

City of Stevenson

Phone (509)427-5970 FAX (509) 427-8202

7121 E Loop Road, PO Box 371 Stevenson, Washington 98648

October 8, 2021

Michael Williams SW Region Local Programs Engineer 11018 NE 51st Circle Vancouver, WA 98682-6686

Re: 1st Street Pedestrian Amenities and Overlook Project

Dear Michael,

This letter is to summarize the history and issues of the City of Stevenson's 1st Street Pedestrian Amenities and Overlook project (attached exhibit A) and to work together on a path forward. Our goal is to reach an agreement which will allow the City to construct this project and ensure the long-term infrastructure needs of the residents are met.

Executive Summary

The City was awarded a grant in 2019 to construct vegetated curb extensions, new sidewalk, crosswalk striping, a pedestrian overlook, connection to an existing waterfront path, and street scaping. This will slow down traffic, extend walkability for our downtown core, improve safety for pedestrians and allow a safe alternative access to the City's waterfront. The project has stalled when it was discovered the WSDOT, not the City owned the right of way. A turn-back agreement would be required between the City and WSDOT to construct the project as described in the grant proposal and agreements. The timeline to finalize a turn-back agreement would not be in line with the grant requirements. The options posed to the City are:

- Construct an additional \$300k worth of street improvements to meet DOT standards, which may be torn out when another street is moved in the next 5-years;
- Accept a turn-back agreement to take over the right of way on a road which is in substandard condition; only maintenance projects can take place and the WSDOT budget is stretched thin; or
- 3) Shelve the project until the turn-back issue can be addressed and risk having to refund the \$133k in reimbursements already received for design if the project cannot move to construction by January 2030.
- 4) Abandon the project sooner than January 2030 and refund the \$133k grant reimbursements.

History

In 1996, WSDOT and the City of Stevenson partnered on the Stevenson Two-Way Couplet project. This involved acquisition of rights of way to extend First Street from Seymour Street west and from Columbia Avenue east to connect to Second Street/SR 14. WSDOT acquired the rights of way and at the end of the project only turned back portions of slope and longitudinal easements along First Street to the City of Stevenson (attached exhibit B).

City and WSDOT staff have changed through the 25 years since the project was completed, and most of the history regarding the ownership of the rights of way was lost. The City has been maintaining all of First Street, including repairing potholes, plowing, etc., for at least the past 15 years. Improvements such as the 1st Street Pedestrian Amenities project have been programmed by the City, RTC, and WSDOT. Additional improvements had been conceptualized by the City, including reconstructing the failing roadway along First Street from Columbia Avenue to Second Street.

Issue

In March 2021, around the time plans reached 75% design, we were notified by WSDOT that the City did not own the right of way and to move forward the project would need to either comply with DOT standards or the City would need to take over the right of way through a turn-back agreement. Since then, the City has been working with WSDOT to understand the DOT requirements as it pertains to this project and evaluate the conditions under which a turn-back agreement would be accepted.

The City is unable to move forward with the project and comply with DOT standards at this time. A feasibility study is beginning to look at the shifting of Columbia Avenue 40' to the east (attached exhibit C). DOT standards would require stormwater upgrades at the intersection of Columbia Avenue and First Street which the City is not willing to spend time or money on until the results of the study are completed. The same goes for the requirement of a traffic study at the same intersection. A rough estimate for the cost to comply with the entirety of the standards is \$300k.

In conversations with past administration, the Stevenson Two-Way Couplet Project strained the relationship between WSDOT and the City in part because the Stevenson community demanded a two-way couplet design instead of the WSDOT engineers' preferred one-way couplet. There were concerns about the quality of construction, some of which were outlined in a letter from the City Administrator Mary Ann Duncan-Cole to the Construction Project Engineer Jim McClellan on October 8, 1998 (attached exhibit D). Specifically, Mary Ann stated concerns over pavement settlement near the retaining wall. Jim's response in a letter dated September 25, 1998 (attached exhibit E) were that the settlement would continue to be monitored to see how it behaves over time. There is longitudinal cracking over ½ inch in this area and visible settling. A condition of the City accepting a turn back agreement would be to address the cause of the settlement and repair of the road. The current financial condition of WSDOT only allows for routine maintenance and the City understands the timeframe for a long-term solution would not meet the grant deadlines, again due to WSDOT budget and prioritization constraints.

Goals

The end goal for the City is to have a safe First Street corridor for all modes of transportation, provide an overlook for pedestrians, improve walkability of the downtown core, and to take over the ownership of the right of way. This all hinges on whether WSDOT can repair the deficiencies identified in 1998 in time for the City to accept the property transfer and move to construct the 1st Street project prior to the grant deadlines expiring.

The City requests assistance in developing a way forward for resolving the settlement of First Street to enable the approval of a turn back agreement, or to outline an acceptable deviation process from DOT standards, in order for the City to construct the 1st Street Pedestrian Amenities and Overlook project within the grant deadlines.

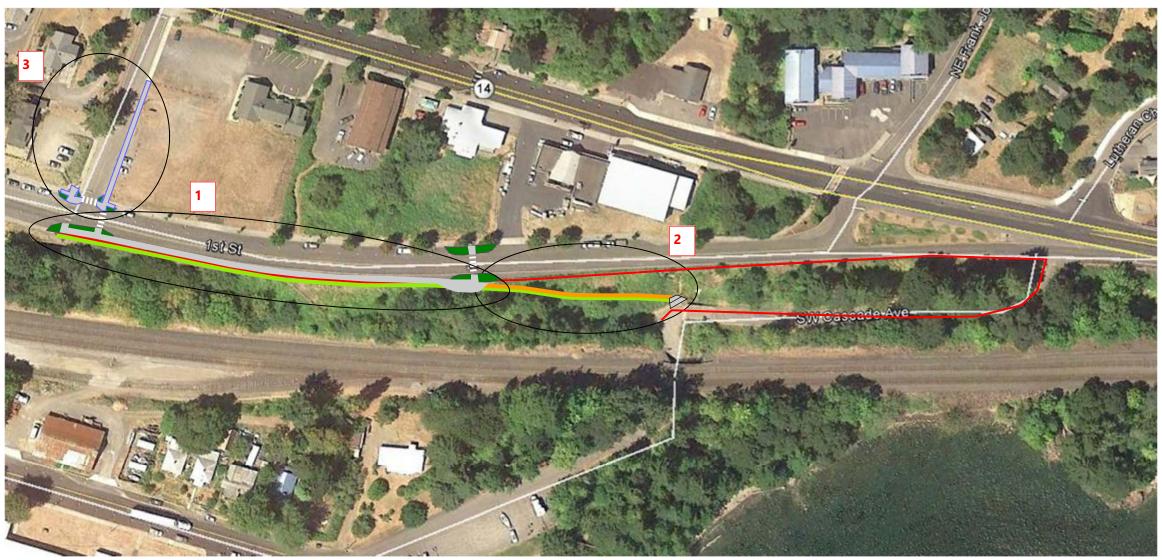
Thank you in advance for your efforts in this regard. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Leana Kinley, City Administrator

leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us

<u>1st Street Traffic Calming, Sidewalk, Overlook Project</u> 2019 Transportation Alternatives Grant Proposal



Overall Project Benefits

- -Calms east and westbound traffic on 1st Street where speeds exceed posted limit
- -Shortens walking distance route from 1,700' (red) to 750' (green) and avoids highway danger.
- -Makes key east downtown investment.

#1 TAP Project Overview

- -Fill ~600 ft gap in pedestrian network with new sidewalk.
- -Construct pedestrian overlook with views of Columbia Gorge.
- -Install new traffic-calming vegetated curb extensions, and storm water controls as necessary.

#1 Key Pedestrian Enhancements

- -Narrows crosswalk distances.
- -Creates walkable loop from waterfront to downtown.
- -Adds street trees, landscaping, way-finding stones, and overlook.

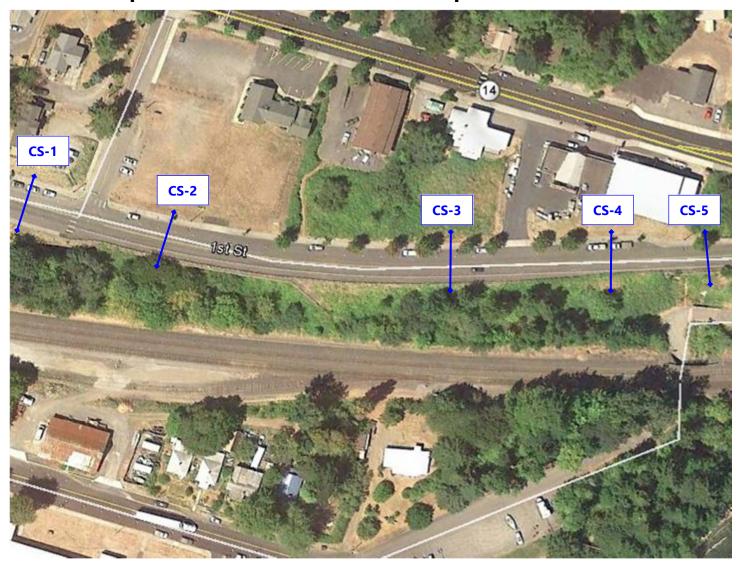
#2 Footpath to Waterfront (Existing)

- -Installed in 2018 through partnership with PCTA & WTA volunteers.
- -~2'-wide compacted gravel pathway
- -Contains 2 stone steps at eastern end.
- -Separated from 1st Street by guardrail
- -Consider paving at future date, TBD.

#3 Columbia Avenue (Future)

- -Complete gap in east-sidewalk
- -Add vegetated curb extensions and crosswalks across Columbia
- -Fund by requiring improvements as part of future development impacting this intersection, STP, or TIB

1st Street Traffic Calming, Sidewalk, Overlook Project 2019 Transportation Alternatives Grant Proposal



Cross Section 1 - North->South 8' Sidewalk 12' Travel 12' Travel 6' Sidewalk 10' Parking 10' Parking 60' Hardscape Cross Section 2 - North->South 8' Sidewalk 12' Travel 12' Travel 19" Guardrail 10' Parking 7' Shoulder 22" Grass **(**T 49' Hardscape Cross Section 3 - North—>South 8' Sidewalk 12' Travel 12' Travel 19" Guardrail 10' Parking 4' Shoulder 2' Grass 46' Hardscape Cross Section 4 - North—>South 8' Sidewalk 12' Travel 19" Guardrail 12' Travel 10' Parking 4' Shoulder 12' Grass 49' Hardscape Cross Section 5 - North->South 8' Sidewalk 14' Travel 12' Travel 19" Guardrail 4' Shoulder 6" Grass 38' Hardscape

Overall Project Benefits

- -Calms east and westbound traffic on 1st Street where speeds exceed posted limit
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1st Street Traffic Calming, Sidewalk, Overlook Project **2019 Transportation Alternatives Grant Proposal**



Decorative Crosswalks To match SR 14 & Columbia



Basalt Downtown Monument To match SR 14 & Columbia



Decorative Detailing

To match SR 14:

- -Sidewalks
- -Street Trees
- -Light Poles
- -Fencing
- -Retaining Walls



View of Sunrise from Overlook Especially appealing at the Equinox

To match SR 14 directly to the north



Cross Section 1 - No Change



Cross Section 2 - New Sidewalk



Cross Section 3 - New Sidewalk, Bumpouts



Cross Section 4 - Narrow Parking Lane



Cross Section 5 - No Change



Waterfront Pathway Connection Project Phase 1-PCTA Construction 2018





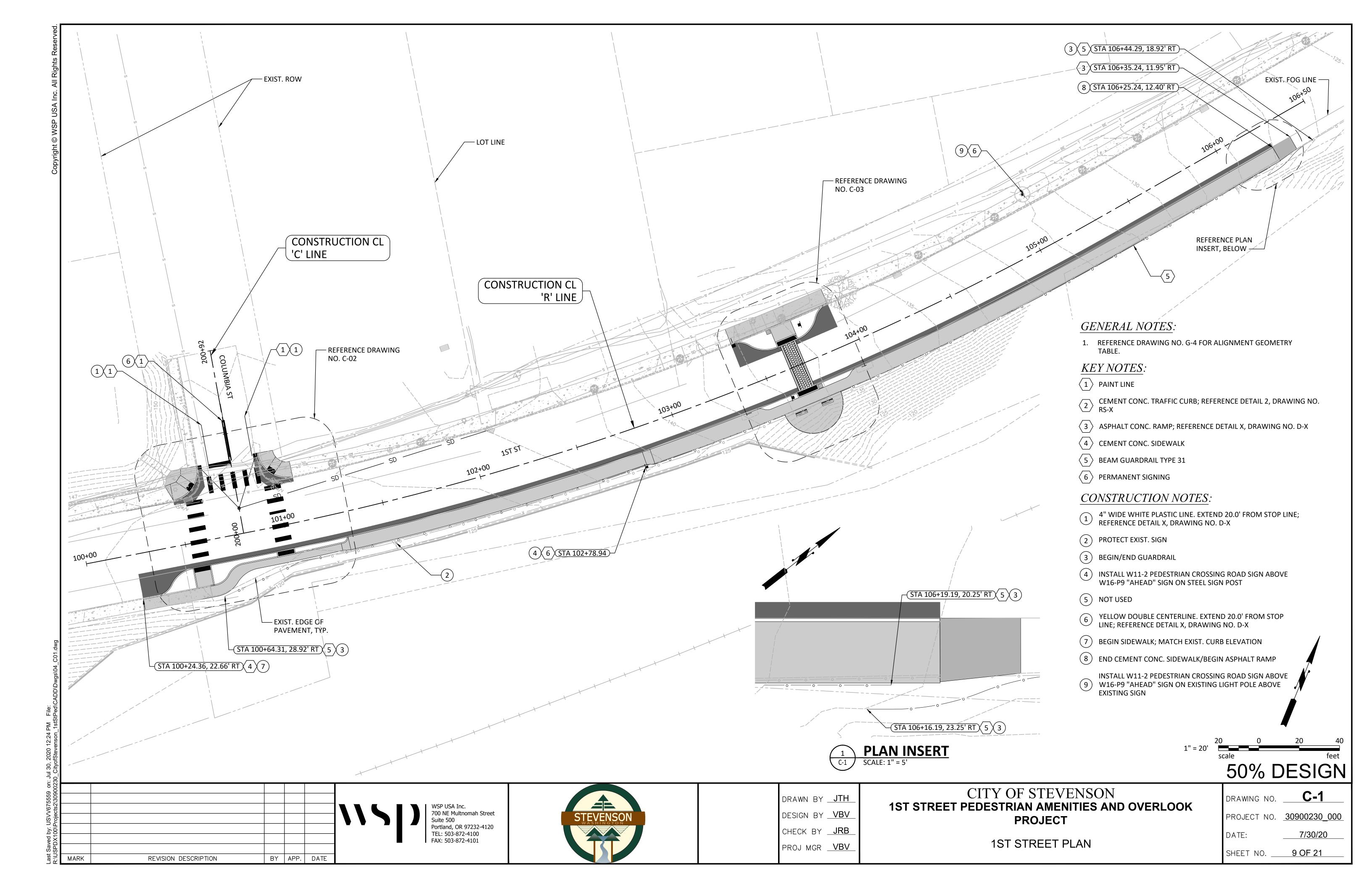


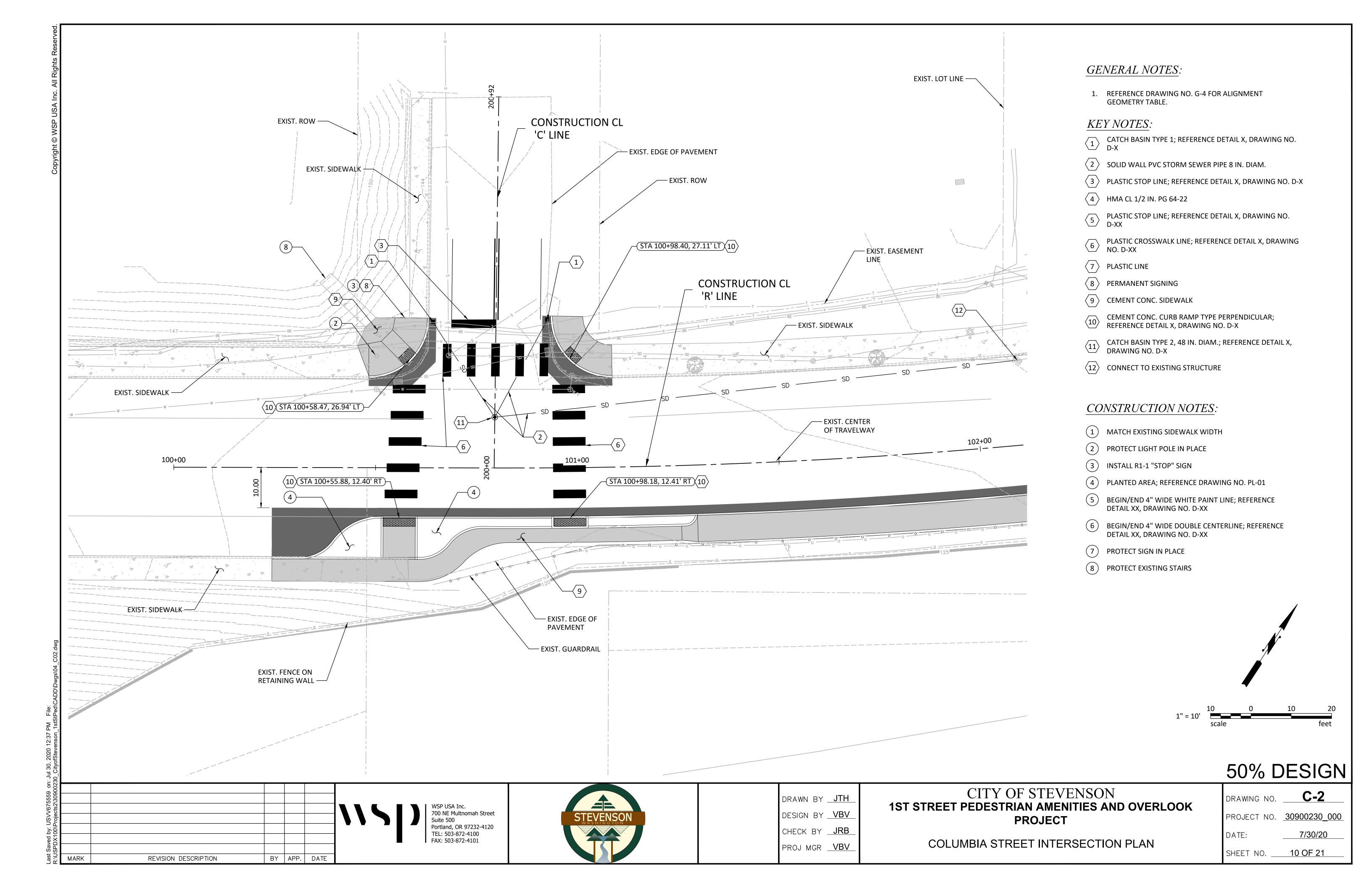
Phase 1 Project Description

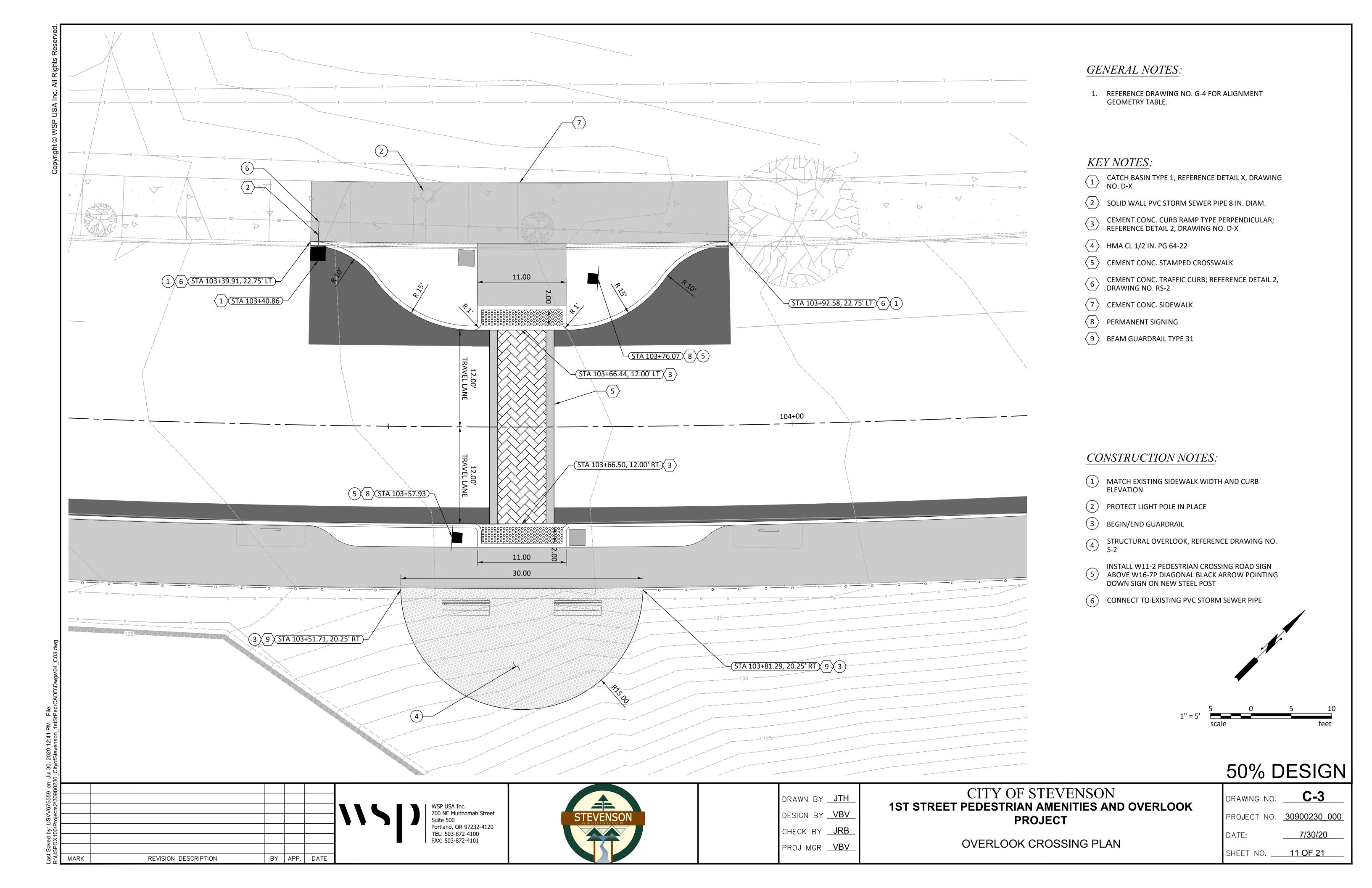
- -Partnership with PCTA & WTA
- $-\sim$ 200' long x 2' wide gravel tread pathway
- -~15% slope
- -2 small stairs near Kanaka Creek

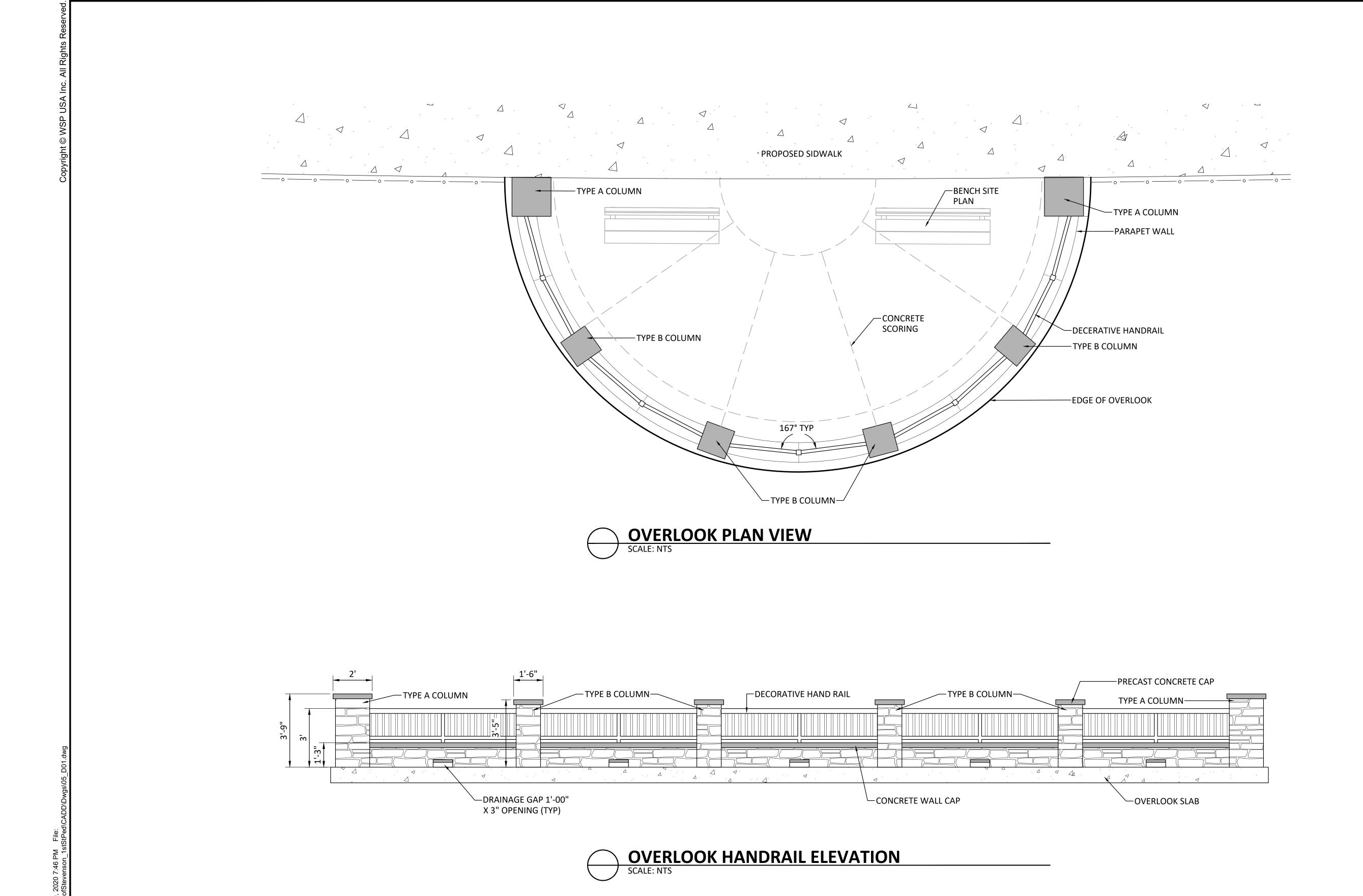
Phase 2 Project Needs

- -Guardrail modification at top of pathway
- -~500' sidewalk and/or traffic calming from pathway to Leavens Street
- -1 or 2 crosswalks
- -Stormwater controls









50% DESIGN

| WSP USA Inc. | 700 NE Multnomah Street | Suite 500 | Portland, OR 97232-4120 | TEL: 503-872-4100 | FAX: 503-872-4101 | FAX:



DRAWN BY JTH

DESIGN BY VBV

CHECK BY JRB

PROJ MGR <u>VBV</u>

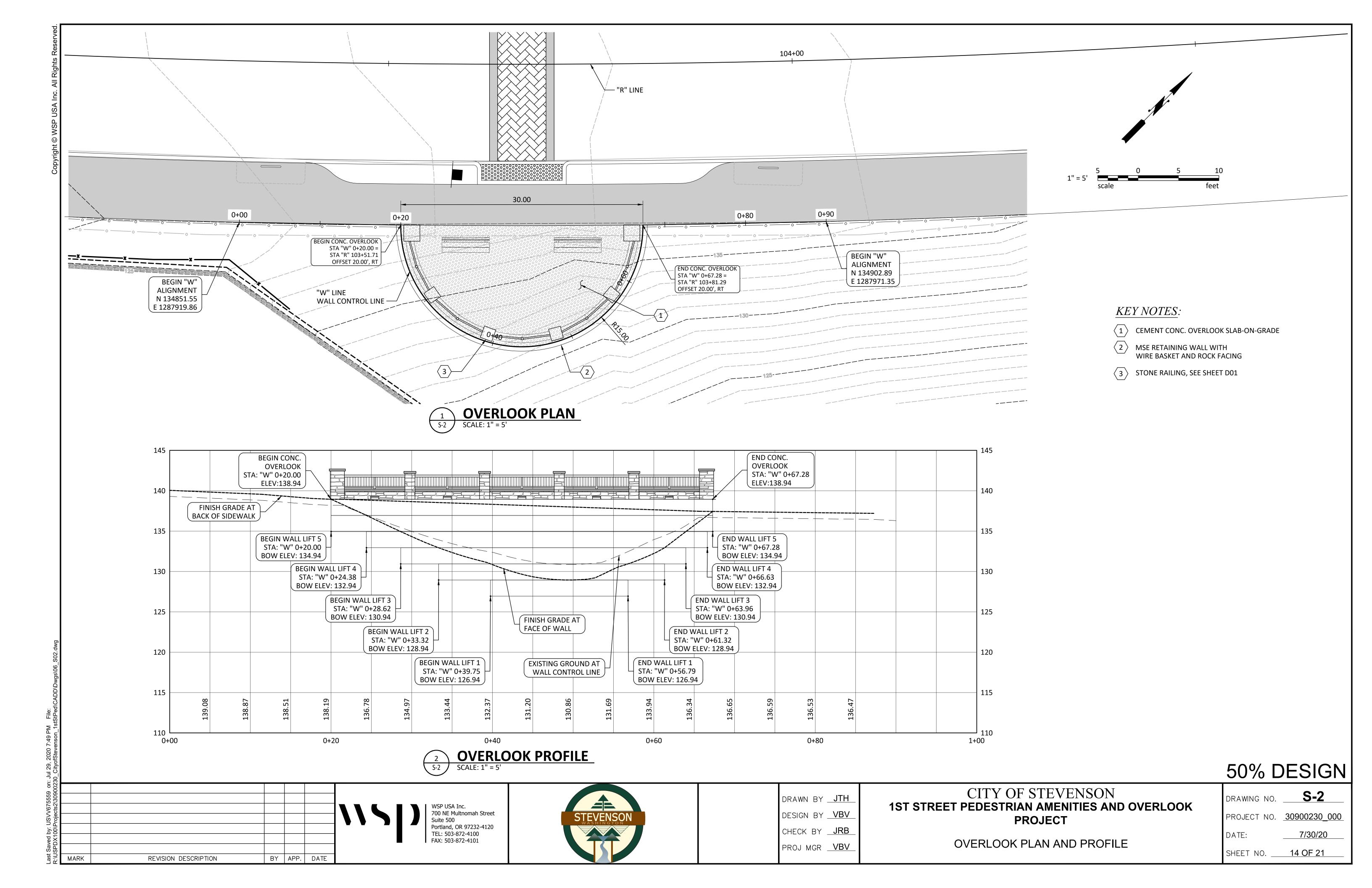
CITY OF STEVENSON

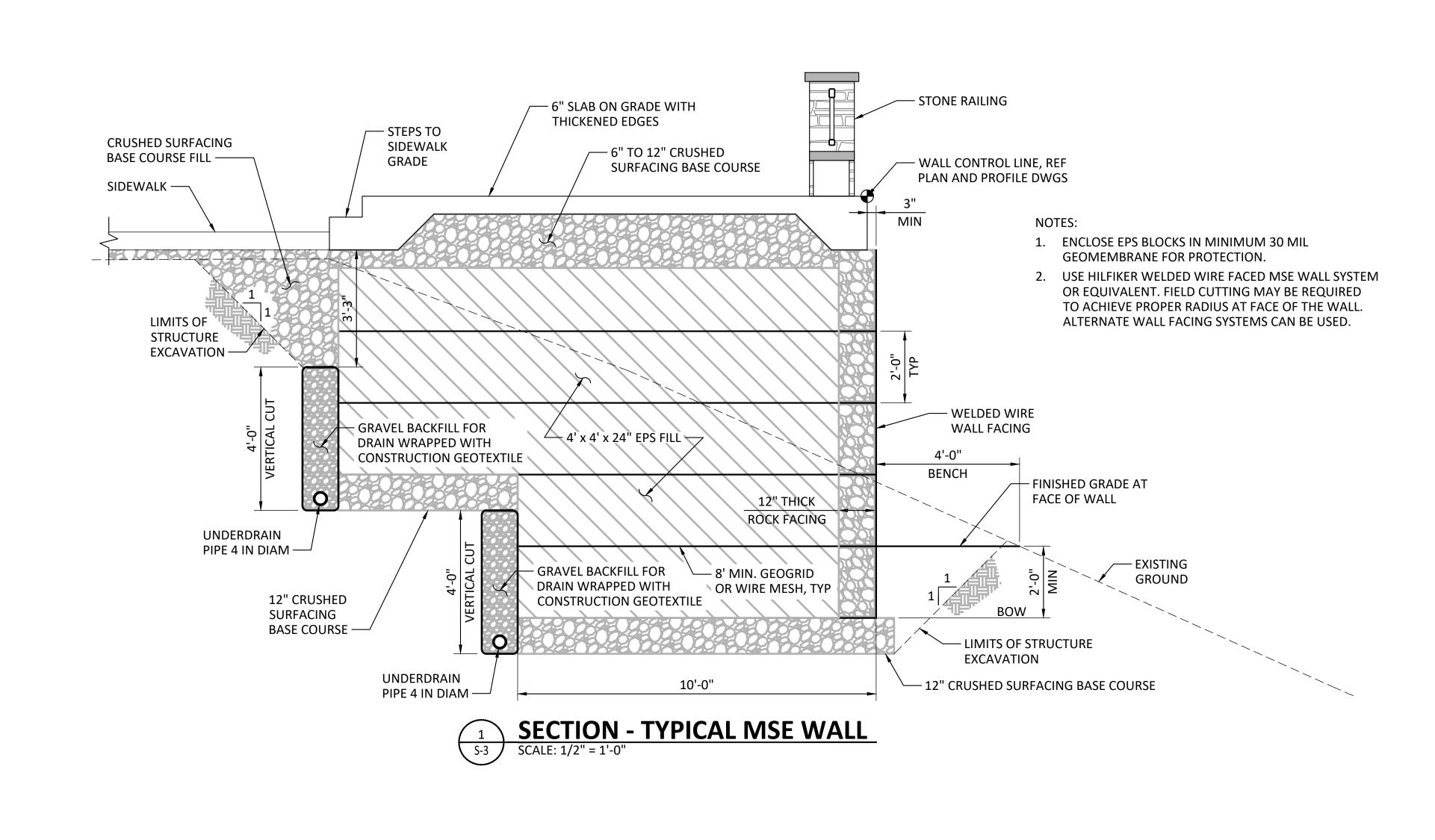
1ST STREET PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES AND OVERLOOK
PROJECT

OVERLOOK HANDRAIL PLAN AND ELEVATION

DRAWING NO.	D-1
PROJECT NO.	30900230_000
DATE:	7/30/20

SHEET NO. _____12 OF 21





50% DESIGN

| WSP USA Inc. | 700 NE Multnomah Street | Suite 500 | Portland, OR 97232-4120 | TEL: 503-872-4100 | FAX: 503-872-4101 |



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DESIGN BY VBV

CHECK BY JRB

PROJ MGR VBV

CITY OF STEVENSON 1ST STREET PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES AND OVERLOOK PROJECT

OVERLOOK DETAILS

DRAWING NO.	S-3
PROJECT NO.	30900230_000
DATE:	7/30/20

SHEET NO. ______15 OF 21



CITY/TOWN TURNBACK AGREEMENT	ORGANIZATION AND ADDRESS City of Stevenson P.O. Box 371 Stevenson, WA 98648
AGREEMENT NUMBER	SECTION/LOCATION
TB 4-0063	SR 14, City of Stevenson Stevenson Two Way Couplet
STATE ROUTE CONTROL SECTION DISTRICT NUMBER 3002	
14 3003 SW	

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 25th day of JUNE, between the STATE OF WASHINGTON, Department of Transportation, acting by and through the Secretary of Transportation, hereinafter called the "STATE", and the above named organization, hereinafter called the "CITY".

WHEREAS, the STATE is planning the construction or improvement of a section of state route as shown above, and

WHEREAS, the STATE will abandon a portion of an existing state highway and/or construct, reconstruct, or rearrange certain city streets, frontage roads, access roads, intersections, ramps, crossings and/or other pertinent features, and

WHEREAS, construction of this facility including rearranged city streets and other features will necessitate the transfer of jurisdiction from the CITY to the STATE of those rights of way, and

WHEREAS, upon completion of construction of this facility it is necessary to describe the division of responsibility of the STATE and CITY in the ownership, maintenance and reconstruction of this roadway and other features, and provide for the transfer of rights accordingly.

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of Title 47.24.010 and 47.52.210, and pursuant to WAC 468-18-050, "Policy on the construction, improvement and maintaining of intersections of state highways and city streets", WAC 468-30-075, "Procedure for transfer of abandoned state highways to cities and towns" and in consideration of the terms, conditions, covenants and performance contained herein or attached and incorporated and made a part hereof, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

CITY RIGHT OF WAY

The CITY agrees that the transfer of jurisdiction and/or ownership of all city rights of way needed for the construction of this facility shall be governed by R.C.W. 47.24.010 and/or R.C.W. 47.52.210. Prior to commencement of construction, the STATE will notify the CITY in writing that it will assume jurisdiction and relieve the CITY from all responsibility in the operation, maintenance and reconstruction thereon until construction is complete.

II ABANDONED STATE HIGHWAY

If a public highway which is or has been a part of the route of a state highway and is no longer necessary as such is to be certified to the CITY, it will be included in the plans marked Exhibit "A", attached hereto and by this reference made a part of this AGREEMENT.

In those cases involving abandonment of a state highway, a joint maintenance inspection by representatives of the STATE and CITY shall be held prior to entering into this AGREEMENT and all agreed to deficiencies, if any, shall be enumerated in detail and included as part of Exhibit "A".

Items of work, if any, which cannot be agreed to prior to executing this AGREEMENT, shall also be enumerated in detail and included as part of Exhibit "A".

III COMPLETION INSPECTION

Upon completion of construction of the facilities covered by this AGREEMENT, an inspection by representatives of the STATE and CITY shall be made to determine that the requirements of this AGREEMENT have been fulfilled.

The CITY, following satisfactory completion of the joint inspection, will provide the STATE a letter agreeing to accept the facilities covered by this AGREEMENT in their present condition.

TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION

Subsequent to the completion of construction, opening to public use and receipt of the CITY's letter of acceptance, the STATE will notify the CITY in writing of its intent to transfer jurisdiction of these features as shown on the attached plans marked Exhibit "A". The CITY agrees to accept said abandoned highway, rearranged city streets, frontage roads, cul-de-sacs, and other features, including right of way, access control and other property rights, and to relieve the STATE from all responsibilities in the operation, maintenance, and reconstruction of these features. Exhibit "A" is colored, wherever applicable, as follows:

Red indicates construction and rights of way to be conveyed to the CITY.

Blue indicates easements to be conveyed to the CITY.

Yellow indicates non-operating properties to be conveyed to the CITY. These properties are considered necessary for the continued maintenance of the areas shown in

red and/or blue color.

indicates areas within the highway right of way to be Green maintained and reconstructed by the CITY. Except for snow and ice removal, maintenance and reconstruction of the separation structures shall be the responsibility of the STATE.

Orange indicates access control and access rights to be conveyed to the CITY. These rights may be maintained or disposed of by the CITY and any revenue resulting from said disposal shall be placed in the CITY's street fund and used exclusively for street purposes.

Brown indicates access control and access rights to be conveyed to the CITY. These rights shall be maintained by the CITY and will not be transferred, sold, abandoned, vacated, or otherwise altered or disposed of without prior written approval of the STATE.

RECORDED CONVEYANCE

Within six months following the notice to transfer jurisdiction, the STATE will furnish the CITY a recorded conveyance of those features shown in red, blue, yellow, orange and/or brown color on the plans marked Exhibit "A".

The forthcoming instrument will be subject to the following restrictions:

It is understood and agreed that the above deseribed property is transferred for street purposes, and that all revenue resulting from the vacation of said street, and the sale or rental of such property, shall be placed in the CITY's street fund and used exclusively for street purposes.

LEGAL RELATIONS

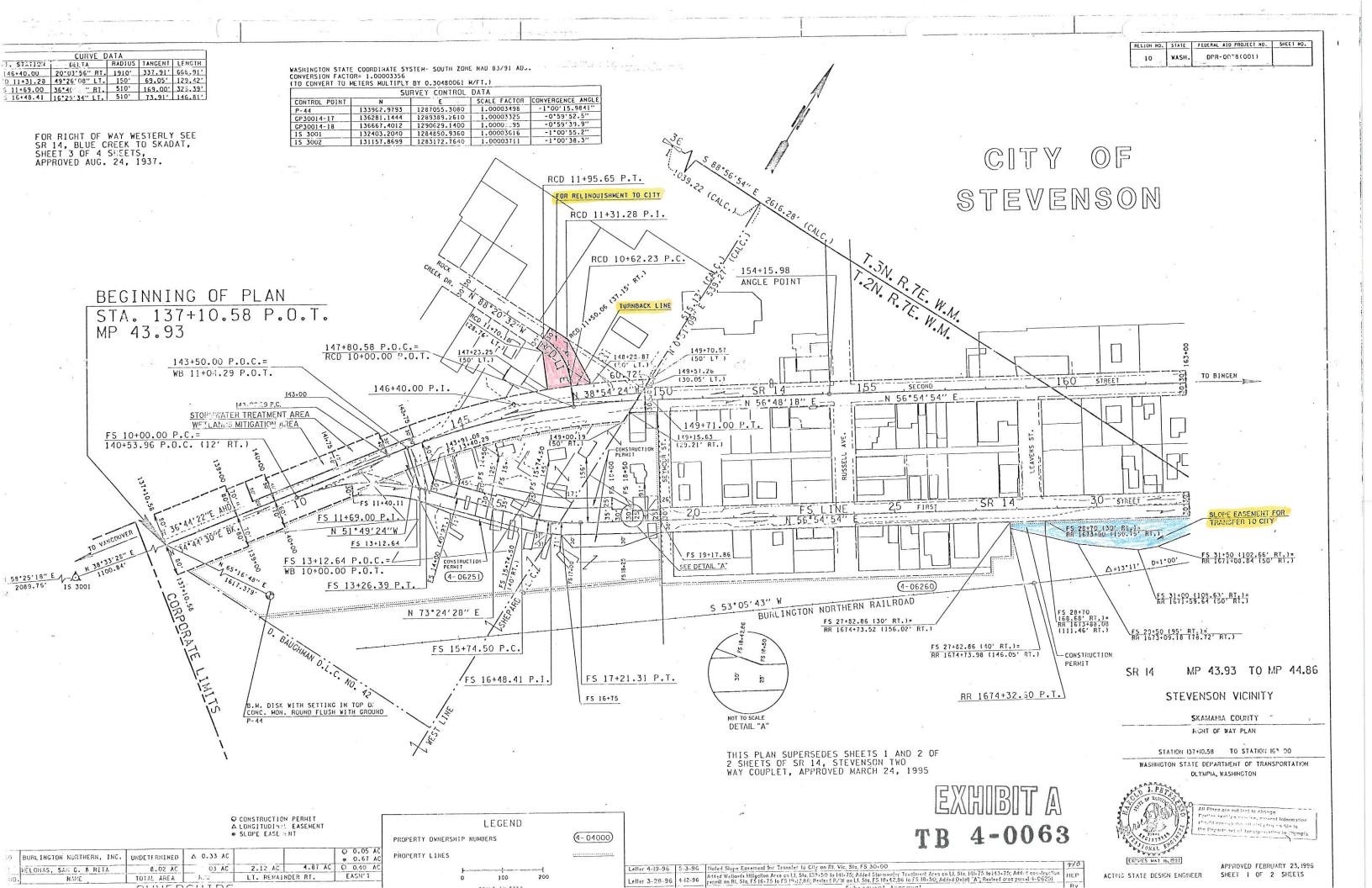
No liability shall attach to the STATE or CITY by reason of entering into this AGREEMENT except as expressly provided herein.

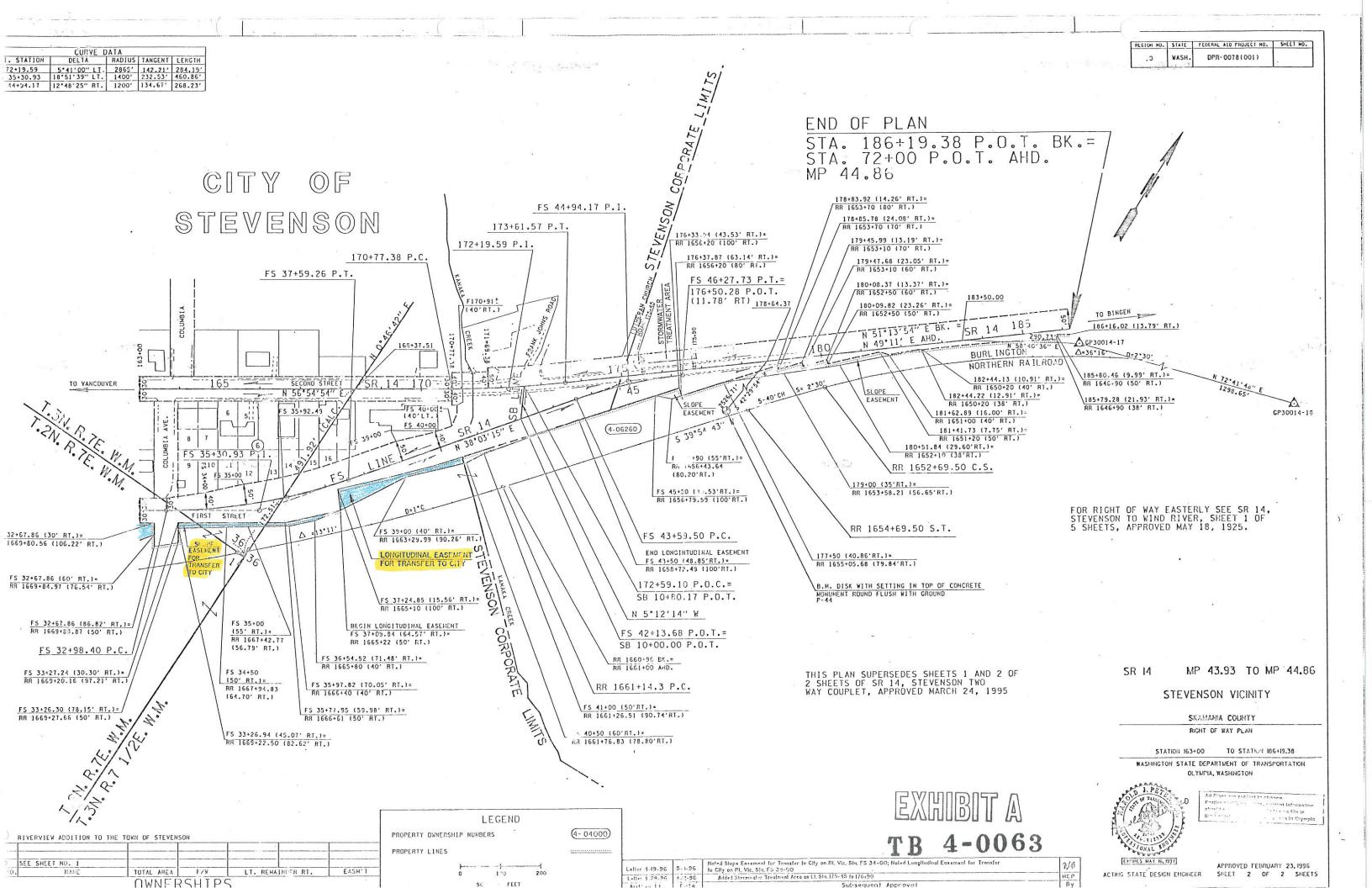
IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this AGREEMENT on the day and year first above written.

CITY By:

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

^{*} It is understood and agreed that the above referenced property is transferred for road purposes only, and no other use shall be made of said property without the prior written approval of the Grantor. It is also understood and agreed that the Grantee, its successors or assigns, shall not revise either the right of way lines or the access control without prior written approval from the Grantor, its successors or assigns. Revenues resulting from any vacation, sale, or rental of this property or any portion thereof, shall (1) if the property is disposed of to a governmental entity for public use, be placed in the Grantee's road fund and used exclusively for road purposes; or (2) if the property is disposed of other than as provided in (1) above, be shared by the Grantee and Grantor, their successors, or assigns in the same proportion as acquisition costs were shared, except that the Grantee may deduct the supportable direct costs of any such vacation, sale, or rental.





Reconnect to the River

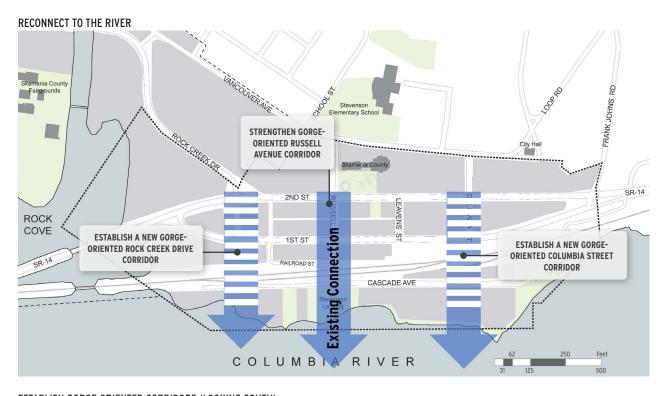
Capitalize on Downtown's Unique Setting.

Success means strengthening and building upon the natural environment—the Columbia River Gorge. Stevenson's very existence is intertwined with the Columbia River. Providing better access, both visually and physically, is important historically, spiritually, and culturally, as well as economically.

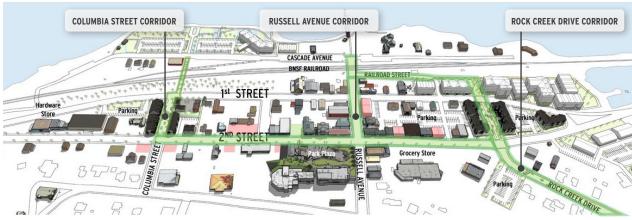
Over time, downtown's linkage to the river has been weakened by barriers and planning decisions that have in many instances resulted in development turning a shoulder to the Gorge. A concerted effort to reimagine and repair the this connection with a series of corridors that feature the Gorge will attract visitors and residents alike.

The Reconnect to the River elements are:

- » Strengthen Gorge-Oriented Russell Avenue Corridor. Implement all planned street enhancements.
- » Establish a New Gorge-Oriented Rock Creek Drive Corridor. Provide new view corridor, roadway, walking, and biking linkage via Railroad Street.
- » Establish a New Gorge-Oriented Columbia Street Corridor. Enhance view corridor, enhanced roadway, and new walking and biking linkage over railroad tracks.



ESTABLISH GORGE-ORIENTED CORRIDORS (LOOKING SOUTH)



RUSSELL AVENUE



ROCK CREEK DRIVE EXTENSION



RE-ALIGNED COLUMBIA STREET



Strengthen Gorge-Oriented Russell Avenue Corridor

Implement all planned street enhancements.

Success means strengthening the existing Gorge 'window' connection between the commercial core, the river, and Stevenson Landing. The physical improvements of the Russell Rebuild Project are important to complete. Other improvements should be advanced as well, and may include 'pedestrian accelerator' projects that make it easier and more desirable for those leaving cruise lines to easily access current and future businesses.

Establish a New Gorge-Oriented Rock Creek Drive Corridor

Provide new view corridor, roadway, walking, and biking linkage via Railroad Street.

Success means providing motorists driving along 2nd Street with a view 'window' to the Gorge and development sites. Capturing this drive-by traffic is essential for the economic success of proposed westside mixed-use development along a new extension of Rock Creek Drive. The view window also improves access to new residential development and a direct linkage for those visiting Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center, staying at the Skamania Lodge, or attending an event at the County Fairgrounds along the existing Rock Creek Drive.

Establish a New Gorge-Oriented Columbia Street Corridor.

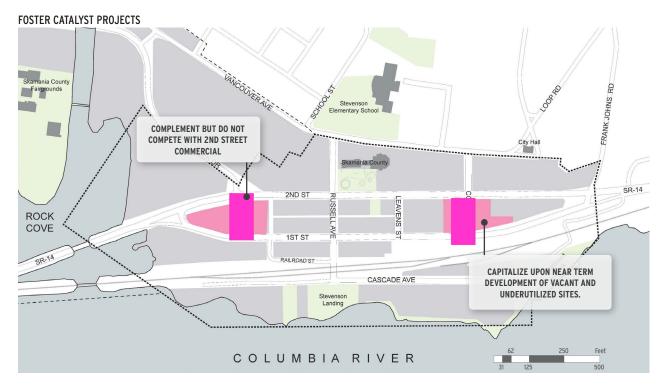
Enhance view corridor, enhanced roadway, and new walking and biking linkage over railroad tracks.

Success means providing motorists driving along 2nd Street with an enhanced view 'window' to the Gorge. Capturing this drive-by traffic is essential for the economic success of proposed mixed-use development along Columbia Street. The window also improves access between 2nd Street and eastside neighborhoods as well as the Port of Skamania. A complete connection will likely need to be phased as it will require more time for coordination and negotiation of an access route over the Burlington Northern Railroad. However, the benefits will be substantial, as it will offer an unobstructed, train-free connection with unmatched views in all directions from high above the trackway.

Foster Catalyst Projects

Foster near-term, market driven, achievable development.

Success means pursuing and developing catalyst projects within a 5-year horizon. While current national and local market trends and demographics are favorable, this condition may not last forever. The current development cycle will slow at some point. Moreover, there are substantial community needs. Currently, a significant affordable multifamily housing 'gap' exists. Urgent action to address the housing gap and achieve a better jobs/housing balance will help resolve social needs as well as result in substantial economic benefits for both residents and businesses.



FIVE YEAR PROJECTS (LOOKING SOUTH)



COURTYARD



UNDER-UTILIZED SITES



Complement but do not compete with 2nd Street commercial.

Create a new and unique shopping experience.

Success means attracting new customers, especially visitors who are currently doing business and spending dollars elsewhere. Since current demand is not extensive, the intent of the Catalyst Projects to make the most of this limited supply by directing it to locations where success won't just be limited to the development site but will spill business over to existing adjacent uses. The two proposed Catalyst Projects along Columbia Street and a new Rock Creek Drive extension will provide the necessary proximity to result in shared success.

Capitalize upon near term development of vacant and underutilized sites.

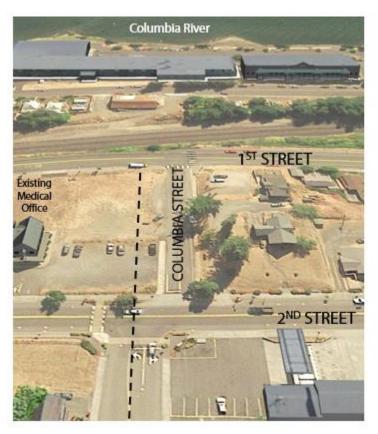
Complement existing uses.

Success means targeting development toward sites where feasible projects can be built with the fewest constraints. Meeting the 5-year timeframe requires focusing on areas with fewer impacts on existing businesses or residents, where adequate land is available to build structures and parking, and where there is willing property owner interest.

CATALYST PROJECTS

Foster near-term, market driven, achievable development.

Columbia Street







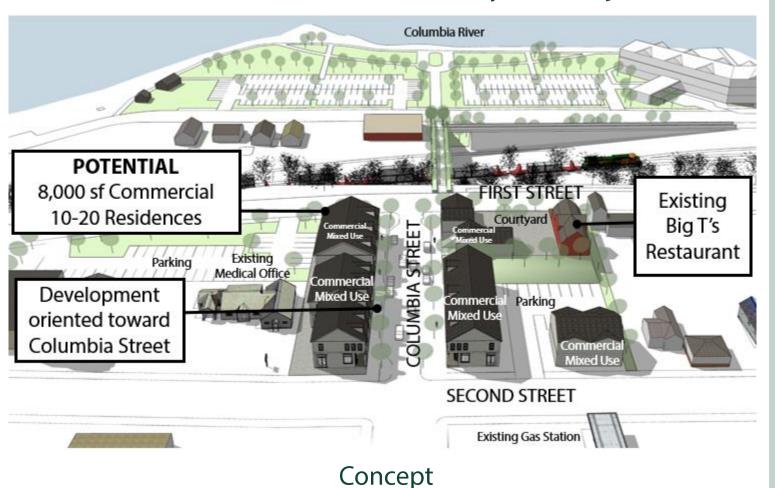
Concept

CATALYST PROJECT

Economic Assessment:

Mixed-use development is estimated to be viable, provided it includes:

- Commercial: A single-phase project to 8,000 square feet
- **Residential:** Units on the upper floors. The economics improve as the residential share increases.



CATALYST PROJECTS

Priority and Timing:

The Columbia Street mixed-use concept to represent a strong catalytic impact and it will enhance Downtown's ability to:

- Generate visits
- Capture pass-through traffic.

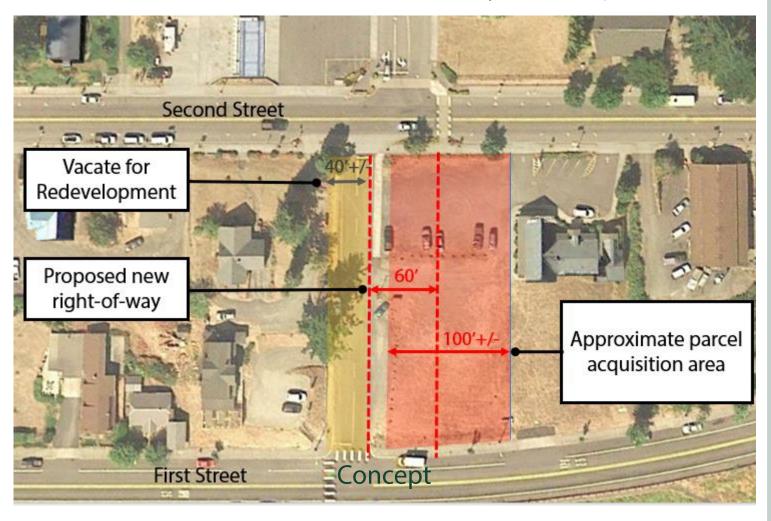
Columbia Street Project



CATALYST PROJECT

Additional Actions:

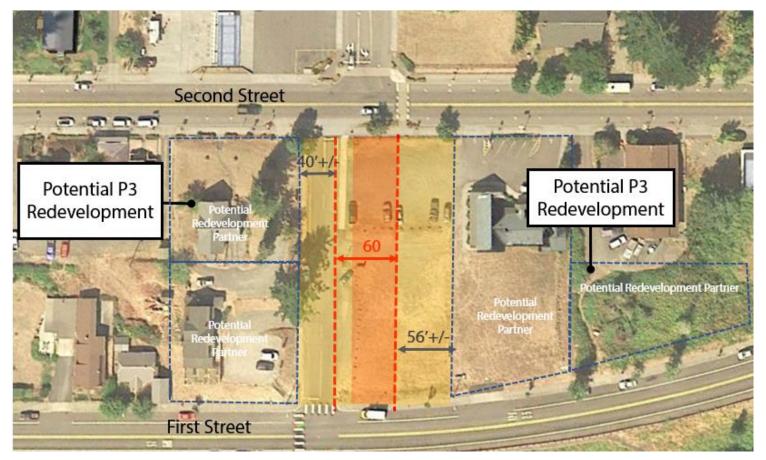
- Traffic Analysis
- Utility Assessment
- Roadway Design and Cost Estimate



CATALYST PROJECT

Additional Actions:

- Traffic Analysis
- Utility Assessment
- Roadway Design and Cost Estimate
- Right-of-way Acquisition
- Funding Options



Concept

CATALYST PROJECT

Incentives & Public Partnerships:

Paying **off-site infrastructure costs** and offering reduced parking requirements or in-lieu parking fees will likely be **effective incentives.**



Concept

CATALYST PROJECT

Incentives & Public Partnerships

Paying off-site infrastructure costs and offering reduced parking requirements or in-lieu parking fees will likely be effective incentives.

Initial public ownership of the land can further reduce the developer's cost while also giving the City greater ability to ensure that the project will serve public interests.

City of Stevenson

Post Office Box 371, Stevenson, Washington 98648

Phone (509) 427-5970 Fax (509) 427-8202

October 8, 1998

Jim McClellan, P.E. Construction Project Engineer, SW Region Washington State Department of Transportation 18102 NE 10th Avenue Ridgefield, WA 98642-9574

RE: C-4928, SR-14, Stevenson Two-Way Couplet

General closure

Dear Jim:

We conducted a walk through of the project on Thursday, October 1, 1998 with City staff. No DOT or construction personnel were available. Our punch list has not changed substantially from the original list of items forwarded to your office earlier this summer. Nor does the list include any of the items that have been corrected. Obviously, the list includes only those items visible to the naked eye and detectible without instrumentation. I am assuming that DOT construction engineers will conduct a similar review of the project to ensure that the project's construction meets original design intent.

We did not individually list each location where a street sign identifying the name of the street was not replaced. Suffice it to say that there were signs at each of the intersections along First Street; and at Frank Johns, Lutheran Church Road, Seymour Street and Rock Creek Drive along Second Street. No signs were left with the City for storage during the course of construction. We are assuming that Scoccolo has these in storage and simply has not had the opportunity to replace them. We are also concerned that the regulatory signs such as stop signs may not be replaced in the proper locations. Again, we did not list these discrepancies on our punchlist since the striping has not yet been completed. And until striping is completed it will be difficult to make a final determination.

As noted in the punchlist several of the manholes have been bolted down. We were unable to check the condition of these manholes. Prior to contract closure we need to verify the condition of these manholes and secure the proper tools to release the bolts.

October 8, 1998 correspondence page 2

DOT has not yet arranged a walk through on the operation of the irrigation systems or the biofiltration swale on the west end of the project. We are particularly concerned that we understand proper winterization procedures on the irrigation system. With the recent failure of the biofiltration swale we are also concerned that the new plantings and barriers may not be adequately established to withstand our typical winter rains.

We are disappointed with the quality of construction on the crosswalks. The downtown crosswalks certainly can not compare to the crosswalk on the west end of Rock Creek Drive built under a former project. We have observed flaking, cracking, and uneven surfaces. But we are very reluctant to disrupt the community for another rebuild.

We appreciate your efforts to investigate our concerns regarding the pavement settlement @sta. 36+00. Your geo-technical engineer Mr. Bryan Dias recommended that a program be established to monitor the settlement and measure the rate of change. Could you forward those measurements made to date so the City has a record of the base data. We would appreciate any information or advice on the protocol that should be established for the monitoring program.

Respectfully,

Mary Ann Duncan-Cole City Administrator



Southwest RegionConstruction Project Engineer
18102 N.E. 10th Avenue
Ridgefield, WA 98642-9574

(360) 696-6030 Fax (360) 696-6033

September 25, 1998

City of Stevenson Attention: Mary Ann Duncan-Cole City Manager P.O. Box 371 Stevenson, WA 98648-0371

Subject: C-4928, SR-14, Stevenson Two-Way Couplet

RE: Pavement Settlement @ sta. 36+00

Dear Mary Ann:

You had expressed concern about settlement of the roadway approximately 300 feet east of Columbia Street on 1st Street. The settlement occurred over the winter of 1997/1998. In response to your concern, I requested that Bryan Dias of the Olympia Service Center Geotechnical Branch investigate the site.

Bryan's observations were that the subsidence appears to be located just behind the RE-2 Retaining Wall reinforced zone. It is fairly shallow in magnitude and there is no visible distress in the retaining wall which would indicate a more sever failure. His conclusions were that the subsidence could be due to inadequate compaction, and/or possibly piping (transport of native fine material into the course free draining material placed behind the RE-2 Wall). As you remember, a large pool of water formed on the up hill side of 1st Street east of Columbia in the vacant lot during the winter. We have since installed a permanent pipe to drain the pond and remove the source of water.

Bryan's recommendations were to monitor the settlement to see if it continues, measure the rate of change and how it behaves over time. In the meantime, we would re-level the settlement.

At this time there has been no additional subsidence observed. Although the cause is not completely understood, it does appear that removing the primary source of water has stabilized it.

If you have any further questions, please call.

Sincerely:

Jim McClellan, P.E.
Project Engineer

JM/cah

CC:

Doug Ficco

Bryan Dias-MS 7354

Rich Laing