



SOUTH WASHINGTON WATERSHED DISTRICT

Request for Proposals Public Art at Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility

Submissions Due: February 14th, 2025

Expected Budget: \$15,000

Location: Kargel Park, Woodbury, MN

Final Notification: Expected by April 2025

Installation Deadline: December 31, 2025

Information/Q&A Session (via Zoom):

Wednesday, February 5th, 2025, 6:00 – 6:30 pm

LINK: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/85758918879?pwd=76TH0iDunfXFWNckqBQLpGfkgjY878.1>

Meeting ID: 857 5891 8879 **Passcode:** Ppb6BG

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) seeks proposals to commission a professional artist or team of artists to design, fabricate and install a work of public art at the newly completed Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility in Kargel Park, Woodbury, Minnesota. The selected artwork will be installed in a visible location on an exterior screen wall at the facility's lift station along a highly utilized public trail. The artwork should interpret one or more of the following themes: local aquatic ecosystem restoration, water quality/clarity improvement, water movement and watershed connectivity within the SWWD, climate resiliency, and/or other related topics subject to SWWD and City of Woodbury approval. SWWD is interested in discovering new ways of envisioning, connecting, and valuing its water resources while recognizing different perspectives and ways of knowing. Through this project, SWWD hopes to engage area residents and trail users with creativity, innovation and artistic excellence while promoting and achieving water quality improvement by providing visibility to the watershed's natural resources.

PARAMETERS & REQUIREMENTS

Any materials or media may be submitted; however, applicants should pay close attention to the practical realities of the site. The selected proposal must be resilient to the elements, extreme heat, extreme cold, precipitation and wind, and be able to safely withstand public use and interaction. The installation will be mounted to a vertical wall surface that is nine (9) feet tall, fourteen (14) feet wide and located directly adjacent to a pedestrian and bike trail. While not required, there is an additional side wall measuring four (4) feet wide and nine (9) feet tall that may also be utilized if desired. The existing finished surface of the screen wall is comprised of phenolic composite panels. The substructure is incredibly sturdy and will support the weight of a variety of potential installations. See attachments

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for physical wall details. There is approximately 18 inches of horizontal relief between the wall and the travelled edge of the trail. Low relief sculptural elements or a mural may be best suited for this location. Mural projects will require mounting of an alternate suitable substrate to the existing wall surface. Proposals with sharp protrusions or material edges that could cause harm to unwary moving pedestrians or cyclists, as determined by SWWD and/or the City of Woodbury will not be considered.

ARTIST'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The selected artist or team of artists will be expected to collaborate with SWWD program staff and execute a contract with the SWWD that includes an agreed-upon work plan with specific outcomes and timelines for the project including, but not limited to, Project Conceptualization and Design, Fabrication, Installation, Maintenance Plan, and Compensation. The artist must keep SWWD staff informed of the status and progress of work so staff can provide the SWWD Board of Managers with a detailed assessment of program successes and suggested future program improvements. SWWD is currently seeking a completed public art installation within the 2025 calendar year, although this timeline is flexible depending on the needs of the proposal selected.

The artist is required to provide their own equipment and workspace and will serve as a contracted consultant to SWWD, not as an employee. The artist must maintain a commercial general liability insurance policy consistent with statutory and SWWD requirements.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Application materials must be submitted via email to kyle.axtell@swwdmn.gov by the deadline of midnight on Friday, February 14th, 2025. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Submittals must include the following:

1. Letter of Interest

- a. A brief introduction outlining the artist's interest in the project, relevant experience, and connection to the subject. (PDF, 1-page max)

2. Artist & Proposal Information

- a. Curriculum vitae (CV) or resume for all artists on the team. (PDF, 2 pages max)
- b. A vision statement explaining the artist's conceptual approach and vision for the project and its connection to the goals and objectives of the SWWD. (PDF, 1-page max)
- c. Up to four (4) images or sketches of artist's preliminary concept described in the vision statement above (filenames: lastname_concept1.jpg, image size limit: 2MB each).

3. Previous Work Samples

- a. Six (6) work samples completed within the last three years (filenames: lastname1.jpg, image size limit: 2MB each).
- b. JPG, PNG, TIF or PDF files accepted via email or through shared portfolio folder.
- c. Include an image inventory list with title, year, medium, dimensions, and brief description (50-word limit each) for previous work samples (PDF, 1-page max).

4. Professional References

- a. Three professional references familiar with artist's work. Include contact information.

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RFP REVIEW CRITERIA & SCHEDULE

All RFP submittals will be evaluated based on the review criteria listed below by an internal subcommittee of members of SWWD's staff, Citizen Advisory Committee and Board of Managers and City of Woodbury staff during February and March. The project team expects to select an artist or team of artists for this project directly from the pool of applicants. However, SWWD reserves the right to either make no selection, or select a small pool of finalists for further consideration. If our process results in a pool of finalists, further instructions will be provided to those selected.

Experience: previous experience working on public art installations or similar projects; experience creating works that match the scale of the current project; experience working with communities or integrating local culture into their work.

Artist Statement & Project Vision: alignment of the artist's work and proposed vision with the goals of the current project; technical feasibility of the proposal within the constraints of space, timeline and budget; clarity and coherence of the concept and its relevance to project goals; durability of the artwork to withstand outdoor conditions, maintain its integrity and remain safe for public interaction over time.

Artistic Excellence: evaluation of the artistic quality of the artist's past work as evidenced in their work samples; creativity, originality, and aesthetic appeal of the proposed artwork.

References: quality of references from previous clients, project collaborators, or commissioners that highlight the artist's qualifications and professionalism.

ABOUT THE SOUTH WASHINGTON WATERSHED DISTRICT

The South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) is a special-purpose local unit of government geographically located within Washington County, Minnesota; SWWD and Washington County are separate local government units that operate independently. It contains portions of ten cities and townships: Afton, Cottage Grove, Denmark Township, Grey Cloud Island Township, Hastings, Lake Elmo, Newport, Oakdale, St. Paul Park, and Woodbury.

In 1993, the Cottage Grove Ravine Watershed District was formed as the 42nd watershed district in Minnesota. The watershed district changed its name to the South Washington Watershed District in 1995. Two subsequent enlargements eventually resulted in SWWD's current boundary configuration.

The SWWD's Watershed Management Plan addresses seven issues: Flooding, Watershed Alterations, Groundwater Sustainability, Natural Resources, Climate Change, Information & Education, and Efficiency & Accountability. Projects and programs to implement actions addressing these identified issues are established according to the priorities of SWWD's five-member Board of Managers and carried out by its staff. SWWD's office is co-located within the City of Woodbury's Public Works Department at 2302 Tower Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125. More detailed information about SWWD can be viewed online at www.swwdmn.gov.

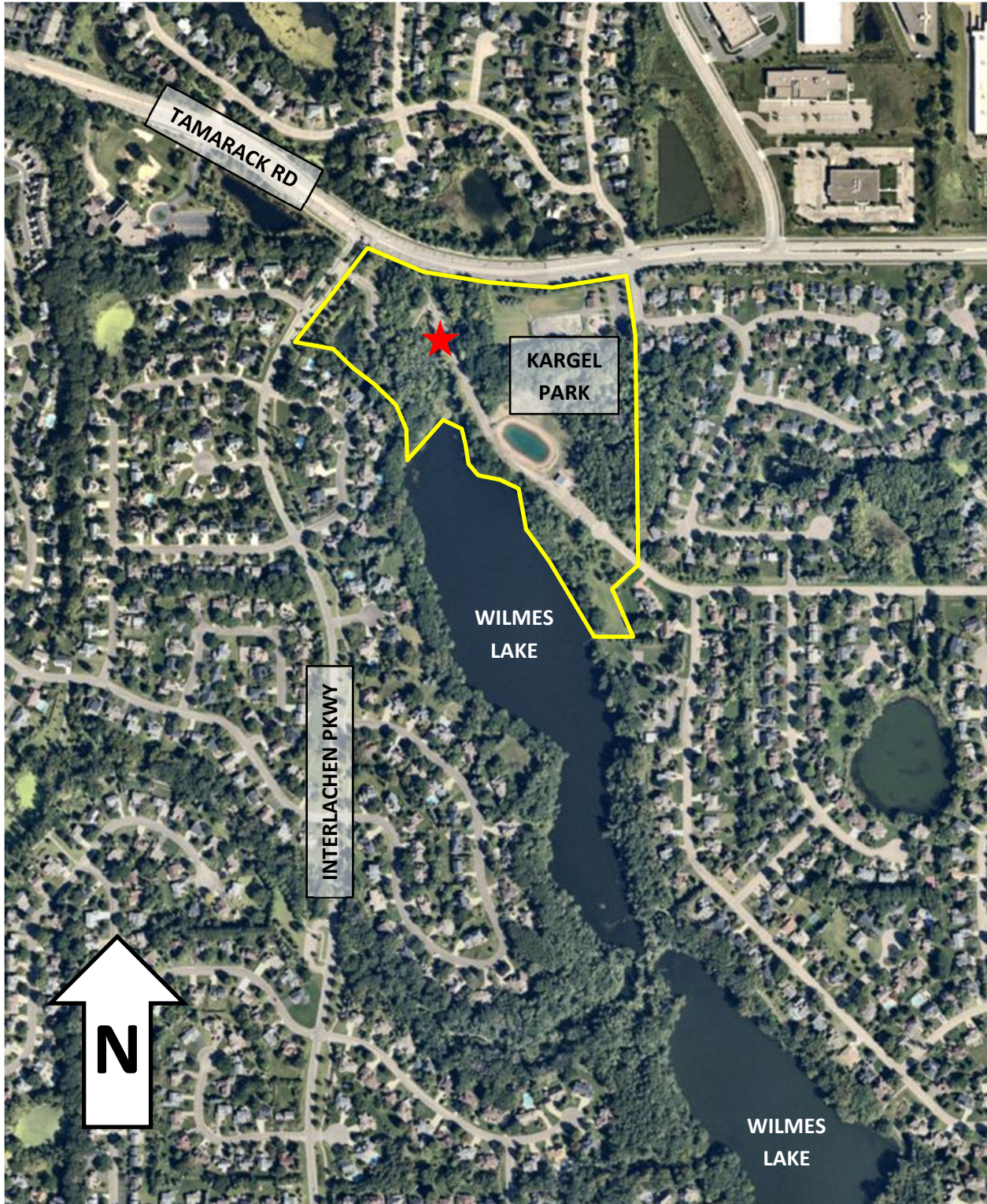
QUESTIONS

Please submit questions about this RFP by email to Kyle Axtell at kyle.axtell@swwdmn.gov.

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LOCATION MAP

Kargel Park is located at the north end of Wilmes Lake, south of Tamarack Road and east of Interlachen Parkway in Woodbury, MN (yellow border). The location of the project site is noted with a red star.



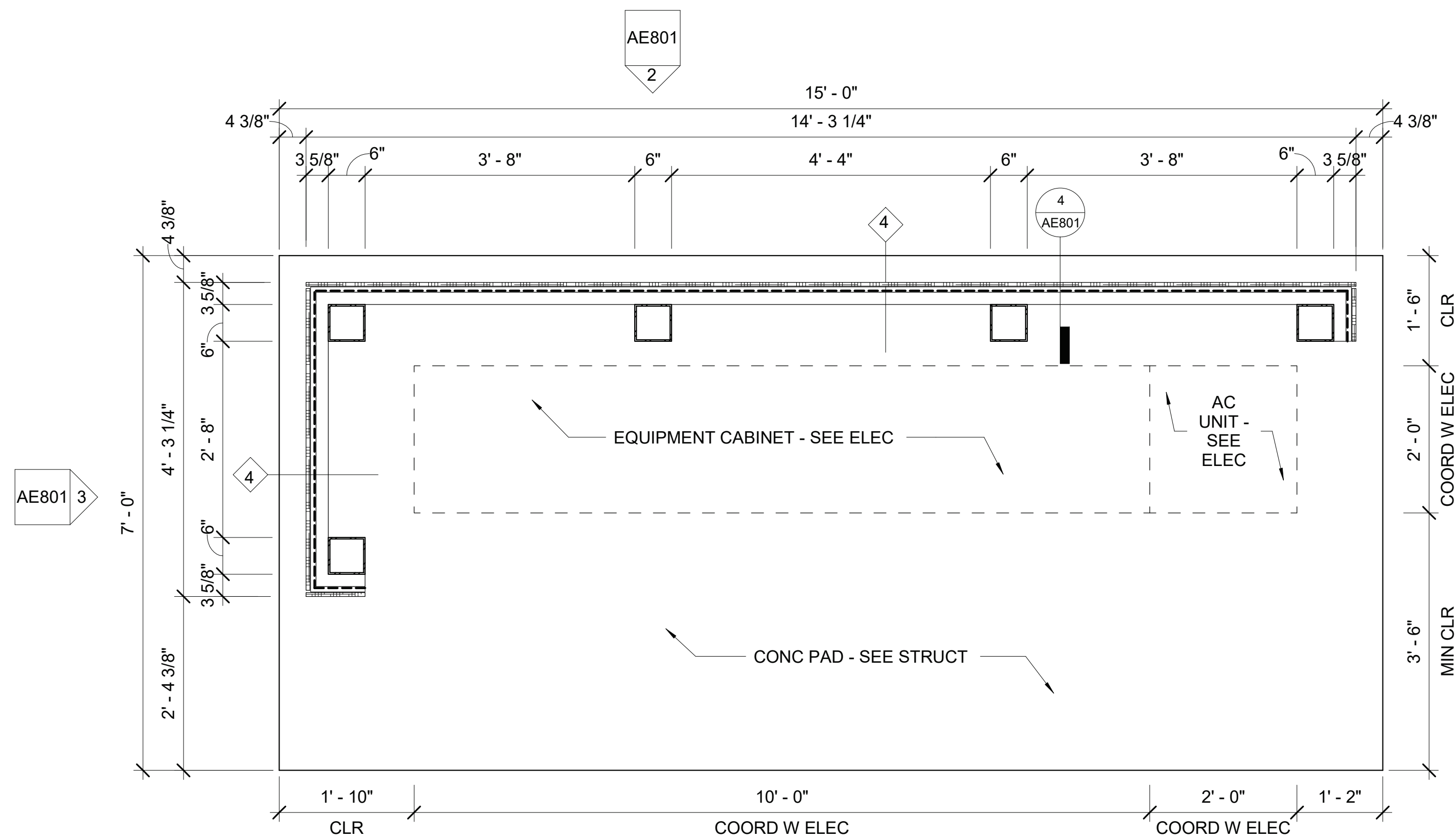
SWWD Request for Proposals: Public Art at Wilmes Lake



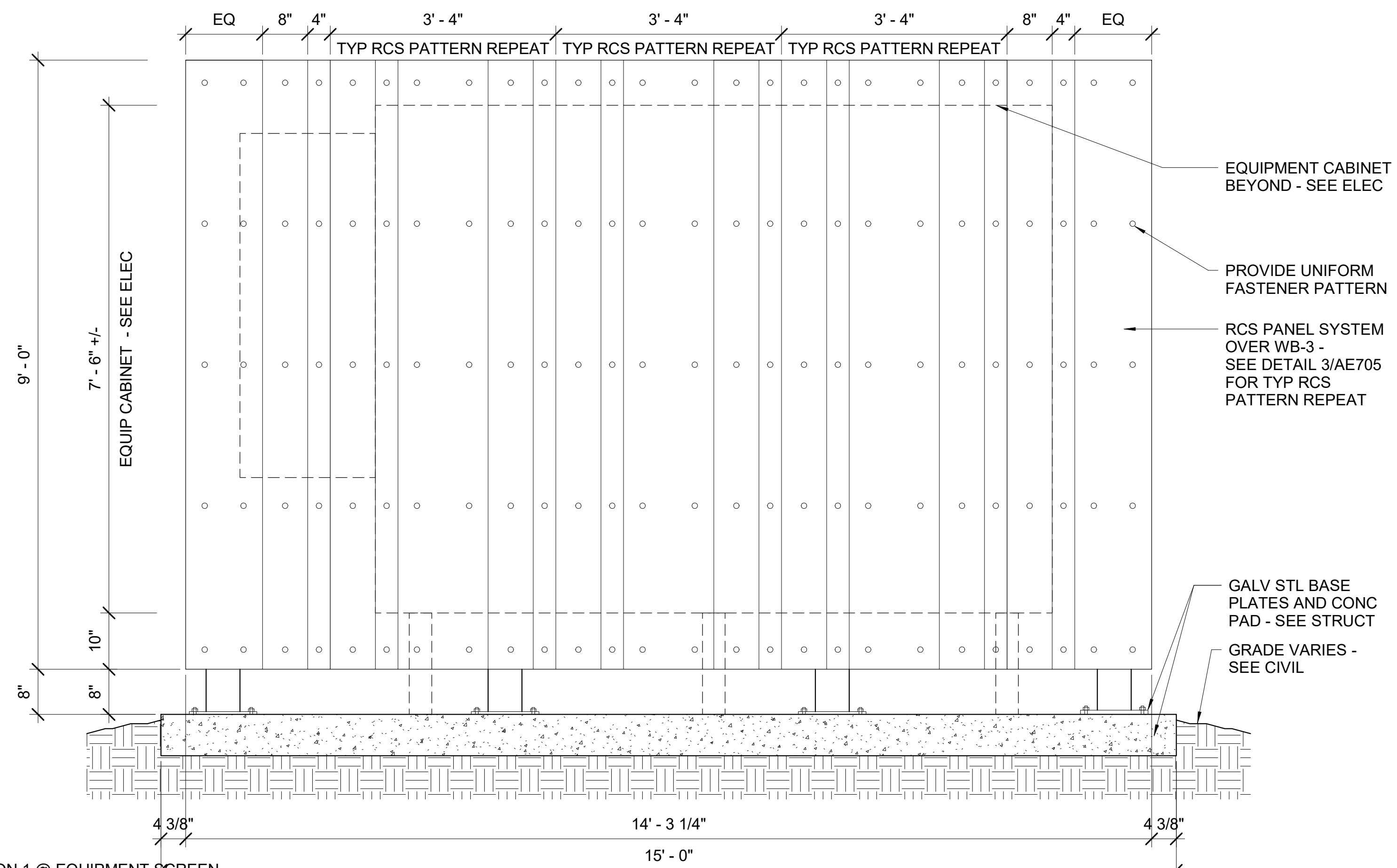
Screen Wall Front View (facing east)



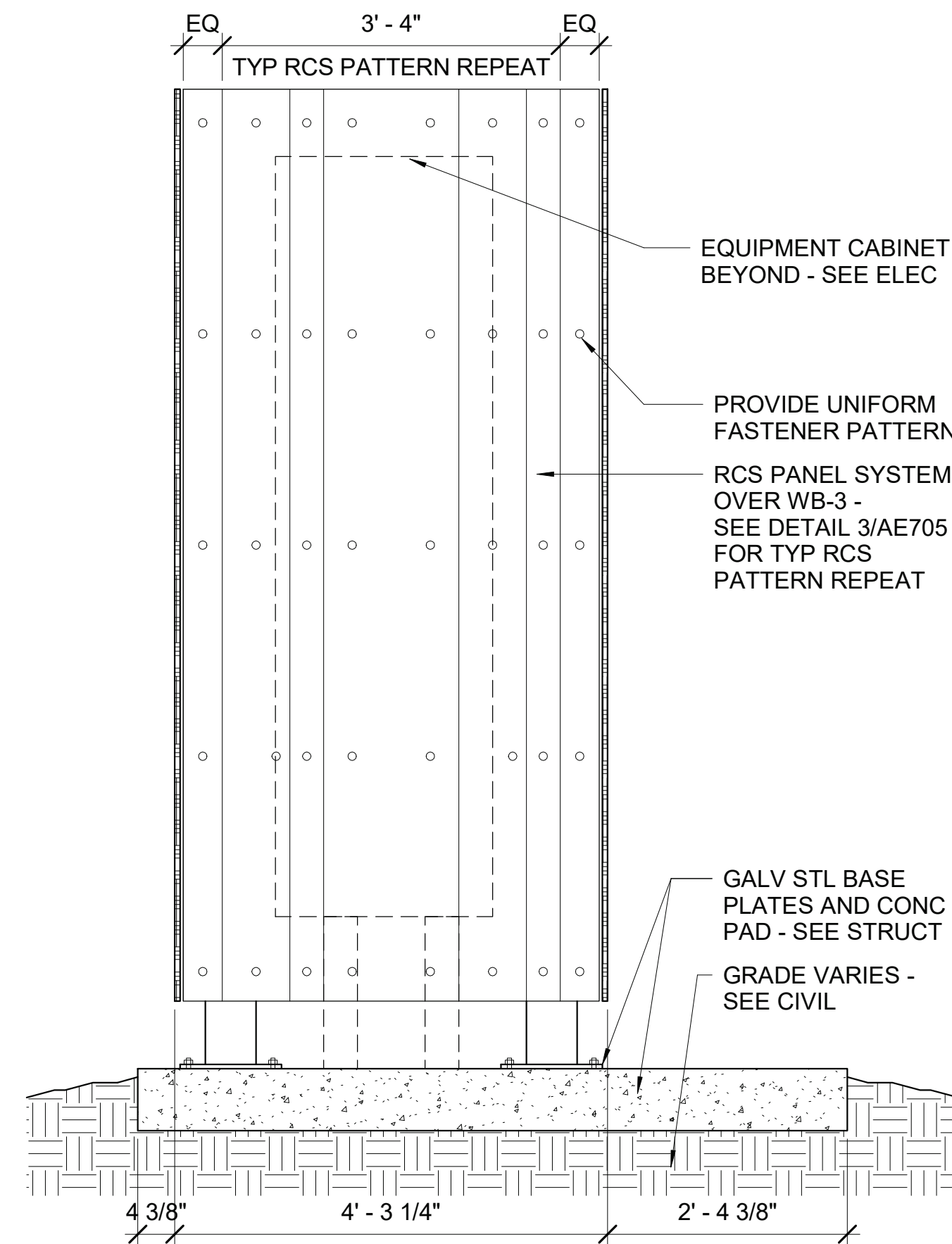
Screen Wall Side View (facing south)



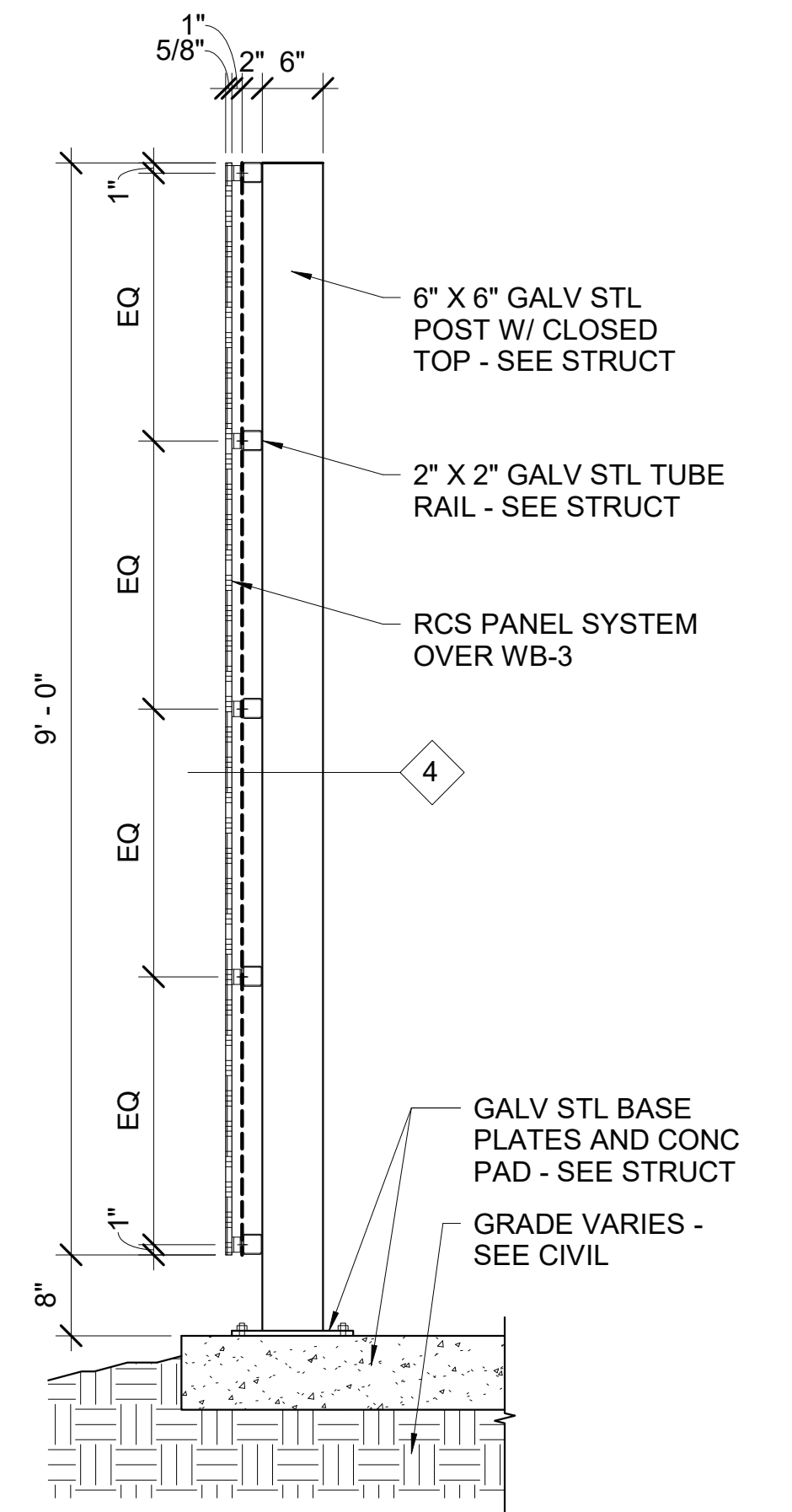
1 PLAN @ EQUIPMENT SCREEN
3/4" = 1'-0"



2 ELEVATION 1 @ EQUIPMENT SCREEN
3/4" = 1'-0"



3 ELEVATION 2 @ EQUIPMENT SCREEN
3/4" = 1'-0"



4 SECTION @ EQUIPMENT SCREEN
3/4" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY: JSS JOB DATE: 2023
 APPROVED: EAL JOB NUMBER: LUKEN 202115
 FILE: BIM 360/Wilmes Lake Chemical Building w HRG/WILMES LAKE - ARCH - R21.rvt
 PLOTTED: 3/8/2023 4:15:41 PM

NO	DATE	BY	REVISION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION, OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECT UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.
 SIGNATURE: *Ellen A. Luken*
 DATE: 03/08/2023 ELLEN A. LUKEN REG. NO.: 15929



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WILMES LAKE ALUM TREATMENT FACILITY
 SOUTH WASHINGTON WATERSHED DISTRICT
 WOODBURY, MINNESOTA

ARCHITECTURAL
 EQUIPMENT SCREEN - PLAN & ELEVATIONS

SHEET NO.
AE801