





Business Park Shade Sails Completed September 2020 Fabric GALE Pacific DualShade 350/ Macaw Designer - Patrick Howe

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## **Overview**

Two outdoor seating areas are covered by 3 shade sails. One area has two sails that overlap, the other has a single sail with a dramatic hypar twist. DualShade 350 fabric from GALE Pacific was chosen for this project because of its unique color-transforming effect, resulting in a dramatic and beautiful exterior space.

## The Problem

Our client requested a shade solution for two outdoor common areas in a business park setting with two goals in mind. They were not only interested in functional areas that provided protection from the sun and heat but also created distinctive visual appeal. Whatever we came up with really needed to look good, making people want to congregate there.

From a design perspective, portions of the areas had existing trees and shrubbery which were not to be removed. This created complications when determining post locations for the new sail structures.

Since these trees and shrubs weren't going anywhere, we needed to devise a plan that satisfied engineering requirements for structural integrity without sacrificing the end result we promised our client.



## The Solution

The final client proposal included designing three dynamic shade sails to cover the two areas. In the first area, we created two overlapping sails that utilized 4 attachment points on the building and three posts. For the second area, we designed one large sail with two building attachments and two posts.

For the larger area, we need to work around the existing trees and shrubbery. This was overcome by setting one of the posts further back from the desired shade area and then using an extension cable to reach the post. This was the best solution to solve the problem without altering our proposed design.

## The Result

This project was the first time we designed a sail using the new DualShade 350 fabric in an eyecatching and interesting way. The client loved the blue and gold Macaw option from DualShade as the colors matched their own logo very closely. Since design and beauty were equally important as functional shade, the DualShade fabric allowed us to design sails that met both needs.

With the overlapping sails in the first area, we chose to alternate the colors for a more interesting look. Since the DualShade has two different colors on the top and bottom, we also chose to place the hems facing down, creating a distinctive contrasting border around each edge.

The single sail design for the second area also featured the same contrasting border. In addition, we placed one of the building attachment corners much higher than the other three. This created a dramatic look that was further enhanced by DualShade's unique color aesthetic, producing an iridescent effect in the bright sunlight.





