



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
Department of Planning & Community Development
730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

Public Hearing Memorandum

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Arlington Redevelopment Board and public with technical information and a planning analysis to assist with the regulatory decision-making process.

To: Arlington Redevelopment Board

From: Erin Zwirko, Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development

Subject: Environmental Design Review, 434 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA
Docket #3616

Date: March 12, 2020

Following the hearing on February 24, 2020, Ali Carter, the Economic Development Coordinator, and I met with the sign vendor for Taipei Tokyo to discuss the comments from the Redevelopment Board.

In particular, we discussed which signs could be removed from the façade and the condition of the façade beneath the sign panels. Following a discussion, we agreed that removing the copy on the left-most sign would be an improvement. The copy can be removed from the sign panel with heat and alcohol, according to the sign vendor. The façade beneath the sign panel is not in good condition, so maintaining the panel without the lettering in this location is improvement and also provides consistency across the restaurant façade.

It should be noted that the main entrance to the restaurant is underneath the middle sign, below the artwork where the open sign is located. The main entrance is a carved, wooden door. The door to the left of the restaurant provides access to the second floor.

In summary, the far right panel with the restaurant's name as copy will remain with a size of 60 square feet. The middle sign can be described as artwork as it does not convey a message per the definition of "Sign" in Section 2 of the Zoning Bylaw. It is sized at 38.02 square feet. For this location, one wall sign is allowed with a maximum of 40 square feet.