Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of AdjustmentJuly 4, 2024

File: A/055/24

Address: 4345 14th Avenue

Agent: Delta Engineering Services (Ramesh Savaliya)

Hearing Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2024

The following comments are provided on behalf of the Central Team:

The Applicant is requesting relief from the "Institutional and Open Space (O2)" zone under By-law 90-81, as amended, as it relates to an addition of a vestibule and a portico. The requested variances are to permit:

a) Amending By-law 163-92, Section 1.3.3:

a minimum front yard setback of 23 metres, whereas the By-law requires a minimum front yard setback of 33 metres; and

b) Amending By-law 163-92, Section 1.3.4:

a maximum gross floor area of 2,810 square metres, whereas the By-law permits a maximum gross floor area of 2,710 square metres.

BACKGROUND

Property Description

The 0.78 ha (1.94 ac) subject lands are located on the south side of 14th Avenue, west of Kennedy Road and east of McDowell Gate (the "Subject Lands"). The Subject Lands are located within a commercial/industrial stretch along 14th Avenue and backs onto the Milliken Mills Park. A 2,678.71 m² (28,833.47ft²) place of worship (the Vedic Cultural Centre) is located on the Subject Lands.

Proposal

The Applicant is proposing the construction of a portico and vestibule for barrier free accessibility at the front entrance of the existing place of worship (the "Proposed Development").

Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on April 9/18) The Official Plan designates the Subject Lands "Residential Low Rise", which provides for low rise housing forms including single detached dwellings. Section 8.2.1.2. of the Official Plan provides for a variety of uses in all 'Residential' designations including, but not limited to, places of worship.

Zoning By-Laws 2024-19 & 90-81

The Subject Lands are zoned "RES-ENLR (Residential Established Neighbourhood Low Rise)" under By-law 2024-19 and "Institutional and Open Space (O2)" under By-law 90-81, as amended by By-law 163-92. The requested variances relate to amending By-law 163-92 under By-law 90-81.

Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken

The Owner has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has <u>not</u> been conducted. However, the Applicant has received comments from the Building

Department through their permit process and various meetings with Zoning Staff to confirm the variances required for the Proposed Development.

COMMENTS

The *Planning Act* states that four tests must be met in order for a variance to be granted by the Committee of Adjustment:

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee of Adjustment, for the appropriate development or use of land, building or structure:
- c) The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law must be maintained;
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

Reduction in Front and Rear Yard Setback

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a minimum front yard setback of 23 m (75.46 ft), whereas the By-law requires a minimum front yard setback of 33 m (108.27 ft). This represents a reduction of approximately 10 m (32.81 ft). Staff note that the requested variance differs from what Zoning Staff identified through the permit review process [29 m (95.14 ft], as well as the setback shown on the plans (refer to Appendix "B").

The requested variance is entirely attributable to the construction of the portico above the main entrance of the existing place of worship. The main front wall of the building provides a front yard setback of approximately 33.64 m (110.37 ft) and is generally consistent with the pattern of established front yard setbacks on the street.

Increase in Maximum Gross Floor Area ("GFA")

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a maximum GFA of 2,810 m², whereas the By-law permits a maximum GFA of 2,710 m². This represents an increase of 100 m².

Staff note that the requested variance is to accommodate a future allowance for a vestibule and elevator addition at the rear of the proposed place of worship. This future addition is not shown on the plans (refer to Appendix "B"). Staff note that additional Planning applications and/or variances may be required to accommodate the future addition once plans have been submitted for Staff review.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of July 3, 2024. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

CONCLUSION

Planning Staff recommend the subject minor variance application be deferred *sine die* until the Applicant submits plans that accurately reflect the full scope of work associated with the variances being requested.

The onus is ultimately on the Applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the zoning by-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the *Planning Act* required for the granting of minor variances.

Staff recommend that the conditions outlined in Appendix "C" be attached to any approval of this application, should the Committee be satisfied that the requested variances meet the four tests of the *Planning Act*.

PREPARED BY:

Brendan Chiu, Planner I, Planning and Urban Design Department

REVIEWED BY:

Sabrina Bordone, District Manager, Central District

APPENDICES

Appendix "A" – Aerial Context Photo

Appendix "B" – Plans

Appendix "C" – A/055/24 Conditions of Approval



NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_17N © City of Markham

Appendix "A" - Aerial Photo





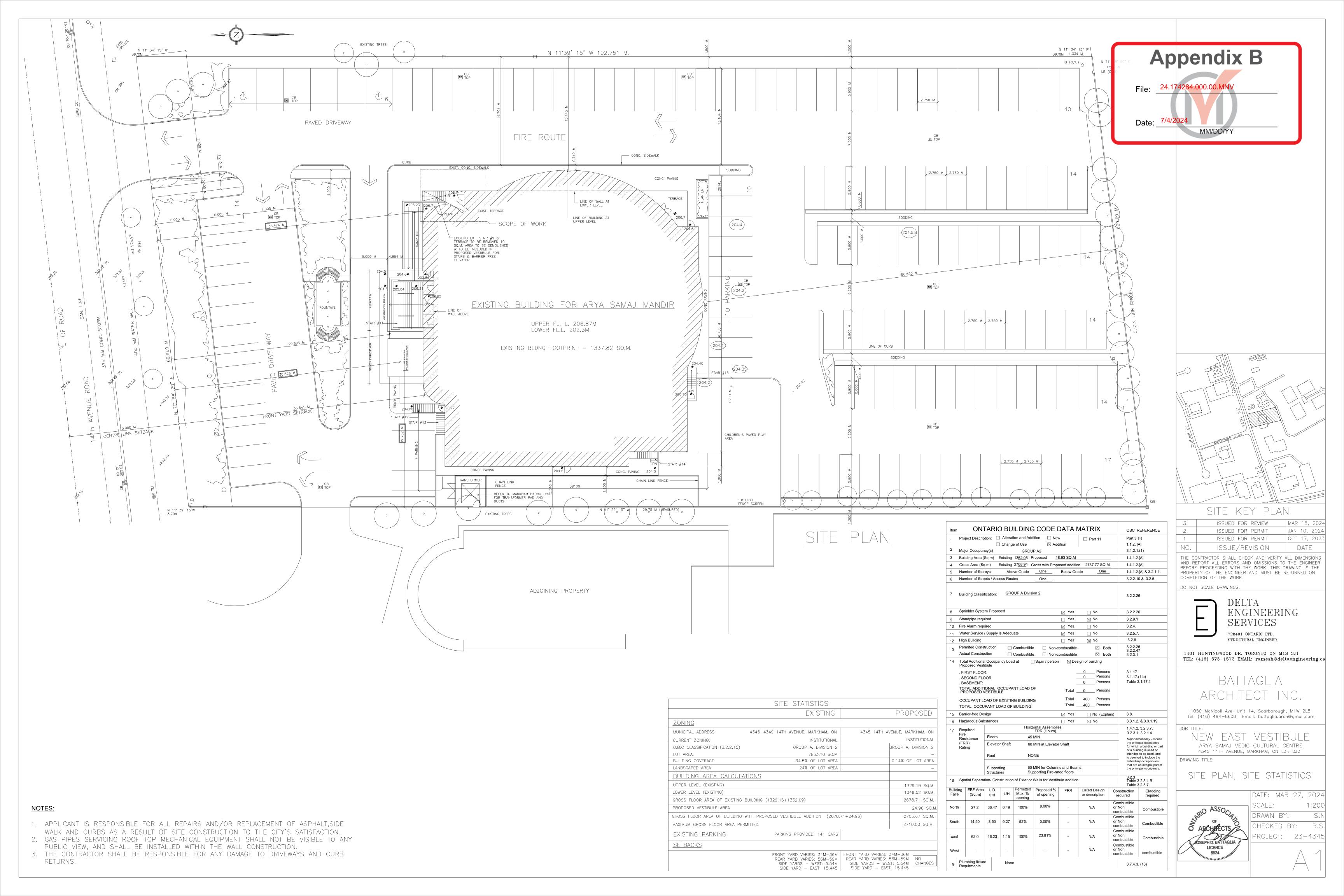
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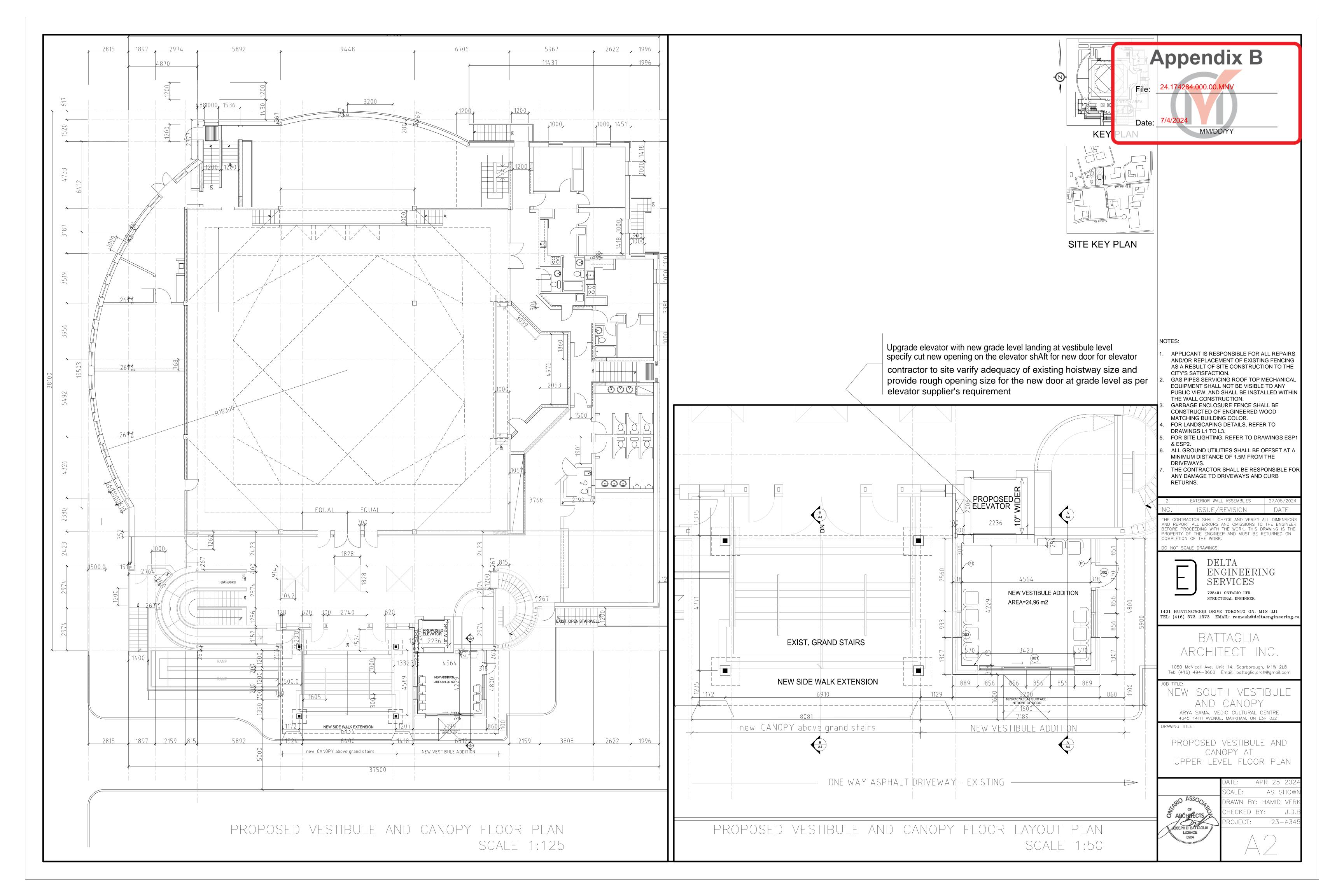
Subject Lands 4345 14th Avenue

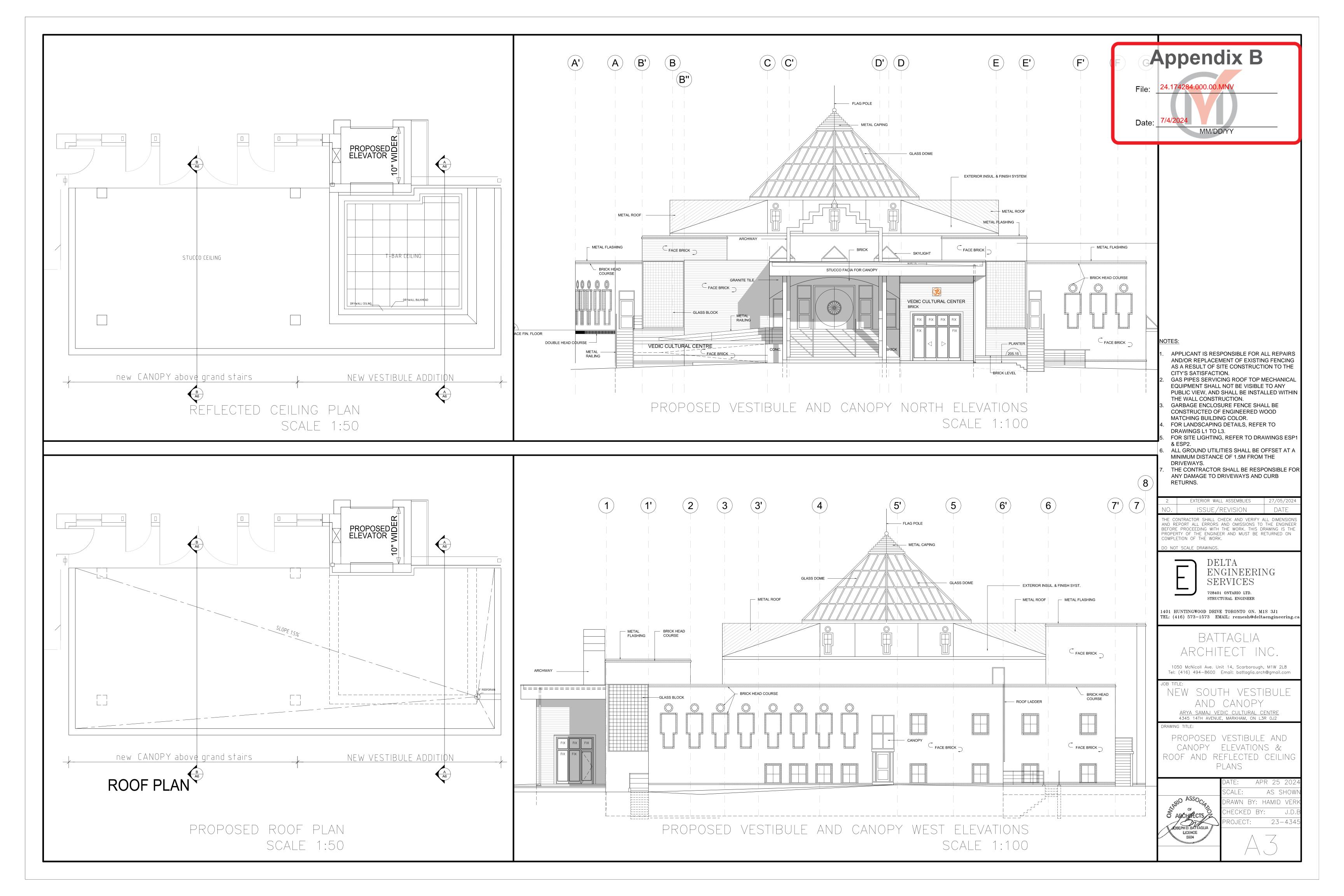
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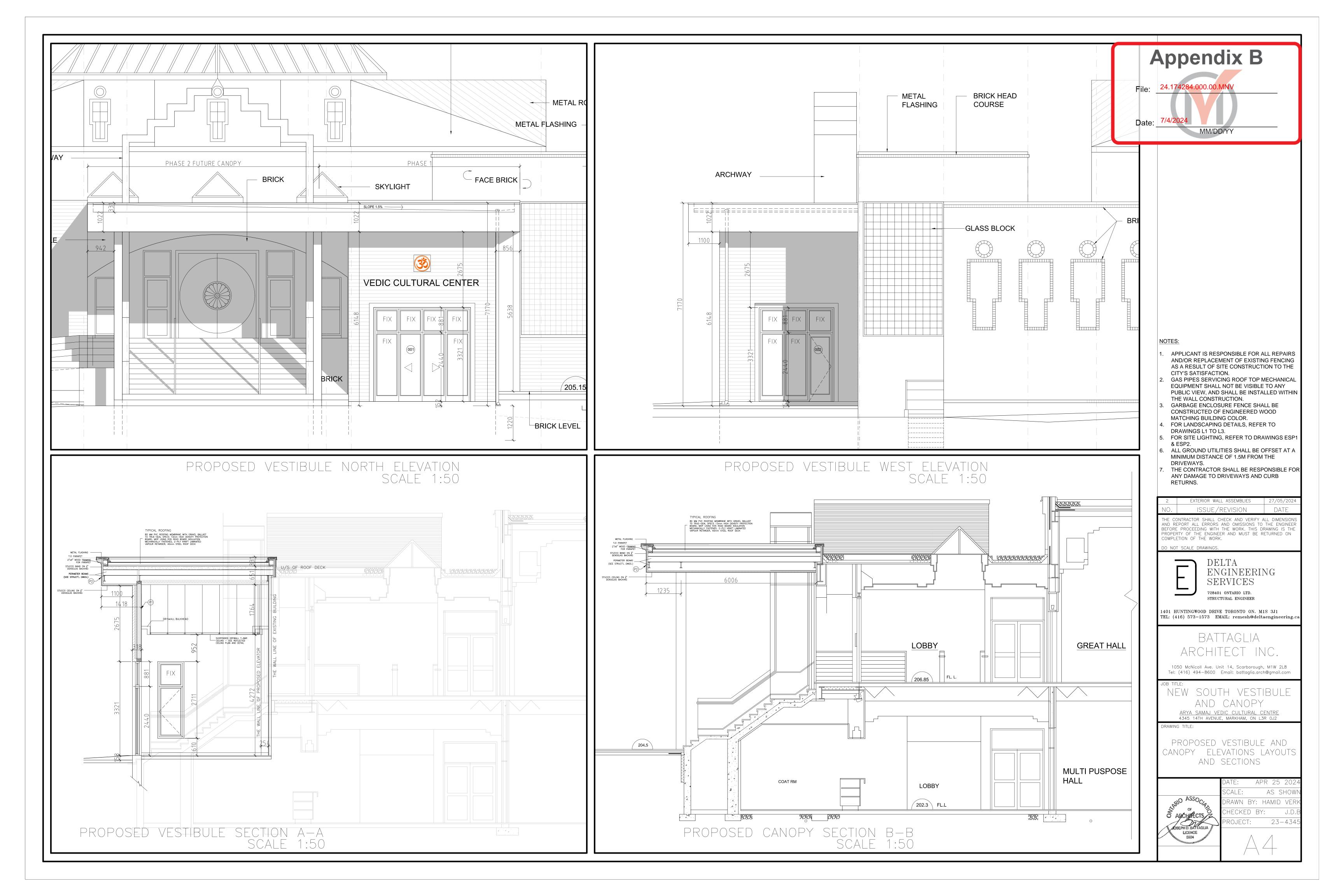
questions or comments regarding the data displayed on this map, please email

cgis@markham.ca and you will be directed to the appropriate department.









APPENDIX "C" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/055/24

1. The variances apply only to the Proposed Development as long as it remains;

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Brendan Chiu, Planner I, Planning and Urban Design Department