

# Tai Chi Cafe - Area Plan and Site Plan

1357 Wisconsin Ave, NW 20007 September 21, 2022

# sanchez palmer architects



Optional tenant signage mounted to fascia above louver

Surface-mounted louver – in perimeter frame for fresh air intake. Louver size: 24" h x 16'-0" w

# Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Option 1

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# Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Option 1

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Optional tenant signage mounted to fascia above louver or on blank section between louvers

Surface-mounted louvers – in perimeter frame for fresh air intake. Louver sizes: 24" h x 24" w

# Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Option 2

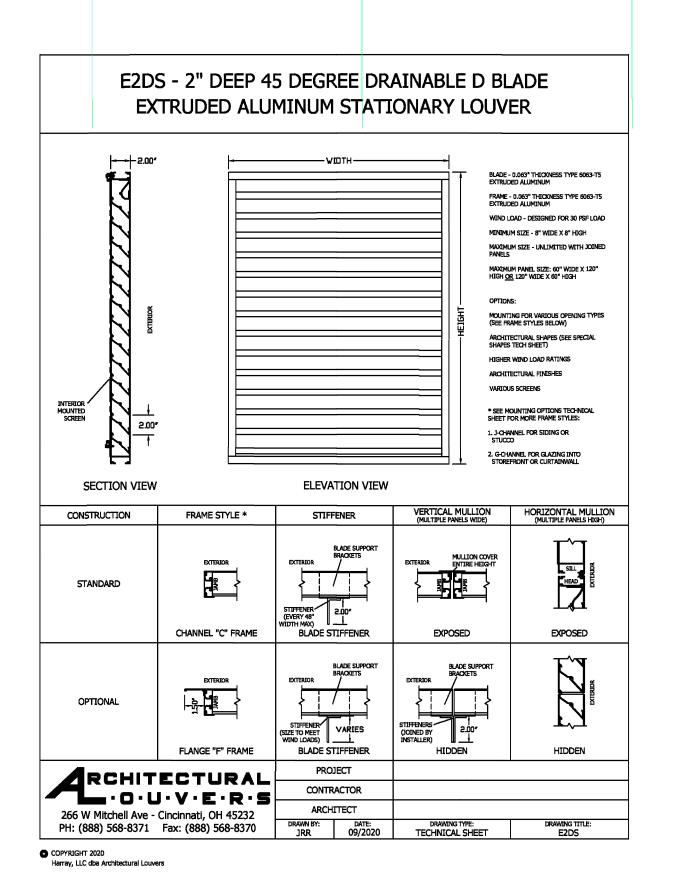
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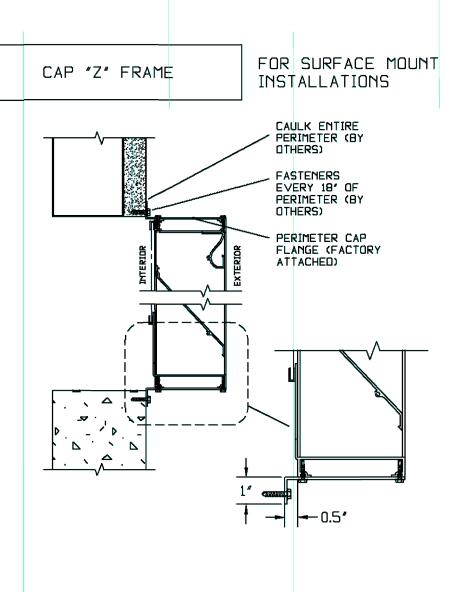


# Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Option 2

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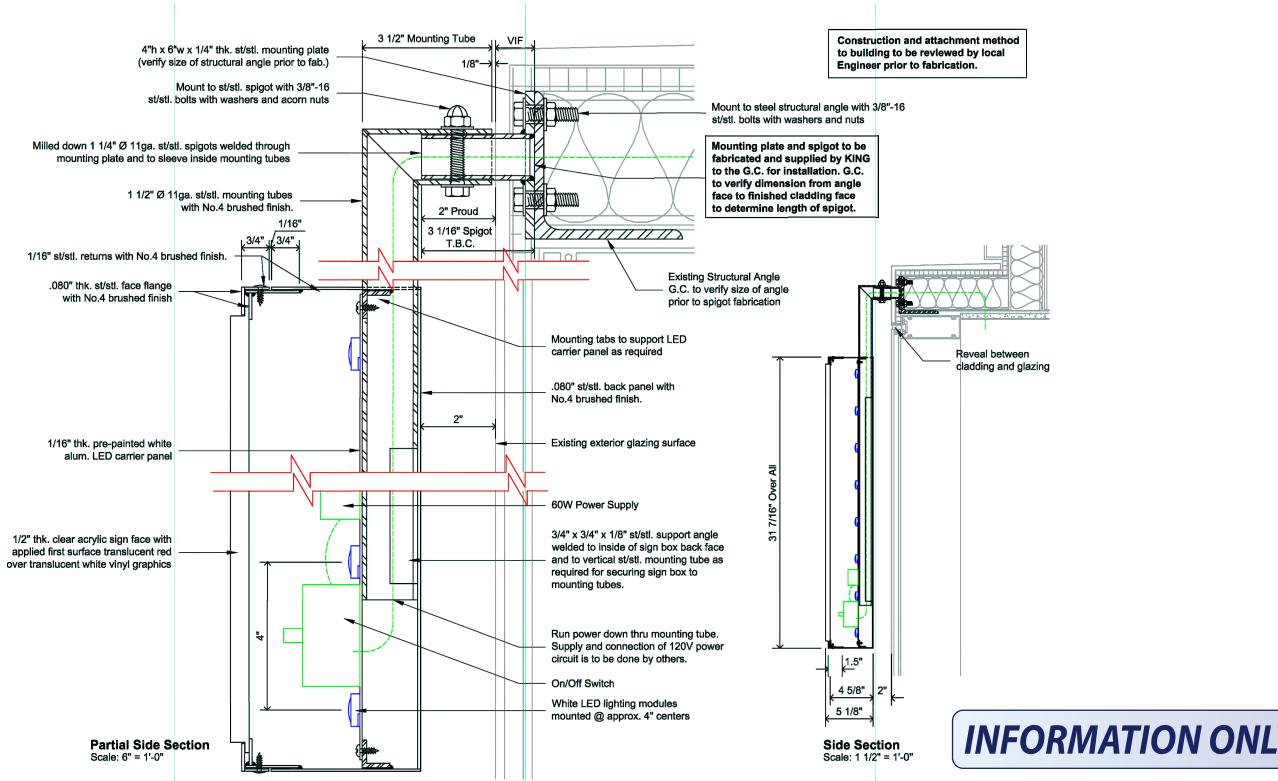


#### Manufacturer's Standard Detail for Surface-Mounted Installation NTS

Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Louver Details

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# Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Example Sign Mounting Detail Over Option 1 Louver

# **INFORMATION ONLY**

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View from third floor window onto low roof with alley beyond



View from alley to one story building and apartment entrance. Stair enclosure to from grade to upper residential level at left with second & third story residential beyond.

Tai Chi Cafe - Exterior Louver for Fresh Air Intake - Exterior Photos at Rear/Alley Side of Building



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> September 22, 2022 Tai Chi Café – 1357 Wisconsin Ave NW

Jessica Stevenson Amos Historic Preservation Specialist U.S. Commission of Fine Arts 401 F Street, NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC, 20001

Dear Mrs. Amos:

On behalf of our client, Yong Sen Chen and TaiChi DC LLC, we are seeking approval of a new louver or louvers to be installed in the exterior façade of building 1357 Wisconsin Ave, NW as part of the new mechanical system associated with the construction of a new café, Tai Chi Bubble Tea. The louver(s) are to provide make-up air for the exhaust hood system serving the kitchen and cooking operations in the café. The balance of the work scope related to the renovations for the new café were previously approved under permit number B2208712. The enclosed exhibits show two proposed options for the location and size of the louver(s).

The proposed location of the are intake louvers on the street-facing façade are for the following reasons:

- The kitchen hood exhaust fan is located at the rear of the building, on a low roof and away from roof edge to mitigate the visual impact of new roof-top equipment.
- The location for make-up intake must be located remotely from the exhaust to avoid reintroducing contaminated air into the café.
- The area under the rear-side low roof is outside of the café tenant area and currently occupied by building services/systems and an occupied residential unit. An access route to the roof for exhaust ductwork is possible only in the common corridor. This route is not large enough to accommodate both exhaust and make-up air ducts and does not provide access to two remote areas of the low roof that would allow compliance with the requirement to separate exhaust and intake locations.
- The street-facing façade is part of the area controlled by our client and the café operations and includes an area of wall over top of the existing bay window awnings that is large enough to accommodate the required intake louvers. This area is also below the horizontal frieze and coping of the original façade which were preserved in a recent renovation of the base building.
- This field of exterior wall corresponds to other nearby architectural precedents with ground floor commercial uses, which have a clerestory above an entry canopy or bay window. This clearstory is

often the location for both signage and similar louvers or mechanical installations required by the interior use.

• The proposed louver(s) will serve as a location for make-up air only and will not discharge contaminated or grease-laden air.

We offer two options in the enclosed exhibits for the installation of the requested louver(s).

- Option 1 would provide an oversized louver that fills the available wall field to become an architectural element on its own. The portion of the louver not needed for intake air will be blocked off and retain the existing wall behind. Although a sign request in no part of this application, we provide an option for attachment of a potential sign to demonstrate how one could be attached if the current or a future client wishes to install signage over the louver.
- Option 2 would split the required louver size of 48"x48" into two equal sized louvers located at either end of the blank wall field. This option would retain existing wall for directly mounting of a future sign.

We appreciate your consideration of these options and would be glad to discuss with you ahead of the public hearing any concerns you may have about our proposal, as well as any suggestion you may have to alterations to our options that would be appropriate for the use and architectural consideration of the building.

Sincerely, Joseph McCoy, AIA, LEED AP