



Federal Highway Administration
Georgia Division

Route to GDOT OES, 16th Floor



Date: 8/19/13

TO: Sam Rugh

RE: 0010282/0010681 Lumpkin

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Per Your Request | <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Review |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved Document | <input type="checkbox"/> Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Per Our Conversation | <input type="checkbox"/> Take Appropriate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Note and Return | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Reply for Signature of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss With Me | <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For your Approval | <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Files |

Remarks:

From: Kelly Wade
FHWA, GA Division
Telephone: 404 562-3584



Date on Plans Reviewed by OES: Plans Not Available

Review

These commitments are feasible. (must be checked at all stages)
 Project Manager (PM) Hiral Patel
 PM Signature/Date: *[Signature]* 8/1/13

Plans incorporate the commitments. (must be checked to certify for mailing)
 Engineer of Record (EOR)
 EOR Signature/Date: *[Signature]* 8-1-13

Alt/Noted: *[Signature]* 8/1/13 Arch: TLensel 1/1/13
 EOR: *[Signature]* 8-1-13 Hist: CC email 8/2/13
 NEPA: Sam Pugh Todd Barker, Adrian Collett JS

A. Resources to be Delineated on the Plans and/or Listed in the Environmental Resource Impact Table (ERIT)

Resource Name	Additional Information (refer to the SP, plan note, design feature, permit, variance, commitment, etc.)	Name and Date of Report or Transmittal	Correctly Shown?	
			Plan Sheet	ERIT
A-1 Dahlonega Historic Gold Museum	NRHP Property; within boundary of Dahlonega Commercial, East and West Main Street Addenda Historic Districts; NRHP boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	History Assessment of Effects 07.08.2013 SHPO Concurrence 07.11.2013	No	No
A-2 Holly Theater	NRHP Property; within boundary of Dahlonega Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-3 Price Memorial Hall	NRHP Property; within boundary of NGCSU Historic District to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-4 Seven Oaks	NRHP Property; within boundary of South Park Street Historic District to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-5 Vickery House/Old Fields Place	NRHP Property; within boundary of NGCSU Historic District to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-6 Dahlonega Commercial Historic District	NRHP Property; NRHP boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-7 Hawkins Street Historic District	NRHP Property; NRHP boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-8 South Park Street District	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect; Refer to B-1.	"	"	"
A-9 Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, East Main Street Addendum	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect; Refer to B-1.	"	"	"
A-10 Commercial Historic District, West Main Street Addendum	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-11 The Scott House	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-12 The Lear House	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect; Refer to B-1.	"	"	"
A-13 The Worley Inn	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"
A-14 Dahlonega Presbyterian Church	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect.	"	"	"

Estimated Costs are for planning purpose only, in current dollars as of date updated.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS TABLE | P#: 0010282/0010681 | County: Lumpkin | Date Updated: 08/1/2013 | Stage: CE
 Date on Plans Reviewed by OES: Plans Not Available

A-15	The Doering House	Eligible boundary to be added to; No Adverse Effect; Refer to B-1.	"	"	"
A-16	North Georgia College and State University District	Eligible boundary to be added to plans; No Adverse Effect; Refer to B-1.	"	"	"
A-17	PS 1 (Tanyard Creek)	No Impact	Ecology Report 08.29.2012	"	"
A-18	PS 1 Buffer	Up to 1,360 square feet of buffer impacts along existing disturbed shoulder of South Chestatee Street	"	"	"

B. Special Provisions (Attach all special provisions to the commitments table, if available)

Special Provision	Purpose	Est. Cost	SP's Latest Date
B-1	107.23.F This Special Provision, to be followed by the construction contractor, will fulfill the minimization of harm requirements described in the History Assessment of Effects. The requirements include detailed design elements and construction methods.	Negligible	Not available. Will be finalized prior to letting.

C. Plan Notes and Design Features (Description: For plan notes, provide exact wording in "quotes" and approximate location)

Purpose	Description	Est. Cost	Correctly Shown?
NONE			

D. Permits, Buffer Variances and Mitigation Credits

Permit, Variance, etc	Additional Information (permit details, number of credits needed, etc..)	Est. Cost	Acquired?
D-1	Notice of Intent (NOI) for NPDES The Office of Blading Administration and Construction Contractor will submit a NOI to the NPDES General Permit following award of the contract but prior to construction.	Negligible	Will be acquired following letting
D-2	Buffer Variance Buffer Variance required prior to construction near Tanyard Branch buffer on South Chestatee Street - full extension of sidewalks will involve encroachment into buffer of PS1 (under Criterion a); no mitigation required.	Negligible	No

E. Other Commitments or Requirements (Status: Pre- and Post - Complete or Incomplete; During - Signature Req'd)

Pre-, During, or Post	Commitment	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Status
E-1	Preconstruction Preliminary construction plans and documents and any significant changes to the 90% complete construction plans will be submitted to HPD for review and comment.	Consultant/ City of Dahonega	Negligible	Incomplete
E-2	Preconstruction Product and placement information regarding new benches, lighting and landscaping to be submitted to HPD for review.	Consultant/ City of Dahonega	Negligible	Incomplete
E-3	During Construction A site visit will be coordinated with HPD at 50% completion.	Contractor/ City of Dahonega	Negligible	Incomplete

Estimated Costs are for planning purpose only, in current dollars as of date updated.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS TABLE

PI#: 0010282/0010681 | County: Lumpkin | Date Updated: 08/1/2013 | Stage: CE
 Date on Plans Reviewed by OES: Plans Not Available

E-4	During Construction	A site visit will be coordinated with HPD at 100% completion.	Contractor/ City of Dahlonega	Negligible	Incomplete
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Total Estimated Cost	\$
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If Project is Complete or Under Construction, Area or Construction Engineer affirms that all Special Provisions, Plan Notes and During Construction Commitments were or are being adhered to during the project's construction.
 Please Print Name and Title: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____ Please provide an explanation if unable to sign.

Estimated Costs are for planning purpose only, in current dollars as of date updated.

Categorical Exclusion

**Lumpkin County
P.I. No. 0010282/0010681**

**Dahlonega Complete Streets Program
TIGER II / Phase 2**

Prepared for:

City of Dahlonega

and



**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Categorical Exclusion

I. General Information

P.I. No. 0010282/0010681
 County Lumpkin
 STIP/TIP No. 0010681 (NA for 0010282)
 Funded Years Right-of-Way: Local;
 Construction: 0010282 Local/Not Funded Yet, 0010681 2013-2016 Lump Sum 0010681
 Funding Codes Q24, ETDG, L220
 Project Name Dahlongega Complete Streets Program, TIGER II / Phase 2
 Project Limits PI 0010282 encompasses a total of approximately 1.5 miles, with project limits extending from the downtown square in Dahlongega (see Figure 1):

- East Main Street from South Chestatee Street to Grove Street
- West Main from Waters Street to Sunset Drive
- South Chestatee Street from Choice Street to just north of Morrison Moore Parkway

Project limits also include the following side streets:

- Extending from West Main Street to Warwick Street or Hawkins Street: College Lane, Church Street, Waters Street, North Chestatee Street
- Extending from South Chestatee Street to Park Street: Maple Street, Martin Street, Arcadia Street, Ash Avenue, and Schultz Avenue

PI 0010681 is a 0.2-mile section within the TIGER II area, on South Chestatee Street from Choice Street to South Church Street.

II. Need and Purpose (See Attachment 1)

III. Project Description (See Attachment 1)

IV. Class of Action – Categorical Exclusion (CE)

A. Actions Requiring Concurrences Prior to CE Approval (See Correspondence, Attachment 2)	Yes	N/A	If Yes, Date of Concurrence
Section 106/Assessment of Effects	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	July 11, 2013
Section 106/Memorandum of Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Draft Individual Section 4(f) Evaluation (<i>Final submitted with CE</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>De Minimis</i> Acknowledgment/Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	July 11, 2013
Protected Species/No Effect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Protected Species/Section 7 Consultation with USFWS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Protected Species/Section 7 Consultation with NMFS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Essential Fish Habitat Coordination with NMFS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
FWCA/USFWS Coordination for Longitudinal Stream Encroachments, Existing Culvert Extensions (+100 feet), or New Culvert Construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
PM _{2.5} Interagency Concurrence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
USCG Navigable Water Determination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

B. Public Involvement
A public hearing open house is not required. A public information open house is not scheduled. Public and stakeholder meetings have been held for the proposed streetscape improvements as described in Attachment 1.

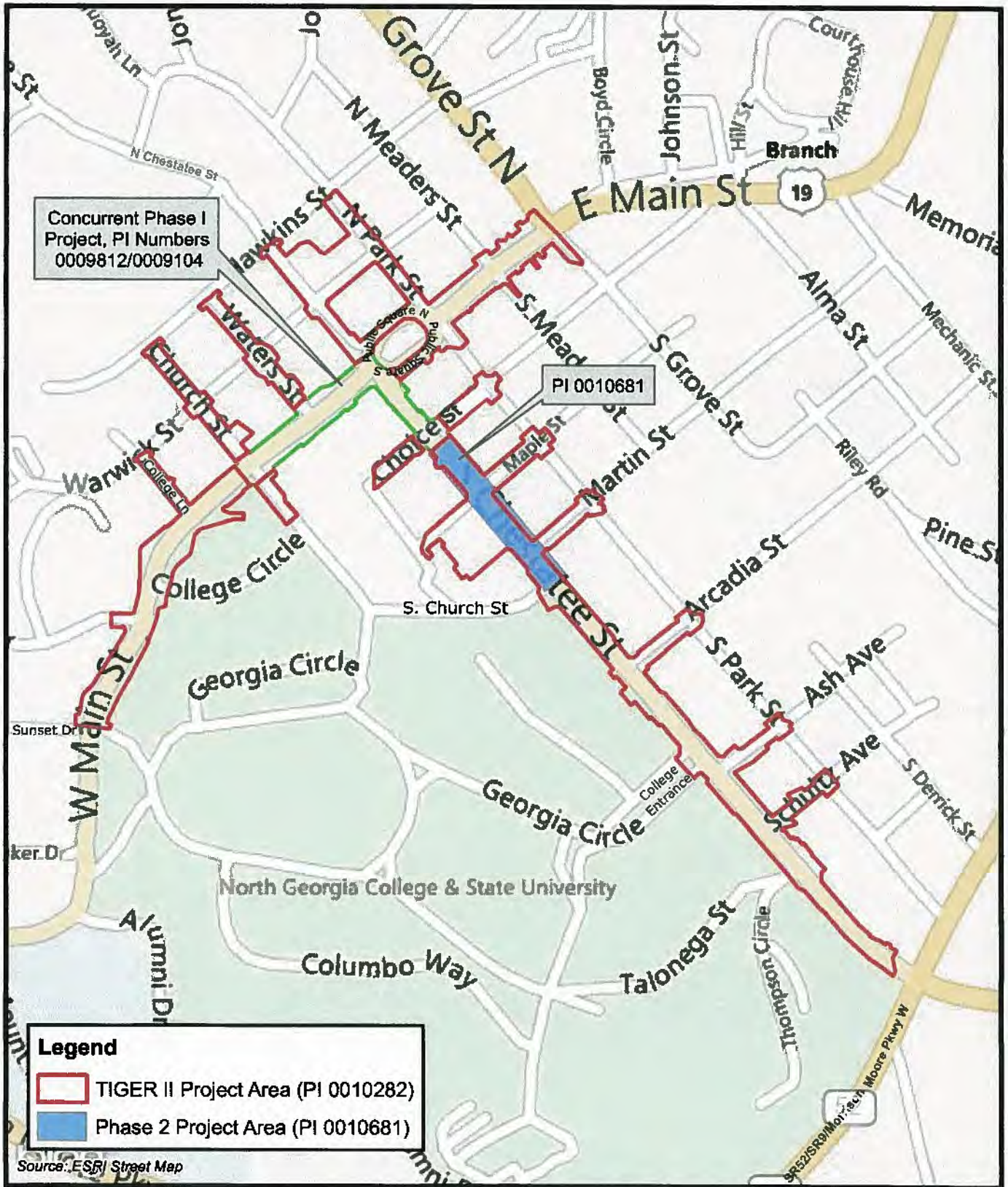
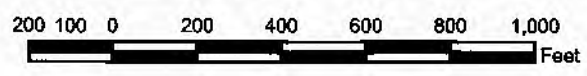


Figure 1: Project Vicinity Map



Lumpkin County
 PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
 Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
 (TIGER II)



V. Effects Evaluation

The effects evaluation form categories are defined as follows:

1. Involvement: A resource is affected by the proposed project (e.g., the project impacts a wetland).
2. No Involvement: A resource is within the Area of Potential Effect, but the project would not affect the resource (e.g., a wetland is located in the project area but is not impacted by the project).
3. None: The resource does not exist within the Area of Potential Effect (e.g., no wetlands are located in the project area).

A. Social Environment	Involvement	No Involvement	None	See Attachment
1. Land Use Changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
2. Community Impacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Relocation Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Churches and Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Parks/Recreation Areas/Wildlife Refuges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
6. Title VI/E.O. 12898	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Public Controversy Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Public Involvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1, 5
9. Economic Impacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

B. Cultural Environment	Involvement	No Involvement	None	See Attachment
1. Historic Sites	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1, 2
2. Archaeological Sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2, 3


C. Natural Environment	Involvement	No Involvement	None	See Attachment
1. Waters of the U.S./State Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1, 2, 3
2. Water Quality/303(d) List	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Wild and Scenic Rivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Essential Fish Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Farmlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Protected Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1, 2, 3
8. Invasive Species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
9. Wildlife and Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

D. Physical Environment	Involvement	No Involvement	None	See Attachment
1. Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Air	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
3. Energy/Mineral Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Construction/Utilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
5. UST's	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Hazardous Waste Sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

E. Permits/Varlances/ Commitments Required	Yes	No	See Attachment
1. U.S. Coast Guard Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Forest Service/Corps Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. CWA Section 404 Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Tennessee Valley Authority Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Buffer Variance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2, Green Sheet
6. Coastal Zone Management Coordination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. NPDES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1, Green Sheet
8. Cemetery Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Other Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Other Commitments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

F. Section 4(f) Applicability	Yes	No	See Attachment
1. <i>De Minimis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1, 2
2. Programmatic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Section 6(f) Applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Prepared By:

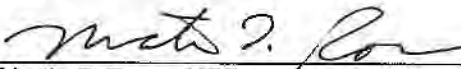


Todd A. Barker, AICP
 Principal / Senior Consultant
 Adrian Collaborative, LLC

07/12/2013

Date

Reviewed By:

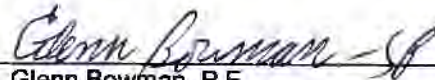


Martin F. Rose, AICP
 Senior Planner
 Adrian Collaborative, LLC

07/12/2013

Date

Concurred By:

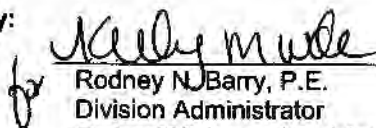


Glenn Bowman, P.E.
 State Environmental Administrator
 Georgia Department of Transportation

7/25/13

Date

Approved By:



Rodney N. Barry, P.E.
 Division Administrator
 Federal Highway Administration

8/9/13

Date

Attachments appear in the following order:

1. Effects Evaluation
2. Correspondence
3. Report Coordination
4. Conceptual Plans
5. Public Involvement Materials

* Based on
 8/8/13 Green Shee

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Lumpkin County

PI No. 0010282/0010681

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

ATTACHMENT 1

EFFECTS EVALUATION

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ATTACHMENT 1 – EFFECTS EVALUATION
PI NO. 0010282/0010681
LUMPKIN COUNTY**

II. NEED AND PURPOSE

Background

The Dahlonega Complete Streets Program (CSP) is an initiative by the City of Dahlonega to improve multimodal connectivity within downtown Dahlonega in Lumpkin County. Most of the streets designated in the program have been included in a 2010 planning grant awarded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery discretionary program (referred to as TIGER II). The City of Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, North Georgia College & State University (NGCSU), other local officials, and community representatives have cooperated on the CSP since a 2008 Master Plan identified needs for streetscape improvements. The proposed project (PI 0010282) consists of the area identified within the TIGER II planning grant. Additional Transportation Enhancement funds for construction have been designated for a small section within the TIGER II area, referred to as Phase 2 (PI 0010681). Both areas are shown and included in the environmental analyses and documentation. This Categorical Exclusion assesses the impacts of the entire TIGER II project area based on the overall concept and preliminary plans. Reevaluations would be prepared as needed when specific sections are programmed for construction.

Purpose

The purpose of the proposed project is to address the pedestrian and bicycle accessibility needs to improve connectivity between the historic downtown commercial square and the adjacent residential, commercial, and college campus uses. The TIGER II planning grant program is intended to make projects "shovel-ready" so they are more competitive for future funding, can be built more quickly, and can generate economic development.

The TIGER II / Phase 2 section (PI 0010282/0010681) of the Dahlonega CSP would involve a combination of sidewalk and streetscape/hardscape improvements. The proposed project extends from Phase 1 of the CSP, an independent project (PI 0008912/0009104) underway to address pedestrian and bicycle needs at the historic



Photo 1: Downtown visitor center. The goals of the Dahlonega Complete Streets Program include improved pedestrian and bicycle accessibility to promote downtown retail and tourism.

commercial square on West Main and South Chestatee Streets. Beyond the Phase 2 section (PI 0010681) funded through a Transportation Enhancement grant, no other improvements under the TIGER II grant are programmed for construction at this time. Sections of the streetscape plan would be programmed and constructed as additional grants or other local, state, federal, and private resources become available.

Identified Needs

The need for multimodal improvements was identified in the City of Dahlonega's 2008 Master Plan. The overall concern has been a lack of safe and convenient access for pedestrians and bicyclists within and connected to the historic downtown commercial district. The NGCSU campus is a major part of the community; yet, sidewalks do not connect primary student activity centers and residences with the restaurants, entertainment, and shops. No sidewalks or bicycle facilities exist within most of the TIGER II area as it extends out from the downtown square



Photos 2 and 3: Existing conditions include a lack of sidewalks and limited shoulder widths with uneven pavement and drainage issues.

along West and East Main Streets, South Chestatee Street, and the smaller side streets that serve single-family residences and student housing. The existing roadway shoulders provide inadequate space beside travel lanes, ineffective storm water drainage, and uneven pavement surfaces. In addition, the available sidewalk sections do not meet accessibility requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Through the TIGER II planning process, the following performance goals were set to meet the identified needs:

- Providing a safe, accessible pedestrian crossing at every intersection.
- Expanding and visibly improving the pedestrian space along the project corridors.
- Improve pedestrian safety along each roadway in the project area.
- Connecting the historic downtown area to nearby residential areas.
- Improve the functions of utilities including stormwater management while enhancing aesthetics.
- Providing multi-modal options to the local and regional population.
- Encouraging opportunities for economic development within the commercial portions of the project area.
- Encouraging healthy habits such as biking and walking.

Safe, efficient, multimodal connectivity would be provided to meet these goals through the proposed project.

Other Projects

Minor projects near downtown Dahlonega include pedestrian facilities, maintenance, and a roundabout.

According to the 2013-2016 State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP), the following projects are located within or adjacent to the proposed project area:

- *PI 0008912 — Downtown Development Authority District Streetscape in Dahlonega.* Phase 1 of the Dahlonega CSP; streetscape, drainage, safety, and related improvements to address multimodal needs within the historic commercial square on West Main and South Chestatee Streets. Phase 1 is 0.13 mile, extending to the southwest on West Main Street from South Chestatee Street to Church Street; and to the southeast on South Chestatee Street from West Main Street to Choice Street (see Figure 1). Preliminary engineering and environmental processes are underway.
- *PI 0009104 — Downtown Dahlonega Pedestrian & Landscape Improvements.* As part of Phase 1 and within the limits of PI 0008912, Project PI 0009104 would add certain landscape and hardscape features under a Transportation Enhancement grant.

Logical Termini

Rather than specific points on a single roadway, the Dahlonega CSP addresses multimodal connectivity needs within the downtown Dahlonega area. While the 2008 Master Plan identified general needs and goals for the CSP, the 2010 TIGER II planning grant is based on specific streets that have the identified needs and are essential for connecting the downtown square to adjacent land uses. The TIGER II planning grant anticipated that Phase 1 of the Dahlonega CSP would be implemented independently while being planned and designed concurrently for consistency in theme and connectivity. Therefore, the logical termini for the proposed project extend out from the downtown square, as follows:

- East Main Street from SR 52 (South Chestatee Street) to Grove Street
- West Main from Waters Street to Sunset Drive
- South Chestatee Street from Choice Street toward SR 52/9 (Morrison Moore Parkway)

Termini for side streets were set to connect the main study corridors with residential, commercial, and campus uses located on the adjacent block out from downtown. The side street termini were set as follows:

- Extending from West Main Street to Warwick Street or Hawkins Street: College Lane, Church Street, Waters Street, North Chestatee Street
- Extending from South Chestatee Street to Park Street: Maple Street, Martin Street, Arcadia Street, Ash Avenue, and Schultz Avenue

The proposed project encompasses a total of approximately 1.5 miles of streets, enabling safe and efficient multimodal connectivity to meet the goals of the TIGER II grant and the Dahlonega CSP.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Existing Facilities

The primary routes in the project area are Chestatee Street and Main Street, which intersect in Dahlonega's downtown historic square. Existing conditions for these streets are described below along with the side streets along each that are included in the TIGER II planning grant area (see Figure 1).

Chestatee Street (South and North)

South Chestatee Street extends northwest from SR 52/9 (Morrison Moore Parkway) to Main Street, continuing as North Chestatee Street for several blocks before it dead ends outside of the downtown area. The project area includes all of South Chestatee Street and two blocks of North Chestatee Street, ending at Hawkins Street. One section of South Chestatee Street carries the SR 52 designation, from SR 9 to Martin Street. The roadway is classified as a Minor Rural Collector with a posted speed limit is 25 mph. Within a 43-foot existing ROW, South Chestatee Street has two 14- to 16-foot lanes, intermittent sections of sidewalks of three to six feet in width, and varying sections along the pavement edges of either paved shoulder or two- to three-foot grassed strips. North Chestatee Street is one-way (northbound) with a 15- to 17-foot lane and angled parking. No bicycle or parking facilities are located along the roadway. Near the intersection with Morrison Moore Parkway, the existing ROW expands to 160 feet.



Photo 4: North Chestatee Street is one-way with angled parking and an existing sidewalk.

The project area also includes short sections of the following side streets that connect from South Chestatee Street to Park Street: Maple Street, Martin Street, Arcadia Street, Ash Avenue, and Schultz Avenue. The streets are classified as Urban Local Roads, with two 14- to 16-foot lanes, a 40-foot ROW, and 25 mph speed limit where posted. No sidewalk or streetscape facilities serve these local streets.

Main Street (West and East)

West Main Street forms the western boundary of the NGCSU campus. From the project limits at Sunset Drive, West Main heads northeast and intersects with Chestatee Street at the downtown square via two short loop sections also referred to as the Public Square (North and South). Continuing as East Main Street, the route

V. EFFECTS EVALUATION

A. Social Environment

1. Land Use Changes

Land use in the proposed project area consists of a mix of residential and institutional along with commercial, retail, and restaurant/entertainment uses within the historic downtown square. With long-range implementation of the proposed project for the entire TIGER II area, less than three acres of ROW or permanent easement would be required for frontage. Much of the frontage already is owned by the City of Dahlonega or NGCSU, which are stakeholders contributing to the funding of the proposed project. The proposed project is consistent with long-range land use and transportation goals as identified in the 2008 Master Plan, the Lumpkin County Long-Range Transportation Plan, and the Lumpkin County Comprehensive Plan. Based on its consistency with local and regional plans, the limited amount of ROW required, and the enhanced multimodal access, the proposed project would have minimal adverse impacts and long-term beneficial impacts on land use.

5. Parks/Recreation Areas

Madeleine Anthony Park is the only recreational facility within the project area, located in the corner of the South Chestatee Street intersection with Morrison Moore Parkway. The park features a pavilion with picnic tables, large hardwood trees, flowering bushes, and a replica of a stamp mill with a water wheel and interpretive sign. The proposed sidewalk and streetscape improvements would enhance access to the park without adverse impacts. No construction limits, ROW, or easements of the proposed project would encroach within the park limits or hinder public activities.



Photo 5: Madeleine Anthony Park

8. Public Involvement

The proposed project has been developed through an ongoing coordination effort with the community. The project area was identified in a 2008 Master Plan that involved extensive coordination with the City, the public, NGCSU, and other stakeholders. Since then, the project has been coordinated with a designated Stakeholder Committee. The committee consists of the City Engineer, City manager,

downtown development authority director, mayor, NGCSU campus architect, a city council member, and a downtown business representative. The Stakeholder Committee has conducted meetings to inform the public of progress on the project. To date, the meetings have included the following topics: existing conditions (June 15, 2011, with 14 attendees), concept creation (November 30, 2011, with 35 attendees), parking (January 24, 2012, with 15 attendees), and concept presentation (April 19, 2012, with 30 attendees). For additional information on community coordination and public involvement, see Attachment 2, Correspondence and Attachment 5, Public Involvement Materials.

9. Economic Impacts

The proposed project would involve less than three acres of additional required ROW, for construction of the entire TIGER II area. Less than 0.3 acre of ROW is estimated to be required for the Phase 1 area, the only section currently programmed for construction. Much of the frontage along the project already is owned by either the City of Dahlonega or NGCSU and not subject to property tax revenue. Conversion of any private property to public ROW would have a negligible short-term effect on the tax base for Lumpkin County. Moreover, any minor temporary economic effects during construction would be outweighed by projected long-term economic benefits of the enhanced streetscape and multimodal connectivity. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any adverse economic impacts within the project area or Lumpkin County.

B. Cultural Environment

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and amendments thereto, the proposed project corridor has been surveyed for archaeological and historic resources, especially those on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The survey boundary and methodology were established using the GDOT/Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Cultural Resource Survey Guidelines. These guidelines were established as a result of past interaction with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and his staff and were agreed upon by FHWA and the SHPO. As a result of the survey efforts, seven NRHP listed properties and eight historic properties considered eligible NRHP resources were identified within the proposed project's area of potential effect (APE), as shown in Figure 2. No archaeological sites were identified within the APE.

1. Historic Sites

An historic resource survey was conducted within the project corridor in accordance with GDOT Guidelines developed by GDOT Staff Historians in consultation with Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Historic Preservation Division Staff and concurred by the FHWA and SHPO. The purpose was to locate any new or previously found historic properties within the project area. The APE for historic resources was defined as the ROW limits and the associated viewshed along the 1.5-mile project limits. No potential for indirect effects on historic resources is anticipated by implementation of the proposed project.

In addition to the Georgia SHPO, other potential consulting parties were identified based on the nature of the undertaking and the guidance in the *GDOT/FHWA Cultural Resources Survey Guidelines*. The other potential consulting parties invited to participate in the Section 106 process were the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, Lumpkin County Public Library, Dahlonega Historic Preservation Commission, and Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners. The consulting parties were informed of efforts to identify historic properties and asked to provide information on any unidentified National Register-listed or eligible properties within the project's APE by a Notification Letter dated November 9, 2011. A response was received from SHPO to the Department's invitation to become a consulting party in the Section 106 process (see Attachment 2, Correspondence).

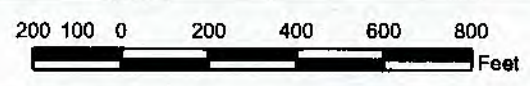
As anticipated within downtown Dahlonega, the background file search on previously identified historic properties revealed seven NRHP-listed properties within the proposed project's APE. The review also identified several other properties that were determined to be included within broader historic districts. Nine properties were determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, as listed in Table 2 and Figures 2-1 through 2-4. These findings were coordinated with SHPO for concurrence (see Attachment 2, Correspondence). Detailed property descriptions and other relevant information are kept on file and incorporated by reference, including the *Historic Survey Report* (New South Associates, Inc., November 2012).



Source: ESRI World Imagery

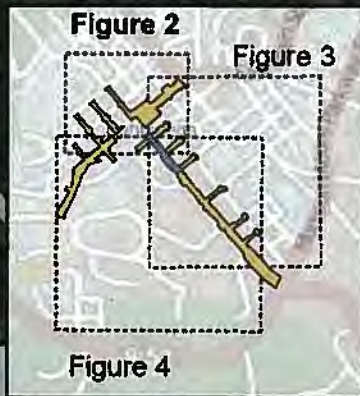


Figure 2-1: Historic Resources



Lumpkin County
 PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
 Dahlongega Complete Streets Plan
 TIGER II / Phase 2

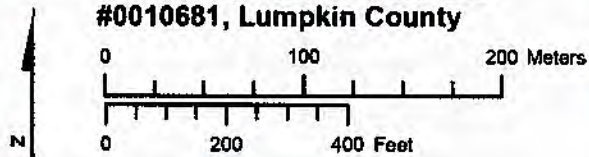




Area of Details



GDOT Projects #0010282 and #0010681, Lumpkin County

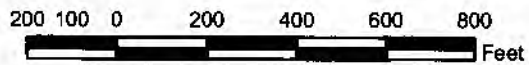


- Historic Resource
- 10681 Project Area
- 10282 Project Area
- Historic District Boundary

Source: ESRI World Imagery

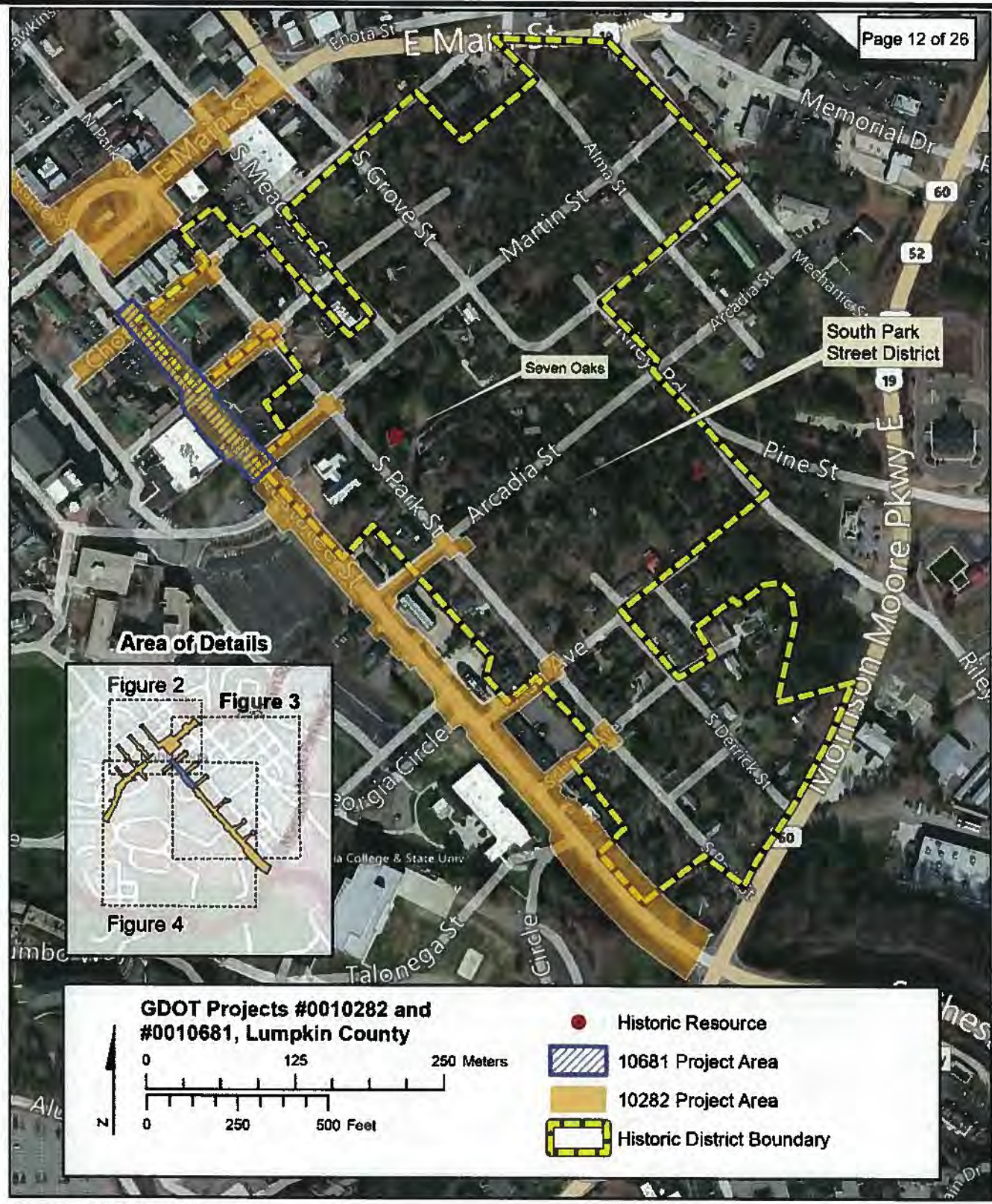


Figure 2-2: Historic Resources

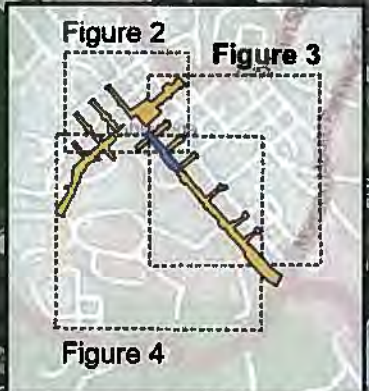


Lumpkin County
 PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
 Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
 TIGER II / Phase 2





Area of Details



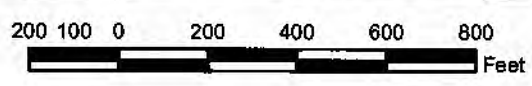
GDOT Projects #0010282 and #0010681, Lumpkin County

- Historic Resource
- 10681 Project Area
- 10282 Project Area
- Historic District Boundary

Source: ESRI World Imagery



Figure 2-3: Historic Resources



Lumpkin County
 PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
 Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
 TIGER II / Phase 2



Figure 2

Figure 4

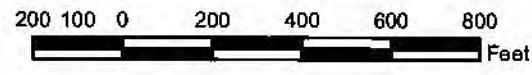
Area of Details



Source: ESRI World Imagery



Figure 2-4: Historic Resources



Lumpkin County
 PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
 Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
 TIGER II / Phase 2



Table 2
PI 0010282/0010681
Surveyed Historic Properties

Name of Resource	Date Constructed	Type/Style	Location	NRHP Status
Dahlonega Courthouse Gold Museum	1838	Classical Revival	US 19	Listed
Holly Theater	1948	Art Moderne	69 West Main Street	Listed
Price Memorial Hall	1879	Several styles	College Avenue	Listed
Seven Oaks	circa 1875	4-over-4 Central Hall	403 South Park Street	Listed
Vickery House/Old Fields Place	1860, 1895, 1908	None	Corner of West Main Street and Vickery Drive	Listed
Dahlonega Commercial Historic District	mid-1800s – early 1900s	Commercial District	The public square in downtown Dahlonega	Listed
Hawkins Street Historic District	Mid-1800s – 1940s	Residential District	Centered along Hawkins Street	Listed
South Park Street District	circa 1880-circa 1965	Multiple	South Park Street between Choice Avenue and Morrison Moore Parkway on east	Eligible under Criterion C
Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, East Main Street Addendum	circa 1855 - circa 1965	Multiple	East Main Street between North Park Street to the southwest and North Grove Street to the northeast	Eligible under Criteria A and C
Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, West Main Street Addendum	1929 - circa 1965	Multiple	On south side of West Main Street, between South Chestatae and Church Streets	Eligible under Criteria A and C
The Scott House	circa 1885	I-House	259 North Church Street	Eligible under Criterion C
The Lear House	1928	Bungalow	126 West Main Street	Eligible under Criterion C
The Worley Inn	1934	Bungalow	168 West Main Street	Eligible under Criterion C
Dahlonega Presbyterian Church	circa 1960	Modernist Front Gable Church	150 Warwick Street	Eligible under Criterion C
The Doering House	1929	Side Gable Bungalow	273 North Church Street	Eligible under Criterion C
North Georgia College and State University District	1873 - circa 1965	Multiple	North Georgia College and State University	Eligible under Criteria A and C

Source: Historic Resource Survey Report, GDOT Projects 0010282 and 0010681, New South Associates, Inc., November 2012.

Consistent with the goals of the Dahlonega Complete Streets Program and the requirements of TE funding that has been awarded (Phase 2 Section, PI 0010681), the proposed project would not include any alterations or disturbance that would result in adverse effects to listed or eligible historic properties. The effects for each listed and eligible property are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 PI 0010282/0010681 Effects on Listed and Eligible Historic Properties	
Name of Resource	Project Effects
Dahlonega Courthouse Gold Museum	No Adverse Effect*
Holly Theater	No Adverse Effect*
Price Memorial Hall	No Adverse Effect*
Seven Oaks	No Adverse Effect*
Vickery House/Old Fields Place	No Adverse Effect*
Dahlonega Commercial Historic District	No Adverse Effect
Hawkins Street Historic District	No Adverse Effect
South Park Street District	No Adverse Effect
Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, East Main Street Addendum	No Adverse Effect
Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, West Main Street Addendum	No Adverse Effect
The Scott House	No Effect
The Worley Inn	No Adverse Effect
Dahlonega Presbyterian Church	No Adverse Effect
The Doering House	No Adverse Effect
North Georgia College and State University District	No Adverse Effect
*Assessed as contributing property within eligible historic district. Source: New South Associates, Inc., Assessment of Effects for GDOT Projects PI 0010282 and 0010681, July 2013.	

The improvements are intended to enhance the historic theme and setting within downtown Dahlonega instead of diminishing their value. Potential effects on the listed and eligible resources are based on review of the current design and landscape plans including details of historic tree locations within eligible boundaries, as summarized from the Assessment of Effects, which is kept on file and incorporated by reference (New South Associates, Inc., July 2013). The findings also have been coordinated with SHPO for concurrence (see Attachment 2, Correspondence).

C. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Potential impacts to the natural environment were identified in the *Ecology Assessment of Effects Report: Widening of SR 40* (Ecological Solutions, Inc., July 2011, incorporated by reference). Background research, agency coordination, field surveys, and analysis of natural resource impacts were conducted with the following findings.

1. Waters of the U.S./State Waters

The proposed project corridor has been surveyed for Waters of the U.S. and State Waters under the Clean Water Act, Executive Order 11990, Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act, and other federal and state regulations. As a result of the survey efforts, one perennial stream was identified in the proposed project corridor, as shown in Figure 3. No wetland, open water, or nonjurisdictional state water was observed within or adjacent to the proposed project limits.

b. Streams

One stream was identified in the project corridor during field surveys. Tanyard Branch (Perennial Stream 1 – PS1) is located in the southeastern tip of the project area where it crosses underneath South Chestatee Street via a culvert near the intersection with Morrison Moore Parkway. As shown in Table 4 and Figure 4, no disturbance would occur within the stream during construction of the proposed project.

Stream Site	Type	Description	On 303(d) List?	Length of Temporary Impact (feet)	Length of Permanent Impact (feet)
PS 1	Perennial	PS1 is a warm-water, somewhat impaired, perennial tributary to the Chestatee River with cobble, gravel and sand substrate.	No	0.0	0.0

Source: Dahlonega Complete Streets Program, TIGER II, Ecology Assessment of Effects Report, November 2012.

PS1 is the only federally jurisdictional feature in the project area. PS1 also qualifies as a state water with a 25-foot protective buffer as defined by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protect Division (EPD).

Concurrent Phase I Project,
PI Numbers 0009812/0009104

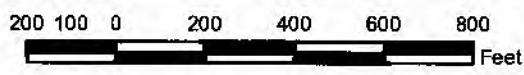
Legend

- TIGER II Survey Area
- Phase 2 Project Area
- Streams

Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps

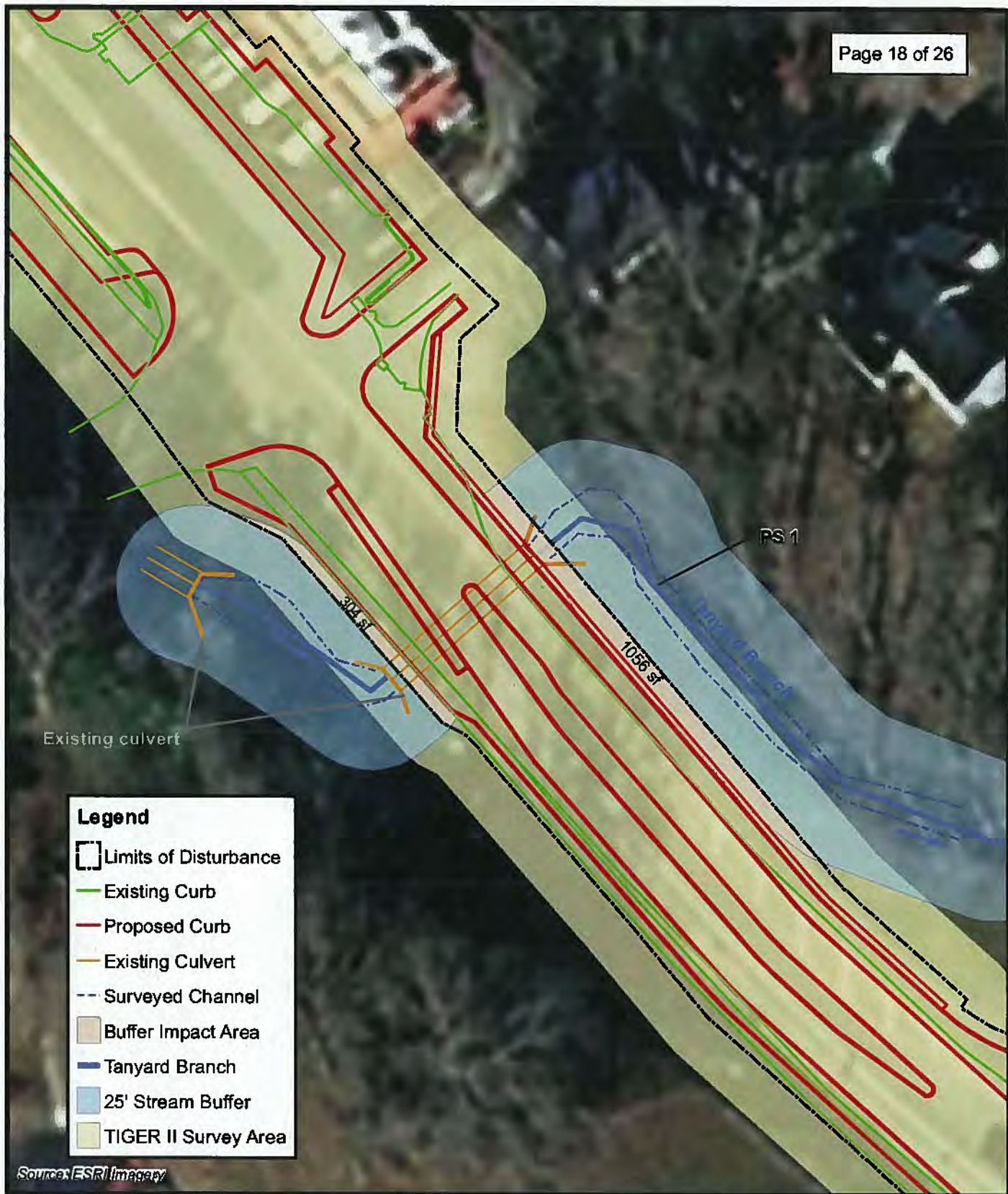


Figure 3: State and Federal Water Map (Aerial)



Lumpkin County
PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
TIGER II / Phase 2



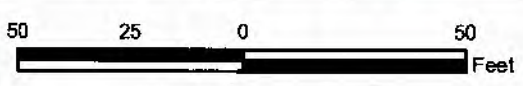


- Legend**
- Limits of Disturbance
 - Existing Curb
 - Proposed Curb
 - Existing Culvert
 - Surveyed Channel
 - Buffer Impact Area
 - Tanyard Branch
 - 25' Stream Buffer
 - TIGER II Survey Area

Source: ESRI Imagery



Figure 4: Design and Resource Impact Map



Lumpkin County
PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
TIGER II / Phase 2



Part of the existing PS1 buffer has been disturbed and removed for roadside maintenance. The existing vegetation is approximately 5 to 20 feet wide adjacent to the existing roadway shoulders. Construction of the proposed sidewalk on South Chestatee Street along the southern limits of the proposed project would disturb the buffer. However, the stream is located at the bottom of a steep slope from the existing road and shoulder,



Photo 6: Existing stream buffer of PS1 has been disturbed for roadway maintenance.

particularly east of South Chestatee Street (see Photos 6 and 7). The existing vegetation on the slope would remain undisturbed, as the sidewalks would be constructed on the existing grade approximately 10 to 15 feet above the stream banks. Encroachment into two narrow strips of existing disturbed buffer could be required to stabilize the shoulder for sidewalks (see Figure 4).



Photo 7: Stream buffer on slope below existing shoulder and pavement.

d. Avoidance and Minimization

Due to the urban setting, few jurisdictional resources remain within downtown Dahlonega. The only stream within the project area, PS1, would be avoided. This project would be expected to produce some increased siltation during the construction phase. Environmental harm would be minimized by standard construction erosion and sedimentation control devices. Measures to minimize harm to wetlands, water quality, wildlife, and fish and game habitat include:

- 1) Preservation of roadside vegetation beyond the limits of construction where possible;
- 2) Early revegetation of disturbed areas so as to minimize soil erosion;
- 3) The use of slope drains, detention/retention structures, surface, sub-surface and cross drains, designed as appropriate or needed, so that discharge would occur in locations and in such a manner that surface and sub-surface water quality would not be affected (the outlets may require aprons, bank protection, silt basins and energy dissipaters);
- 4) Inclusion of Best Management Practices (BMP's) for the control of soil erosion and sedimentation in the plans, specifications and control pay items (GDOT Standard Specification Section 161 identifies control measures that may be used).

- 5) The dumping of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, bitumens, raw sewage, or other harmful wastes into or alongside streams or impoundments, or into natural or manmade channels leading thereto, would be prohibited.

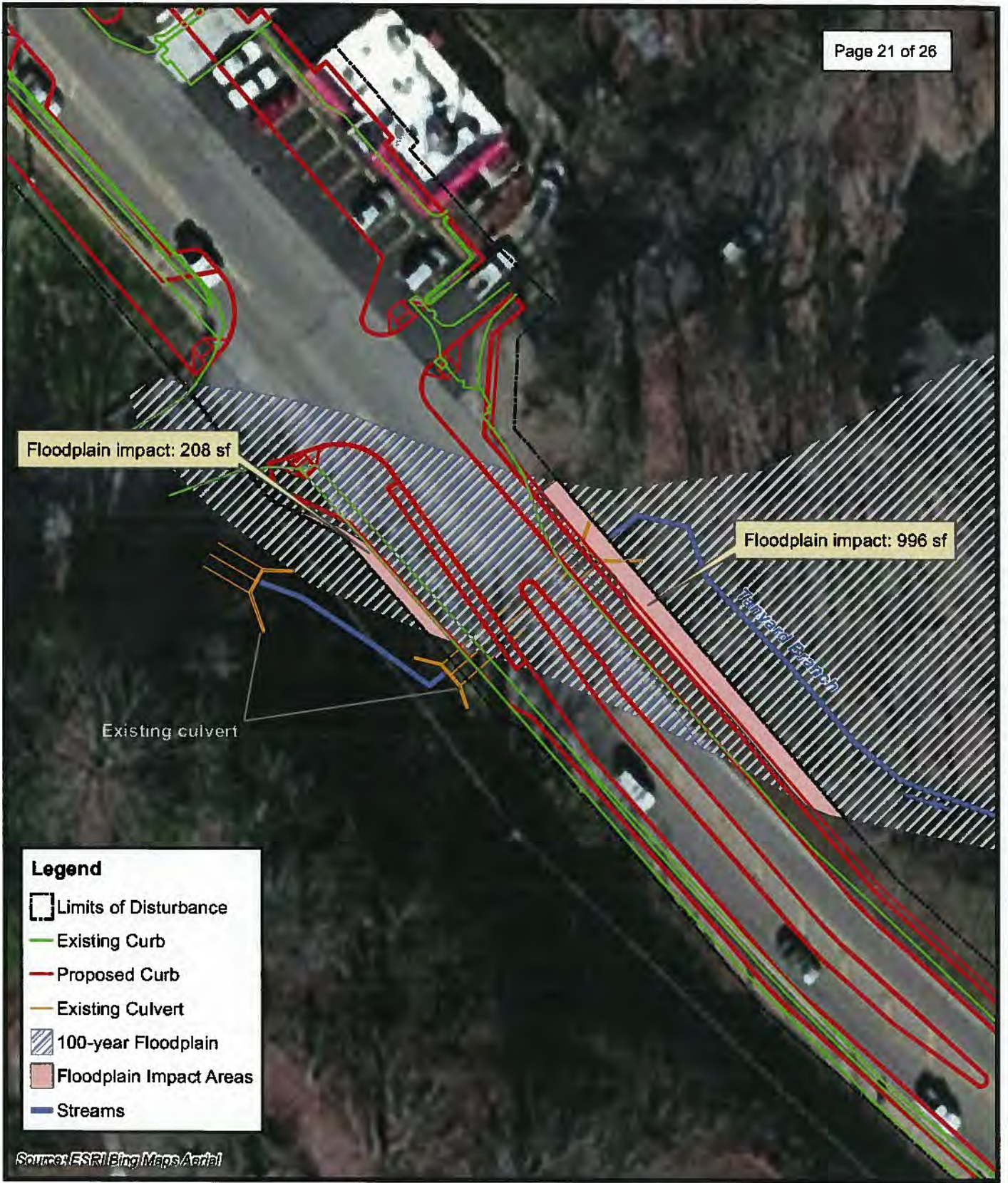
2. Water Quality/303(d) List

According to the 1974 Hydrologic Unit Map of Georgia, the project is located within Unit Code 031300010602 of the Chestatee River – Yahoola Creek Watershed of the Upper Chattahoochee River watershed (HUC# 03130001). The one stream located within the project area, Tanyard Branch, is not included on the list of impaired waters as published by the Georgia EPD under Section 305(b)/303(d). Downstream reaches of Yahoola Creek and the Chestatee River within Lumpkin County are identified as not supporting their designated use of fishing. The reason for the impaired condition is an increased concentration of fecal coliform and non-point source pollution. The proposed project includes elements to improve utilities along the downtown streets in the project area, particularly storm water. The new infrastructure would reduce the potential for storm water runoff from the impervious roadway surfaces into the drainage areas including Tanyard Branch.

Provisions in the construction contract would require the contractor to exercise every reasonable precaution during construction to prevent the pollution of sensitive waters in the project vicinity. Where possible, early re-vegetation of disturbed areas would be completed to prevent soil erosion and sedimentation. Dumping of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, bitumen, raw sewage, or other harmful wastes into or alongside of streams or impoundments, or natural or manmade channels leading thereto, would be prohibited. Additional contract provisions would require the use of temporary erosion control measures as shown on the construction plans or as deemed necessary during construction. These temporary measures may include the use of berms, dikes, dams, sediment basins, fiber mats, netting, gravel, mulches, grasses, slope drains, and other erosion control devices or methods, as applicable. These provisions are coordinated with the permanent erosion control features as practical to assure economical, effective, and continuous erosion control throughout the construction and post-construction periods and are in accordance with the 23 CFR, Part 650, Subpart B.

5. Floodplains

A survey of the project corridor for floodplains was conducted, as required by the provisions of Executive Order 11988. (see Figure 5). Existing South Chestatee Street already crosses Tanyard Branch (PS1) and its designated 100-year floodplain. No changes would occur to the existing culverts.



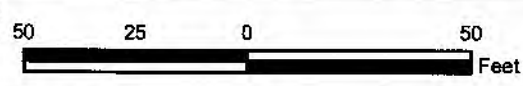
Legend

- Limits of Disturbance
- Existing Curb
- Proposed Curb
- Existing Culvert
- ▨ 100-year Floodplain
- Floodplain Impact Areas
- Streams

Source: ESRI Bing Maps/Aerial



Figure 5: Floodplains



Lumpkin County
PI Numbers 0010282/0010681
Dahlonega Complete Streets Plan
TIGER II / Phase 2



If funds become available for the southern sections along South Chestatee Street and the City decides to extend the improvements, minor disturbance could occur within portions of the Tanyard Branch floodplain that already consist primarily of impervious surfaces. Any additional construction within the boundaries for the designated floodplain would be limited to narrow strips within or adjacent to the existing pavement, totaling less than 0.03 acre of existing impervious surfaces. The proposed improvements would be located on the existing roadway 8 to 15 feet above the stream channel east, well above any elevation that would affect the floodplain's storage capacity. Moreover, the overall implementation of the streetscape program is anticipated to have no net increase in impervious surface while improving storm water drainage. Based on this elevation difference and the existing disturbed and impervious conditions, the project would have minimal encroachment within 100-year floodplain and no encroachment within a regulatory floodway. No further coordination is necessary.

7. Protected Species

Per the June 24, 2003 Endangered Species Act Joint Coordination Procedures (JCP), as amended in January 2007, the proposed project is of the type listed in Appendix A of the JCP and, therefore, would have no effect on federally listed species or habitat. However, obligations under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act must be reconsidered if new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or habitat in a manner not previously considered, a new species is listed or habitat is determined that may be affected by the identified action, or the project is modified in a manner not previously considered.

8. Invasive Species

In accordance with Executive Order 13112, a survey for populations of invasive species that may be spread during construction was conducted for this project. The invasive species for which the survey was conducted are those that have been identified by the Department as having the highest priority due to environmental and economic impacts. Both the selected species and the management practices will be re-evaluated and revised as more information is obtained.

The survey revealed that five of the 29 priority invasive plant species were located within the proposed corridor: English ivy (*Hedera helix*), Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) and Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*). The predominant location of invasive plant species occurred at the existing road ROW edge. The observed plants were located sporadically along the ROW; none of the population clusters were 1,000 square feet or greater in area.

During the construction process, GDOT would take measures to prevent or minimize the spread of these species as appropriate for the time of the year. These measures would include removal and disposal of vegetative parts in the soil that may reproduce by root raking, burning on site any such parts and aboveground parts that bear fruit, controlling or eradicating infestations prior to construction, and cleaning of vehicles and other equipment prior to leaving the infested site. The measures used would be appropriate for the particular species and conditions that exist on the project, as described in *Georgia Standard Specifications Section 201, Clearing and Grubbing of Right of Way*.

D. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

2. Air Quality

The 1990 Clean Air Act amendments and guidelines, issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), set forth guidelines to be followed by agencies responsible for attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The Clean Air Act section 176(c) requires that Federal transportation projects are consistent with state air quality goals, found in the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The process to ensure this consistency is called Transportation Conformity. Conformity to the SIP means that transportation activities will not cause new violations of the NAAQS, worsen existing violations of the standards, or delay timely attainment of the relevant standard. In complying with these guidelines, GDOT has completed an analysis on the effects of the proposed project on air quality.

Ozone

Lumpkin County is not included in any area of current or proposed NAAQS in the State of Georgia. Therefore, this project is located outside of the ozone non-attainment area and does not have to conform to an emissions budget.

Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

This project is located in Lumpkin County, outside of any fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) non-attainment area; therefore, a PM_{2.5} analysis is not required.

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

The project was evaluated for the potential to result in increased CO concentrations in the project area. Based on the project type (pedestrian improvements), it has been determined that this project would

not increase traffic congestion or increase idle emissions and CO concentrations therefore the project is consistent with state and federal air quality goals for CO.

Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSATs)

The purpose of this project is to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and accessibility between downtown Dahlonega and adjacent residences, businesses, and the NGCSU campus. This project has been determined to generate minimal air quality impacts for CAA criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special MSAT concerns. As such, this project would not result in changes in traffic volumes, vehicle mix, basic project location, or any other factor that would cause an increase in MSAT impacts of the project from that of the no-build alternative.

Moreover, EPA regulations for vehicle engines and fuels will cause overall MSAT emissions to decline significantly over the next several decades. Based on regulations now in effect, an analysis of national trends with EPA's MOBILE6.2 model forecasts a combined reduction of 72 percent in the total annual emission rate for the priority MSAT from 1999 to 2050 while vehicle-miles of travel are projected to increase by 145 percent. This will both reduce the background level of MSAT as well as the possibility of even minor MSAT emissions from this project.

Construction Emissions

All phases of construction operations would temporarily contribute to air pollution. Particulates would increase slightly in the corridor as dust from construction collects in the air surrounding the project. The construction equipment also would produce slight amounts of exhaust emissions. The rules and regulations for air quality control outlined in chapter 391-3-1, rules of Georgia Department of Natural Resources' EPD, would be followed during the construction of the project. These include covering earth-moving trucks to keep dust levels down, watering haul roads, and refraining from open burning, except as may be permitted by local regulations. The EPA has listed a number of approved diesel retrofit technologies; many of these can be deployed as emissions mitigation measures for equipment used in construction. This listing can be found at www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/retroverifiedlist.htm.

Conclusion

This project was evaluated for its consistency with state and federal air quality goals, including CO, Ozone, PM_{2.5} and MSATs as part of this assessment. Results indicated that the project is consistent with the SIP for the attainment of clean air quality in Georgia and is in compliance with both state and federal air quality standards.

4. Construction/Utilities

Construction of the proposed project would create unavoidable inconveniences to motorists. The safety of the traveling public and residents of the area would be provided for at all times. One of the local goals through the proposed project is to enhance the aesthetics of the pedestrian corridor, including some sections of overhead utilities. Any relocation of utilities would be accomplished with no long-term interruption of services. All other required construction functions would be accomplished in a timely and orderly fashion to keep disruptions minimal and to avoid compromising safety.

E. PERMITS/VARIANCES/COMMITMENTS REQUIRED

5. Buffer Variance

Based on the current preliminary plans, permanent encroachment would occur to the buffer of Tanyard Branch (PS1) near the southern terminus of the TIGER II area on South Chestatee Street (see Figure 4). Narrow strips of the existing roadway shoulder would be disturbed within the existing 25-foot buffer, totaling approximately 1,360 square feet (0.03 acre). Prior to construction of the proposed improvements within this southern section of South Chestatee Street, an EPD stream buffer variance (SBV) would be required. Because the jurisdictional and state water itself would be avoided and the project is considered a maintenance/rehabilitation of an existing transportation project under Criterion (a), no mitigation would be required in conjunction with the SBV application.

7. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

The NPDES was created by the federal Clean Water Act to control water pollution by regulating the discharge of pollutants to surface waters. In Georgia, any ground disturbing activities that exceed one acre are covered under the State's NPDES permit. Ground disturbing activities exceeding one acre would occur for the proposed project. Therefore, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the NPDES General Permit would be submitted prior to construction.

F. SECTION 4(F) APPLICABILITY

Section 4(f) refers to the temporary and/or permanent use and constructive use of land from a significant publicly owned public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or any significant historic site.

1. *De Minimis*

No land from any public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge would be used for the proposed project. As described in Section V.B.1, NRHP-listed and eligible historic properties are located within the project corridor. Due to the nature of the multimodal improvements and the narrow limits of existing ROW, permanent use of land within the historic property boundaries would be unavoidable. Permanent easements totaling approximately 0.3 acre within historic boundaries would be required to accommodate the sidewalk construction or related improvements. No structure, tree, or contributing feature of any historic structure or district would be altered. Based on the limited scope of construction and adherence to historic design standards, the proposed project has been determined to have no adverse effects on historic properties. The GDOT historians and FHWA have coordinated these findings with SHPO, which has provided concurrence that the project would have no adverse effects (see Attachment 2, Correspondence). Therefore, in accordance with 6009(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the proposed project would have a "*de minimis*" impact on these properties, and no Section 4(f) Evaluation is required.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Lumpkin County

PI No. 0010282/0010681

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ATTACHMENT 2
CORRESPONDENCE**



June 25, 2012

Hiral Patel, P.E.
Project Manager
Ga. DOT
Office of Program Delivery – District 1
P.O. Box 1057
Gainesville, GA 30503-1057

RE: Lighting Service Agreement and Understanding (PI: 10681/10282 – Lumpkin)

Dear Ms. Patel:

The City of Dahlonega has a long-term service agreement with Georgia Power (including subsidiaries and subcontractor) for its downtown pedestrian lighting. There are certain pedestrian lamp poles that are owned by Georgia Power and maintained by Georgia Power Company, and there are a small number of pedestrian lamp poles that are owned by the City of Dahlonega and maintained by Georgia Power. The City of Dahlonega understands that it is responsible for the monthly energy, operation and maintenance costs for the pedestrian lighting located in the project area following completion of construction.

Sincerely,

Bill Lewis

Cc: Justin Lott, Project Manager, 10681 (Lumpkin)



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HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Glenn S. Bowman
State Environmental Administrator
Office of Environmental Services
Georgia Department of Transportation
Attn: Sandy Lawrence

FROM: Amanda Schraner *AS*
Transportation Projects Coordinator
Historic Preservation Division

RE: Receipt of Early Coordination Information

Project Title: PI 0010282

**ADA and Other Improvements to West Main Street, South
Chestatee Street, Downtown Square, Dahlonega**

Project Number: HP-111115-001

County: Lumpkin

DATE: November 21, 2011

The Historic Preservation Division has received the early coordination information required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA). Thank you for submitting this information, and we look forward to working with you in the future as this project progresses.

ALS:ebp

cc: Patrick Sullivan, New South Associates

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATE OF GEORGIA

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

FILE P.I. #s 0010282 and 0010681 **OFFICE** Environmental Services

DATE November 30, 2012

FROM Chad Carlson


TO Files

SUBJECT GDOT P.I. #s 0010282 and 0010681; Lumpkin County;
HP #111115-001:
Revised Property Information Form for the Dahlonega Commercial Historic
District, East Main Street Addendum

Please find attached the revised Property Information Form (PIF) for the Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, East Main Street Addendum. This revised form reflects an expansion of the proposed historic boundary for the property to include a historic pecan tree in front of the Meader House (19 East Main Street). Because this tree is a feature that contributes to the National Register eligibility of the district, the boundary has been revised to include this tree. The Dahlonega Commercial Historic District, East Main Street Addendum had been previously recommended eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Attached to the revised Property Information form is a photo key, photographs, and a revised boundary graphic.

cbc/

cc: Rodney N. Barry, P.E., FHWA, w/attachment (Attn: Kelly Wade)
David Crass, Deputy SHPO, w/attachment
Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, w/attachment

CONCUR:  P. Crass DATE: 12/20/12
for David Crass, Deputy SHPO

cc: Carla Benton-Hooks, GDOT NEPA

~~Revised 1/27/2004~~ ✓

Keith Golden, P.E., Commissioner



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

One Georgia Center, 600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone: (404) 631-1000

July 8, 2013

Dr. David Crass, Director,
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Division/DNR
254 Washington Street, SW
Ground Level
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: GDOT P.I. #s 0010282 and 0010681; Lumpkin County; HP #11115-001
Section 106 Compliance - Federal Highway Administration.
Assessment of Effects

Dear Dr. Crass:

GDOT P.I. #s 0010282 and 0010681, Lumpkin County, consist of the proposed streetscape improvements of Main Street and South Chestatee Street in downtown Dahlonega, Georgia. Please find enclosed the Section 106 documentation for the Dahlonega Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda, South Park Street Historic District, Hawkins Street District, Lear House, Worley Inn, Dahlonega Presbyterian Church, Doering House, and North Georgia College and State University District, National Register listed and eligible historic properties located within the proposed projects' area of potential effects (APE).

The enclosed documentation was prepared for use by Summer Ciomek of New South Associates, Inc., of Stone Mountain, Georgia, in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and subsequent amendments. The Department concurs with this report. The documentation consists of the Effects Assessment and copies of the Survey Report Property Information Forms for the properties. The Survey Report was previously submitted to your office and to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to all other consulting parties in the Section 106 process for these projects. In compliance with 36 CFR 800.4(c)(2), the aforementioned properties were considered National Register properties by the FHWA and the SHPO.

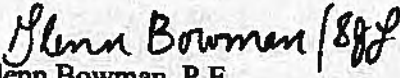
In accordance with 23 CFR Part 774 (Sections 774.3(b) and 774.17) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Pub. L. 109-59, the FHWA and GDOT intend to make a *de minimis* finding based on your concurrence with the Section 106 determination of "No Adverse Effect" for the resources listed in the table below. The Department requests the SHPO's acknowledgement of this *de minimis* finding and also requests that the SHPO's acknowledgement of *de minimis* includes any potential use of additional land from these resources as long as the change is coordinated with the SHPO, and the effect remains no adverse per the 2003 Memorandum of Understanding.

Name of Resource	Nature of Impact	Total Acreage of Eligible Boundary	Total Acreage of Land Use Within Eligible Boundary
Dahlonega Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks, retaining walls, and ADA ramps.	8.65	0.05
South Park Street District	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	47	0.22
Hawkins Street Historic District	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	12	0.002
Lear House	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	0.53	0.02
Worley Inn	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	0.46	0.01
Dahlonega Presbyterian Church	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	0.53	0.02
North Georgia State College and State University	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	49	0.04

A copy of the enclosed documentation has been forwarded to the FHWA and to all consulting parties. Please notify this office of the scheduled consultation date, if any, with the FHWA to discuss these projects. Please respond to this documentation within thirty (30) days of receiving this information.

If additional information is required, please contact Chad Carlson (404-631-1406 or ccarlson@dot.ga.gov) or Sandy Lawrence (404-631-1150 or slawrence@dot.ga.gov) of the Office of Environmental Services. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator

GB/cbc
Enclosure

cc: Rodney N. Barry, P.E., FHWA, w/attachment (Attn: Kelly Wade)
Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, w/attachment
Anthony Tate, GDOT NEPA
Summer Ciomek, New South Associates, Inc.
Stevonn Dilligard, GDOT Project Manager, Office of Program Delivery
Hiral Patel, GDOT Assistant State Program Delivery Engineer
Keisha Jackson, GDOT NEPA



HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

July 11, 2013

Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Attn: Chad Carlson

Re: *ADA and Other Improvements to West Main St., South Chestatee St., Downtown Square, Dahlonega
GDOT Project PI# 0010282/0010681
Lumpkin County, Georgia
HP-111115-001*

Dear Mr. Bowman:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received the documentation for the above-referenced project. Our comments are offered to assist the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in complying with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

Based on the information provided in the July 3, 2013 Assessment of Effects document for the above-referenced project, HPD concurs with GDOT's determination that the proposed project will have **no adverse effect** on the Dahlonega Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda, South Park Street District, Hawkins Street Historic District, The Lear House, The Worley Inn, Dahlonega Presbyterian Church, The Doering House and the North Georgia College and State University District, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5(d)(1). HPD also concurs with GDOT's determination of **no effect** on The Scott House.

HPD acknowledges that, based on the concurrence of no adverse effect on the Dahlonega Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda, South Park Street District, Hawkins Street Historic District, The Lear House, The Worley Inn, Dahlonega Presbyterian Church, The Doering House and the North Georgia College and State University District, GDOT and FHWA intend to make a *de minimis* finding for the proposed project in accordance with Section 6009(1) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). HPD's acknowledgement of *de minimis* includes any potential use of additional land from this property so long as the change is coordinated with HPD and the finding remains no adverse effect per the 2003 Memorandum of Understanding.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Stephanie Jordan, Transportation Projects Coordinator, at (404) 463-6687 or stephanie.jordan@dnr.state.ga.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Anderson-Cordova".

Karen Anderson-Cordova
Environmental Review and Preservation Planning
Program Manager

KAC:scj

cc: Rodney N. Barry, P.E., FHWA, (Attn: Kelly Wade)
Joe Rothwell, Georgia Mountains Regional Commission



WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DAN FORSTER
DIRECTOR

November 10, 2011

Ana Sellers
President
Ecological Consulting, LLC
12595 Concord Hall Drive
Alpharetta, GA 30005

Subject: Known occurrences of natural communities, plants and animals of highest priority conservation status on or near Dahlonega Streets Plan, Lumpkin County, Georgia

Dear Ms. Sellers:

This is in response to your request of October 12, 2011. According to our records, within a three-mile radius of the project site there are the following Natural Heritage Database occurrences:

- Calystegia catesbeiana ssp. sericata* (Silky Bindweed) approx. 0.5 mi. SE of site
- GA *Cyprinella callitaenia* (Bluestripe Shiner) approx. 1.5 mi. S of site in the Chestatee River
- GA *Cyprinella callitaenia* (Bluestripe Shiner) approx. 2.5 mi. E of site in the Chestatee River
- Micropterus cataractae* (Shoal Bass) [HISTORIC?] approx. 2.0 mi. S of site in the Chestatee River
- Micropterus cataractae* (Shoal Bass) [HISTORIC?] approx. 2.5 mi. E of site in the Chestatee River
- GA *Notropis hypsilepis* (Highscale Shiner) [HISTORIC] approx. 1.5 mi. S of site in the Chestatee River
- GA *Notropis hypsilepis* (Highscale Shiner) [HISTORIC] approx. 2.5 mi. E of site in the Chestatee River
- GA *Percina crypta* (Halloween Darter) approx. 2.5 mi. S of site in the Chestatee River
- GA *Xerophyllum asphodeloides* (Eastern Turkeybeard) [HISTORIC] approx. 2.5 mi. W of site
- Chestatee River [High Priority Stream] approx. 1.5 mi. S of site
- DAHLONEGA MUSEUM HS [Heritage Preserve] 0.1 mi. NW of site
- Greenspace [Lumpkin County] approx. 1.5 mi. E of site

* Entries above preceded by "US" indicates species with federal status (Protected, Candidate or Partial Status). Species that are federally protected in Georgia are also state protected; "GA" indicates Georgia protected species.

Recommendations:

We have no records of high priority species or habitats within the project area. Since this project is in an urban setting, it is not likely to negatively impact rare species or habitats. We are glad to see streetscape improvements, which will facilitate pedestrian use. Please use best management practices during construction and there should be minimal impact on the surrounding environment.

We are concerned about streams and other habitats that could be impacted by the proposed project. We recommend that stringent erosion control practices be used during construction activities and that vegetation is re-established on disturbed areas as quickly as possible. Silt fences and other erosion control devices should be inspected and maintained until soil is stabilized by vegetation. Please use natural vegetation and grading techniques (e.g. vegetated swales, turn-offs, vegetated buffer strips) that will ensure that ROW does not serve as a conduit for storm water or pollutants into the water during or after construction. These measures will help protect water quality in the vicinity of the project as well as in downstream areas.

NEW - Data Available on the Nongame Conservation Section Website - NEW

NEW Georgia protected plant and animal profiles are available on our website. Originating with the State Wildlife Action Plan, a strategy guiding conservation in Georgia, the accounts cover basics like descriptions and life history, as well as threats, management recommendations and conservation status. Visit <http://www.georgiawildlife.com/node/2223?cat=6>.

By visiting the Nongame Conservation Section Website you can view the highest priority species and natural community information by Quarter Quad, County and HUC8 Watershed. To access this information, please visit our GA Rare Species and Natural Community Information page at: <http://www.georgiawildlife.com/conservation/species-of-concern?cat=conservation>

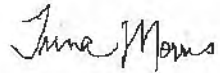
An ESRI shape file of our highest priority species and natural community data by quarter quad and county is also available. It can be downloaded from: <http://georgiawildlife.com/sites/default/files/uploads/wildlife/nongame/zip/gnhpds.zip>

Disclaimer:

Please keep in mind the limitations of our database. The data collected by the Nongame Conservation Section comes from a variety of sources, including museum and herbarium records, literature, and reports from individuals and organizations, as well as field surveys by our staff biologists. In most cases the information is not the result of a recent on-site survey by our staff. Many areas of Georgia have never been surveyed thoroughly. Therefore, the Nongame Conservation Section can only occasionally provide definitive information on the presence or absence of rare species on a given site. Our files are updated constantly as new information is received. **Thus, information provided by our program represents the existing data in our files at the time of the request and should not be considered a final statement on the species or area under consideration.**

If you know of populations of highest priority species that are not in our database, please fill out the appropriate data collection form and send it to our office. Forms can be obtained through our web site (<http://www.georgiawildlife.com/node/1376>) or by contacting our office. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katrina Morris".

Katrina Morris
Environmental Review Coordinator



August 16, 2010

Mr. Robert Mariner
TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program Manager
Office of the Secretary, Transportation Policy, P-32
US Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

Ms. Zuleika K. Morales-Romero
Office of Sustainable Housing and Community Development
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20410

Dear Mr. Mariner and Ms. Morales-Romero:

I am writing to strongly endorse this grant application and to commit our staff and resources to the project. North Georgia College & State University and the City of Dahlonega have a strong partnership for the Downtown Dahlonega Streetscape and Pedestrian Improvements. This partnership is designed to meet the important needs for responsible growth and development, and pedestrian safety. We are proud to be a part of this partnership which we believe will be an asset to our customers, our constituents, and the state.


North Georgia College & State University will provide in-kind match of professional staff time and services based on the following:

Design Review Committee Members (24 meeting hours each)

Associate Vice President for Facilities (Mr. Jeff Davis)	\$1,500
Director of Physical Plant (Mr. Todd Berman)	\$1,500
Director of Project Management (Mr. Julio Canseco)	\$1,500
Ten GIS Mapping Products (by Lee Steigle)	\$1,500
Host two public meetings at Hoag Auditorium	\$2,000

With the help of your funds this project will allow us to reach important economic and community development goals for Dahlonega's future.

Sincerely,



Dr. David Potter
President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

College Circle, Dahlonega, Georgia 30597 * (706) 864-1993 * FAX (706) 864-1689



August 16, 2010

Mr. Robert Mariner
TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program Manager
Office of the Secretary, Transportation Policy, P-32
US Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

Ms. Zuleika K. Morales-Romero
Office of Sustainable Housing and Community Development
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20410

Dear Mr. Mariner and Ms. Morales-Romero:

The Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Board Members of Dahlongega enthusiastically support our city's TIGER II grant application.

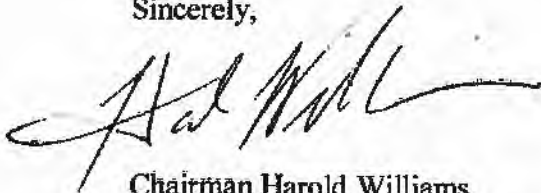
This funding is critical to Dahlongega's downtown streetscape project which will improve pedestrian safety and accessibility. We need pedestrian linkage between the historic downtown center and the city's entrance corridors to provide residents and visitors with safe routes to work, home, school, shopping, and recreation. With this connectivity people will be able to minimize use of cars and make downtown more pedestrian focused. There is only a small area around the Public Square that has adequate pedestrian access. In 2008 we conducted extensive public input meetings for our downtown master plan. These pedestrian shortcomings were identified and emphasized through that public input. Now, we are trying to implement those public priorities for streetscape improvements, but we cannot reach those goals without your funding assistance.

465 Riley Road, Dahlongega, GA 30533
dahlongegadda@windstream.net
706-864-6133

Our board of directors advises and assists the city council with planning public projects and project implementation. Our Executive Director will play a key role in this project as the grant program coordinator. You can be assured that our board is fully committed to supporting these critical public projects for pedestrian safety and access between our downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods. We emphasize how important this is to our economic and community sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chairman Harold Williams
Dahlonega Downtown Development Authority
and Main Street Program Board



August 16, 2010

Mr. Robert Mariner
TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program Manager
Office of the Secretary, Transportation Policy, P-32
US Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

Ms. Zuleika K. Morales-Romero
Office of Sustainable Housing and Community Development
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20410

Dear Mr. Mariner and Ms. Morales-Romero:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Dahlonega to express our enthusiasm and commitment for the TIGER II grant application.

The City of Dahlonega will use this funding for its downtown streetscape project. This project is critically needed to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility, add to the historic character of the area, and stimulate local economic activity. The project will provide pedestrian linkage between the historic downtown center and the city's entrance corridors through a well designed plan to provide residents and visitors with safe pedestrian routes between work, home, shopping and recreation.

The streetscape project will include sidewalks, crosswalks, accessible ramps, lighting, benches, trees and landscape improvements, complimenting downtown's historic character. The project will encourage people to leave their cars and will make downtown more pedestrian focused. The streetscape initiative will add continuity of design in the city, encourage alternative means of transportation and encourage economic development. Currently, only a one block area around the Public Square is pedestrian friendly, while the areas surrounding it are lacking in essential pedestrian features. These shortcomings have been identified through public input. This critically needed construction, however, can not be accomplished without grant funding assistance.



465 RILEY ROAD • DAHLONEGA, GA 30533 • PHONE (706) 864-6133 • FAX (706) 864-4837




You have our commitment to local matching funds in support of the project. Our match includes the following:

<u>Match for Tiger II Grant Application</u>				
<u>Employee</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Grant Related Function</u>	<u>% of Time Allocated to Grant</u>	<u>Salary & Benefits Allocated to Grant</u>
Ricky Stewart	Engineer	Design/Review	10%	\$ 17,851.00
Joel Cordle	DDA Director	Management/Administration	5%	7,590.40
Christopher Austin	Finance Director	Financial Management/Reporting	5%	<u>11,018.70</u>
Total In Kind Match				36,460.10
Cash Match				<u>63,539.90</u>
Total Match Equally Over Two Years				<u>\$ 100,000.00</u>

This partnership between Dahlonga and the TIGER II program is essential, and the outcome will be a better, safer, and more economically prosperous community and state.

Sincerely,


Mayor Gary McCullough
City of Dahlonga

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Lumpkin County

PI No. 0010282/0010681

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

ATTACHMENT 3

REPORT COORDINATION



September 26, 2012

Mr. Rodney N. Barry, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 17th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104
ATTN: Kelly Wade

Re: Ecology Assessment Transmittal and Coordination, Lumpkin County, P.I. No. 0010282/0010681, Dahlonega Complete Streets Program - Phase II.

Dear Mr. Barry:

Please find attached the Ecology Assessment of Effects Report for the above referenced project. The Dahlonega Complete Streets Program is an initiative by the City of Dahlonega to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity within downtown Dahlonega, in Lumpkin County. The TIGER II / Phase 2 section (PI 0010282/0010681) addresses the pedestrian and bicycle accessibility needs between the historic downtown commercial core and the adjacent residential, commercial, and college campus uses. To provide safe and efficient pedestrian access, a combination of sidewalk, stormwater infrastructure, and streetscape hardscape improvements is proposed. The proposed project provides connectivity with the independent Phase I project (PI 0008912/0009104), which is underway to address pedestrian and bicycle needs within the commercial core blocks of West Main and South Chestatee Streets.

Ecological findings are as follows:

- No wetlands or open waters present;
- One perennial stream (PS1) present, no impacts;
- No effect to federally listed species: Cherokee darter (*Etheostoma scotti*), Etowah darter (*Etheostoma etowahae*), amber darter (*Percina antesella*), finlined pocketbook (*Lampsilis altilis*), small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*), and Michaux's sumac (*Rhus michauxii*);
- No effect to state listed eastern turkeybeard (*Xerophyllum asphodeloides*) and no significant adverse effect to state listed aquatic species: bluestripe shiner (*Cyprinella callitaenia*), highscale shiner (*Notropis hypsilepis*), and Halloween darter (*Percina crypta*);
- No impacts to essential fish habitat;
- No impacts to migratory birds.

The project is of a type listed in Appendix A of the JCP. This report is being transmitted for your information and file. If you should have any questions or need additional information, please contact Doug Chamblin at 404-631-1447.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Bowman" followed by a stylized initial "JBC".

Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator

GB/HDC/pfc

Cc: Hiral Patel, GDOT PM
Carla Benton-Hooks, GDOT NEPA
Eugene Hopkins, GDOT ECB

Keith Golden, P.E., Commissioner



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

One Georgia Center, 600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone: (404) 631-1000

May 21, 2012

Mr. Rodney N. Barry, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Suite 17 T100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

ATTN: Kelly Wade

Re: Project PI Nos. 0010282/0010681, Lumpkin County—Dahlonega Complete Streets Program, Phase 2

Dear Mr. Barry:

Please find enclosed the air and noise screening assessments for the above noted project. They are being sent to you for your file. The proposed project would improve pedestrian access and provide streetscape/hardscape improvements. The project is consistent with state and federal air quality goals. The proposed project is classified as Type III for noise.

Should you need further information, please contact Keisha Jackson at (404) 631-1160 or Amber Phillips at (404) 631-1117.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn Bowman, P.E." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator

GB/kj
Enclosures

cc: General File (letter, report)
Justin Lott (Project Manager)

GDOT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SHORT FORM FOR NEGATIVE FINDINGS

Phase I Archaeological Survey of Dahlonega Streetscape Project TIGER II, Lumpkin County, Georgia

Report Title: _____

Prime Consultant: Robert and Company

Sub Consultant: New South Associates

GDOT Project No.: _____ P.I. No.: 0010282 and 0010681

GA SHPO HP#: 111115-001

Draft Report Submitted on: 6 / 13 / 12

PROJECT LOCATION AND AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

County(ies):

Lumpkin

USGS Quadrangle(s):

Dahlonega (1982)

Project Description:

PI 0010282: The project consists of pedestrian, ADA, bicycle, and stormwater management improvements along the primary corridors of Main Street (Sunset Drive to Waters Street; Park Street to Grove Street), the downtown Square (between Chestatee and Park Streets) and South Chestatee Street (Choice Street to Morrison Moore Parkway). Ongoing streetscape projects (identified as Phase I, GDOT Projects CSHPP-0008-00(912) and CSTE- 0009-00(104)) bridge the gap between the intersection of West Main Street and South Chestatee Street. Additionally, the project consists of pedestrian, ADA, and stormwater improvements for a series of side streets connecting to both West Main Street and South Chestatee Street. These include: College Lane, Church Street, Waters Street, North Chestatee Street, Choice Street, Maple Street, Arcadia Street, Ash Avenue, and Schultz Avenue.

PI 0010681: The project area encompasses South Chestatee from Choice Street to Martin Street and involves improvement to road side sidewalks and stormwater management. All proposed improvements occur within existing ROW.

Area of Potential Effect (APE):

Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the area of potential direct effects consists of the existing right-of-way (ROW) of the proposed project, within which all construction and ground disturbing activity would be confined. No potential for indirect effects is anticipated by implementation of the proposed project.

SURVEY CONDITIONS

Soil Descriptions:

Hayesville sandy clay loam, 10 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, Hayesville and Rabun clay loams, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded, Musella gravelly clay loam, 10 to 25 percent slopes, eroded, Rabun clay loam, 10 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, Tallapoosa soils, 25 to 70 percent slopes

Topography:

Slope within the APE trends downward from northwest to southeast. Steep slope was noted along much of the survey transects. Elevation ranged between 1480-1320 feet.

Land Use/Vegetation/Ground Cover:

Land use is characterized as urban consisting of small, closely set land lots. Land lots are situated in a grid street pattern centered on a town square. Vegetation consists of landscaped lawn, yard, or commercial lot. Paved surfaces dominated the area.

Survey Limitations and Disturbance(s):

Intensive urban development in the form of grading and paving limited subsurface investigation. Subsurface utility corridors were observed within the margins of the ROW. The extended survey corridor often fell within fenced lots.

Survey Methods:

Pedestrian survey transects were oriented along both sides of the existing ROW of each street, and shovel test pit locations were investigated at a 100-foot interval. The extended survey corridor (ESC) was investigated with a transect 100 feet from and parallel to the existing ROW. All areas of surface ground exposure were investigated.

No. of STs: 75 No. of Transects: 46

- This archaeological survey included all areas of the APE and an additional 100 foot expanded survey corridor.
 This archaeology survey covers the APE only and does not require the survey of the additional 100 foot expanded corridor.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Previously Recorded Sites:

One site was identified in the vicinity of the project area. Site 9LU216 consisted of nineteenth century artifact scatter located on the North Georgia College Campus. NRHP status for the site remains unknown. The site is located outside the APE.

Previous Surveys:

Only one survey has been conducted in the vicinity of the project area. The survey found three prehistoric sites, one early twentieth century house site, and a portion of the Hand Ditch. Only the Hand Ditch met the criteria for inclusion in the NRHP. The Hand Ditch is an aqueduct built from 1859 to 1861 to provide water to mines. It is about 14 miles long starting seven miles north of Dahlonega and terminating in the city (Gresham 1994).

Ref:

See Attachment

ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Project Location Map | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. USGS Topographic Map |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. References Cited | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. VITA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. Photograph(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. Field Notes |

CONSULTANT INFORMATION

Archaeological Consultant: New South Associates

Address: 6150 E Ponce De Leon Ave Stone Mountain GA 30083

Phone No.: 770-498-4155

Principal Investigator: J. W. Joseph, Ph.D., RPA.

Project Archaeologist: Wm. Matthew Tankersley

CONSULTANT CERTIFICATION

I, the Principal Investigator: J.W. Joseph do hereby certify that the Area of Potential Effect (as described on Page 1 of this form) for GDOT Project P.I. No. 0010282 has been thoroughly surveyed for archaeological resources and that no such resources were located or identified.

PI Signature: 

Comments:

REVIEW

GDOT Archaeologist:  Date: 06 / 15 / 2012

Comments:

Draft Accepted as Final

By agreement, because no archaeological resources were located within the project's area of potential effect, no signed concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Office is required.

Cc:

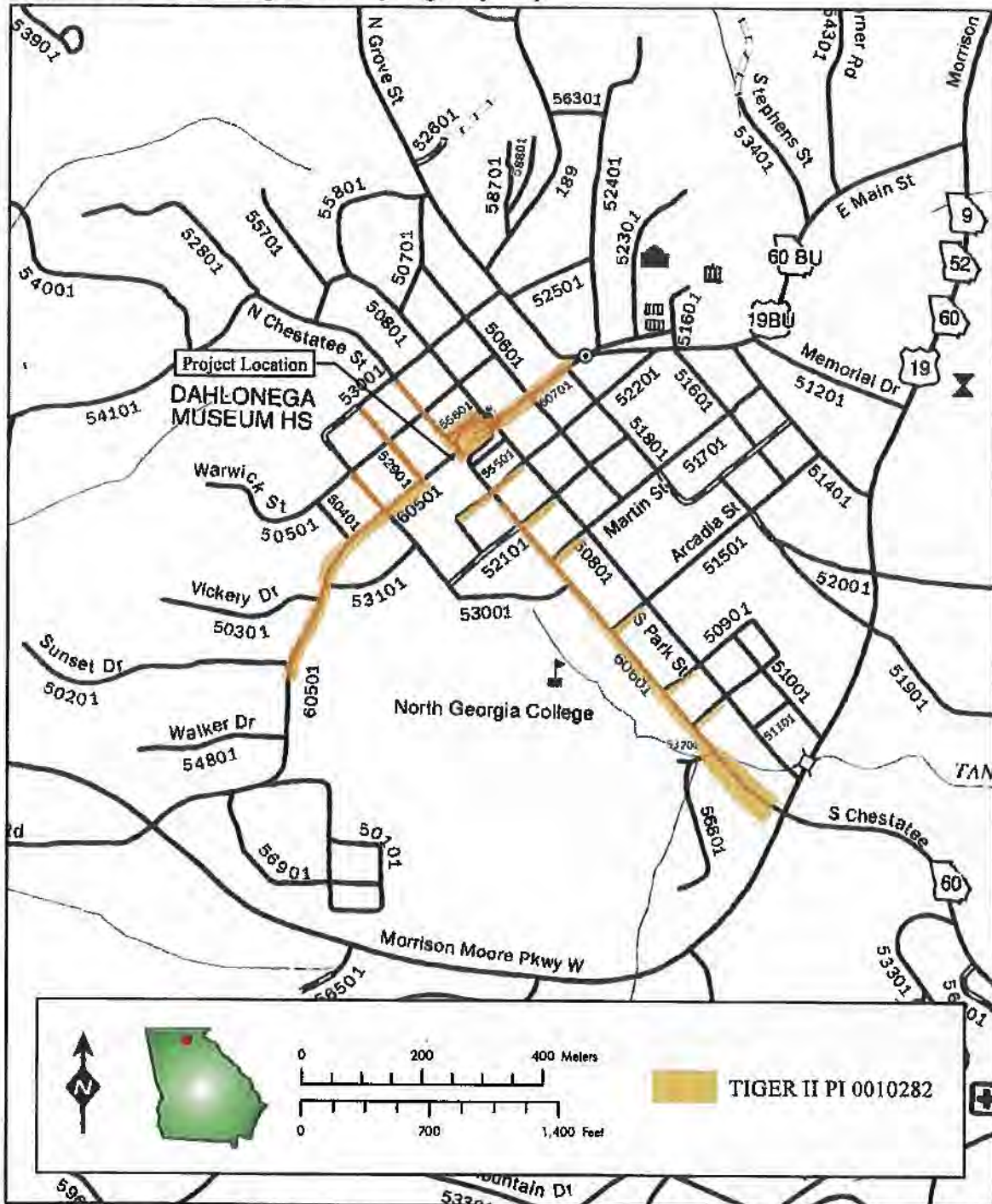
- Dr. David Crass, Director and Deputy SHPO
- Mr. Rodney Barry, P.E., FHWA (Attn: Kelly Wade)
- Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Muscogee (Creek) National Council, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Tribe of Florida

CLEAR

Attachment 1.
Project Location Map

Dahlonega Streetscape
PI 0010282
Lumpkin County

Project Corridor on Lumpkin County Highway Map

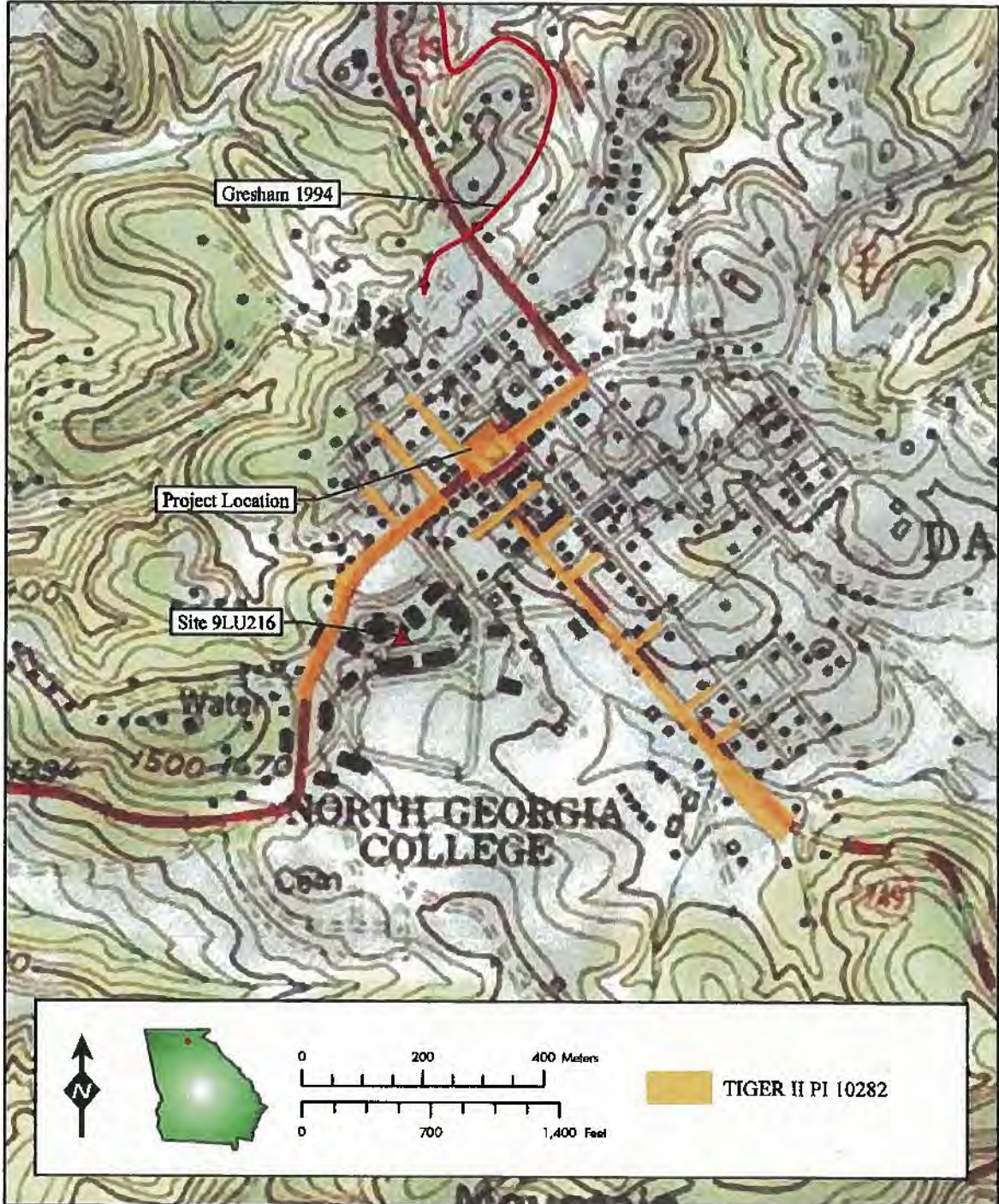


Source: GDOT County Highway Map, Lumpkin (2011)

Attachment 2.
USGS Topographic Map

Dahlonega Streetscape
PI 0010282
Lumpkin County

Project Corridor on USGS 7.5 Quadrangle, Dahlonega (1982)



Source: USGS 7.5 Quadrangle, Dahlonega (1982)

Attachment 3.
References Cited

Dahlonega Streetscape
PI 0010282
Lumpkin County

Gresham, Thomas R.

1994 *The Hand Ditch of Lumpkin County, Georgia*. Report submitted by Southeastern Archaeological Services, Inc., Athens, GA. Report submitted to US Army Corp of Engineers, Savannah District.

USDA

2011 Web Soil Survey. Electronic Document.
<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>. Accessed 15 November.

Keith Golden, P.E., Commissioner



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

One Georgia Center, 600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone: (404) 631-1000

July 8, 2013

Dr. David Crass, Director,
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Division/DNR
254 Washington Street, SW
Ground Level
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: GDOT P.I. #s 0010282 and 0010681; Lumpkin County: HP #11115-001
Section 106 Compliance - Federal Highway Administration.
Assessment of Effects

Dear Dr. Crass:

GDOT P.I. #s 0010282 and 0010681, Lumpkin County, consist of the proposed streetscape improvements of Main Street and South Chestatee Street in downtown Dahlonega, Georgia. Please find enclosed the Section 106 documentation for the Dahlonega Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda, South Park Street Historic District, Hawkins Street District, Lear House, Worley Inn, Dahlonega Presbyterian Church, Doering House, and North Georgia College and State University District, National Register listed and eligible historic properties located within the proposed projects' area of potential effects (APE).

The enclosed documentation was prepared for use by Summer Ciomek of New South Associates, Inc., of Stone Mountain, Georgia, in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and subsequent amendments. The Department concurs with this report. The documentation consists of the Effects Assessment and copies of the Survey Report Property Information Forms for the properties. The Survey Report was previously submitted to your office and to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to all other consulting parties in the Section 106 process for these projects. In compliance with 36 CFR 800.4(c)(2), the aforementioned properties were considered National Register properties by the FHWA and the SHPO.

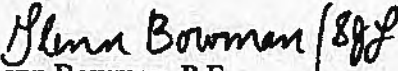
In accordance with 23 CFR Part 774 (Sections 774.3(b) and 774.17) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Pub. L. 109-59, the FHWA and GDOT intend to make a *de minimis* finding based on your concurrence with the Section 106 determination of "No Adverse Effect" for the resources listed in the table below. The Department requests the SHPO's acknowledgement of this *de minimis* finding and also requests that the SHPO's acknowledgement of *de minimis* includes any potential use of additional land from these resources as long as the change is coordinated with the SHPO, and the effect remains no adverse per the 2003 Memorandum of Understanding.

Name of Resource	Nature of Impact	Total Acreage of Eligible Boundary	Total Acreage of Land Use Within Eligible Boundary
Dahlonaga Historic District and East and West Main Street Addenda	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks, retaining walls, and ADA ramps.	8.65	0.05
South Park Street District	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	47	0.22
Hawkins Street Historic District	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	12	0.002
Lear House	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	0.53	0.02
Worley Inn	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	0.46	0.01
Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	0.53	0.02
North Georgia State College and State University	Permanent easement acquisition for the construction of sidewalks and ADA ramps.	49	0.04

A copy of the enclosed documentation has been forwarded to the FHWA and to all consulting parties. Please notify this office of the scheduled consultation date, if any, with the FHWA to discuss these projects. Please respond to this documentation within thirty (30) days of receiving this information.

If additional information is required, please contact Chad Carlson (404-631-1406 or ccarlson@dot.ga.gov) or Sandy Lawrence (404-631-1150 or slawrence@dot.ga.gov) of the Office of Environmental Services. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator

GB/cbc
Enclosure

cc: Rodney N. Barry, P.E., FHWA, w/attachment (Attn: Kelly Wade)
Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, w/attachment
Anthony Tate, GDOT NEPA
Summer Ciomek, New South Associates, Inc.
Stevonn Dilligard, GDOT Project Manager, Office of Program Delivery
Hiral Patel, GDOT Assistant State Program Delivery Engineer
Keisha Jackson, GDOT NEPA

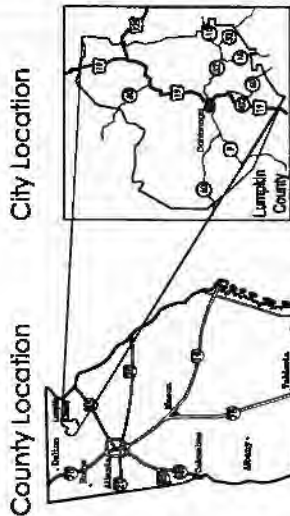
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Lumpkin County

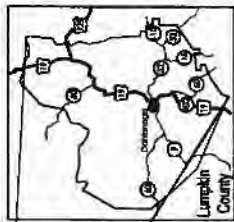
PI No. 0010282/0010681

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ATTACHMENT 4
CONCEPTUAL PLANS**

Project Location Maps
 Complete Streets Program
 City of Dalton, GA
 June 20, 2012



County Location



City Location

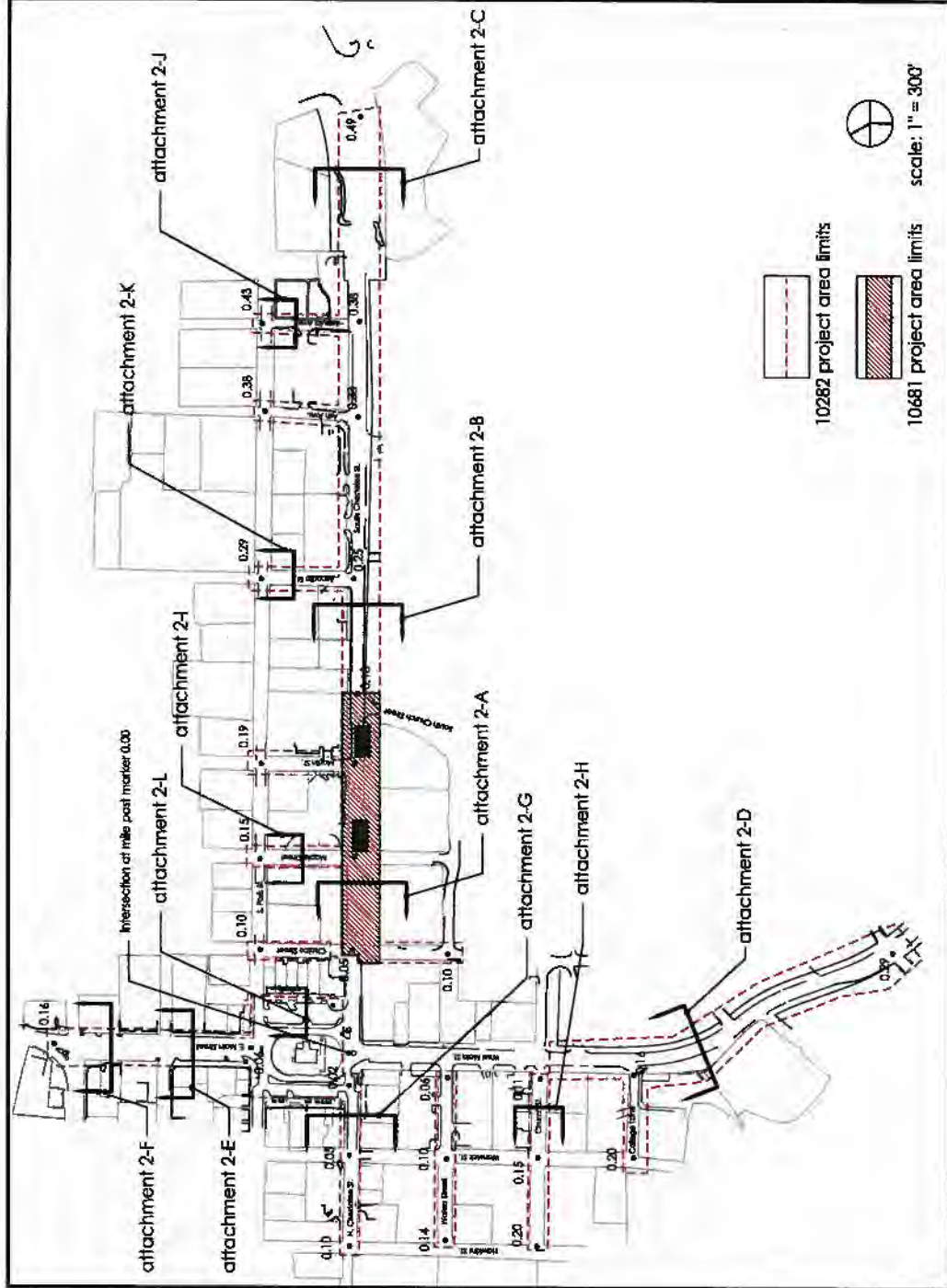
Reference Point: Nearest Mile Marker at 0.00 (South Chestatee Street & West Main Street Intersection)

Project Locations	10681: Beginning & Ending	10282: Beginning & Ending
South Chestatee St.	0.05	0.18
Choice Street Intersection (Project Beginning Point)		
College Entrance/ South Church Street (Project Ending Point)		

NOTE: There are multiple streets and intersections. The points below represent the beginning and ending points for each street.

- South Chestatee St. (0.18-0.49)
- Choice St. (E. of South Chestatee Street) (0.05-0.10)
- Choice St. (W. of South Chestatee Street) (0.05-0.10)
- Maple St. (0.10-0.15)
- Martin St. (0.15-0.19)
- Arcoada St. (0.25-0.29)
- Ash Ave. (0.33-0.38)
- Schultz Ave. (0.38-0.43)
- West Main St. (0.11-0.29)
- East Main St. (0.00-0.14)
- N. Chestatee St. (0.02-0.10)
- Waters St. (0.08-0.14)
- Church St. (0.11-0.20)
- College Lane (0.16-0.20)

ATTACHMENT 1
 Project Site Location



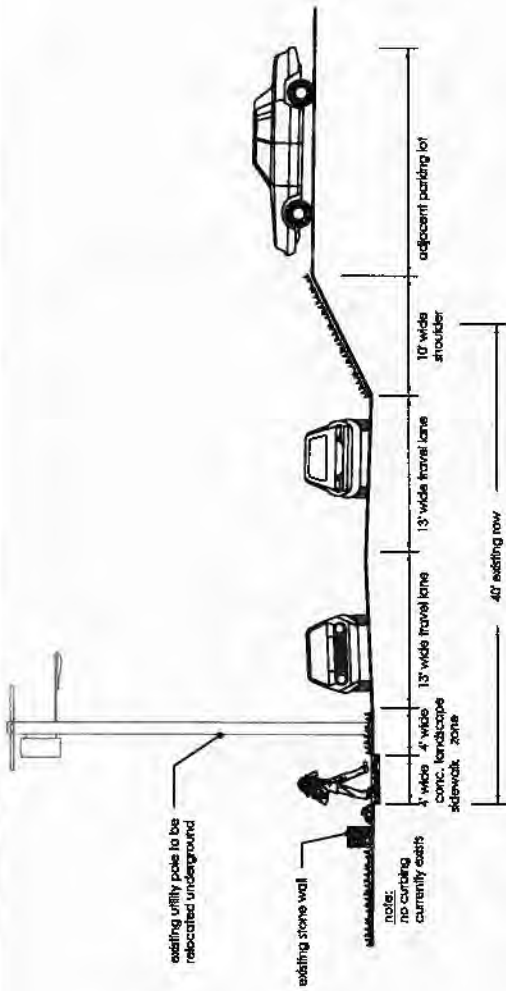
10282 project area limits

10681 project area limits

scale: 1" = 300'

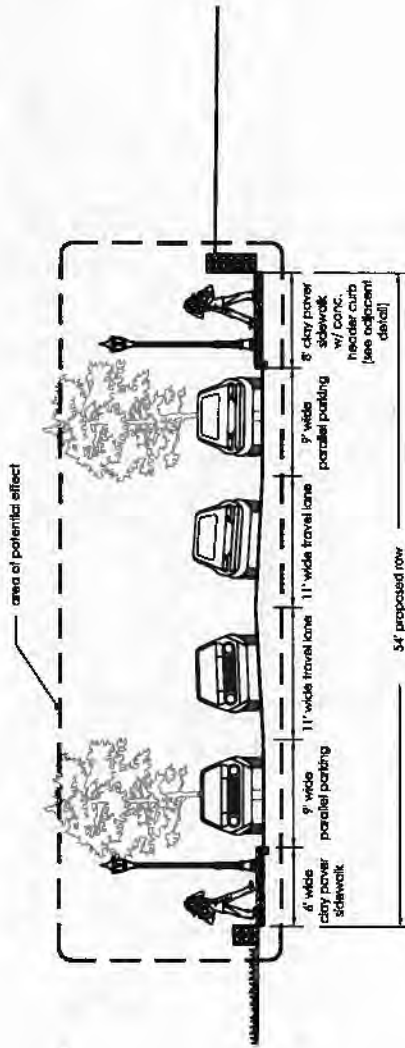
ATTACHMENT 2-A

**10681: South Chestatee Street
(Choice St. to College Entrance)**



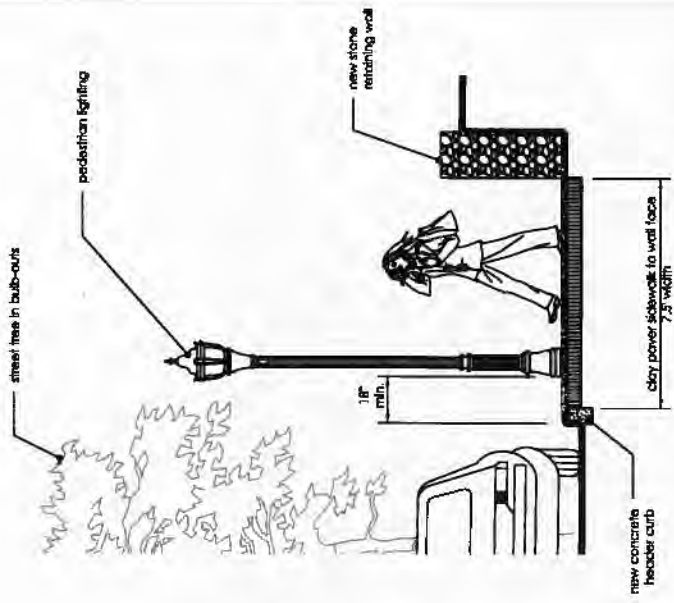
A - existing typical section - south chestatee street

scale: 1" = 10'



A - proposed typical section - south chestatee street

scale: 1" = 10'

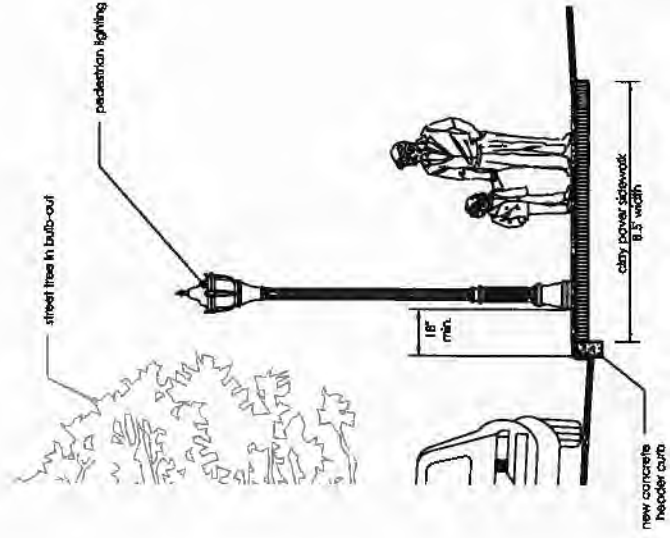
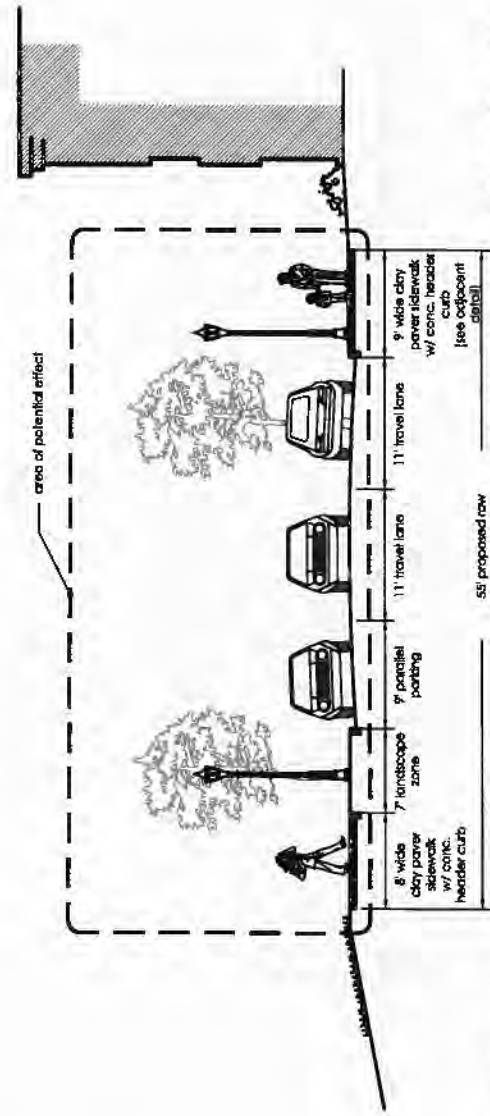
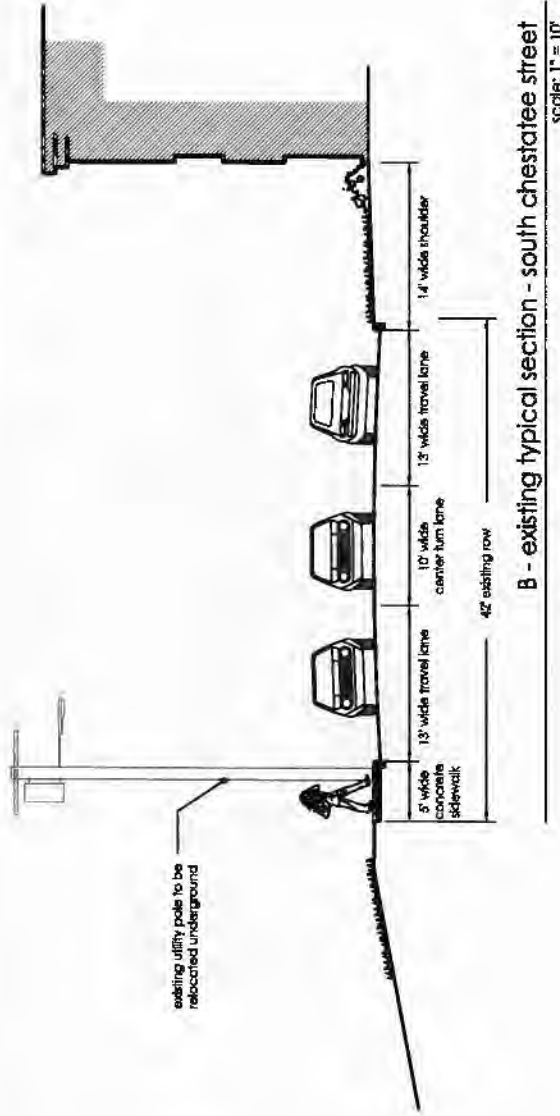


enlarged view: pedestrian zone

not to scale

ATTACHMENT 2-B

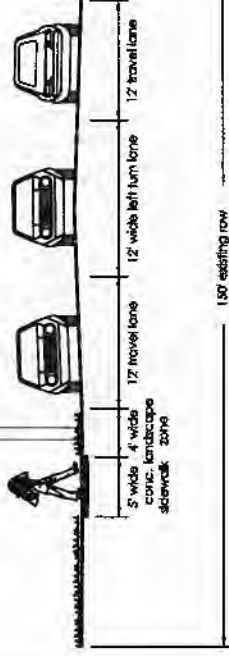
**10282: South Chestatee Street
(College Entrance to Schultz Ave.)**



enlarged view: pedestrian zone
not to scale

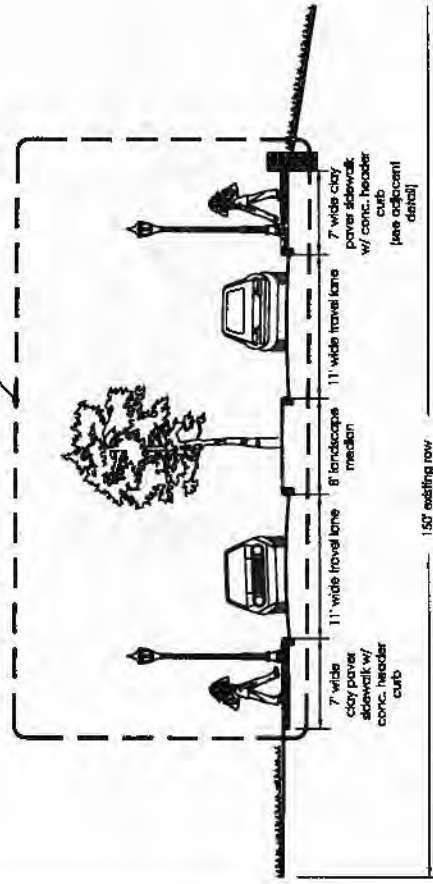
ATTACHMENT 2-C
10282: South Chestatee Street
(Schultz Ave. to Morrison Moore Pkwy.)

existing utility poles to be relocated underground

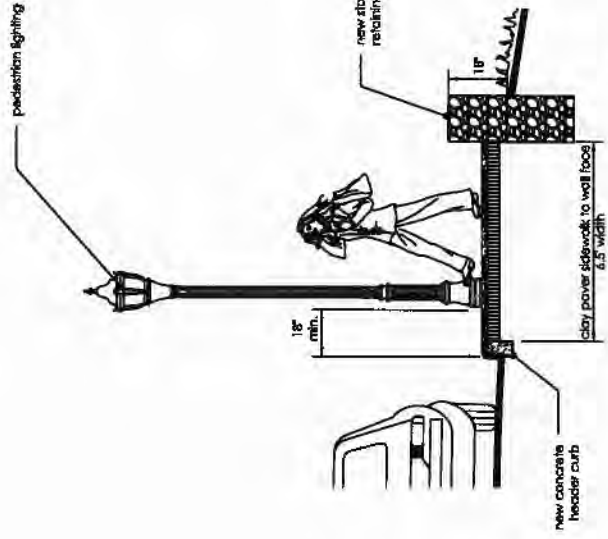


C - existing typical section - south chestatee street
 scale: 1" = 10'

area of potential effect



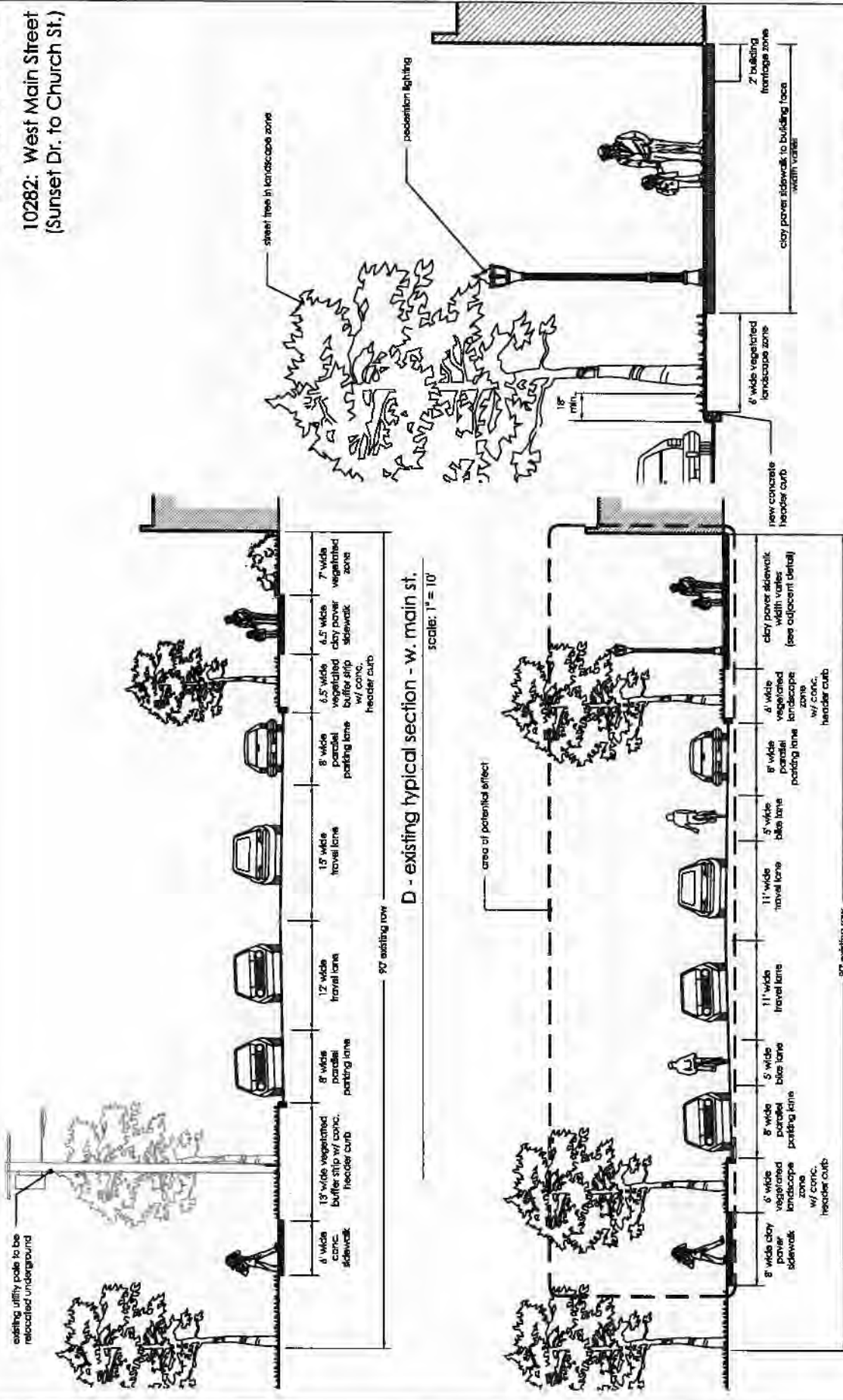
C - proposed typical section - south chestatee street
 scale: 1" = 10'



enlarged view: pedestrian zone
 not to scale

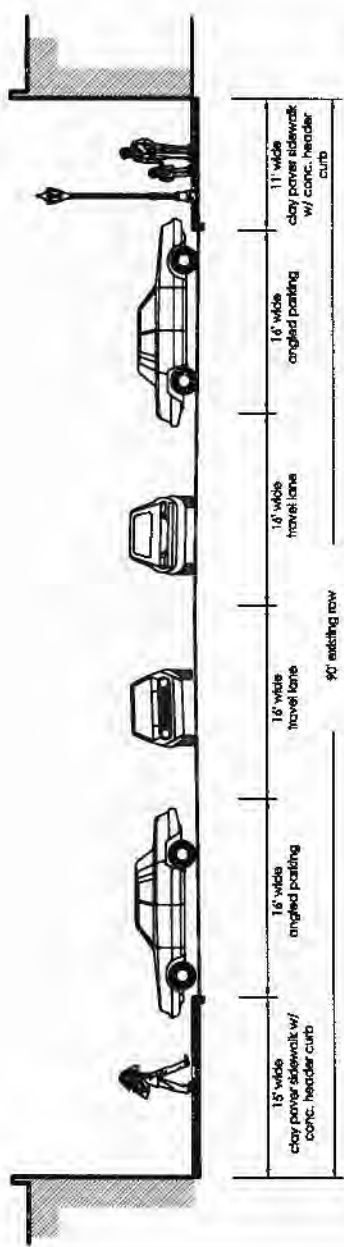
ATTACHMENT 2-D

10282: West Main Street
(Sunset Dr. to Church St.)

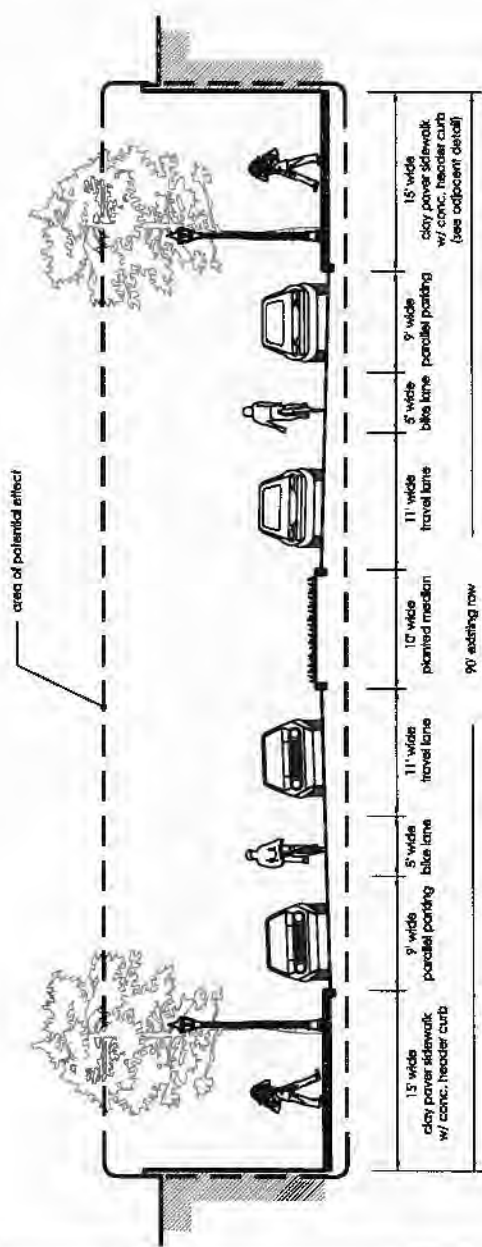


enlarged view: pedestrian zone
not to scale

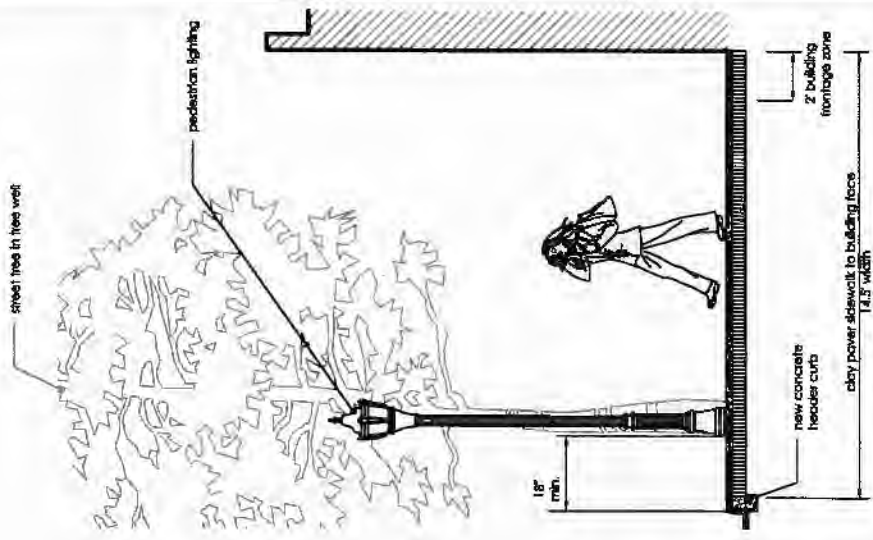
ATTACHMENT 2-E
10282: East Main Street
(Park St. to Meader St.)



E - existing typical section - e. main st.
 scale: 1" = 10'



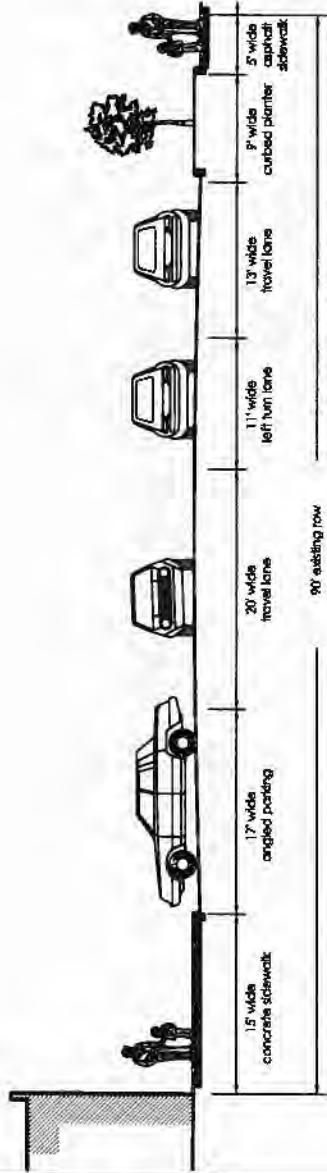
E - proposed typical section - e. main st.
 scale: 1" = 10'



enlarged view: pedestrian zone
 not to scale

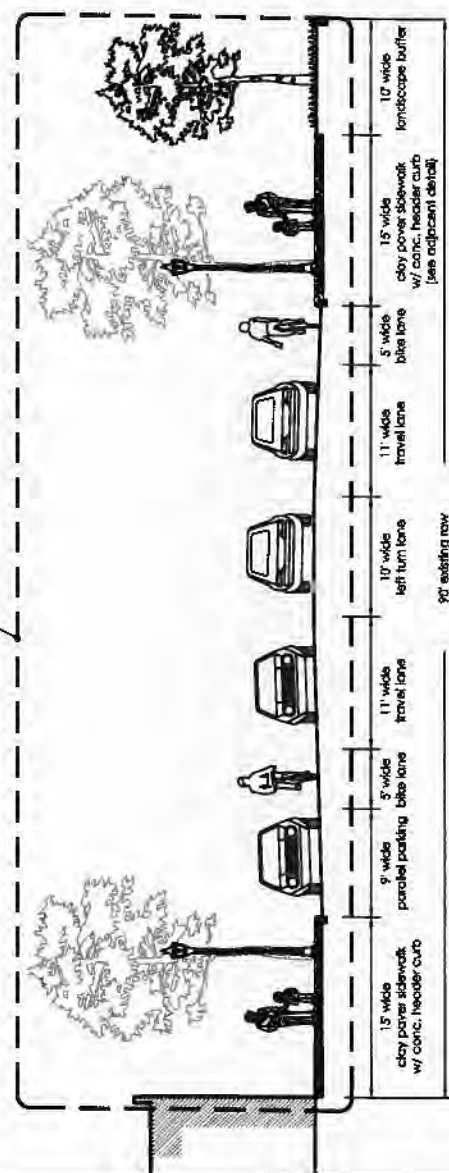
ATTACHMENT 2-F

10282: East Main Street
(Meader St. to Grove St.)

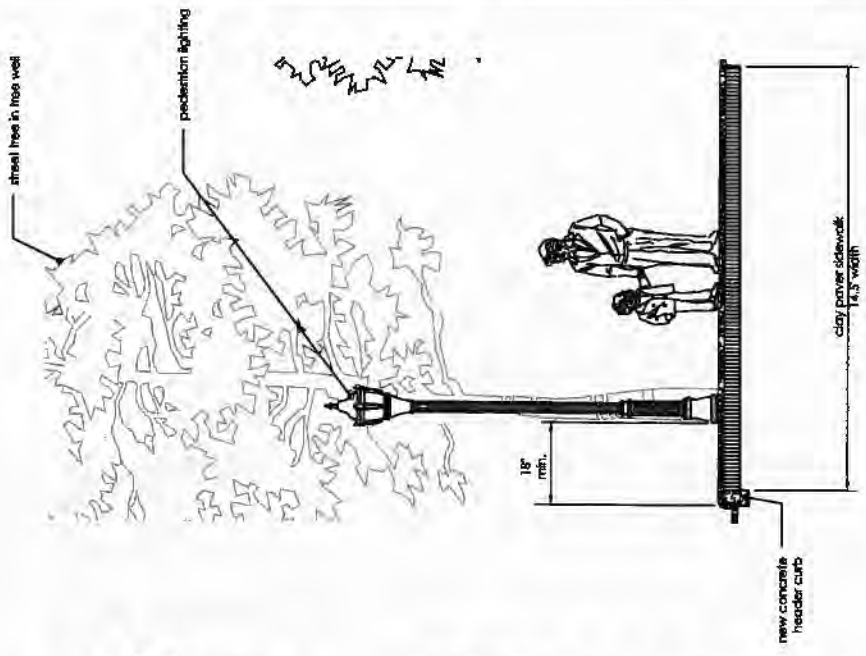


F - existing typical section - e. main st.
scale: 1" = 10'

area of potential affect



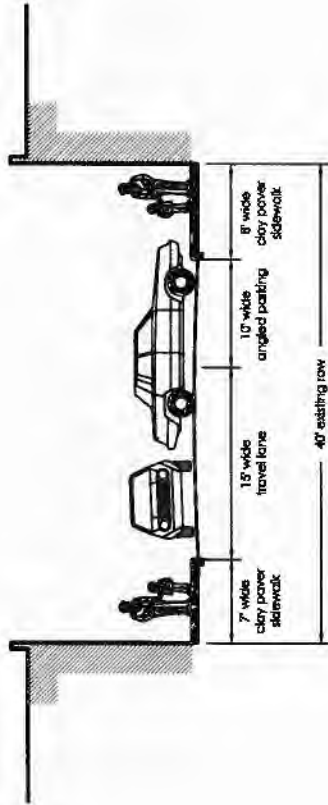
F - proposed typical section - e. main st.
scale: 1" = 10'



enlarged view: pedestrian zone
scale: 1" = 10'

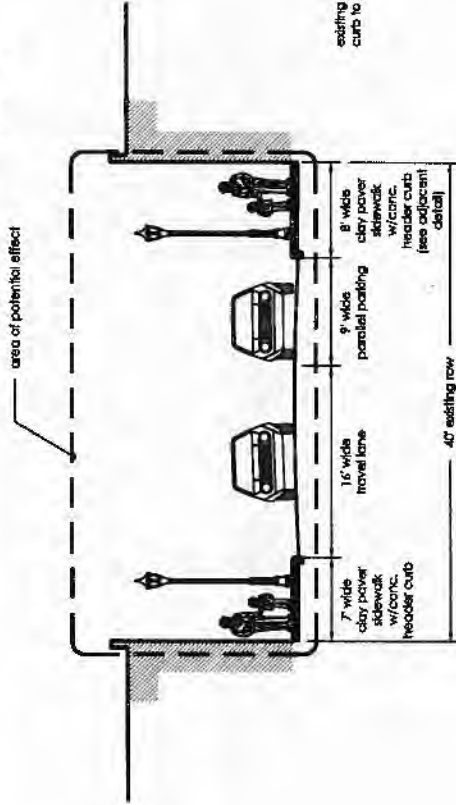
ATTACHMENT 2-G

10282: North Chestattee
(Hawkins St. to W. Main St.)



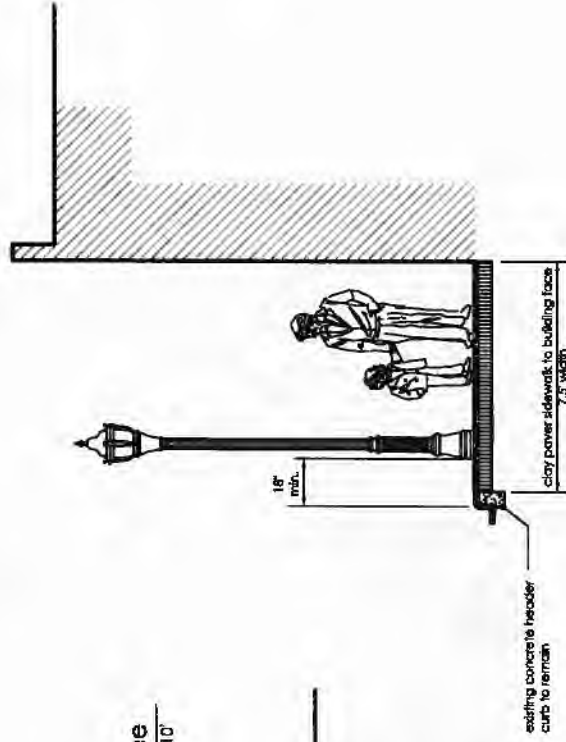
G - existing typical section - n. chestattee

scale: 1" = 10'



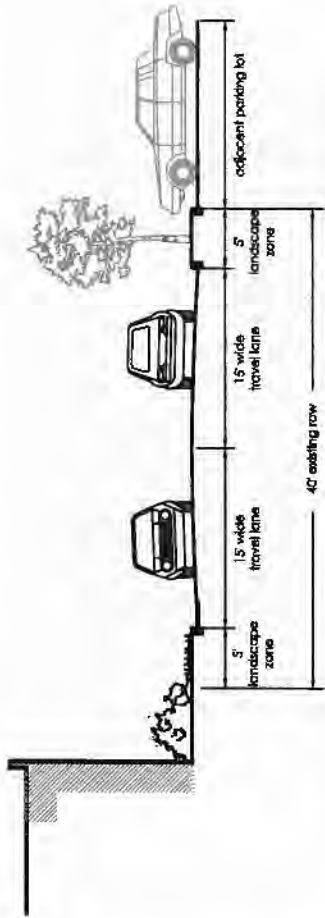
G - proposed typical section - n. chestattee

scale: 1" = 10'



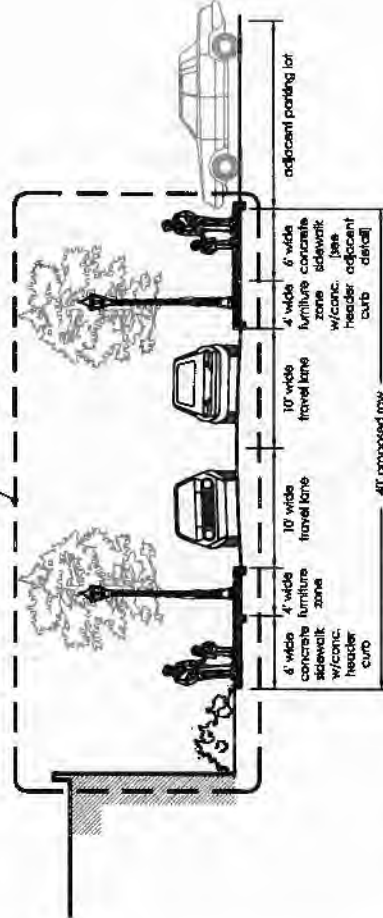
enlarged view: pedestrian zone
not to scale

ATTACHMENT 2-H
10282: Secondary Commercial Streets without on-street parking
Church Street
Waters Street

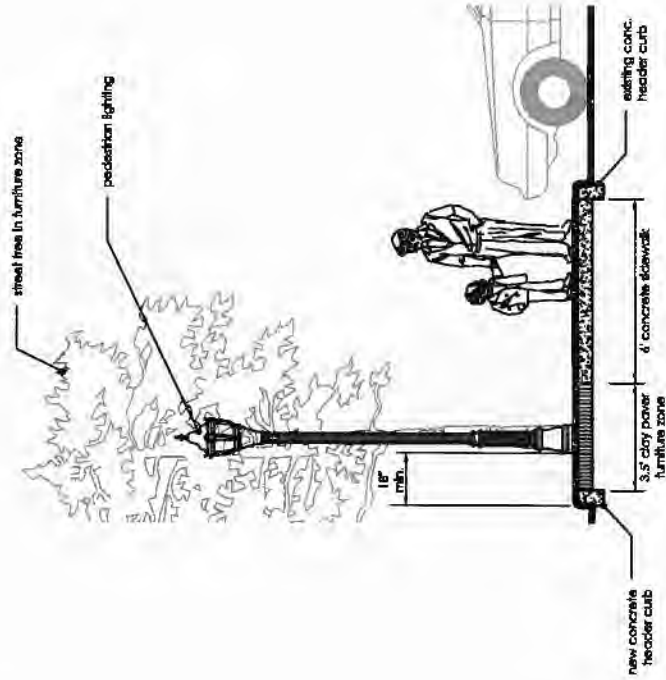


H - existing typical section - secondary commercial w/o parking
 scale: 1" = 10'

area of potential effect



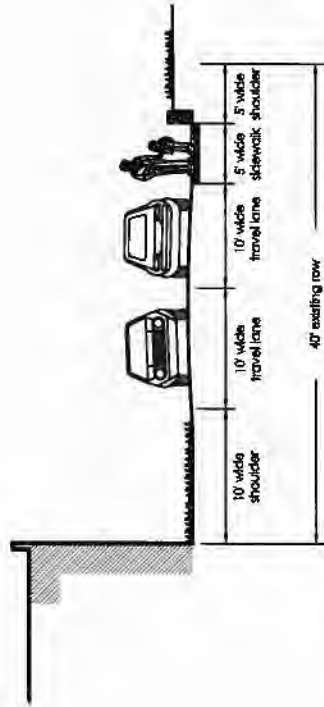
H - proposed typical section - secondary commercial w/o parking
 scale: 1" = 10'



enlarged view: pedestrian zone
 not to scale

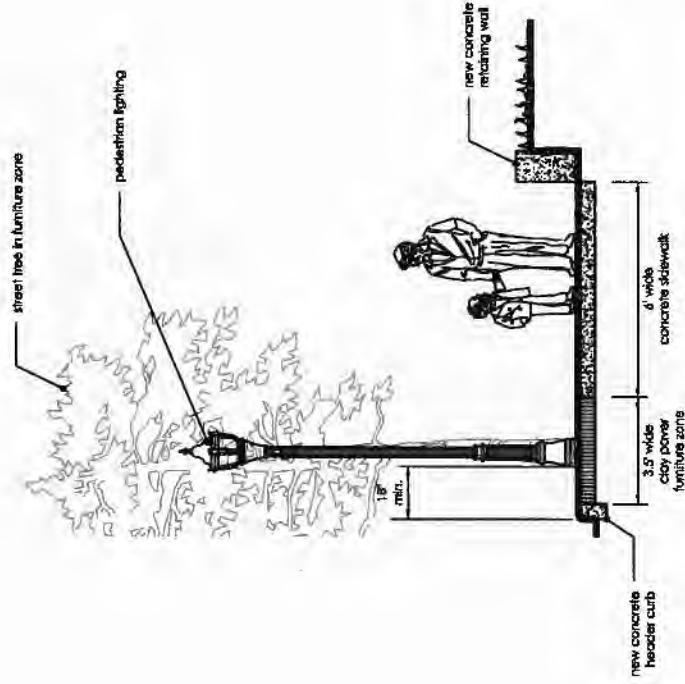
ATTACHMENT 2-1

10282: Secondary Commercial Streets with on-street parking
 Choice Street
 Marlin Street

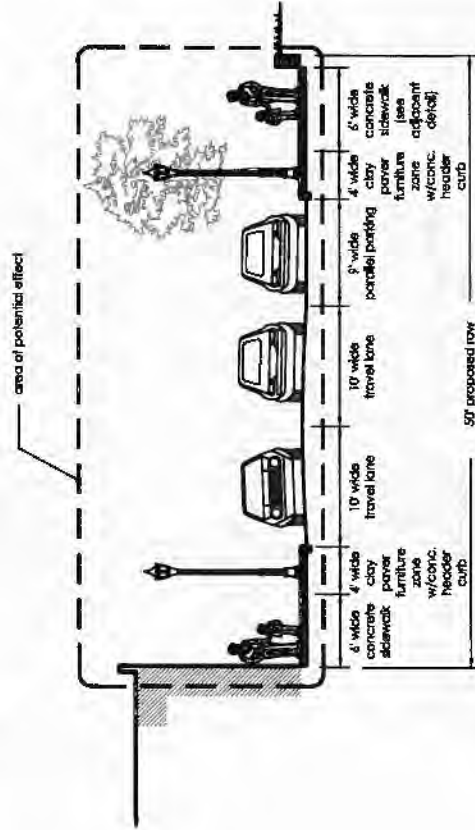


1 - existing typical section - secondary commercial with parking

scale: 1" = 10'



enlarged view: pedestrian zone
 not to scale

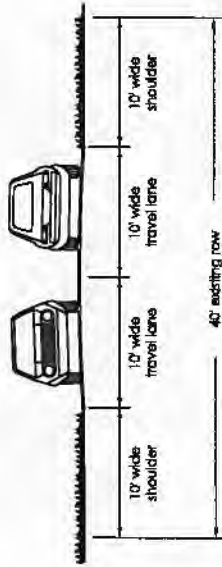


1 - proposed typical section - secondary commercial with parking

scale: 1" = 10'

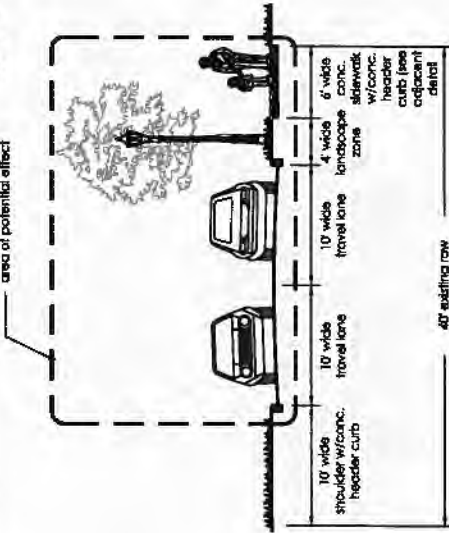
ATTACHMENT 2-J

10282: Residential Streets with one side affected
 College Lane
 Ash Avenue
 Schultz Avenue



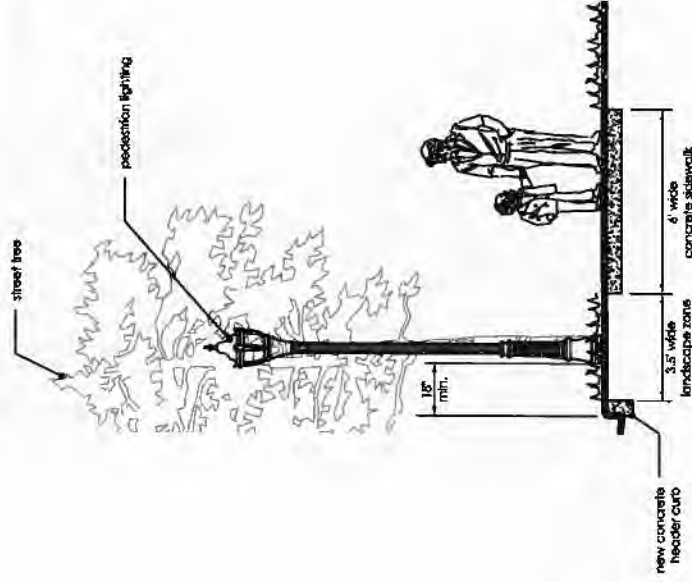
J - existing typical section - residential streets with one side affected

scale: 1" = 10'



J - proposed typical section - residential streets with one side affected

scale: 1" = 10'

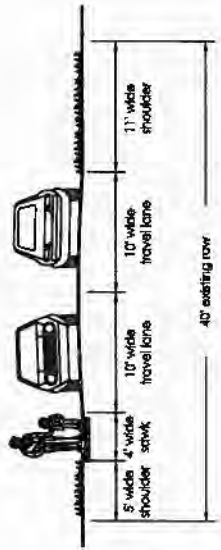


enlarged view: pedestrian zone

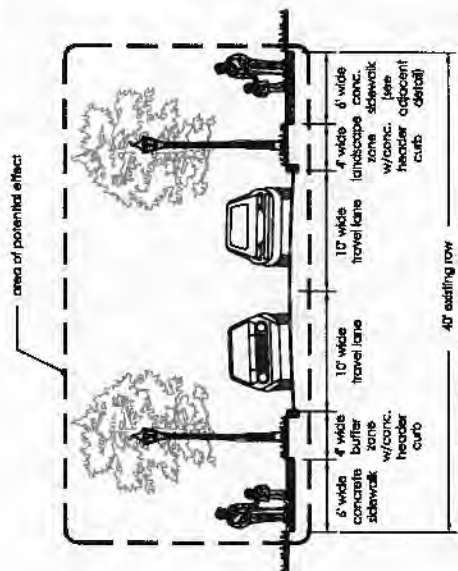
not to scale

ATTACHMENT 2-K

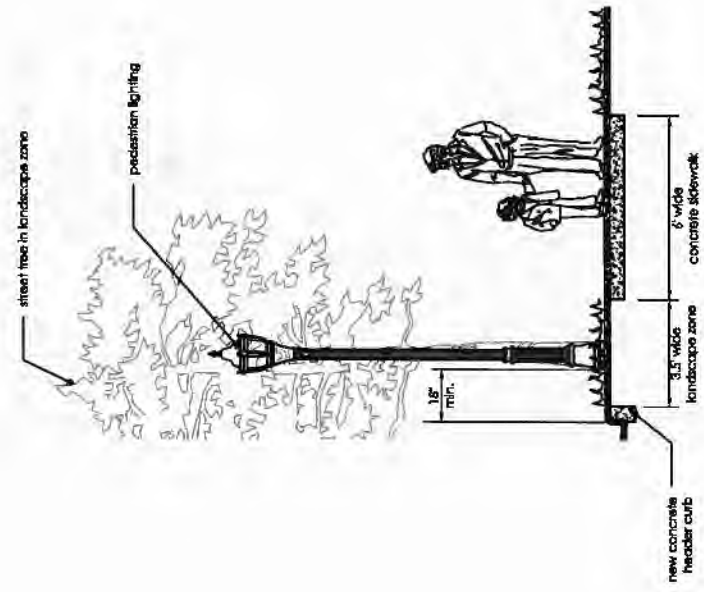
10282: Residential Streets with one side affected
 Church Street
 Waters Street
 Martin Streets
 Arcadia Street



K - existing typical section - residential streets with two sides affected
 scale: 1" = 10'

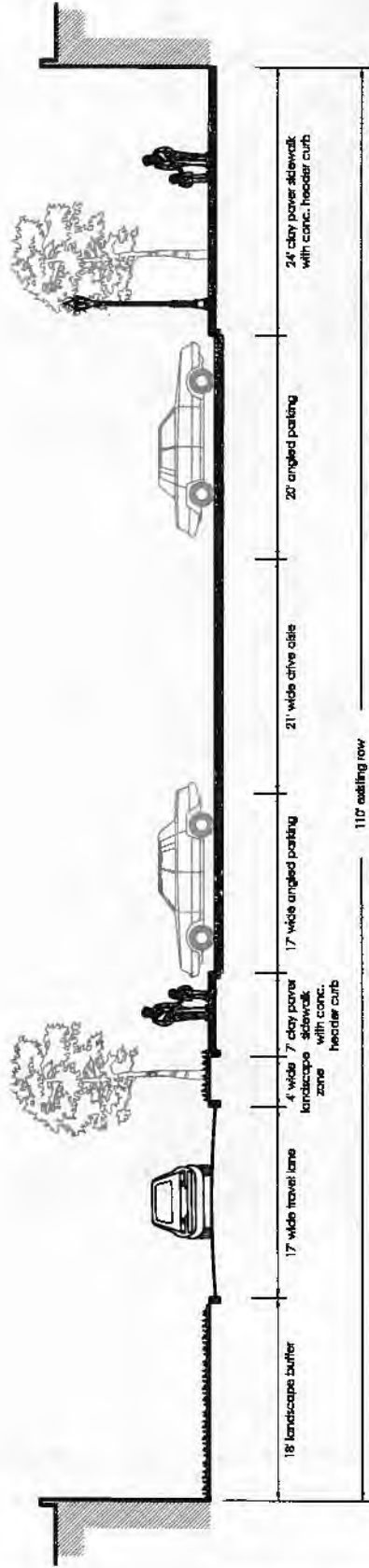


K - proposed typical section - residential streets with two sides affected
 scale: 1" = 10'

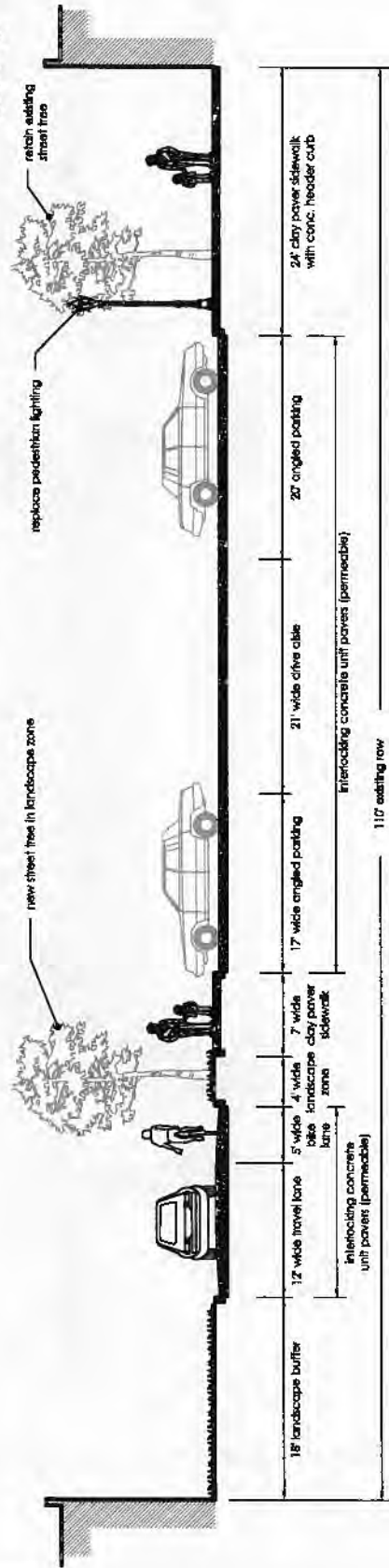


enlarged view: pedestrian zone
 not to scale

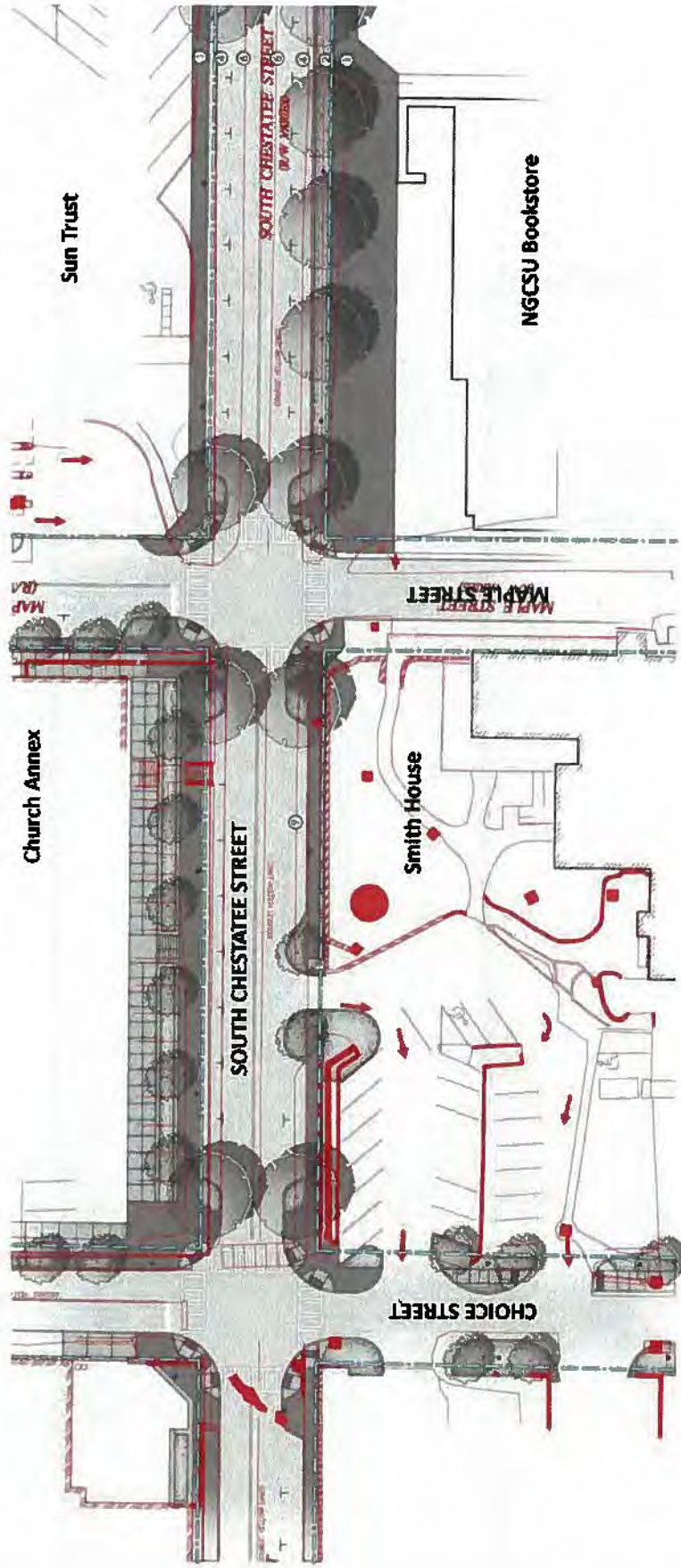
ATTACHMENT 2-L
10282: The Square



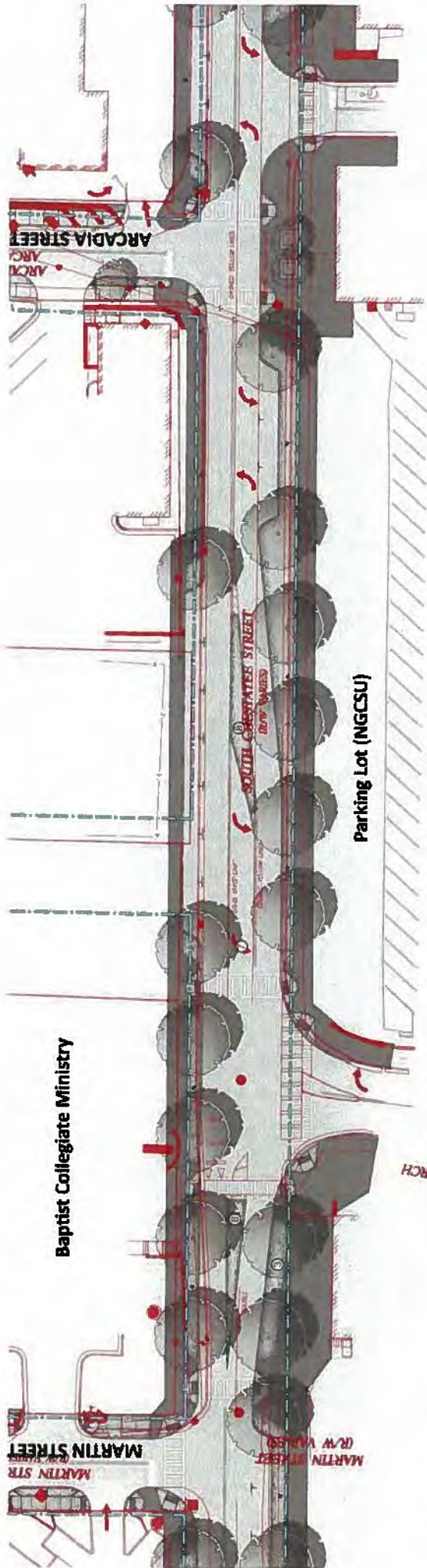
L - existing typical section - downtown square
 scale: 1" = 10'



L - proposed typical section - downtown square
 scale: 1" = 10'

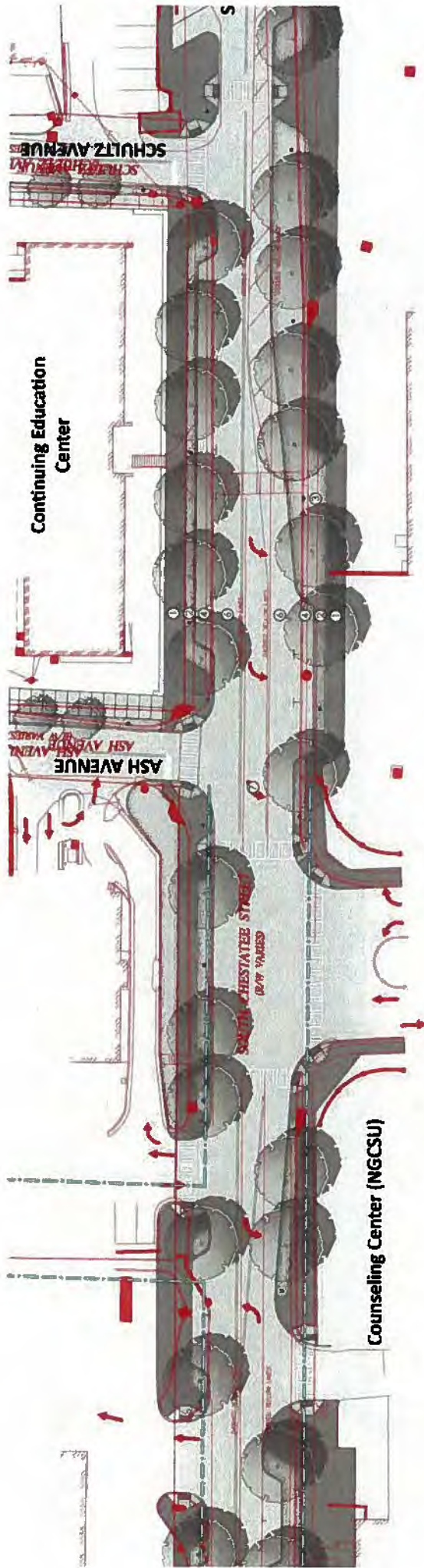


DAHLONEGA COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM
CHESTATEE STREET CORRIDOR DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR

- ① BRICK PAVEMENT SIDEWALK (MIN. 5' WIDE)
- ② 4' WIDE PLANTER AND TREE ZONE
- ③ VEGETATED TREE ZONE (MIN. 4' WIDE)
- ④ 9' WIDE PARALLEL PARKING SPACE
- ⑤ ANGLED PARKING SPACES
- ⑥ 11' WIDE TRAVEL LANE
- ⑦ 10' WIDE DEDICATED TURN LANE
- ⑧ VEGETATED MEDIAN (VARYING WIDTHS)
- ⑨ BUS LOADING ZONE

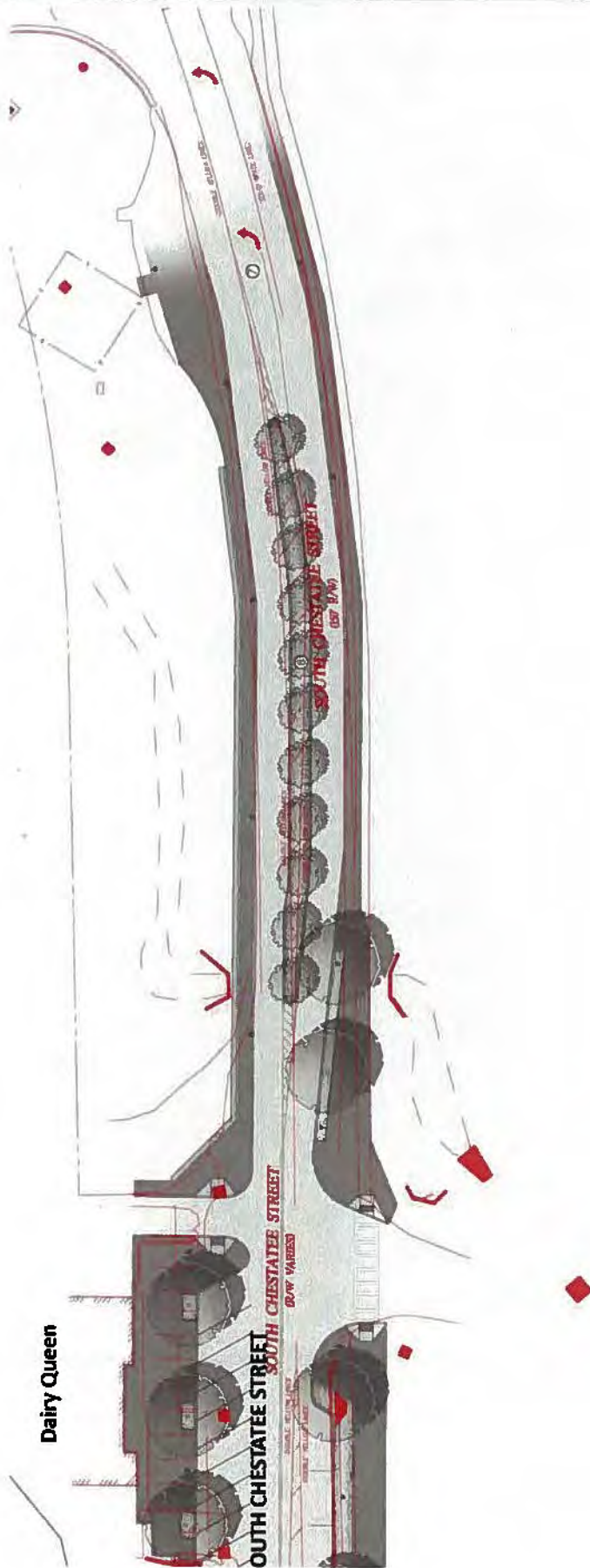


COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR

- ① BRICK PAVED SIDEWALK (MIN. 5' WIDE)
- ② 4' WIDE FURNITURE AND TREE ZONE
- ③ VEGETATED TREE ZONE (MIN. 4' WIDE)
- ④ 9' WIDE PARALLEL PARKING SPACE
- ⑤ ANGLED PARKING SPACES
- ⑥ 11' WIDE TRAVEL LANE
- ⑦ 10' WIDE DEDICATED TURN LANE
- ⑧ VEGETATED MEDIAN (PARTING WIDTHS)
- ⑨ BUS LOADING ZONE

Dairy Queen

SOUTH CHESTATEE STREET
SOUTH CHESTATEE STREET
SOUTH CHESTATEE STREET
SOUTH CHESTATEE STREET

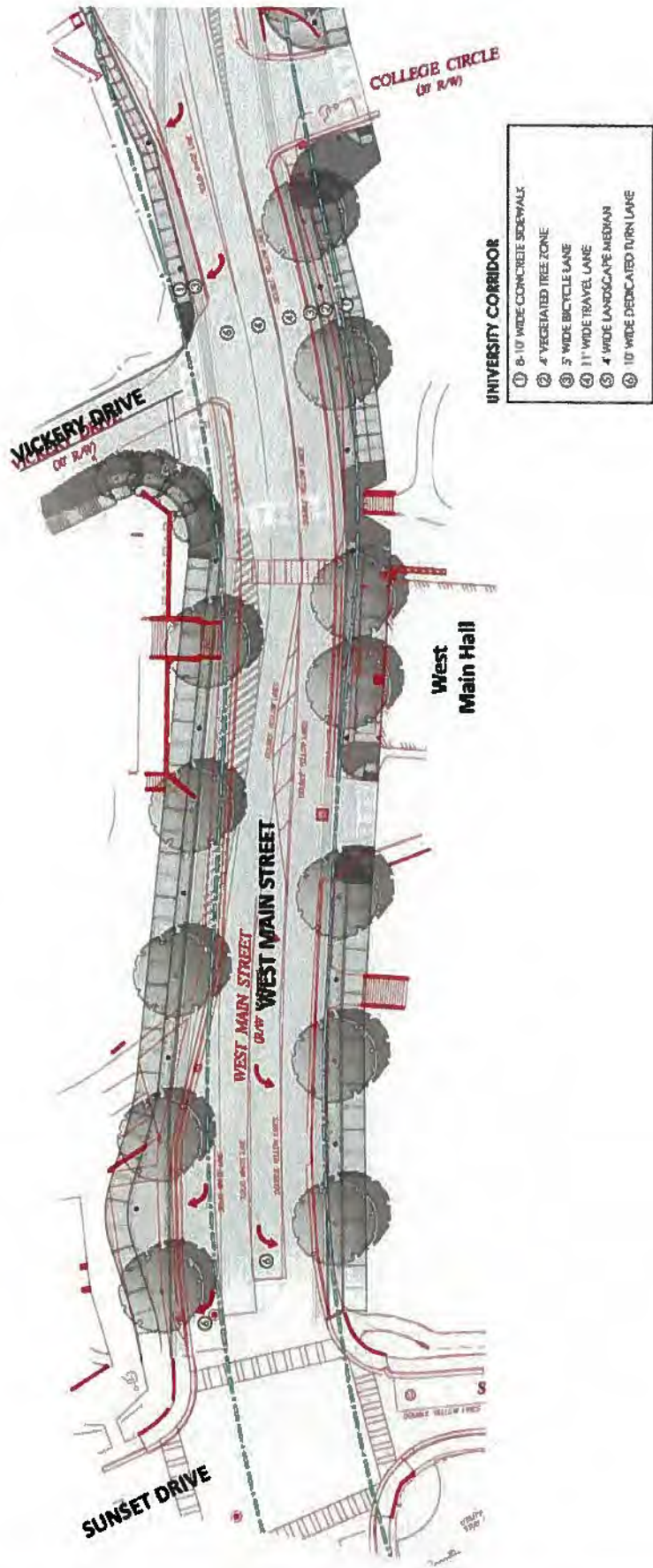


11th & 20th St.



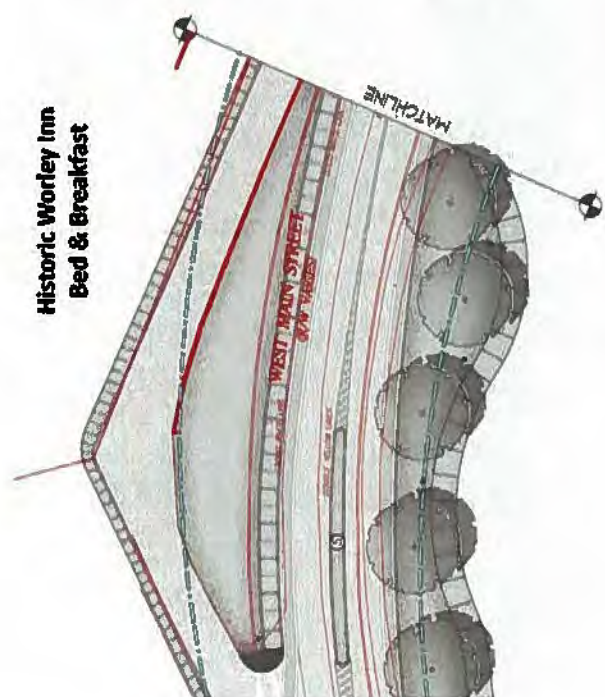
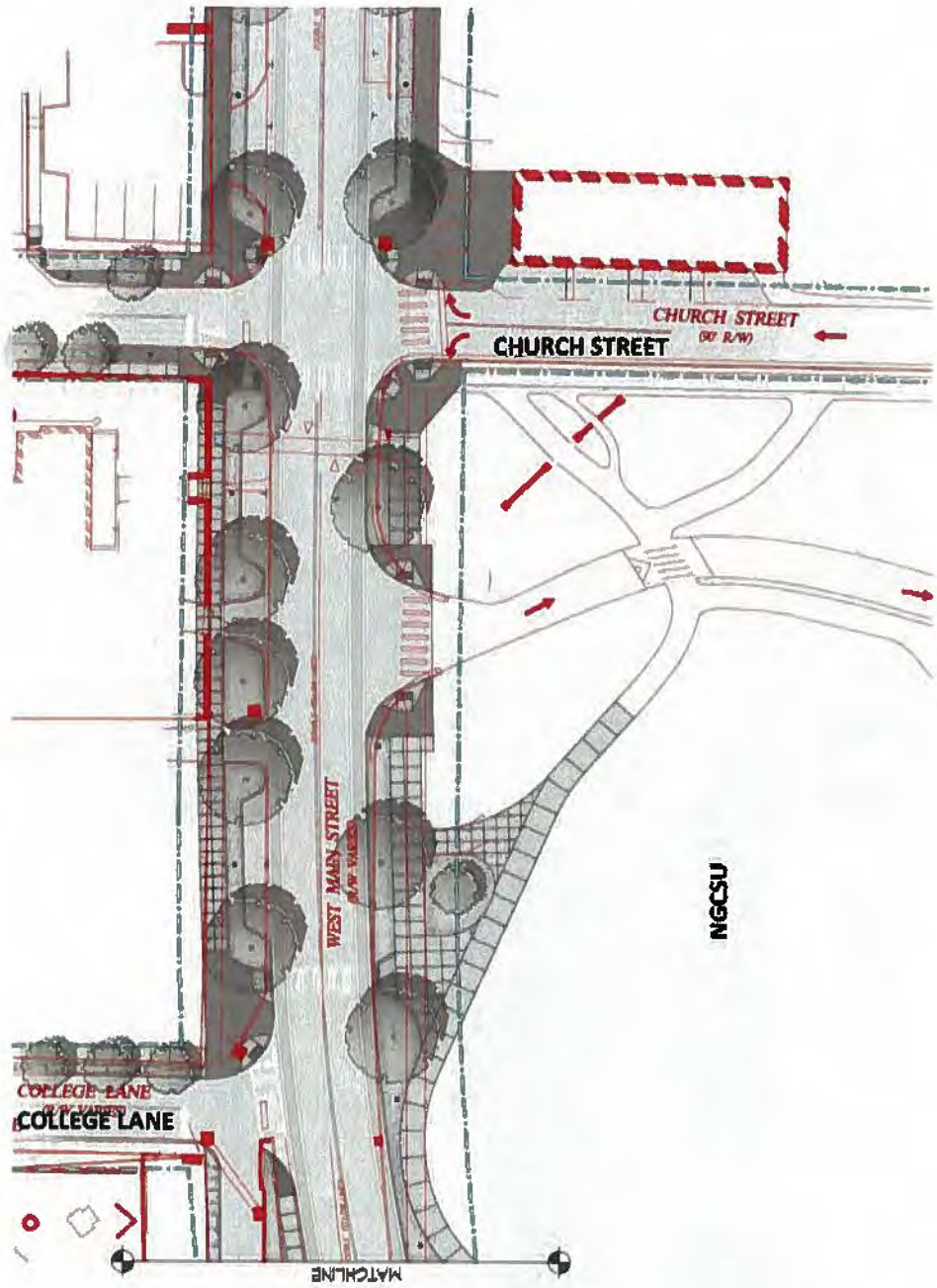
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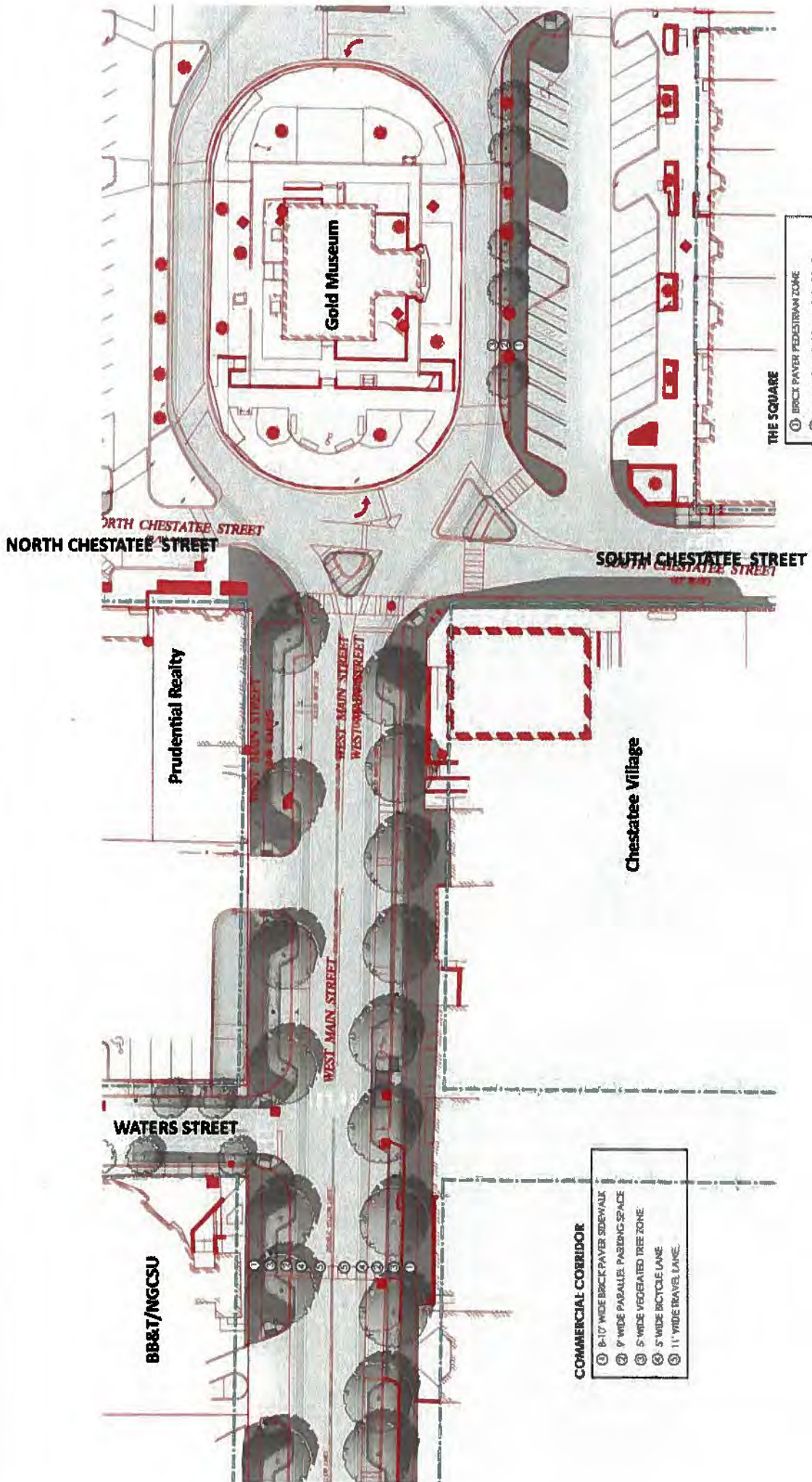
Prepared by: Robert and Company for: City of Babylon



DAHLONEGA COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

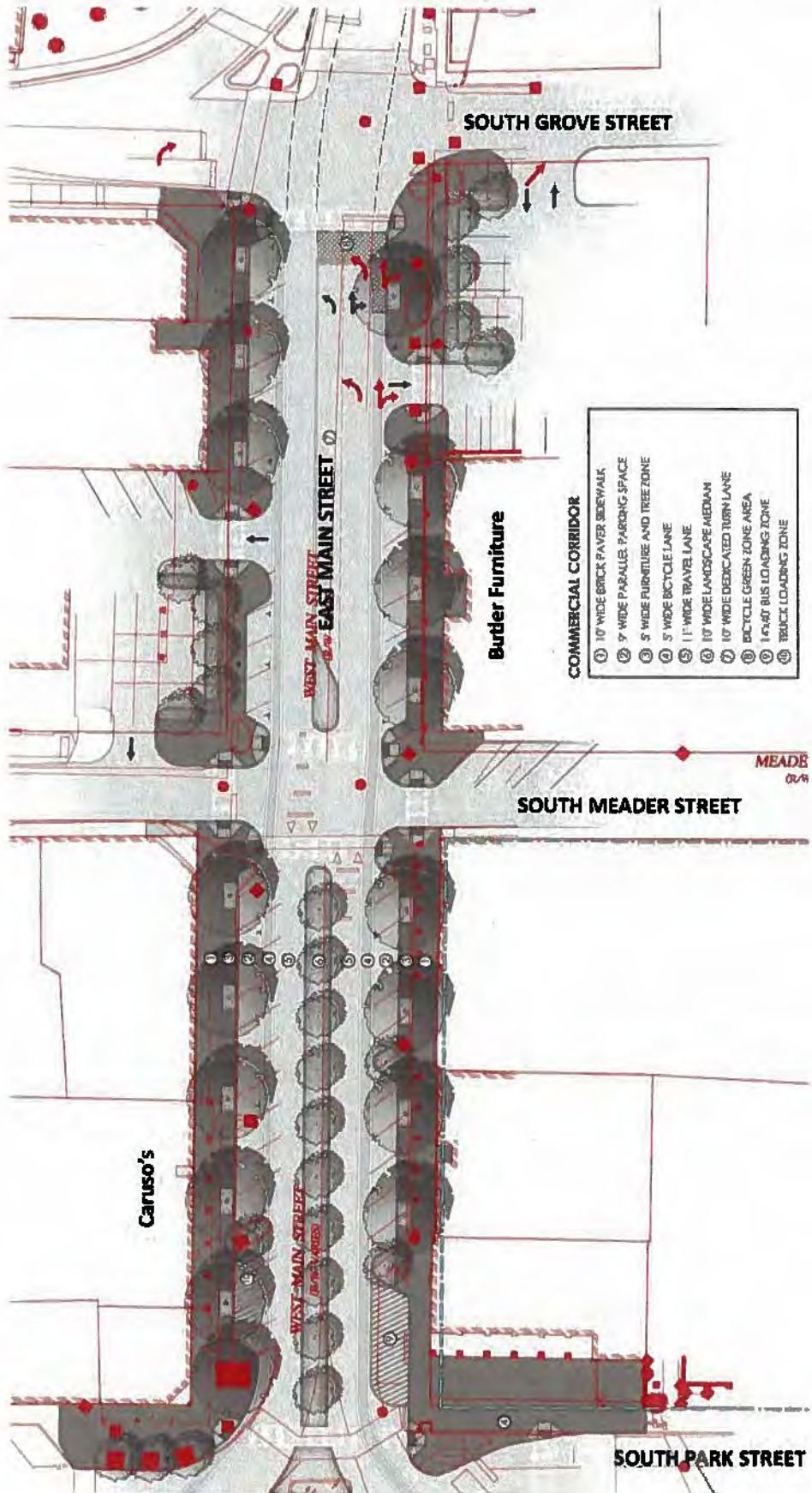
MAIN STREET CORRIDOR





- THE SQUARE**
- ① BRICK PAVEMENT PEDESTRIAN ZONE
 - ② 5' WIDE FURNITURE AND TREE ZONE
 - ③ 5' WIDE BICYCLE LANE
 - ④ REVITALIZED PLAZA SPACE

- COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR**
- ① 8-10' WIDE BRICK PAVEMENT SIDEWALK
 - ② 9' WIDE PARALLEL PARKING SPACE
 - ③ 5' WIDE VEGETATED TREE ZONE
 - ④ 5' WIDE BICYCLE LANE
 - ⑤ 11' WIDE TRAVEL LANE



SOUTH GROVE STREET

WEST MAIN STREET
EAST MAIN STREET

Butler Furniture

- COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR**
- ① 10' WIDE BRICK PAVEMENT SIDEWALK
 - ② 7' WIDE PARALLEL PARKING SPACE
 - ③ 5' WIDE FURNITURE AND TREE ZONE
 - ④ 5' WIDE BICYCLE LANE
 - ⑤ 11' WIDE TRAVEL LANE
 - ⑥ 10' WIDE LANDSCAPE MEDIAN
 - ⑦ 10' WIDE DEDICATED TURN LANE
 - ⑧ BICYCLE GREEN ZONE AREA
 - ⑨ 14x80 BUS LOADING ZONE
 - ⑩ BRICK LOADING ZONE

MEADE
02/16

SOUTH MEADER STREET

Caruso's

WEST MAIN STREET
EAST MAIN STREET

SOUTH PARK STREET

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Lumpkin County

PI No. 0010282/0010681

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

ATTACHMENT 5

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MATERIALS

Dahlonega Complete Streets Program Public Involvement Summary

The project area was identified in a Master Plan created for Dahlonega and approved by the City in August 2008. Stakeholder/public input was a component of the master plan approval process. This project implements portions of their recommendations.

In addition, a Stakeholder Committee was formed to provide input and direction to the design team. This committee consists of the City Engineer, City Manager, Downtown Development Authority Director, City Council member, Mayor, a Local Business Representative, and the College Architect. These meetings were generally informal and consisted of project updates.

Multiple meetings were held to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to offer feedback to the community. These included:

- Existing Conditions Meeting - June 15, 2011 (Dahlonega City Hall – Stakeholder Committee). The design team met with the stakeholder committee to provide initial feedback on the existing conditions of the project area based on fieldwork and survey work to date. Attendance: 14
- Concept Creation Meeting - November 30, 2011 (Dahlonega City Hall). The Design Team introduced the project and then allowed stakeholders to review concepts and offer feedback. The project area was divided into 6 different streetscape "typologies" with their cross-sections and design criteria. The meeting was generally positive and the design team took the feedback and made appropriate changes. Attendance: 35
- Parking Meeting - January 24, 2012 (Dahlonega City Hall). The Design Team met with the Stakeholder Committee and the City Council to discuss issues with the current parking management system and review designs that may affect parking. The meeting was generally positive, and City Council members were aware that long-term parking management solutions are needed for the downtown commercial district. Attendance: 15.
- Concept Presentation Meeting - April 19, 2012 (Dahlonega City Hall). The Design Team held a second meeting for stakeholders to provide feedback on the finalized Project Concept. Stakeholders were able to interact with the design team and review the entire rendered plan. The feedback was generally positive and some alterations were made to the final concept plan based on stakeholder feedback. Attendance: 30.

Major stakeholders: City of Dahlonega, North Georgia College and State University, the North Georgia College and State University Development Foundation, Dahlonega Downtown Development Authority, Visitors to the City of Dahlonega, Downtown Business Owners, and nearby residents.

Robert and Company

Engineers, Architects, Planners
229 Peachtree Street, NE
International Tower, Suite 2000
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 577-4000 FAX: (404) 577-7119

DAHLONEGA COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM COMMUNITY PRESENTATION – COMMENTS ON STUDY AREAS

DATE & TIME: November 30, 2011

ATTENDEES (RAC) Robert Benson
Andrew Kohr
David Sprinkle

Tyler Coley
Brad Davis
Brian Klutz

35 people in attendance (City staff, College, and other stakeholders)

STUDY AREA 1: COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR TYPE A: W. Main from Church St. to Square

- Intense concern with losing parking spaces
- Addition of street trees very favorable
- Must narrow lanes to slow traffic
- Be carefull of large trees at Visitors Center Plaza, can't block second story balcony
- Bikes lanes may conflict with bus loading on E. Main
- Alternate to thermoplastic crosswalks would be brick/stamped asphalt/etc.

STUDY AREA 2: COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR TYPE B: S. Chestatee

- A concern about the narrowing of traffic lanes and reducing the dedicated center turn lane
- No traffic around BBQ Restaurant (there is gap in traffic)
- Accessibility challenges with some buildings along South Chestatee due to grade
- Dedicated left hand turn lane too short
- Parallel parking does not work

STUDY AREA 3: SECONDARY COMMERCIAL

- Parking spaces are very important
- Need to expand existing off street public parking areas or add new ones w/ convenient access to downtown business core.
- A "close in" parking deck with a commercial space on ground would be well received (if funding can be found)
- Sidewalk connections to Main & Chestatee are important, at least on one side of secondary commercial streets.
- Lighting improvements needed on these streets
- City needs to pursue additional close in off street parking sites

STUDY AREA 4: UNIVERSITY CORRIDOR

- Check visibility at W. Main & Vickery
- Consider raised crosswalks to enhance pedestrian safety, visibility and visual attractiveness of corridor

STUDY AREA 5: RESIDENTIAL CONNECTOR

- Tree limb maintenance on Park
- Bike Lanes if possible? even if narrow? Many prof./students in the residential areas bike to university

STUDY AREA 6: DOWNTOWN SQUARE

- Examine the effect of semi-truck traffic through square
 - Not supposed to be there, but many trucks are – lots of curb jumping
- Bike Lanes? How will they work at angled parking
- Are we going to change from angled to parallel?
- Can bikes be that close to back ends of parked cars
- Traffic flow around Square
- Landscaping at Visitor Center – Need Open space for Christmas trees
 - Whole plaza area widely used – mobile container plants may be necessary
 - Views from balcony are important
 - Bus/Carriage parking adjacent to Visitor's Center
 - Re-examine crosswalks – may need to do a study of pedestrian movements at Visitors Center