National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
2101 NASA Parkway
Houston, Texas 77058-3696

January 30, 2026

Reply to Attn of: JE-26-007

Mr. Brad Patterson
State Historic Preservation Office
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Subject: Supplemental Information on Section 106 Consultation
Construction of New B13-15 Outdoor Space, at NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC)

Dear Mr. Patterson:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center (JSC) received a determination of No Adverse Effect following Section 106 consultation on the new B13-15 Outdoor Space located between the north wings of Building 13 and Building 15. In the consultation response, Texas Historical Commission requested the opportunity to review the Phase 2 design package for this project. Please see the attached enclosures for additional information as requested.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 346-686-5332 or by email at jennifer.l.morrison@nasa.gov.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Morrison
Digitally signed by Jennifer Morrison
Date: 2026.01.27 11:52:42 -06'00'
Jeni Morrison
JSC Cultural Resources Manager
JSC Environmental Management Office

Enclosures:
1. Project Description
2. Site Map and Proposed Project Area
3. Design Drawings
4. APE Viewshed Analysis Photos
5. Material Samples

cc:
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JM/C. Rhodes
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CONCUR	**CODE >**	**JE/JH**				
	INITIALS >	JOHN HERRMANN Digitally signed by JOHN HERRMANN Date: 2026.01.28 14:56:52 -06'00'				
	DATE >					

ENCLOSURE 1
Project Description

Project Description

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center (JSC) is proposing to construct a new Outdoor Space (Project) located between the north wings of Building 13 and Building 15 (Enclosure 2). The Project is located on Federal Property administered by NASA JSC and, as such, has been determined to be a Federal undertaking subject to consultation under Section 106.

The Project involves construction in two phases, including:

1. Installation of supporting infrastructure, such as concrete pads, power and stub up for future outlets and lighting, a new electrical panel, and new aggregate concrete walkways, as well as assessment of drainage systems for possible adjustments; and
2. Construction of a covered meeting space, utility space, and four smaller huddle spaces on the concrete pads (Enclosure 3).

Phase 1 was previously consulted with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and received concurrence on a determination of No Adverse Effect in an email dated May 15, 2025. Per THC request, the design drawings for Phase 2 are provided in Enclosure 3.

The design of the structures planned for Phase 2 incorporates elements that honor the surrounding historic buildings and the history and accomplishments of JSC. The meeting, utility, and huddle spaces were intentionally designed as open structures to allow visitors to see the historic buildings through the space relatively unobstructed. The equal-sized repetitive pattern of widely spaced vertical beams in the central meeting and utility space "canopies" reflects the rhythm of solid and void established by the historic architecture, emulating the dark joints between Precast Exposed Aggregate Facing (PEAF) panels found throughout the site. In addition, the color will be a muted matte gray (Fluropon® Fashion Gray or similar) finish to further minimize visual impact and reduce glare to second story occupants in nearby buildings (Enclosure 5). The colors were chosen to closely match the metal framing found on the doors and windows of the nearby buildings, B13, B15, B16, and B17. The angled roof evokes the upward momentum of flight, reflecting the aerospace engineering achievements of the teams working in the engineering buildings around the space and the purpose and history of JSC as the center of human spaceflight.

The four peripheral huddle spaces are intended to strengthen teams that work within the surrounding buildings. Teams will personally construct these gathering spaces from prefabricated kits that will consist of composite materials in a muted gray color that will closely match the central meeting space with dark wood-finish slats to provide for privacy while still minimizing visual obstruction to the historic buildings. Enclosure 5 includes examples of the type of prefabricated kit to be used. These examples were chosen for simple, rectangular form with an open design to maximize visibility to the surrounding historic buildings and campus.

The proposed Project would lie within the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible JSC Historic District and within the viewshed of eligible buildings B13, B15, B16, and B17, and, as such, NASA JSC has taken efforts to analyze the potential adverse effects to historic properties in the identified Area of Potential Effect (APE) (Enclosure 3).

B13, the Structures and Mechanics Laboratory, is located on Avenue D due east of B15 and was constructed in 1964. B13 is eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A, Criterion B, and Criterion C. The proposed Project would be visible from the west façade of B13's north wing and the north façade of B13's south wing. The current view is that of the east side of B15, the south side of B16, and scattered mature trees on the otherwise open landscape of the Engineering Quad. The proposed Project would mostly retain that view and feel, allowing visibility of the same features through unobstructive structures with muted colors that blend in with the existing setting.

B15, the Experiments and Systems Laboratory, is located on Avenue D and was constructed in 1964. B15 is eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A and Criterion C. The proposed Project would be visible from the east façade of B15's north wing. The current view is that of the west side of B13's north wing, the north side of B13's south wing, and scattered mature trees on the otherwise open landscape of the Engineering Quad. The proposed Project would mostly retain that view and feel, allowing visibility of the same features through unobstructive structures with muted colors that blend in with the existing setting.

B16, the Avionics Systems Laboratory, is located at the terminus of Delta Link Road and was constructed in 1964. B16 is eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A, Criterion B, and Criterion C. The proposed Project would be visible from the south façade of B16 but partially obscured by mature trees. The current view is that of the north side of B13 and B15 and scattered mature trees on the otherwise open landscape of the Engineering Quad. The proposed Project would retain that view and feel, having trees and landscaping, but would include unobstructive structures with muted colors that blend in with the existing setting.

B17, the Engineering and Applications Development Laboratory, is located on Second Street west of B16 and was constructed in 1972. B17 is eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A and Criterion C. The proposed Project would be visible from the south façade of B17 but mostly obscured by the north wing of B15 and mature trees. The current view is that of scattered mature trees with minimal visibility of the north side of B13 and B15 on the otherwise open landscape of the Engineering Quad. The proposed Project would retain that view and feel, having trees and landscaping, but would include unobstructive structures with muted colors that blend in with the existing setting.

Photos and renderings were taken from buildings located in the identified visual APE to better demonstrate potential impacts to the current viewshed in the JSC Historic District (Enclosure 3: APE Viewshed Analysis – Photos and Renderings). These buildings include B13, B15, B16, and B17. The Outdoor Space would be minimally visible from B16 and B17 and would not pose an adverse effect due to the mature trees that adequately suppress views in the

direction of the newly proposed Project. The Outdoor Space would be fully visible at ground level from only B13 and B15, and the minimal, muted nature of the proposed structures would reduce any visual impacts so that it would not pose an adverse effect. Based on a visual analysis of the renderings and photos included in Enclosure 3, the new Outdoor Space will have No Adverse Effect to historic properties or the JSC Historic District in the indirect (visual) APE.

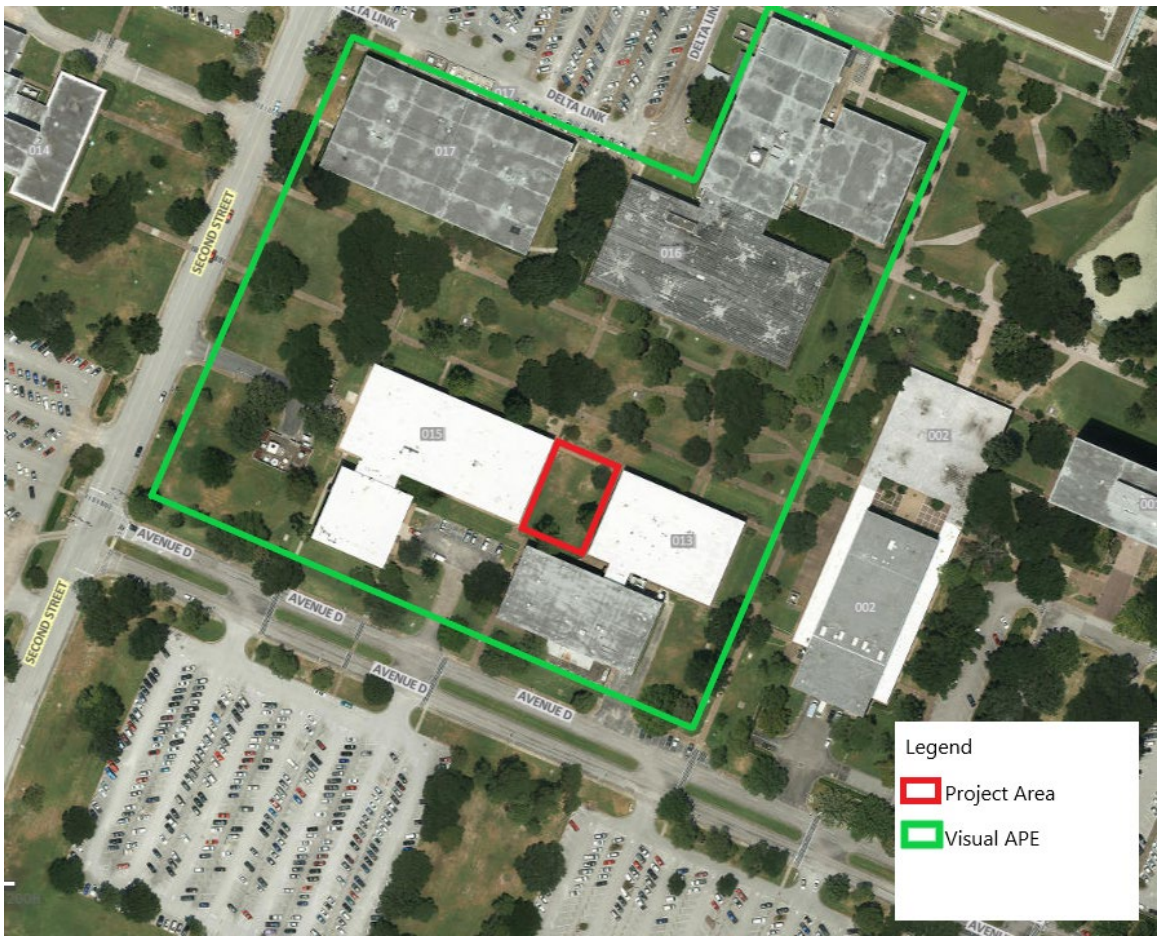
Regarding potential adverse effects in the direct APE, the Project will be constructed in the cultural landscape known as the Engineering Quad. In 2013, NASA JSC conducted a 100 percent pedestrian and reconnaissance archaeological survey of the approximately 1,670-acre campus. This study identified no archaeological sites or resources within the direct APE. Additionally, in 2017, NASA JSC completed the Historic and Architectural Survey and Evaluation of Facilities, identifying and making recommendations of significance on all 459 of JSC's assets. The survey identified that the Engineering Quad "offer[s] employees and visitors valuable outdoor gathering spaces." The proposed Outdoor Space would retain and enhance this original purpose, providing a collaborative space for meetings, events, and recreation. The meeting spaces planned for construction in Phase 2 would also be relatively impermanent, allowing the area to be returned to its historic appearance easily. In an effort to reduce impacts to the Historic District, the network of historic sidewalks will remain unchanged. Based on the findings of these studies, the proposed Project will have No Adverse Effect on the cultural landscape of the Engineering Quad in the direct APE.

Consistent with the obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NASA JSC has sought input from interested parties and the public on this project. These notices are in progress concurrently with this consultation with your office. Should the outreach result in an opinion that conflicts or provides useful information as it pertains to the determination of No Adverse Effect, we will supplement the file with your office. NASA JSC appreciates the THC's continued support and collaboration.

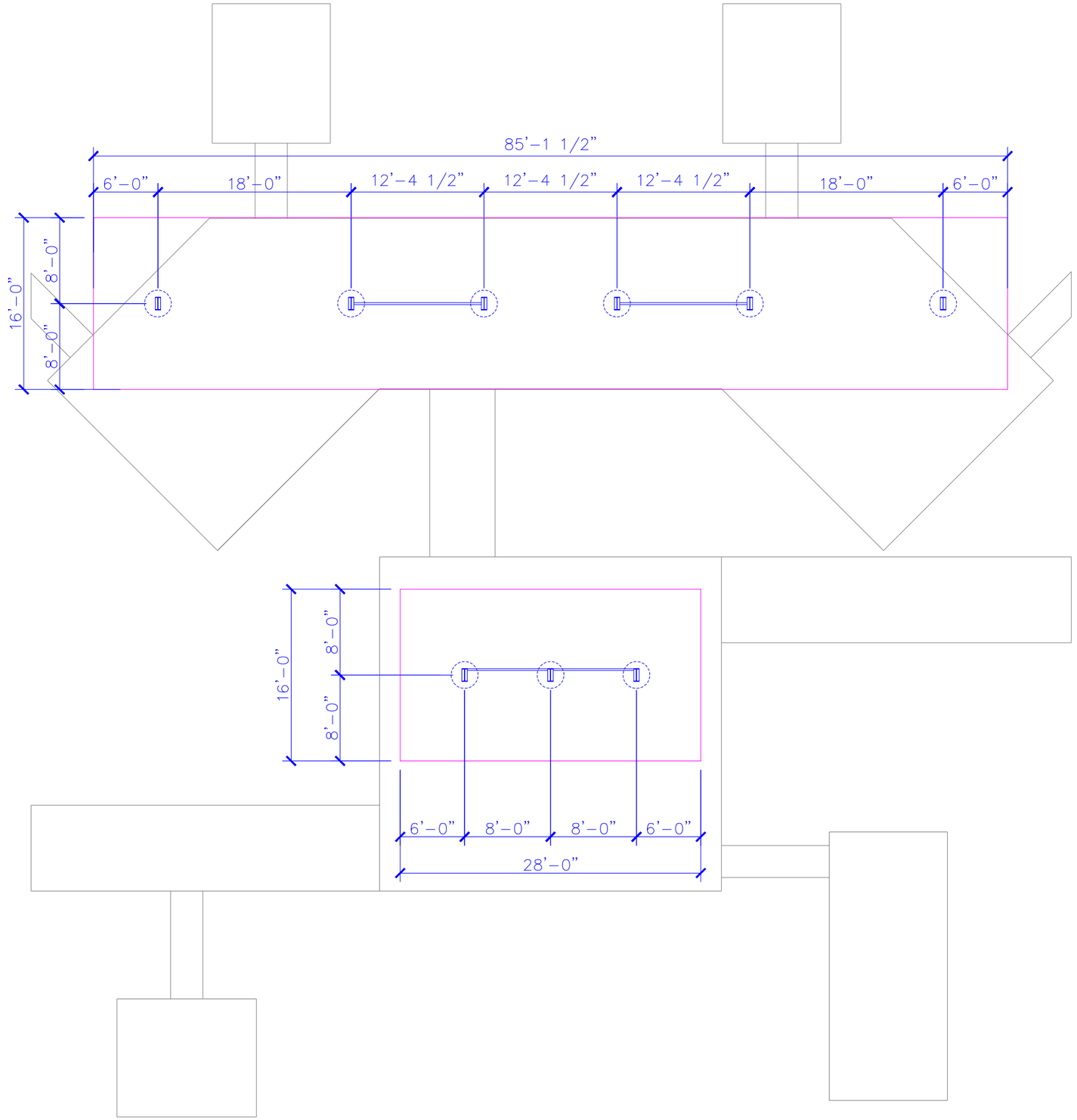
Thank you for your attention to this supplemental information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 346-686-5332 or by email at jennifer.l.morrison@nasa.gov.

ENCLOSURE 2
Site Map and Proposed Project Area

Site Map and Proposed Project Area



ENCLOSURE 3
Design Drawings



CANOPY PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

JSC ENGINEERING NASA

B13-15 OUTDOOR SPACE

BUILDING 13
BUILDING 15

ISSUE

MK	DATE	DESCRIPTION

SHEET DATA

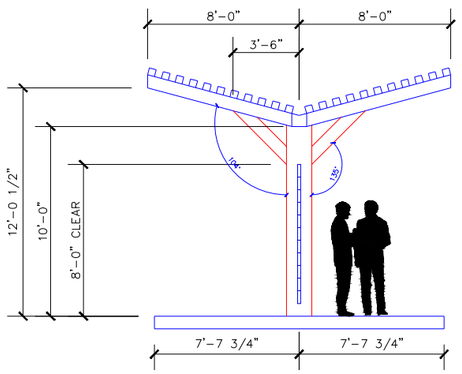
DRAWN BY: ---

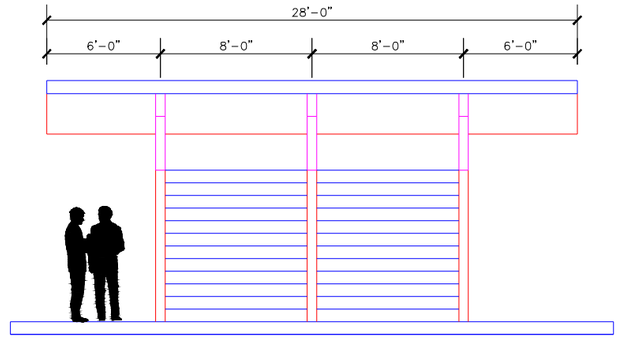
ISSUE DATE: --/--/--

SHEET

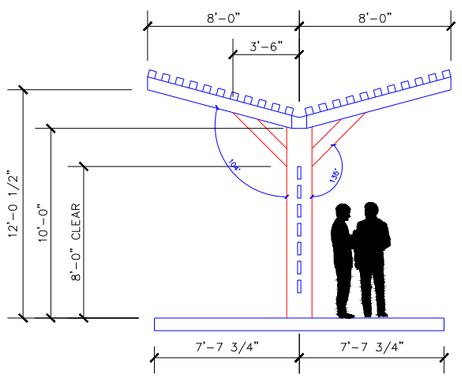
A104

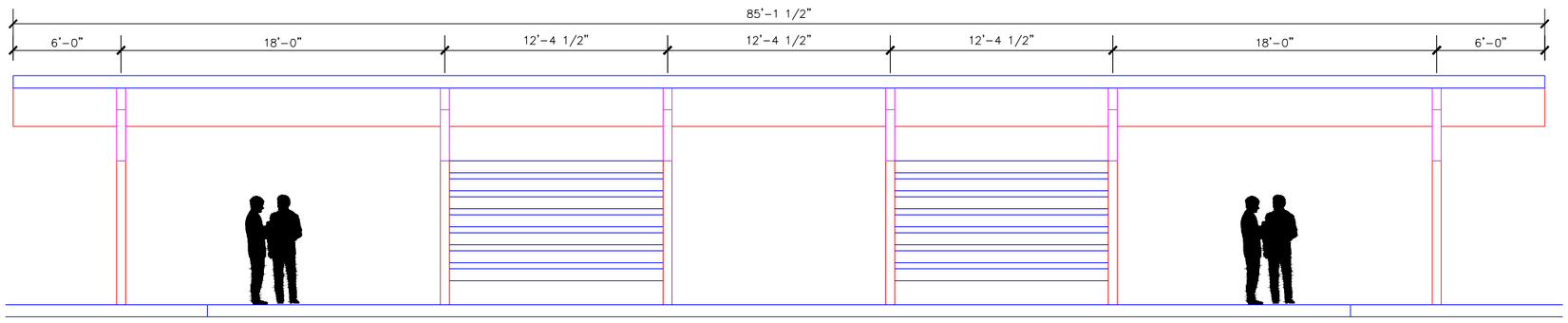
PROPOSED FINISH FOR CANOPIES (IMAGES REPRESENT FINISH ONLY)





FRONT & SIDE ELEVATION SMALL CANOPY
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"





FRONT & SIDE ELEVATION LARGE CANOPY
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

JSC ENGINEERING NASA

B13-15 OUTDOOR SPACE

BUILDING 13
BUILDING 15

ISSUE

MK	DATE	DESCRIPTION

SHEET DATA

DRAWN BY: ---

ISSUE DATE: --/--/--

SHEET

A105

ENCLOSURE 4
APE Viewshed Analysis Photos

APE Viewshed Analysis Photos

Looking north from proposed Outdoor Space toward B16 (visible; partially obscured by mature trees)

Looking northwest from proposed Outdoor Space toward B17 (visible; mostly obscured by mature trees)

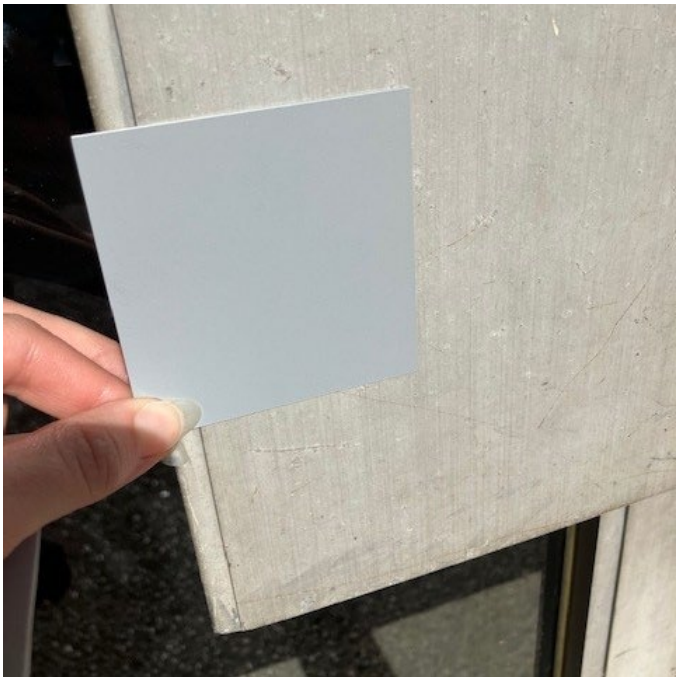
Looking south from B16 toward proposed Outdoor Space (visible; partially obscured by mature trees)

Looking southeast from B17 toward proposed Outdoor Space (visible; mostly obscured by mature trees)

ENCLOSURE 5
Material Samples

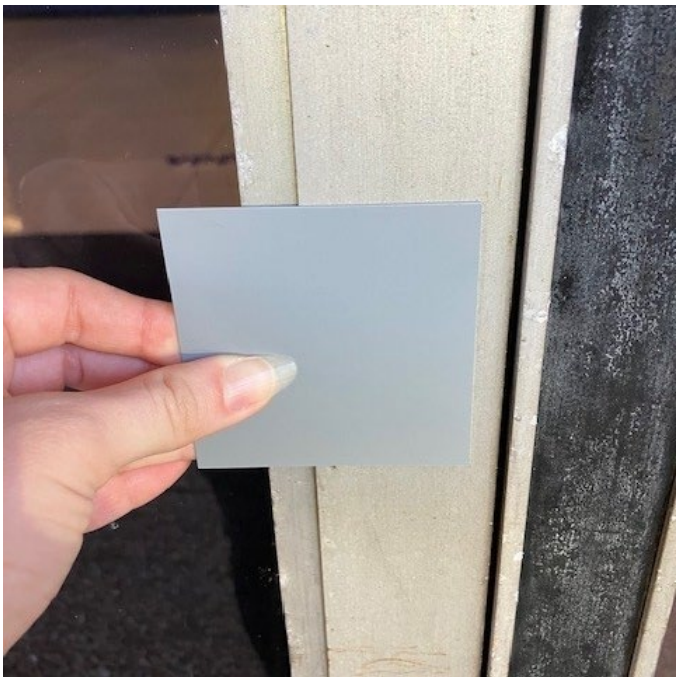
Material Samples

Meeting and Utility Space Canopy Color:



Matte gray finish compared to metal door and window framing on nearby B16 under daylight conditions

Sample of matte gray finish compared to metal door and window framing on nearby B15 under shaded conditions



Matte gray finish compared to metal door and window framing on nearby B15 under shaded conditions with artificial light

Huddle Space Kit Examples:

(Aluminum frame and horizontal slats)

(Aluminum frame and horizontal slats)

(Aluminum frame and wooden horizontal slats)