

# HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

December 18, 2024

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2024-410  
**ADDRESS:** 300 CONVENT  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 410 BLK 4 LOT 15  
**ZONING:** D, RIO-3  
**CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 1  
**APPLICANT:** Jason Kinkaid/SSC Signs & Lighting, LLC  
**OWNER:** Luis Perez/300 CONVENT LLC  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Signage  
**APPLICATION RECEIVED:** November 21, 2024  
**60-DAY REVIEW:** January 20, 2025  
**CASE MANAGER:** Edward Hall

## REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to install two, face lit channel letter signs to read “Amegy”. Both signs are to feature a maximum height of 9’ – 6” and an overall width of 33’ – 10” for a total size of approximately 321.4 square feet. One sign will be located on the south façade and one sign will be located on the north façade. Both signs will be located approximately 276’ above grade.

Both proposed sign locations were approved as part of a master signage plan on April 17, 2024. The current request includes an increase in sign height due to sign font and design.

## APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Sec. 35-678. Signs and Billboards in the RIO.

(a) General Provisions.

- (1) This section governs all exterior signs and all interior signs hung within ten (10) feet of an exterior fenestration, or those signs intended to be read by exterior patrons.
  - A. All signage within an RIO district shall conform to all city codes and must have approval of the historic preservation officer prior to installation.
  - B. Permits must be obtained following approval of a certificate of appropriateness.
  - C. No sign shall be painted, constructed, erected, remodeled, refaced, relocated, expanded or otherwise altered until it has been approved and a permit has been obtained from the development services department in accordance with the provisions of this section and applicable city code.
  - D. Signs, visual displays or graphics shall advertise only the business on the premises unless otherwise allowed in this section.
  - E. Temporary displays for permitted events are authorized if in accordance with chapter 28 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas.
- (2) When reviewing applications for signage the historic preservation officer and the historic and design review commission shall consider the visual impact on nearby historic resources.
  - A. Signs should respect and respond to the environment and landmark or district character in which constructed.
  - B. Signs should respect and respond to the river improvement overlay districts character and the historic Riverwalk.
  - C. The content or advertising message carried by permitted signs shall pertain to the business located on the same premises as the sign or to any otherwise lawful noncommercial message that does not direct attention to a business operated for profit, or to a commodity or service for sale, provided that signs erected on buildings with multiple businesses within shall pertain to any such business within.
- (3) For signs with changeable message panels, the changeable message area of the sign shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the total sign area, except for gasoline price signs which shall not exceed seventy-five (75) percent of the total sign area. Electronic changeable message boards shall be prohibited.

- (4) The name of a business may be changed through the administrative approval process if the sign conforms to the provisions of this section, and if the color, size, and style of lettering, and illumination of the sign remain the same.
  - (5) Provisions under this section shall comply with chapter 28 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas. In cases where provisions under this section are stricter or a sign is designated as a contributing structure, then this section shall control.
  - (6) Special consideration should be given to the character of the sign itself proposed in the application, and whether the proposed sign has inherently historic characteristics which may fall outside of the guidelines presented below but which would contribute to the historic district, landmark or area for which it is being proposed. Additionally, when reviewing applications for signage the historic preservation officer and the historic and design review commission shall consider the visual impact on nearby historic resources.
  - (7) Memorials, markers, naming rights of public property, and recognition of charitable donations given to the City of San Antonio shall be additionally governed by any formal action passed by city council.
- (b) Sign Definitions. For signage definitions, refer to subsection 35-612(b) and chapter 28 of the City Code.
- (c) Standards for Sign Design and Placement. In considering whether to recommend approval or disapproval of an application to construct or alter signage on a building, object, site, or structure in a river improvement overlay district, review shall be guided by the following standards in addition to any specific design guidelines approved by city council.
- (1) Primary sign design considerations shall be identification and legibility. Size, scale, height, color and location of signs shall be harmonious with, and properly related to, the overall character of the district and structure. Sign materials shall be compatible with that of the building facade. Highly reflective materials that will be difficult to read are not permitted.
  - (2) Signs which describe, point, or direct the reader to a specific place or along a specific course, such as "entrance," "exit," and "disabled persons access," as well as government signs, shall be reviewed but shall not be included in total allowable signage area. Emergency signs shall be exempt from historic and design review commission approval.
  - (3) All graphic elements shall reinforce the architectural integrity of any building. Signs shall not disfigure, damage, mar, alter, or conceal architectural features or details and shall be limited to sizes that are in scale with the architecture and the streetscape. Emblems and symbols of identification used as principal structural or architectural design elements on a facade shall not be included in the total allowable signage per facade per structure when approved. Review shall be guided by the building's proportion and scale when such elements are incorporated.
  - (4) Graphics and signage may be illuminated by indirect, internal, or bare-bulb sources, providing that glare is not produced; by indirect light sources concealed by a hood or diffuser; by internal illumination with standard opal glass or other translucent material or with an equal or smaller light transmission factor. All illumination shall be steady and stationary. Neon lighting shall be permitted when used as an integral architectural element or artwork appropriate to the site. For purposes of this subsection, "Glare" shall mean an illumination level of six (6) Lux or greater at the property boundary. If internal illumination is used, it shall be designed to be subordinate to the overall building composition. Light fixtures should reflect the design period of the building on which they are placed. The use of ambient light from storefront or streetlights is encouraged.
  - (5) Signage requests for multi-tenant buildings must complement existing signage with regards to size, number, placement and design, unless such existing signage is not in conformity with regulations in this article. It is recommended that the building owner or their agent develop a master signage plan or signage guidelines for the total building or property. If a property has an approved master signage plan on file with the historic preservation officer, then applications for signage may be approved administratively at the discretion of the historic preservation officer provided that they comply with such master signage plan. Notwithstanding the above, signs may not exceed the maximum size and height limitation of signage contained in chapter 28, article 9.
- (d) Proportion of Signs. For all signage, signage width and height must be in proportion to the facade, respecting the size, scale and mass of the facade, building height, and rhythms and sizes of window and door openings. The building facade shall be considered as part of an overall sign program but the sign shall be subordinate to the overall building composition. Additionally, signs shall respect and respond to the character and/or period of the area in which they are being placed.
- (e) Number and Size of Signs.
- (1) Number and Size. The historic and design review commission shall be guided in its decisions by the total number of businesses or services per building and the percentage of visible storefront occupied by each

business or service. Applicants may apply for up to three (3) signs total. Total signage for all applicants shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet unless additional signs and/or additional total footage is approved. Additional square footage may be approved provided that the additional signage is in conformity with, and does not interfere with, the pedestrian experience on the Riverwalk. The additional square footage shall be based upon the size and scope of the site. Signs should reflect the type and speed of traffic they are meant to attract. Signs designed for pedestrians and drivers of slow moving cars should not be the same size as signs designed for highway traffic.

- (2) Sign Area. The sign area shall be determined in the following manner:
  - A. Sign Areas. The area of a sign shall be computed on the actual area of the sign. Sign area shall be calculated as the area within a parallelogram, triangle, circle, semicircle or other regular geometric figure including all letters, figures, graphics or other elements of the sign, together with the framework or background of the sign. The supporting framework of the sign shall not be included in determining sign area unless such supporting framework forms an integral part of the sign display, as determined by the historic preservation officer. If the sign is located on a decorative fence or wall, when such fence or wall otherwise meets these or other ordinances or regulations and is clearly incidental to the display itself, the fence or wall shall not be included in the sign area. In the cases of signs with more than one (1) sign face, including but not restricted to double-faced signs, back-to-back signs, overhanging signs, and projecting signs, each side of the sign shall be included in total allowable signage area.
  - B. Channel Letter Signs. For channel letter signs, the sign area shall be the smallest rectangle that will encompass the limits of the writing, including spaces between the letters. Each advertising message shall be considered separately.
- (3) Building Identification Signs. An additional building identification sign may be placed on a building with multiple tenants, if the building name is not the same as the business(s) housed within and such sign is recommended for approval by the historic and design review commission. This type of sign is to identify a building as a destination, shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet, shall not be included in the total allowable signage area, and shall not include names of individual businesses.
- (4) Freestanding Signs. Freestanding signs are allowed provided the sign does not interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic. Freestanding signs shall be perpendicular to the street, two-sided and no taller than six (6) feet. Freestanding signs shall not be located in the right-of-way.
  - A. Projecting Arm Signs. Signs hung from poles are allowed. Pole height shall not exceed six (6) feet and the pole diameter shall not exceed three (3) inches. Blade signs are not allowed to project over a sidewalk or other right-of-way.
- (f) Allowable Signs Not Included in the Total Signage Area.
  - (1) Parking lot signs identifying entrances and exits to a parking lot or driveway, but only when there is one-way traffic flow. No more than one (1) sign shall be permitted for each driveway entrance or exit, and no corporate or business logos shall be permitted. Additionally, parking lot signs to identify divisions of the parking lot into sections and to control vehicular traffic and pedestrian traffic within the lot provided that no corporate or business logos shall be permitted. Signs approved under this category shall not be included in the total allowable signage per structure.
  - (2) Dates of erection, monumental citations, commemorative tablets, insignia of local, state or federal government, and like when carved into stone, concrete or similar material or made of bronze, aluminum or other permanent type construction and made an integral part of the structure. Signs approved under this category shall not be included in the total allowable signage per structure.
  - (3) Information signs of a public or quasi-public nature identifying or locating a hospital, public building, college, publicly-owned parking area, historic area, major tourist attraction or similar public or quasi-public activity; and also including signs identifying restrooms or other facilities relating to such places or activities. Signs approved under this category shall not be included in the total allowable signage per structure.
  - (4) Incidental signs, including signs designating business hours, street numbers, credit card acceptance and the like provided that the signs are not freestanding, the total of all such signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet for each business, and the signs are non-illuminated. Incidental signs shall not be included in the total allowable signage per structure.
  - (5) Real estate signs, advertising the sale, rental or lease of the premises or part of the premises on which the signs are displayed. The maximum sign area shall be eight (8) square feet. Only one (1) sign will be permitted for each building for sale or lease that is adjacent to the Riverwalk. The sign is permitted to remain only while that particular building is for sale or the lease space is available.
- (g) Pedestrian Menu Boards.

- (1) Pedestrian menu boards shall not exceed two (2) square feet.
  - (2) Permanently displayed menus may be properly installed inside the business' window or in an approved wall-mounted or freestanding display case adjacent to the business entrance.
  - (3) The name of the establishment may not be displayed on the menu board if the business has other signage installed on the premises. It is permissible for the name of the restaurant to be placed on the actual menu. The established logo of a business is considered a sign.
  - (4) All items listed on a menu board must be placed within the border of the menu board or within the display case.
  - (5) There may be no more than one (1) pedestrian menu board per establishment unless there are two (2) primary entrances to a building on different facades, in which case a pedestrian menu board for each entrance may be approved.
- (h) Sandwich Boards. Notwithstanding provisions of chapter 28-17, sandwich boards are permitted in river improvement overlay districts as on-premises signs provided permitting requirements of chapter 28, section 28-17 are met. A sandwich board shall:
- (1) Mean an A-frame or single panel double sided design for placement in front of the place of business.
  - (2) Be no larger than two (2) feet wide and three (3) feet tall when extended.
  - (3) Be prohibited on the pedestrian Riverwalk pathway
  - (4) Count towards overall signage and must be included in any signage requests
- (i) Noncommercial Speech Signs. Noncommercial speech signs including but not limited to public service announcements may be erected in river improvement overlay districts following approval provided all regulations in this article are met. The maximum size of a noncommercial speech sign shall be eight (8) square feet, and shall not be illuminated. However, political signs, and the regulation thereof, shall not violate Section 216.903 (Regulation of Political Signs by Municipality) of the Texas Local Government Code.
- (j) Allowable Temporary Signs. If approved, the area of temporary signs shall not be included in the general allowable area for the specified property. No more than one (1) temporary sign will be allowed at any given time. Temporary signs may be approved administratively, shall be non-illuminated, and limited to the following types:
- (1) Construction signs, including those which identify the architects, engineers, contractors and other individuals or firms involved with the construction. Such signs shall be removed upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy. The maximum area of such signs shall be thirty-two (32) square feet, and no more than one (1) sign shall be permitted for each street frontage.
  - (2) Political campaign signs announcing the candidates seeking public political office and other information pertinent thereto.
  - (3) Signs advertising only the name, time, and place of any fair, festival, bazaar, education seminar or similar event, when conducted by a public agency or for the benefit of any civic, fraternal, religious or charitable cause provided that all such signs shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after the last day of the event to which they pertain. The maximum sign area shall be thirty-two (32) square feet.
  - (4) Grand opening signs shall be permitted provided that such signs shall not be displayed for more than ten (10) days and the maximum size shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
  - (5) Seasonal decorations displayed between November 20 and January 10, and during the official designated Fiesta time period. Such decorations shall not display the name of a business or shopping center, nor the words "open," "sale," "vacancy" or other similar words or phrases related to the business activity on the premises.
  - (6) Change of business name banners/hoods/covers over existing building mounted and freestanding signs while new signs are being manufactured, provided that such sign or signs shall not be displayed for more than eight (8) weeks and shall not exceed the sign area that they are replacing or covering.
  - (7) Yard sale signs in a residential district provided that such signs shall be displayed only on the day of the event and on the property holding the event. The maximum sign area shall be eight (8) square feet.
  - (8) Special exhibition signs for museums and art galleries provided that the signs are limited to one (1) sign for each building used primarily as a museum or art gallery, the sign shall be placed on the building no earlier than seven (7) days before and removed within twenty-four (24) hours after the last day of the exhibition to which it pertains. Additionally, the maximum signage area per building shall be two hundred (200) square feet, unless additional square footage is approved.
  - (9) Promotional signs not exceeding six (6) square feet advertising special events or promotions provided that the signs are properly placed on the property or on the inside of windows and such signs are removed within twenty-four (24) hours after the promoted event is over. Promotional signs may be approved for up to five (5)

events per calendar year, with no more than thirty (30) days a year total approved for all qualifying signs or events per property.

- (10) Any special purpose sign not covered above provided that it is removed within thirty (30) days from the date of approval unless otherwise specified. If within the specified period the applicant feels there is a continued need for the special purpose sign the applicant may file a new application to request additional display time. Non-governmental banners and flags, excluding flags included as elements of an overall streetscape or design plan, are considered special purpose signs under the provisions of this section and are appropriate for advertising and decoration only during special events or celebrations. No permanent advertising may be handled in this way.
  - (11) The director of downtown operations may provide written authorization for one (1) approved symbol, logo, or sign to be temporarily placed on chartered watercraft for special events. The sign shall not exceed eight (8) square feet.
  - (12) Temporary construction screening shall provide for safe pedestrian access along exposed construction sites. These screens can be temporary art and use graphics to enhance the screen. Such screens shall not use chain link in RIO-3. Temporary construction screens shall contain a project sign which shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet. Such project sign shall include the project name, project architect, consultants, general contractor, principal use, and project start and end time.
  - (13) Temporary displays are authorized if in accordance with chapter 28 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas.
- (k) Prohibited Signs. The following signs are prohibited:
- (1) Billboards, junior billboards, portable signs, and advertising benches;
  - (2) Any sign placed upon a building, object, site, or structure in any manner so as to disfigure, damage, or conceal any window opening, door, or significant architectural feature or detail of any building;
  - (3) Any sign or sign spinner which advertises commercial off-premises businesses, products, activities, services, or events unless otherwise allowed in this article;
  - (4) Any sign which does not identify a business or service within the river improvement overlay district unless otherwise allowed in this article;
  - (5) Any non-contributing sign which is abandoned or damaged beyond fifty (50) percent of its replacement value, including parts of old or unused signs. All remnants such as supports, brackets and braces must also be removed;
  - (6) Any attachment to an already affixed sign which does not meet the provisions of the City Code;
  - (7) Roof mounted signs, except in the cases of landmark signs or unless approved in accordance with standards set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Contributing roof mounted signs may be resurfaced with an approved certificate of appropriateness. The square footage of roof mounted signs shall be included in the total allowable signage for the building;
  - (8) Pole-mounted cabinet signs and pylon signs;
  - (9) Digital displays, digital and/or LED lighted signs, not to include LED light sources that do not meet the definition of a sign, with or without rotating, flashing lettering, icons or images.
- Except as provided below:
- A. A public transportation agency may incorporate transit information signage into transit shelters, utilizing LED or digital technology, provided the signage is contained within or under the transit shelter, and is limited to five (5) square feet of signage area, and one (1) sign per thirty (30) linear feet of pedestrian shelter.
  - B. A public transportation agency may incorporate transit information signage into a monument sign at transit stops, utilizing LED or digital technology, provided it is limited to five (5) square feet of signage area.
  - C. A public transportation agency may incorporate transit information signage into a monument sign at transit facilities (other than transit stops), utilizing LED or digital technology, provided it is limited to seven (7) square feet of signage area.
  - D. The historic preservation officer may impose additional restrictions on illumination to ensure that the character of signs are harmonious with the character of the structures on which they are to be placed and designated landmarks or districts in the area, provided that such restrictions are reasonably related to other conforming signs and conforming structures in the area, do not unreasonably restrict the amount of signage allowed by this section, and are in keeping with the intent of this section. Among other things, consideration shall be given to the location and illumination of the sign in relation to the surrounding buildings, the use of appropriate materials, the size and style of lettering and graphics, and the type of lighting proposed.

- E. Digital displays, digital and/or LED lighted signs are authorized in conjunction with a temporary display for a permitted event if in accordance with chapter 28 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas.
- (10) Revolving signs or signs with a moving component.
  - (11) Any sandwich board which conflicts with the Americans with Disabilities Act, or which disrupts or interferes with pedestrian or other traffic.
  - (12) Any sign that obscures a sign display by a public authority for the purpose of giving instructions or directions or other public information.
  - (13) Any sign which consists of pennants, ribbons, spinners or other similar moving devices.
  - (14) Any sign, except official notices and advertisements, which is nailed, tacked, posted or in any other manner attached to any utility pole or structure or supporting wire, cable, or pipe; or to any tree on any street or sidewalk or to public property of any description.
  - (15) Moored balloons, wind jammers or other floating or inflated signs that are tethered to the ground or to a structure.
  - (16) Any permanent or temporary sign affixed to, painted on, or placed in or upon any parked vehicle, parked trailer or other parked device capable of being towed, which is parked so as to advertise the business to the passing motorist or pedestrian; and whose primary purpose is to provide additional on-site signage or is to serve the function of an outdoor advertising sign. Excluded from this are vehicles or equipment that are in operating condition, currently registered and licensed to operate on public streets with a valid inspection sticker, and actively used in the daily function of the business to which such signs relate; vehicles/equipment engaged in active construction projects; vehicles or equipment offered for rent to the general public and stored on-premises and otherwise allowed under applicable city ordinance.

Notwithstanding the above, signs designated as a contributing sign or structure by the historic preservation officer shall not be prohibited unless or until such designation is revoked.

- (l) Installation. Signs, posters, decals or advertisements may not be affixed, tacked, nailed, pasted, or taped to any portion of a building, object, site or structure in a manner that will cause irreversible damage or loss, or is considered inappropriate under any applicable guidelines utilized by the office of historic preservation. Signs installed on masonry structures shall be installed in the mortar, not in the masonry unit.
- (m) Hardship Cases.
  - (1) Whenever the location, topography or configuration of any lot is such as will cause a hardship by the limitations placed on the signs permitted by this article due to sight distances, existing vegetation, location of buildings on adjacent lots, and/or the topography of the parcel, approval may be granted to either allow additional signage, or to increase the amount of building mounted sign area by not more than twenty-five (25) percent.
  - (2) No additional signage shall be approved unless it is found that approval of the proposed application will not be of substantial detriment to adjacent property and that the character of the area will not be changed by the granting of additional signage.
  - (3) Any additional signage approval shall be limited to the applicant only, and shall not apply to any future tenant or business.
- (n) Nonconforming Status. Any legally erected sign that, by reason of revisions to this chapter, no longer complies with its provisions, shall be awarded nonconforming status upon review by all necessary city departments.
- (o) Performing Arts Center Signs. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or chapter 28 of the City Code of the City of San Antonio, a wall sign that is a digital display monitor meeting the following parameters may be allowed in the "RIO-3" River Improvement Overlay District-3 by the city council with a specific use authorization provided that such digital display monitor meets the following standards:
  1. The monitor must be situated on a performing arts center premises.
  2. The monitor may only be utilized during ticketed events, either indoor or outdoor, of the performing arts center.
  3. The monitor shall not be used for on-premise or off-premise advertising.
  4. Sound associated with the monitor must be in compliance with the noise ordinance in the City Code.
  5. The light intensity of the monitor shall not exceed:
    - (a) One thousand (1,000) nits during the day; and
    - (b) Five hundred (500) nits at night, measured from sunset until sunrise.
  6. The monitor must automatically adjust the monitor's light intensity according to ambient light conditions.
  7. The size of the monitor must be in compliance with the provisions of subsection 35-678(d).
  8. The monitor must comply with all condition(s) imposed by the city council as part of the specific use authorization.

- (p) Violations in River Improvement Overlay Districts and on the Riverwalk.
- (1) In those instances where a sign is erected or maintained in violation of the aforementioned restrictions, the historic preservation officer, the department of development services, park police or code compliance shall notify the sign's owner, agent, operator, or lessee. If the owner, agent, operator, or lessee of the sign fails to remove the sign within three (3) days after notification, the department of development services or historic preservation officer may file an action in municipal court as outlined in section 28-15 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas. In addition, nothing herein shall prevent the city attorney from seeking civil remedies.
  - (2) Dilapidated Signs - All signs shall be maintained in good working condition so as to present a neat and orderly appearance. All signs and components thereof shall be maintained in good repair, free of rust, peeling, flaking, fading, broken or cracked panels, and broken or missing letters. All signs, components, supports and their surroundings shall be kept free of all sign materials, weeds, debris, trash, and other refuse. The historic preservation officer, the code compliance department, department of development services or park police may give written notice to remove or repair, within thirty (30) days, any sign which shows gross neglect or which is dilapidated. Failure to comply shall be considered a violation of this chapter, and the sign shall be removed at the owner's expense. Additionally, whether the sign has been designated a contributing structure shall be taken into account when evaluating the condition of the sign.
  - (3) Abandoned Signs - A sign, including its supporting structure or brackets, shall be removed by the owner or lessee of the premises upon which the sign is located when the business which it advertises is no longer on the premises and such sign has been determined to be abandoned under the provisions of chapter 28. Such sign, if not removed within thirty (30) days from the determination of abandonment by such business shall be considered to be in violation of this chapter, and shall be removed at the owner's expense. This does not include signs that are approved as contributing structures.

(Ord. No. 95352 § 3 Attachment 2; Ord. No. 98697 § 4) (Ord. No. 101816, § 2, 12-15-05) (Ord. No. 2009-01-15-0001, § 2, 1-15-09) (Ord. No. 2010-06-24-0616, § 2, 6-24-10) (Ord. No. 2010-11-18-0985, § 2, 11-18-10) (Ord. No. 2011-03-31-0240, § 2, 3-31-11) (Ord. No. 2011-08-18-0673, § 2, 8-18-11) (Ord. No. 2014-05-29-0377, § 3, 5-29-14)(Ord. No. 2015-04-09-0291 , § 7, 4-9-15)(Ord. No. 2015-12-17-1077 , § 2, 12-17-15)

### *Downtown Design Guide, Chapter 10, Signage*

The provisions in this section supplement City Code, Chapter 28: Signs.

Projects involving new building construction must submit a conceptual signage plan with the building elevation plans for design review and approval before individual signs will be reviewed. The sign plan shall address:

- Proposed location of signage;
- General dimensions of signage area; and
- Design & materials guidelines, including colors, letter size, illumination method, etc.

#### A. MASTER SIGN PLAN

Signage can contribute to creating strong building identity when it is well-integrated with the design of the architect. A project's signage plan must begin during design development to better achieve integration with the architect.

The plan ought to be designed and prepared by a graphic design firm or signage design company to assure a cohesive, integrated approach to the variety of signs required for building identification, way finding and regulatory needs.

To qualify for a Development Agreement (Sign Master Plan) an area must:

1. Include two (2) or more contiguous lots, which may be separated by a street or drainage rights-of-way, which are not included in any other Sign Master Plan.
2. The owners of all lots within the Sign Master Plan Agreement must agree in writing that neither they nor their successors in ownership shall exceed the maximum height, square footage and number on any of the lots within the plan.
3. All existing signs within the Sign Master Plan Agreement must be in conformance with this article.

#### B. SIGNAGE GUIDELINES BY TYPE

The following design guidelines do not supersede current sign height and area regulations, but are intended to provide design guidance to achieve visually effective and attractive signage throughout Downtown. These design recommendations and visual examples are meant to help applicants understand what is generally considered appropriate signage design for a downtown development project.

High Rise Office Uses A corporate campus refers to a commercial property that may include multiple buildings with commercial or institutional tenants, often with ground floor commercial and retail spaces, open space, parking garages and loading docks.

1. Freestanding signs are discouraged, except at a single major site entry.
2. All signs should be designed to complement the architectural style and setting of the structure.
3. Primary signs near the top of the building should contain only the name of the major building tenant.
4. Exposed conduit and tubing is prohibited. All transformers and other equipment should be concealed.
5. Tenant directory signs are allowed if wall mounted.
6. Residential signage should reinforce the identity of a complex and be visible from the most prominent public corner or frontage.
7. All signs should be integrated with the design of the project's architecture and landscaping. As a family of elements, signs should be related in their design approach and convey a clear hierarchy of information.
8. Signage should identify the main and visitor entrance or lobby, resident or visitor parking, community facilities, major amenities and commercial uses. These signs should be related in style and material while appropriately scaled for the intended audience.
9. The size of signs and sign letters should be proportional to the space they are located in, with the letters typically between six (6) and 16 inches high.
10. Signs for community facilities should be prominent and easily read by first time visitors.
11. Mixed-use projects with first floor commercial or retail tenants should comply with the signage guidelines for Storefront Commercial section below.

#### Storefront Commercial

12. Electrical transformer boxes and raceways are required to be concealed from public view.
13. Windows signs should not exceed 15% of the window area. Signs should not obstruct visibility.
14. For projects that have multiple storefront tenants of similar size, all signage should be of the same type (i.e., cut out letters, blade or the like) and relative size and source of illumination.
15. Signs should respect architectural features such as vertical piers and trim work. Signage should be placed in accordance with façade rhythm, scale and proportion, including windows, storefronts and entries.
16. When a large building contains several storefronts, signs for the individual business should relate to each other in terms of location, height, proportion, color and illumination while allowing the observer to readily distinguish between individual stores.
17. External projected lighting fixtures are the preferred method of lighting signs. External lighting emphasizes the continuity of the building's surface and signs should appear to be more of an integral part of the building's façade.
18. Signs should generally not exceed 14 to 20 feet above the ground or be higher than the building cornice line or street wall height.
19. Tenant directory signs are allowed as wall mounted or freestanding signs for businesses located in alleys, courtyards, arcades or paseos.

### C. SIGNAGE GUIDELINES FOR ALL SIGN TYPES

#### Signs in Context

1. All fascia signage shall be integrated into the architecture. Signs may be mounted to architectural canopies or painted or mounted directly onto building surfaces without a back plate. The signage material will be weather proof and fade resistant.
2. Signs should be conceived as an integral part of the project design so as not to appear as an afterthought.
3. The location, size, and appearance of signs should complement the building and character of the Downtown districts in which they are located.
4. Signs should respect residential uses within and adjacent to a project. The intent is to promote a more peaceful living environment without undue impacts upon residential uses. Small signs, no animation, limited lighting and shorter operating hours are appropriate where signs are visible from residences.
5. Wall mounted signs on fascias above storefront window should be sized to fit within existing friezes, lintels, spandrels, and other such features and not extend above, below, or beyond them.

6. Graphics and signage may be illuminated by indirect, internal, or bare-bulb sources, providing that glare is not produced; by indirect light sources concealed by a hood or diffuser; by internal illumination with standard opal glass or other translucent material or with an equal or smaller light transmission factor.

#### Sign Location in Relation to Street Trees

7. No signs shall be located between 20 feet above sidewalk elevation and 40 feet above sidewalk elevation to avoid conflicts with the tree canopy, except where the applicant demonstrates that no conflict will occur.
8. Trees may not be topped or headed back on the sides to expose signs.

#### Sign Illumination and Animation

9. Signs shall use appropriate means of illumination. These include: neon tubes, fiber optics, incandescent lamps, cathode ray tubes, shielded spotlights and wall wash fixtures.

#### Discouraged Signs

10. The following signs are strongly discouraged in downtown:
  - Internally illuminated awnings
  - Conventional plastic faced box or cabinet signs (can signs)
  - Formed plastic faced box or injection molded plastic signs
  - Luminous vacuum formed letters
  - Animated or flashing signs

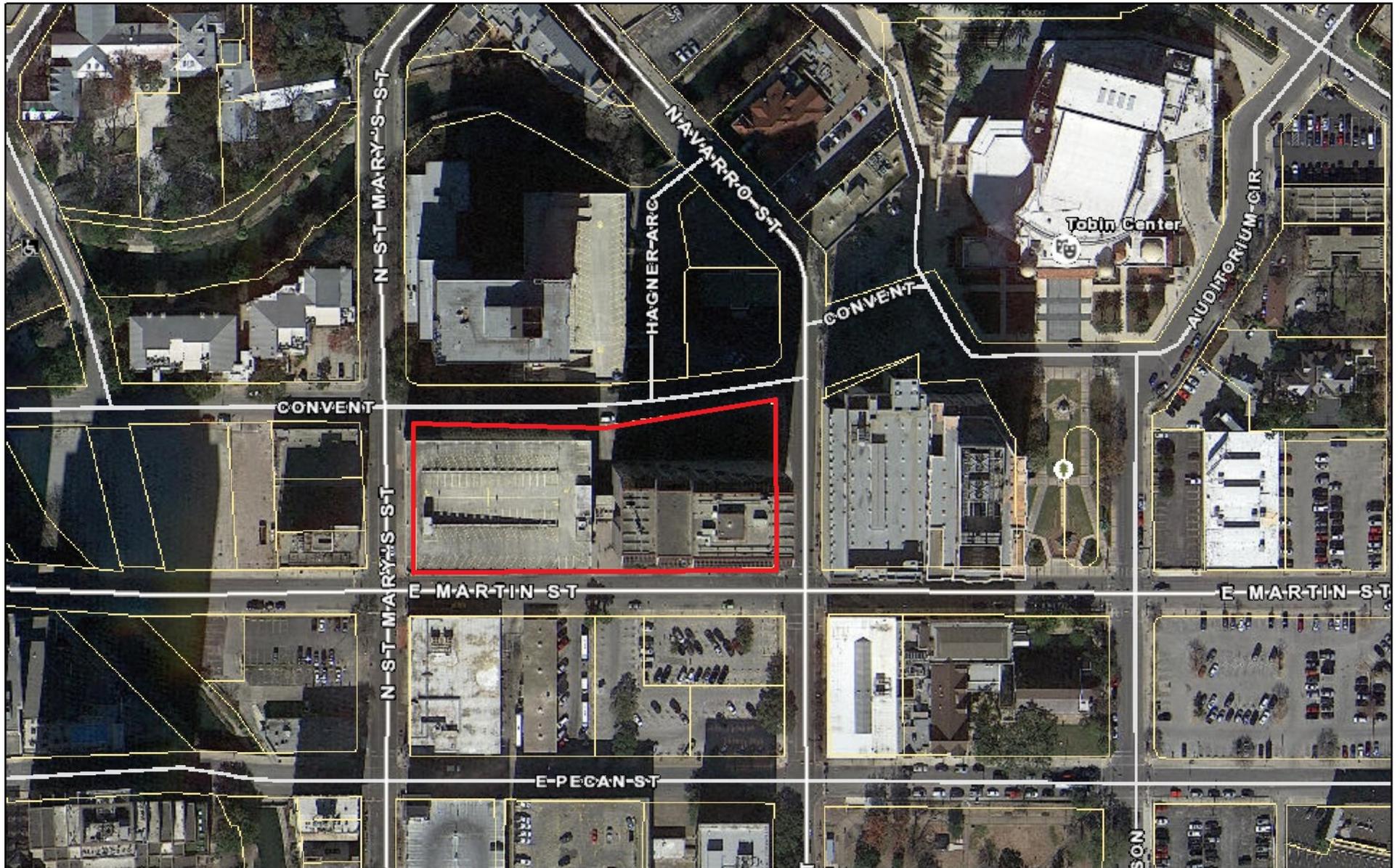
### **FINDINGS:**

- a. The structure at 300 Convent is a multi-tenant commercial structure constructed in 1983 in the Postmodern Style. The structure features an overall height of 387' and is located in both the River Improvement Overlay, District 3, and the Downtown Zoning District.
- b. MASTER SIGNAGE PLAN – A total of eight (8) building tenant signs were approved as part of a master signage plan on April 17, 2024. Both proposed sign locations were approved as part of a master signage plan on April 17, 2024. The current request includes an increase in sign height due to sign font and design.
- c. SIGNAGE DESIGN / ALLOWABLE SIGNAGE – Per the UDC Section 35-678(c), notes that graphics and signage may be illuminated by indirect, internal, or bare bulb sources provided that a glare is not used. Additionally, the UDC notes that signage should be designed to be in proportion to the façade, and that applications should not exceed fifty (50) square feet total, unless otherwise approved by the Historic and Design Review Commission.
- d. SIGNAGE – The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to install two, face lit channel letter signs to read “Amegy”. Both signs are to feature a maximum height of 9’ – 6” and an overall width of 33’ – 10” for a total size of approximately 321.4 square feet. One sign will be located on the south façade and one sign will be located on the north façade. Both signs will be located approximately 276’ above grade. Staff finds the proposed increase in sign size to be appropriate as it is generally in keeping with the previously approved master signage plan.

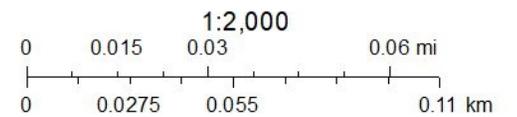
### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval as submitted based on findings a through d.

# City of San Antonio One Stop



December 11, 2024



THIS SIGN PROPOSAL HAS BEEN CREATED EXCLUSIVELY FOR:

SSC Project Name: Amegy Bank - New Signage - San Antonio TX

# Amegy Bank

**SSC**  
SIGNS & LIGHTING

www.sscsigns.com



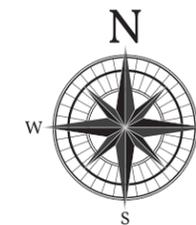
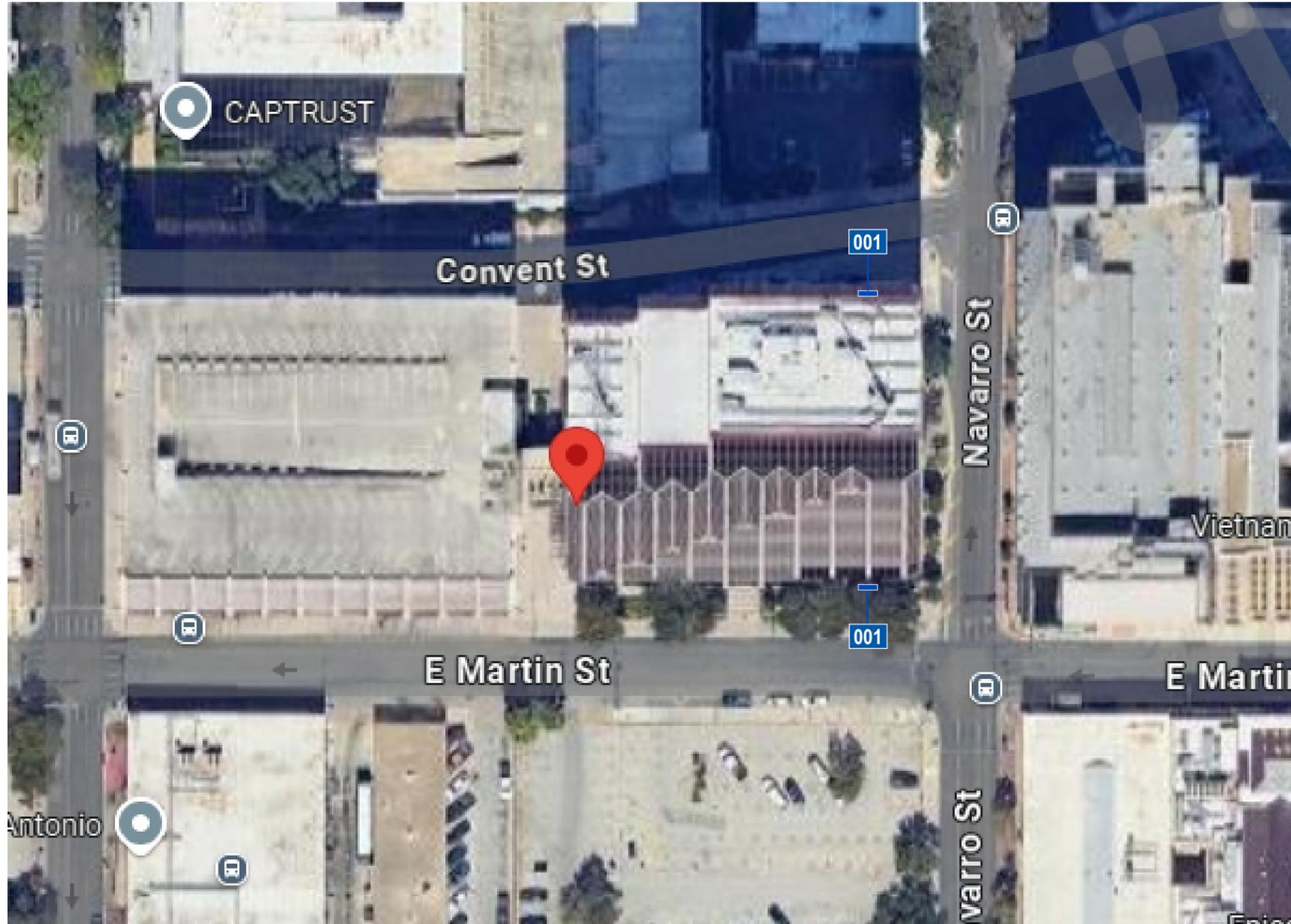
REVISIONS			
PG#	SIGN TYPE	REVISION	DATE
6, 7	FL.ICL	ADDED OPTIONAL SIZES	10.23.24 - GO

CLIENT NAME: Amegy Bank ADDRESS: 300 Convent St.; San Antonio, TX ACCT. REP: CW DESIGNER: GO PROJECT MANAGER: TE DATE: 10.17.24 PAGE NUMBER: 1 OF 9 OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: OP011921 SALES ORDER NUMBER: SO12415-1

SSC SIGNS & LIGHTING 2024 888-929-1669 2024 CORPORATE OFFICE: 2090 Mcgee Ln, Lewisville, TX 75077 FLORIDA OFFICE: 547 Ocoee Business Parkway, Ocoee, FL 34761 2024 SSCSIGNS.COM UL# E482998-20160315

This sign is intended to be installed in accordance with the requirements of Article 600 of the National Electrical Code 2023 and/or other applicable local codes. This includes proper grounding and bonding of the sign. Dimensions are approximate & may change due to construction factors or exact field conditions. Color shown are as close as printing will allow; Always follow written specifications. All rights reserved. It may not be reproduced in any manner without prior consent.

SIGN SCHEDULE			
SIGN	SIGN TYPE	QTY	ITEM DESCRIPTION
001	FL.ICL	2	FACE-LIT ILLUMINATED CHANNEL LETTERS



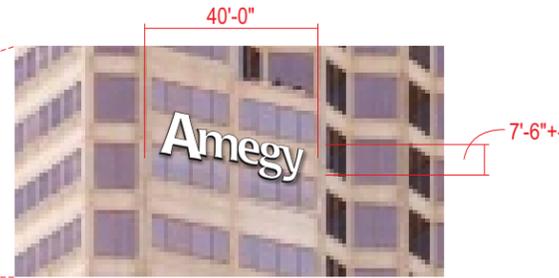
APPROVAL DATE -  
APPROVED BY -

CLIENT NAME	ADDRESS	ACCT. REP	DESIGNER	PROJECT MANAGER	DATE	PAGE NUMBER	OPPORTUNITY NUMBER	SALES ORDER NUMBER
Amegy Bank	300 Convent St.; San Antonio, TX	CW	GO	TE	10.17.24	2 OF 9	OP011921	SO12415-1

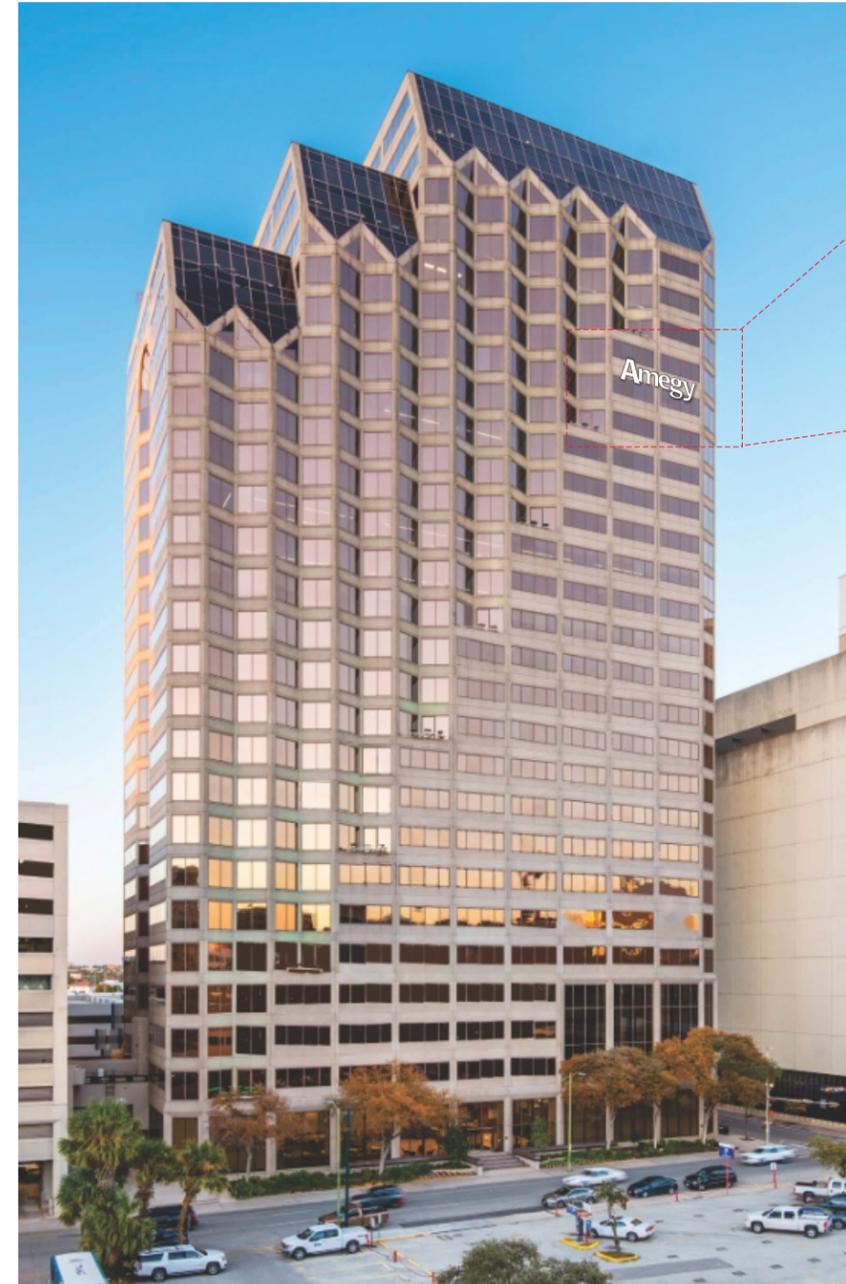
This sign is intended to be installed in accordance with the requirements of Article 600 of the National Electrical Code 2023 and/or other applicable local codes. This includes proper grounding and bonding of the sign. Dimensions are approximate & may change due to construction factors or exact field conditions. Color shown are as close as printing will allow; Always follow written specifications. All rights reserved: It may not be reproduced in any manner without prior consent.



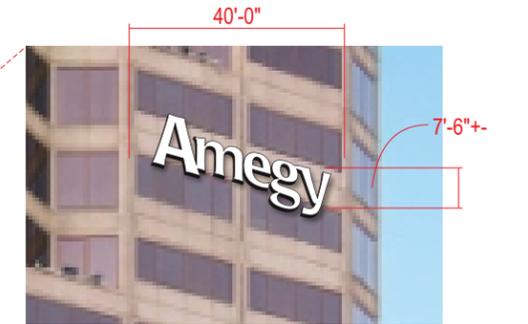
**NORTH ELEVATION**  
N.T.S.



**NIGHT SIMULATION**

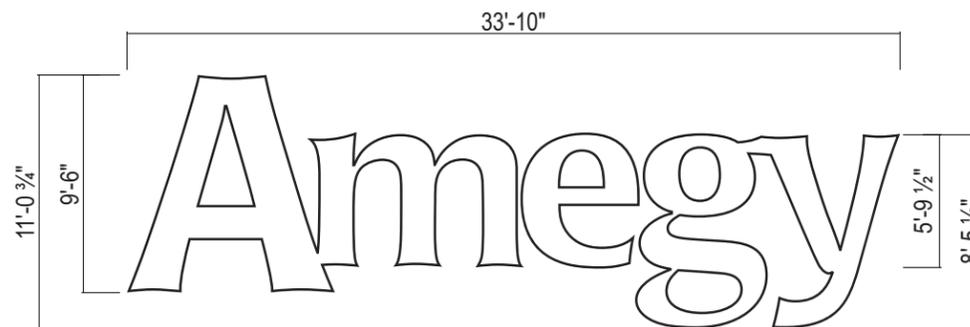


**SOUTH ELEVATION**  
N.T.S.



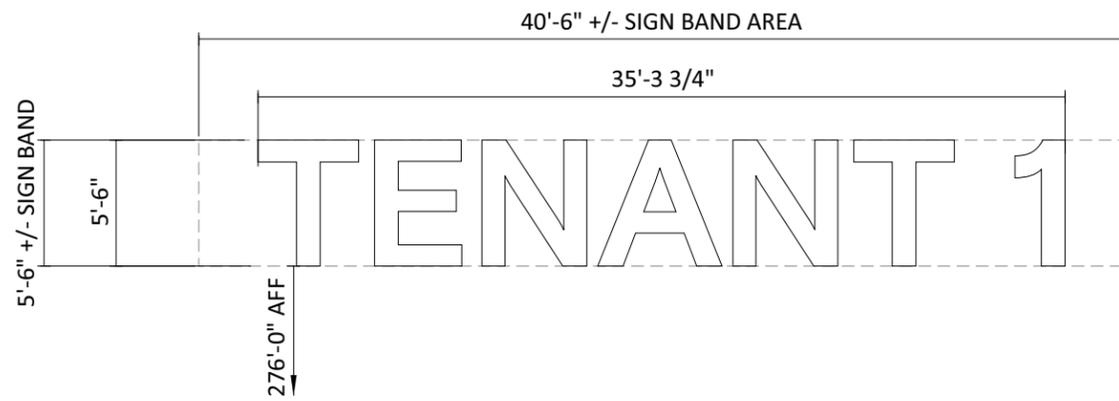
**NIGHT SIMULATION**

**FRONT VIEW**  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"  
**321.4 SQ. FT.**



APPROVAL DATE -  
APPROVED BY -

CLIENT NAME	ADDRESS	ACCT. REP	DESIGNER	PROJECT MANAGER	DATE	PAGE NUMBER	OPPORTUNITY NUMBER	SALES ORDER NUMBER
Amegy Bank	300 Convent St.; San Antonio, TX	CW	GO	TE	10.17.24	3 OF 9	OP011921	SO12415-1



**A1** FACE-LIT CHANNEL LETTERS

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

ONE [ 1 ] REQUIRED - MANUFACTURE & INSTALL

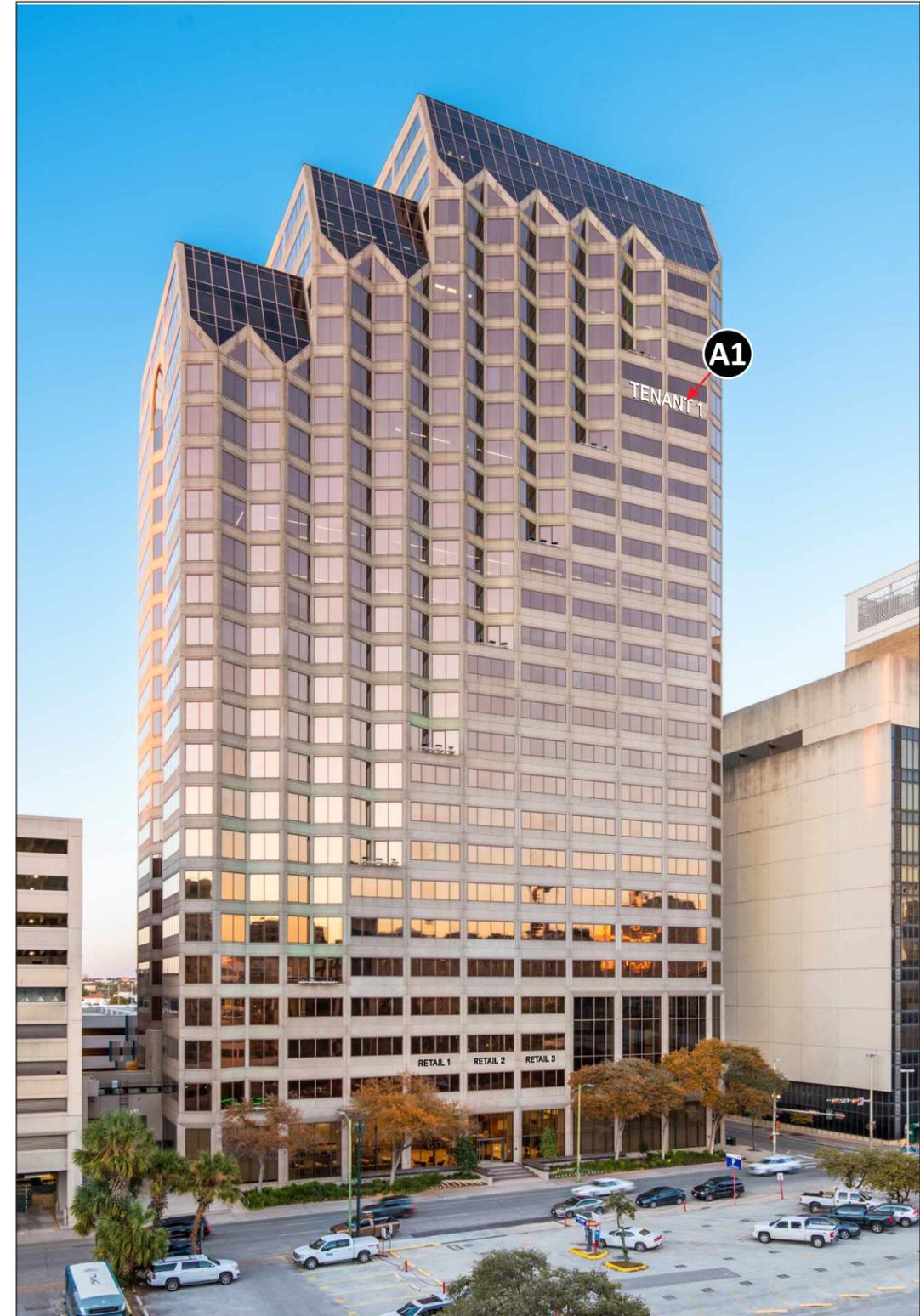
194.2 SQ. FT.

- 5" DEEP CHANNEL LETTERS W/ WHITE FACES
- BLACK TRIM CAP AND RETURNS
- WHITE LEDS
- FLUSH MOUNTED

**ART NOTE**

VECTOR ART REQUIRED PRIOR TO MANUFACTURE. AI OR EPS FOR PC FILES PREFERRED.

**SURVEY REQUIRED**



PROPOSED - SOUTH ELEVATION

<b>Design #</b>	0636492A R4
<b>Sheet</b>	3 of 9
<b>Client</b>	Patrinely Group
<b>Address</b>	300 Convent San Antonio, TX 78205
<b>Acct. Rep. Coordinator</b>	KATHERINE MOLTZ AMBER ZAVALA
<b>Designer</b>	JOEL GONZALES
<b>Date</b>	6/20/2023
<b>Approval / Date</b>	
<b>Client</b>	
<b>Sales</b>	
<b>Estimating</b>	
<b>Art</b>	
<b>Engineering</b>	
<b>Landlord</b>	

Revision/Date
R1(6/23/23)JGZ: Revise per customer markups
R2(1/17/24)JGZ: Increase size of all signs
R3(3/1/24)RS: ADD "MASTER SIGN PLAN" ELEMENTS
R4(4/9/24)RS: DEL ITEM B1 FROM NORTH SIDE



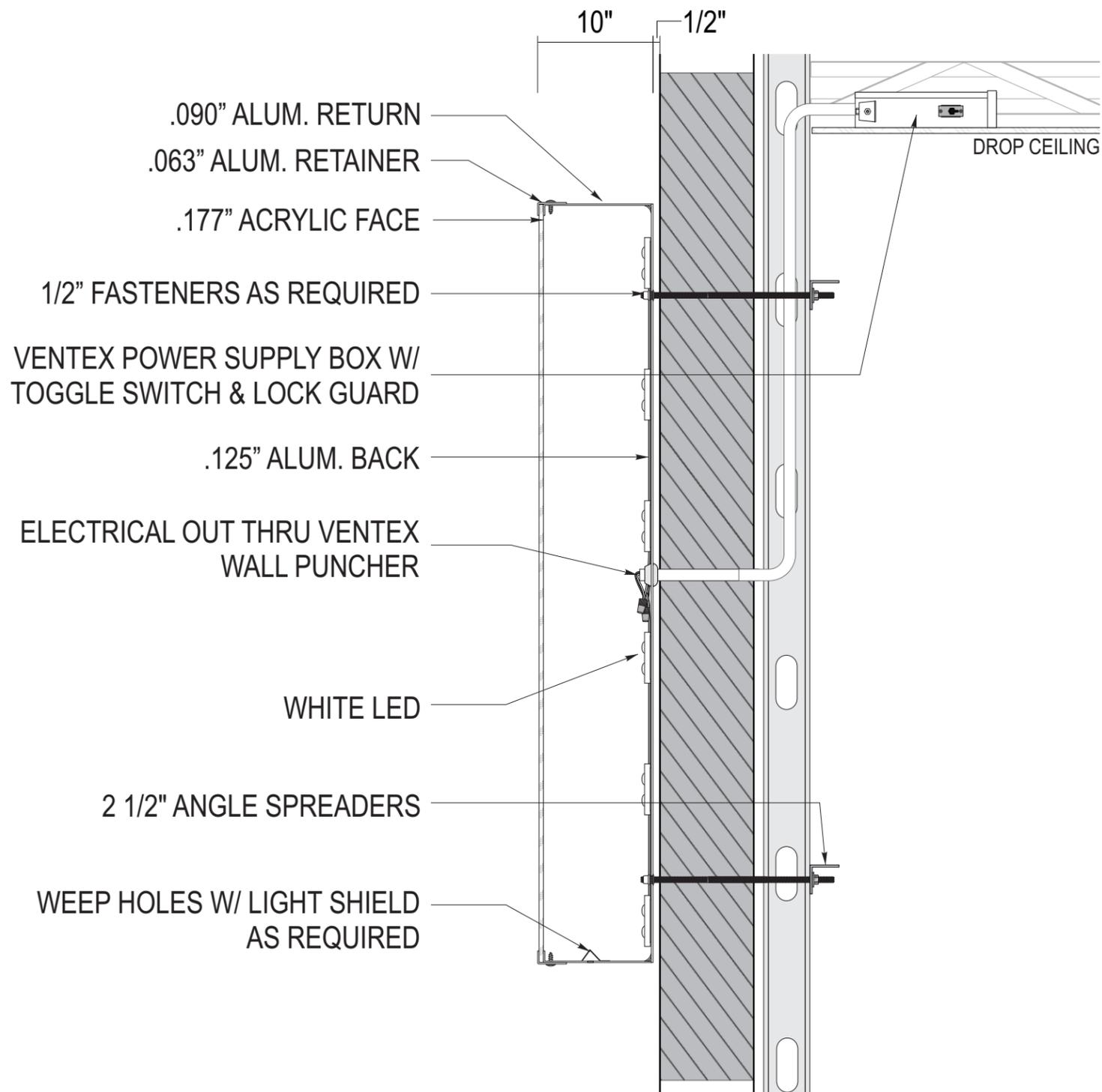
<b>chandler signs.com</b>	
<b>National Headquarters</b>	14201 Sovereign Road #101 Fort Worth, TX 76155 (214) 902-2000 Fax (214) 902-2044
<b>San Antonio</b>	17319 San Pedro Avenue Suite 200 San Antonio, TX 78232 (210) 349-3804 Fax (210) 349-8724
<b>Northeast US</b>	2301 River Road, Suite 201 Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 897-9800 Cell (502) 554-2575
<b>Georgia</b>	111 Woodstone Place Dawsonville, GA 30534 (678) 725-8852 Fax (210) 349-8724
<b>South Texas</b>	PO BOX 125 206 Doral Drive Portland, TX 78374 (863) 563-5399 Fax (361) 643-6533

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**FINAL ELECTRICAL CONNECTION BY CUSTOMER**

THIS SIGN IS INTENDED TO BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 600 OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE AND/OR OTHER APPLICABLE LOCAL CODES. THIS INCLUDES PROPER GROUNDING & BONDING OF THE SIGN. SIGN WILL BEAR UL LABEL(S).



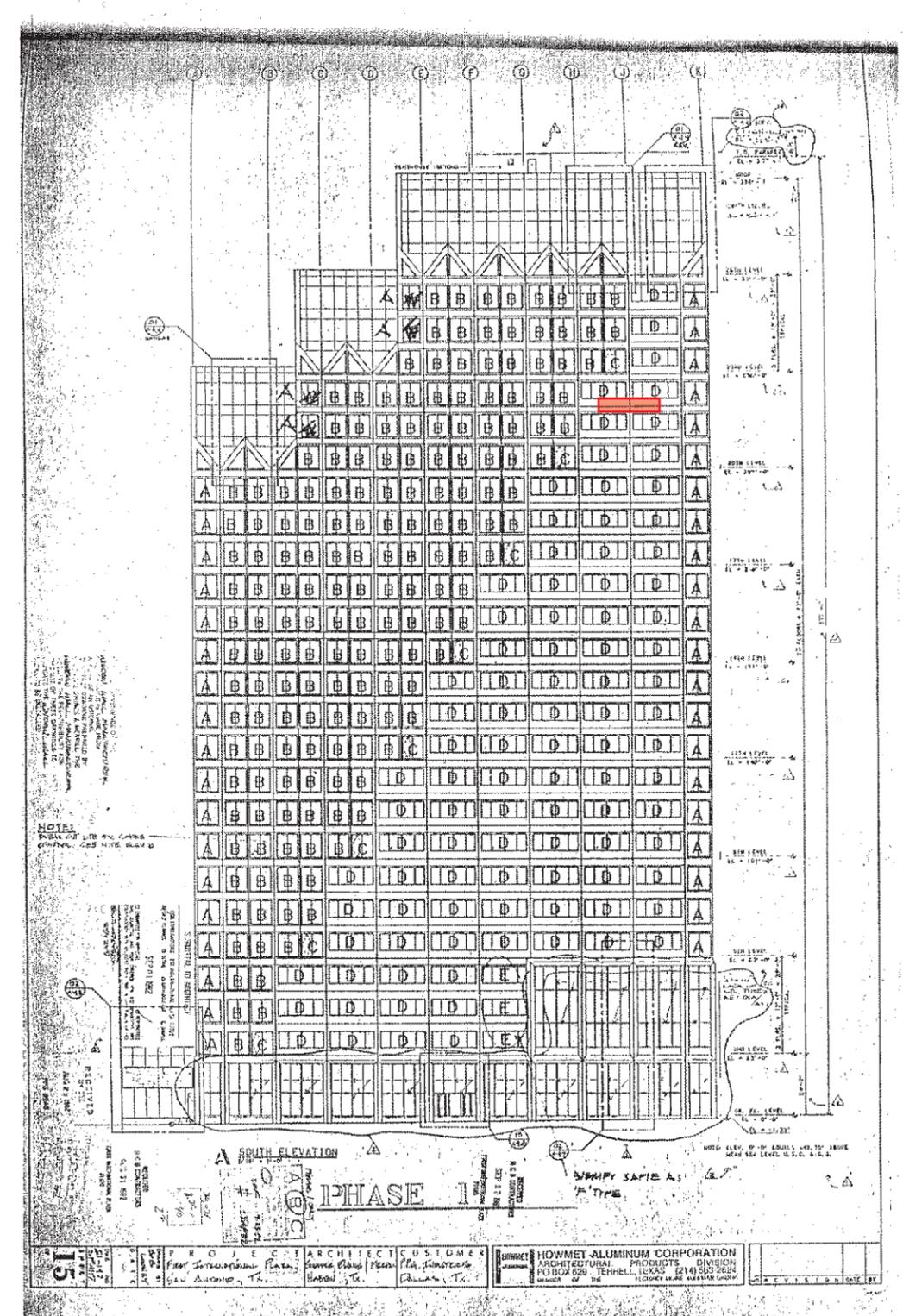
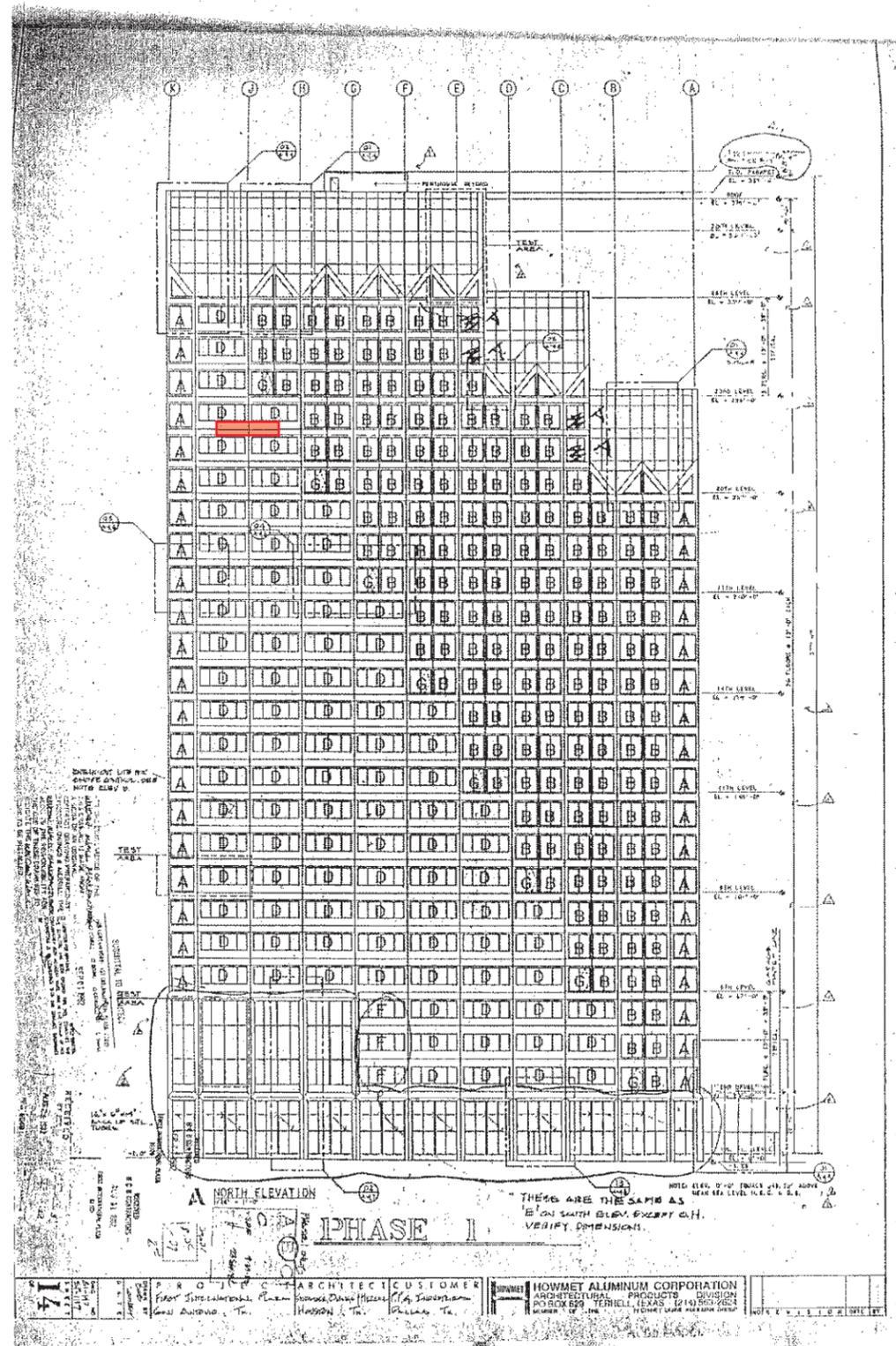


**SECTION**  
N.T.S.

APPROVAL DATE -  
APPROVED BY -

CLIENT NAME	ADDRESS	ACCT. REP	DESIGNER	PROJECT MANAGER	DATE	PAGE NUMBER	OPPORTUNITY NUMBER	SALES ORDER NUMBER
Amegy Bank	300 Convent St.; San Antonio, TX	CW	GO	TE	10.17.24	4 OF 9	OP011921	SO12415-1

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Amegy Bank	300 Convent St.; San Antonio, TX	CW	GO	TE	10.17.24	5 OF 9	OP011921	SO12415-1

## CLIENT NOTES:

- 1) CLIENT TO PROVIDE VECTOR ARTWORK INCLUDING CORRECT FONTS.
- 2) CLIENT TO PROVIDE ALL COLORS FOR SIGNS WITHIN DESIGN INCLUDING RACEWAY COLORS. COLORS TO BE PROVIDED ARE TO BE IN A SHERWIN WILLIAMS OR PANTONE / PMS COLORS. CMYK COLORS ARE NOT USABLE.
- 3) CLIENT TO APPROVE AND INITIAL DESIGNS THEN RETURN TO SSC SIGNS & LIGHTING ONCE APPROVED.
- 4) CLIENT TO PROVIDE ELECTRICAL TO ALL ILLUMINATED SIGNS. ELECTRICAL TO BE WITHIN 5'-0" OF SIGNAGE PRIOR TO INSTALL DATE.
- 5) ALL ELECTRICAL SCOPE TO BE INSTALLED BY TENANT CONTRACTOR

## MANUFACTURING NOTES:

- 1) IF SIGN NEEDS TO BE PERMITTED, MANUFACTURING WILL START AS SOON AS PERMITS ARE APPROVED BY CITY.
- 2) MANUFACTURING TO SUPPLY ALL NEEDED HARDWARE AND ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS NEEDED FOR INSTALLATION OF SIGN.
- 3) A MINIMUM OF 6'-0" WHIPS FROM THE BACK OF EACH CHANNEL LETTERS FOR INSTALLATION WHEN NEEDED.

## INSTALLATION NOTES:

- 1) INSTALLER TO INSPECT SIGN UPON RECEIPT AND REPORT ANY ISSUES OR DAMAGED ITEMS. INSTALLER WILL BE HELD LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES OR ISSUES REPORTED AFTER DAY SIGN IS RECEIVED.
- 2) INSTALLER TO VERIFY WITH CLIENT THAT SIGN IS BEING INSTALLED IN CORRECT LOCATION.
- 3) INSTALLER TO VERIFY ALL SERVICE IS COMPLETE PRIOR TO LEAVING THE SITE FOR THAT DAY AND/OR NIGHT INCLUDING COMPLETION PHOTOS OF SIGNS INSTALLED AND ILLUMINATED.
- 4) INSTALLER TO CLEAN UP ALL TRASH AND DEBRIS. ALSO, CLEAN ALL SIGNS AS NEEDED INCLUDING FACES.

## CLIENT SUPPLIED ARTWORK

FOR THE FASTEST, MOST ACCURATE SERVICE AND BEST ART REPRODUCTION, WE REQUIRE VECTOR-BASED .EPS FILE ORIGINALLY CREATED IN A PROGRAM LIKE COREL DRAW (.CDR) OR ILLUSTRATOR (.AI). CONVERT ALL TEXT TO OUTLINES OR INCLUDE ANY FONTS BEFORE SENDING THE ART TO US. SAVING A JPG, PNG, TIFF, BMP OR GIF FILE(S) AS AN EPS WILL NOT CONVERT YOUR IMAGE INTO VECTOR-READY ARTWORK. UNFORTUNATELY WE CAN'T USE THE FOLLOWING:  
POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS (.PPT)  
GRAPHICS FROM WEBSITES (.GIF AND .JPG)  
MICROSOFT WORD (.DOC)  
MICROSOFT PUBLISHER FILES (.PUB)  
(DXF) DRAWING EXCHANGE FORMAT OR  
DWG CAD (COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN) PROGRAMS