



NINE dot ARTS

**Public Art Commissions, RFQ**

# **WICHITA NORTHWEST WATER FACILITY**

**City of Wichita**

# **INTRODUCTION**

The image features a minimalist design with a white background. A black rectangular frame is positioned horizontally across the middle. The word "INTRODUCTION" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font within this frame. To the right of the frame, there are several solid orange circles of varying sizes, some overlapping the frame's border. A light gray vertical bar is visible in the background behind the frame.

The City of Wichita is seeking qualified artists for three public art commissions on the grounds of the new Northwest Water Facility (NWWF). The facility is expected to be operational by the end of 2024. The artwork for the project is expected to be installed by the end of 2023. The new water treatment facility will be built near 21st N and Hoover, directly northeast of the Sedgwick County Zoo. The new water treatment plant will serve the city of Wichita, surrounding communities, industries, and wholesale customers. The new plant will provide 120 million gallons per day of drinking water and will replace the aging Main Water Treatment Plant.

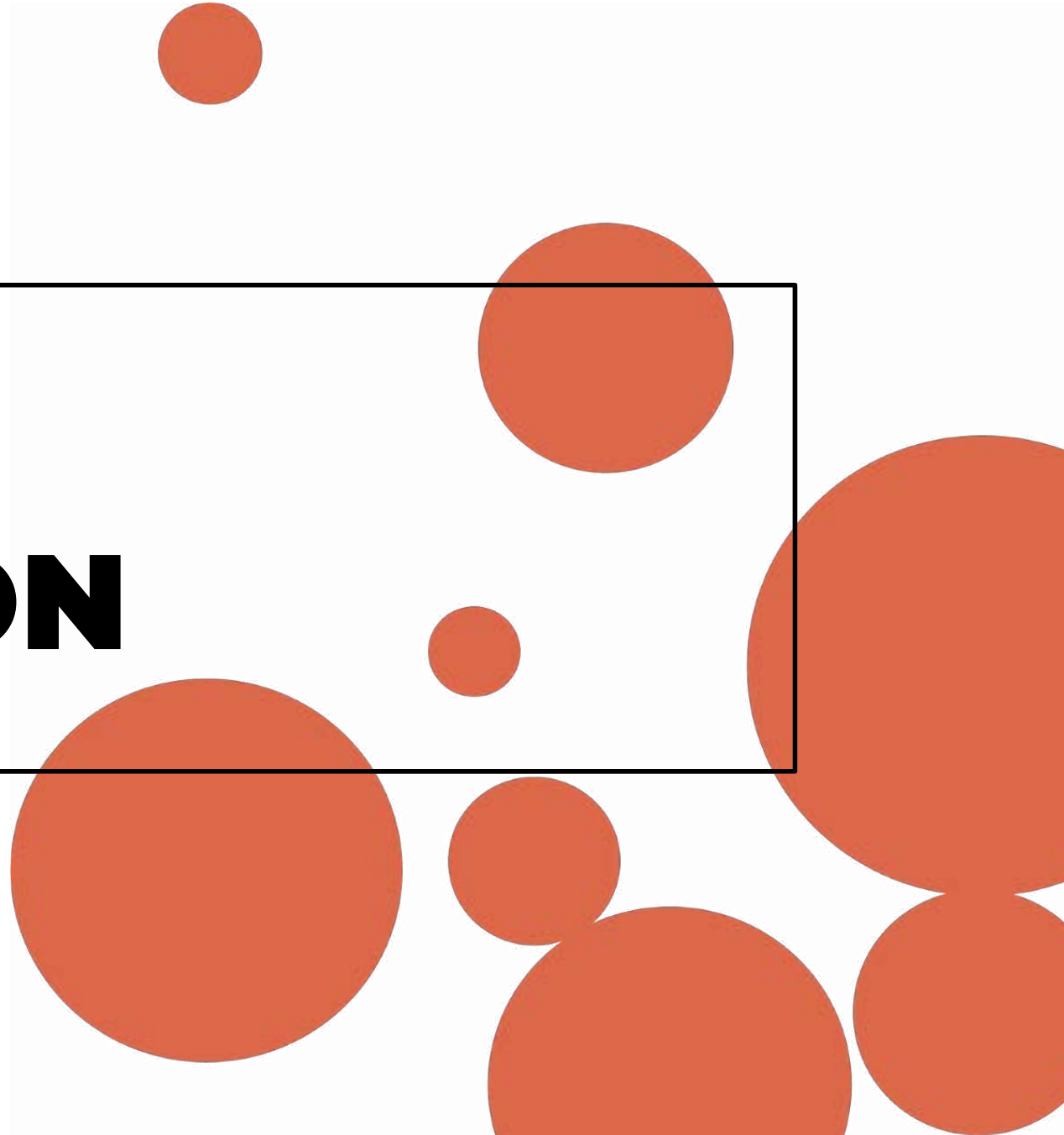
The artwork will be selected by the project steering committee, including several members of City Council and the Sedgwick County Zoo. The steering committee will make their decision based on artist eligibility and the selection criteria listed below. The selected artists proposals may require input and design development based on feedback from the committee and is subject to their final approval. Selected artists will give regular updates on their progress through the fabrication and installation process.

Read on for the project information including art locations, schedule, budget and submittal requirements.

Issue date: January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Deadline to submit: January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# **PROJECT INFORMATION**



## **ART GOALS**



## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The art programming for Wichita's Northwest Water Facility will feature vibrant and eye catching additions to the city's art collection that are integrated into the landscape and building plans of the facility.

Selected artwork will amplify the water facility and its proximity to the local zoo, enhancing the landscape of the busy corridor and improving the experience for visitors and passersby. This elevated experience and aesthetic appeal will bolster the community's investment in the water facility and create a sense of pride for Wichita residents.

New, commissioned artworks will showcase the creativity and innovation of prominent regional artists, with special emphasis on the work of Wichita-based artists. Additionally, artwork will highlight other important local trades such as fabrication and engineering. The art programming will advance creative placemaking by putting artists at the center of planning, execution, and activity.

**Thoughtful**

**Memorable**

**Relevant**

**Compelling**

**Creative**

**Dynamic**

## What role should the art play for the water facility?

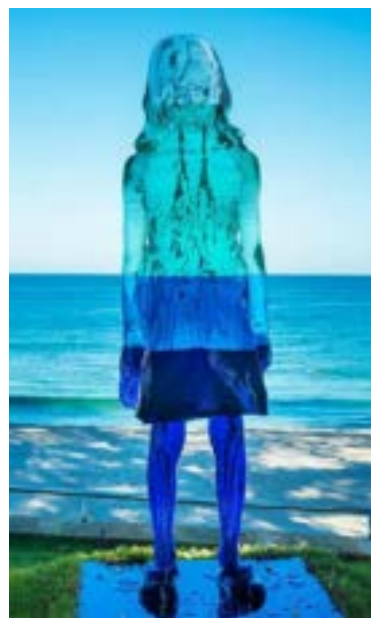
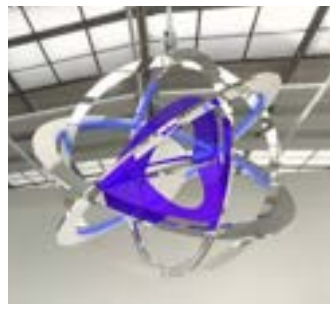
*Based on the committee's responses, the artwork should be **vibrant & eye catching**, creating a distinct, memorable experience.*

*Committee preferences affirm that artwork should also support **placemaking** and be **connected to the local art community**.*

## What are some of the keywords from the art committee?

- **Innovative**
- **Sustainable**
- **Fun**
- **Iconic**
- **Memorable**
- **Possibly kinetic**
- **Forward-thinking**
- **World class**
- **“Wow” factor**
- **Highlights water or conservation**

# ART CONCEPTS AND STYLES DESIGN BOARD



<b>Area 1: Zoo Blvd</b>	
Art	\$324,000
Engineering and Lighting	\$20,250
Installation and Structural	\$40,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$384,750</b>

<b>Area 2: Hoover Road</b>	
Art	\$216,000
Engineering and Lighting	\$13,500
Installation and Structural	\$27,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$256,500</b>

<b>Area 3: Administration/Laboratory Building</b>	
Art	\$93,600
Engineering and Lighting	\$5,850
Installation and Structural	\$11,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$111,150</b>

**Artist Design Fees**

If selected to advance to finalists round, the artist or artists will receive a design fee for developing a full proposal.

These selected artists will receive a \$1,000 stipend to design a custom, site-specific artwork for the specific art location they are selected for.



## **Criteria for Eligibility**

- Demonstrated experience working with community public art programs
- Ability to work with architects, designers, fabricators to successfully achieve concept to install
- Successful experience working on time and within budget
- Individual artists or collaborations with multiple artists may apply

## **Local Involvement**

The city of Wichita has a vibrant art community and many local firms who can assist with the development, fabrication and installation of the art piece. The committee prefers to have local artists and firms involved in the project and will give preference to artists who plan to utilize these local resources.

This could include:

- Engineers for developing stamped drawings
- Concrete firms for pouring the footers
- Fabricators
- Installation crews
- Lighting specialists
- Landscape architects

We recommend using subcontractors already involved in the NWWF project because of their experience locally. NINE dot ARTS will help coordinate work and bids through these contacts.

# SELECTION CRITERIA

Artists will be selected on the basis of the fit of their concept for this project and the strength of their past work. For applicants without a history of past public art commissions, you will need to describe why you would be a good fit for this project. Previous public art experience is not required. Applicants will be reviewed and ranked on the following:

- Quality of concept, design, and craftsmanship of past works
- Creativity of approach
- Relevance to Art Vision (see pgs. 5-6)
- Familiarity with the Wichita community and willingness to work with local firms
- Visual and technical sophistication

# SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Please submit all of the following information. Applicants who fail to include all submittal requirements may not be considered for the project.

1. Artist name (or names of team members if applying as a collaboration), phone number and email address
2. Website and/or social media links if applicable
3. Indication of which art location or locations you would like to be considered for (i.e. Location 1, 2, 3A, or 3B)
4. Brief written description of your project approach and intention to create connections to the Wichita community through the artwork and through usage of local vendors in the art process (150 words or less)
5. Two references
6. Five to ten images of relevant examples of past work (video accepted). Images should represent the artist's style, format, medium, or breadth of work. Please include scale and medium for all works—and if a public installation, include the year installed and its location.
7. Resume or CV

# PROJECT SCHEDULE

**January 6, 2023 – RFQ announced**

**January 15, 2023 – Any questions from artists are due in writing to [grant@ninedotarts.com](mailto:grant@ninedotarts.com)**

**January 25, 2023 – Deadline to submit**

**February 6, 2023 – Finalists announced with a stipend for project concept designs**

**February 24, 2023 – Finalists to submit project concept designs**

**March 6, 2023 – Commission awarded**

**September – December 2023 - Project installation**

**\*if this schedule is changed, NINE dot ARTS will revise the schedule and send notice to all finalists**

# **ART LOCATIONS**

The image features a minimalist design with a white background. A thin black horizontal line spans the width of the page, with a vertical black line extending downwards from its right end to form a partial rectangular frame. To the right of this frame, several solid orange circles of varying sizes are scattered. One small circle is positioned at the top center, another slightly larger one is to its right. Below these, a medium-sized circle is on the left, a smaller one is to its right, and a large circle is on the far right. At the bottom, there are three more circles: a large one on the left, a medium one in the center, and a large one on the right. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

# ART LOCATIONS

## ***Why were these specific locations chosen?***

To add to the appeal of the development of the corridor at key locations for high impact.

## ***What is the purpose of each location?***

Each location is unique in terms of size, placement, and purpose. While all three artworks should work together, each one will have a different look and feel and will be viewed at different speeds.

### **Location 1 – Zoo Blvd.**

This artwork will primarily be seen from cars traveling at a higher speed than the other two locations. The artwork should be bold and large scale.

### **Location 2 – Hoover Rd.**

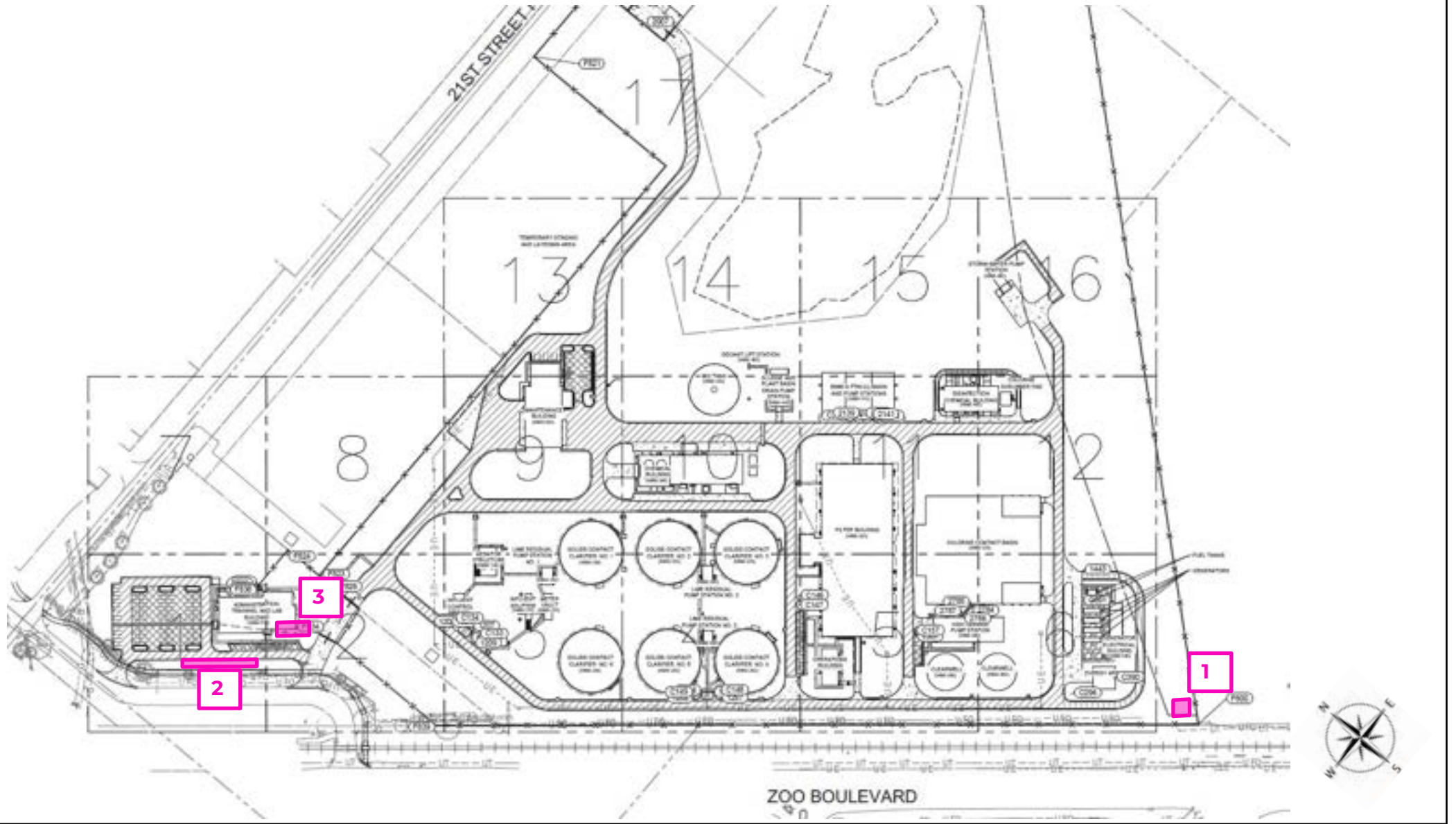
Viewers will typically see the art from the sidewalk while walking or biking on the new bike path. People will also see the art while driving but will be traveling slower than cars on Zoo Blvd.

### **Location 3 – Administration/Laboratory Building**

This is an opportunity for visitors to see the art while on foot visiting the site or on their way to the classroom in this building.



# ART LOCATIONS



Overhead view of the facility

# ART LOCATION 1 ZOO BLVD

## Zoo Blvd Site Details

### View for Commuters

This is a major thoroughfare from the western part of town into the downtown area. Scale needs to be appropriate for cars viewing the art while traveling 40-45 mph or above. A regional freight train also runs along this area just NE of Zoo Blvd.

### Proximity to the Zoo

Artworks placed along the northeast side of Zoo Blvd. would be seen by local commuters as well as by zoo visitors. The artwork should specifically be considered for its “view from the zoo” as visitors enter and exit the zoo. Existing zoo signage is nearly 30’ tall and can be seen from across the street.

### Existing Fence

There is an existing fence around the perimeter of the water facility. The artist will be responsible for removing a section of this fence from the corner of the site to allow for a concrete slab to be poured and for the placement and installation of the sculpture. After the artist installs the sculpture they will need to replace the fencing that was taken down.

### Utilities

The selected artist must plan for the art location to avoid underground utilities including electrical and water lines. This means there may be some shift to the exact location of the artwork and the concrete foundation after the utilities are located and marked.

### Lighting

Access to electric power still needs to be determined. Artists may consider solar panels when planning for the artwork lighting at this location.

## SUGGESTED THEMES:

- *Playful shapes*
- *Animals or connections with the zoo*
- *Potentially kinetic art or light art.*

Located across the street from the Sedgwick County Zoo, this art location is well suited to expand on the existing animal themes within the zoo signage and among the metal shapes attached to the existing fence (see below) just south of this art location.

This art installation will evoke welcoming, positive associations to the neighborhood through bright colors, dynamic lines and shapes, and easy, accessible viewing - even from a passing car.





**SITE 1 DETAILS**



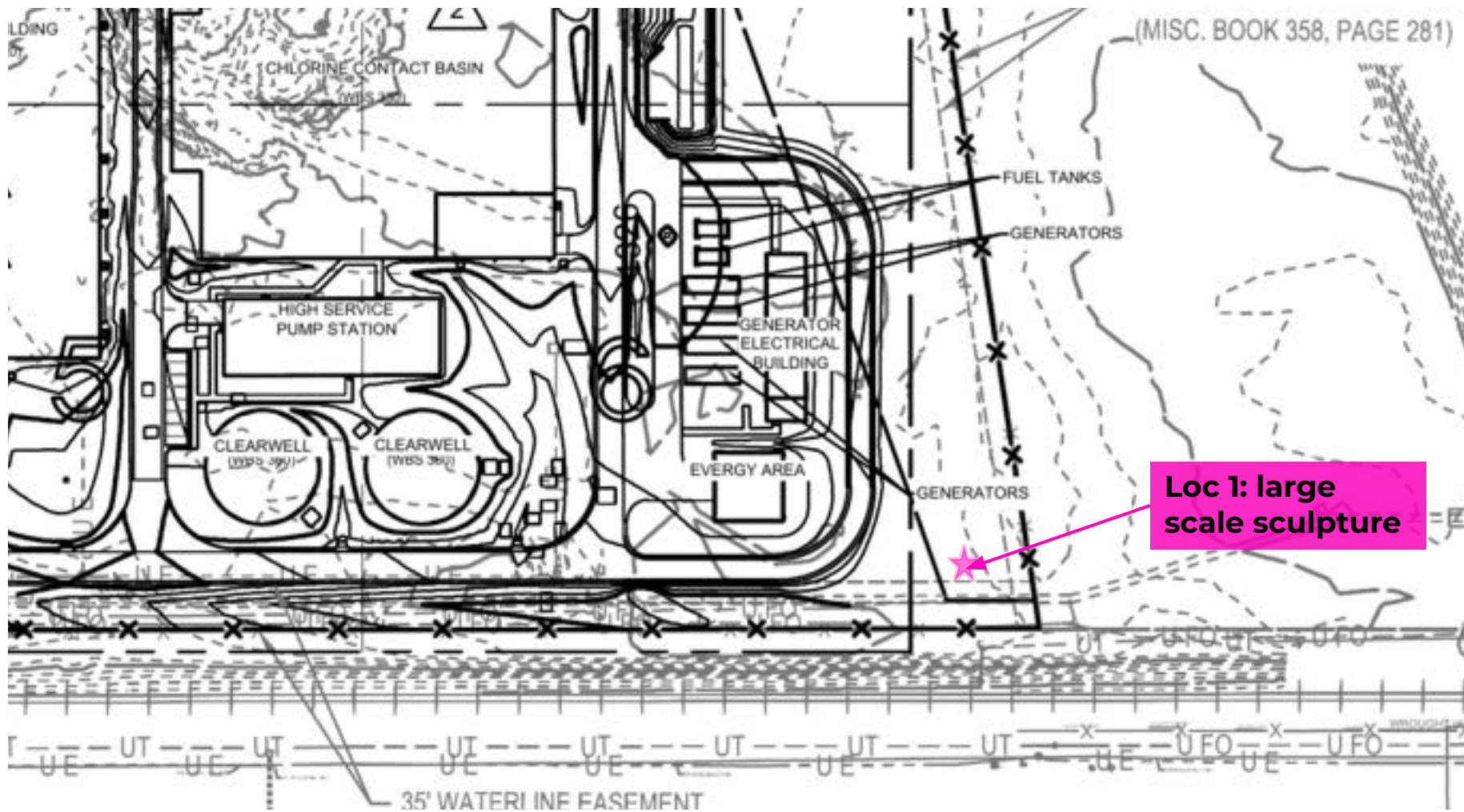
NOTE: This is the rough location for the sculpture and the final location may shift slightly.

**SITE 1 DETAILS**



NOTE: This is the rough location for the sculpture and the final location may shift slightly.

SITE 1 DETAILS



NOTE: Exact location may shift slightly to avoid underground electrical lines.

# ART LOCATION 2 **HOOVER RD**

## Hoover Rd Site Details

### Bike Path

Art for this location will appeal to pedestrians using the new bike path and will also be highly visible for commuters eastbound on 21<sup>st</sup> St turning here to go southeast on Zoo Blvd. The new proposed bike path will curve along Hoover Road and continue for 2+ miles into the local neighborhoods. This will connect the zoo area with local parks and neighborhoods. The bike path completion date is on hold until the art is selected.

### Intersection/Traffic Details

The artwork placement cannot encroach on the stoplight intersection and needs to stay 50' to the northeast of the railroad intersection.

### Utilities

Water and utility easements run through the proposed locations. AT&T has multiple buried communications lines. Initial locates are shown on the following page and we will call in additional locates to verify underground utilities before the artist pours concrete bases for the artwork.

### Electrical & Lighting

Electrical lines for lighting the artwork can be pulled from a J box inside the fenced area and will need to be coordinated with the project engineers. Electrical and lighting costs need to be included in the selected artist's scope and proposal.

## **SUGGESTED THEMES:**

- *Wichita-centric*
- *Community*
- *Travel (relate to bike trail expansion)*

Located near the entrance of the water facility, artwork in this location can act functionally to support navigation and wayfinding. Strategically placed artwork can help promote safety and smooth travel while creating a dynamic, uplifting connection to and from the zoo.

This art in this space will contrast to Location 1 in its size and subject matter. It will be viewable at a lower rate of speed, perhaps seen most frequently by families biking through the area. This artwork should spark engagement and a memorable sense of place that elicits community pride.

ART LOCATION 2 - HOOVER RD

LOCATION 2 DETAILS

Loc 2: Open area near new bike path

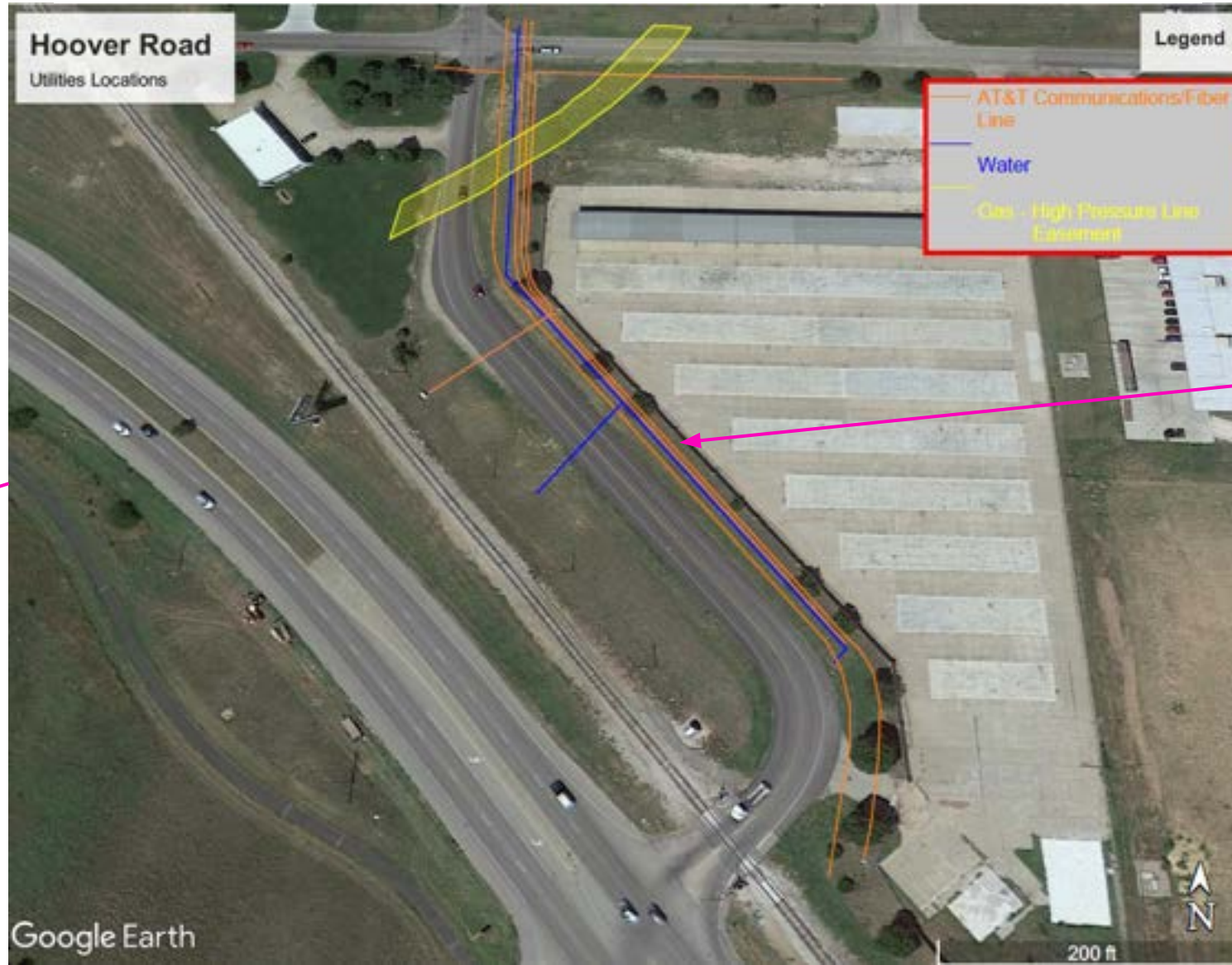
\*these buildings are removed and the Admin Bldg is being built here



New bike path

# ART LOCATION 2 – HOOVER RD

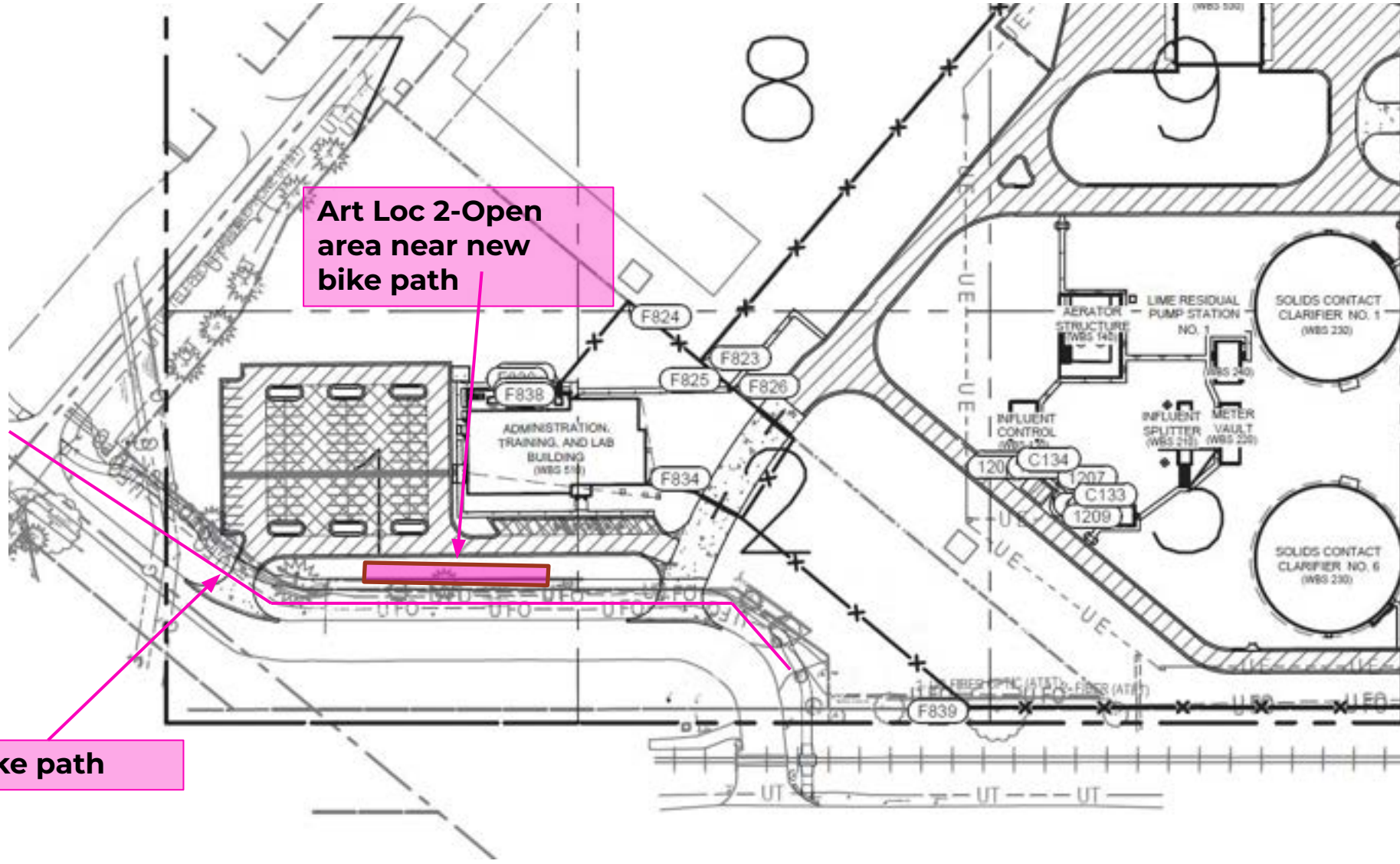
## LOCATION 2 DETAILS



NOTE: Utilities to avoid are marked above. These will be surveyed in Spring '23 for more detail and accuracy.

# ART LOCATION 2 - HOOVER RD

## SITE 2 DETAILS



Art Loc 2-Open area near new bike path

New bike path

NOTES: Artwork may have to shift slightly from the pink shaded area shown above. Exact location depends on where the underground utilities, data and communication lines are found and must be avoided. Electrical power for art lighting can be pulled from the nearby administration building.

# ART LOCATION 3 ADMINISTRATION/LAB BUILDING

## Admin/Laboratory Building

### Artwork Location Options (see details on the following pages):

- A. An **exterior** sculpture placed in the grassy area outside the entrance, **or**
- B. An **interior** artwork in the lobby area—a freestanding sculpture or artwork suspended from the ceiling.

### Art Location

Artwork is recommended to be placed at this location to add interest to the lobby (interior) or nearby the building entrance (exterior). The building has meeting rooms which will be available to the public.

The art location is flexible. Art could be placed indoors or outdoors. Applicants must state which location option they would like to apply for. If art is placed outdoors, the art location is the small grassy area to the right of the parking spaces. If art is placed indoors, it can be freestanding sculpture or suspended from the ceiling. The open foyer area is roughly 30'x17'. Ceiling height above the finished floor is roughly 10'4". If art is proposed to hang from ceiling to floor, the artist must consider how it will be safely viewed by the public.

### Structural Implications

**Interior:** Hanging sculptures will require coordination with the building architect. Heavy suspended objects need to be attached to the building support structure located above the dropped ceiling. Hanging sculptures must avoid all ceiling lighting and HVAC components.

**Exterior:** The sculpture must avoid any underground water lines or utilities. There will be a nearby fire hydrant to avoid as well. Artwork will require being fabricated with weatherproof materials. Electrical and lighting costs need to be included in the selected artist's scope and proposal.

### SUGGESTED THEMES:

- *Water*
- *Science*
- *Innovation*

The installation of public art in this building will engage visitors and employees alike by activating the open space in the lobby and reception area or the open area just outside the entrance. It will create feelings of welcome and curiosity while exploring themes of education, innovation, and the value of water.



**SITE 3 DETAILS**



Rough location of fire hydrant

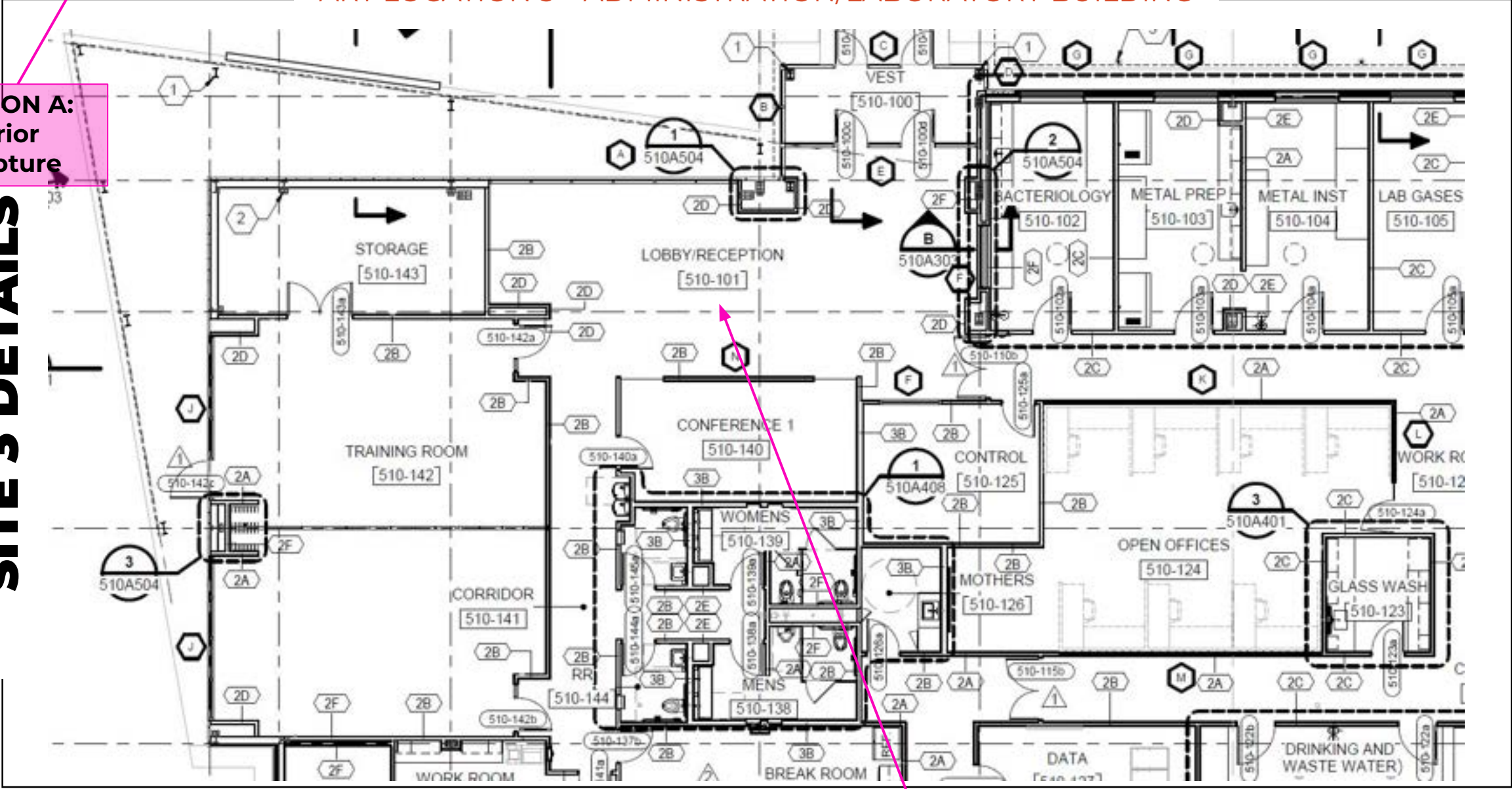
**OPTION A:  
exterior  
sculpture**

**OPTION B: art in  
lobby/reception**

ART LOCATION 3 – ADMINISTRATION/LABORATORY BUILDING

OPTION A:  
exterior  
sculpture

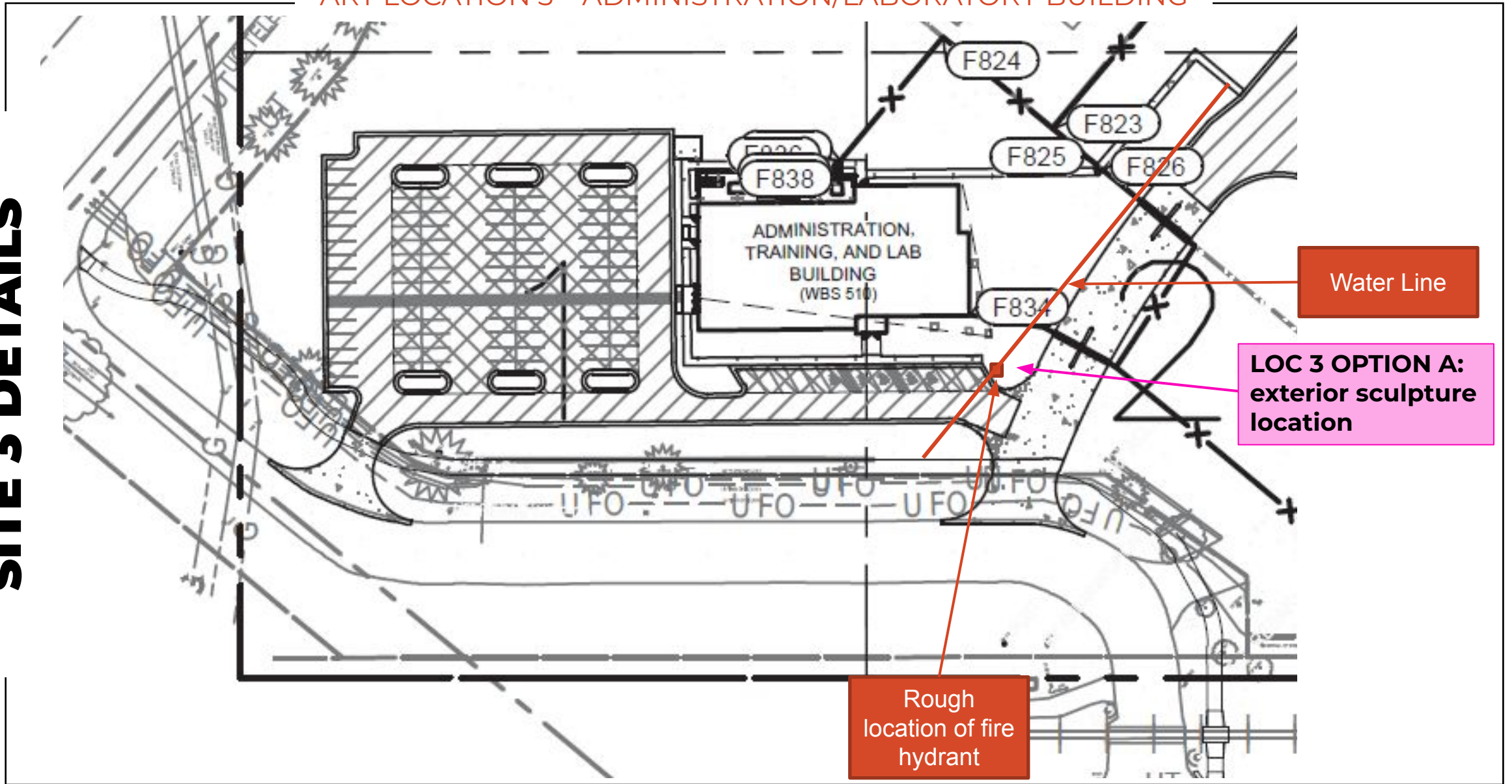
SITE 3 DETAILS



OPTION B: interior art in lobby/reception  
(either suspended or freestanding art)

ART LOCATION 3 – ADMINISTRATION/LABORATORY BUILDING

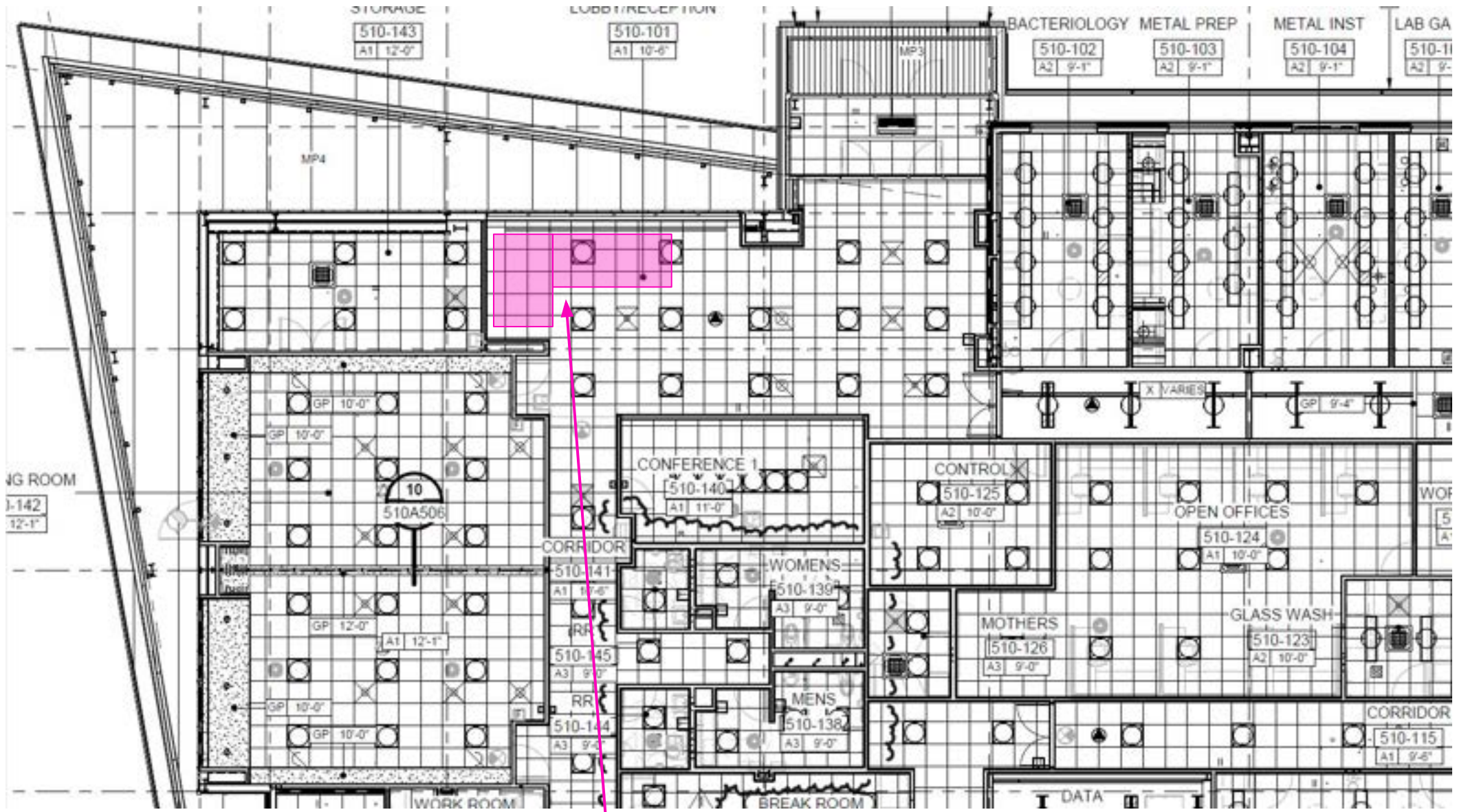
SITE 3 DETAILS







\*NOTE: sculpture must avoid water lines and the fire hydrant by at least a 4' radius. Exact location of fire hydrant may shift slightly when installed.

ART LOCATION 3 – ADMINISTRATION/LABORATORY BUILDING

SITE 3 DETAILS

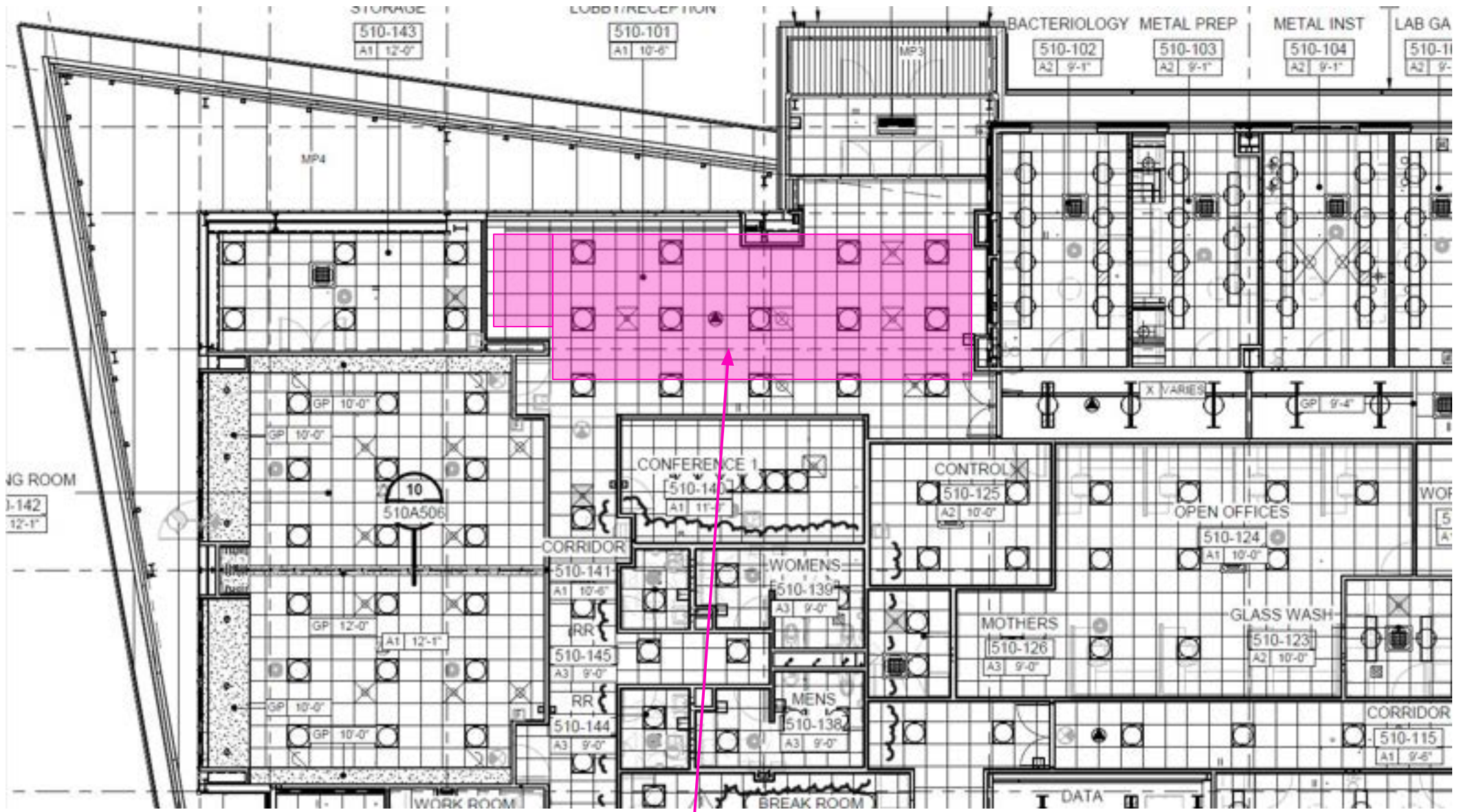


**LOC 3 OPTION B: art in lobby/reception  
(potential areas for freestanding sculpture)**

-   HVAC DIFFUSER / RETURN AIR GRILLE - REF. MECHANICAL
-  LIGHT FIXTURE - REF. ELECTRICAL
-  LIGHT FIXTURE - REF. ELECTRICAL

ART LOCATION 3 – ADMINISTRATION/LABORATORY BUILDING





SITE 3 DETAILS

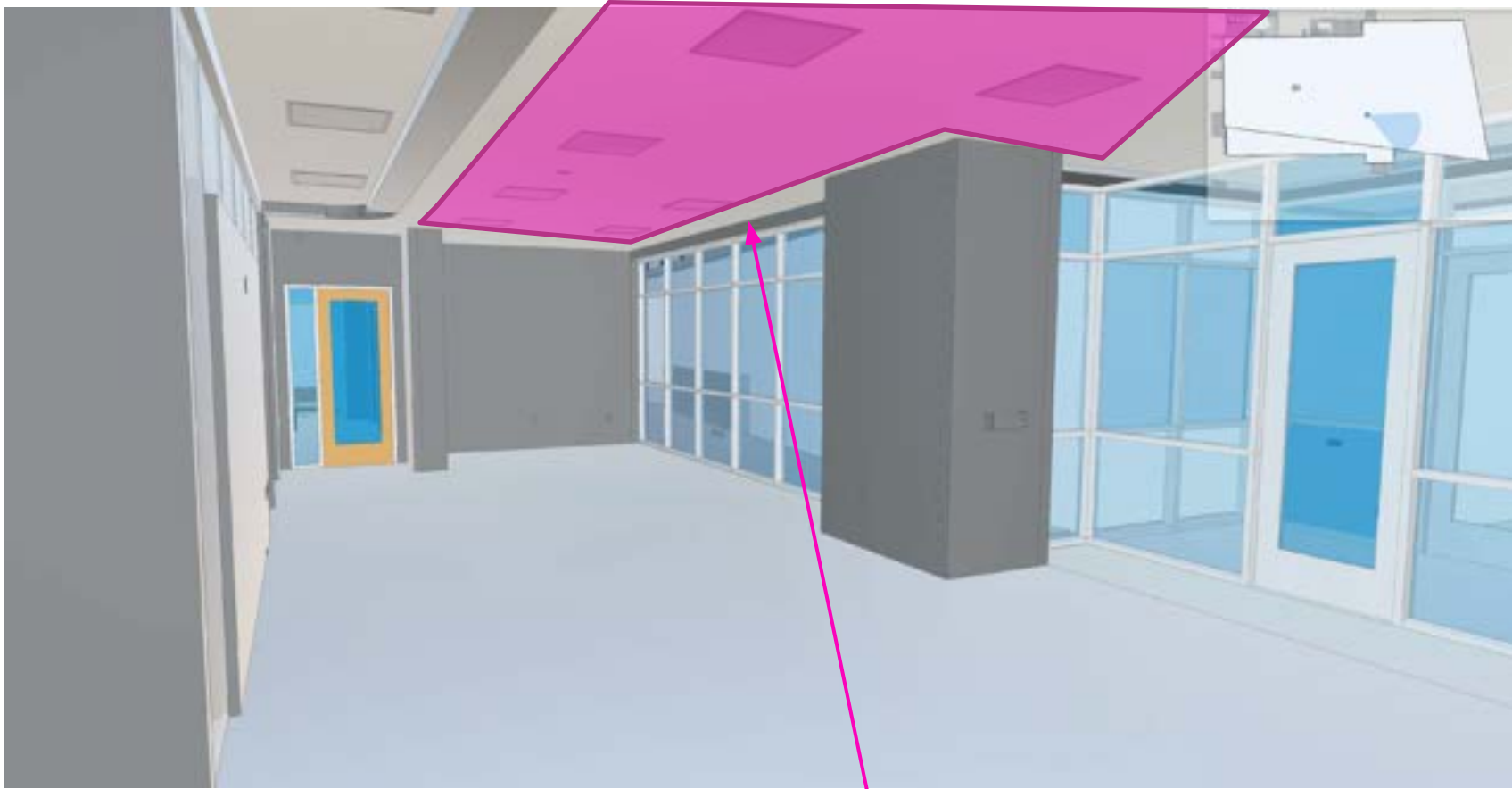


Admin Building Reflected Ceiling Plan

Lobby Detail

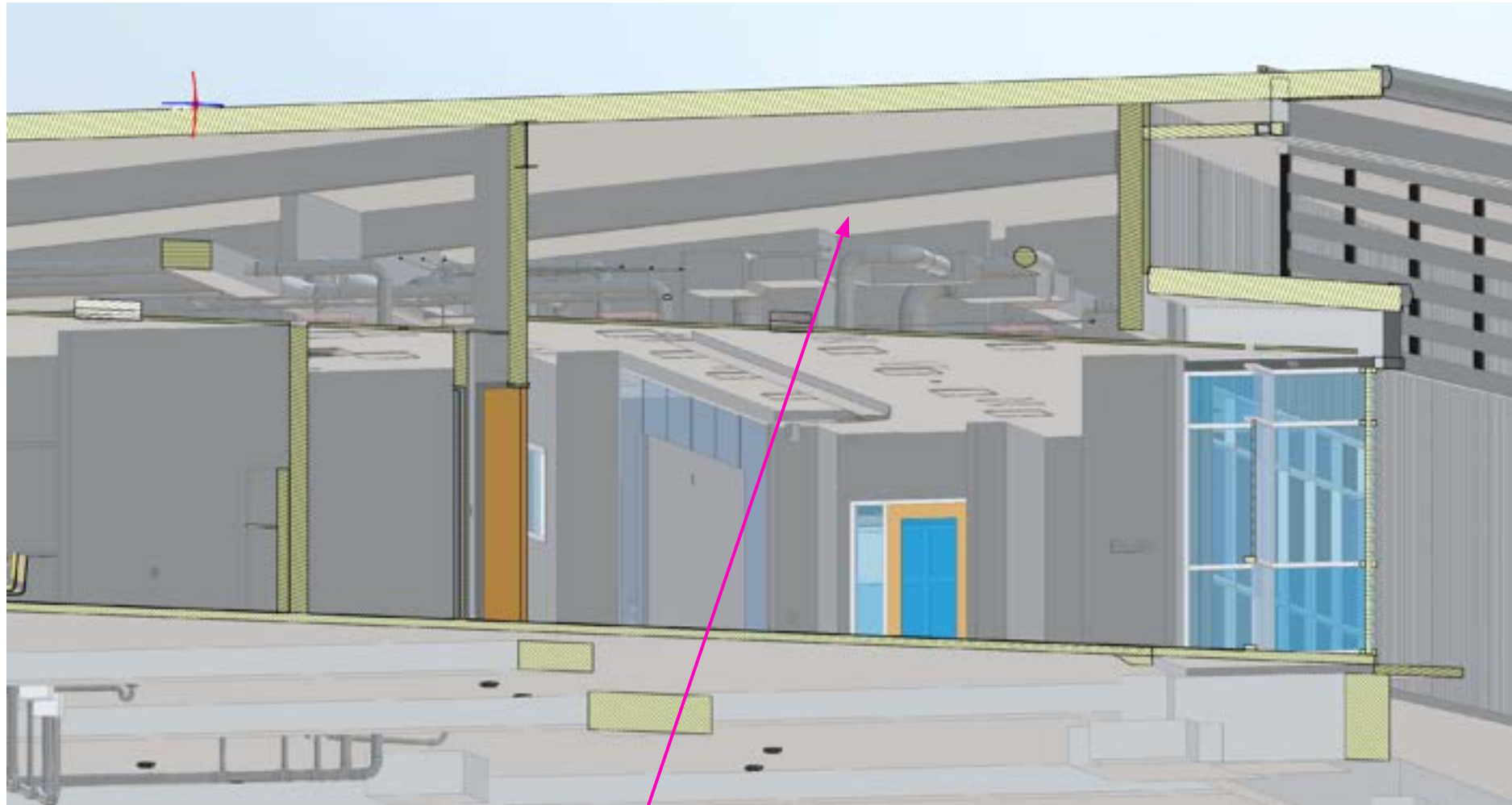
**LOC 3 OPTION B: art in lobby/reception (potential area for suspended art)**

-   HVAC DIFFUSER / RETURN AIR GRILLE - REF. MECHANICAL
-  LIGHT FIXTURE - REF. ELECTRICAL
-  LIGHT FIXTURE - REF. ELECTRICAL



**LOC 3 OPTION B: suspended art in lobby/reception. Ceiling areas to potentially utilize.**

**SITE 3 DETAILS**



**LOC 3 OPTION B: cross section showing rough location of structural beams/attachment points above the dropped ceiling**

# ART LOCATION 3 – ADMINISTRATION/LABORATORY BUILDING

## SITE 3 DETAILS

⊕ HIGH EAVE HEIGHT  
1347.00'

⊕ LOW EAVE HEIGHT  
1340.00'

INTERIOR floor to ceiling height is 10'4"

⊕ FINISH FLOOR  
1328.00'

LOC 3 OPTION B:  
suspended art in  
lobby/reception

10' 4"

LOBBY/RECEPTION

510-101

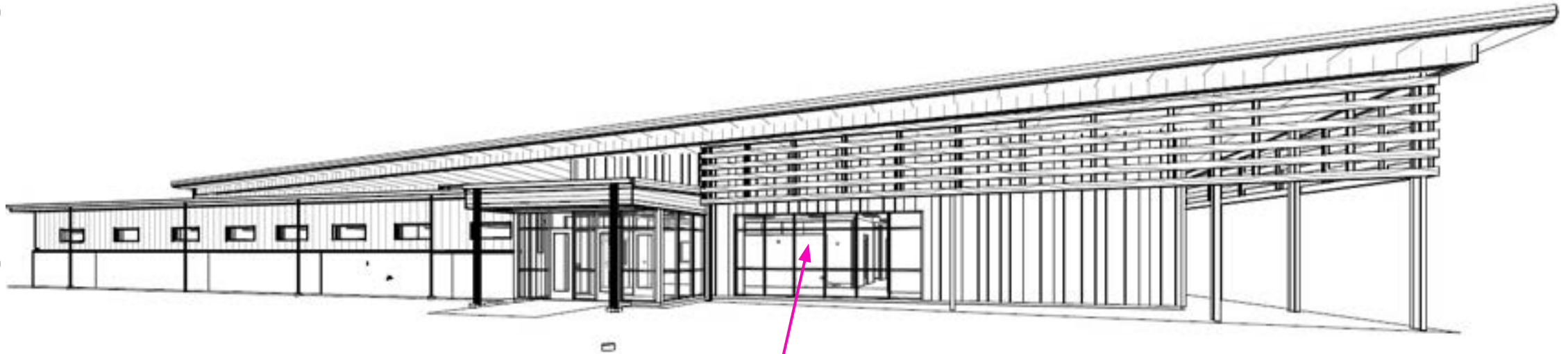
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510

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Administration Building Sections

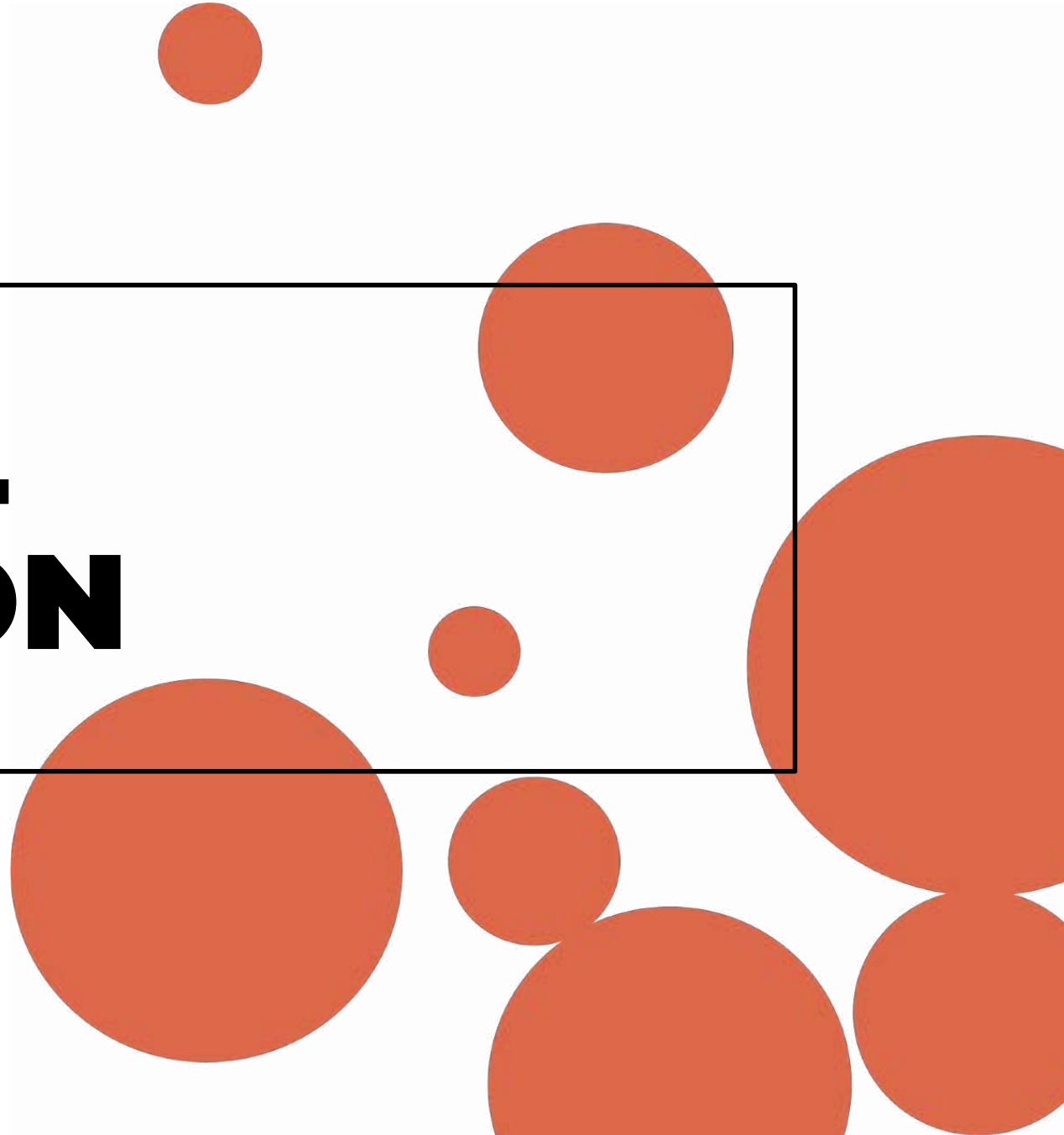




**LOC 3 OPTION B: art  
inside reception area  
can be visible through  
this exterior window**

Administration Building Exterior Perspective View

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



# WICHITA DEMOGRAPHICS

## Wichita Demographics

According to the most recent ACS, the racial composition of Wichita was:

- White: 72.60%
- Black or African American: 10.32%
- Two or more races: 6.44%
- Asian: 4.90%
- Other race: 4.72%
- Native American: 0.94%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.07%

## Population

Wichita is a city located in Sedgwick County Kansas. It is also the county seat of Sedgwick County. With a 2020 population of 400,564, it is the largest city in Kansas and the 48th largest city in the United States. Wichita is currently growing at a rate of 0.38% annually and its population has increased by 0.76% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 397,532 in 2020. Spanning over 166 miles, Wichita has a population density of 2,478 people per square mile.

The average household income in Wichita is \$71,335 with a poverty rate of 15.55%. The median rental costs in recent years comes to \$821 per month, and the median house value is \$138,100. The median age in Wichita is 35 years, 34 years for males, and 36 years for females.

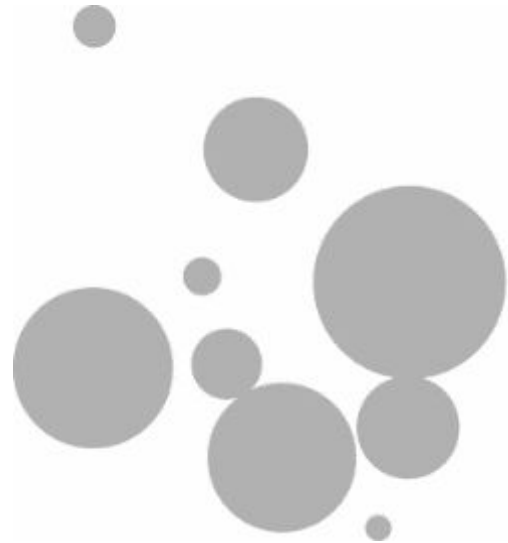
Wichita serves as the county seat of Sedgwick County. Wichita is an industrial hub, and it is also a center of trade, media, and culture. The cost of living in Wichita falls well below the national average.

## Wichita Population Growth

Wichita has seen continuous population growth since its incorporation as a city. By the 1930s, the city had well over 100,000 inhabitants. This number had more than doubled by 1960. At the time of the census taken in 1990, the city's population had grown to over 300,000. Wichita's growth has slowed slightly since the last census in 2010, but so far, estimates show that the population has risen by 2%. This indicates that while Wichita may not be growing as rapidly as it once was, it still has much growing left to do.

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/wichita-ks-population>

THANK YOU



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