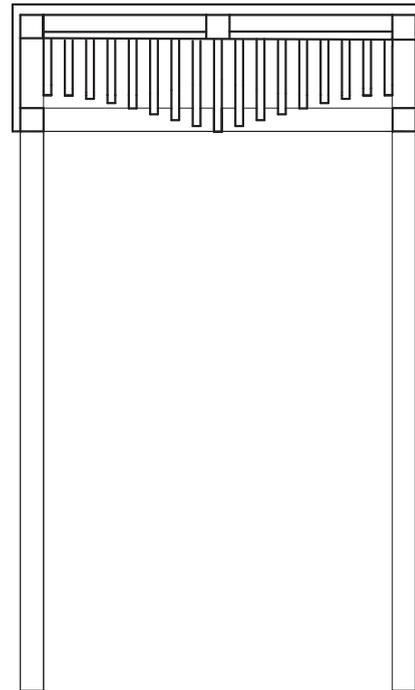
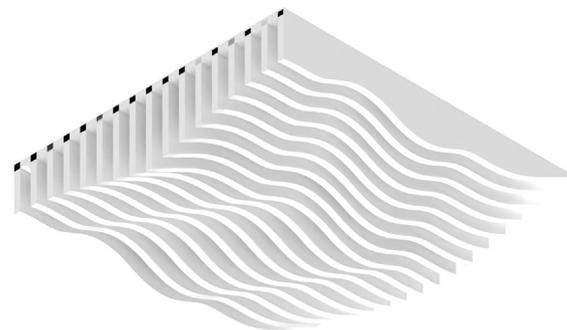


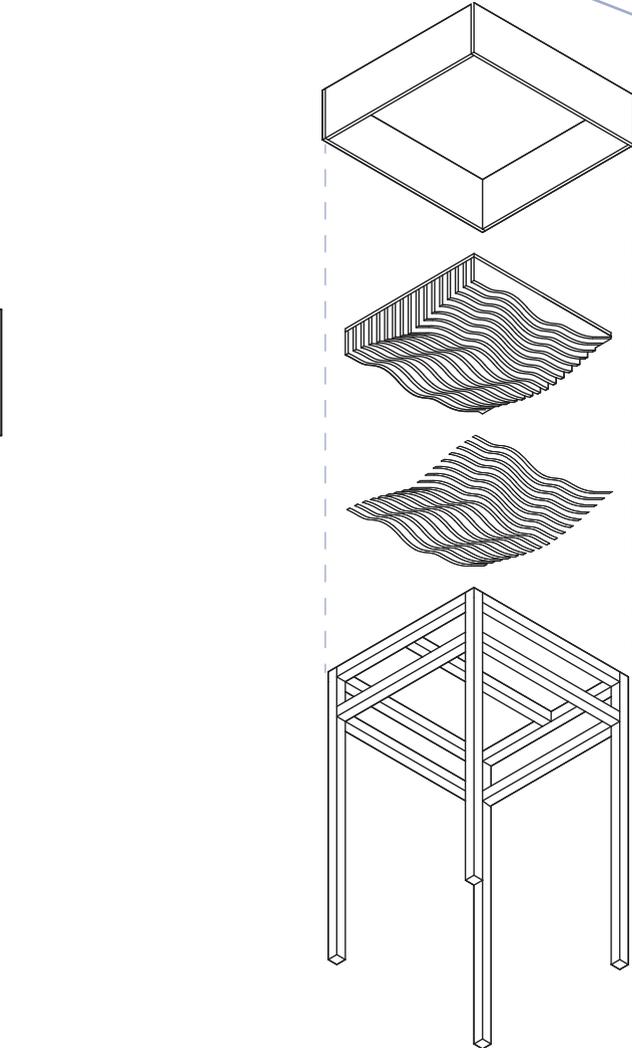
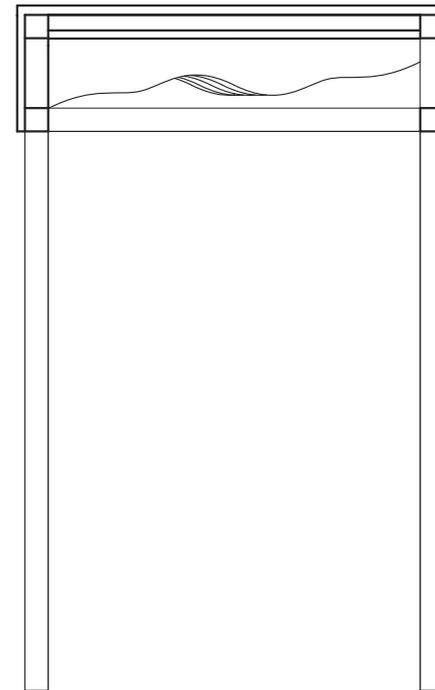
# Proposal

## **Soft Threshold:** *Designing for Sensory and Spatial Inclusion*

This project demonstrates how an architectural intervention can operate simultaneously as environmental infrastructure and as an accessibility device. The awning and bench system measurably reduces sound pressure levels across all frequency bands directly lowering perceived loudness and acoustic stress, while the corresponding reduction in D50 values confirms a deliberate softening of speech clarity. Together, these shifts transform the sidewalk edge into a controlled acoustic threshold that supports a gradual sensory transition. For neurodiverse users, this creates a more comfortable passage between exterior and interior conditions, while for visually impaired pedestrians, the audible change under the awning becomes a spatial cue that signals the building entrance through sound rather than sight. Beyond acoustics, the project integrates rest, lighting, and visual legibility as core components of the threshold. The bench offers a space of pause, supporting physical rest and sensory regulation, while integrated lighting within the awning panels provides wayfinding through controlled illumination and reinforces the entrance condition at night and in low-visibility conditions. Beyond their acoustic function, the wavy panel forms soften the visual hardness of the urban streetscape, creating a calmer and more legible edge for users with low vision or sensory sensitivities. The result is an awning that merges performance and perception, transforming an ordinary piece of infrastructure into a responsive and inclusive urban microclimate.



Sections of Awning highlighting panels



Exploded Axonometric of Awning