

CALL FOR ARTISTS / REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

600 7th Street / A Mixed-use Development

San Francisco, California

Mercy Housing California (MHC) is seeking qualified artists residing in the state of California to submit their qualifications for the commissioning of multiple artworks for an 8-story mixed-use development in the Mid-Market neighborhood of San Francisco. The development will consist of the construction of a new 221-unit rental apartment building with two wings, one for family housing and one for supportive housing linked by community and service spaces. There will be ground floor spaces dedicated to commercial uses. Due to the funding of the development by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD), MHC is required to provide art equal to 1% of that portion of the development's construction cost to be paid for with public funding from the City of San Francisco, and to provide the art to be installed and maintained in areas on the site of the building and clearly visible from the public sidewalk or open space feature.

The development will represent a significant investment to the community and the creation of public art is an essential element. The development team is interested in introducing innovative and dynamic artwork into the project that will have a positive impact to the building's inhabitants, the local SoMa community and greater San Francisco.

MHC is keenly interested in exploring how art can support economic development activities in the neighborhood with the goal of the artworks becoming a destination and iconic images representing the community and placemaking within Soma.



600 7th Street

Construction is slated to begin July, 2022 and be completed Summer, 2024

Parameters and Locations for Artworks

While MHC and Santos Prescott and Associates, the architects, have tentatively identified various locations suitable for art, it is their desire as well as the surrounding community that the artists collaborate to create artworks that will be integrated into the fabric of the project.

Over 100 languages are spoken in the South of Market with Filipino as the largest immigrant sector. The surrounding neighborhoods are designated as the Filipino Cultural District and the Leather & LGBTQ Cultural District. Six or seven active, local, community advocacy groups have expressed interest in being part of the design process.

Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion is the ongoing commitment of Mercy Housing to be consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial in our treatment of all individuals including those that belong to the communities in which we work. The artists we seek to engage will reflect a range of opinions, approaches, and perspectives, from diverse demographic backgrounds and identities. We aim to reflect the diversity of the surrounding community and city, and welcome the assistance of the local community advocacy groups in ensuring this RFQ is broadly distributed. Our goal is that the artwork reflects the richness of the community where it is installed.

Locations tentatively identified are marked in red and shown in the attached renderings:

1. Fences along both the Privately Owned Public Open Space and Private Alley
2. Entry area to the main building and lobby.
3. 7th Street wall.
4. Corner balcony on the 8th Floor

The artwork must meet the requirements of the Public Art Ordinance as described in Section 149 of the San Francisco Planning Code and in the brochure “Fine Arts Guidelines”.

Media

Open to all media appropriate to public spaces, including artists working in 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional media.

Budget

Currently the budget for specific locations has not been determined but the total for all locations is \$420,000. This sum must cover all expenses related costs of design, insurance, materials, fabrication, and installation. Allocation of funds will be determined during Phase II of the Selection Process.

Eligibility

Open to professional artists or artist teams residing in California with preference given to Bay Area artists. Artists/teams should submit only one application. It is encouraged that artist teams include emerging artists on those teams. Artists whose work involve community participation are encouraged to apply.

Criteria for Selection:

- *Artistic excellence
- *Appropriateness to the proposed sites
- *Durability of design and materials
- *Minimum maintenance requirements and resistance to vandalism
- *Safety
- *Proven ability through past works to undertake a project of this scope

Artist Selection Process

The public art process involves the public from the initial selection phase to dedication. Public Art is the placement and integration of original artworks into public spaces.

Phase I: A panel consisting of representatives from Mercy Housing California, Santos Prescott and Associates, selected community members, city representative, and an Art Professional will select finalists to visit the site and submit proposals. An honorarium of \$1,500 will be awarded to all finalists upon submission of their proposal.

Phase II: During or after the site visits, it is anticipated that artists will propose their preference for specific locations and should not begin their research and creation of their proposals until given approval. The Panel will make their final selection decisions based on eligibility and criteria describe above.

Additional Selection Requirements

The San Francisco Planning Department staff and Commission will have final review and comment on all selections before artists are contracted to fabricate their work. The San Francisco Arts Commission will also review the selections.

The development will be funded in part by the San Francisco Mayors Office of Housing and Community Development and therefore, there are certain governmental ordinances that may apply to the artist contract.

These include but are not limited to the Minimum Compensation Ordinance, Equal Opportunity Program, Equal Benefits Ordinance, etc. Throughout the artist selection process, MHC will work with the artists to assess if these ordinances apply given the size of the contract.

Estimated Timeline

June 27, 2022:	Deadline for submission of qualifications
By July 26, 2022:	Selection of Finalists
September 15, 2022:	Site visits completed
December 15, 2022:	Proposals due
January- February, 2023:	Community input
By March 15, 2023:	Final selections
April - December, 2023:	Approval by appropriate organizations and Fabrication
Spring, 2024	Installation of Artworks

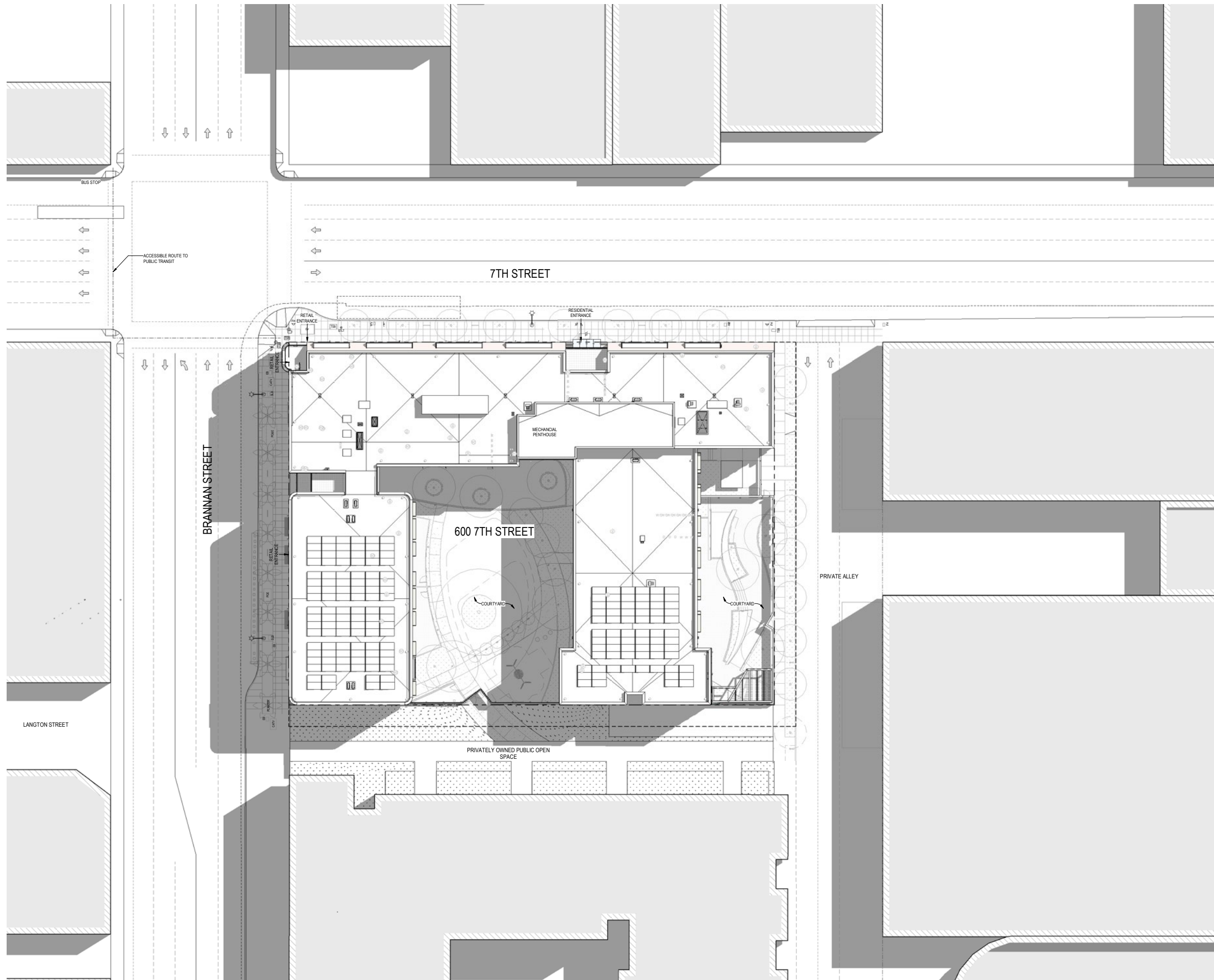
Requirements for submission of qualifications:

1. One page letter of interest describing experience and an approach to the project.
2. Resume (up to 3 pages) in a PDF
3. Ten (10) images of past work. All images must be jpegs in Power Point Presentation.
Number each image in lower right-hand corner corresponding to the number on the Annotated Image List.
4. Annotated Image List must include title of artwork, media, dimensions, year completed, budget and commissioning agency if appropriate, and a number as specified above. Please include a brief and clearly narrated description for each image. Combine with #3 in a PDF
5. If applying as a team, please designate a lead artist as the primary contact. A maximum of 5 Images per artist. may be submitted

Deadline for Submission: June 27, 2022 email to lynne@baerartprojects.com

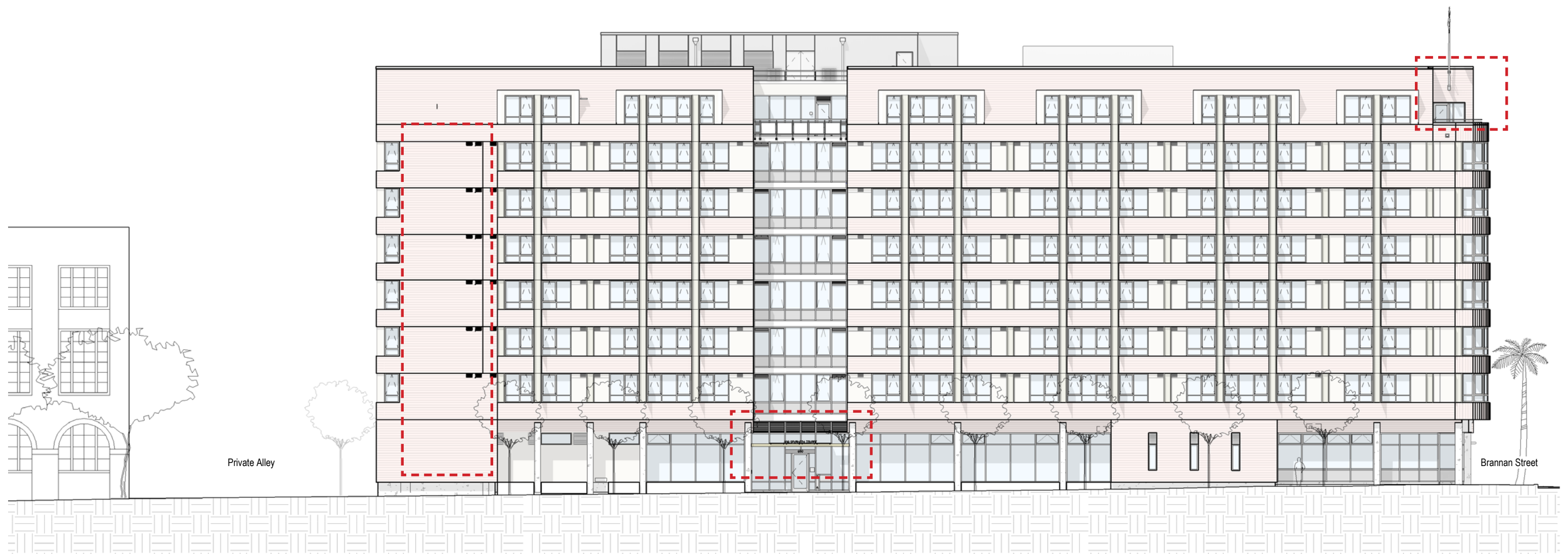
Inquiries to: Lynne Baer via email lynne@baerartprojects.com.

For further information on Mercy Housing California; www.mercyhousing.org
Project website: <https://www.7thandbrannon.org>





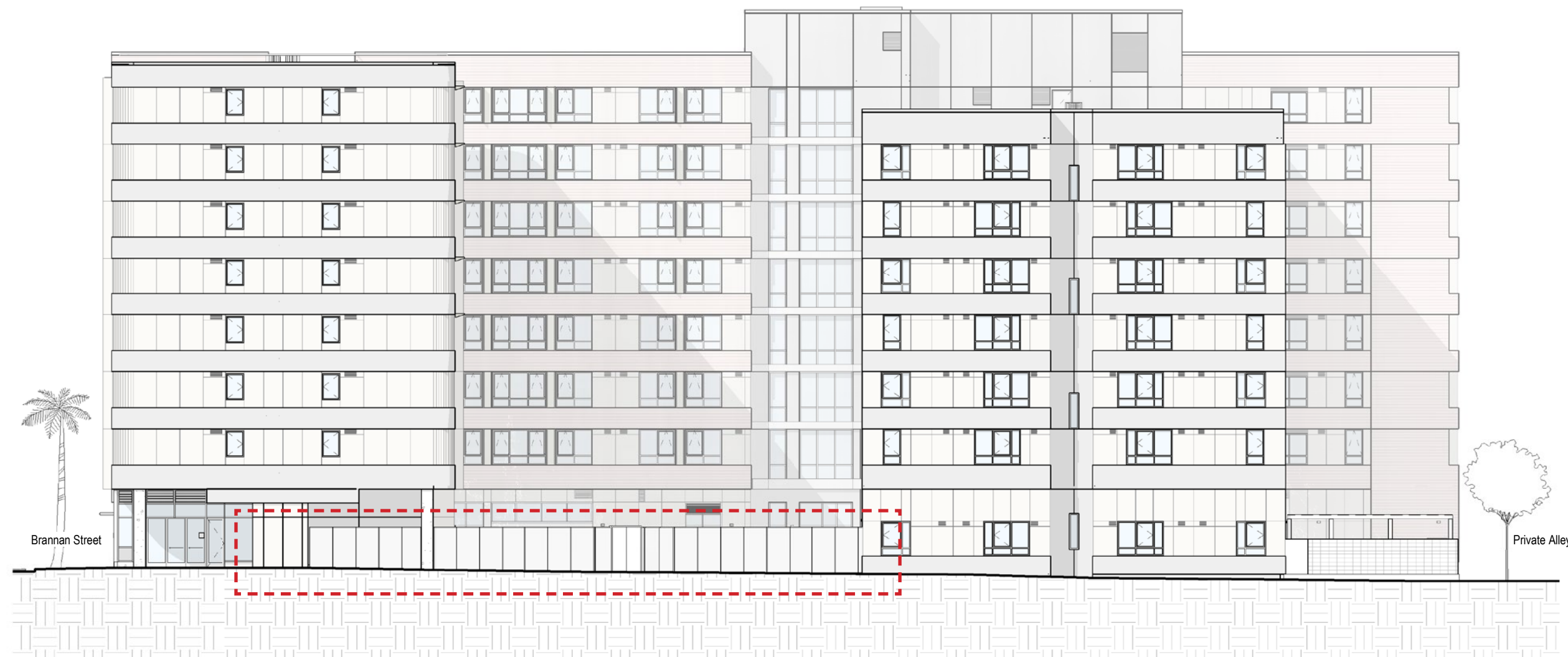
Ground Floor Plan



Elevation facing Seventh Street
Solid wall at Seventh Street
Entry Area
Eight Floor Terrace



Elevation facing Brannan Street
Eighth Floor Terrace
Gate at Mews



Elevation facing Mews
Metal fence at Mews



Elevation facing Private Alley
Polished CMU walls at Alley