

Mayor

Patrick Slayter

City Council

Neysa Hinton, Vice Mayor

Michael Carnacchi

Una Glass

Sarah Glade Gurney



*City of Sebastopol*

Agenda Report Reviewed by:

City Manager/City Attorney

City Manager/City Attorney

Larry McLaughlin

City Clerk

Mary Gourley

Meeting Date:

Meeting of April 3, 2018

To:

Mayor and City Council

From:

Kenyon Webster, Planning Director

Subject:

Consideration of Revised Design for Ned Kahn  
Public Artwork at Highway 12 Bridge  
Recommended by Public Arts Committee

Recommendation:

Authorize Implementation, Approve Budget

Funding:

Currently Budgeted: \_\_\_ Yes x No \_\_\_ N/A

**Introduction:**

This report recommends that the City Council review a revised design for the Ned Kahn public artwork at the new Highway 12 Bridge, amend the budget to provide necessary funding, and authorize staff to proceed with implementation.

**Background:**

The City conducted an extensive process for the City's first commissioned public art project, selecting local artist Ned Kahn's proposal. The Council later supported a site selection for the project, on the eastern approaches to the new Highway 12 Bridge, in Caltrans right-of-way.

Sebastopol has a 'percent for art' fee, where major projects either provide on-site public art, or pay an in-lieu fee which the City uses for public art projects in the community. These monies cannot be used for other purposes. The project is funded by this fee.

After a lengthy process led by the City's Public Arts Committee, artist Ned Kahn was selected and approved by the City Council. Mr. Kahn, a Sebastopol resident, is a world-renowned artist. The Council later approved the final siting for the artwork (on two piers constructed by Caltrans at the City's request for this purpose) at the eastern approaches to the new Highway 12 Bridge, and authorized staff to apply for Caltrans permits to install it.

As reviewed at that time, the project consisted of two 40-foot tall, 3-foot diameter, cylindrical artworks that would be installed on the existing piers, which are located to the sides of the eastern approaches to the Bridge. The columns were proposed to be identical in structure, but each would have a kinetic skin that will respond to the wind in a different way. The wind-responsive "leaves" on the North tower would be free to rotate 360-degrees on vertical axes, thus revealing the direction of the wind, while the leaves on the South tower would sway back and forth on horizontal axes, revealing the pressure patterns of the wind.

### **Caltrans Permitting:**

Pursuant to Council direction, and working closely with Mr. Kahn, staff submitted a 'Transportation Art' application to Caltrans. While Caltrans was receptive to the project, based on their adopted transportation art guidelines, Caltrans had two significant issues with the proposal: inclusion of 'kinetic' elements; and reflectivity. These two guidelines are intended to address safety concerns for drivers.

Mr. Kahn presented extensive documentation about other similar installations on or adjacent to roadways throughout the world, to date likely experienced by millions of drivers, with no known safety issues. Mr. Kahn and Planning staff met with the Caltrans Transportation Art Committee, and Mr. Kahn subsequently provided materials samples and design revisions. However, even with some revisions, the two elements of concern remained for Caltrans. Mr. Kahn felt that the further changes required by Caltrans would unacceptably compromise the artwork.

Given the Caltrans concerns, Mr. Kahn generously developed a revised project design. The new design would continue to utilize the two existing piers, and would consist of curved, 40'-tall metal poles that would arch away from the roadway, with a bar from which silver 'chain mail' polycarbonate fabric would be suspended. Even slight air movement would cause the fabric to respond, generating rippling or wave-like appearance, similar to water. The orientation of the installation would be roughly parallel to the highway to address visual impact concerns of Caltrans. Reflectivity is minimized by the choice of material and color.

The Caltrans transportation art coordinator arranged for review of the revised concept by the Caltrans transportation art committee on January 24, 2018. The committee expressed support for the design and had constructive comments.

On February 7, 2018, the revised design was presented to the City's Public Arts Committee (minutes attached). The Committee unanimously expressed very strong support for the revised design, and is recommending Council approval.

### **Budget:**

Given significant site search delays and Caltrans issues, project funding was not allocated in this year's budget. The Art In-Lieu Fee Fund has a balance of approximately \$128,000. The approved artist commission is \$45,000; an additional amount of \$5,000 is estimated to be needed for potential minor roadway improvement requirements that were not originally contemplated, but may be required by Caltrans, for a total allocation of \$50,000.

### **Recommendation:**

As with the original proposal, the revised design expresses both the Sebastopol community's creative character and its appreciation for the natural environment. As such, the Sebastopol Portal public art project will create an elegant, expressive, unique and distinctive entry to Sebastopol.

It is recommended that the Council:

1. Authorize staff to proceed with project implementation; and
2. Amend the FY 2017-18 budget to allocate \$50,000 for the project from the Art In-Lieu Fee Fund.

**Attachments:**

Information regarding updated design of Sebastopol Portal Project  
Public Arts Committee February 7, 2018 minutes



**City of Sebastopol**  
*Incorporated 1902*  
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[www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us](http://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us)

## APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE  
CITY OF SEBASTOPOL  
MINUTES OF February 07, 2018

SEBASTOPOL CITY HALL  
7120 BODEGA AVENUE  
10:30 a.m.

### **PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE:**

The notice of the meeting was posted on February 01, 2018.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Chair Gordon acknowledged new Committee Member, Lars Langberg. Committee Member Langberg was accepted as the Design Review Board's liaison to the Public Arts Committee by the City Council at their meeting last night.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

|                 |                                                                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> | Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg and Mills-Thysen |
| <b>Absent:</b>  | None                                                                        |
| <b>Staff:</b>   | Kenyon Webster, Planning Director<br>Rebecca Mansour, Planning Technician   |

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** January 03, 2018

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

Committee Member Vertz seconded the motion.

|       |          |                                                                             |
|-------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| VOTE: | Ayes:    | Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg And Mills-Thysen |
|       | Noes:    | None                                                                        |
|       | Abstain: | None                                                                        |

#### **4. PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST:**

Director Webster updated the Committee on the following:

- Last night, the City Council considered purchase of, 'The Door' sculpture.
  - The majority of the Council agreed with the Committee's recommendation to not purchase the sculpture due to precedent.
  - The Council expressed a desire to retain the sculpture, if possible.

- Requested that staff look into a community campaign in hopes of collecting enough donations to be able to retain the sculpture without having to use City funds, or working with the Center for the Arts on a campaign.
- The artist has indicated he is okay with such an effort.
- On February 20, the Council will consider a comprehensive cannabis ordinance.

The Committee asked questions of Director Webster.

**5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** There were none.

**6. STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** There were none.

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR:** There were none.

**8. REGULAR AGENDA:** There were none.

**9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A. UPDATE ON HIGHWAY 12 BRIDGE PUBLIC ART PROJECT, NED KAHN, ARTIST:** Per direction from the City Council, the artist and Planning staff have been working with Caltrans to address requirements for placement of public art at the planned location on existing piers to the sides of the bridge. As a result of Caltrans' requirements, the design has been revised. The artist will present the revised design to the Committee.

Director Webster provided a brief introduction.

Mr. Kahn gave a presentation.

The Committee asked questions of Director Webster and Mr. Kahn throughout their discussion.

With no members of the public present, the Committee discussed the revised design.

Chair Gordon commented:

- The proposal is fantastic.
- Expressed being much happier with this proposal than he was with the prior design.
- Would like for it to run more perpendicular to the plane.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Suggested that the arc be larger, like a half-circle.
- The linear quality of it will change with more of an arc.

Mr. Kahn invited Committee members to come to his shop in Santa Rosa to see it for themselves.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Suggested tilting it to the horizontal plane slightly.
- Liked Committee Member Arnold's suggestion about making the arc larger.

Committee Member Vertz commented:

- Loved the redesign.
- The view from inside the arc was especially mesmerizing.
- Agreed with the suggestion to have more of an arc.

Mr. Kahn commented that the arc could be hanging from two cables to give it greater movement.

The Committee expressed support for that idea.

Chair Gordon asked Mr. Kahn for his preference in terms of color.

Mr. Kahn expressed a preference for silver as it is subdued, looks really beautiful and picks up colors from its surroundings.

Chair Gordon commented:

- This is a significant piece for Sebastopol.
- Reiterated his support for the redesigned artwork.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- The more abstract this gets the better it is.
- Going horizontal would be less interesting.
- Liked the idea of making the arc more dramatic.
- Truck traffic will bring a lot of movement to it as well.
- The proposal is awesome.
- The idea of a gateway at this entry has been a goal for quite some time.
  - This is a great opportunity get exactly that.
- This will be wonderful.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Agreed with Committee Member Langberg.
- It would be nice to see a rendering of the design and any possible changes now that Mr. Kahn has heard from the Committee.
  - Expressed being torn on whether or not the Committee should ask Mr. Kahn to return once more before forwarding it on to Council.

Mr. Kahn provided a quick sketch of the 'before and after' in response to Committee comments.

Committee Member Arnold noted that the poles are at different heights on either side of the road and asked Mr. Kahn if he was planning to adjust for that to make them even.

Mr. Kahn responded that he was not sure about that and expressed a willingness to either make them the same height, or to acknowledge the topography by not adjusting for the difference.

Committee Member Arnold expressed being in support of forwarding this on for Council consideration.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Expressed being in support of forwarding this on for Council consideration.
- Preferred that the artwork be silver in color.

Chair Gordon commented:

- Expressed being in support of forwarding this on for Council consideration.
- Supports use of the silver color.
- Mr. Kahn's explanation is sufficient.
- This has been a long process.
  - Caltrans is a collaborator here because the project is different as a result of their input.
- The end result will be an interesting art piece.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Supports forwarding the described artwork on for Council consideration.
- Expressed appreciation for the time and effort of Mr. Kahn and Director Webster.
- Suggested consideration of a long 'S' shape rather than a simple curve.

Mr. Kahn responded that he would take that into consideration, but was not sure if that was desirable.

Committee Member Vertz commented:

- This has gone in an amazing direction.
- Loves the proposal.
- Trusts Mr. Kahn's creative direction.
- Loves the silver color.
- Supports forwarding this on for Council consideration.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to forward the revised proposal, as discussed during this meeting, on to the City Council for their consideration.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen seconded the motion.

|       |          |                                                                                |
|-------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| VOTE: | Ayes:    | Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg<br>And Mills-Thysen |
|       | Noes:    | None                                                                           |
|       | Abstain: | None                                                                           |

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- City representatives were recently able to put a halt to a Caltrans project having to do with ADA and sidewalks due to several concerns.
- Expressed being encouraged by Mr. Kahn's ability to work with Caltrans on this.
- After many, many years of this not being the case, he expressed being happy to see that progress is being made in working with Caltrans.

Committee Member Arnold asked Mr. Kahn what his anticipated timeline was.

Mr. Kahn commented that he hoped to have it installed by the end of the year.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented that it would be nice to run an article in the paper once an installation date is known.

Director Webster responded in the affirmative.

The Committee thanked Mr. Kahn for coming before the Committee with this revised design.

**B. DISCUSSION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC ART**

**PROJECT:** With a planned site of the Bodega-fronting wall of the Sebastopol Library, the Committee will continue discussion of a Request for Proposals draft.

Director Webster presented the staff report.

The Committee asked questions of Director Webster.

The Committee agreed to revise the third sentence under, 'Selection Criteria,' as follows: 'Practicality of the fabrication process; reasonableness of the project budget; and schedule may also be factors in the selection.'

A Committee Member suggested that the word, 'feasibility' could be used in place of the word, 'practicality' and deferred to staff on final wording.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to forward the revised RFP, as discussed during this meeting, on to the City Council for their consideration.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to forward the revised proposal, as discussed during this meeting, on to the City Council for their consideration.

Committee Member Vertz seconded the motion.

|       |          |                                                                                |
|-------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| VOTE: | Ayes:    | Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg<br>And Mills-Thysen |
|       | Noes:    | None                                                                           |
|       | Abstain: | None                                                                           |

**10. REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEE/STAFF:** Depending on when the draft Request for Proposals goes before the Council, is it possible that the PAC meeting in March would be canceled.

**11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** There were none.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Gordon adjourned the meeting of the Sebastopol Public Arts Committee at 11:35 a.m. to the regular Public Arts Committee Meeting to be held March 07, 2018 at 10:30 a.m., at the City Hall Conference Room, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kenyon Webster  
Planning Director

## Kenyon Webster

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**From:** Ned Kahn <nedkahn@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 2:02 AM  
**To:** Kenyon Webster  
**Subject:** latest

Hi Kenyon,

Here's a link to a slide show of images for my revised artwork proposal:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/lorc9mbwq4u06dp/Sebastopol-Portal-KML.pdf?dl=0>

Here is a link to a video of the mockup:

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/3fjo6zq745ql0hp/IMG\\_1377.m4v?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/3fjo6zq745ql0hp/IMG_1377.m4v?dl=0)

Here is a short description:

After many twists and turns, CalTrans agreed that they would bend their rules if the kinetic surface was suspended up high, out of the direct view line of drivers and set back from the edge of the roadway so that the artwork did not break the plane of the airspace above the roadway. They ultimately gave us preliminary approval of the design that we are now presenting to council and which was approved by the art committee. The design consists of 2 tall support structures, one on each side of the roadway, bolted to the existing concrete piers. Attached to the top of the support structures will be a curved, horizontal metal bar which will hold a 20' square sheet of silver-colored, polycarbonate chainmail fabric, only held at the top so it is free to flutter in the wind. The fabric has a sheen that reflects light and color from the sky and surrounding landscape but it is much less reflective than the metal leaves in my earlier proposals which was an issue for CalTrans. Video of previous chainmail installations and a sample of the material convinced them that this fabric does not pose any reflectivity issues. The shimmering motion of the fabric is evocative of water which is in line with my original proposal for the artwork to reference the water, often invisible, of the Laguna.

The supports will consist of a pair of 8" diameter steel tubes, rolled to a graceful curve that meets the curve of the 4" diameter steel top bar. All parts will be painted a metallic grey similar to the chainmail to give the entire structure a coherent visual appearance. The artwork will be fabricated in my workshop in Santa Rosa and can be craned into place in a few hours one night, not requiring any lane closures. The polycarbonate material is entirely UV stable and extremely durable. It will last for many decades with no degradation or color change or required maintenance. It is unaffected by extreme winds.

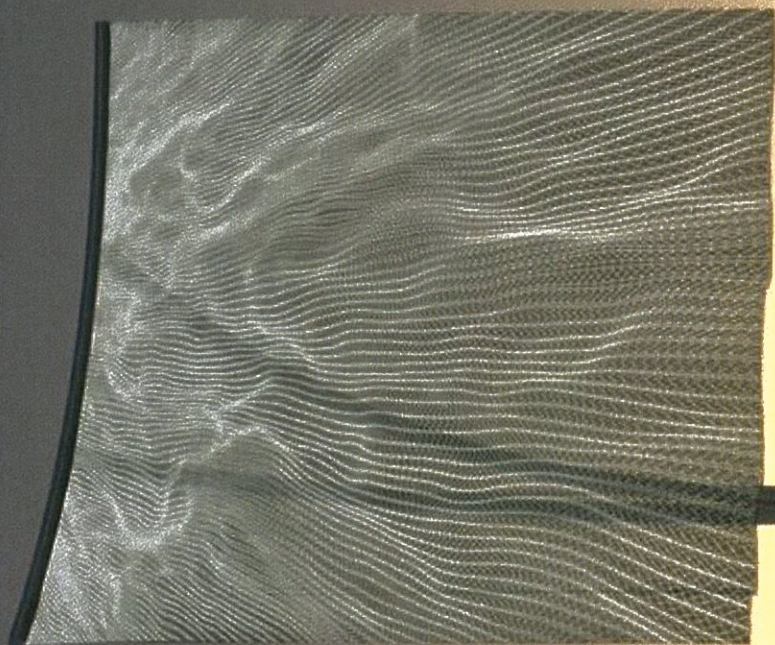
Ned Kahn

Ned Kahn Studios  
1899 Mariner Drive  
Sebastopol, CA, 95472  
nedkahn@earthlink.net  
nedkahn.com  
(707) 823 1760

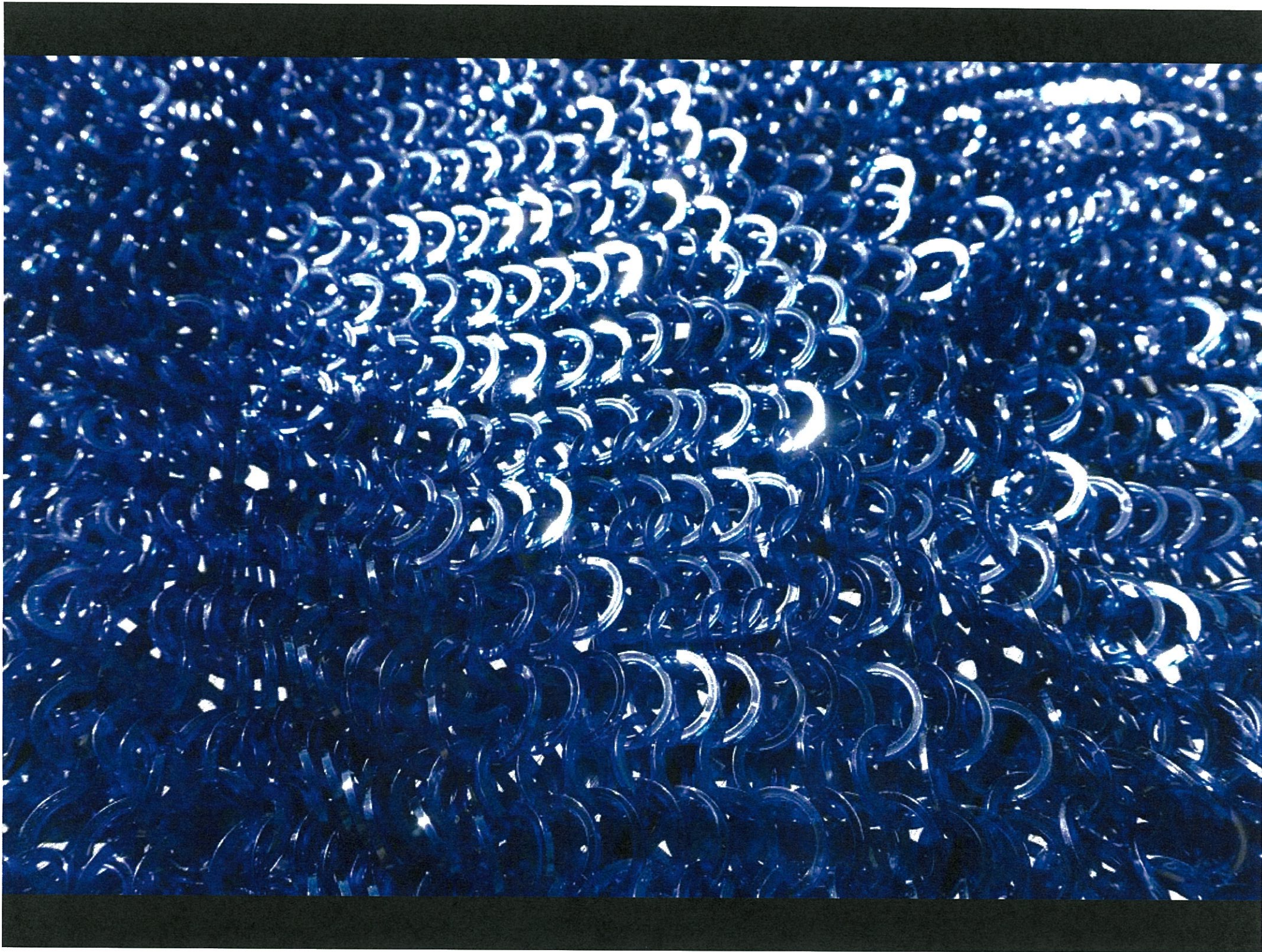
# Sebastopol Portal

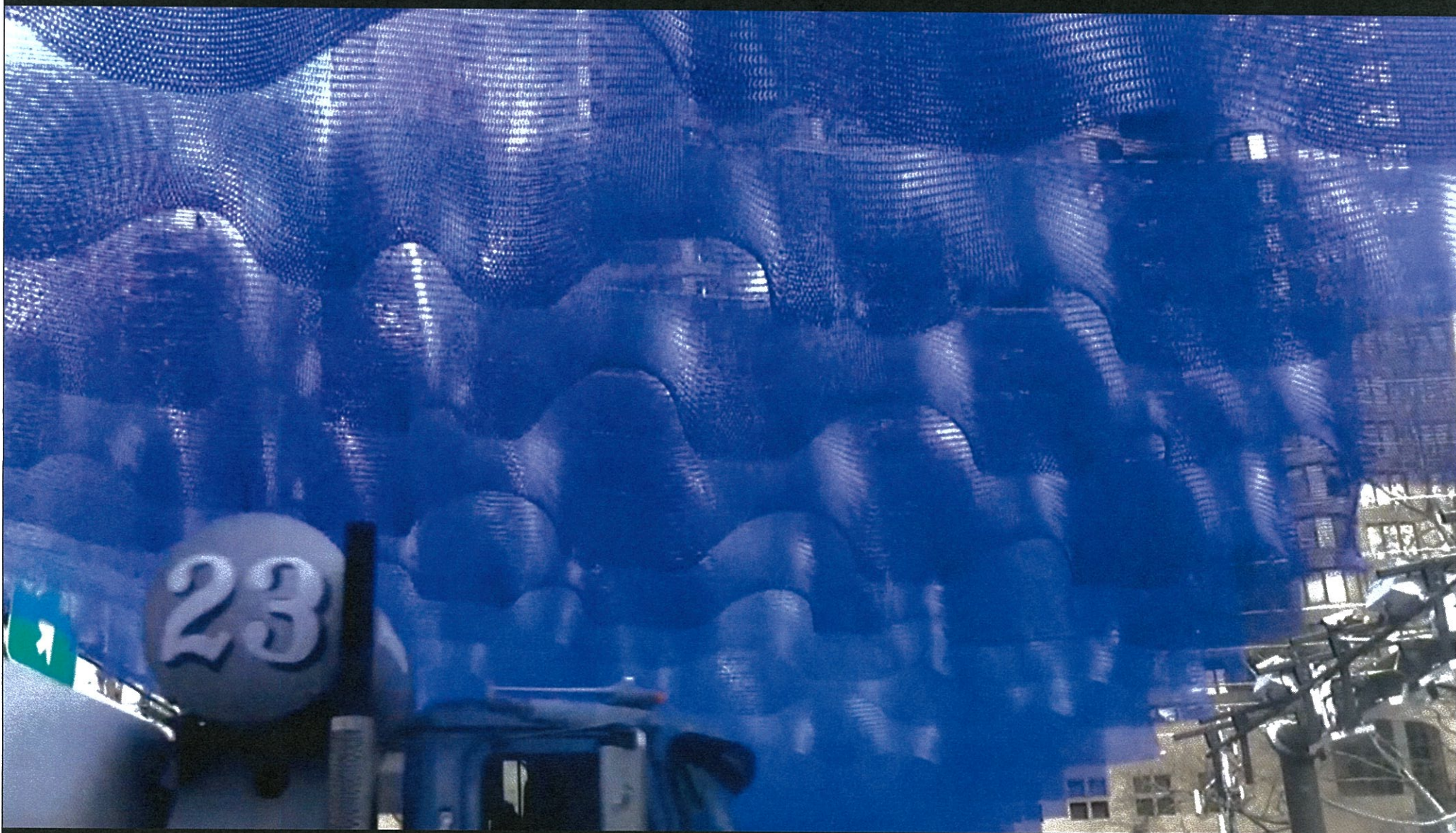
Revised Proposal, March 2018  
Ned Kahn



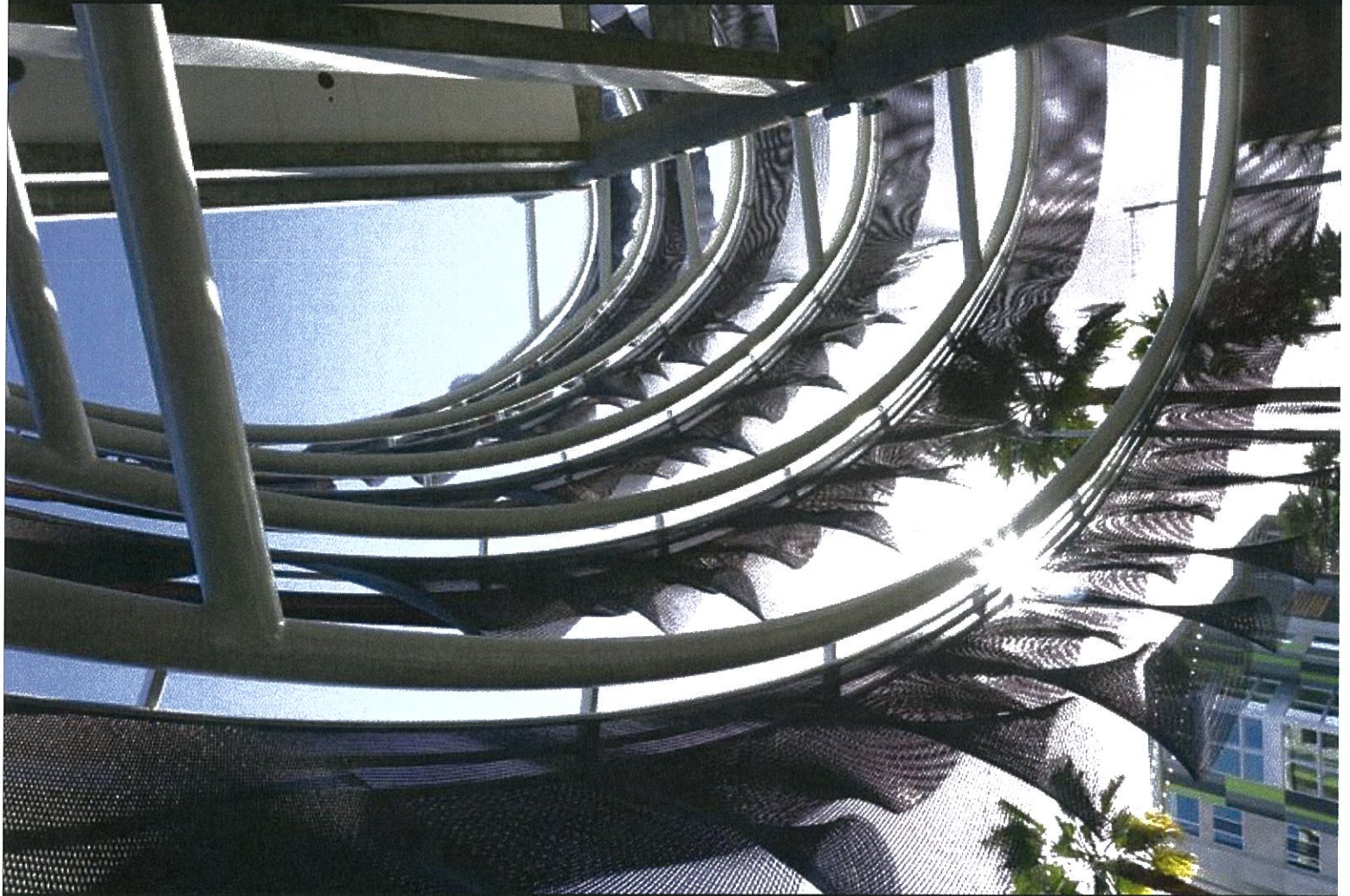




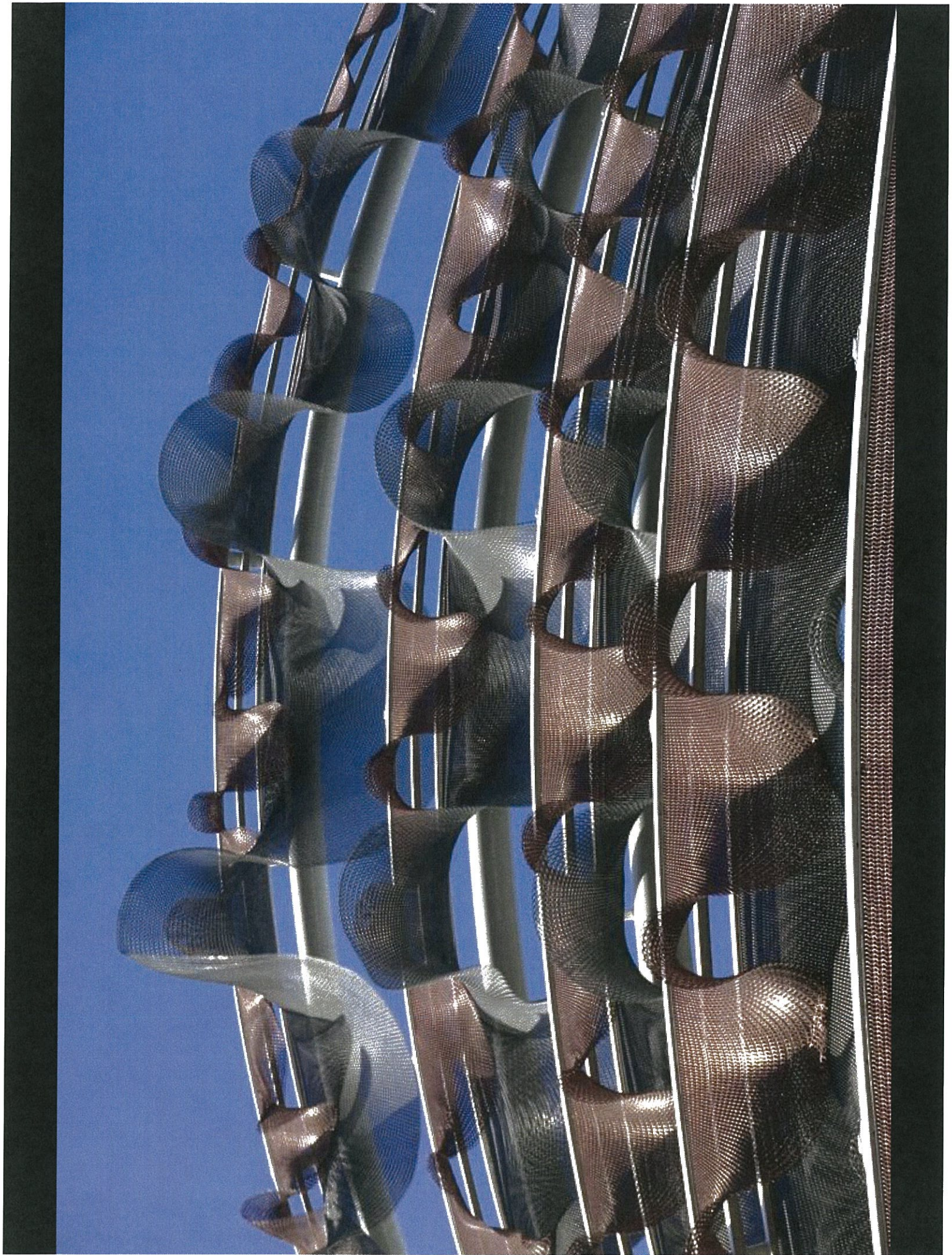






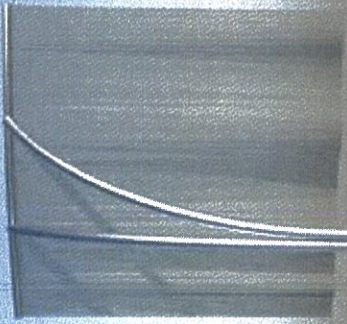


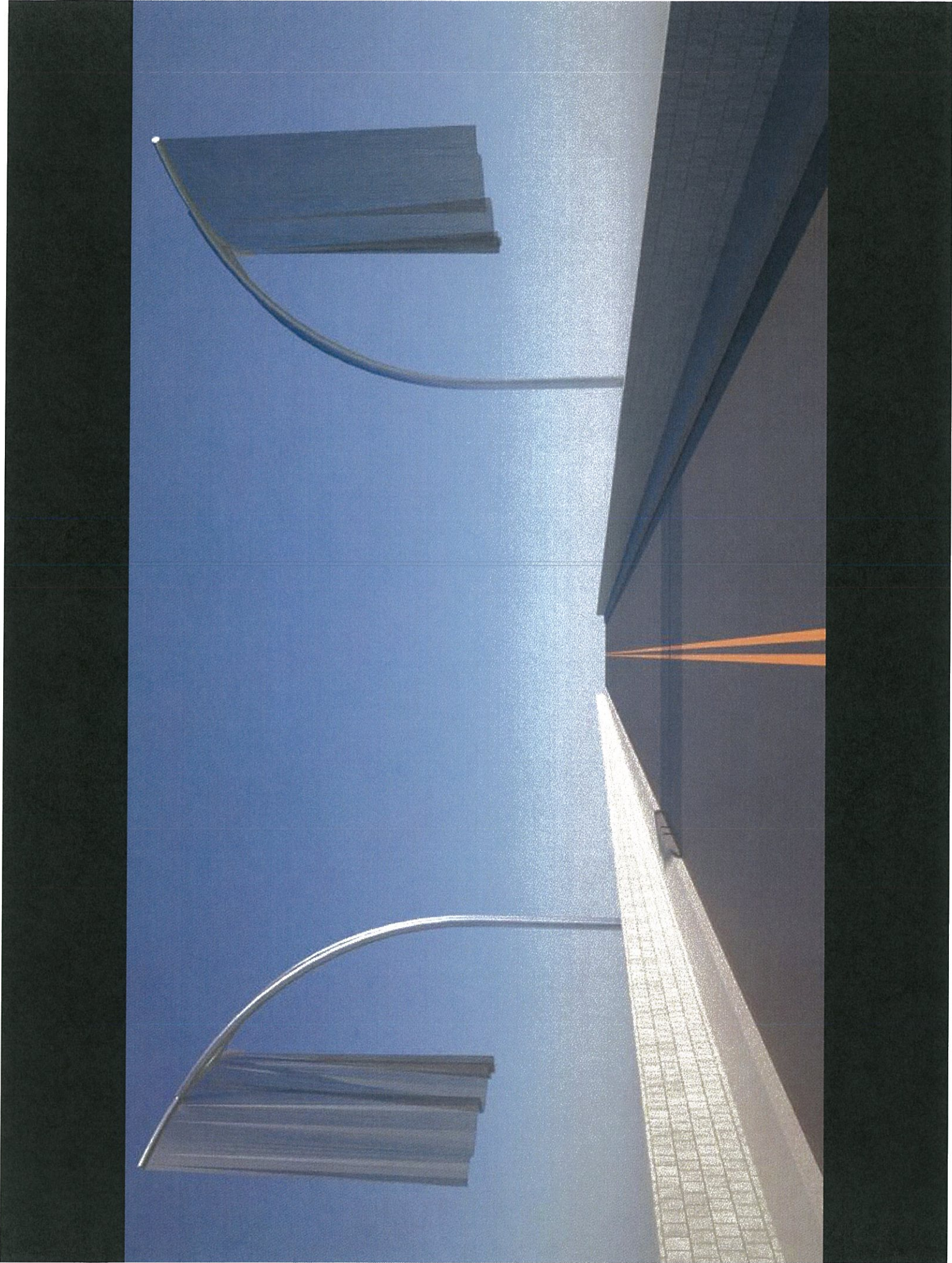


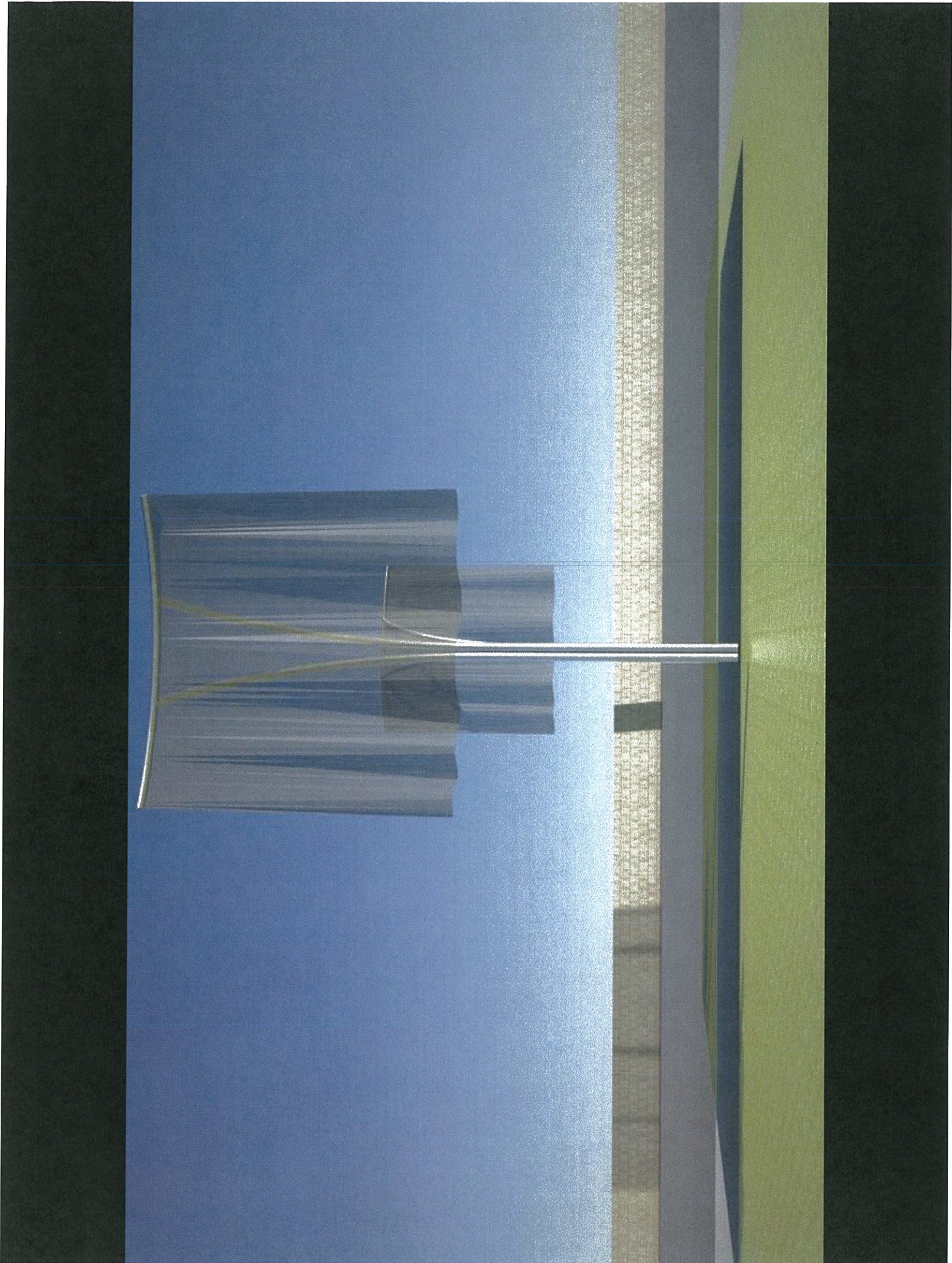


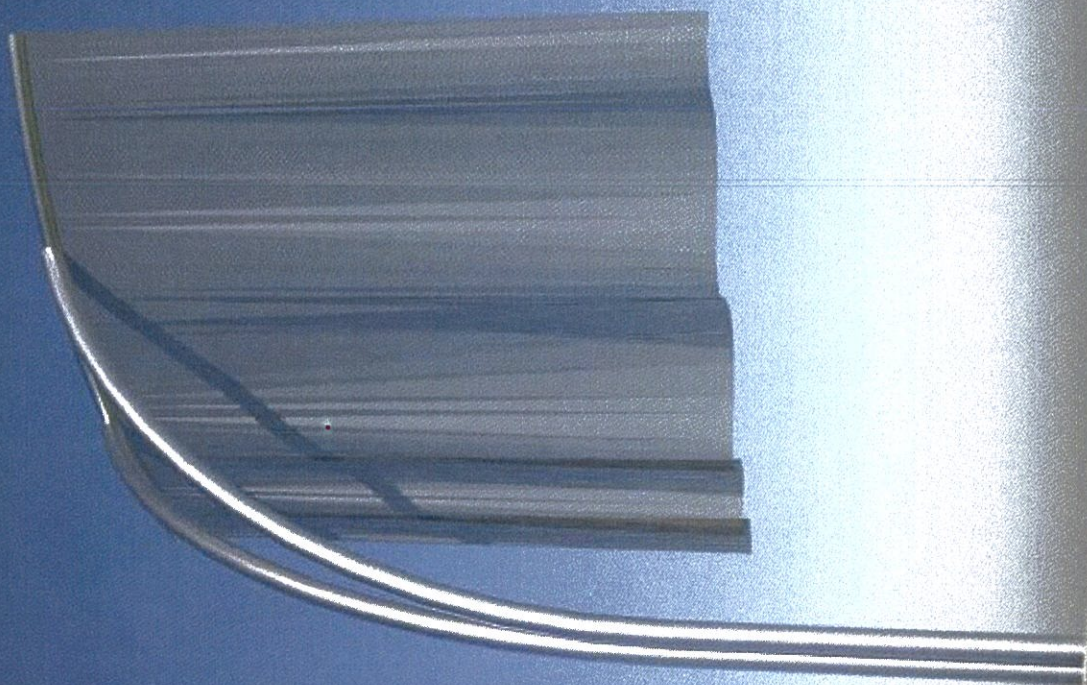


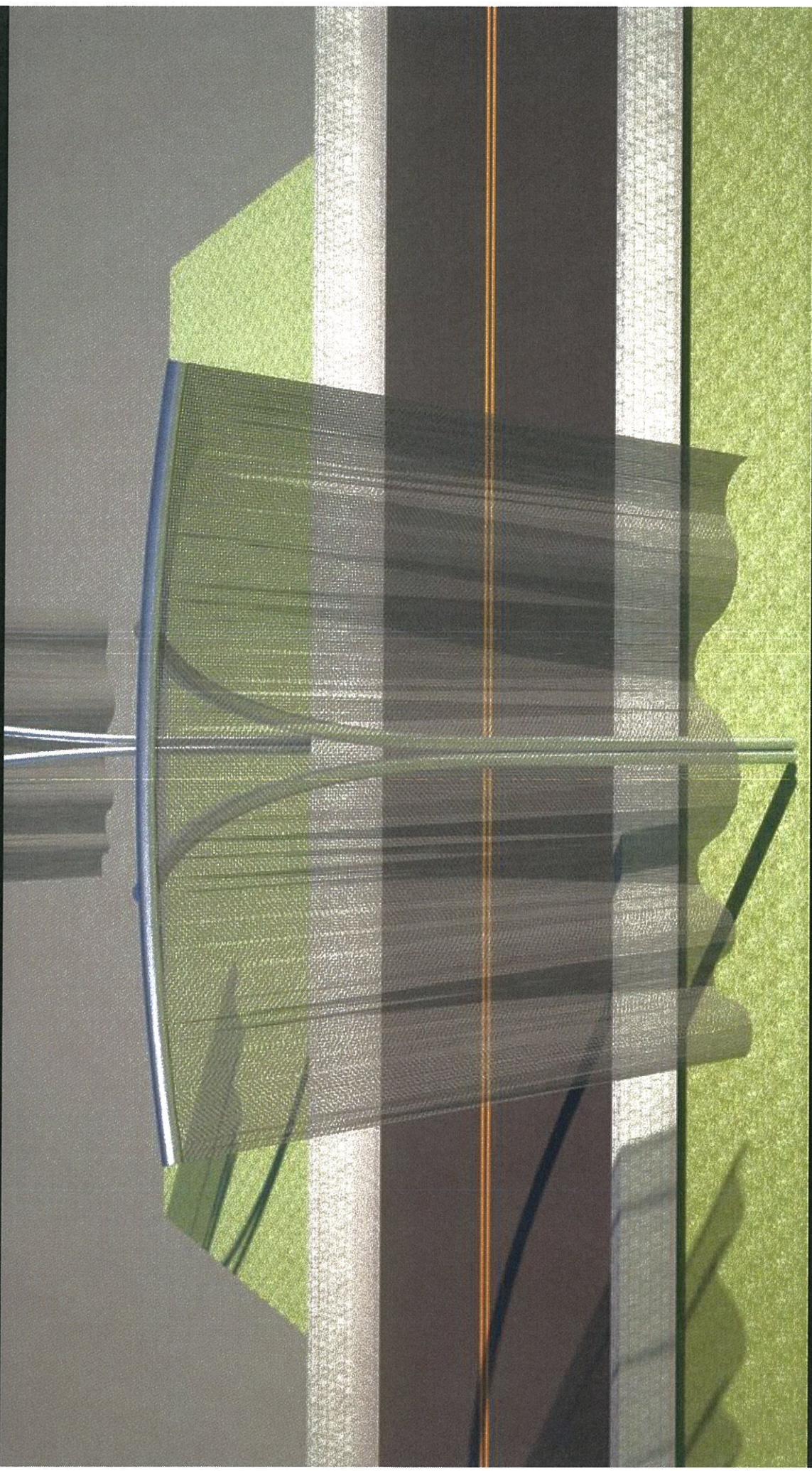


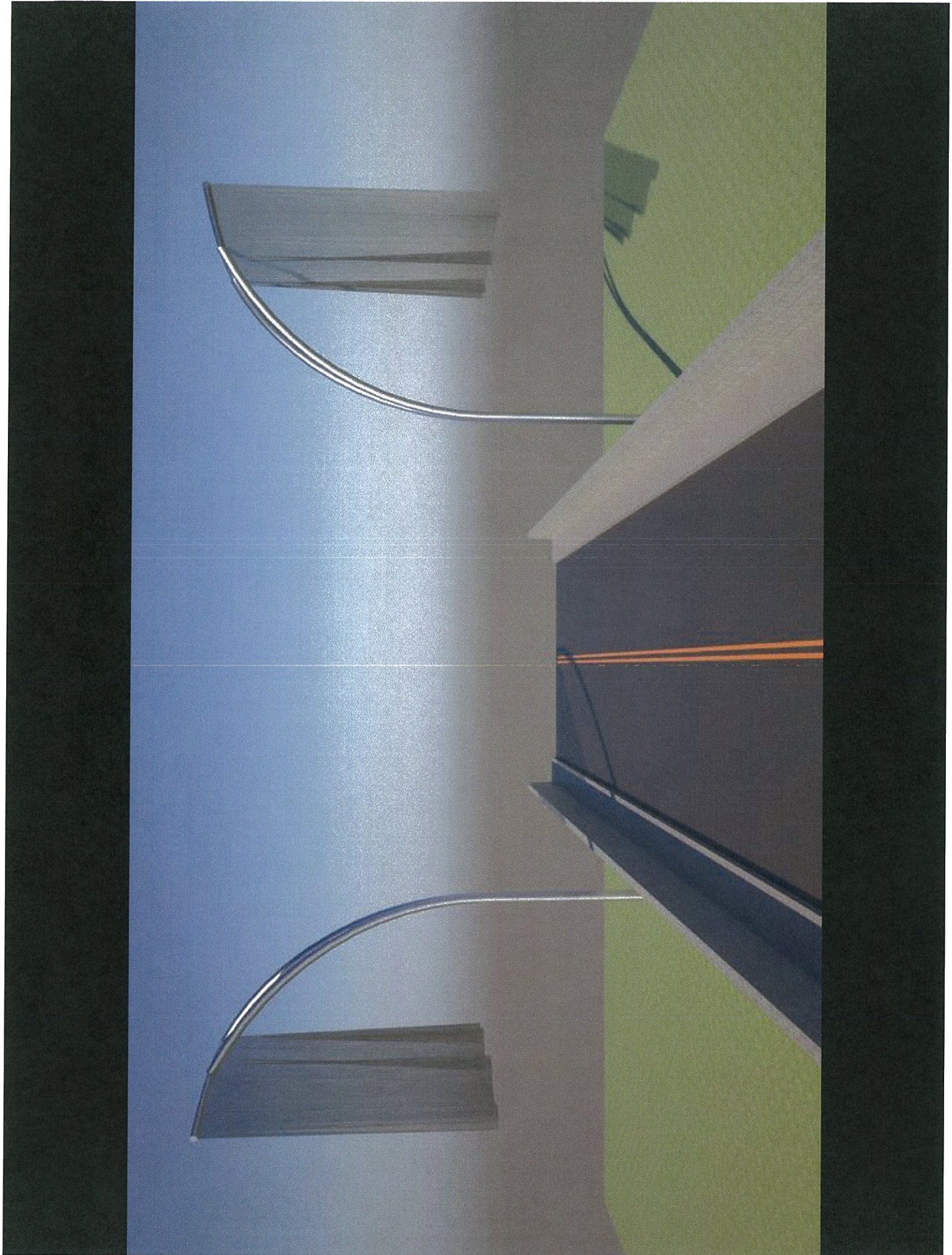


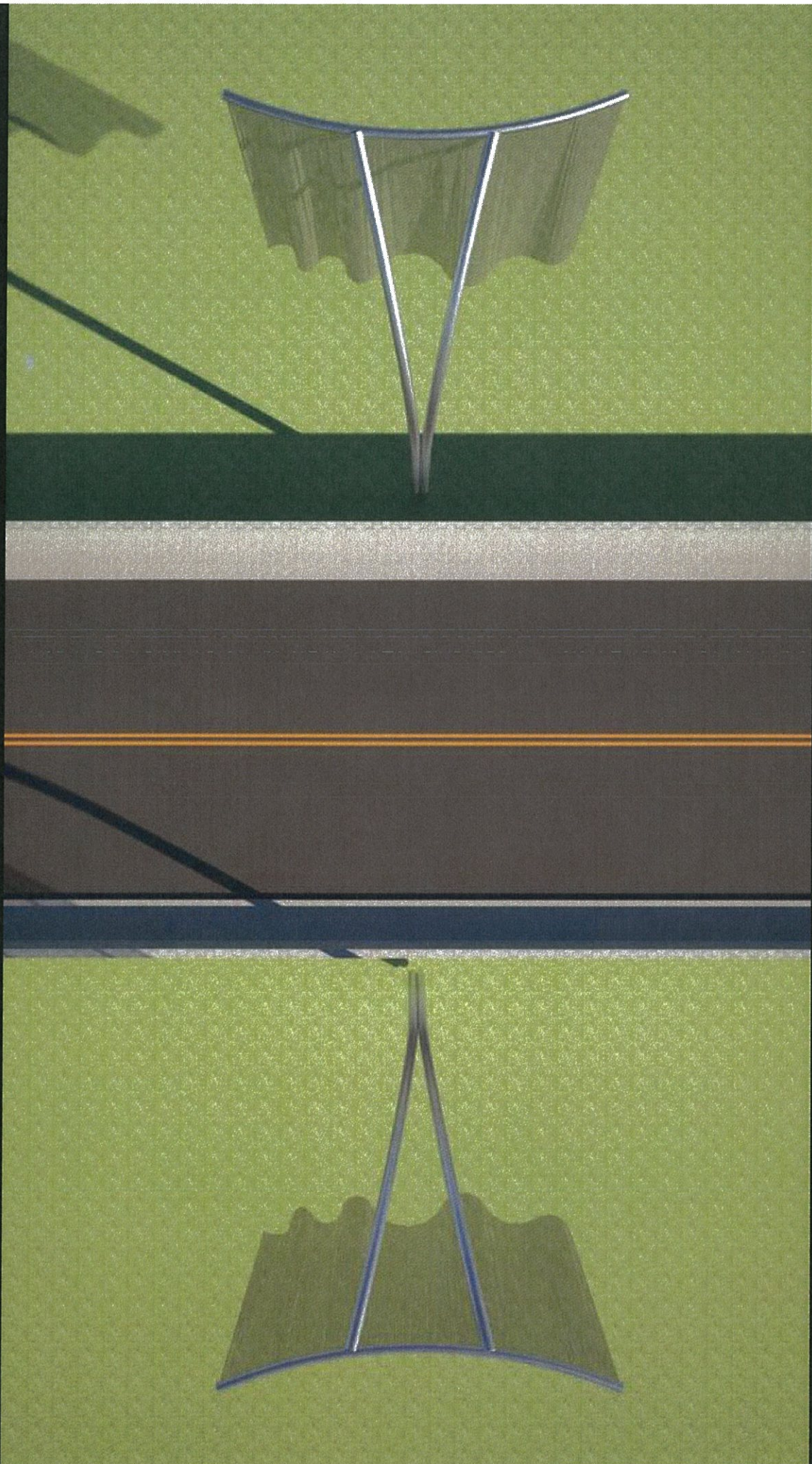


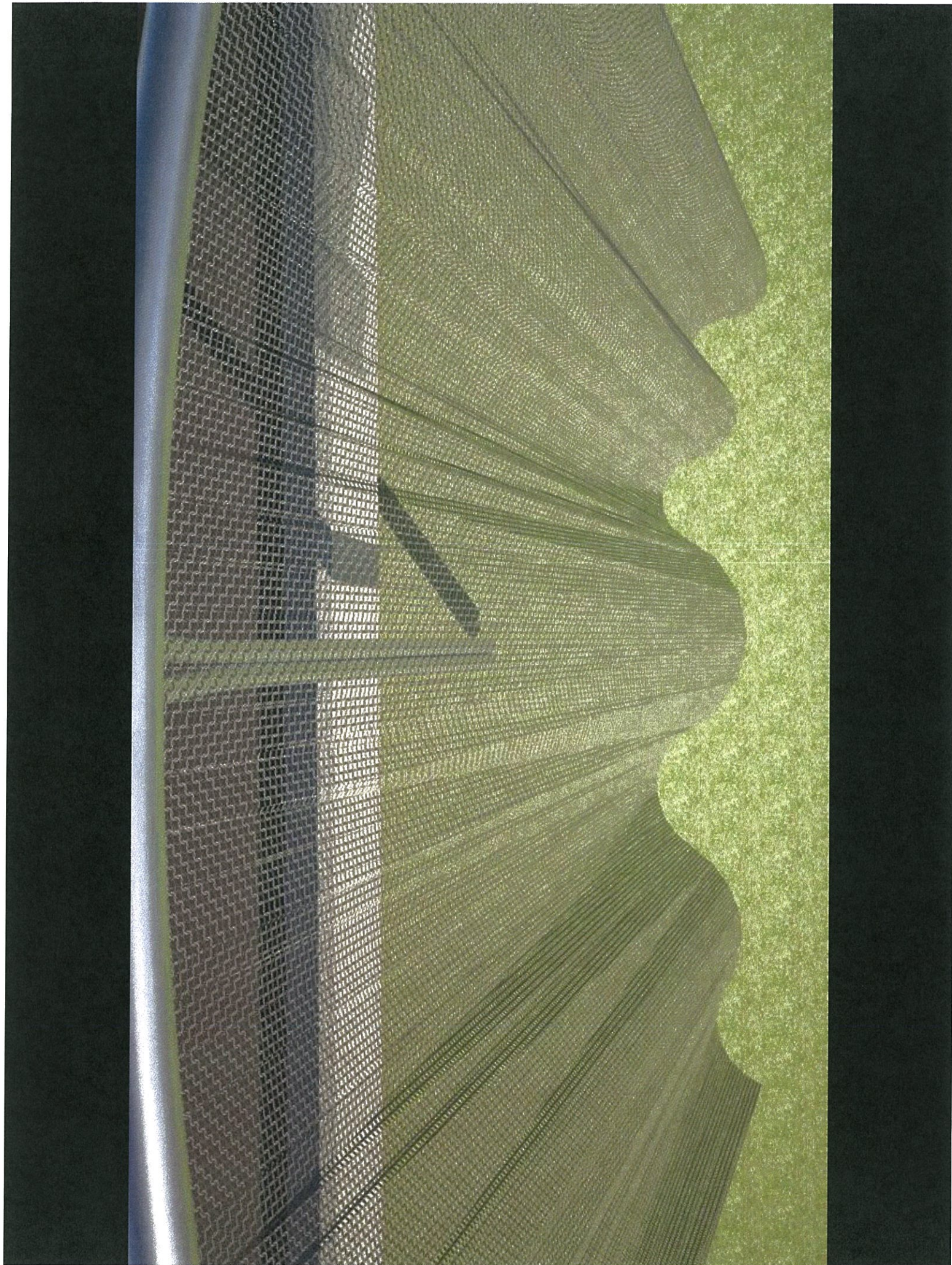


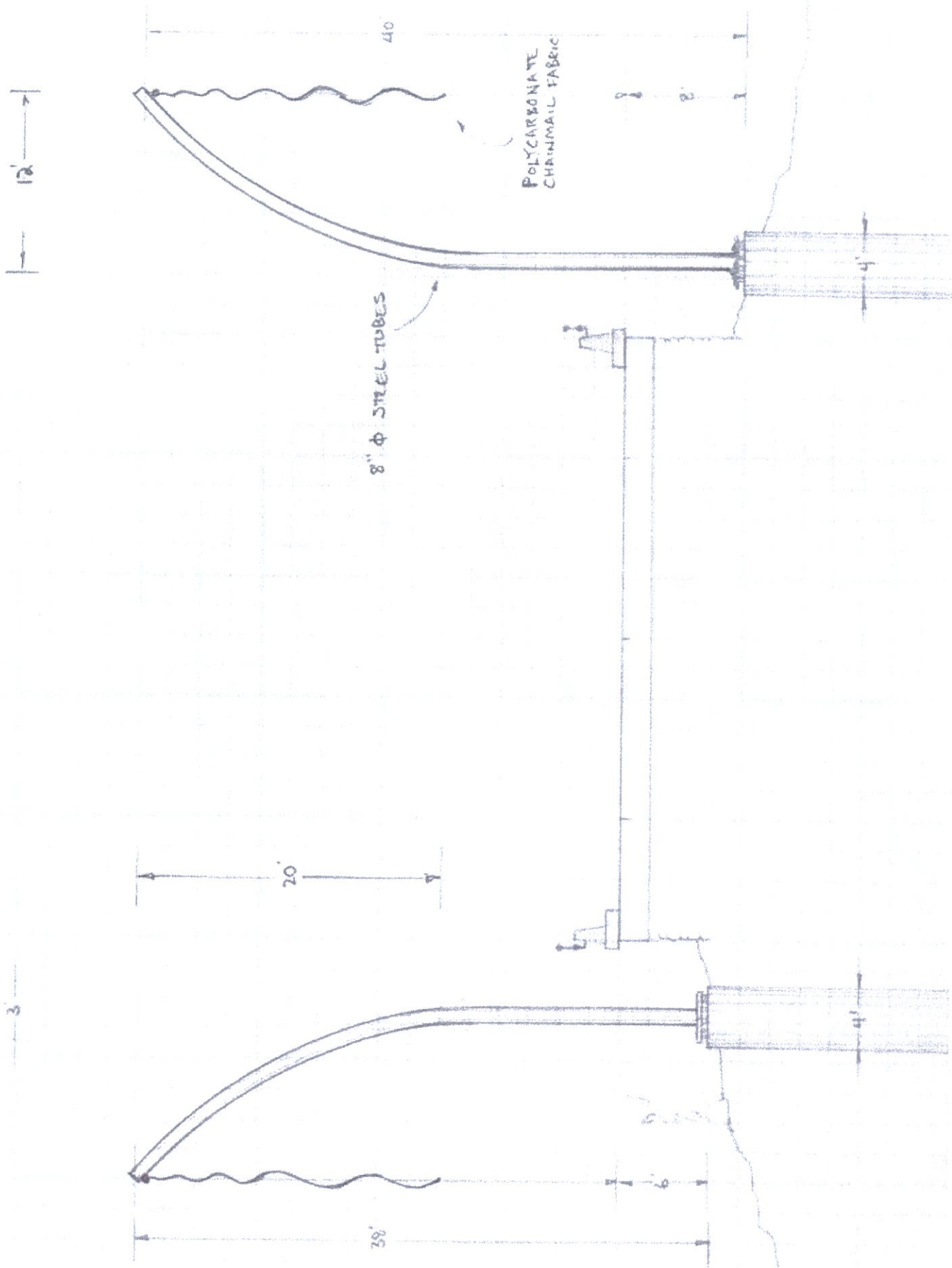


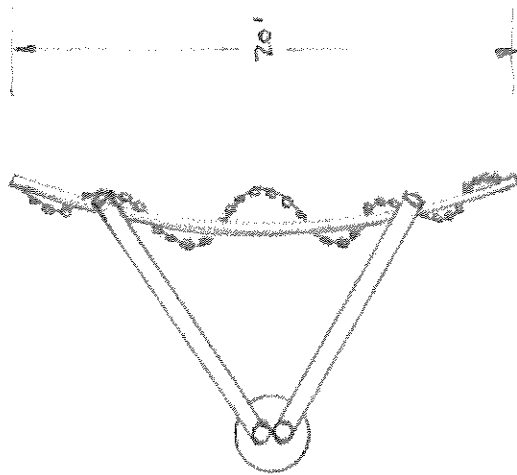








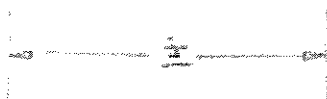
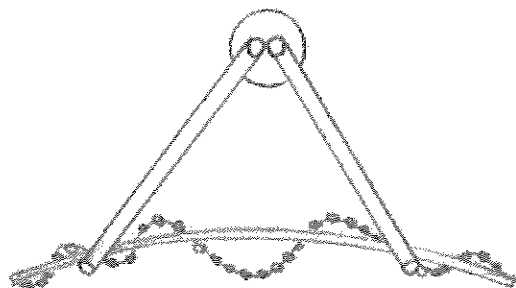




4'

EDGE OF ROADWAY

17'



20'

12'

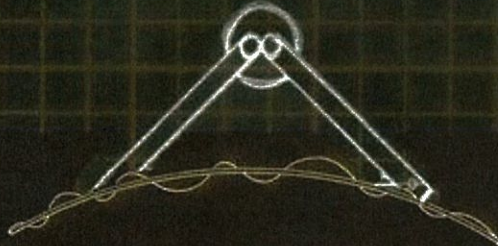
7'



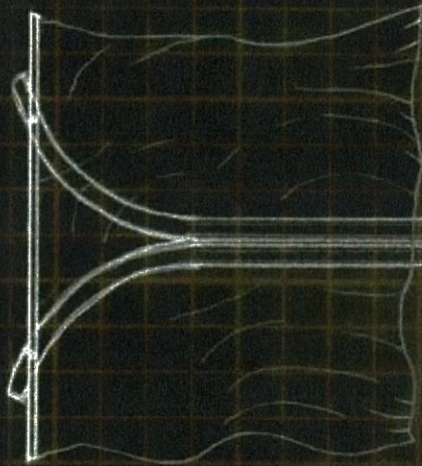
PLAN VIEW

EDGE OF ROADWAY

12'



20'



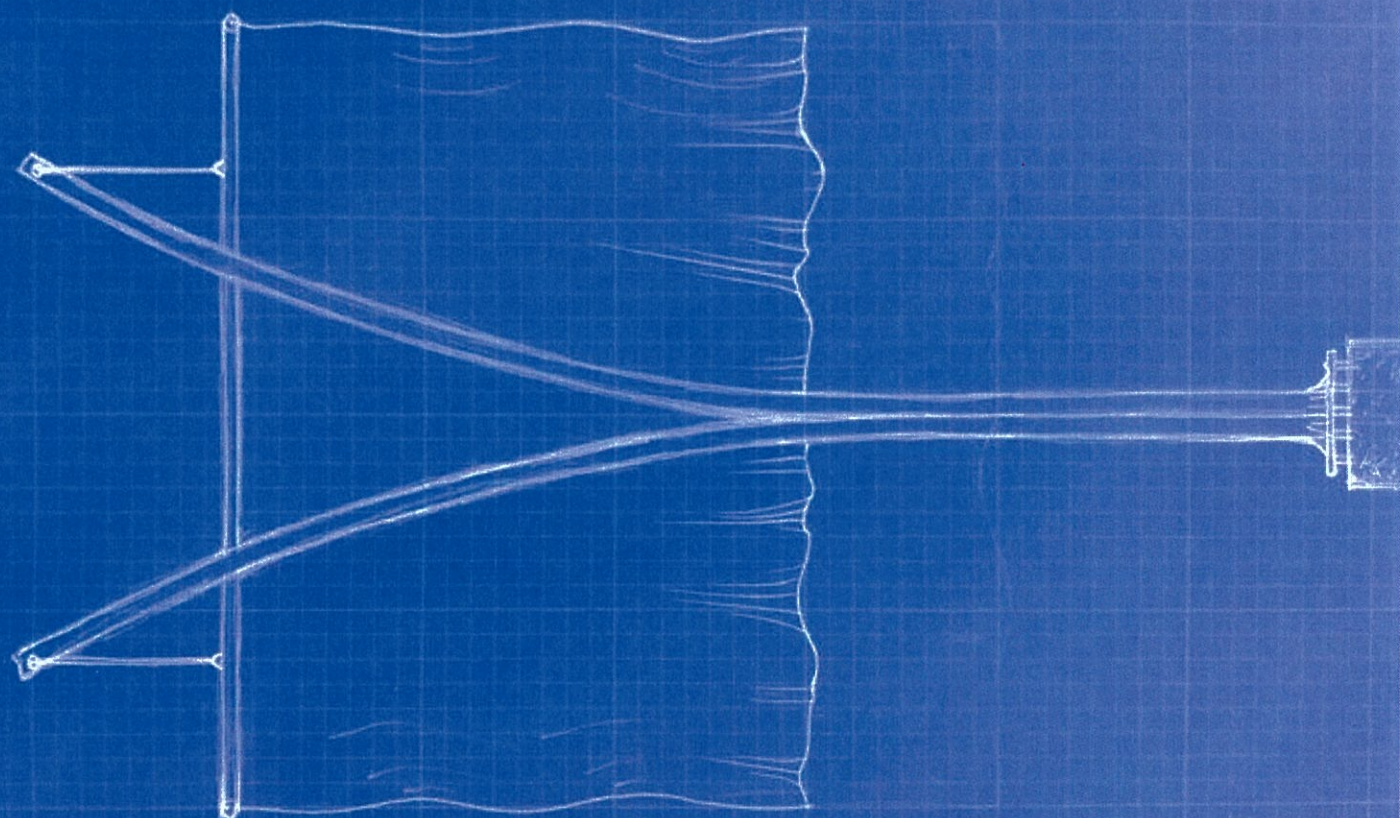
POLYCARBONATE  
CHAINMAIL FABRIC

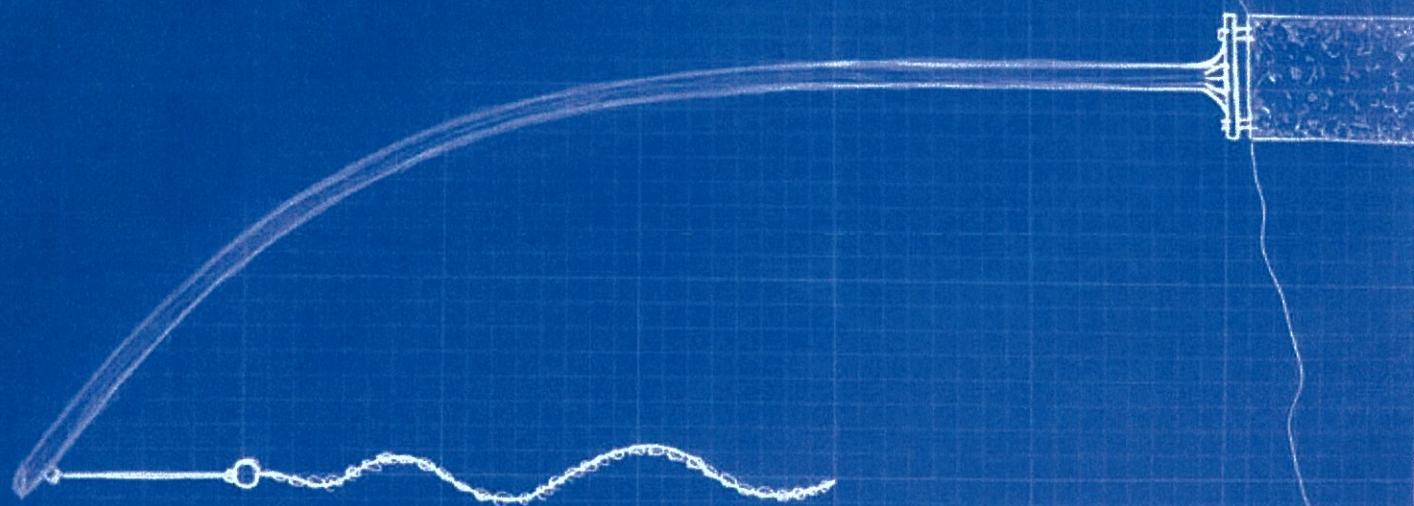
20'

2 8"  $\Phi$  STEEL POLES

ROADWAY LEVEL



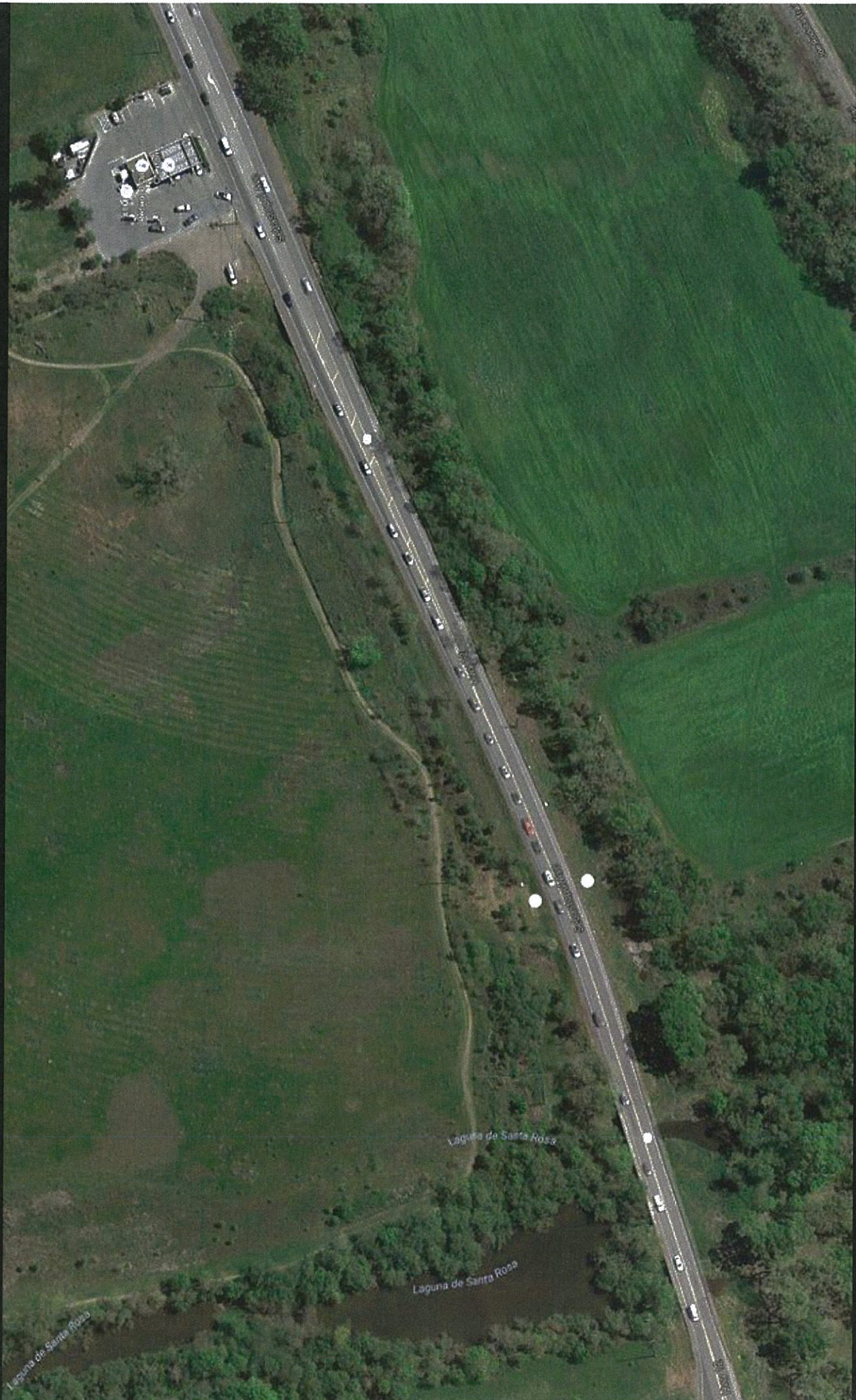












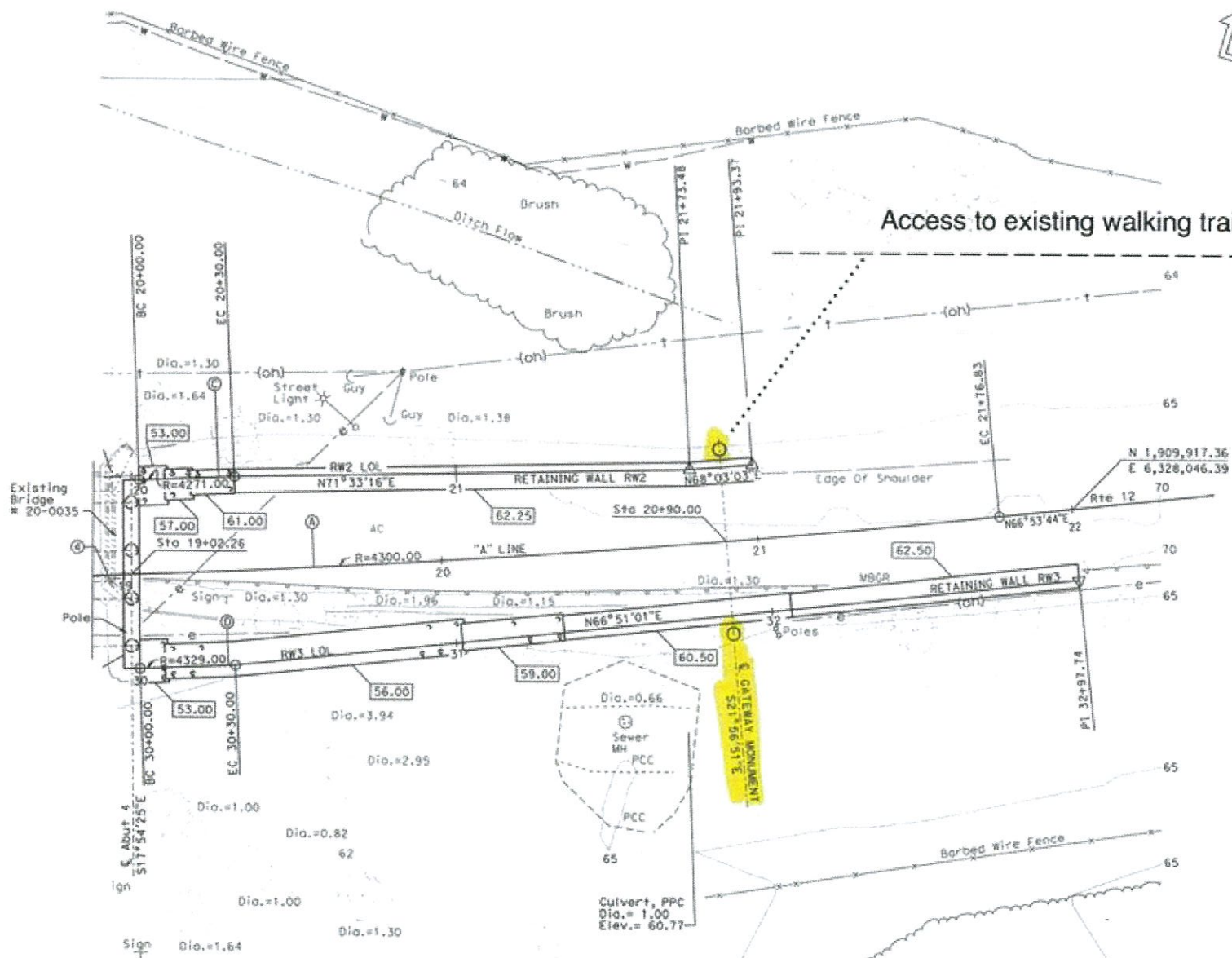




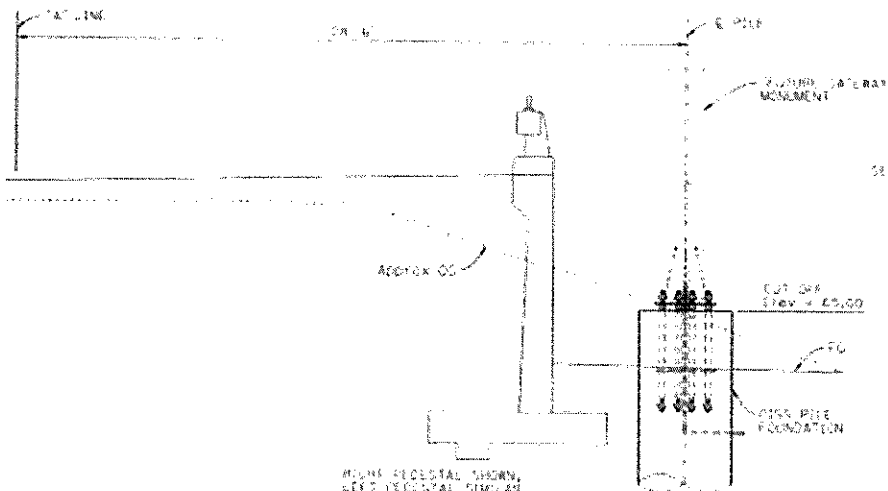




Access to existing walking trail



TO SANTA ROSA



**PARTIAL SECTION @ "A" LINE STA 20+90**  
1/2" = 1'-0"

**PILE DATA TABLE**

| LOCATION       | PILE SIZE | NOMINAL RESISTANCE (KIP/FT) |         | SPECIFIED SIP ELEVATION (FEET) | NOMINAL DRIVING RESISTANCE (KIP/FT) |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                |           | COMPRESSION                 | TENSION |                                |                                     |
| LEFT PEDESTAL  | 48" DISS  | 2                           | N/A     | 40                             | 150                                 |
| RIGHT PEDESTAL | 48" DISS  | 2                           | N/A     | 40                             | 150                                 |

NOTES:  
 1. The specified sip elevation will not be raised.  
 2. The nominal driving resistance required is equal to the nominal resistance needed to support the factored load plus driving resistance from the undesirable penetrated soil layers (very soft, liquefiable, sandstone, etc.), if any, which do not contribute to the design resistance.

**GENERAL NOTES**

**DEAD LOAD:**

Combined into dead load of Gateway Monument above cut off elevation is 1.0 mips

**LIVE LOADING:**

None

**CONCRETE:**

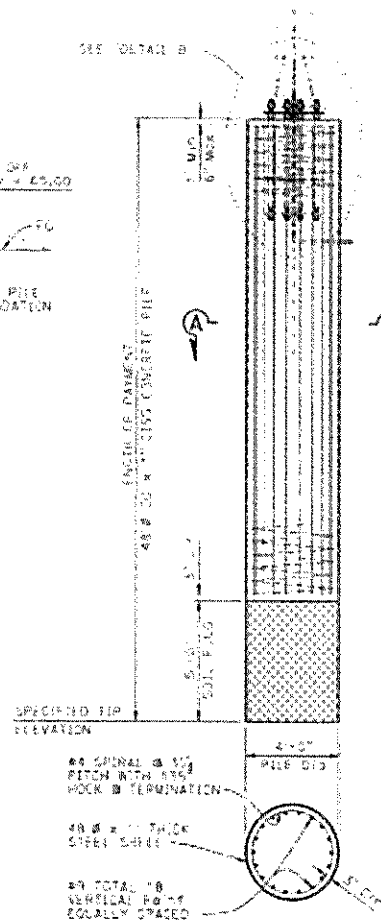
$f_y = 60 \text{ ksi}$   
 $f'_c = 3.6 \text{ ksi}$   
 $n = 8$

**STRUCTURAL STEEL:**

$f_y = 3.6 \text{ ksi}$

**WELDING:**

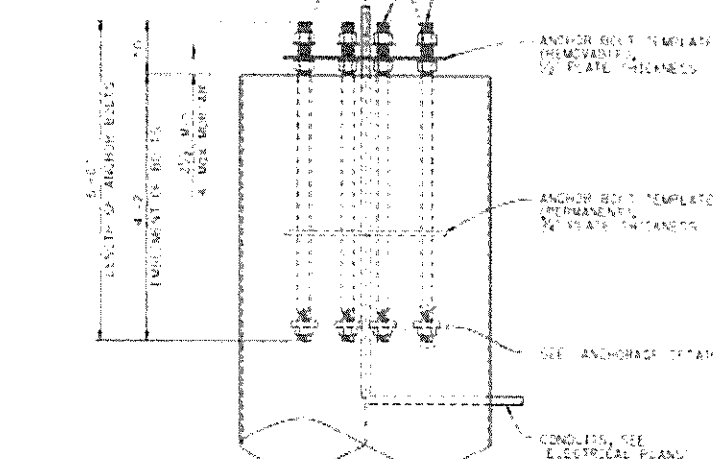
All welding continuous unless otherwise noted on the plans



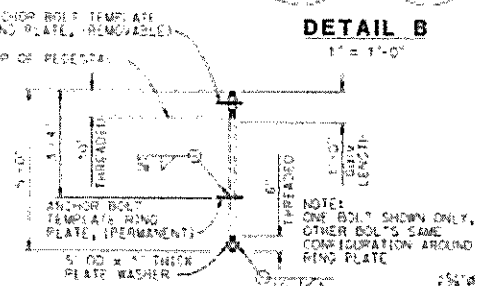
**SECTION A-A**  
**CISS PILE**  
**FOUNDATION DETAILS**  
 1/2" = 1'-0"



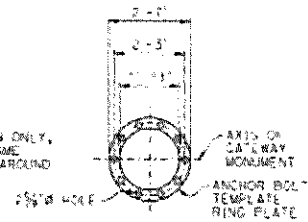
**ANCHORAGE DETAIL**  
 1/2" = 1'-0"



**DETAIL B**  
 1" = 1'-0"



**ANCHOR BOLT**  
**TEMPLATE ASSEMBLY**  
 1/2" = 1'-0"



**ANCHOR BOLT**  
**TEMPLATE**  
 1/2" = 1'-0"

|      |        |       |            |             |           |
|------|--------|-------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| DATE | COUNTY | ROUTE | POST MILES | PROJECT NO. | NO. SHEET |
| 04   | 507    | 12    | 9.6        | 115A        | 110       |

9-16-13  
 REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER  
 2-05-13  
 PLANS APPROVAL DATE  
 The State of California and its officers or agents shall not be responsible for the accuracy or completeness of copies made of this plan sheet.

CON. THAM  
 LV  
 12584  
 NO 6-52-14  
 CIVIL

**3** ADDED PER ADDENDUM No. 3 DATED DECEMBER 20, 2013

