



The Urban Sound Wave

Sound waves in cities are a dimension of our daily living so pervasive that it is often taken for granted. When we think about it, we realize that sound or the absence of it, is an inescapable part of life. The absence of sound however, may be a reality for some of our fellow human beings: Life within or outside of sound frequencies should be celebrated nevertheless. To that effect, The Urban Sound Wave sculpture captures a random wave of sound and memorializes its presence and absence in our lives reminding us that sound is larger than we may think, and that in of itself it is multi-dimensional and that regardless of our physical challenge, we are equally subject to its rules. Awareness of sound in the urban environment reminds us that we share a responsibility to this important aspect of our lives, and that we need to be more aware of how it affects those around us, especially our fellow humans who face a challenge regarding its perception. This representation of the abstract sound wave form is a direct result of the space where it is taken from, thus it is orthogonal in its representation rather than the traditional circular form wave it is often represented as. The sculpture has merely materialized that sound wave we are already surrounded by in urban spaces. The tuning fork is located at the west end of the site initiating the wave that goes across the landscape and dissipates into the east end of the site. A pedestrian bridge is provided "inside the wave" to allow pedestrians the option of crossing the road above vehicular traffic. The prevalent angle of the wave is facing the south of the site to capture the prevailing solar trajectory through the proposed site.

Primary Materials:

The sculpture is made of light gauge aluminum framing studs as the underlying framing structure, clad in thin insulated metal panels, and solar panels. The open space floor surface surrounding the structure is covered by concrete, grass areas, and stone. As a framed container the sculpture can be used to conduct electrical power conduit, and even other utilities if that were necessary. The total solar panel surface is estimated at 12,000 square meters. The estimated cost of construction for the sculpture is 2 million dollars.

Expected Energy Yield:

This yields an approximate total Kilowatt /hour per year of 43.6 million Kw/h a year (given an estimated 300 Kw/hour per panel).

Peak output is estimated at 4 million Kw for best site conditions.

Environmental Impact:

The environmental impact of the sculpture includes the large number of solar panels at such scale. Yet the layout of the panels is designed to avoid visually overwhelming those traversing the space. The sculpture has also the potential to provide lighting support in the evening, but this is better addressed by those engaged in the overall planning of the site. The sculpture can serve as a park area since it is envisioned to provide seating, and a link via a pedestrian bridge above the road traversing the site. **ged in the overall planning of the site. The sculpture can serve as a park area since it is envisioned to provide seating, and a link via a pedestrian bridge above the road traversing the site.**