



DESIGN COMMISSION

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017 AT 6:00 PM

AUSTIN CITY HALL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ROOM 1101
301 W. SECOND STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

Commission Members

_____ Evan Taniguchi, Chair (Mayor)	_____ Martha Gonzalez (District 2)
_____ Bart Whatley, Vice-Chair (District 9)	_____ Melissa Henao-Robledo (District 5)
_____ Katie Halloran (District 7)	_____ Conor Kenny (District 4)
_____ David Carroll (District 1)	_____ Ben Luckens (District 10)
_____ Aan Coleman (District 8)	_____ Vacant (District 6)
_____ Samuel Franco (District 3)	

City of Austin Planning & Zoning Staff:

_____ Katie Mulholland, Executive Liaison
_____ Nichole Koerth, Staff Liaison

AGENDA

Please note: Posted times are for time-keeping purposes only. The Commission may take any item(s) out of order and no express guarantee is given that any item(s) will be taken in order or at the time posted.

	Approx. time
CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL	6:00 PM
1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL a. The first five speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.	6:00 PM
2. MEETING MINUTES a. Discussion and possible action on the <u>January 23, 2017</u> meeting minutes;	6:15 PM
3. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action): a. Discussion and possible action on the <u>ABIA Parking Garage & Administration Building</u> located at 3600 Presidential Boulevard, seeking support for the project (<u>Burton Jones</u> , COA Public Works Department) b. Discussion and possible action on the Code Advisory Group's (CAG) request to provide input on the <u>new draft code</u> from CodeNEXT (<u>Chair Taniguchi</u>) c. Discussion and possible action on creating a CodeNEXT Working Group to review and provide recommendations on the <u>new draft code</u> with a focus on how it aligns with the <u>Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan</u> and the <u>Urban Design Guidelines of Austin</u> (<u>D. Carroll</u>)	6:30 PM

4. OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discussion and possible action on the <u>Infrastructure Design Guidelines</u> as directed by City Council Resolution No. 20120816-060 (Chair Taniguchi) b. Review of other Cities' Infrastructure Guidelines: Portland (Chair Taniguchi), Minneapolis (M. Henao-Robledo), NACTO (C. Kenny), Denver (M. Gonzalez), Seattle (C. Kenny), Chicago, New York 	7:30 PM
5. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS (Discussion and Possible Action): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Standing Committees Reports; b. Working Group Reports; c. Liaison Reports; d. Appointment of Committee/Working Group members by Chair. 	8:00 PM
6. STAFF BRIEFINGS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Airport update (Katie Mulholland, COA Planning and Zoning) 	8:10 PM
7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Election of Officers (April 24) b. Appointment of new members to Working Groups 	8:20 PM
8. ANNOUNCEMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chair Announcements; b. Items from Commission Members; c. Items from City Staff; 	8:25 PM
ADJOURNMENT	8:30 PM

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. Please contact Nichole Koerth in the Planning and Zoning Department at nichole.koerth@austintexas.gov or (512) 974-2752, for additional information. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

Design Commission: Committees, Working Groups, and Liaisons

Committees

1. Executive Committee: Chair E. Taniguchi, B. Whatley, H. Walker

Working Groups

1. Planning and Urban Design Working Group: E. Taniguchi, H. Walker, B. Whatley, A. Coleman
2. Architecture and Development Working Group: B. Whatley, M. Gonzalez, D. Carroll
3. Landscape and Infrastructure Working Group: S. Franco, M. Henao-Robledo, A. Coleman, B. Luckens
4. Public Engagement Working Group: B. Luckens, S. Franco, M. Henao-Robledo, C. Kenny

Liaisons

1. Downtown Commission Liaison / Downtown Austin Plan: S. Franco

Staff to Design Commission

Executive Liaison: Katie.Mulholland@austintexas.gov , (512) 974-3362

Staff Liaison: Nichole.Koerth@austintexas.gov , (512) 974-2752

Downtown Density Bonus Liaison: Anne.Milne@austintexas.gov , (512) 974-2868

City of Austin, Planning and Zoning Department, Urban Design Division
One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 5th floor, Austin, TX 78704

Resources

1. Urban Design Guidelines for Austin:
http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Boards_and_Commissions/Design_Commission_urban_design_guidelines_for_austin.pdf
2. Design Commission backup:
http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/22_1.htm
3. Downtown Density Bonus program:
https://www.municode.com/library/tx/austin/codes/land_development_code?nodeId=TIT25_LADE_CH25-ZZO_SUBCHAPTER_CUSDERE_ART3ADRECEDI_SPAGERE_S25-2-586DODEBOP



**DESIGN COMMISSION
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017 6:00 PM
AUSTIN CITY HALL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ROOM 1101
301 W. SECOND STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701**

Meeting Minutes

Call to order by: **E. Taniguchi at 6:05 PM.**

Roll Call: **S. Franco arrived at 6:07 PM.**

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

Alex Lopez from the Economic Development Dept. (EDD) gave a brief introduction to the Agent of Change initiative, proposed by the Music and Entertainment Division. EDD will take public comments at a meeting on Mon. 1/30/2017 from 6:30-8pm at Cepeda Branch Library (651 N Pleasant Valley Rd, Austin, Texas 78702). For more info see Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/945662148902100/>

2. MEETING MINUTES (Discussion and Possible Action):

- a. Discussion and possible action on the December 19, 2016 meeting minutes.

The motion to approve the minutes made by H. Walker; second by D. Carroll; was approved on a unanimous vote of [10-0].

3. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action):

- a. Discussion and possible action on the 48 East design development submittal, located at 48 East Avenue, seeking support for the project and review for substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin in accordance with the Gatekeeper requirements of LDC 25-2-586 for the Downtown Density Bonus Program (Jim Stephenson, STG Design)

Jim Stephenson (STG Design), Lisa Retrum (STG Design) and Jacob Walker (DWG) presented.

The motion to find the project in substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines was made by M. Gonzalez; second by B. Whatley; was approved on a unanimous vote of [10-0]. Chair Taniguchi will finalize the letter.

4. OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action):

- a. Discussion and possible action on the Project Review Application ([Chair Taniguchi](#));

The motion to approve the revised Project Review Application with C. Kenny's edit (to remove the second sentence from the first item under the "Environmental Sustainability" section: "If there were any components that were seriously considered or evaluated for the project but ultimately not included (for example, on-site renewable power generation") **was made by D. Carroll; second by A. Coleman; was approved on a unanimous vote of [10-0].**

- b. Discussion and possible action on the Infrastructure Design Guidelines ([Chair Taniguchi](#));

E. Taniguchi suggested selecting existing guidelines from other city as a template and adopt for one year as an interim standard. Staff mentioned the Commission could collect edits over the year, then make changes and adopt the final guidelines. E. Taniguchi recommended the Commission take a month to look at existing guidelines and split into groups to refine. B. Whatley asked staff to post previous work, including draft Interim Guidelines. Staff will upload previous work and resolutions to FTP site.

Commissioners volunteered to adopt/research (and send to staff) guidelines from another city:

C. Kenny – National Association of Transportation (NACTO)
M. Henao-Robledo – Minneapolis, MN
M. Gonzalez – Denver, CO
H. Walker – Seattle, WA
E. Taniguchi – Portland, OR

C. Kenny asked Commissioners to bring one or two things the Commissioners would like to address.

5. COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP REPORTS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. Standing Committees Reports: **None**
- b. Working Group Reports: **None**
- c. Liaison Reports:

S. Franco mentioned EDD's Agent of Change initiative.

S. Franco stated that Pro Tem Kathie Tovo may be introducing a resolution to create a seven-member, South Central Waterfront Advisory Board. S. Franco suggested the Design Commission ask for a representative (as opposed to a liaison, which is not a voting member). E. Taniguchi mentioned a liaison would be another option.

E. Taniguchi mentioned CodeNEXT Code Advisory Group (CAG) CAG has asked for input on the new draft code and two representatives to attend their March 4th meeting. Staff will put it on the Feb. agenda and post presentation and draft code to website. D. Carroll and M. Gonzalez volunteered to be representatives.

B. Luckens announced CodeNEXT was hosting its “Roll Out” event on Wednesday, February 1st at the Palmer Event Center. A quorum of the Commission showed an interest in attending. A [Community Interest Announcement](#) has been posted for the “Roll Out” event from 4-6:30pm in the event a quorum is present.

d. Appointment of Committee/Working Group members by Chair: **None**

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS:

The February Commission meeting will be the last with the current membership. The Clerks Office will contact the five Commissioners regarding re/appointments.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Staff noted the Executive Committee Report is due at the Commission’s February meeting per the bylaws. Staff will send the report template to Executive Committee.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Chair Announcements: **None**

b. Items from Commission Members:

M. Gonzalez announced AIA’s Women In Architecture is hosting the “[Shape The Conversation](#)” exhibit and event series February 8th through March 2nd, 2017. The Opening Party will be held Friday, February 10th at 6:30 pm at 249 W. 2nd Street. A [Community Interest Announcement](#) has been posted for the Opening Party in the event a quorum is present.

M. Henao-Robledo announced that Central Texas ASLA, APA, and the UP Club are co-hosting a “[Women in Design](#)” happy hour on Friday, February 17th, 2017 from 5:30-7:30pm at 249 W. 2nd Street.

A. Coleman asked for an update on the airport project. Staff said PAZ director made an informal request over the phone to Aviation director and the request was informally declined. PAZ director followed up with a more formal email request and was waiting for Aviation director’s response in writing.

c. Items from City Staff: **None**

ADJOURNMENT by consensus at: 7:40 PM.



City of Austin
Design Commission – Project Submittal Consideration Sheet

Project Name: ASIA PARKING GARAGE & ADMIN BLDG.		
Project Location/Address: 3600 PRESIDENTIAL BLVD.		
Applicant: BURTON JONES	Property Owner: CITY OF AUSTIN	
Mailing Address: 505 BARTON SPRING AUSTIN, TX 78704	Mailing Address:	
Phone Number: 512 974 7278	Phone Number:	
Project Architect/Engineer: PCAL	Project Start Date: 4/1/17	Project End Date: 5/1/19
Mailing Address: 2002 WESTERN TRAIL BLVD SUITE 200, AUSTIN, TX 78745	Phone Number: 512 2361005	
Is project subject to redevelopment site plan or zoning application approvals? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anticipated Dates of Action ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED Planning Commission: City Council:	
<p>Narrative Description of Proposed Project (including entitlements that you are seeking; attach or add additional page(s) as necessary):</p> <p>THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 6,000 CAR PARKING GARAGE AND A 70,000 SQUARE FOOT ADMINISTRATION BLDG. ON AIRPORT PROPERTY NEAR THE EXISTING PARKING GARAGES.</p>		
<p>Is Alternative Equivalent Compliance (AEC) requested for this project?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please refer to following page</p>		
<p>Current Status of Submittal:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Conceptual <input type="checkbox"/> Schematic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design Development</p>		
<p>Do you have a copy of the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If not, please see: http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/downtown/downloads/urban_design_guidelines_for_austin.pdf</p>		
Please fill in the subsequent information on the following pages.		



**City of Austin
Design Commission – Project Submittal Consideration Sheet (Continued)**

Relate the project to applicable items addressed in the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin. For an explanation of each guideline, please review the document at:
http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/downtown/downloads/urban_design_guidelines_for_austin.pdf

ALTERNATIVE EQUIVALENT COMPLIANCE (AEC)

Is AEC being requested for this project? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain nature of request including alternatives offered and entitlements sought. Attach additional page if necessary.

AREA WIDE GUIDELINES

1. Create dense development

incorporated, need input, N/A

2. Create mixed-use development

incorporated, need input, N/A

3. Limit development which closes downtown streets

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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4. Buffer neighborhood edges

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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5. Incorporate civic art in both public and private development

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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6. Protect important public views

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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7. Avoid historical misrepresentations

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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8. Respect adjacent historic buildings

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

9. Acknowledge that rooftops are seen from other buildings and the street

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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10. Avoid the development of theme environments

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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11. Recycle existing building stock

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

GUIDELINES FOR THE PUBLIC STREETSCAPE

1. Protect the pedestrian where the building meets the street

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

2. Minimize curb cuts

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

3. Create a potential for two-way streets

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

4. Reinforce pedestrian activity

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

5. Enhance key transit stops

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

6. Enhance the streetscape

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

7. Avoid conflicts between pedestrians and utility equipment

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

8. Install street trees

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

9. Provide pedestrian-scaled lighting

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

10. Provide protection from cars/promote curbside parking

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

11. Screen mechanical and utility equipment

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

12. Provide generous street-level windows

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

13. Install pedestrian-friendly materials at street level

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

GUIDELINES FOR PLAZAS AND OPEN SPACE

1. Treat the four squares with special consideration

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

2. Contribute to an open space network

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

3. Emphasize connections to parks and greenways

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

4. Incorporate open space into residential development

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

5. Develop green roofs

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

6. Provide plazas in high use areas

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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7. Determine plaza function, size, and activity

incorporated, need input, N/A

8. Respond to microclimate in plaza design

incorporated, need input, N/A

9. Consider views, circulation, boundaries, and subspaces in plaza design

incorporated, need input, N/A

10. Provide an appropriate amount of plaza seating

incorporated, need input, N/A

11. Provide visual and spatial complexity in public spaces

incorporated, need input, N/A

12. Use plants to enliven urban spaces

incorporated, need input, N/A

13. Provide interactive civic art and fountains in plazas

incorporated, need input, N/A

14. Provide food service for plaza participants

incorporated, need input, N/A

15. Increase safety in plazas through wayfinding, lighting, & visibility

incorporated, need input, N/A

16. Consider plaza operations and maintenance

incorporated, need input, N/A

GUIDELINES FOR BUILDINGS

1. Build to the street

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

2. Provide multi-tenant, pedestrian-oriented development at the street level

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

3. Accentuate primary entrances

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

4. Encourage the inclusion of local character

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

5. Control on-site parking

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

6. Create quality construction

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
---------------	-------------	-----

7. Create buildings with human scale

incorporated,	need input,	N/A
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ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DESIGN COMMISSION

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ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DESIGN COMMISSION

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**SITE
NEW GARAGE
ENTRY PLAZA**

**NEW CONRAC
ENTRY POINT**

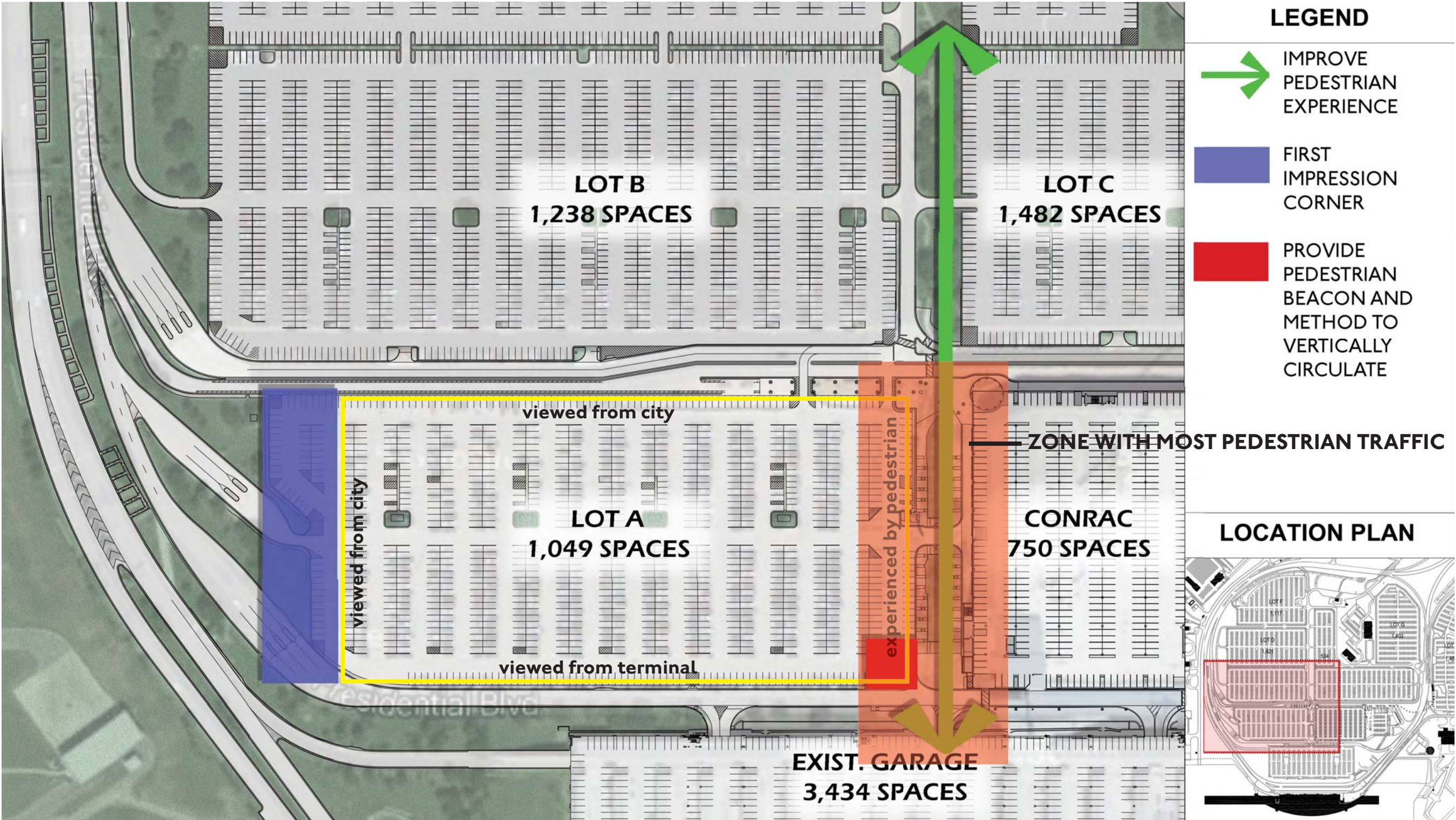
**NEW SURFACE
LOT ENTRY**

**ENLARGED
EXIT PLAZA**

**SHUTTLE ENTRANCE
TO PRESIDENTIAL**

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DESIGN COMMISSION

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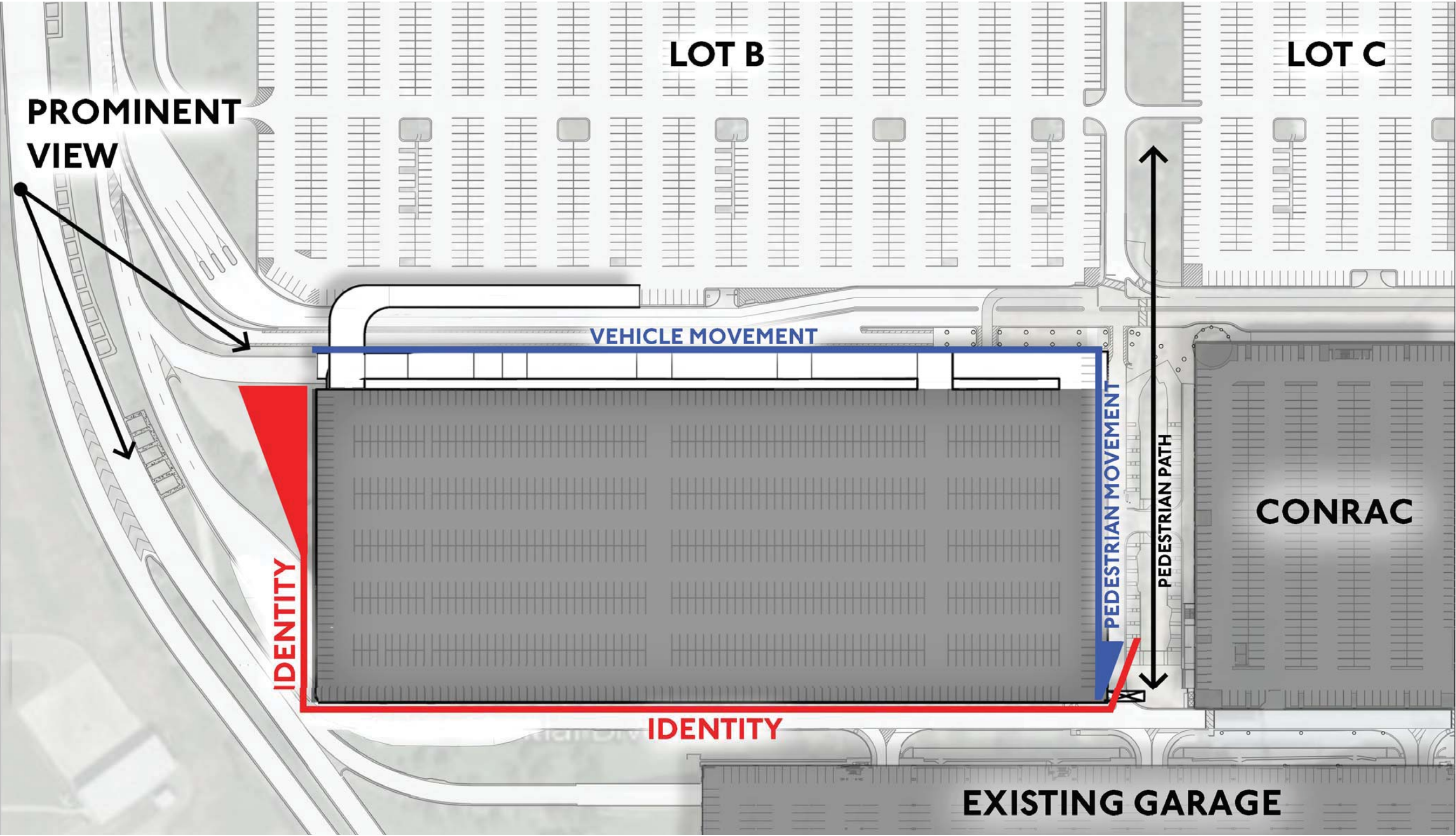


GARAGE SITE DIAGRAM

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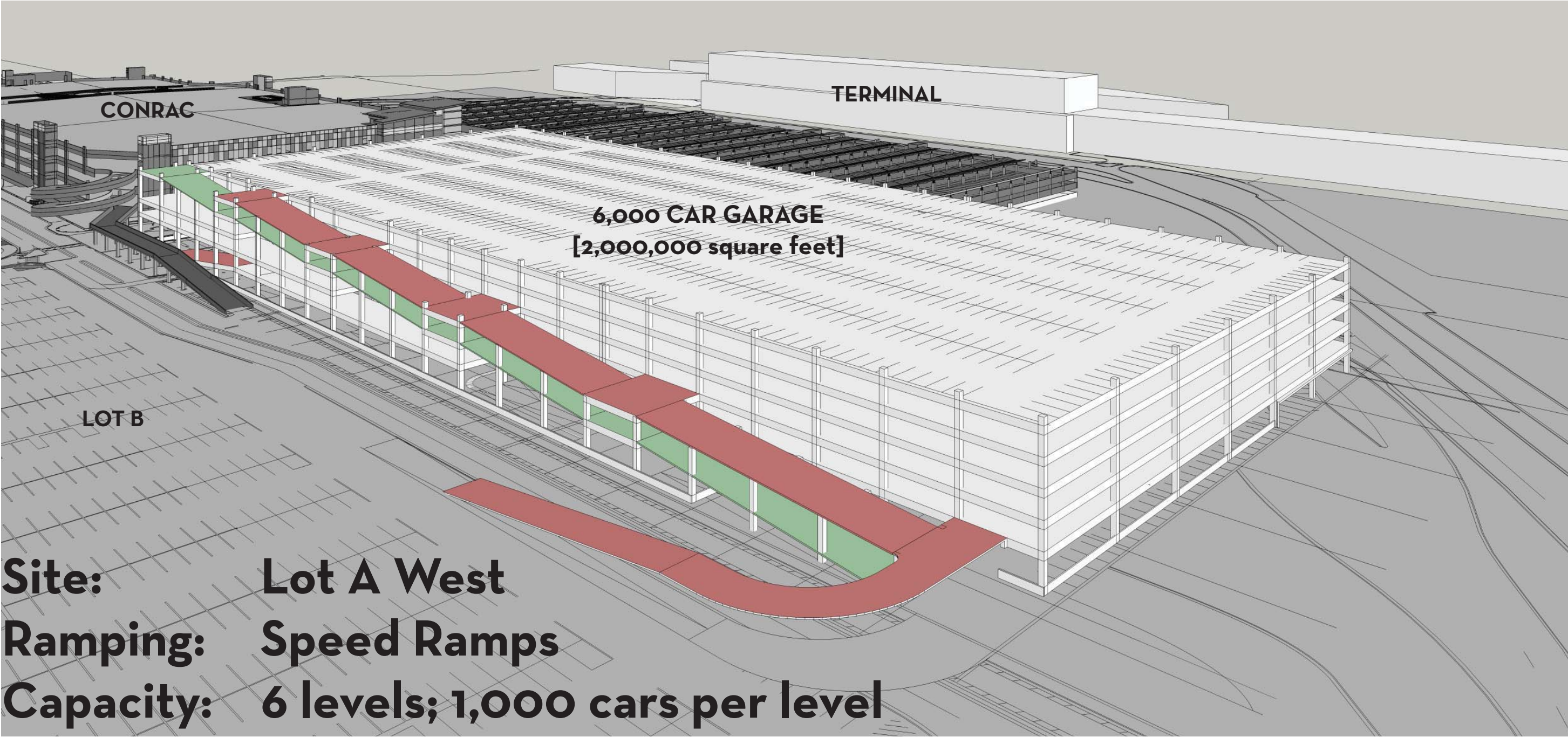


GARAGE ARCHITECTURAL DIAGRAM

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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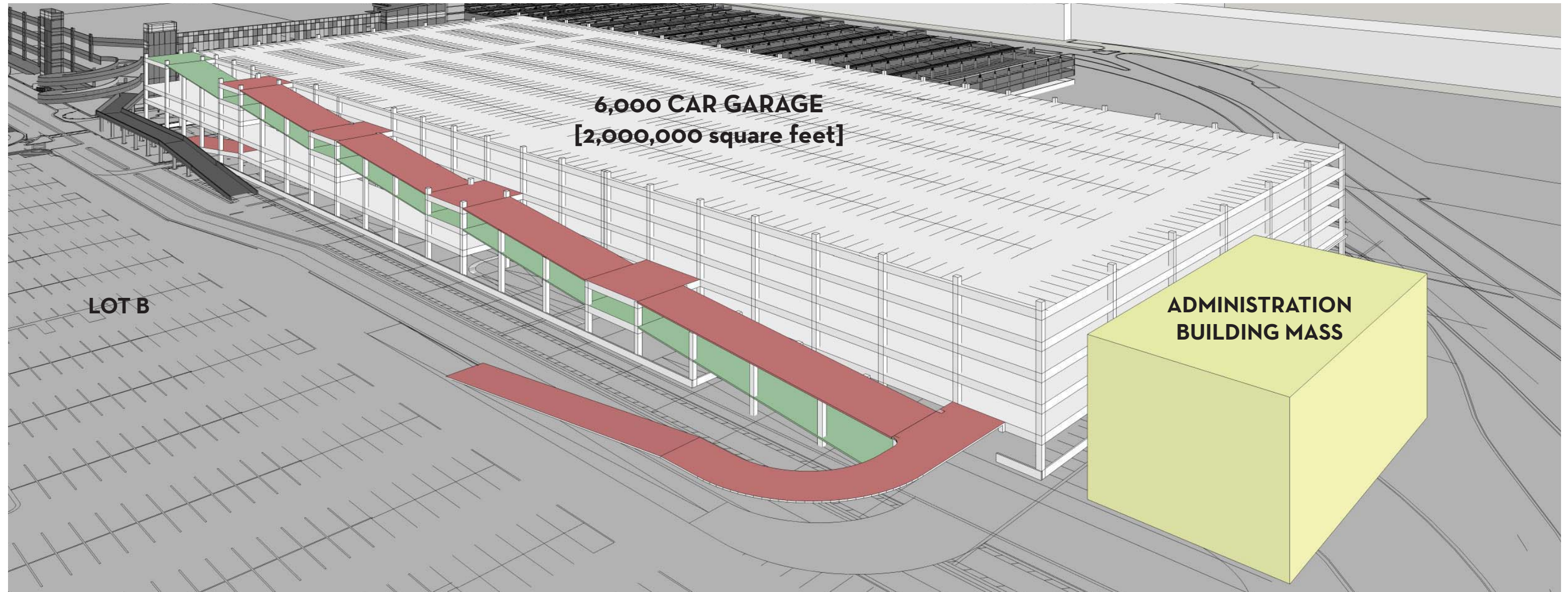


GARAGE CAPACITY & RAMPING

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DESIGN COMMISSION

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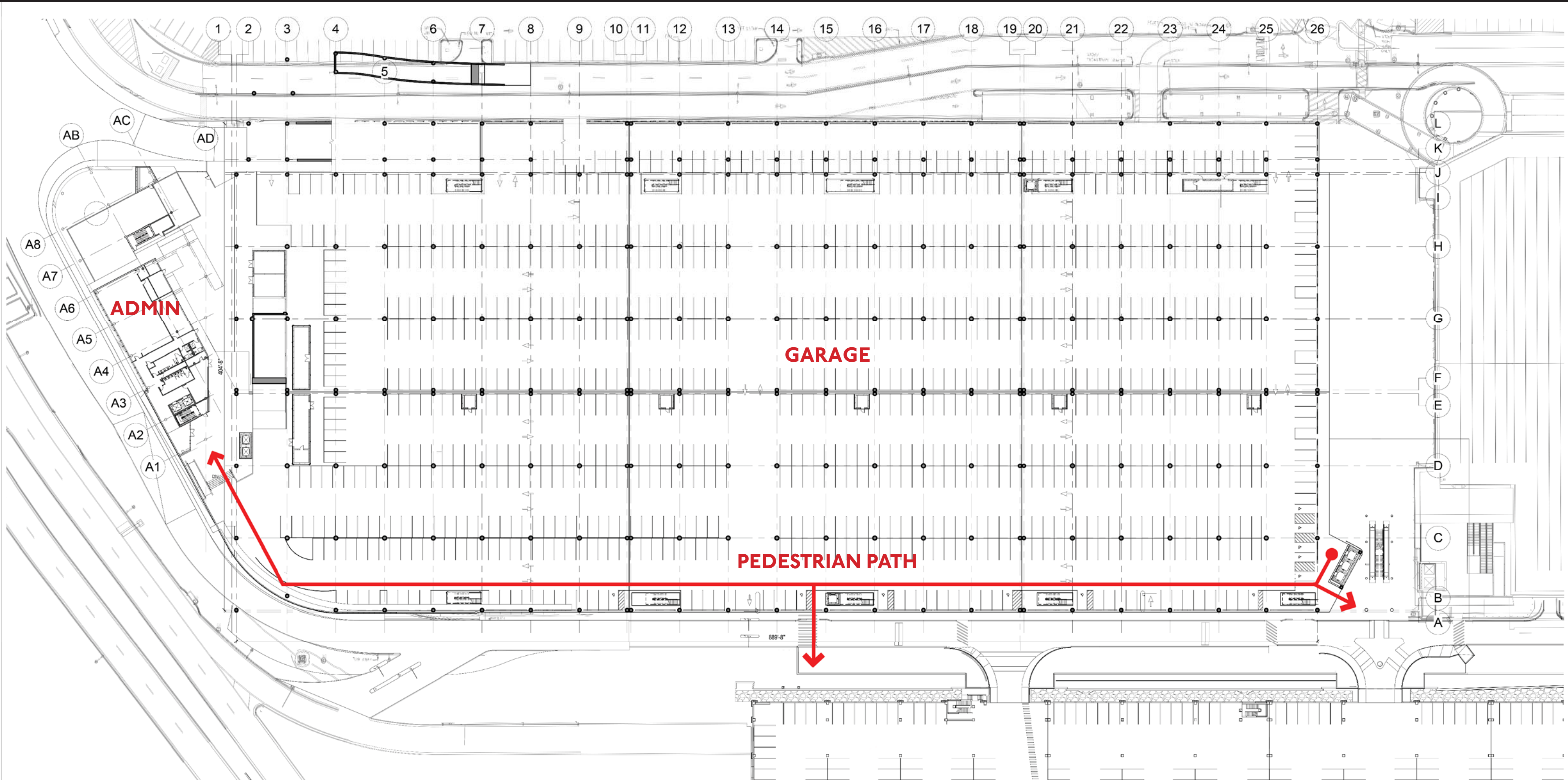
- More leasable space in Terminal for Passenger Amenities and Lounges
- Consolidate ABIA Administrative Departments
- Access to Terminal Building
- Program estimated to provided needed space until 2036

NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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GROUND LEVEL

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

DESIGN COMMISSION

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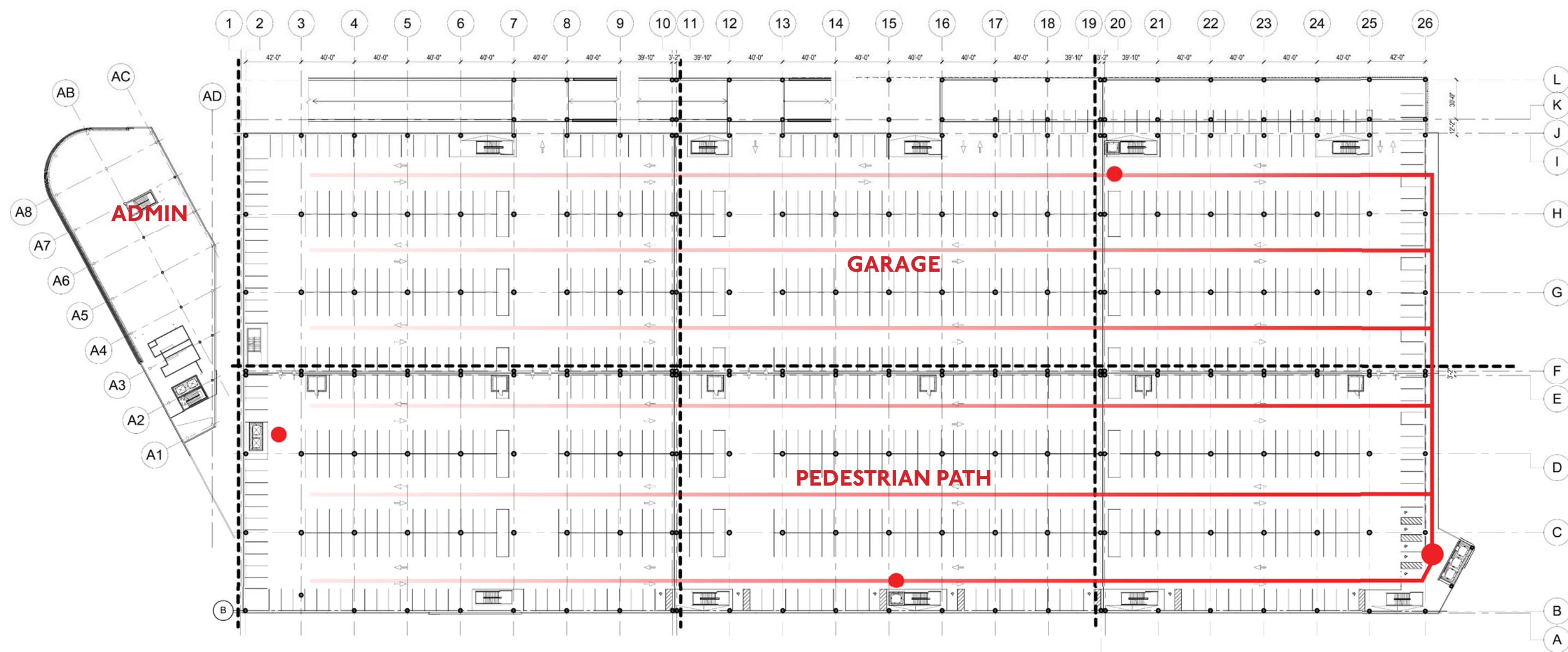


LEVEL 2

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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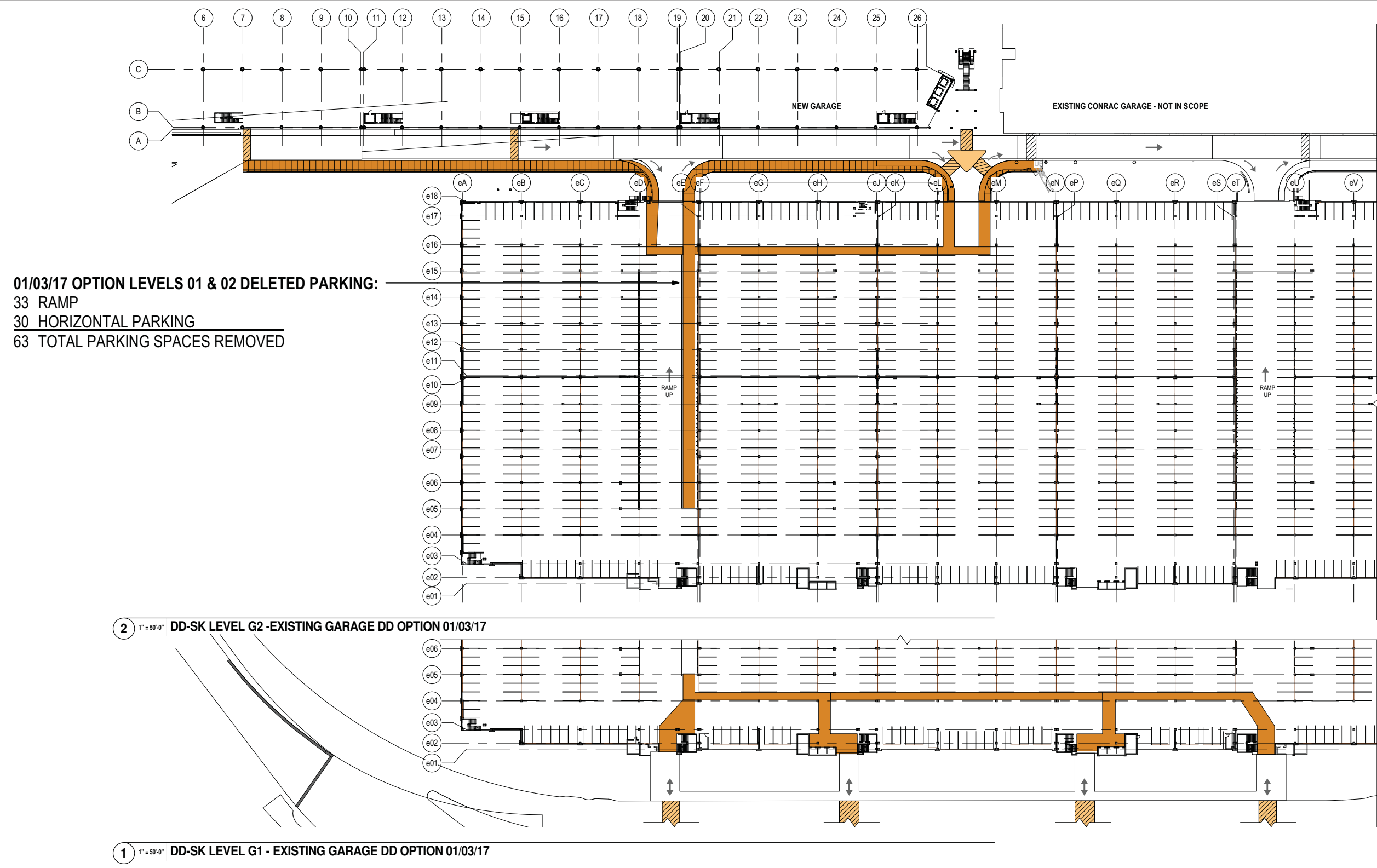


LEVEL 3

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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FEBRUARY 27, 2017

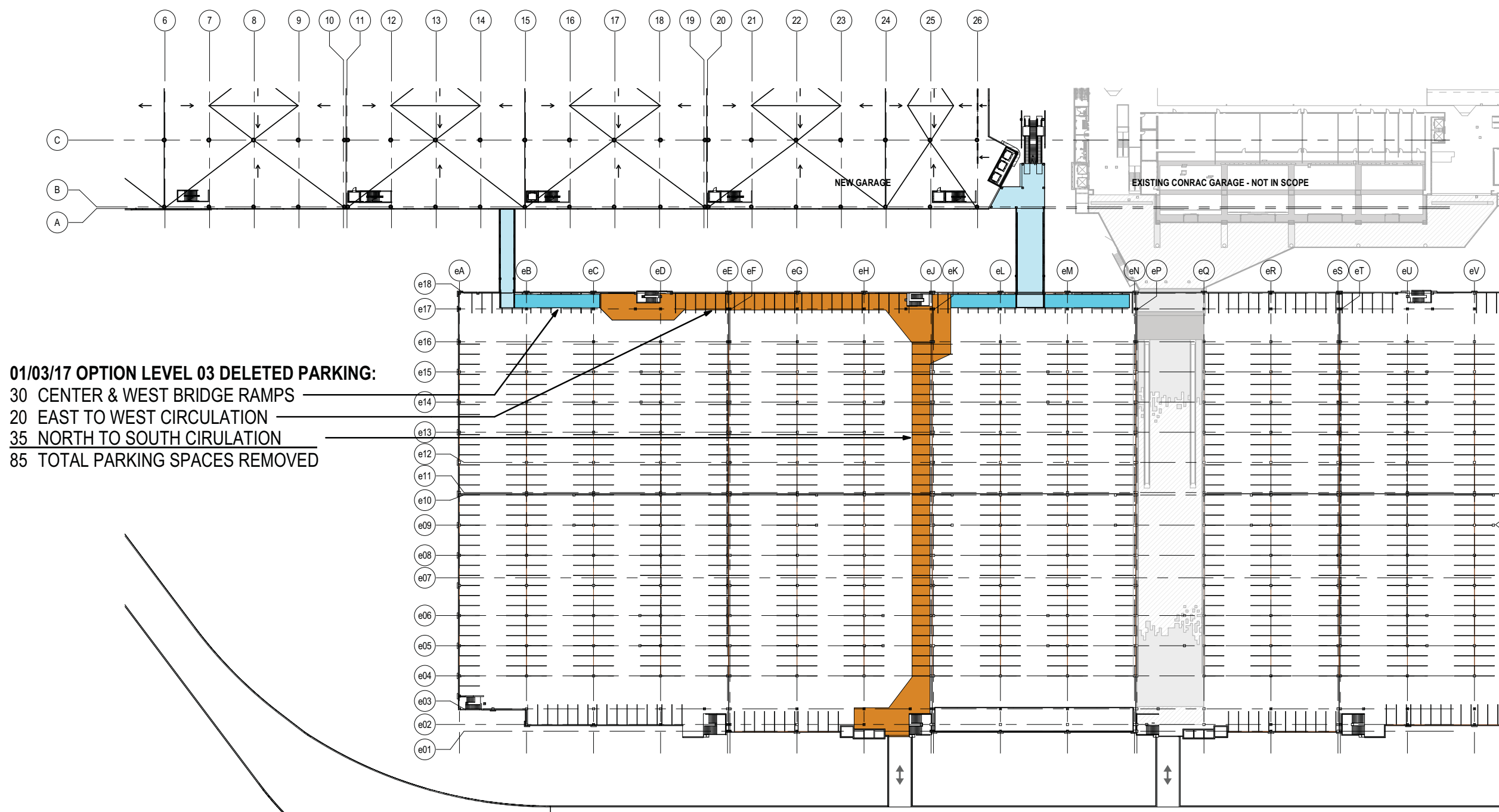


PEDESTRIAN PATHS THROUGH GARAGE

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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PEDESTRIAN PATHS THROUGH GARAGE

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PEDESTRIAN SPINE LANDSCAPE DESIGN

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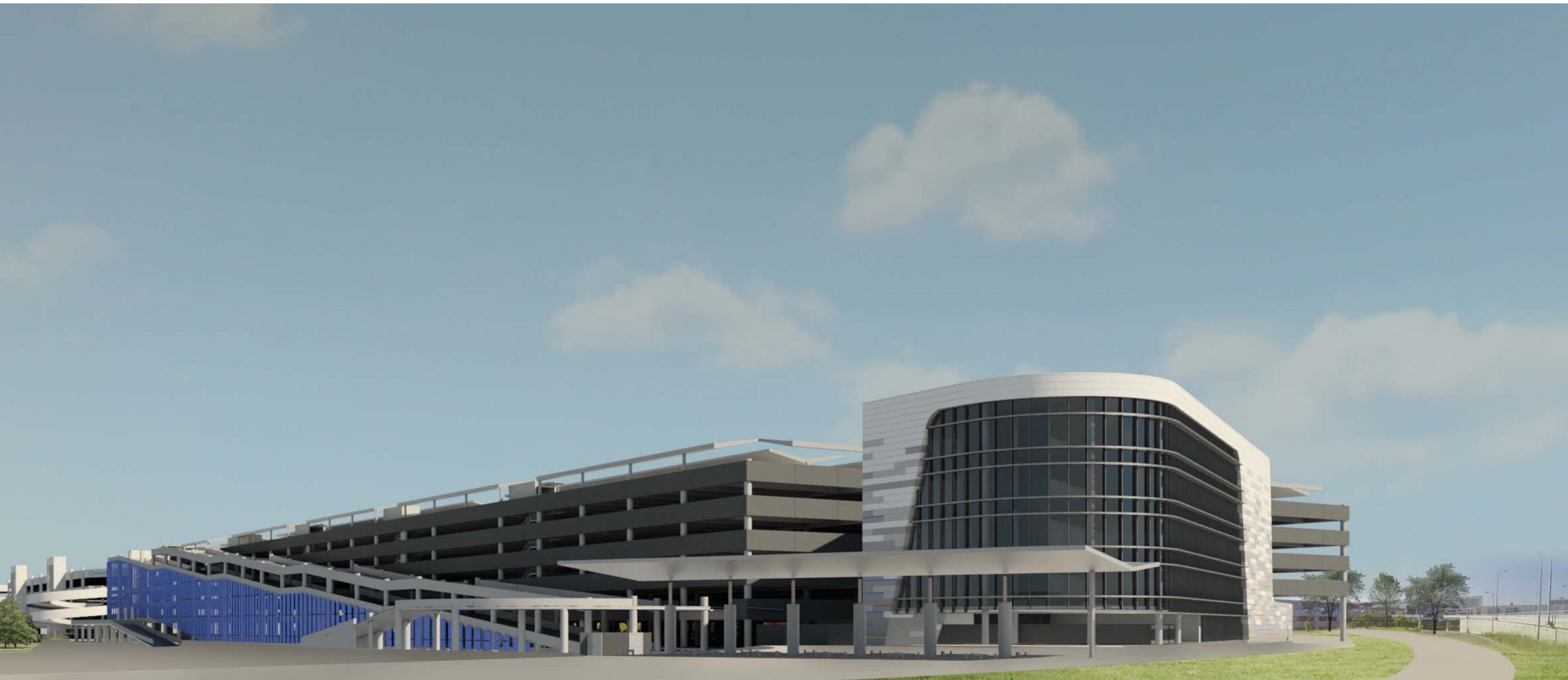
NORTHWEST

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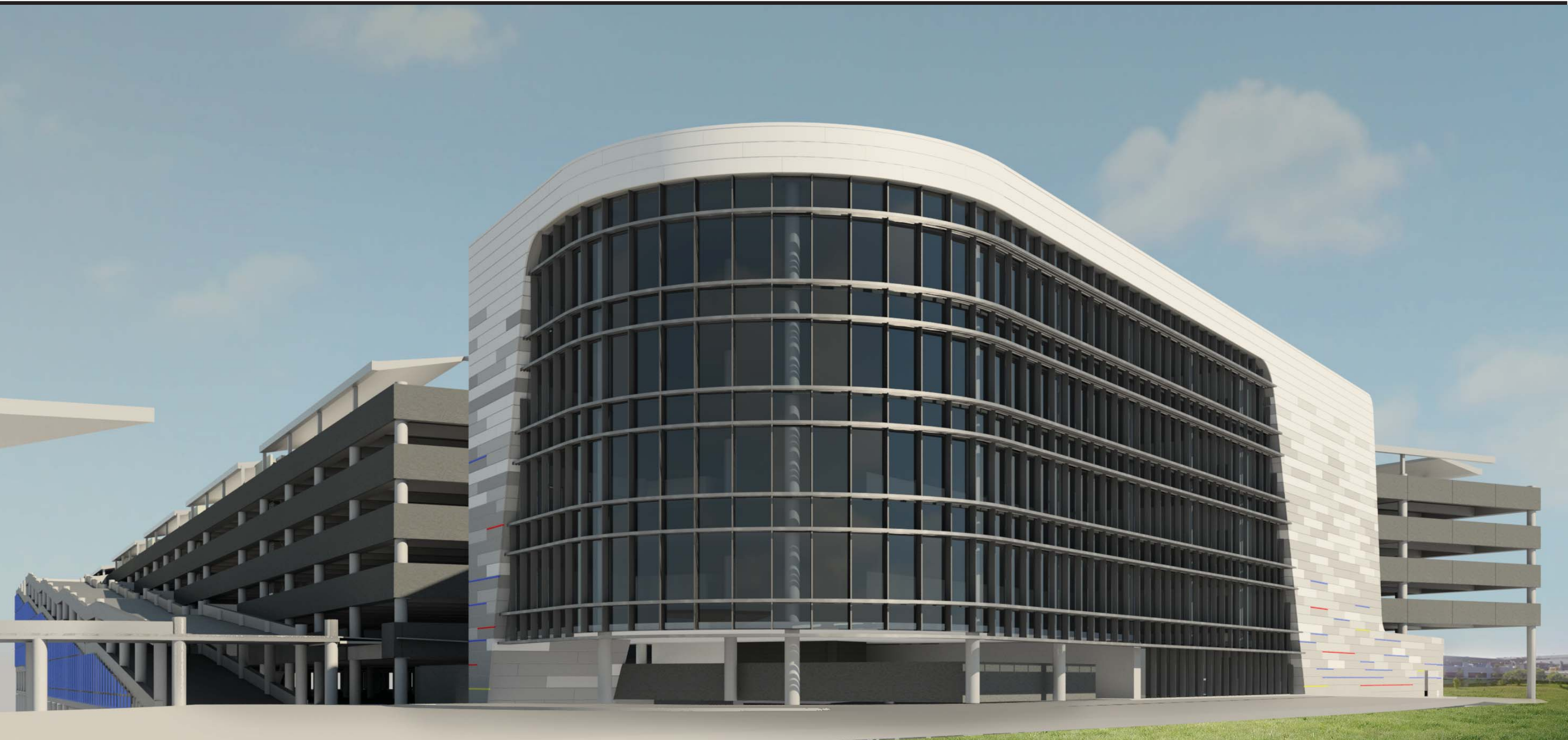
APPROACH: Street View 01

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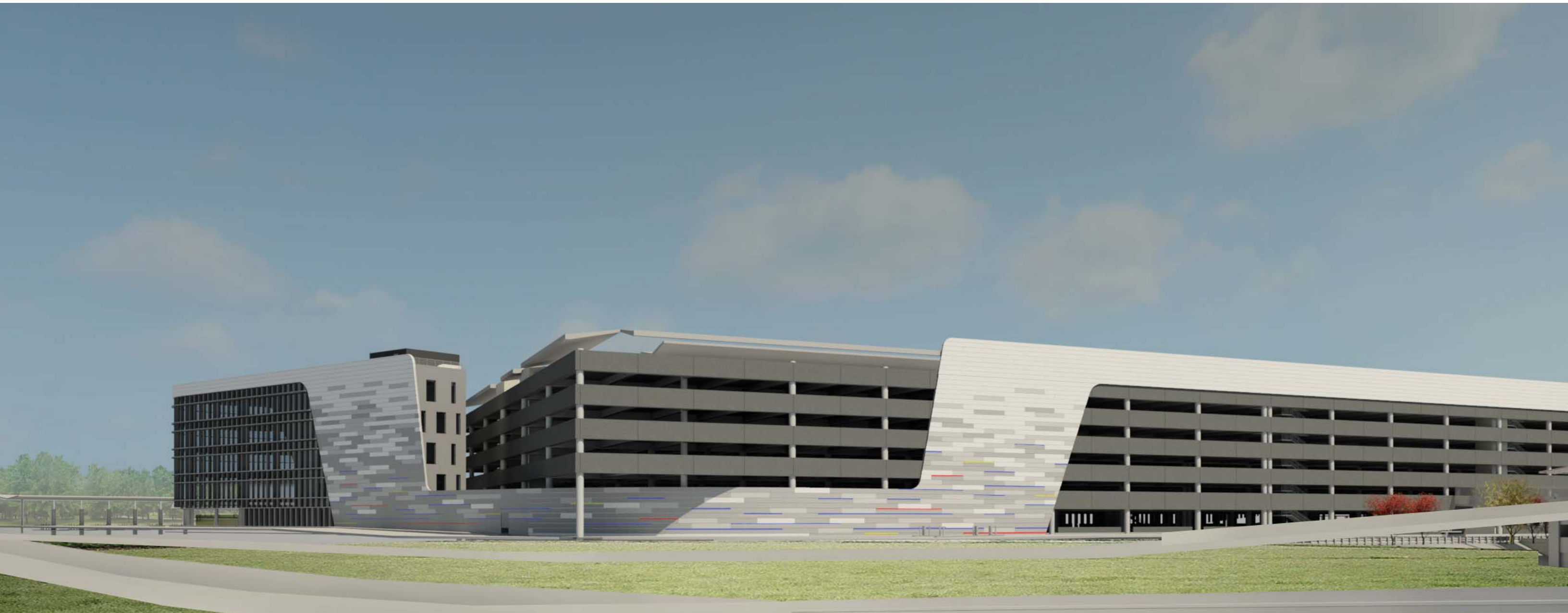
APPROACH: Street View 02

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RIBBON: Southwest

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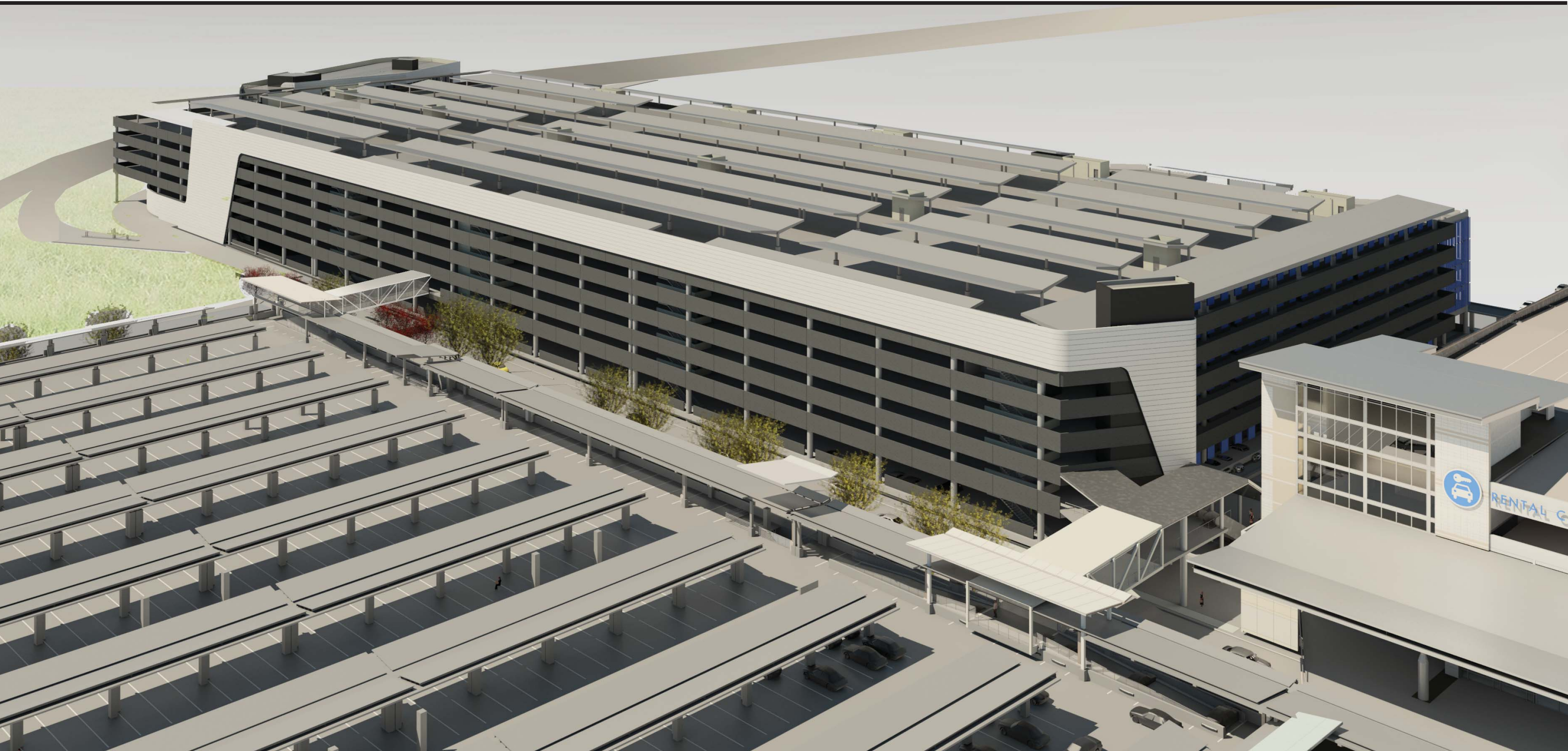
RIBBON: South Garage Access

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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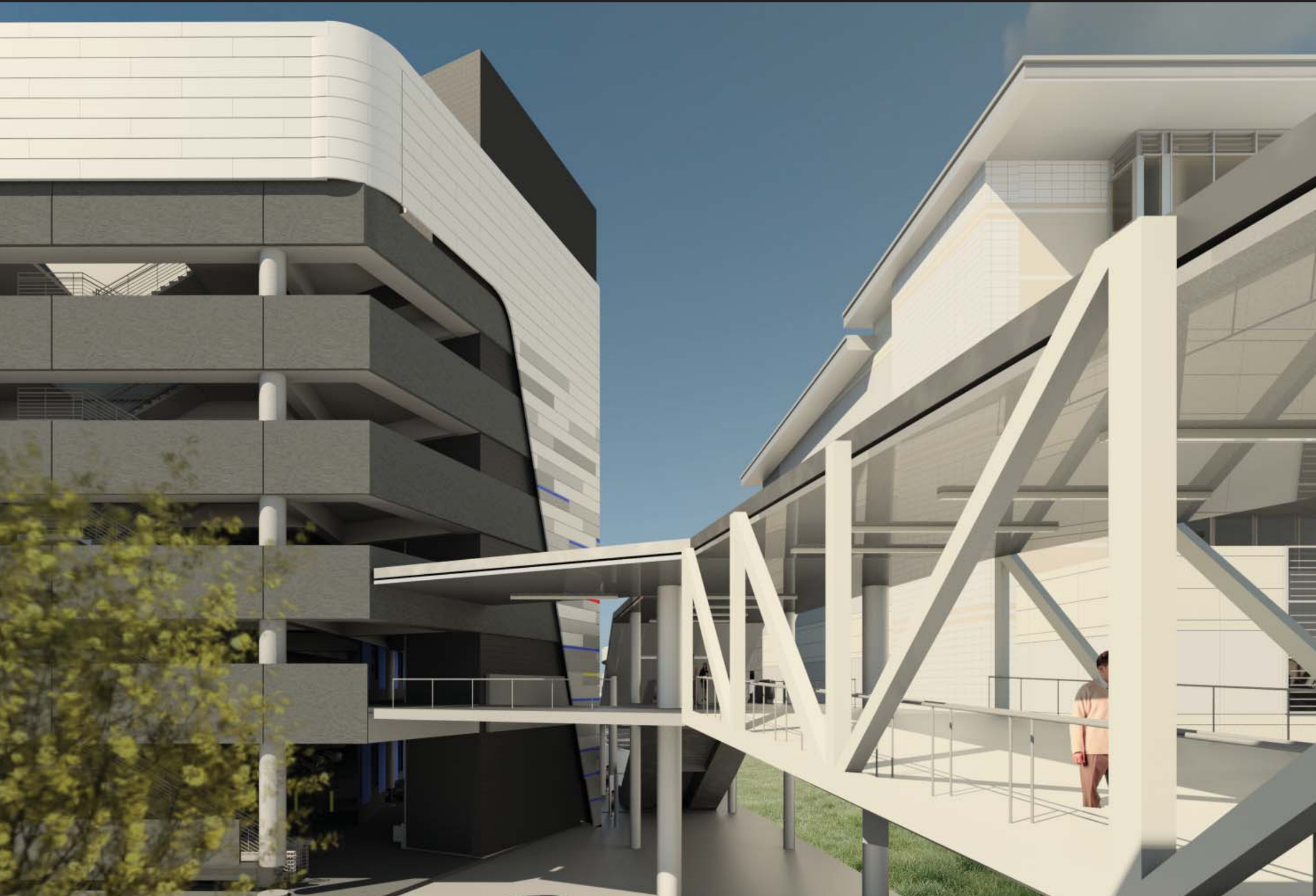
SOUTHEAST

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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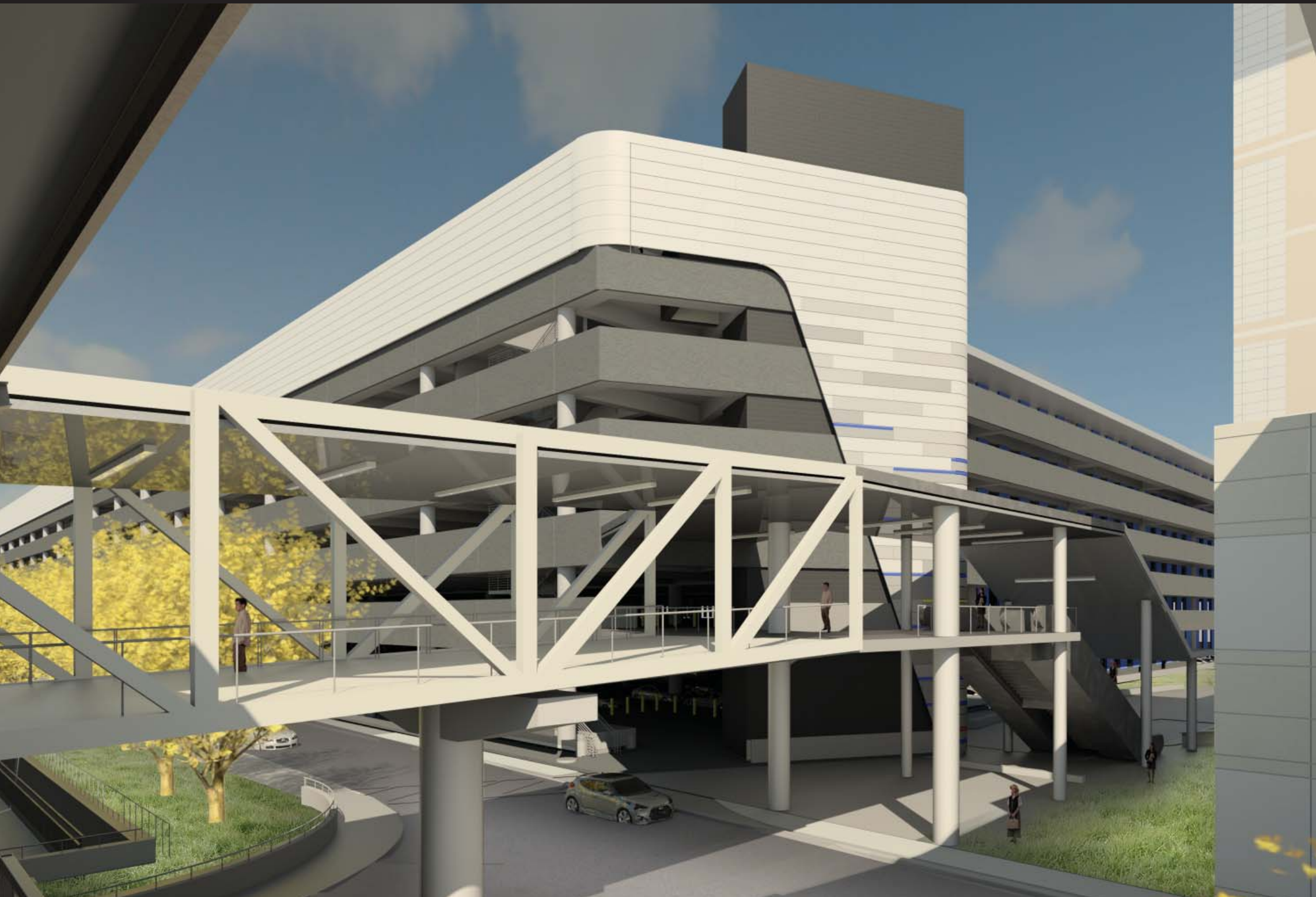
PEDESTRIAN NODE: Bridge

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PEDESTRIAN NODE: Bridge

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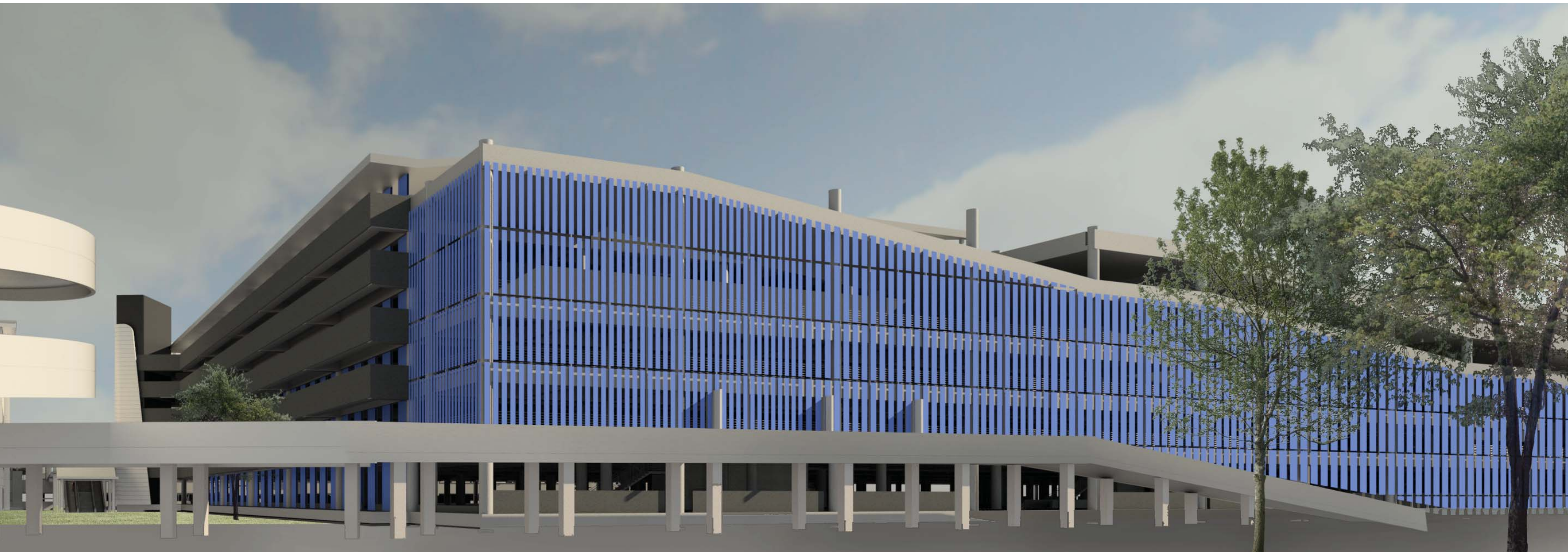
PEDESTRIAN NODE: Spine

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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GARAGE: Northeast Corner

ABIA PARKING GARAGE AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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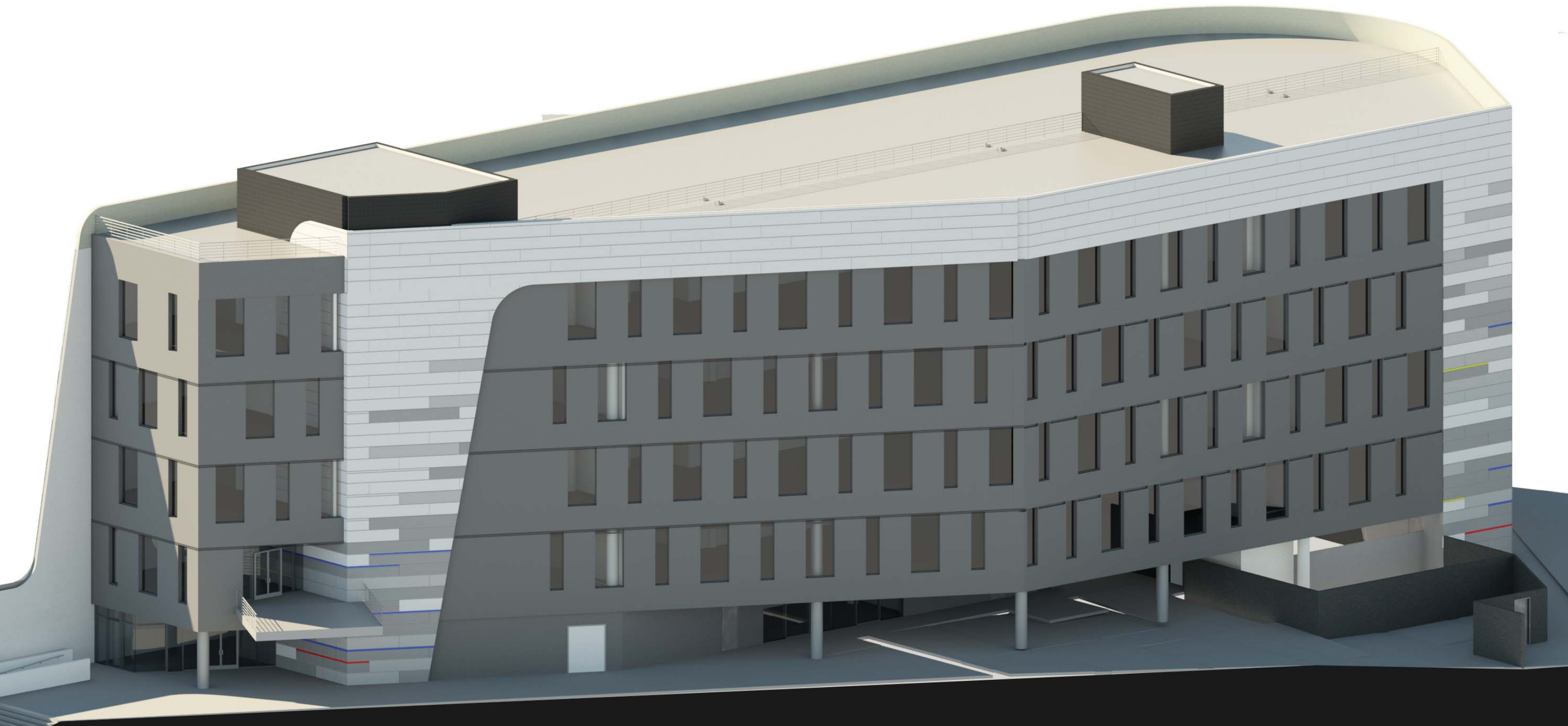
GARAGE: North Elevation

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ADMINISTRATION: Southeast Axonometric

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ADMINISTRATION: Ground Floor Entry

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ADMINISTRATION: Second Floor Entry

From: [Estrada, Deena](#)
To: [Estrada, Deena](#)
Cc: [Mendonsa, Aaron](#)
Subject: RE: CodeNEXT Board & Commission Town Hall
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 9:46:45 AM

Board and Commission Members,

This email is to provide some clarification for the email regarding a Town Hall meeting on the Land Development Code. This event is an invitation from the Land Development Code Advisory Group for various boards or commissions to send a couple of representatives to the town hall meeting. The request for attendance size is based on the CAG's preference for managing their town hall meeting.

If your board or commission feels a briefing for the entire board/commission, a request should be made to the CAG and the Planning & Zoning Department to arrange a full briefing for your board or commission.

Best,

Deena Estrada Salinas | Business Process Specialist
[Board & Commission Information Center](#)
512-974-2497 | deena.estrada@austintexas.gov

From: Estrada, Deena
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 9:16 AM
To: Estrada, Deena; Mendonsa, Aaron
Subject: CodeNEXT Board & Commission Town Hall

Dear Board or Commission Chair and Staff Liaison,

The CodeNEXT Advisory Group (CAG) would like input from your board or commission on the first draft of the new Land Development Code, specifically as it relates to your board or commission mission. The first code draft will be released on the City's website on January 30.

If the Land Development Code is relevant to your mission, we suggest that you ask your members to review the draft code and other documents on the CodeNEXT website, schedule a discussion at your regular meeting or at a special called meeting for this purpose, and then select one or two members to bring your collective input to a Boards and Commissions CodeNEXT Forum that the CodeNEXT Advisory Group will conduct.

The Boards and Commissions CodeNEXT Forum will be held on Saturday March 4, 2017, 9 am - 12 noon at a to-be-determined central Austin location. Please note that a quorum of your respective board or commission is prohibited from attending the Forum due to the Open Meetings Act.

The desired outcomes of this event for the CAG are : (1) to receive information from knowledgeable persons that will be useful in our final report to the land use commissions and City Council; and (2)

to further the CAG's outreach mission. The desired outcome for City staff is to ensure that each of the city's multiple boards and commissions is given an opportunity to weigh in on the draft code, while efficiently consolidating the number of presentations required. The desired outcome for the City of Austin and its residents is to write and adopt the best possible Land Development Code.

Thank you for your ongoing service to our community. We look forward to seeing your representatives on March 4th.

Jim Duncan, Chair
Dave Sullivan, Vice Chair
CodeNEXT Advisory Group

RESOLUTION NO. 20100819-035

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2009, the City Council adopted the Urban Design Guidelines which serve as recommendations for all urban development and redevelopment projects by both the public and private sector; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Design Guidelines recognize the significant impact of the built environment on the historic, iconic, and unique characteristics of Austin and its neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, as Austin continues to mature as a city, new infrastructure projects will be needed to meet the demands of its population, including water towers and electric substations, which are important elements of a city's built environment; and

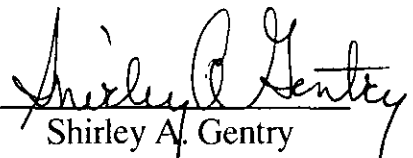
WHEREAS, considerable community dialogue has already occurred regarding the placement and design of city infrastructure projects needed for the additional population created by the Mueller Airport redevelopment and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Design Commission serves as a tremendous resource to the City Council to offer expert advice on how infrastructure projects can enhance the built environment and how to successfully engage community input; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to work with the Austin Design Commission on recommendations for design guidelines for infrastructure projects commissioned by the City of Austin, including Austin Energy, the Austin Water Utility, and other city-owned enterprises and departments. These recommendations shall include policies and procedures for the design and placement of infrastructure projects, incorporating opportunities for public notification and input.

ADOPTED: August 19, 2010

ATTEST: 
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 20120816-060

WHEREAS, the Austin Design Commission serves as an advisory body to the Austin City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Design Commission provides a unique bridge between City staff, Designers, and the Stakeholders/Public and additionally recognizes fiscal responsibility is important with public projects and that they contribute to our overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the need to create Infrastructure Design Guidelines to facilitate careful planning to ensure projects respect Austinites' quality of life; and

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2010 City Council approved Resolution No. 20100819-035 directing the City Manager to work with the Austin Design Commission on recommendations for design guidelines for infrastructure projects commissioned by the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2011 the Austin Design Commission conveyed recommendations for such guidelines per Exhibit A; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council directs the Austin Design Commission to develop Infrastructure Design Guidelines with associated review processes as outlined in their recommendations.

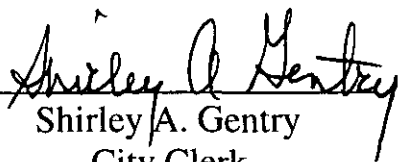
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to support the Austin Design Commission in their development of Infrastructure Design Guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Austin Design Commission and City Manager are directed to provide a report to the City Council on the status of the effort within 90 days, including an estimated timeline for completion.

ADOPTED: August 16, 2012

ATTEST: 
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk



CITY OF AUSTIN
DESIGN COMMISSION

INTERIM

INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN GUIDELINES



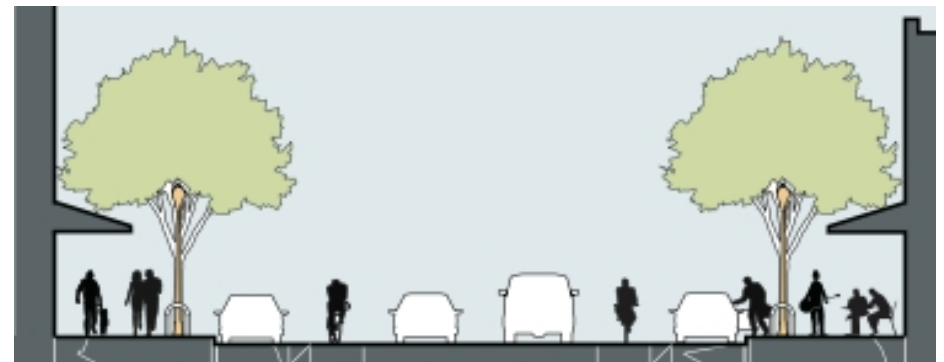
Mueller Water Tower



Seaholm Bridge (proposed)



Seaholm Wall (proposed)



Great Streets

Introduction

The Design Commission provides advisory recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to the quality of proposed urban development, and as requested by the Council, assists in developing public policy and in promoting excellence in the design and development of Austin's built environment. In our capacity as stewards of Austin's built identity, Council has asked the Design Commission to broaden its scope to include policies and standards for the design and review of the infrastructural components of our city. This Manual of Infrastructure Design Guidelines is meant to complement both the city's Urban Design Guidelines, and the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan. The Infrastructure Design Guidelines address the design character and construction of components and systems that structure and support the ongoing development and growth of the City of Austin and aim to enable the City to attain its vision of becoming the most livable city in the country. Design excellence in infrastructure contributes to sustainable growth and supports Austin's civic identity.

What is Infrastructure?

Infrastructure can generally be defined as the set of interconnected structural components that provide the necessary supporting framework for urban development. Typically referring to the technical structures that support a society's needs, such as roads, bridges, water supply, sewers, electrical grids, telecommunications, and so forth, infrastructure is comprised of "the physical components of interrelated systems providing commodities and services essential to enable, sustain, or enhance societal living conditions." [Fulmer, 2009]. The Design Commission is primarily concerned with achieving excellence in the design of such structures and systems.

Infrastructure plays two primary roles in the design of urban environments: performative, and connective. Performative in this context refers to the capacity of the infrastructure to accomplish the technical function for which the system has been designed, be it the distribution and collection of water, electricity, transportation, etc., or the provision of systems of public space, streets, sidewalks, etc. Performative standards and criteria are the purview of City Staff and City Departments. Connective refers to the ability of infrastructure to integrate disparate urban development components and projects into an integrated system.

Because of Austin's extraordinary rapid growth and its focus on becoming a more "compact-and-connected" city, the need for new infrastructure to support new development has increased as well, almost becoming out of control. To ensure that these infrastructure projects do not have an adverse effect on the public realm, and that they are integrated into the concept of smart growth, the City Council passed Resolution 20100819-035, which assigned the Design Commission to develop guidelines for these infrastructure projects. This document will be quite similar to the Urban Design Guidelines produced in 2009, and will reflect many of the visions of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in 2012. The Manual of Infrastructure Design Guidelines (IDG) will provide the necessary framework for all future, applicable public infrastructure projects with the goal of enhancing Austin's quality of life. The IDG focuses on projects that have a significant impact on the public realm and will build on values expressed in the Urban Design Guidelines and Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.

Connective also refers to the socially supportive role that infrastructure may play in enhancing the quality of life of the citizens of Austin. The Design Commission seeks to work with and advise City Staff, City Departments, and developers on ways to attain excellence in the design and integration of the physical and social systems of our city.

The Infrastructure Guidelines outline the vision, principles and connective design criteria that are required for the design of our city's urban structure. The Infrastructure Design Guidelines provide the necessary framework for the design of a compact, connected and sustainable urban environment for Austin. The Design Commission's role in evaluating infrastructure proposals is to ensure that each development project is designed adequately and systematically reflects the values and principles espoused by the framework in order to realize the goals of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.

The Merits of Integrated Infrastructure

As the City of Austin strives to implement its compact, connected and sustainable agenda for the future, the necessity to integrate the various infrastructural systems that organize, construct and service the metropolitan landscape is of vital importance. The urban environment has become a complex organism requiring the expertise of many professionals, from multiple disciplines, to construct and manage. This complexity is reflected in the multiple departments that are responsible for the various components of infrastructural design within the city. The segregation of technical expertise, into distinct city departments, is a reflection of the segmentation of professional responsibility that has evolved with modern society. This disciplinary separation encourages the use of infrastructural solutions that are designed to solve singular dilemmas, without full consideration of the consequent effect on the totality of the urban environment. The urban landscapes, produced by this disciplinary separation, are comprised of systems of infrastructure that are engineered and implemented to function for individual purposes and are rarely integrated into the type of complex multi-functional systems needed to service the contemporary city.

Best design practices have shown that integration provides benefits that are social, environmental and economic. Planning for land-use development and mobility issues, for example, are often separately considered spatial planning disciplines. However, in practice there is a strong connection between land use issues and mobility factors, these issues strongly influencing each other in terms of livability and the subsequent financial-economic positions of neighborhoods. While optimizing a particular design may satisfy the technical engineering requirements necessary for infrastructure to perform a singular function, the resultant urban landscape is often dispersed, disconnected, and unsustainable.

The construction of a compact and integrated urban environment requires that the design and construction of infrastructural systems be able to operate on several levels. Systems must be both performative and connective. This is best accomplished by assimilating multiple purposes within an integrated system. Integrated infrastructure has the ability to respond to issues of mobility across a range of uses from the pedestrian, to bicycles, automobiles and public transportation, while additionally responding to the ecological needs of storm water mitigation, and the social roles of public space, all within the mechanisms of an integrated system.

10 Core Principles for an Integrated Infrastructure

1 CONTEXTUAL

Infrastructure should be thoughtfully designed and adapted to enhance surrounding neighborhoods and environments.

Context is the physical scale, space and ambience of a place and establishes the built and natural forms within which individual buildings and infrastructure are sited. As such, the design of infrastructure affects the balance between natural ecosystems and the built environment.



2 CONNECTED

Infrastructure should be strategically planned to so as to facilitate multi-modal linkages and pathways through the city.

Infrastructure should be designed bind the districts, neighborhoods and public spaces of the city together so as to create a vital social, economic and ecologically responsible urban environment.



3 INTEGRATED

Infrastructure should be designed to accommodate competing interests in the urban environment.

A well-designed and efficient urban infrastructure must allow for the intensification of functions in the urban environment by providing for the integration of social and technical systems. This requires an integrated approach to design that supports multiple simultaneous programs and functions.



4 COMPACT

Infrastructure should be designed to promote sustainable urban environments.

Infrastructure that supports compact urban development should be designed to sustain a relatively high-density urban environment comprised of mixed land uses. It must provide for an efficient public transport system and be structured to encourage walking and cycling, low energy consumption, and a reduced carbon footprint. A compact urban population, served by suitable public infrastructure will provide opportunities for social interaction, the building of community and increased public safety.



5 SUSTAINABLE

Infrastructure should aspire to improve the quality of life for its citizens, while living within the carrying capacity of the supporting eco-systems.

Sustainable infrastructure provides for environmental, economic, and social equity in the urban environment. The built environment is an extension of the ecological systems that allows for a dense human population to live in a compact area in relative comfort. Sustainable infrastructure practices encompass: low impact development practices to protect water resources, public transportation systems, distributed energy systems, and the provision of wildlife corridors to protect the health of the natural environment.



6 HYBRIDIZED

Infrastructure should be designed for the efficient integration of multiple programs and uses.

Constructing a compact city requires that infrastructure be designed efficiently in order to provide for a multiplicity of uses within a single area. This technique of hybridization can contribute to the activation of urban areas that would otherwise be vacated, and provides for the continuous use of urban space for diverse programs and events.



7 HUMANE

Infrastructure should contribute to the creation of a vibrant public realm with superior public spaces.

The design of infrastructure can either divide communities, or bring them together. Urban Infrastructure performs an important social role in the city, and proper consideration should be given to the role public space plays in the formation of an accessible and civilized urban landscape, one that serves the entire urban population.



8 ECOLOGICAL

Infrastructure should provide for healthy natural environments.

The unification of natural systems into the city helps to soften the impact of a dense cityscape and provides city dwellers with pockets of respite from the activities of urban life. A healthy environment is created through the use of green infrastructure to support communities of plants and animals, transforming parks and water bodies into spaces for community activities. The integration of nature is not only aesthetically pleasing, but also improves the air quality and mitigates heat island effects in the city.



9 TIMELESS

Infrastructure should recognize the historic significance of important buildings and places.

Culturally important places are constructed incrementally over long periods of time. This aspect can reinforce the authenticity of a place while providing the basis for contemporary urban lifestyles.



10 INCLUSIVE

Decisions about infrastructure should be made with the participation of the effected community.

From the seemingly trivial activities of everyday life (e.g. using a plastic bag) to the overtly transformational (e.g. growing the city), citizens have a role to play and a responsibility. It is only through the sum total of individual choices, of individual actions, that change will come about.

Residents and stakeholders must be part of the planning and designing of their cities and their communities. They must also be part of delivering a new vision: by choosing to walk, by engaging each other, by generating awareness, and by demanding higher standards.





Item 6a

Planning and Zoning Department

MEMORANDUM

TO: Design Commission

FROM: Gregory I. Guernsey, AICP, Director
Planning and Zoning Department *GG*

DATE: February 23, 2017

RE: Airport Building Project Submittals to Design Commission

In 2007, the Austin City Council passed Resolution 20071129-046 requiring that "City staff present plans for all municipal buildings and associated site development to the Design Commission to ensure that those projects demonstrate compliance with city design and sustainability standards, and that this presentation take place early enough in the development process to enable incorporation of improvements that result from this consultation" (see Attachment A).

The Aviation Department (ABIA) has recently become aware of this resolution, and will present their municipal projects and associated site plan developments to the Design Commission for review. Planning and Zoning staff will coordinate with the Public Works Department (Project Management Division) and ABIA to bring project submittals to the Commission for evaluation.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Ms. Katie Mulholland, Senior Planner at Katie.Mulholland@austintexas.gov or 512-974-3362.

cc: Jerry Rusthoven
Tonya Swartzendruber
Katie Mulholland
Nichole Koerth
Raymundo Minjarez