



LEFT – RENDERING SHOWS AN ISOMETRIC VIEW OF THE BUILDING

RIGHT – RENDERING SHOWS A SIDE VIEW OF THE BUILDING

Source: SRG Partnership

CASE STUDY: WSU LIFE SCIENCES BUILDING

MASS PLYWOOD USED IN NONCOMBUSTIBLE ASSEMBLIES

PROJECT OWNER: WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY VANCOUVER

PROJECT LOCATION: 14204 NE SALMON CREEK AVE
VANCOUVER, WA 98686

COMPLETION DATE: APRIL 1, 2024

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: SRG PARTNERSHIP

MASS TIMBER ENGINEER/MANUFACTURER: CATENA

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: CATENA CONSULTING ENGINEERS

MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL, AND PLUMBING:
AFFILIATED ENGINEERS

THE WASHINGTON STATE University (WSU) Vancouver Life Sciences Building will be a fully sprinklered, 3-story research laboratory with associated teaching and office spaces. The main part of the higher education building is classified as Group B occupancy, and the entire building is considered a single laboratory suite. Although the building con-

struction is classified as Type III-B, the exterior wall and some portions of the interior structural systems use Mass Plywood Panels (MPP).

The Jensen Hughes team worked through construction details with SRG Partnership and developed solutions by referencing a white paper drafted by the team. Additional alternatives were developed to gain approval for use of mass timber in a noncombustible exterior wall assembly. The project includes mass timber panels in the floor assemblies that intersect with a mechanical and elevator shaft. The team outlined a strategy that included the use of a shaft liner, fire caulking at the intersecting joints, and mineral wool in void spaces to maintain the required fire ratings for the assemblies at the penetrations. The project has been approved, and the building is expected to be opened in spring of 2024. 🌱