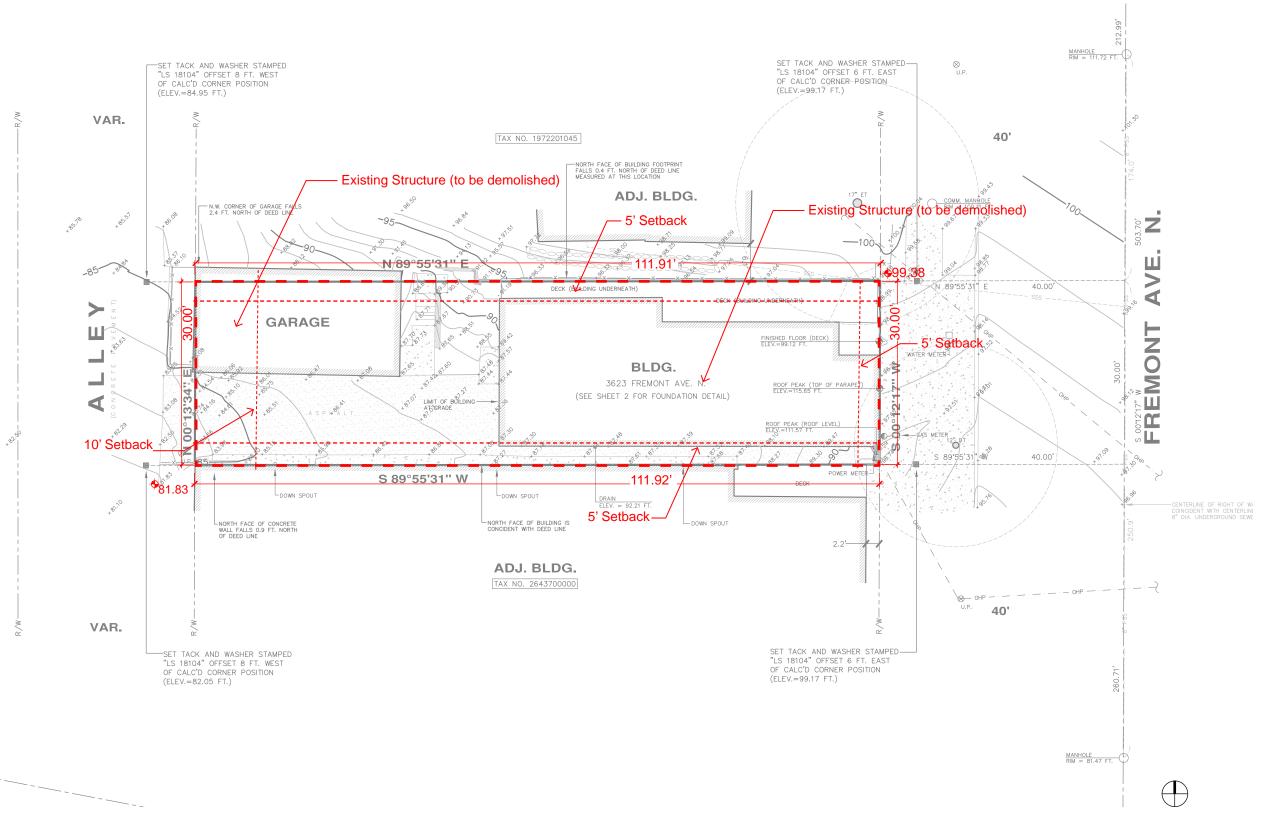
- 1. THIS SURVEY WAS PERFORMED BY FIELD TRAVERSE USING A 10 SECOND "TOTAL STATION" THEODOLITE SUPPLEMENTED WITH A 100 FT. STEEL TAPE. THIS SURVEY MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE STANDARDS FOR LAND BOUNDARY SURVEYS AS SET FORTH IN WAC CHAPTER 332-130-090.
- 2. CONTOUR INTERVAL = 1 FT.
- 3. ELEVATION DATUM = NAVD'88, AS PER DIRECT OBSERVATIONS USING GPS EQUIPMENT ON OCT. 15, 2015.
- 4. PARCEL AREA = 3,357 SQ. FT.
- 5. THIS SURVEY WAS PERFORMED WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF A CURRENT TITLE REPORT. THEREFORE EASEMENTS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY, IF ANY, ARE NOT SHOWN HEREON.
- 6. UNDERGROUND UTILITY INFORMATION AS SHOWN HEREON IS APPROXIMATE ONLY AND IS BASED UPON CITY OF SEATTLE SEWER CARD NO. 4209 AND ALSO AS PER TIES TO ABOVE GROUND STRUCTURES.
- 7. TAX PARCEL NO. 1972201050
- 8. TREE DIAMETERS AND DRIPLINES DISPLAYED HEREON ARE APPROXIMATE. FOR SPECIFIC GENUS AND DIAMETER, TREES SHOULD BE EVALUATED BY A CERTIFIED ARBORIST.

#### PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

LOT 7, BLOCK 11, DENNY & HOYT'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SEATTLE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 136, RECORDS OF KING COUNTY, WA.









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2017.07.17

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## APPROVED EDG MASSING AND DESIGN STRATEGY

The Board supported the preferred scheme massing because a two building configuration would allow for more light and air within the site and in relationship to the neighboring buildings. Placing one story partially below grade in each building helps reduce the bulk and scale of the overall massing. The facades of the preferred scheme are well articulated and provide a successful composition of materials. This design also allows for minimal disturbance and maintains the existing residential edge.

#### APPROVED EDG OPTION

Total Heated Gross Floor Area: 6,686 gsf

East Building: 3348 gsf West Building: 3338 gsf

Number of Units: 11

East Building: 6
West Building: 5

**Number of Parking Stalls: None** 

## **POSITIVES:**

- 1. Strong pedestrian walkway
- 2. Interior courtyards open up to vertical circulation
- 3. Two massings allow for natural light and ventilation
- 4. Well articulated facades
- 5. Consistent with existing neighborhood residential edge
- 6. Minimal disturbance
- 7. Privacy and security for unit entries

#### CONS:

1. Parking does not allow each unit to have a personal stall

#### **DEPARTURE**:

1. Increase max facade length by 10% (23.45.527.B.1)



View North into Interior Courtyard



View South into Interior Courtyard



## 1. MASSING OPTIONS/ HEIGHT, BULK, SCALE

GUIDANCE RESPONSE DESIGN GUIDELINES

- The Board echoed the public's support for two building massing configuration as this would allow for more light and air within the site and in relationship to the neighboring buildings.
- 1 The rear building moved further to the West to allow for more light and air within the site and in relationship to the neighboring buildings. This also increased the amount of common amenity area between the two buildings for the residents.
- CS1-B Sunlight and Natural Ventilation: Daylight and Shading
  The increased distance between the two proposed buildings allows for more natural daylight/air for this site and the adjacent sites.
  - <u>CS2-D Height, Bulk, and Scale</u>

    The massing configuration of two separate buildings is respecting the adjacent neighbors by increasing the amenity area between the buildings

- The Board discussed the articulation and composition of the south facade, stating the north facade should reflect an equally thoughtful design.
- Thorough exploration was thought about for the design of the North facade. Although, future development in the lot to the North was also considered. Therefore, the North facade is not articulated for views programmatically to the same level as the South facade but still enhances the overall design concept through subtle shifts for scale. The stair elements read as a unique and distinct components that relate to the whole and still provide natural light.
- CS2-D Height, Bulk, and Scale
   The design of North facade shows our respect to the adjacent properties by minimizing disrupting the privacy and outdoor activities of residents in the

adjacent buildings.

and the access to light and air.



## 1. MASSING OPTIONS/ HEIGHT, BULK, SCALE

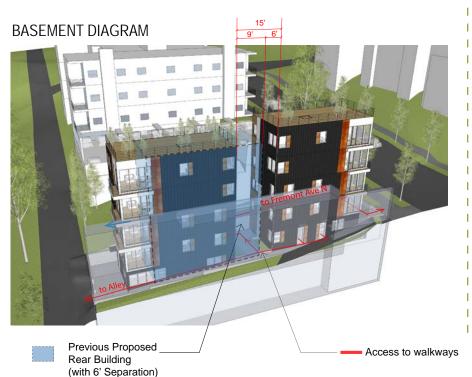
GUIDANCE RESPONSE DESIGN GUIDELINES

- The Board expressed concern related to the relationship of the proposed massing with adjacent building and requested the following information be included with the next submittal:
  - i. Include additional information related to the North and South adjacent building.
  - ii. Provide height diagrams to illustrate impacts to light/air and relationship to adjacent buildings.
  - iii. Provide privacy analysis including relationship of proposed balconies to adjacent structures and window study.
  - iv. The Board discussed the quality of life for the residents of the proposed basements. The Board requested sections illustrating light/air access for basement units and relationship to walkways.

i. We have provided perspectives and diagrams showing the relationship to the adjacent buildings on page 22. We have also shown this building in context more clearly.

ii/iii. The height diagram on page 22 shows the relationship of the proposed design to the adjacent buildings. This diagram illustrates how light and air is less effected because of the separation distance between the two proposed buildings. There are no windows on the North side of the adjacent building to the South, therefore, privacy won't be an issue. The North facade of the proposed buildings has carefully placed windows to eliminate any additional privacy issues.

iv. The diagram below shows how the units on the partially below grade level relate to the pedestrian walkway and amenity area in the courtyard. These units have access to light/air and this was achieved by further separating the buildings. Overall, all of these spaces are shown much more clearly as well in the renderings also, thank you.



#### 2 CS1-C - Topography: Land Form & Elevation Changes

The proposed design uses the natural topography to create a partially below grade level. This helps reduce the perceived mass at the street level and allow for a series of well-lit walkways around the site.

#### CS2-B-1 - Site Characteristics

This sloping site is only 30'-0" wide and it helped inform a unique design that will add distinction to the neighborhood.

#### CS2-B-1 - Connection to the Street

This project creates a strong connection to the street by creating a planting strip with large street trees and a 6'-0" sidewalk for the public. Natural landscaping will enhance the design and draw residents to the site.

#### CS2-D-1 - Existing Development and Zoning

The elevations of the proposed buildings will fit in with any possible future development to the North or South as they are both zoned with 40'-0" height limits.

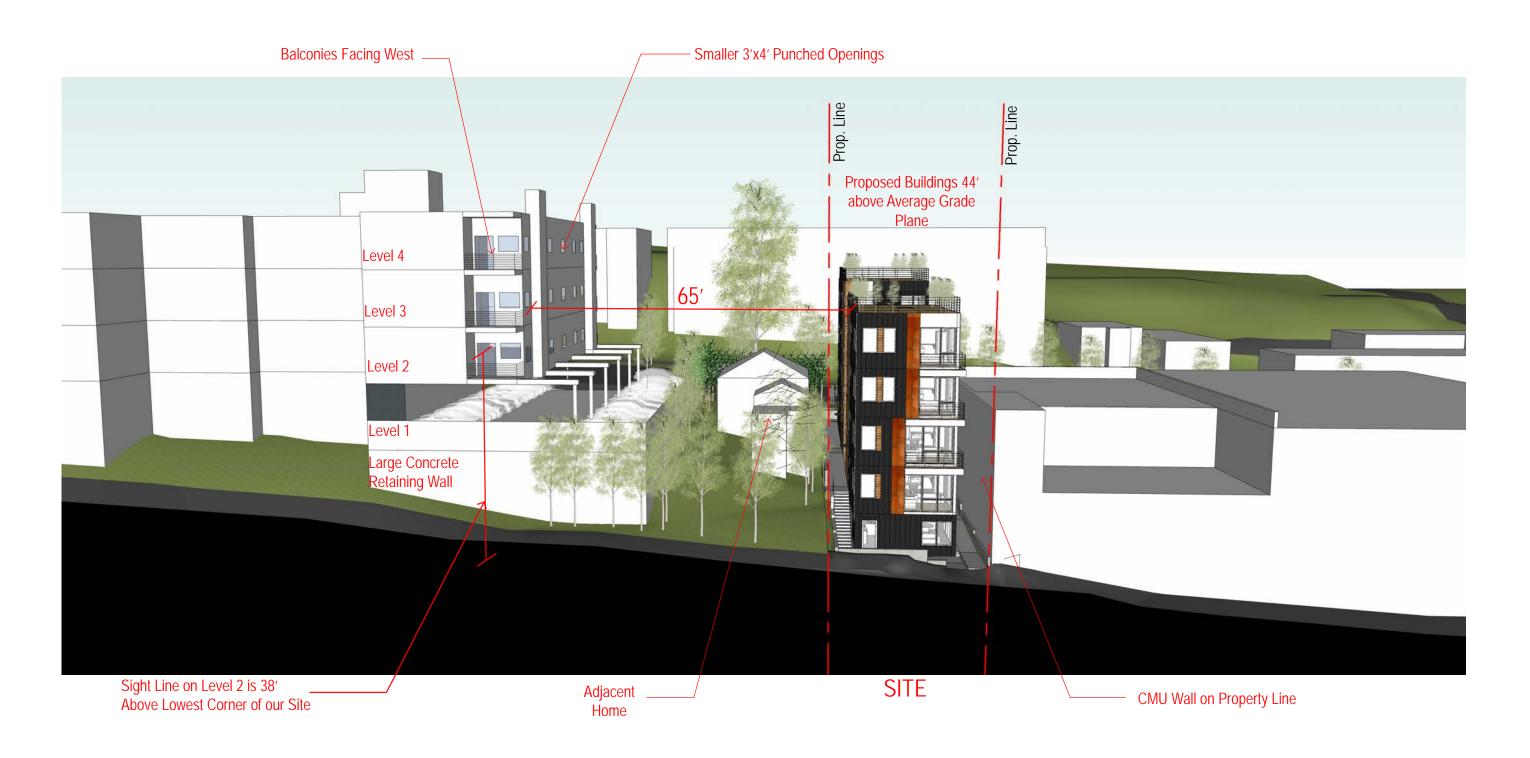
#### CS2-D-5 - Respect for Adjacent Sites:

The adjacent sites were respectfully thought about by placing one story partially below grade, creating two separate buildings, and by placing the majority of the fenestration on the South facade for privacy. There are no windows in the one story adjacent building to the South so privacy is not a concern.

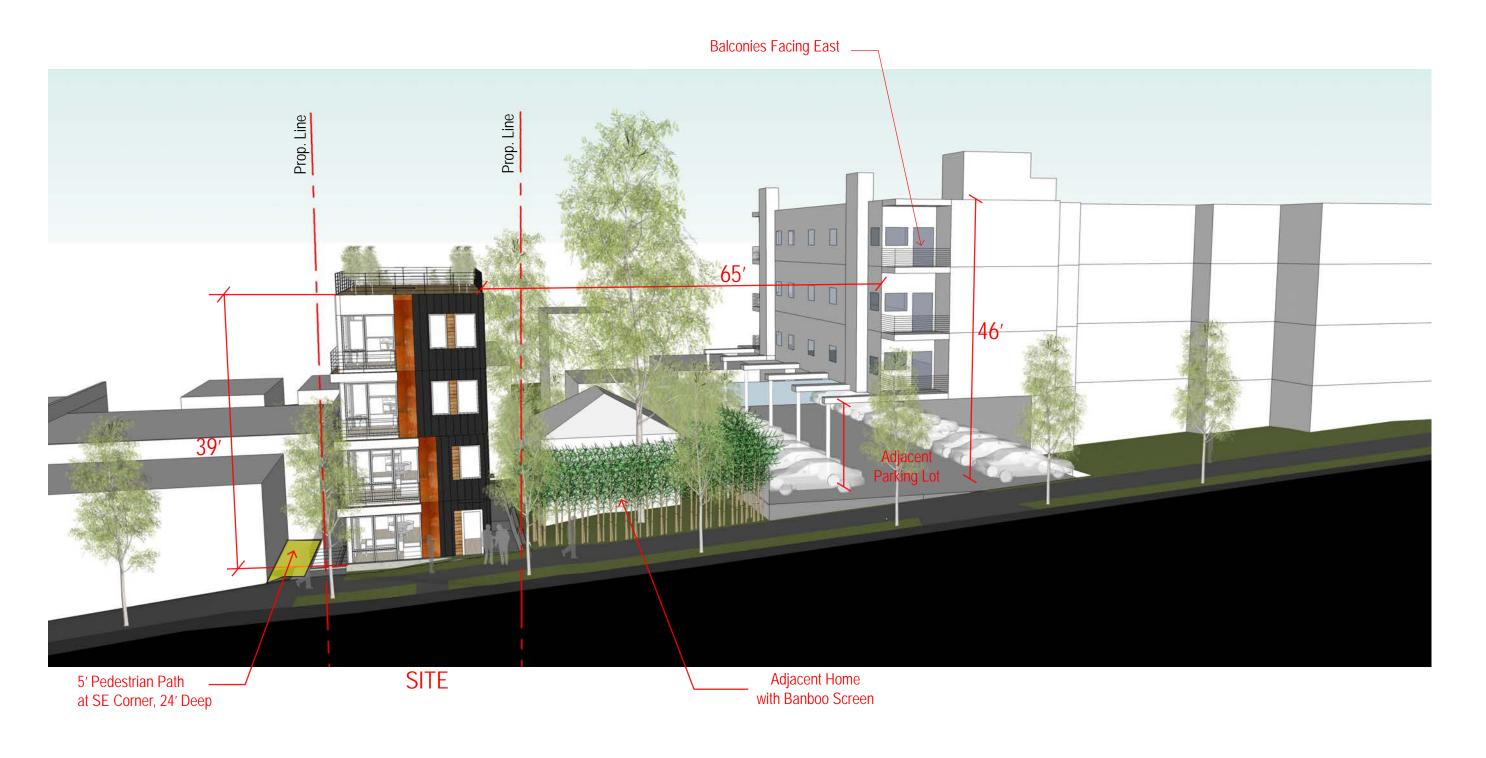




## CONTEXT DIAGRAM









## 1. MASSING OPTIONS/ HEIGHT, BULK, SCALE

GUIDANCE RESPONSE DESIGN GUIDELINES

- 4 Fremont Avenue.
  - i. Provide elevations and perspectives from Fremont Ave and include adjacent building.
  - ii. The Board encouraged the exploration of subtle integration of the Fremont character into the project design, especially along the street frontage.
- 4 i. We studied the relationship between our scheme and the surrounding context to better understand the existing conditions. Elevations showing this relationship are further evidenced in the renderings and context/material study.
  - ii. We considered how our project can respond to the Fremont character. Instead of creating a traditional facade with symmetrical elements and traditional materials, we decided to use contrasting metal panels that are offset to draw attention to the fenestration and openings directed to dramatic views. The dark gray and white panels are complimented with Cor-ten steel panels to enhance the concept and integrate the Fremont character better through expressing the views of these forms, high quality cladding and scale



- CS2-B-1- Adjacent Site, Streets, and Open Spaces
  - After exploring the Fremont character in the surrounding area, we used distinctive materials to emphasize the unique building massing on this narrow lot.

#### CS3-A - Emphasizing Positive Neighborhood Attributes

The site immediately adjacent to the South is a neighborhood commercial zone. The design concept of the contrasting metal panels with wood accents helps to mitigate the transition between a neighborhood commercial zone and a low-rise residential zone.

#### PL3-A - Entries

The overall concept is maintained with one residential entry visable along the street facade. The well-lit pathway to the North of the building is clearly identifiable with signage and landscaping to lead residents to the common amenity area between the two buildings. The majority of the entrances are accessible from the common amenity area to help facilitate resident interaction.

#### DC2-B - Architectural and Facade Composition

All facades have been carefully designed with more emphases on the East and South facades to better respect the adjacent neighbors to the North. The scale and proportions of each facade was configured to reduced the perceived mass and respect human scale at the residential edge.

#### DC2-C-3 - Fit With Neighboring Buildings

This design positively contributes to the architectural character of the neighborhood and successfully integrates a new project that better transitions two different zones.



## 2. AMENITY AREA/ WALKWAYS

GUIDANCE RESPONSE DESIGN GUIDELINES

- The Board expressed concerns with the proposed amenity area and whether the proposal would meet the code requirements for amenity area. In addition, the Board encouraged further resolving the amenity and walkways to maximize space in between the buildings, as well as, maximizing amenity area.
- 2 The Board requested more detail on how the roof top amenity will be designed to address privacy and noise.
- 3 The Board recommended orientation of the roof top amenity to the South as the space is limited; design to get the most sunlight.
- 4 The Board encouraged exploration of amenity area at the rear of the property.

5 Provide lighting plan and more information on the design that will deter crime and gathering in the narrow corridors.

- 1 The West building has moved further to the rear to maximize the amenity area in between the buildings. The walkways have been resolved with successful lighting and landscaping to enhance the transition from the street to the amenity area.
- The private roof top amenity area is only accessible to the toplevel units via a roof hatch within their unit, therefore, privacy and noise will be minimized. Plants along the North edge of the roof are provided for privacy from the adjacent property to the North. These roofs are strongly envisioned as gardens.
- The roof top amenity area is designed to maximize the access to natural sunlight. The roof top amenities proposed are oriented to the South for views and privacy from the North properties.
- The previously proposed parking stalls along the rear lot line were removed to provide more amenity area and open pathways for residents.
- A lighting plan on page 49 shows how this project will achieve safety and security for residents. The open stairs haven been enclosed for additional security. These market rate apartments in a high quality building will not generate crime. Residents go through an extensive application process for these long term leases. Pathways for residents and guests help to generate better open space that will be actively utilized by all and maintained by building management.

DC3-B - Open Space Uses and Activities

The increased amount of amenity area encourages activities and interaction among residents.

2 CS2-D-5 - Respect for Adjacent Sites

The privacy of the adjacent properties is minimized by orienting the roof deck amenity areas to the South and only allowing access to one residential unit per roof deck.

3 DC3-B-1 - Meeting User Needs

The small foot print of each roof deck is perfectly sized for activities to meet the needs of one residential unit. Access to views from the South gives the space purpose.

4 DC3-B-4 - Multifamily Open Space

The two larger amenity areas at the ground level allow for social interaction among residents. The majority of the entrances are oriented towards the amenity areas to help to facilitate successful interaction.

5 PL2-B - Safety and Security

The lighting plan illustrates safe, well-lit pathways complimented with natural landscaping to provide safety for residents and neighbors.



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## 3. DEVELOPMENT STANDARD DEPARTURES

GUIDANCE RESPONSE DESIGN GUIDELINES

Increase Maximum Facade Length (SMC 23.45.527.B.1):
The Code limits the maximum combined length of all portions of façades within 15 feet of a lot line that is neither a rear lot line nor a street or alley lot line to 65 percent of the length of that lot line, except as specified in subsection 23.45.527.B.2. This would result in a permitted length of 72'-6' and the applicant proposes 80'.

The Board indicated initial support for this departure, however, a greater gesture toward respecting adjacent sites is needed in order to fully support the departure. The Board encouraged exploration of moving the rear building further back and tucking parking under building, or placing amenity space above.

Reduce North Side Setback (SMC 23.45.518.A.)
The Code requires a side setback for facades 40 feet or less in length for apartments to be 5'. The applicant proposes 3'.

The Board was not supportive of this departure request, agreeing that the justification was not tied strongly enough to the design guidelines. The reduced 5' to 3' setback request would warrant further analysis and a design which better meets the design guidelines.

Encroach in minor portion of South side setback and East front setback (SMC 23.45.518.A.)

To encroach 1' with small 1' Juliette balconies for scale in minor portions of the South side setback and east front setback.

After considering the boards comments, we moved the rear building further back to create a larger, more habitable courtyard between the buildings to greater respect the adjacent sites. The existing building to the South already blocks much of the existing North buildings view, but a much larger area between these 2 buildings will vastly improve access to light, air and views year round.

This setback reduction is no longer being requested, so this building can better creat more perceived open area for the building to the

We are requesting this minor departure to help better break up the façades with depth and improve the quality for residential tenants and the neighborhood. Please refer to the departure diagram on page 29 to see these Juliette balconies only encroach 1'-0" into the required setback along the South and East property lines. These balconies are only on level 2, 3, and 4 of the East and West building. You will see in the renderings they enhance the overall design concept and help appropriately scale the building within the neighboring context.

1 CS1-C - Topography

The existing site conditions help inform the design by creating two separate buildings at varying heights to better respect the adjacent sites with more access to natural daylight and air.

#### DC3-B - Open Space Uses and Activities

A 10% increase to the facade length allows the massing to be separated into two buildings. This reduces the effects to the land, surrounding buildings, and views by allowing more daylight and air within the site.

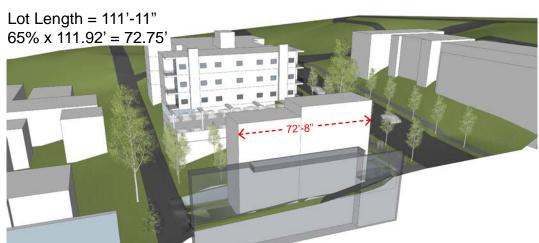
To better respect the neighbors, larger landscaping and amenity areas are provided between the buildings. Each resident will have access to this common amenity and a portion of the residents will have access to private amenities area on the roof deck.

3 DC2-C-1 – Visual Depth and Interest

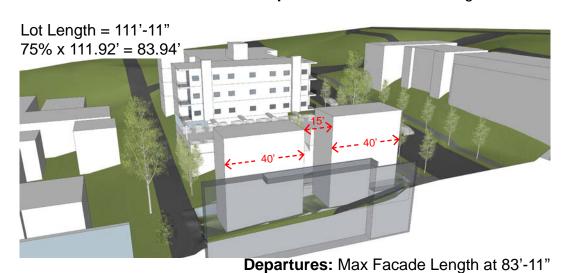
The Juliette balconies create a more successful architectural expression by adding depth to the façade. These high quality, white metal Juliette balconies will be bolted on and will successfully contrast the black metal standing seam and corten steel panels to give itself a presence within the neighborhood.

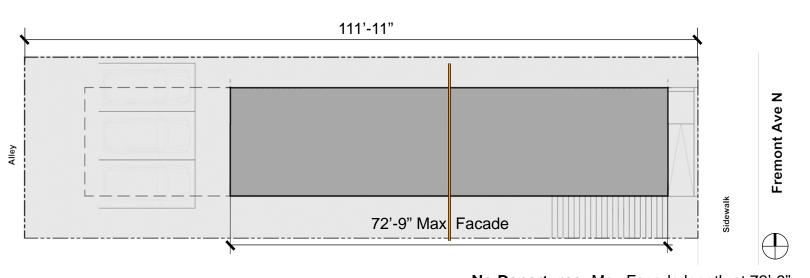


#	Departure Request	Code Requirements	Explanation for Departure
1.	Requesting departure to increase maximum facade length by 10%	23.45.527.B.1: The maximum combined length of all portions of façades within 15 feet of a lot line that is neither a rear lot line nor a street or alley lot line shall not exceed 65 percent of the length of that lot line, except as specified in subsection 23.45.527.B.2.	An increase to the facade length by 10% allows for a massing separation into two buildings to help minimize effects to the land, surrounding buildings, and views. (CS1-C) After considering the Board's comments from the EDG meeting, we moved the rear building further back to allow for landscaping, amenity areas, and natural light between the buildings. (DC3-B)

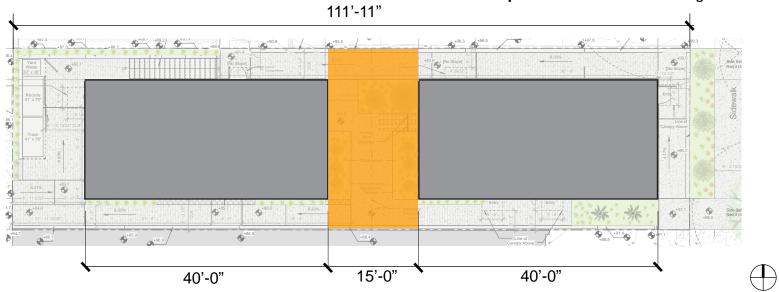


No Departures: Max Facade length at 72'-8"





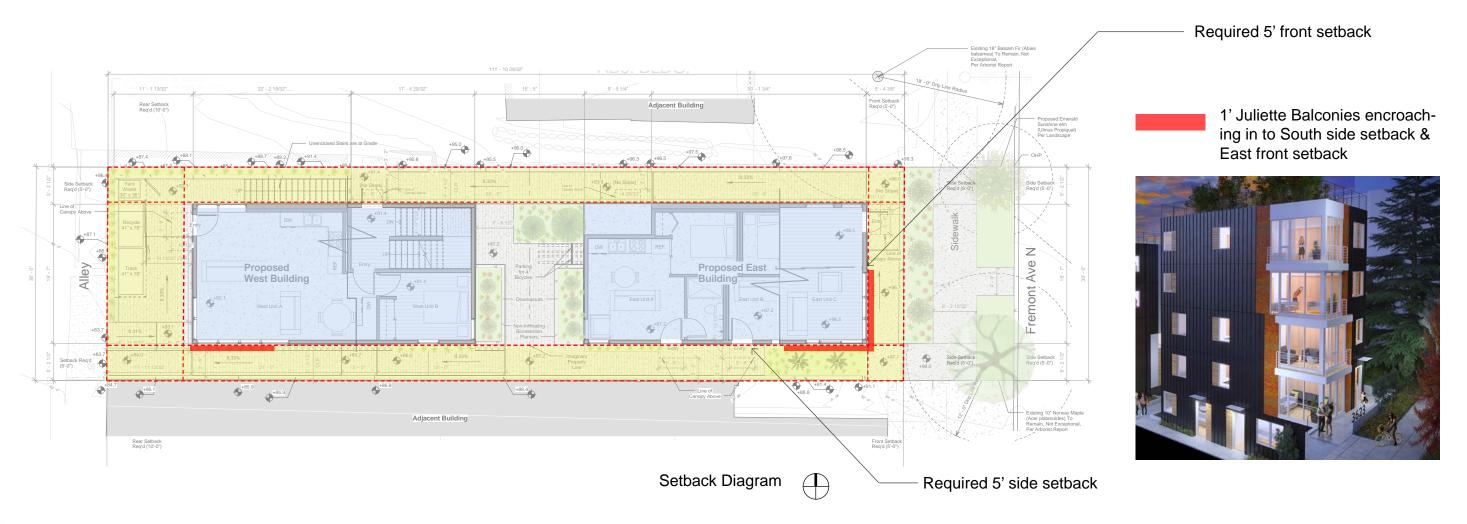
No Departures: Max Facade length at 72'-9"



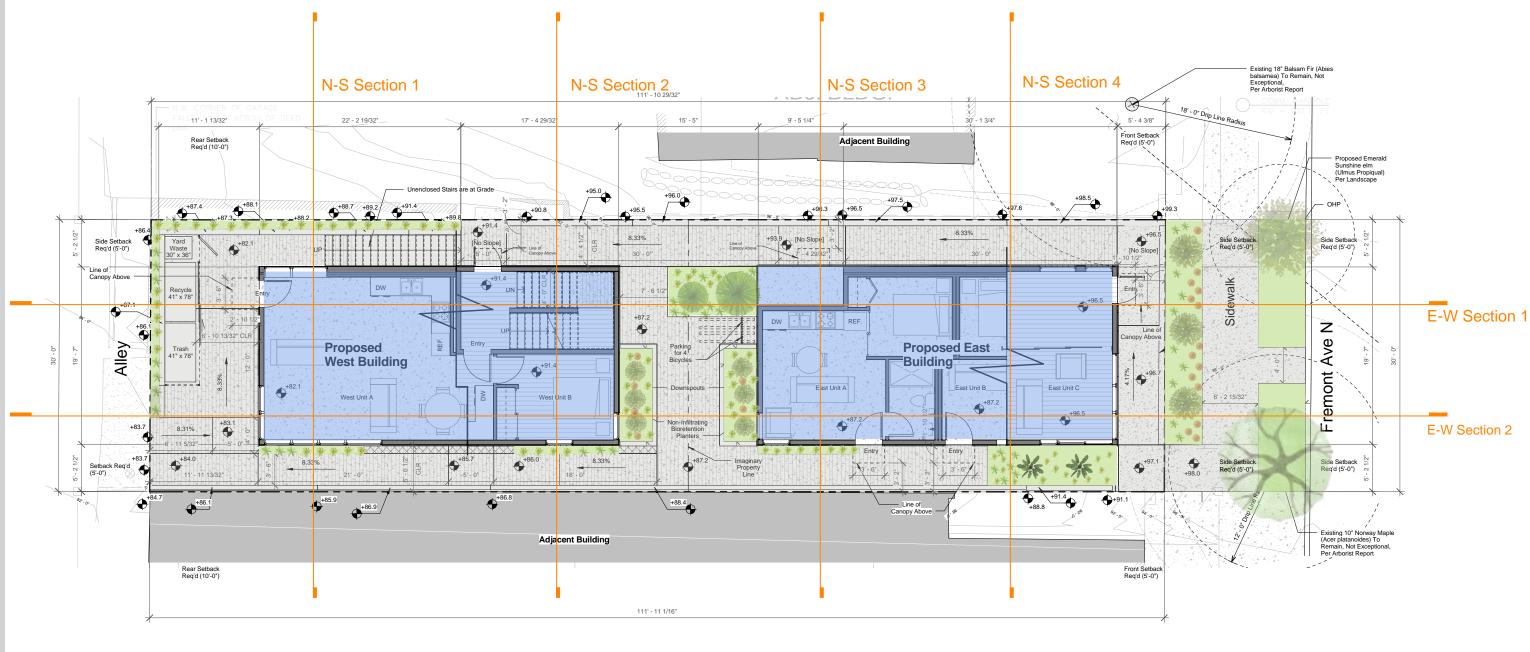
Departures: Max Facade Length 83'-11"



#	Departure Request	Code Requirements	Explanation for Departure
2.	2' reduction to North side setback (This departure is No longer being requested)	N/A	N/A
3.	To encroach 1' with small 1' Juliette balconies for scale in minor portions of the South side setback and East front setback.	23.45.518.I Unenclosed decks and balconies may project a maximum of 4 feet into required setbacks if each one is: 1. No closer than 5 feet to any lot line; 2. No more than 20 feet wide; and 3. Separated from other decks and balconies on the same facade of the structure by a distance equal to at least ½ the width of the projection.	Small Juliette balconies project 1'-0" into the required South and East setbacks of the East building and project 1'-0" into the required South setback of the West building. These balconies are no closer than 4'-0" to any lot line, therefore, it is a 1'-0" reduction to SMC 23.45.518.I. These high quality balconies add enhance the architectural expression with visual depth in the facades. They are strategically located on the South and East facades to better respect the views of the adjacent buildings to the North. (DC2-C)







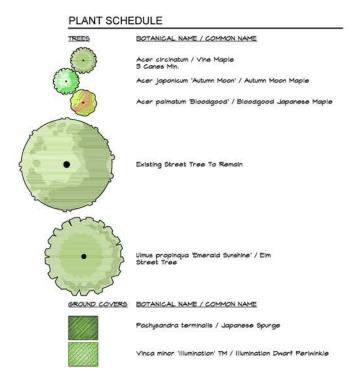
Open Space Calculation:

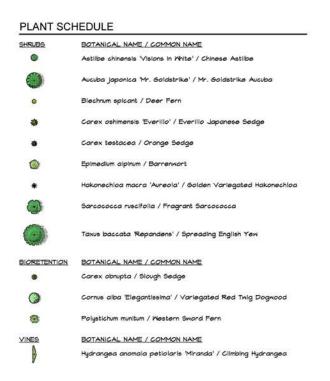
Building Footprint/ Site Area = 1,590 sf / 3,357 sf = 47% at Ground Level = 53% Open Space





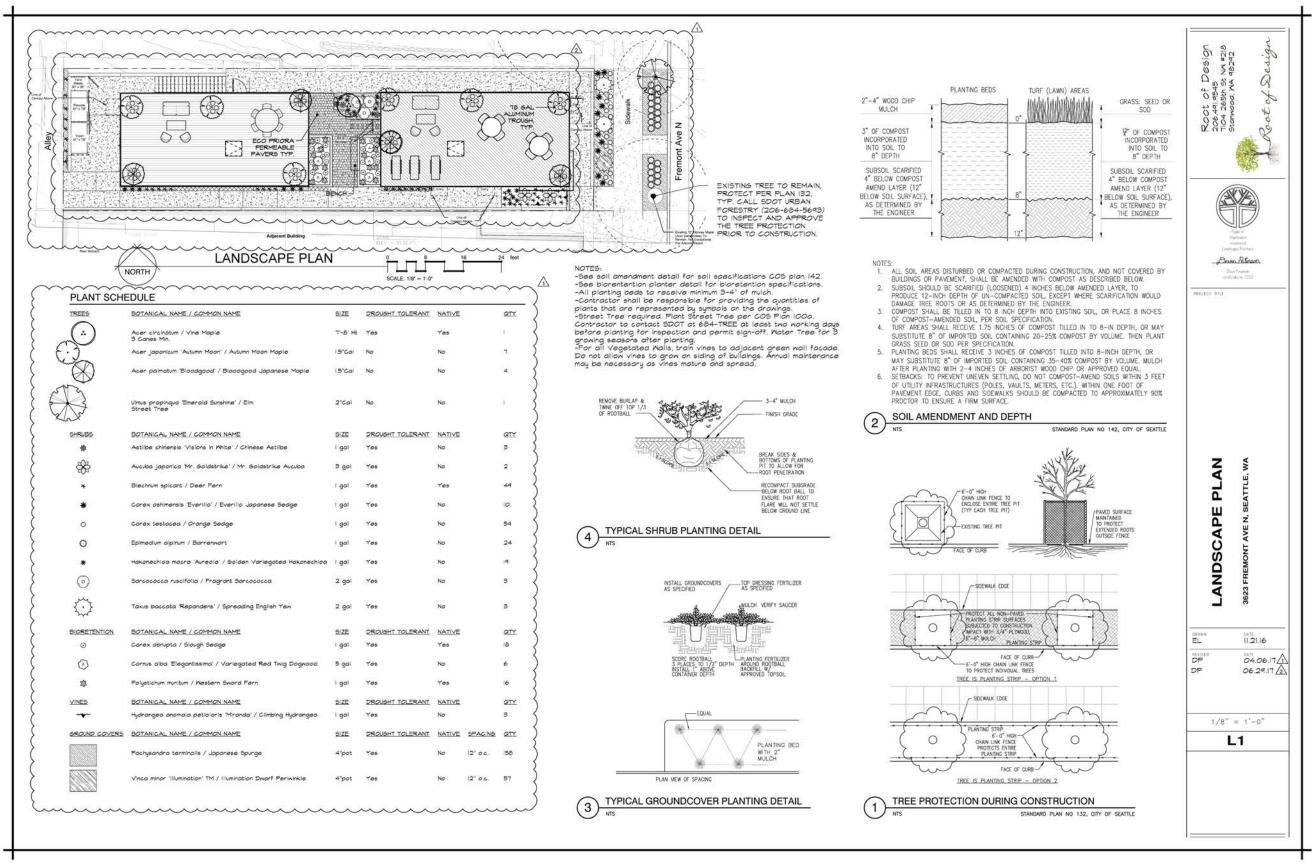




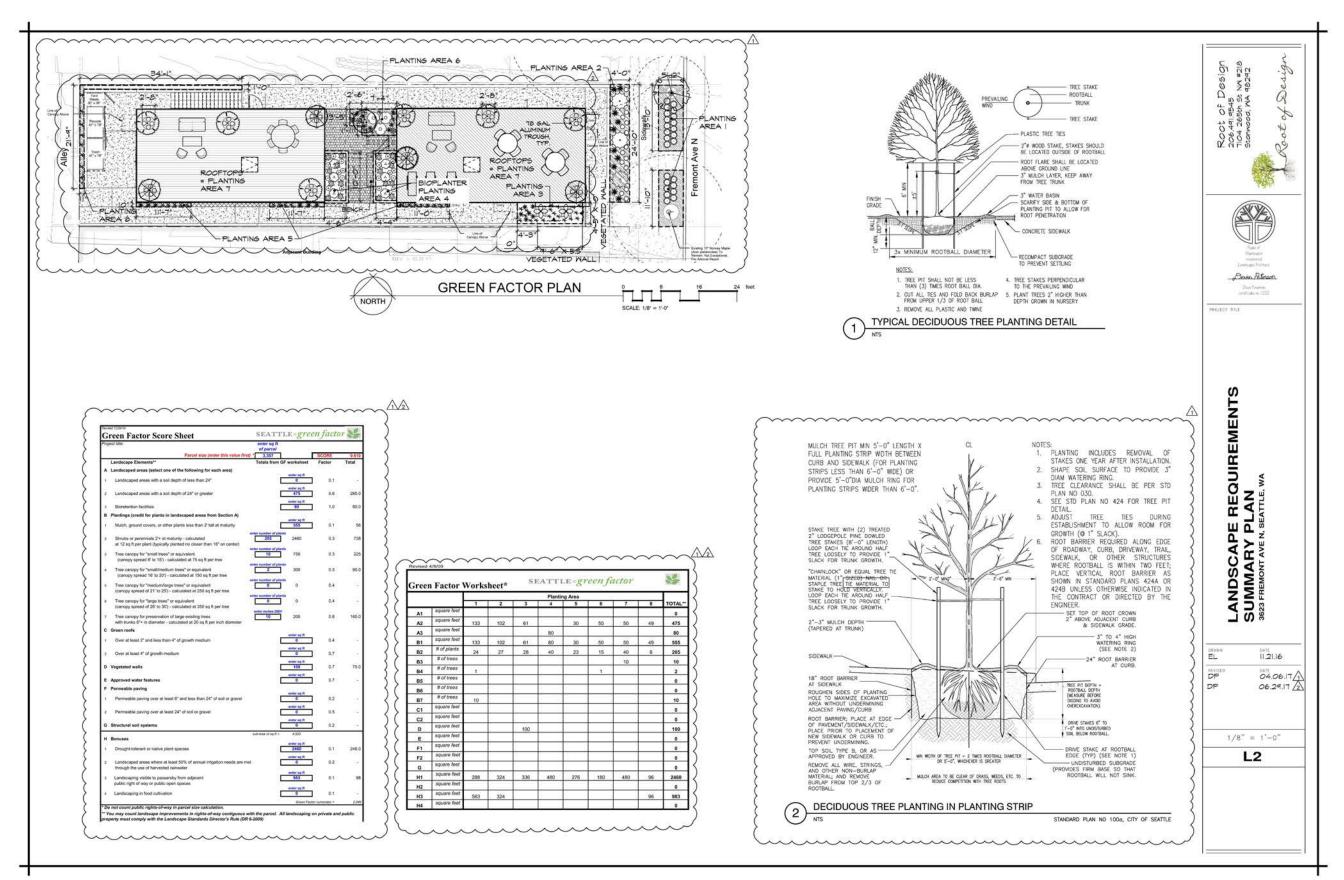




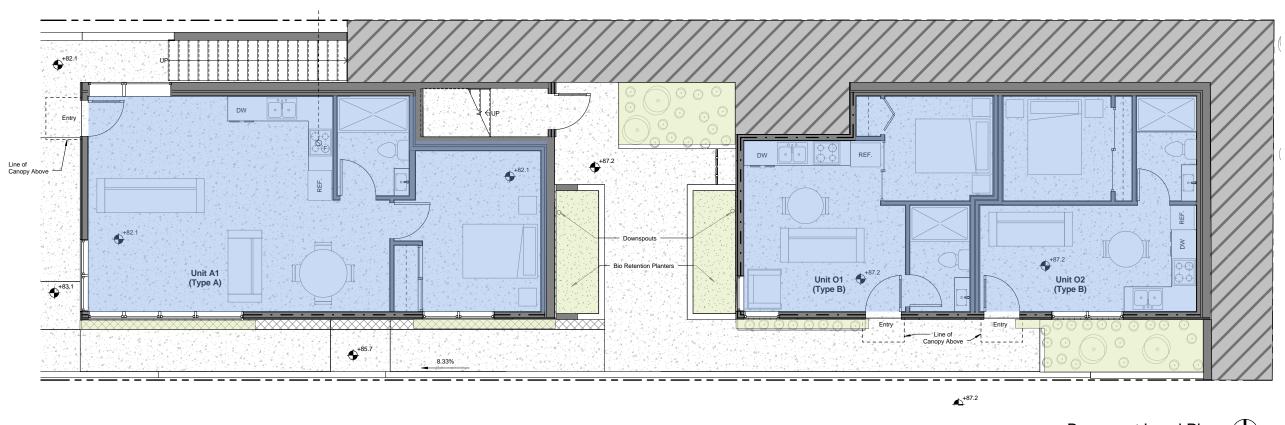
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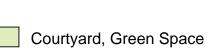




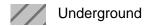




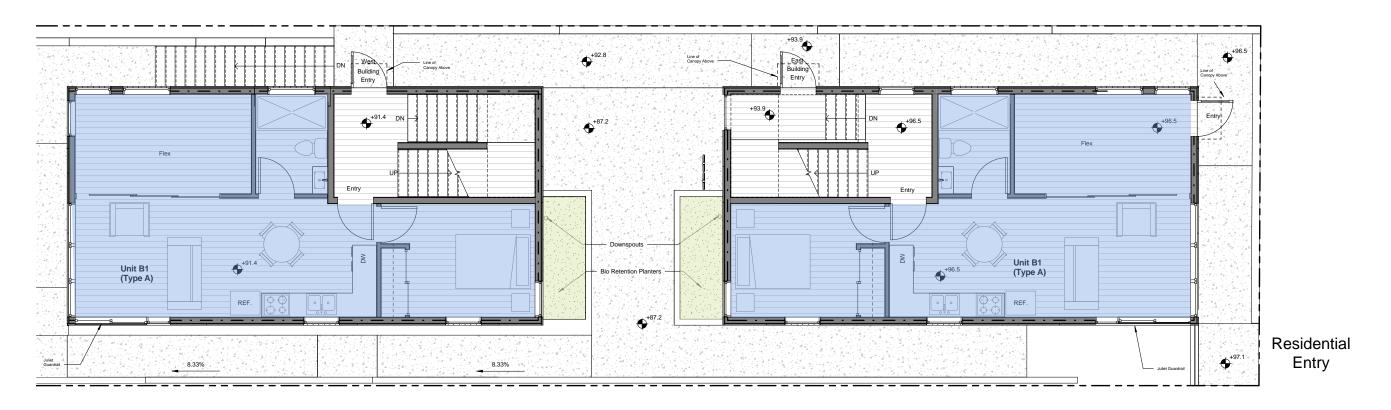
Basement Level Plan





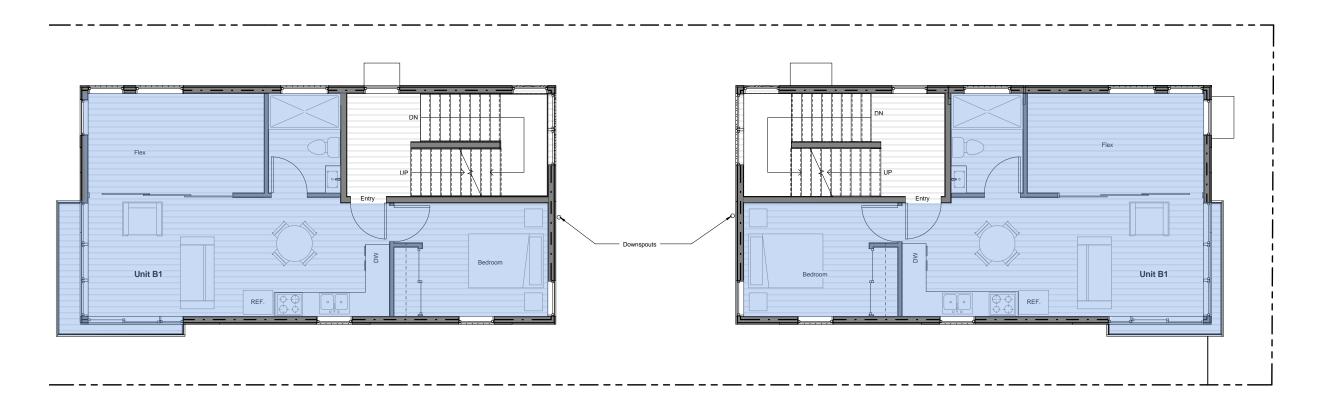




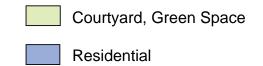


Level 1 Plan

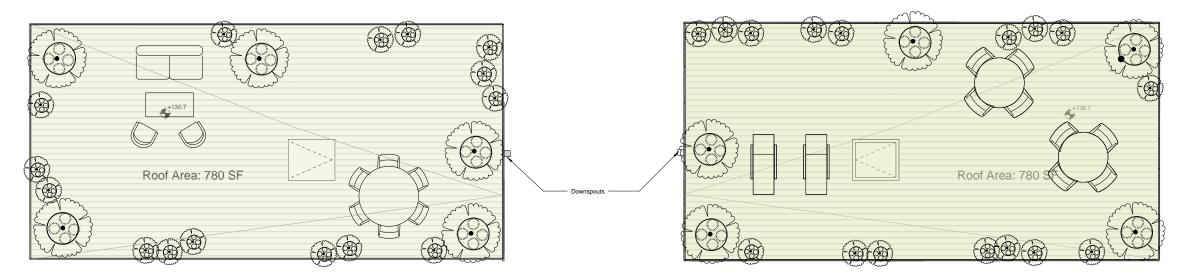




Level 2 - Level 4 Plan







Roof Deck Plan





Courtyard, Green Space



Residential











Fremont **Urban Apartments** 3623 Fremont Ave N SDCI #:3024574



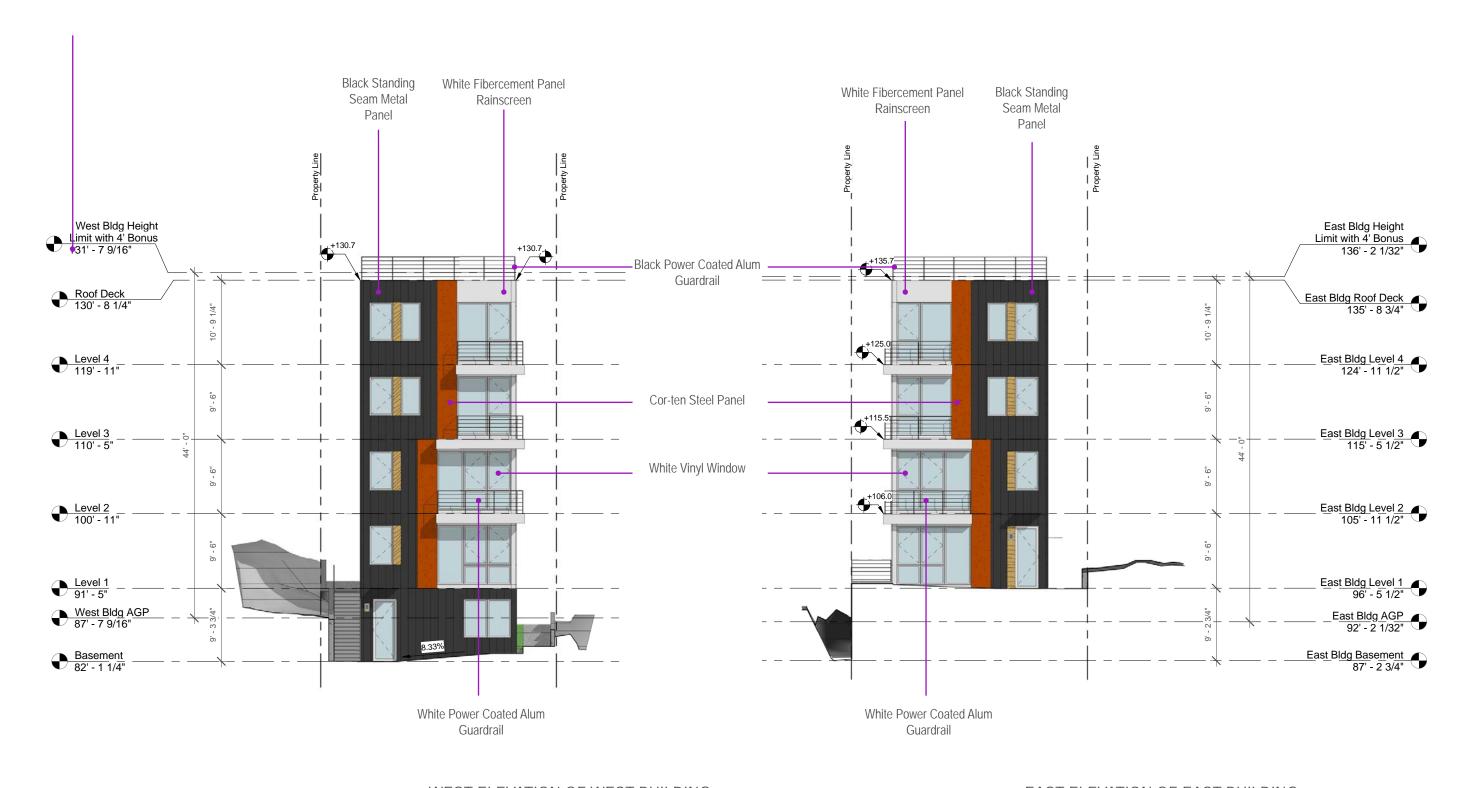
SOUTH ELEVATION





NORTH ELEVATION





WEST ELEVATION OF WEST BUILDING

EAST ELEVATION OF EAST BUILDING

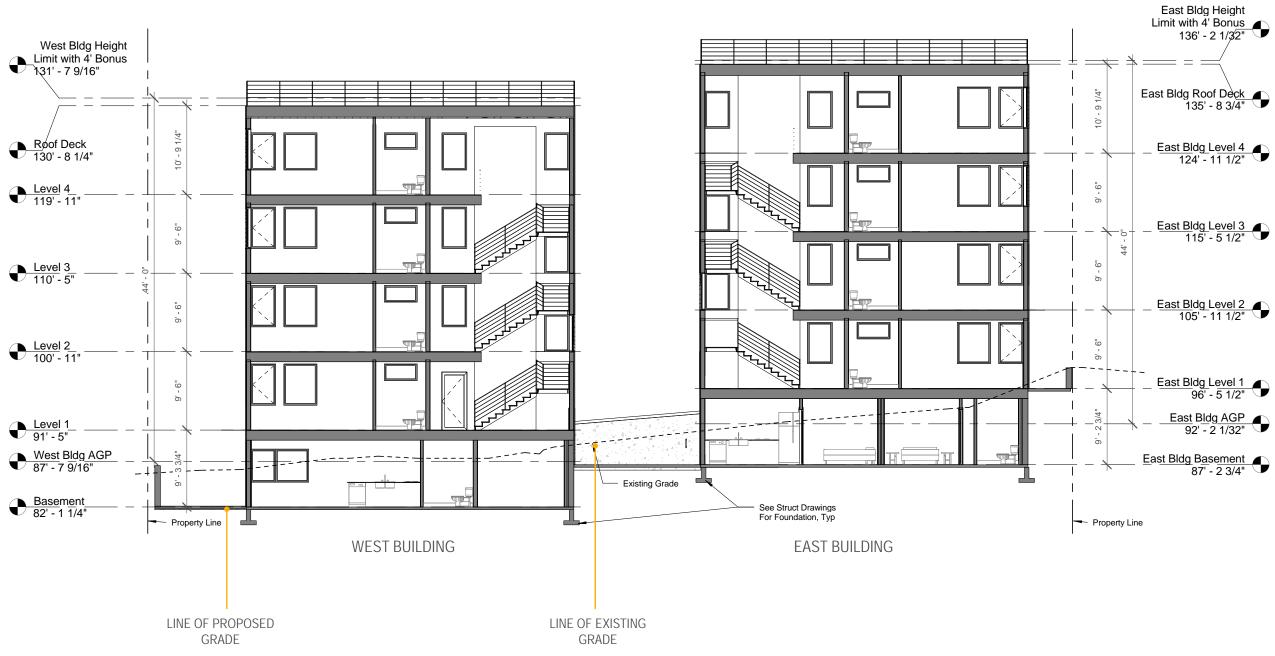




WEST ELEVATION OF EAST BUILDING

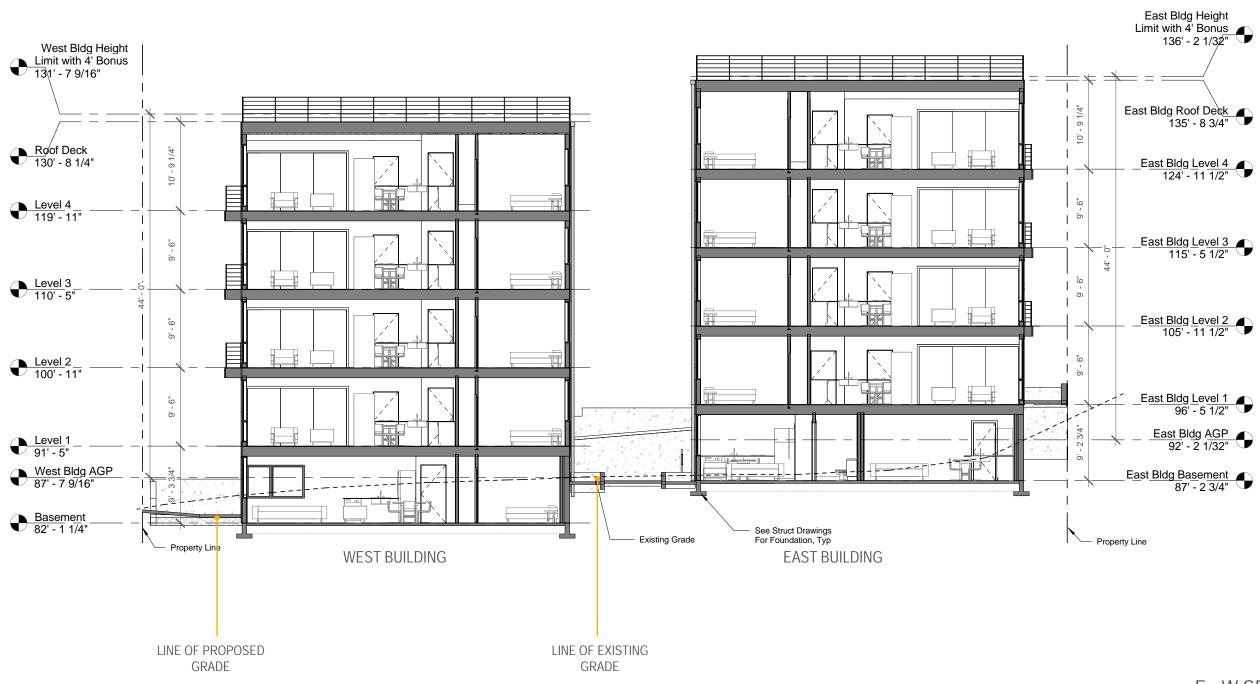
EAST ELEVATIONOF WEST BUILDING





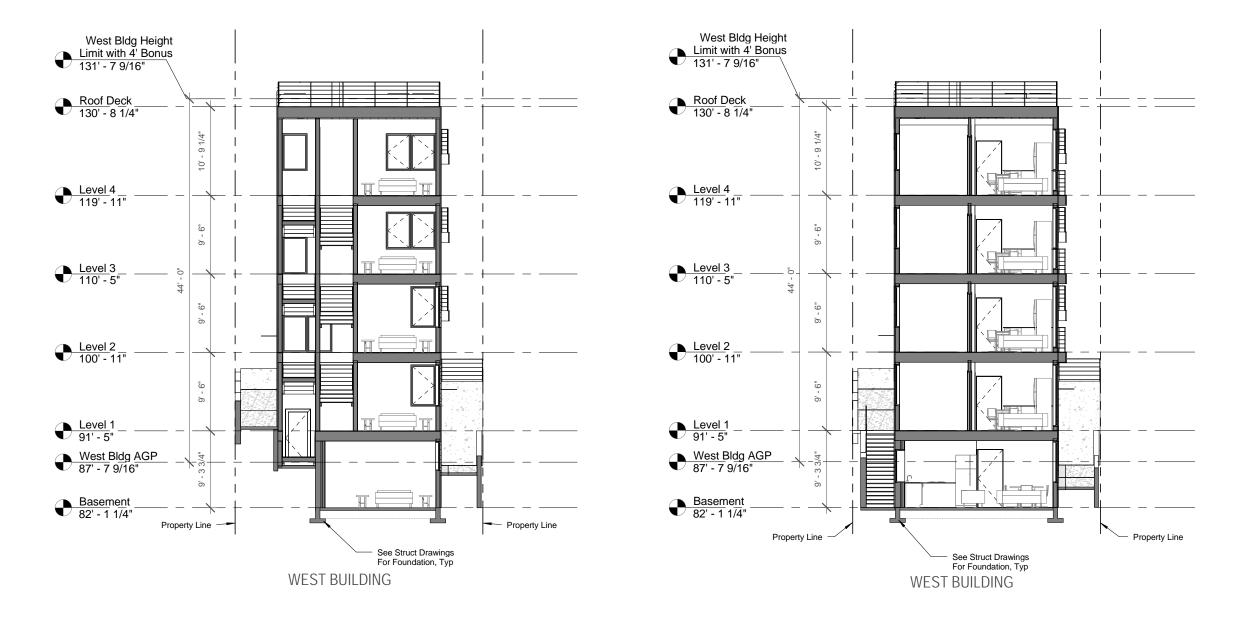
E - W SECTION 1





E - W SECTION 2



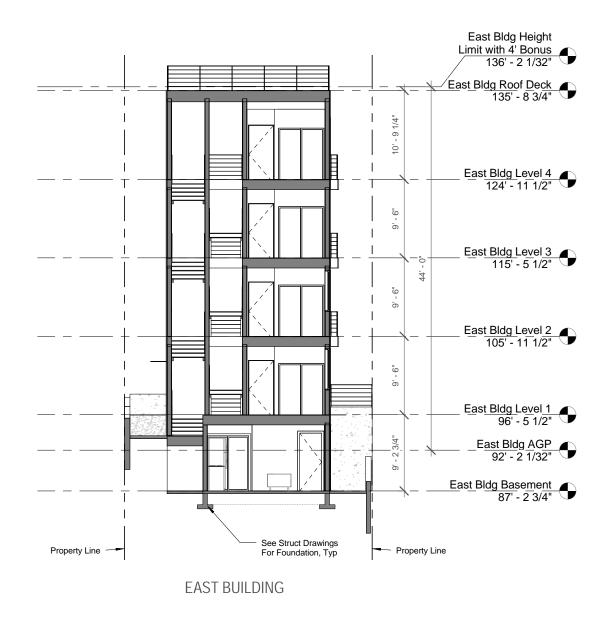


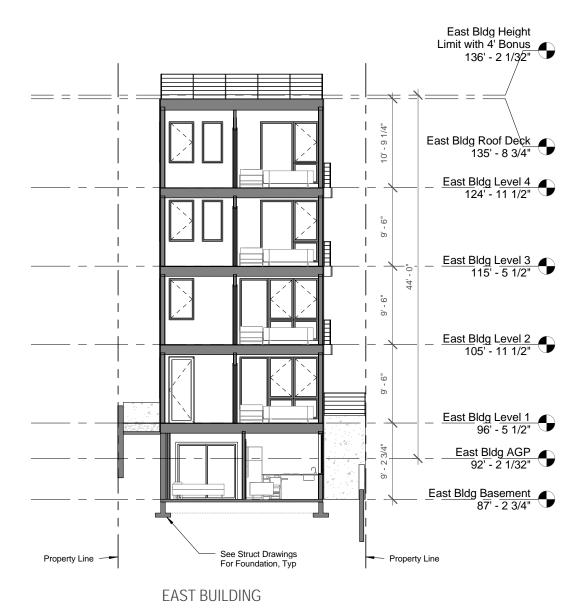
N - S SECTION 1 FOR WEST BUILDING

N - S SECTION 2 FOR WEST BUILDING



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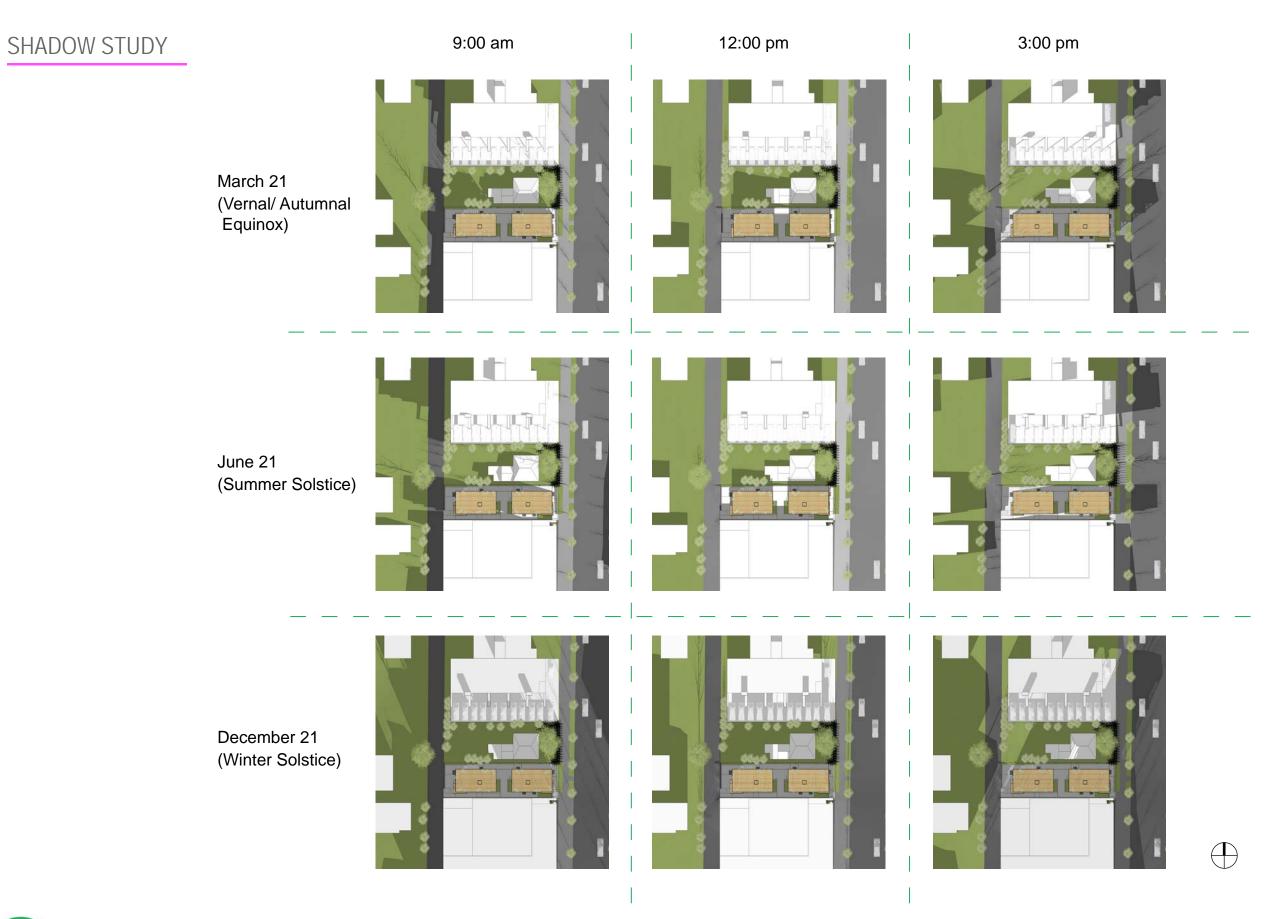
N - S SECTION 3 for EAST BUILDING

N - S SECTION 4 for EAST BUILDING



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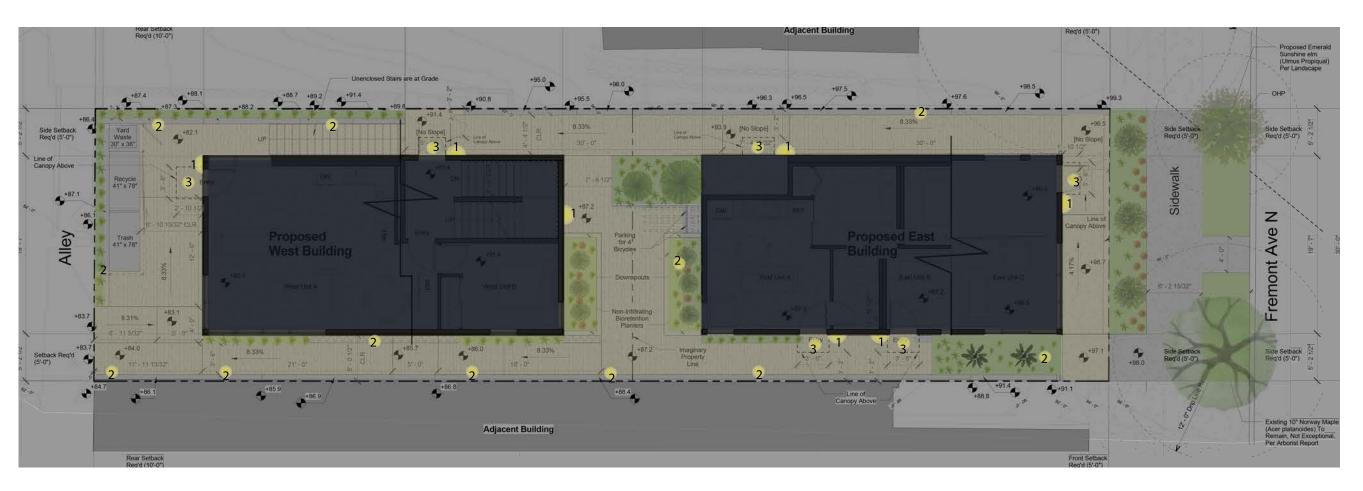
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LIGHT TYPES

Lighting Plan







2



Aluminum Bollard Light



3

Entry Canopy LED Fixture





Steel Site Address Sitting on Concrete at Grand Entry Stairs Facing Fremont Ave N



Stainless Steel Unit Numbering Signage

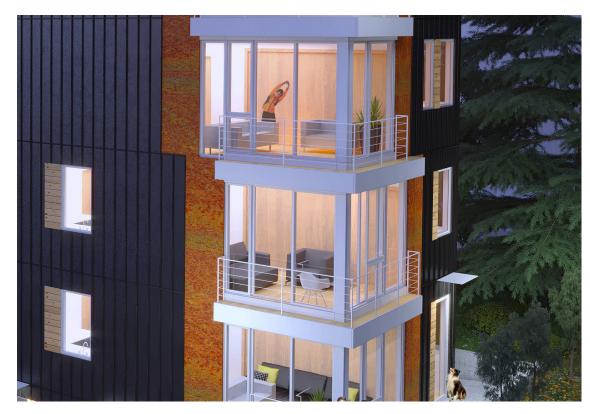


Waste Area Screened with Clear Sealed Cedar Boards



Typical Unit Entry with Metal Canopy

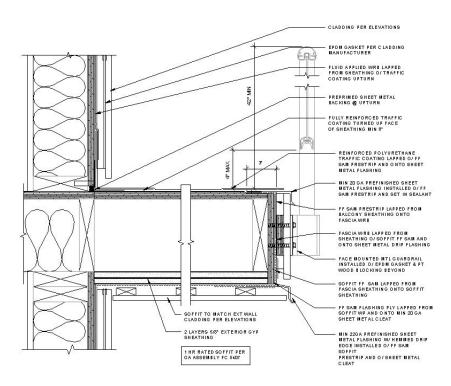




Balcony with White Powder Coated Aluminim Guardrail



Low Bio-Retention Planters, Cast in Place Concrete



Ext Wall - Balcony Section Detail, Typ

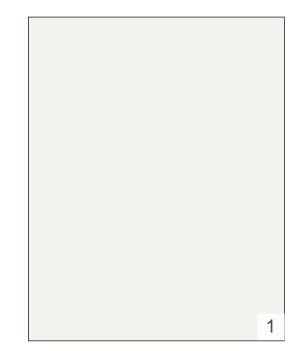


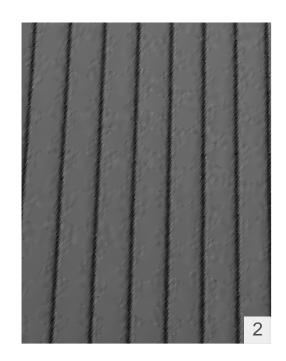
Powder Coated Aluminum
Bike Racks



## MATERIAL PALETTE

- 1 White Fibercement Panel Rainscreen
- 2 Black Standing Seam Metal Panel
- 3 Clear-Sealed Open Joint Cedar Board Rainscreen
- 4 Cor-ten Steel Panel
- 5 White Vinyl Window
- 6 Concrete















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