



MEMO

To:
John Paul Stout, MPA
Sustainable Development Manager
City of Augusta
525 Telfair Street
Augusta, GA 30901
(706) 821-1796

Copies:
Adam Williamson, AICP, TSW
Design

From:
Shamir Poudel, PE
ARCADIS U.S., Inc.

Date:
January 10, 2014

ARCADIS Project No.:
GA064020

Subject:
Augusta Sustainable Development Implementation Program (ASDIP)
Technical Memorandum – Initiative 2, Task 1, Context-Sensitive Design Element
Inclusion into GDOT 15th Street Widening Project

Background

The Augusta Sustainable Development Implementation Program (ASDIP) consists of four interrelated planning initiatives designed to implement sustainable development in the City of Augusta. Initiative No. 2 focuses on development of a plan and implementation program for a multimodal transportation corridor within the identified project target area, which includes the Deans Bridge Road, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and 15th Street corridors. The scope of work for Initiative No. 2 includes reviewing the current Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) plans and coordinating with GDOT to include context-sensitive elements within the proposed footprint of the State Route 4/15th Street widening project (PI #220680). The desired outcome of Initiative No. 2 is a transportation improvement project that accommodates all uses (vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, and public transit) and includes sufficient amenities. This technical memorandum summarizes the activities conducted under this task.

Current GDOT Project

The State Route 4/15th Street project (PI #220680) is in the Augusta Regional Transportation Study Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Georgia Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). As currently designed by GDOT, the project involves road widening and related improvements on 15th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard from Government Road to Milledgeville Road. The current concept includes two travel lanes in each direction separated by a 15-foot to 18-foot

raised median with left-turn lanes at median openings. Pedestrian components include a 5-foot-wide sidewalk along the east side and an 8-foot shared-used path along the west side intended to provide pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. Street lighting is also included in the project.

Recommended Modifications to Current GDOT Project

Context-sensitive recommendations are categorized into bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, side road alignment modifications, median modifications, and transit accommodations. Following is a summary of these recommendations and the status of their inclusion in the GDOT project. Modification requests submitted to GDOT and GDOT's responses to those requests are included as Attachments 1 and 2. Plan revisions showing these modifications are presented on the conceptual layouts included as Attachment 3. GDOT is currently incorporating some of the modifications into the overall design of the State Route 4/15th Street project.

Table 1: Summary of Context-Sensitive Design Element Inclusion in GDOT State Route 4/15th Street Project

Modification Request	Inclusion in GDOT Project	Comments
Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations	Will be included	
Side Road Alignment Modifications	To be partially included	Will be partially included. Contingent on redevelopment of Augusta Housing Authority redevelopment schedule of Cherry Tree Crossing.
Median Width and Left-Turn Bay Modifications	Will be reviewed	Being reviewed by GDOT with new traffic analysis.
Transit Accommodations	Will be included	

Public Involvement Process

Residents of the project area as well as the users were consulted throughout the project process. This began at the public meeting no. 1 which was used for visioning and gathering inputs from the public before the conceptual design began. The public continued throughout the project development with two additional meetings throughout the process. Public involvement details and a summary of input received are included in the public involvement summary attached to this memo.

Current Status of GDOT State Route 4/15th Street Project

The project is currently in the environmental documentation phase. Following is the anticipated project schedule, which is contingent on the approval of the environmental document and associated special studies:

- Public Hearing Open House (PHOH) – Spring 2014
- Environmental Approval – Spring 2015
- Start Right-of-Way Acquisition – Summer 2015
- Start Construction – Summer 2018

Attachments:

1. Modification Request by ASDIP Team
2. GDOT Response to ASDIP Modification Request
3. Project Layouts
4. Public Involvement Summary



MEMO

To:

Jeremy T. Busby, PE
Project Manager
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Program Delivery
600 West Peachtree Street, 25th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30308

Copies:

Paul T. DeCamp, Jr., AICP
Steve Cassell, PE PTOE
John Paul Stout, MPA
Adam Williamson, AICP

From:

Shamir Poudel, PE
ARCADIS U.S., Inc.

Date:

February 7, 2013

ARCADIS Project No.:

GA064020

Subject:

Request for Modification to GDOT 15th Street Project (PI #220680)
Augusta Sustainable Development Implementation Program (ASDIP)

Background

The Augusta Sustainable Development Implementation Program (ASDIP) consists of four interrelated planning initiatives designed to implement sustainable development in the City of Augusta. Initiative No. 2 focuses on development of a plan and implementation program for a multimodal transportation corridor within the identified project target area, which includes the Deans Bridge Road, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and 15th Street corridors. The scope of work for Initiative No. 2 includes reviewing the current GDOT plans and coordinating with GDOT to include context-sensitive elements within the proposed footprint of the State Route 4/15th Street Road widening project (PI #220680). The desired outcome of Initiative No. 2 is a transportation improvement project that accommodates all uses (vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, and public transit) and includes sufficient amenities.

As a part of Initiative No. 2, we have completed our review of the in-progress design plans and files dated August 2012 for the GDOT project. We have also presented the current GDOT improvement project to the public as well as the project steering committee. Based on our review, feedback from the public, input from project steering committee and input from City of Augusta, we are requesting that GDOT consider the following changes to the current project design for PI #220680.

Current GDOT Project

The State Route 4/15th Street project (PI #220680) is in the Augusta Regional Transportation Study Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Georgia Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). As currently designed by GDOT, the project involves road widening and related improvements on 15th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard from Government Road to Milledgeville Road. The current concept includes two travel lanes in each direction separated by a 15-foot to 18-foot raised median with left-turn lanes at median openings. Pedestrian components would include a 5-foot-wide sidewalk along the east side and an 8-foot shared-used path along the west side intended to provide pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. Street lighting is also included in the project.

Recommended Modifications to Current GDOT Project

Our recommendations are categorized into bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, side road alignment modifications, median modifications, and transit accommodations. Following are brief discussions of these recommendations and the rationale behind these recommendations.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations

It is our request that GDOT consider including a 5-foot bicycle lane and 5-foot sidewalk along each side of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 15th Street. Current GDOT design proposes an 8-foot path along the west side of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 15th Street to jointly accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic; however, the 8-foot path is too narrow to function as a two-way multi-use path. To minimize the footprint impacts associated with this change, we are proposing that the raised median along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard be reduced from 18 feet to 15 feet. In addition, we are proposing that a header curb be utilized along the outside instead of a 24-inch curb and gutter. An additional strip of right-of-way will be needed to accommodate these changes; however, most of the additional right-of-way need can be met by converting the proposed permanent easements to required right-of-way. See the attached typical section for the suggested dimensions. A proposed layout can be provided in Microstation and PDF formats.

Side Road Alignment Modifications

It is our request that GDOT consider modifying the current design at the intersections of:

- Essie McIntyre Boulevard and 15th Street
- Government Road and 15th Street

The current design for the Essie McIntyre Boulevard and 15th Street intersection calls for a major realignment of the western leg of the intersection to provide a perpendicular intersection between these

roads. This intersection realignment would result in significant impacts to the TW Josey High School property located in the northwest quadrant of the intersection. These impacts would affect parking spaces, internal vehicular circulation, and a fenced area beyond the parking lot. We are proposing that a less drastic realignment of Essie McIntyre Boulevard be utilized to minimize impacts to the high school. See attached layout for suggested modifications.

The current design for the Government Road and 15th Street intersection calls for a major realignment of Government Road so that it aligns with the entrance to the Cherry Tree Crossing apartments. According to a recent announcement, the housing authority of the City of Augusta is planning to demolish the existing Cherry Tree Crossing complex and redevelop it into a mixed-use development. With this redevelopment, the entrance to this property can be relocated to match the existing Government Road, eliminating the need to realign Government Road. Our preliminary discussions with the Augusta Housing Authority indicate that the Authority is open to working with GDOT on the location of the new entrance. See attached layout for suggested modifications.

Median Width and Left-Turn Bay Modifications

It is our request that GDOT consider revising the following with respect to medians:

- Length of currently proposed left-turn bays
- Width of narrowest section of median in the vicinity of left-turn lanes
- Addition of mid-block crossing

Our initial review of left-turning volumes and opposing through volumes indicates that there are opportunities to reduce the length of the left-turn bays along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 15th Street. The goal is to maximize areas along the corridor where full median width is available to install grassing, landscaping, and a mid-block crossing without compromising the operations of the intersections. We believe there are opportunities to provide wider median widths at the following locations:

- Station 108+00+/-: approximately 350 linear feet of wider median
- Station 116+00+/-: approximately 190 linear feet of wider median
- Station 133+00+/-: approximately 560 linear feet of wider median
- Station 218+00+/-: approximately 260 linear feet of wider median
- Station 230+00+/-: approximately 900 linear feet of wider median
- Station 241+00+/-: approximately 430 linear feet of wider median

The narrowest width of the median currently proposed is 1 foot in the vicinity of left-turn bays. We are proposing that this be increased to 2 feet as shown in the attached typical section to improve visibility.

Our review of the corridor indicates that an additional pedestrian crossing is needed along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard between the intersections of Olive Road and 15th Street. The distance between these signalized intersections with a protected pedestrian crossing opportunity is 0.3 mile. A mid-block crossing will alert motorists of the crossing and will allow pedestrians to take refuge at the median after crossing two lanes of traffic.

Transit Accommodations

Currently the City of Augusta does not operate a bus route along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 15th Street. However, it is anticipated that the City will reroute Bus Route No. 6 through Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 15th Street after the GDOT widening is completed. In addition to replacing two existing bus shelters located in the vicinity of TW Josey High School, it is requested that GDOT consider including additional bus shelters at the following locations to serve the corridor with transit:

- Two bus shelters in the vicinity of TW Josey High School in addition to replacement of the two existing bus shelters. The first new shelter is proposed to serve northbound buses along 15th Street. The second new shelter is proposed to serve westbound buses along Essie McIntyre Boulevard.
- Two bus shelters (one along northbound and one along southbound Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard) at the intersection of Milledgeville Road and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to serve destinations including the YMCA, Wilkerson Gardens Elementary School, and Augusta Christian School.
- Two bus shelters at the intersection of Olive Road and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (one along northbound and one along southbound Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard) to serve the Jennings Homes housing facility and Ebenezer Seventh Day Adventist School.
- Two bus shelters at the intersection of 15th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (one on each side of the road) to serve residential areas in the vicinity of this major intersection.

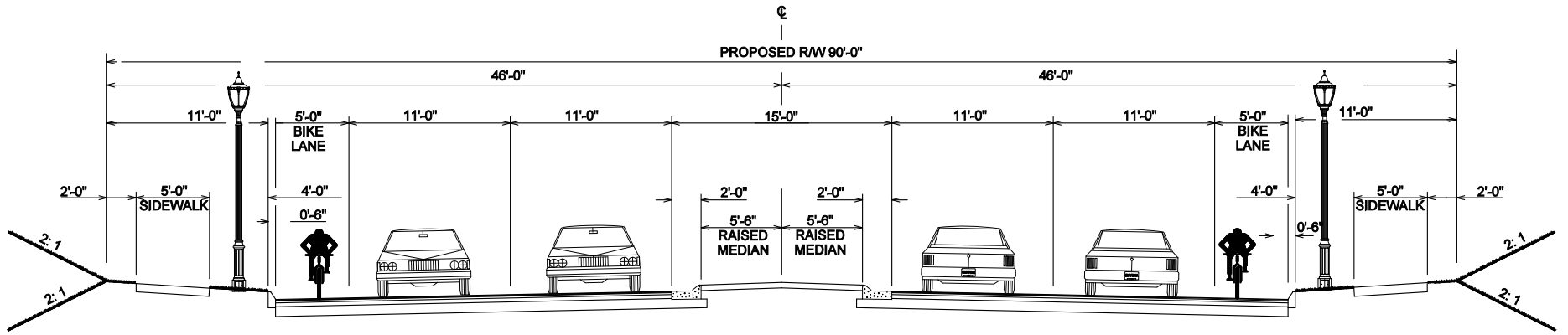
Thank you for your consideration. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss these recommendations.

Attachments:

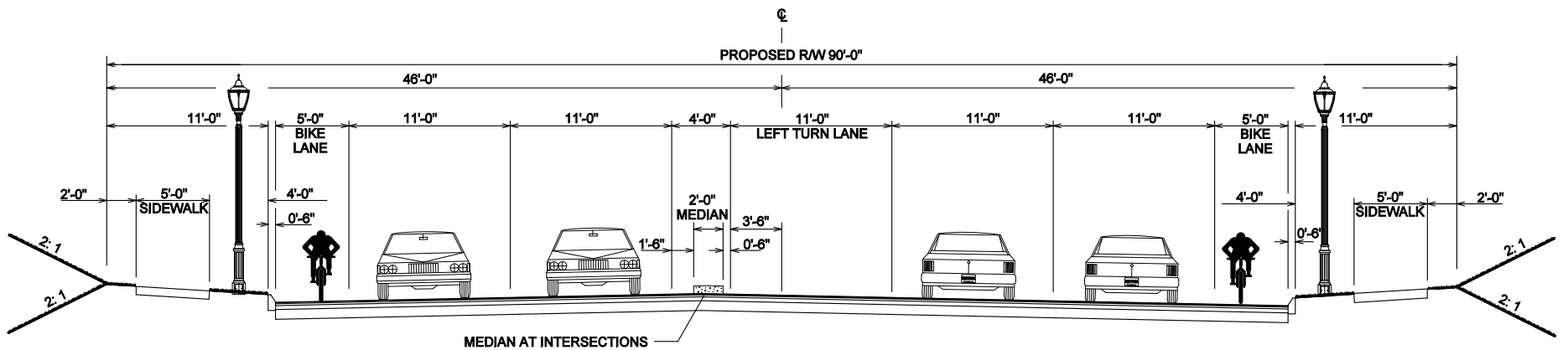
Revised Typical Section

Intersection Layouts

Microstation and PDF Concepts (not attached but available if needed)





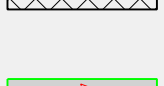

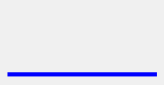


15th STREET & MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD
 PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION
 NO 1



15th STREET & MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD
 PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION
 NO 2

LEGEND

-  ADD'L REQD R/W
-  REQD R/W
-  PROPOSED R/W & ADD'L PROPOSED R/W
-  PROPOSED GDOT EASEMENT
-  EXISTING JOSEY HIGH SCHOOL PARKING
-  PROPOSED GDOT McINTYRE BLVD PAVEMENT/ALIGNMENT
-  PROPOSED MODIFICATION

T.W. JOSEY
HIGH SCHOOL

CHURCH

ADD'L
ROW
REQD

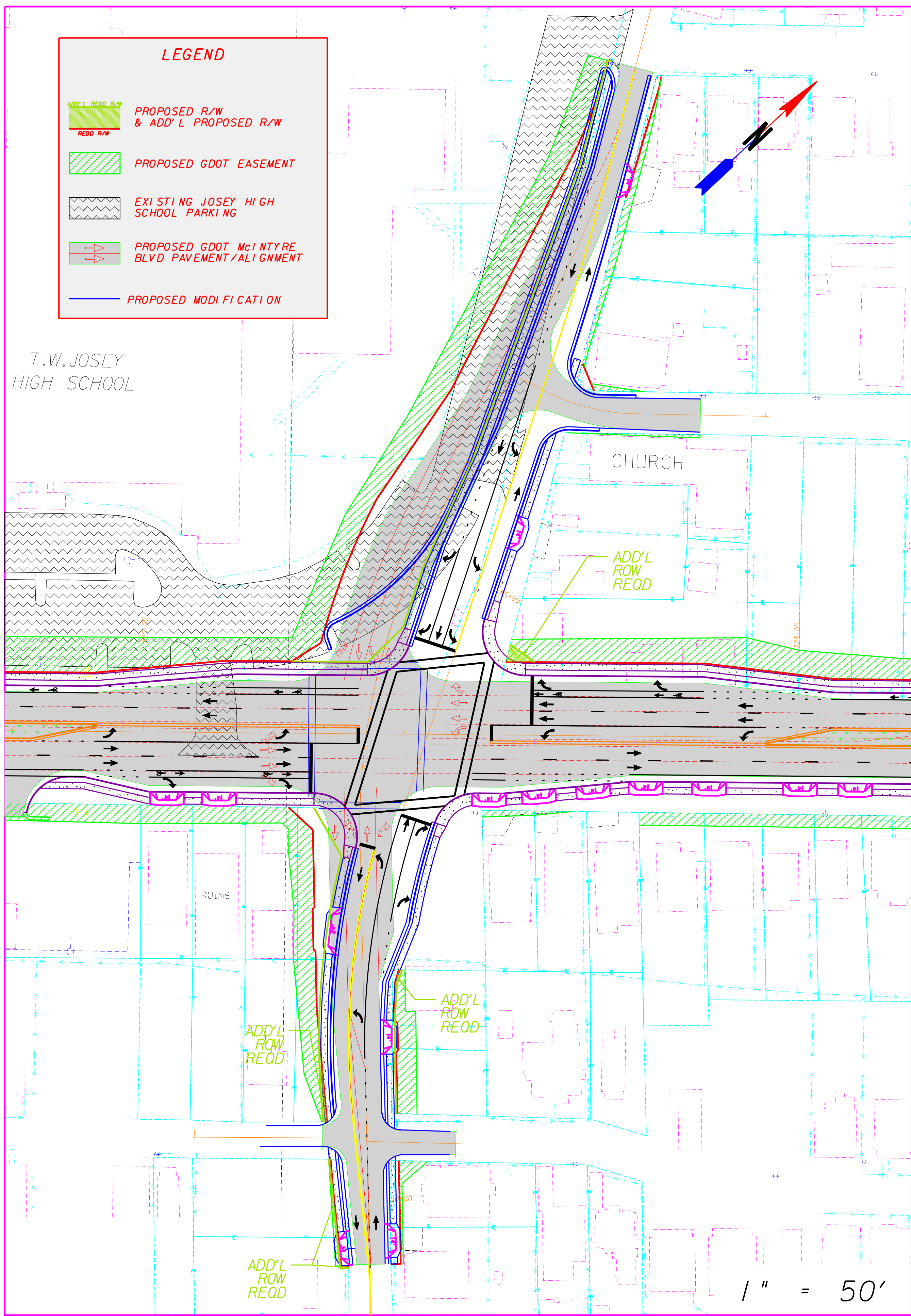
RUINS

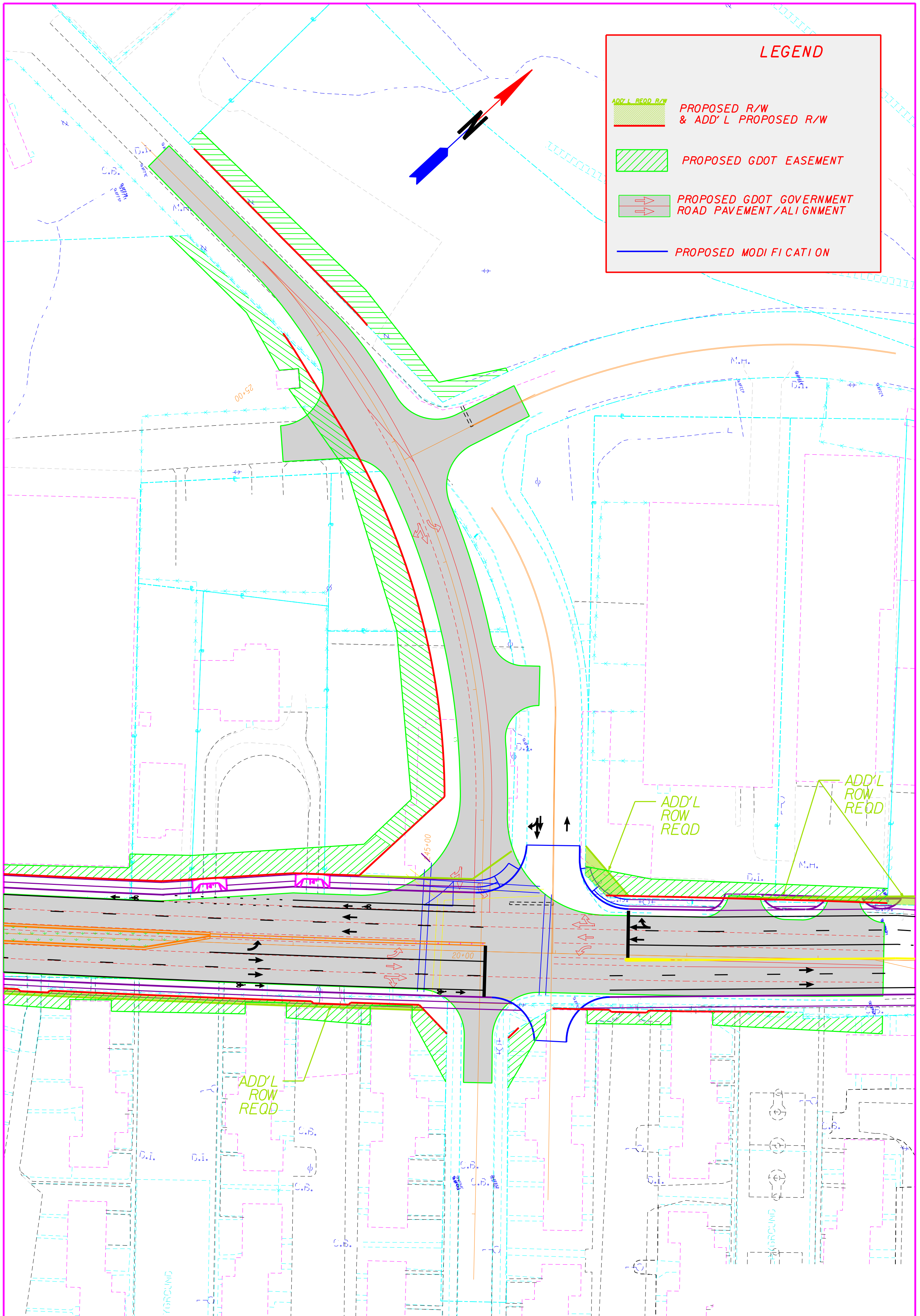
ADD'L
ROW
REQD

ADD'L
ROW
REQD

ADD'L
ROW
REQD

1" = 50'





LEGEND

ADD'L REQD R/W
 PROPOSED R/W & ADD'L PROPOSED R/W

PROPOSED GDOT EASEMENT

PROPOSED GDOT GOVERNMENT ROAD PAVEMENT/ALIGNMENT

PROPOSED MODIFICATION

ADD'L ROW REQD

ADD'L ROW REQD

ADD'L ROW REQD

FORGOUND

FORGOUND



June 14, 2013

Paul DeCamp
Planning Director, Augusta-Richmond County Planning Commission
525 Telfair Street
Augusta, GA 30901

Dear Mr. DeCamp,

The Department has reviewed the memorandum summarizing the results of Initiative #2 of the Augusta Sustainable Development Implementation Program (ASDIP) as it relates to the S.R. 4 / 15th Street widening project (PI#220680, STP00-0043-01(057)) in Richmond County. The areas addressed by the memorandum and reviewed by GDOT are as follows:

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations
2. Sideroad Realignment
3. Median Modifications
4. Transit Accommodations.

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations

Regarding bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, the Department has also reviewed your recommendations to modify the typical section. The recommendations are feasible and would not cause significant delays to the project schedule or complications to the project's environmental document. The Department agrees to eliminate the multi-use path and replace it with 5-foot sidewalks and 4-foot bike lanes, based on the public involvement initiated and community input received as part of the ASDIP. The Department agrees to use header curb in lieu of 24-inch curb and gutter. A new proposed typical section that we feel best incorporates your recommendations while maintaining standards for state route geometry is attached.

2. Sideroad Realignment

The Department has reviewed your recommendations to modify the proposed alignments of Essie McIntyre Boulevard and Government Street. The Department cannot commit to revising the alignments of these roads at this time. We agree that minimizing impacts to T.W. Josey High School is important, however, relocating Essie McIntyre closer to historic resources would cause an adverse impact to these parcels. The Department must avoid adverse impacts to historic resources and their contributing features where possible. We will continue to look for ways to reduce impacts to T.W. Josey High School without creating additional adverse impacts to protected resources along the corridor.

The Department is committed to continuing to work with Augusta-Richmond County on access for Cherry Tree Crossing apartments. This access will incorporate the redevelopment plans proposed in this area. As additional access points are permitted, the Department will review the proper alignment for Government Street in cooperation with your efforts.

3. Median Modifications

The Department will continue to review the lengths of turn bays and the placement of turn lanes as traffic counts are updated through the project's life. We believe the turn lane lengths as designed are appropriate for the design traffic. Mid-block pedestrian crossings will be placed as warranted by the ongoing pedestrian study.


4. Transit

The Department will include accommodations for additional bus shelters as they are permitted within the project limits.

The Department is committed to working with Augusta-Richmond County as we address the transportation needs of the traveling public throughout the State of Georgia. Please forward the Department all documentation related to the extensive public involvement you have undertaken with the surrounding community.

Thank you for your continued interest in the project and for your efforts to coordinate our efforts so that we program, design, and deliver a high-quality project for the community. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Project Manager, Jeremy Busby, at 404-631-1154.

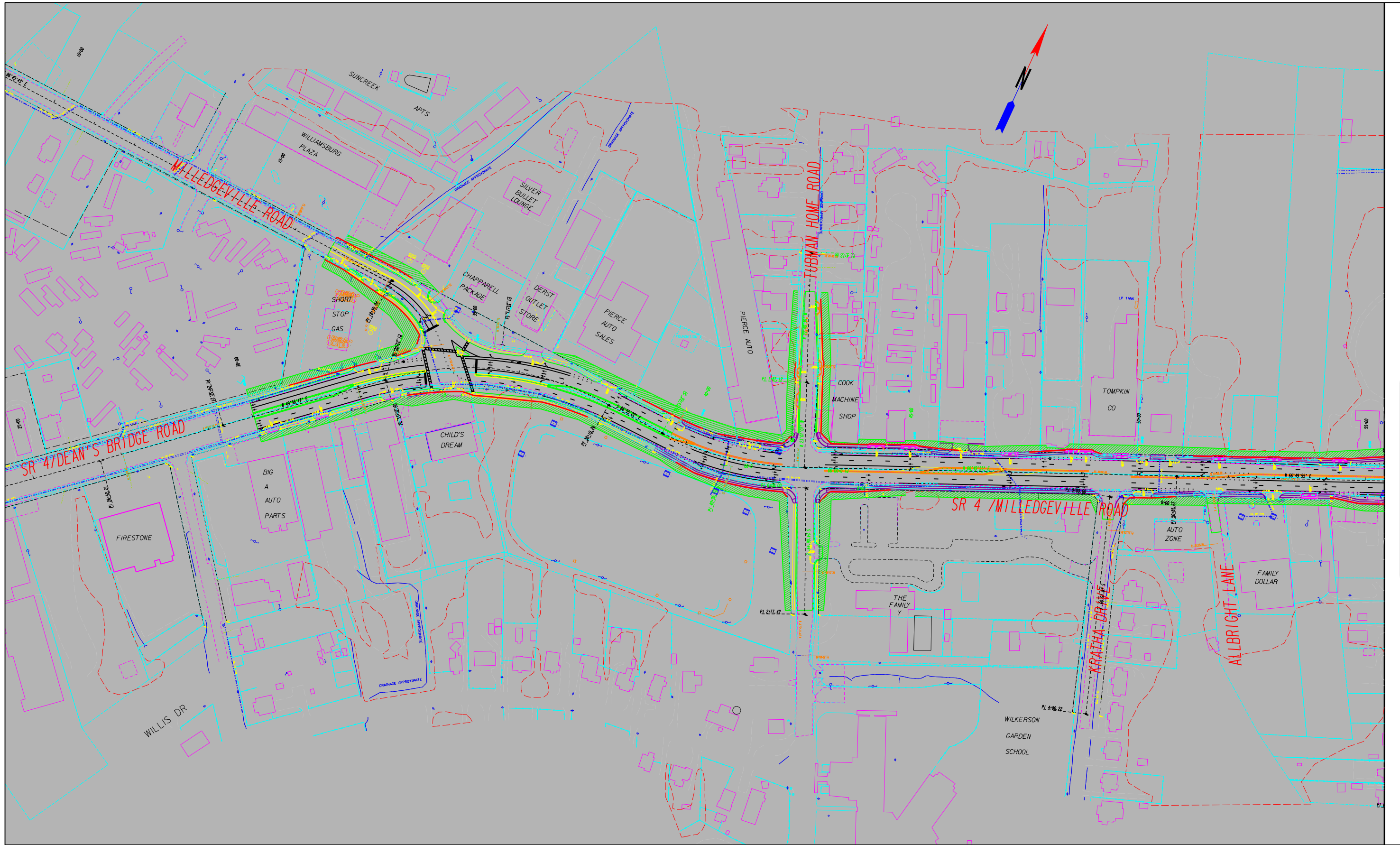
Sincerely,



Genetha Rice-Singleton
State Program Delivery Engineer

Cc:

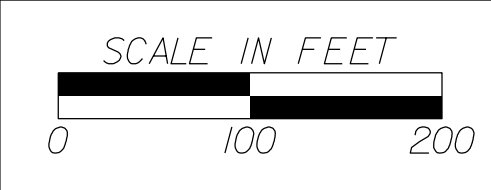
Russell McMurry
Andy Casey
Glenn Bowman
Jimmy Smith
Mike Dover
Andrew Heath
Aries Little
Jeremy Busby



SEE DRAWING NO. 2

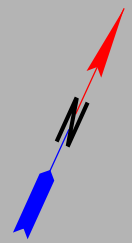
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	12' SHOULDER W/CURB & GUTTER AND 5' SIDEWALK

	15 FT TP 7 RAISED GRASSED MEDIAN
	2 FT TP 7 RAISED CONCRETE MEDIAN
	PROPERTY LINE
	REQUIRED R/W

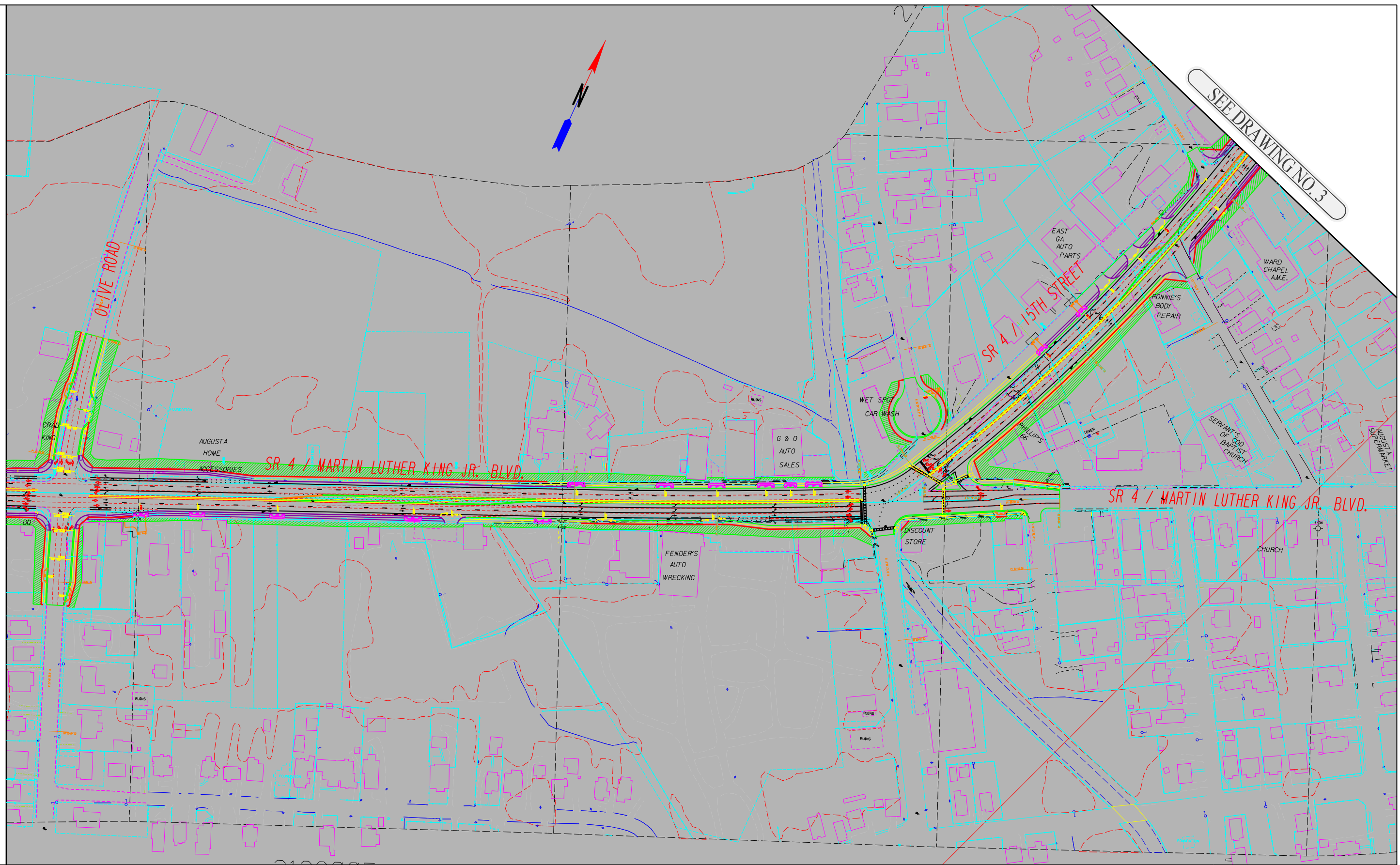


STATE OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
US 1/SR 4 & 15TH STREET BIKE AND PEDESTIAN FACILITIES	DRAWING No. 1 OF 4

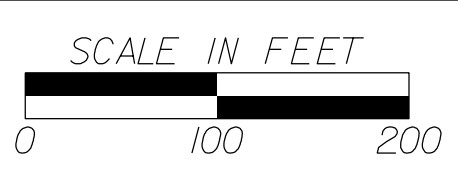
SEE DRAWING NO. 3



SEE DRAWING NO. 1



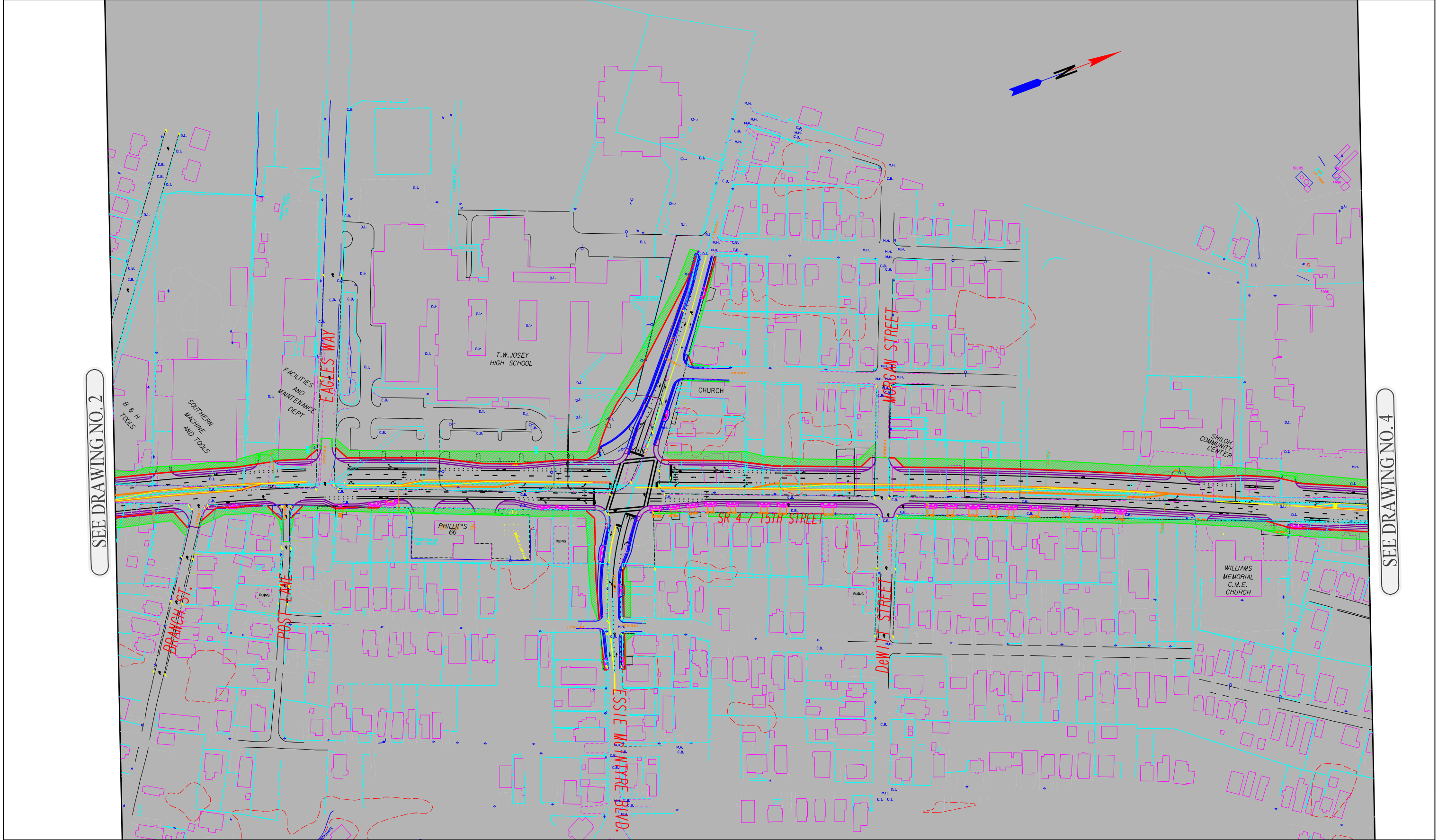
	11.5' SHOULDER W/HEADER CURB AND 5' SIDEWALK		15 FT TP 7 RAISED GRASSED MEDIAN
	12' SHOULDER W/CURB & GUTTER AND 5' SIDEWALK		2 FT TP 7 RAISED CONCRETE MEDIAN
	PROPERTY LINE		REQUIRED R/W



STATE OF GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**US 1/SR 4 & 15TH STREET
BIKE AND PEDESTIAN
FACILITIES**

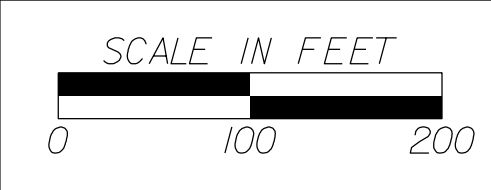
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2 OF 4

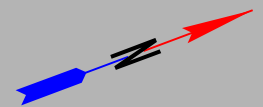


SEE DRAWING NO. 2

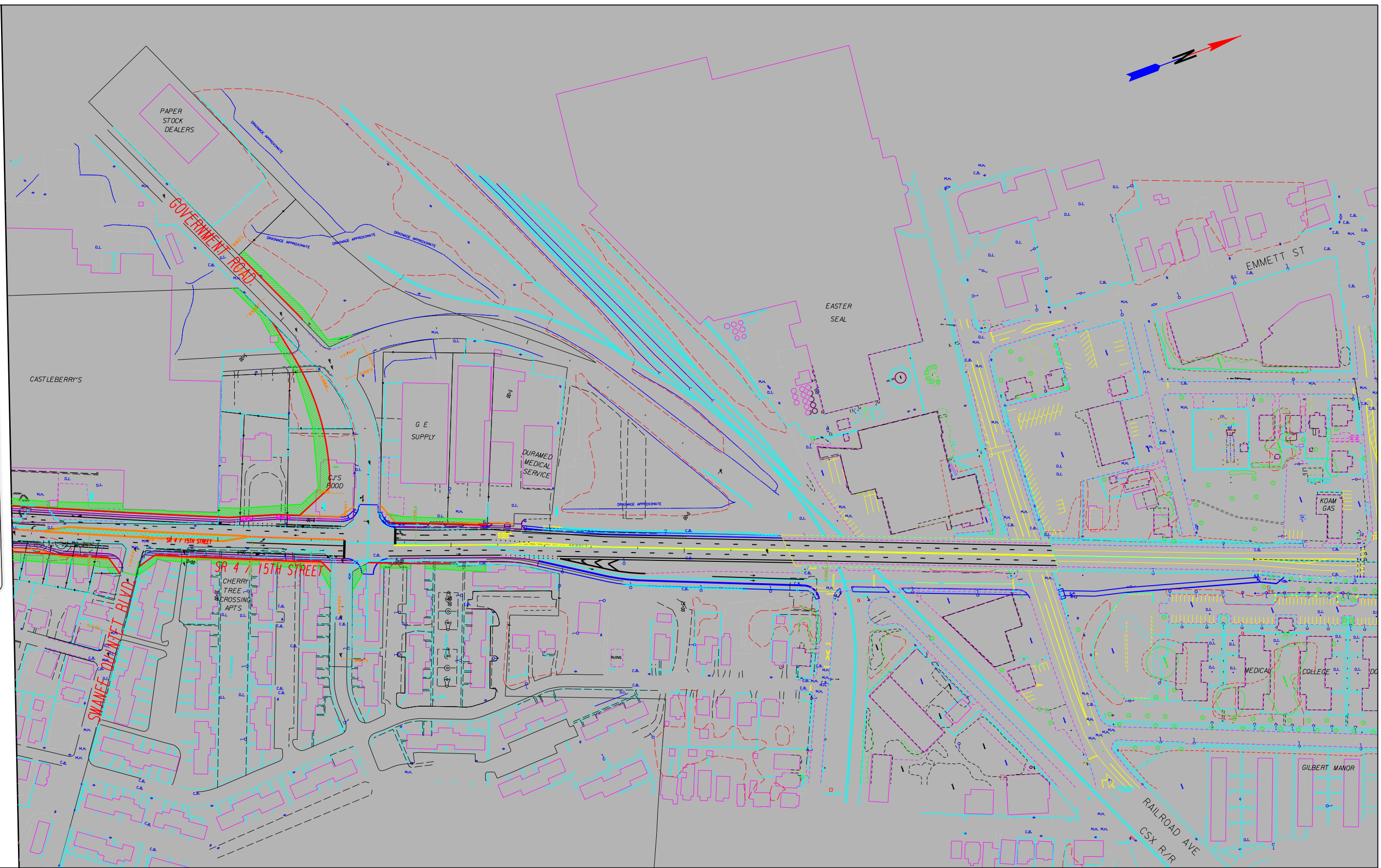
SEE DRAWING NO. 4

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	12' SHOULDER W/CURB & GUTTER AND 5' SIDEWALK		2 FT TP 7 RAISED CONCRETE MEDIAN
			PROPERTY LINE
			REQUIRED R/W

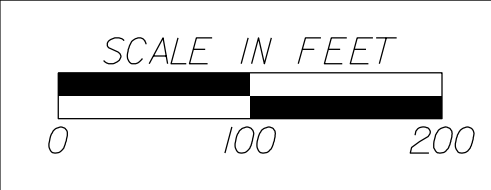




SEE DRAWING NO. 3



	11.5' SHOULDER W/HEADER CURB AND 5' SIDEWALK		15 FT TP 7 RAISED GRASSED MEDIAN
	12' SHOULDER W/CURB & GUTTER AND 5' SIDEWALK		2 FT TP 7 RAISED CONCRETE MEDIAN
	PROPERTY LINE		REQUIRED R/W



STATE OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
US 1/SR 4 & 15TH STREET BIKE AND PEDESTIAN FACILITIES	DRAWING No. 4 OF 4

Public Involvement Summary

Initiative # 2

Public Involvement Meeting List

Initiative	Meeting	Time/Date	Location	Team Attendees
1. Initiative #2	Public Meeting #1	Held During Visioning Week/Charrette, 6:00pm, Tuesday, November 13, 2012	T.W. Josey High School 1701 15th Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, Arcadis, TSW & WRT
2. Initiative #2	Public Meeting #2 Draft Concept Update	6:30pm, Thursday, June 13, 2013	T.W. Josey High School 1701 15th Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, Arcadis, TSW & WRT
3. Initiative #2	Public Meeting #3 Concept Report Meeting	6:00pm, Tuesday, October 1, 2013	T.W. Josey High School 1701 15 th Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, Arcadis, TSW, & WRT

1. Public Meeting #1

Visioning Week

T.W. Josey High School and Augusta Mini Theater

November 13- 17, 2012

As part of the public engagement process for this project, the planning team hosted a 5-day event, known as *Visioning Week*. During the week of November 13-17, stakeholders were invited to participate in a series of visioning exercises designed to bring the community into the process of co-planning and co-designing project elements. The week's activities consisted of a Visioning Workshop, Public Open House and Visioning Results Presentation. These events are summarized in the next section.

Visioning Workshop - A kick-off meeting was held on Tuesday evening at T.W. Josey High School, in which approximately 50 residents, businesses owners and community leaders attended. The purpose of this meeting was to share with the community the desired outcomes of the week-long engagement process and to also capture an initial community response to aid in the development of preliminary design recommendations. The planning team introduced the four initiatives of the implementation plan to provide a context and general understanding of the program's elements.

Participants were then invited to participate in roundtable discussions centered on identifying key considerations. Groups of 8-10 people were led by a facilitator representing the planning team and were provided maps of the study area to notate points of interest. The facilitator provided guiding discussion questions about key project considerations including, transit, zoning, affordable housing, economic development, and public space. A representative from each group was asked to keep record of the discussion and each table provided a group report to summarize points of interest to all Participants.

As a result, there were several areas of consensus raised from each of the roundtable groups.

- Participants shared common interest in improving safety and transportation within the study area.
- Specifically, groups identified a need for lighting improvements and other potential considerations included web-cam monitoring at bus stops.
- Participants also indicated a need to improve the street design for better pedestrian access. This would take into consideration a need for better sidewalks, bike lanes and other additional features to better accommodate safety for pedestrians.
- Other considerations included the need for more routes within the corridor in addition to providing better transit amenities such as bus stop shelters with better lighting and potentially the integration of wifi hotspots.
- Specific project considerations that were addressed by stakeholders included the need to revitalize the Regency Mall, Southgate Shopping Center, and the Cherry Tree public housing subdivision. Recommendations for Regency Mall included ideas for adaptive reuses of the property which would provide better housing, retail options and recreation.
- Stakeholders also saw an opportunity to introduce more businesses at the Southgate Shopping Center. Ideas for business opportunities included the introducing a FedEx Office that provides professional printing and copy services.

1/10/2014

- In addressing the future redevelopment at Cherry Tree, it was suggested by participants that attention to a full revitalization of the entire area surrounding the property was also essential.
- An additional project opportunity was also identified near Martin Luther King and Steiner Avenue. The property is currently vacant warehousing, and participants saw this area as an ideal use for multifamily housing and small retail.
- Other concerns raised during roundtable discussions focused on the need to improve drainage issues within community.
- Participants also desired to beautify the community, increase food outlets, and utilized alternative energy sources such as solar. Ways to incorporate an aesthetic along the bridge serving as a gateway into the community were also discussed by participants. Lastly, the need to provide housing for lower income residents was greatly emphasized.

In closing, the planning team invited participants to continue their involvement by attending the open house sessions held at the Augusta Mini Theater as well as a final wrap-up meeting held on Saturday back at the high school.

Visioning Week Open House - Following the Visioning Workshop, the team established a design studio at the Augusta Mini Theater to serve several purposes throughout the remainder of the week. On Wednesday the team along with City staff reviewed technical findings collected over several months including an overview of the economic market conditions and realities. The existing land use, landmarks and facilities, areas that are sustainable as well as susceptible to change. Also presented was the existing DOT transportation plan, inventory of facilities, traffic counts and intersection efficiency, internal and external multi-modal connections, and analyze options of lane widths, utilities and analyze storm water management systems. Finally, an overview of the existing code and regulations along with policy on green building and standards were presented. These findings would create the foundation for developing the design concepts.

Following the presentation, large scale maps of the study area, existing conditions analysis and neighborhoods were posted and reviewed by the team. During this brainstorming session, the finding from the technical analysis and windshield surveys were used to generate consensus on a general program for Rocky Creek, Southgate and Deans Bridge Road, Oates Creek and Deans Bridge Road, and Cherry Tree and 15th Street. Over the remainder of the week, the team members, each with a specific target area, created development concepts representative of the results from the vision workshop, technical expertise and market realities.

On Thursday and Friday, the design studio was open to the public. From 9am to 5pm on both days, over 50 property owners, business owners, residents and concerned citizens were able to view the existing conditions maps and review draft concept drawings. There were instances where the participants updated the team on their future plans for their businesses, concerns and desires for improvement as residents, and intentions for expansion or disposition of properties. The outcome of this information sharing often influenced the direction of the draft concept drawings for the target areas and adjustments were made accordingly.

While the design session was underway, several stakeholders were invited to participate in interviews. The organizations participating in the interviews included Georgia Health Sciences, Paine College, City of Augusta Parks and Recreation, Augusta Greenway Alliance, 30901Development Corporation and the Augusta Mini Theater.

Visioning Results Summary Presentation - The purpose of this session was to recap the events of Vision Week, share initial recommendations and gauge community support. Approximately 25 stakeholders attended this meeting on Saturday at T.W. Josey High School. Many of the Participants had participated in previous meetings held by the planning team and were knowledgeable of the activities and events preceding the wrap-up presentation.

During this session, the planning team shared data collected on the project area, which was used to guide specific design and other program considerations. Some of this information was reflective of feedback provided during previous public involvement meetings such as visual preference exercises and descriptive words shared by residents during the project's kick-off meeting. A market analysis on the economic conditions, housing conditions, commercial uses, and supply and demand factors impacting development in the area was introduced. Transportation findings affecting the area were outlined and specifically highlighted the need to plan for future growth within the area and provide better pedestrian safety features. Finally, detailed recommendations along with illustrative designs for Cherry Tree, Oates Creek, Rocky Creek, Southgate and the Regency Mall were presented.

In addition to the presentations, a polling exercise was conducted in which the participants were presented a sequence of questions relating to the various presentation topics. Using small handheld devices participants were invited to vote on the provided responses to the posed questions. The questions related to home location, travel patterns, approaches to revitalizing the corridor and opinion regarding a possible corridor vision statement. While it was interesting to get some real-time feedback from the audience, the group was far too small to draw any conclusions.

The presentation concluded with an unveiling of the draft mural concept drawing that will be the first beautification project to be implemented. The proposed mural will be installed on the exterior wall of the Mercy Ministries building on 15th St. The intent of the mural is to reflect a collaboration of the entire community to influence change.

The presentations are on the website project website <http://augustasustainable.com/public-involvement/>

2. Transportation Public Meeting Summary T.W. Josey High School

1/10/2014

June 13th, 2013 - 6:00PM

ARCADIS, the transportation consultant, facilitated a public meeting for the purpose of introducing the transportation recommendations for the Augusta Way Corridor and provide a status update on the GDOT 15th Street widening project.

The public meeting kicked off with a welcome and brief explanation of the plan's purpose and outcomes currently underway from John Paul Stout with the City of Augusta. Some of the HUD and GDOT funds allocated for the Sustainable Development Plan are being used to fund first phase implementation projects such as a mural project for the 15th Street Bridge. A muralist has been identified and has used input from the community to draft a design that reflects vision for the revitalization of the corridor and surrounding communities.

Adam Williamson with TSW followed with a brief overview of the Sustainable Development Plan process including the 4 Initiatives:

Initiative #1 - Develop a detailed plan for the Priority Development District and action/feasibility plans for up to three prototypical projects;

Initiative #2 - Develop a detailed plan for a multi-modal transportation corridor bisecting the district;

Initiative #3 - Revisit current codes to facilitate higher-density, mixed-use, mixed-income development in the district;

Initiative #4 - Create an implementation plan for green, affordable housing in the district.

Representatives from GDOT were in attendance and provided an update on the schedule for the 15th Street Widening Project. Several community stakeholders were concerned about the acquisition process. Although unable to address the questions in detail, the GDOT staff assured the attendees that staff from the GDOT acquisition department would be in attendance at the next public meeting to explain the right of way acquisition process and address questions in detail.

The overview of the Transportation Recommendation for the 15th Street Widening project, their correlation to the Augusta Way Corridor and the improvements to Gordon Hwy, Milledgeville and Deans Bridge Road were presented by Tim Preece with ARCADIS.

15th Street Widening and Augusta Way Recommendations:

- Installation of 5ft sidewalks and 5ft bike lanes on both sides of the street; no multi-use trail as previously proposed;
- Planted median and/or turn lanes;
- Improved access at TW Josey High School;
- Minimal impact at the Government Street and 15th Street intersection;
- Bus shelters along 15th Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.;
- Add a right-turn-lane at on Deans Bridge at Gordon Hwy.;
- The improvements on 15th Street will widen the roadway to 92ft;
- The majority of the acquisition, based on current design, will occur on the right side of the street (opposite side of street from TW Jose High School);
- The proposed right away of 15th Street widening in located on www.augustasustainable.com

The presentation followed with and engaged Q&A session:

1. Will the 15th Street widening continue on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd?

No.

2. Will 100% of the property acquired be used for the project?

GDOT will not purchase land that it will not use.

3. As a business owner, who will be responsible for replacing the business signage that is located in the right of way if acquired?

The GDOT acquisition staff will be in attendance at the next meeting to address all concerns regarding acquisition and right of way.

4. How will the widening project impact transit?

The 15th Street widening project will increase accessibility of transit buses and service will be restored.

5. How much land will be taken?

The amount of land needed for right of way will vary along the corridor.

6. When will acquisition begin?

In 2016 it will begin, but there are several steps required before construction will begin.

1/10/2014

7. What happens to historic properties along 15th Street?

At all cost, historic properties will be preserved. A map of the historic properties will be posted on the website (www.augustasustainable.com).

Following the Q&A, consultants were available to answer additional questions utilizing the maps and diagrams posted for viewing.

3. Final Public Meeting Summary

T.W. Josey High School

October 1, 2013 - 6:00PM

Approximately 70 community residents and stakeholders attended the final public meeting for the ASDIP on October 1st. The meeting was designed to provide yet another opportunity to receive comments on the draft transportation, development and zoning recommendations for the 15th Street corridor. The open house format provided opportunity for attendees to direct questions in their area of interest to the planning consultants at the various stations. The stations included:

Zoning – The zoning station defined Form Based Code, described the proposed consolidation of code categories, and explained how the recommendations are solutions to issues and concerns that stakeholders identified early in the process.

Transportation – The transportation station was operated by both Arcadis and the GDOT Acquisition staff. Using a series of diagrams regarding streetscape and infrastructure improvement recommendations and the proposed alignment for 15th Street, the consultants were able to address questions such as:

- What is the timeline for the 15th Street widening project?
- How will the proposed median impact access to my business?
- When will I be contacted regarding acquiring my property?
- Are these improvements specifically designed to change the aesthetics of the area or address safety concerns?

Development Projects – Concept diagrams developed from input received during the visioning phase of the project were on display at this station. The team provided an overview of the proposed transformation plan that included various housing, retail, public space options throughout the corridor. In addition, meeting attendees were asked to review the project diagrams and complete a survey to rank the projects in order of priority.

Initiative # 2

Sub-Committee Meeting List

4. Transportation Corridor Subcommittee	Meeting #3	11:00pm-11:45pm, Tuesday, May 7, 2013	Municipal Building 530 Greene Street Augusta, GA 30901 Room 802	CC, TSW, WRT, & Arcadis
5. Code/Ordinance Subcommittee	Meeting #3	1:00pm-1:45pm, Tuesday, May 7, 2013	Municipal Building 530 Greene Street Augusta, GA 30901 Room 802	CC, TSW, & DKP
6. Land Acquisition Plan Subcommittee	Meeting #3	2:00pm-2:45pm, Tuesday, May 7, 2013	Municipal Building 530 Greene Street Augusta, GA 30901 Room 802	CC, TSW, WRT, & PES
7. Steering Committee	Meeting #3	3:00pm-3:45pm, Tuesday, May 7, 2013	Municipal Building 530 Greene Street Augusta, GA 30901 Room 802	CC, TSW, WRT, & PES

8. Transportation Corridor Subcommittee	Meeting #4	Tuesday, October 1, 2013	W.R. Toole Engineers 1005 Broad Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, TSW, Arcadis, DKP & PES
9. Code/Ordinance Subcommittee	Meeting #4	Tuesday, October 1, 2013	W.R. Toole Engineers 1005 Broad Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, TSW, Arcadis, DKP & PES
10. Land Acquisition Plan Subcommittee	Meeting #4	Tuesday, October 1, 2013	W.R. Toole Engineers 1005 Broad Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, TSW, Arcadis, DKP & PES
11. Steering Committee	Meeting #4	Tuesday, October 1, 2013	W.R. Toole Engineers 1005 Broad Street Augusta, GA 30901	CC, TSW, Arcadis, DKP & PES

4. Transportation Sub-Committee
W.R. Toole Engineers
May 7th, 2013 - 11:00AM

This Transportation Sub-Committee meeting was led by ARCADIS on May 7th, 2013. The presentation consisted of an update on the GDOT 15th Street project, and its schedule and proposed recommendations for the Augusta Way Corridor. Draft transportation recommendations were presented at the June 13th public meeting and the final plan presented in October. The concept report is due to GDOT in January 2014. The team also presented a brief overview of traffic counts, crashes, and pedestrian/ transit facilities that influenced the transportation recommendations for the Augusta Way corridor. The follow-up discussion from the sub-committee members focused on the pedestrian and bike recommendations for 15th Street specifically the location of crosswalks and the proposed bike boxes at certain intersections. City staff also expressed concerns that the landscape medians and planned buffers will require a maintenance plan, but funding for these measures is limited. The consultants suggested a Business Improvement District/ Community Improvement District as a possible solution to pay for landscape and bike box maintenance. The next Committee meeting convened in early October.

7. Steering Committee
W.R. Toole Engineers
May 7th, 2013 - 3:00PM

TSW presented a status report and brief overview of select project recommendations for each of the four plan initiatives was presented to the Steering Committee. A Potential Projects Map and Project Descriptions and phasing strategy was distributed to aid in the discussion. All four initiatives were discussed. The ASDIP has attracted attention from developers and the both Commission and Planning Department have been approached by interested parties. The ASDIP will allot for infrastructure improvements that will start the redevelopment process for the corridor and continue to attract attention to the area.

8. Transportation Sub-Committee

W.R. Toole Engineers

October 1, 2013 - 10:00AM

Arcadis presented at the final Transportation Sub-Committee meeting including an overview of the existing conditions, the GDOT 15th Street widening project update and next steps. GDOT, ARCADIS, and the City of Augusta Planning Commission have discussed modifications to the existing 15th Street widening design and GDOT has responded favorably to modifying bike and pedestrian accommodations along with transit shelters in strategic locations. GDOT would not commit to realigning Government Street adjacent to Josey High School and the locations and design of medians are still up for debate. ARCADIS is currently preparing a concept report containing all transportation and connectivity recommendations for submittal to GDOT in December.

9. Steering Committee

W.R. Toole Engineers

October 1, 2013 - 11:00AM

Adam Williamson, with TSW, provided a synopsis of the recommendations for each of the four ASDIP Initiatives. The overview focused on 3 key areas: Transportation, Form-Based Code and Land Acquisition. The transportation discussion, led by ARCADIS, and the City of Augusta Planning Commission staff have engaged the Georgia Department of Transportation in discussions on modifying the current GDOT plans for the 15th Street road widening project that is consistent with the ASDIP recommendations. Additionally, an overview of the work from Dover Kohl Partners on the form-based code was presented. They have developed a draft code that will consolidate the existing code classifications into six and have received feedback from the Code Subcommittee and the general public and are modifying accordingly. Land acquisition was also discussed, led by PES, outlining a strategy to move the catalytic projects identified in the ASDIP to implementation. With the assistance of an organized committee of City of Augusta departments, community organizations and leaders, this Implementation Oversight Committee will be tasked to: Identify and advocate for projects for development and leverage resources to support existing City departments including Code Enforcement, the Land Bank and Parks and Recreation as the first phase of project implementation. Elizabeth Jones agreed to convene the next meeting of the committee on October 15th at 2pm at the Shiloh Community Center.