



**Environmental Section**

PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245  
Phone: 225-242-4502 | fax: 225.242.4500

John Bel Edwards, Governor  
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

August 15, 2017

**STATE PROJECT NO. H.011295**

**FEDERAL AID NO. H011295**

**LA 73 (GOVERNMENT ST): EAST BLVD - LOBDELL AVE  
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH**

---

Wes Bolinger  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
5304 Flanders Drive, Suite A  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808



**SUBJECT: Categorical Exclusion**

Dear Mr. Bolinger:

Following your approval (September 8, 2016) of the Categorical Exclusion of the above referenced project, access management design features were added to select intersections within the project area. Additional public involvement was conducted.

**Project Additions**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) added access management design features to select intersections to be implemented as part of the Government Street Project.

The proposed features are raised divider islands approximately 1 foot wide and 6 inches tall demarking turning lanes at the following intersections with Government Street:

- S. 19<sup>th</sup> Street/Park Boulevard,
- Camellia Avenue/S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street to S. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street,
- S. Acadian Thruway, and
- Community College Drive.

These raised divider islands are expected to improve safety and traffic operations by controlling access for turning vehicles at the identified intersections on Government Street. Similar divider islands are already in use at the Government Street intersection at South Foster.

Design drawings for each intersection are enclosed.

Mr. Wes Bolinger  
H.011295  
August 15, 2017

### Public Involvement

An advertisement was placed in the Advocate on Saturday May 13, 2017 (see copy of published ad enclosed) to alert the general public of the changes proposed for the Government Street Project. The advertisement provided a link to the DOTD project's website ([http://www.wapps.dotd.la.gov/administration/public\\_info/projects/home.aspx?key=91](http://www.wapps.dotd.la.gov/administration/public_info/projects/home.aspx?key=91)) where drawings of the proposed raised divider islands could be viewed and downloaded.

Letters were also prepared for each landowner along the project corridor near affected intersections. Each landowner received a letter explaining the additions to the Government Street Project, a Location Map showing the location of each intersection with the proposed raised divider islands, and a specific set of drawings for the affected intersection closest to their property. An example landowner outreach letter is enclosed as well as a list of landowners mailed.

Both the advertisement and letters to landowners identified how comments should be submitted to DOTD and the website where project data could be accessed for review and download.

### Comment Received

One comment was received from a landowner at 3313 Government Street. Dr. Ernest Johnson, in the enclosed letter dated May 15, 2017, stated, "The proposed divider island will put a barrier for customers and tenants turning into the parking lot traveling eastbound on Government Street." Dr. Johnson continued, "We believe that the current DOTD proposed divider islands will constitute a reverse condemnation of the 3313 Government Street property resulting in a diminution of value for the property as well as additional cost. Therefore we hereby object to the propose(d) barrier being installed in front of 3313 Government Street office building."

Anna Hanks (Project Manager) responded directly to Dr. Johnson on June 5, 2017 via email. In her email, Ms. Hanks identified changes proposed to the S. Acadian Thruway intersection (raised median island and left turn lane as proposed in original Government Street Project and the newly proposed divider island). Ms. Hanks assured Dr. Johnson that the current project plans continue to allow drivers to turn left into and out of Beverly Drive. The proposed plans include the addition of an eastbound left turning lane on Government Street at S. Acadian Thruway, a movement that is currently not allowed. The raised median beginning just east of Beverly Drive, shown on the exhibit presented during the December 17, 2015 public meeting, was designed as per the required design features (taper and storage lengths) for this turning lane and further enhances the safety purpose and need of the project. Dr. Johnson again emailed Ms. Hanks on June 5, 2017 and requested a meeting with DOTD.

Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary of DOTD, met with Dr. Johnson on June 8, 2017, to discuss his concerns and to assure him that the proposed plans would enhance safety on Government Street.

On June 14, 2017, following Dr. Wilson's meeting with Dr. Johnson, Ms. Hanks emailed Dr. Johnson to inform him that his concerns were being shared with the City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge as project proponents and future owners of Government Street.

Mr. Wes Bolinger  
H.011295  
August 15, 2017

On July 17, 2017, Ms. Hanks emailed Dr. Johnson to inform him that the designs for the Acadian Thruway intersection and consequently the median at 3313 Government Street would not change. A copy of all correspondence with Dr. Johnson is enclosed.

Conclusion

Turning movements into/out of Dr. Johnson's business remain right-in-right-out as proposed in the public meeting. The access to his property does not change with the addition of the raised divider islands which delineate the left turn lanes. The business has full access to Government Street from Beverly Drive.

No other comments on the added raised divider islands were received. No additional environmental impacts were identified resultant of the proposed changes.

Based on the information contained herein, we feel that the findings reported in the original Categorical Exclusion as approved by your office on September 8, 2016, are still accurate for this project and that the project still meets the requirements for classification as a Categorical Exclusion. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me, Maria Bernard Reid at 225-242-4506.

Sincerely,

Noel Ardoin  
Environmental Engineer Administrator



Maria Bernard Reid  
Environmental Impact Manager

NA/MBR/mbr  
Enclosures

2B ■ Saturday, May 13, 2017 ■ theadvocate.com ■ The Advocate

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**ADDITION OF ACCESS MANAGEMENT FEATURES  
AT SELECTED INTERSECTIONS**

STATE AND FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H011295  
LA 73 (GOVERNMENT ST) EAST BLVD – LOBDELL AVE  
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) has added access management design features to select intersections to be implemented as part of the Government Street Project. The proposed features are raised divider islands approximately 1 foot wide and 6 inches tall demarking turning lanes at the following intersections with Government Street: S. 19th Street/Park Boulevard, Camelia Avenue/S. 21st Street to S. 22nd Street, S. Acadian Thruway, and Community College Drive.

These raised divider islands are expected to improve safety and traffic operations by controlling access for turning vehicles at the identified intersections on Government Street. Similar divider islands are already in use at the Government Street intersection at South Foster.

Drawings of the proposed features are available for review at the project's website: [http://wwwapps.dotd.la.gov/administration/public\\_info/projects/home.aspx?key=91](http://wwwapps.dotd.la.gov/administration/public_info/projects/home.aspx?key=91).

Written comments on these additions to the project should be submitted by mail to the DOTD address shown below and postmarked by June 12, 2017. Please reference the project number (H.011295) in your comment.

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
Environmental Engineer Administrator, Section 28  
P.O. Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245





**Environmental Section**

PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245  
Phone: 225-242-4502 | fax: 225.242.4500

John Bel Edwards, Governor  
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

May 11, 2017

**STATE PROJECT NO. H.011295  
FEDERAL AID NO. H011295  
LA 73 (GOVERNMENT ST): EAST BLVD - LOBDELL AVE  
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH**

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Cleo Fields & Associates  
2147 Government St  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

SUBJECT: Project Notification for Parish Tax Assessor Parcel No. 51780

To Whom It May Concern:

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) has added access management design features to select intersections to be implemented as part of the Government Street Project, see enclosed Project Location Map.

The proposed features are raised divider islands approximately 1 foot wide and 6 inches tall demarking turning lanes at the following intersections with Government Street:

- S. 19<sup>th</sup> Street/Park Boulevard,
- Camelia Avenue/S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street to S. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street,
- S. Acadian Thruway, and
- Community College Drive.

These raised divider islands are expected to improve safety and traffic operations by controlling access for turning vehicles at the identified intersections on Government Street. Similar divider islands are already in use at the Government Street intersection at South Foster.

Enclosed for your review is a plan drawing specific to the location nearest your property (Parcel No. 51780 at 2147 Government St.).

Cleo Fields & Associates  
H.011295  
May 11, 2017

Written comments on these additions to the project should be submitted by mail to the DOTD address shown below and postmarked by June 12, 2017. Please reference the project number (H.011295) in your comment.

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
Environmental Engineer Administrator, Section 28  
P.O. Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me, Maria Bernard Reid at 225-242-4506.

Sincerely,

Noel Ardoin  
Environmental Engineer Administrator



Maria Bernard Reid  
Environmental Impact Manager

KE NA/MBR/mbr  
Enclosures

Government St  
raised median impacted landowners

	parcel ID	owner	address	city, state, zip	mailing address	city, state, zip
Park/19th	134392	Russell B. Turner	1806 Government St	Baton Rouge, LA 70802	1804 Government St	Baton Rouge, LA 70802
	121878	Margaret H. Albertine	1842 Government St			
	64912	Donald Richard Investments	510 Park Blvd		PO Drawer 1370	Eunice, LA 70535
	77690	High Sierra	1948 Government St		MSC 378 PO BOX 85001	Orlando, FL 32885
	110000	James Benton Lefebvre	1950 Government St		8321 Myrtlelake Dr	Baton Rouge, LA 70810
	110027	James Benton Lefebvre	1952 Government St		8321 Myrtlelake Dr	Baton Rouge, LA 70810
	110035	James Benton Lefebvre	1954 Government St		8321 Myrtlelake Dr	Baton Rouge, LA 70810
	110345	RMS Properties of Baton Rouge	1972 Government St		1238 Elmcrest Dr	Baton Rouge, LA 70808
	173398	Collis Temple, II	1976 Government St		1225 North Blvd	Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Camellia/21st	2382687	The Harmony Center, Inc	505 Camellia St	Baton Rouge, LA 70806	1225 North Blvd	Baton Rouge, LA 70802
	12815	Healing Place Church	2110 Government St		19202 Highland Rd	Baton Rouge, LA 70809
	136379	David Haddad	2122 Government St			
	51780	Cleo Fields & Associates	2147 Government St			
	99406	Rachel C. Moore	2103 Government St		8749 Darby Ave	Baton Rouge, LA 70806
	43249	Robert Cobbins	2101 Government St			
acadian	638293	Mid-South Communication	3313 Government St	Baton Rouge, LA 70806		
	687898	Charles & Lucille Hall	3347 Government St		3637 Charry Dr	Baker, LA 70714
	687871	Charles & Lucille Hall	3347 Government St		3637 Charry Dr	Baker, LA 70714
	517984	Charles & Lucille Hall	3347 Government St		3637 Charry Dr	Baker, LA 70714
	517976	Charles & Lucille Hall	3345 Government St		3637 Charry Dr	Baker, LA 70714
	1042106	Westmoreland Properties	3374 Government St		855 Hearthstone Dr	Baton Rouge, LA 70806
	1040871	Daniel Kamin	3384 Government St		1 CVS Dr Store ACCT	Woonsocket, RI 02895
	719684	2 Siblings of Acadian Thruway	3433 Government St		1524 Homestead Ave	Metairie, LA 70005
	719676	Highway 23, LLC	3455 Government St		3300 W Esplanade	Metairie, LA 70002
	846295	Yvonne Rodriguez Harris Trust	3535 Government St		12315 King Charles Ave	Baton Rouge, LA 70810
	713406	KWT Properties, LLC	469 Westmoreland Dr		1241 Thoreau Dr	Baton Rouge, LA 70808
	684015	Ben-Beau, Inc (Walgreens #2995)	3550 Government St		300 Wilmont Rd MS #3101	Deerfield, IL 60015
	684007	Ben-Beau, Inc (Walgreens #2995)	3550 Government St		300 Wilmont Rd MS #3101	Deerfield, IL 60015

683981 Ben-Beau, Inc (Walgreens #2995) 3550 Government St  
683973 Ben-Beau, Inc (Walgreens #2995) 3550 Government St

300 Wilmont Rd MS #3101 Deerfield, IL 60015  
300 Wilmont Rd MS #3101 Deerfield, IL 60015

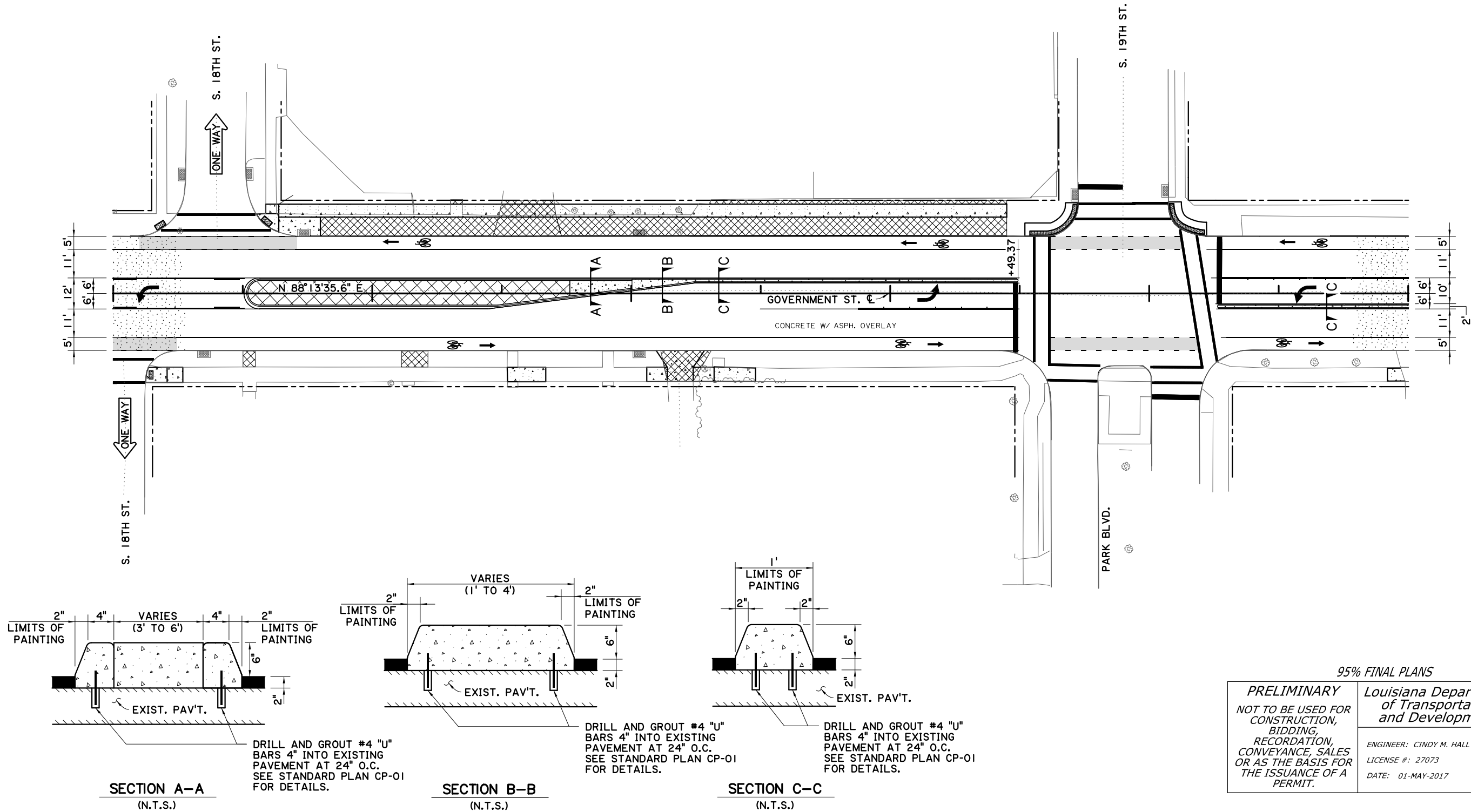
community college

811696 Joel Lynn Wallace and Mia Cangelo: 5157 Government St  
811718 Oriental Pearl BR, LLC 5201 Government St  
738158 Garry Linuel and Brenda Gayle 5219 Government St  
812552 Hibernia National Bank 5220 Government St  
812560  
812579  
556793  
556785  
556777

C/O Ryan Property Tax Services 2332 Eastgate Drive #D Baton Rouge, LA 70816  
PO Box 460189 Houston, TX 77056










SCALE 1"=20'

95% FINAL PLANS

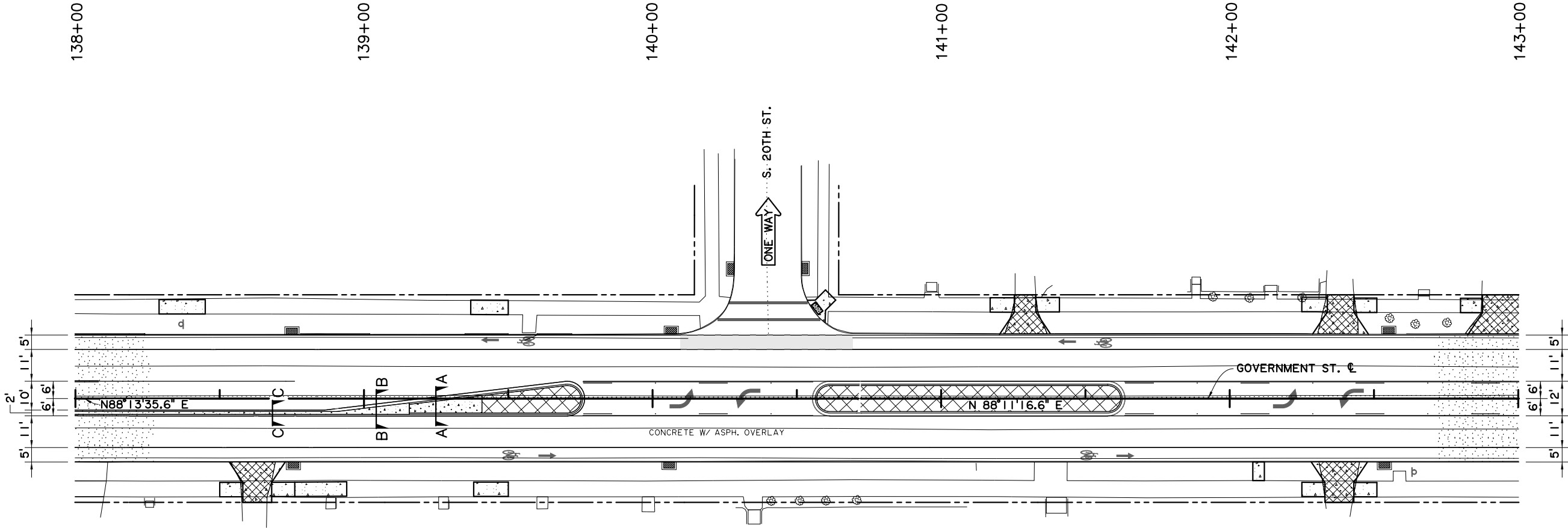
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PERMIT.

**Louisiana Department  
of Transportation  
and Development**

ENGINEER: CINDY M. HALL  
LICENSE #: 27073  
DATE: 01-MAY-2017

	PLAN SHEET		EAST BATON ROUGE		SHEET NUMBER		
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	LA 73 (GOVT ST) EAST BLVD - LOBDELL AVE		GOVERNMENT ST.		077-05 & 000-17		
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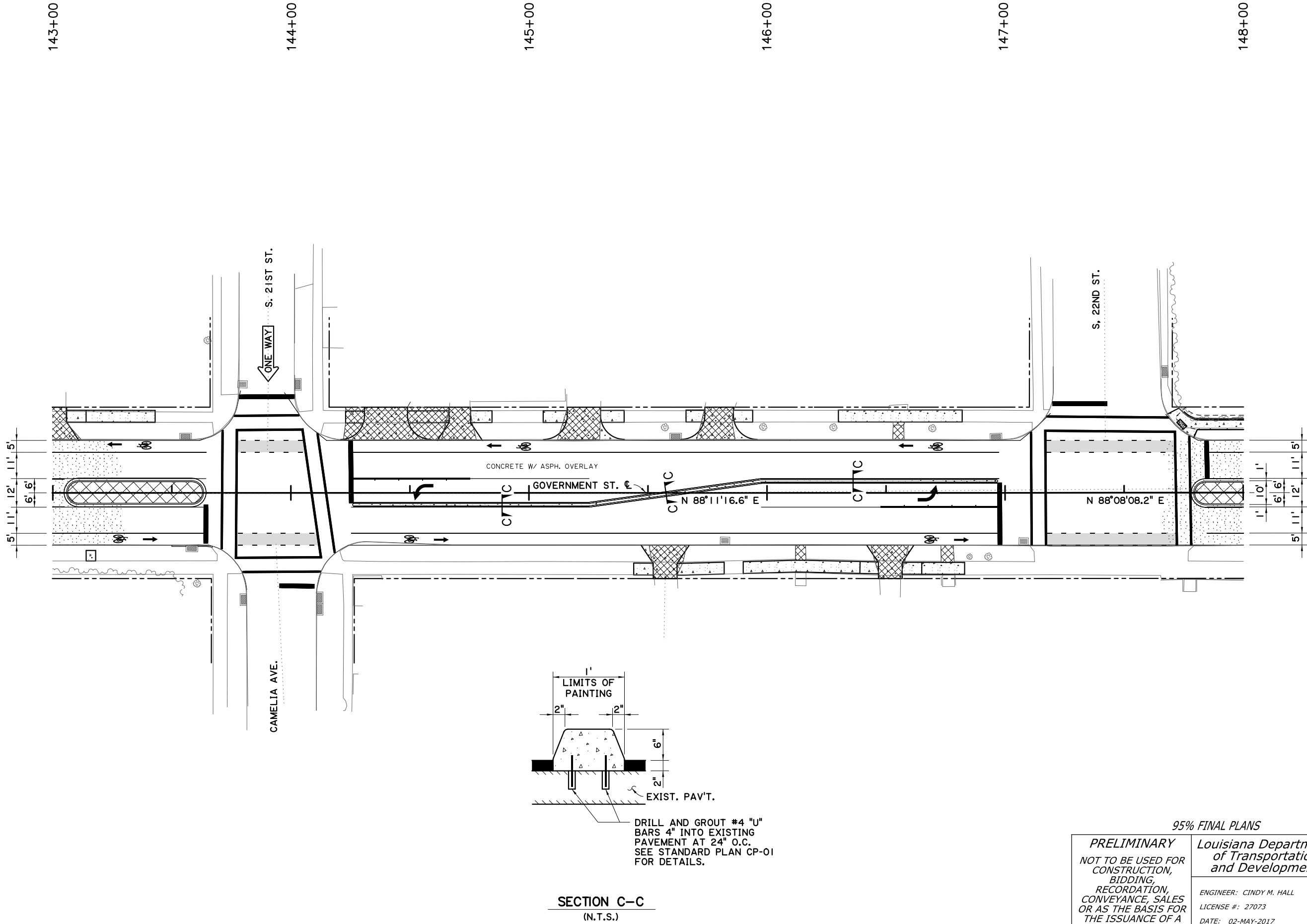
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										CHECKED CMH							






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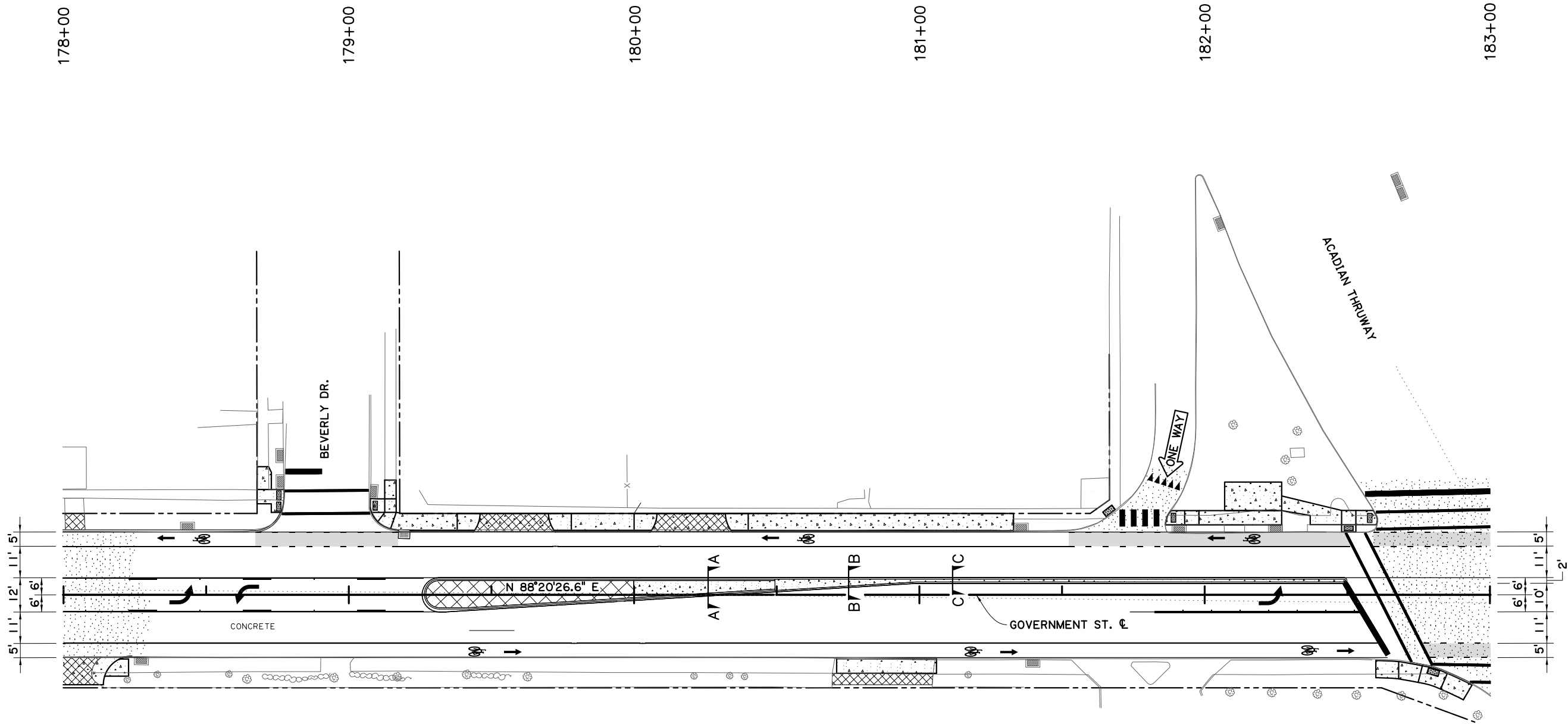
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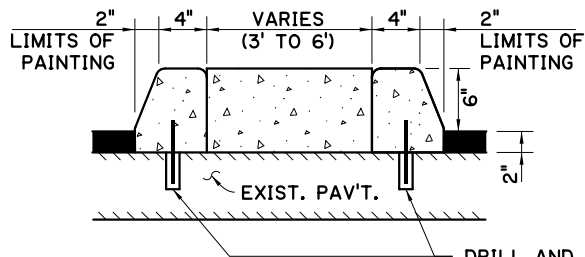
**Louisiana Department  
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ENGINEER: CINDY M. HALL  
LICENSE #: 27073  
DATE: 02-MAY-2017

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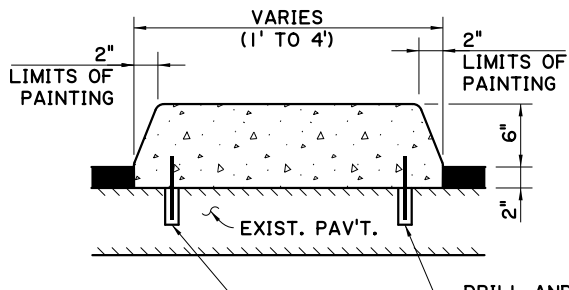


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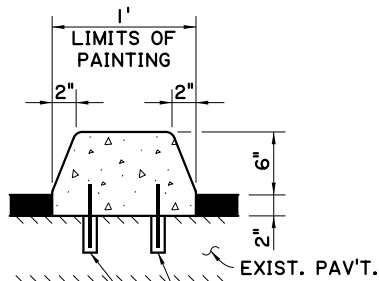
SECTION A-A  
(N.T.S.)

DRILL AND GROUT #4 "U"  
BARS 4" INTO EXISTING  
PAVEMENT AT 24" O.C.  
SEE STANDARD PLAN CP-01  
FOR DETAILS.



SECTION B-B  
(N.T.S.)

DRILL AND GROUT #4 "U"  
BARS 4" INTO EXISTING  
PAVEMENT AT 24" O.C.  
SEE STANDARD PLAN CP-01  
FOR DETAILS.



SECTION C-C  
(N.T.S.)


DRILL AND GROUT #4 "U"  
BARS 4" INTO EXISTING  
PAVEMENT AT 24" O.C.  
SEE STANDARD PLAN CP-01  
FOR DETAILS.

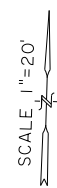
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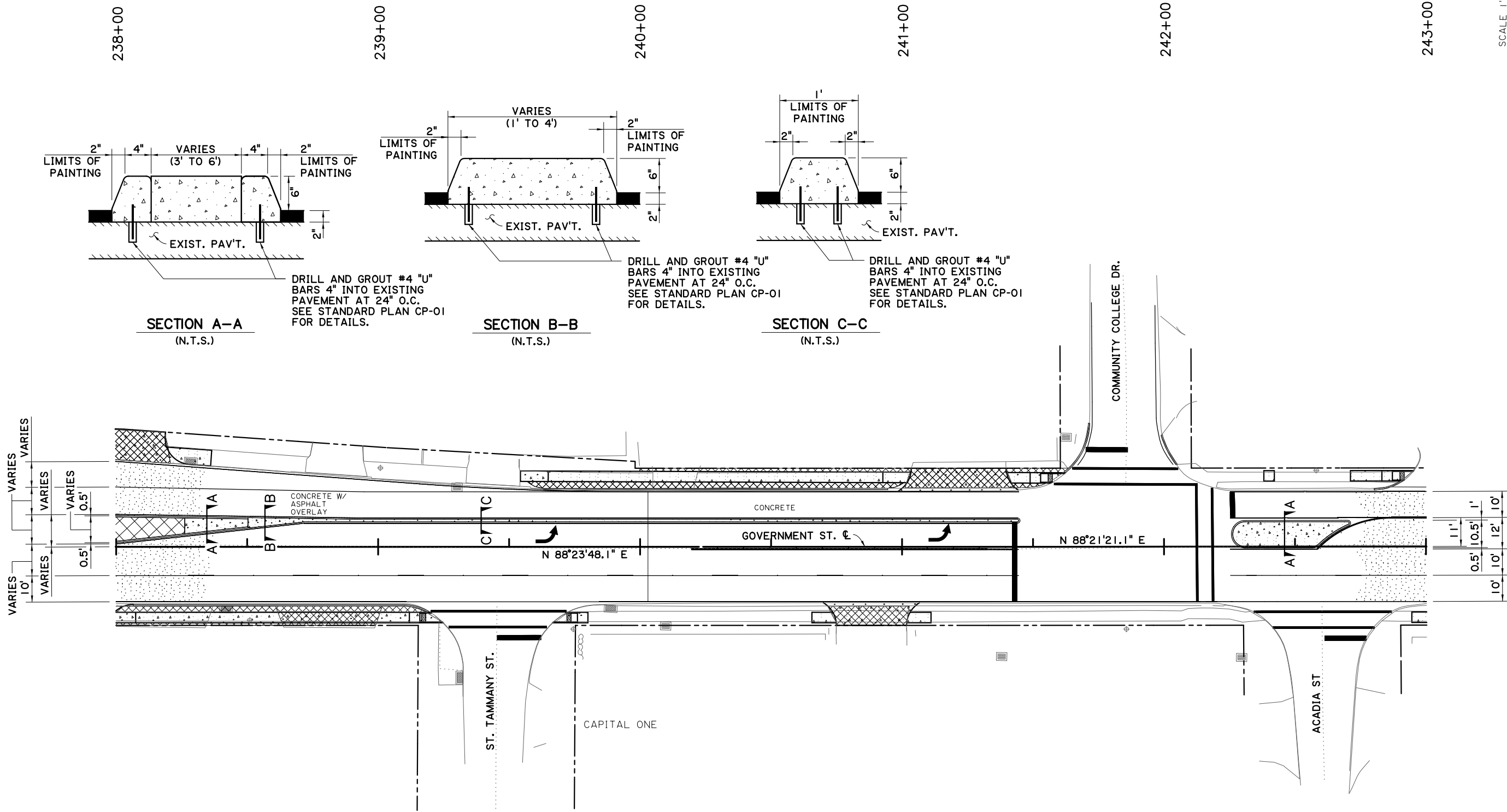
ENGINEER: CINDY M. HALL  
LICENSE #: 27073  
DATE: 01-MAY-2017

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	LA 73 (GOVT ST) EAST BLVD - LOBDELL AVE		DESIGNED RAN		STATE PROJECT	H.011295
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REVISION OR CHANGE ORDER DESCRIPTION		NO.	DATE	BY		



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SECTION A-A  
(N.T.S.)


SECTION B-B  
(N.T.S.)

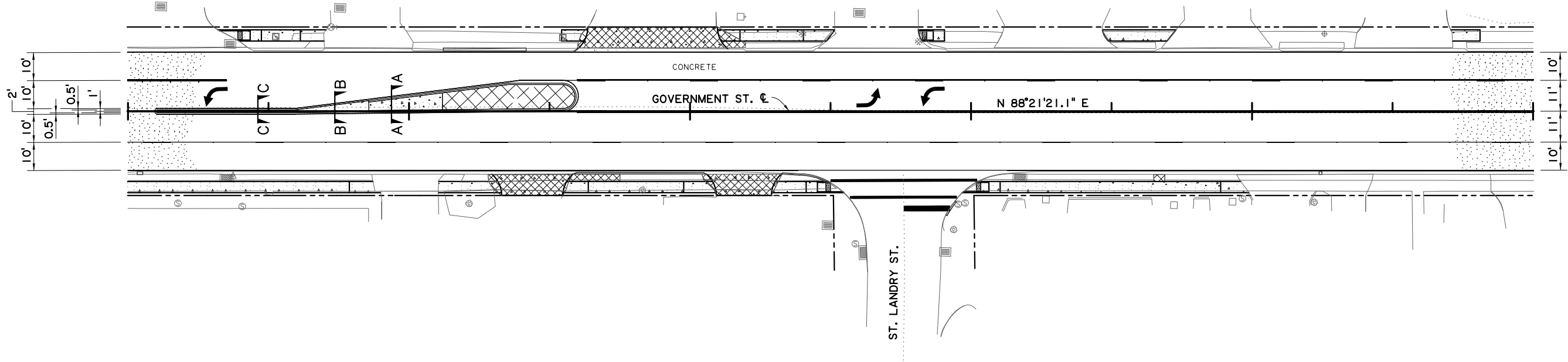
SECTION C-C  
(N.T.S.)

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	PLAN SHEET		EAST BATON ROUGE		SHEET NUMBER		
	GOVERNMENT ST.		PARISH		CONTROL SECTION		
	LA 73 (GOVT ST) EAST BLVD - LOBDELL AVE		077-05 & 000-17		STATE PROJECT		
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				CMH	CMH		




SCALE 1"=20'



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ENGINEER: CINDY M. HALL  
LICENSE #: 27073  
DATE: 01-MAY-2017

	PLAN SHEET		DESIGNED	RAN	PARISH	EAST BATON ROUGE	SHEET NUMBER
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			CHECKED	CMH	PROJECT		
REVISION OR CHANGE ORDER DESCRIPTION			SERIES	30 OF 49			
			NO.			NUMBER	BY
			DATE				



**MID-SOUTH COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, INC**

**3313 Government Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806  
(225) 334-7490**

Certified Mail: 70121640000151389415

May 15, 2017

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
Environmental Engineer Administrator, Section 28  
P. O. Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: Mid-South Communication Objection  
“Divider Island” S. Acadian Thruway & Beverly  
State Project No. H.011295 - Federal Aid No.H011295  
LA 73 (Government St): East Blvd – Lobdell Ave  
East Baton Rouge Parish

To Whom It May Concern:

This response is hereby being submitted to your letter notification dated May 11, 2017 regarding your proposed access management design features. The proposed design features are to install raised “Divider Islands” approximately 1 foot wide and 6 inches tall demarking a turning land at the intersection of Government Street and S. Acadian Thruway. According to a drawing of the proposed project the “Divider Island” would start from the intersection of Government Street and Beverly Street then go east to S. Acadian Thruway allowing vehicles to make a left turn from Government Street unto S. Acadian Thruway. Also, please keep in mind that presently vehicles are unable to make a left turn from Government Street to S. Acadian Thruway

Mid-South Communications Company, Inc. is the property owner of the three stories commercial office building located at 3313 Government Street. The property is a corner lot on the north-east side of Government Street at the Beverly Street Intersection. The parking lot for the property is in front of the building on Government Street.

Current tenants are the Louisiana Community Development Capital Fund, Inc., a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization; WTQT-106.1 community radio station and broadcast tower; the Louisiana NAACP; attorneys and low-power television stations.

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
Environmental Engineer Administrator, Section 28  
May 15, 2017  
Page 2

The DOTD proposed "Divider Island" will put a barrier for customers and tenants turning into the parking lot traveling eastbound on Government Street. The only entrance to the front parking lot will be available to customers and tenants traveling westbound on Government Street. This will cause a lot of inconvenience and safety hazardous for customers and tenants having to navigate through heavier traffic.

We believe that the current DOTD proposed "Divider Islands" will constitute a reverse condemnation of the 3313 Government Street property resulting in a diminution of value for the property as well as additional cost. Therefore, we hereby object to the propose barrier being installed in front of 3313 Government Street office building.

However, we understand that DOTD, as a government agency, has the legal authority to expropriate property through condemnation and/or reverse condemnation and are willing to negotiate further. Architect Coleman D. Brown will be assisting me regarding this and will be conferring with your office.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ernest L. Johnson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ernest L. Johnson, President  
Mid-South Communications Company, Inc.

CC: Coleman D. Brown, Architect

## Maria Reid

---

**From:** ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com  
**Sent:** Monday, June 05, 2017 6:53 PM  
**To:** Anna Hanks  
**Cc:** Maria Reid; 'Tom Stephens'; Coleman Brown; Dr. Ernest Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave


Ms. Hanks

Thanks very much for your response to my certified letter. However, Mid-South Communications is still unclear as to whether cars traveling eastbound on Government street will be able to continue making a left turn into the 3313 Government street building parking lot after the S. Arcadian Thruway intersection divider island is installed.

Thus, since we have requested meetings both in our letter and my conversation with you in order to get questions answered face to face and your email failed to address the meeting request we will take that to mean that no meeting will be granted.

Therefore, please be advise that Mid-South Communications Company objects and intends to seek damages for reduction in property value if your proposed project will prevent the present exist and entrance from any direction to its Government street parking lot.

E. Johnson, J.D., D.D.  
3313 Government Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

225.334.7490 

----- Original Message -----

Subject: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave  
From: Anna Hanks <Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV>  
Date: Mon, June 05, 2017 12:50 pm  
To: "'ERNESTJOHNSON@LACAPFUND.COM'" <ERNESTJOHNSON@LACAPFUND.COM>  
Cc: Maria Reid <Maria.Reid@la.gov>, "'Tom Stephens'" <tstephens@brgov.com>

Dear Dr. Johnson,

We are in receipt of your letter dated May 15, 2017 in response to DOTD's notification of the proposed access management design features at selected intersections along Government Street. We appreciate you taking our phone call last week to discuss the matter.

As you are aware, the recently proposed safety-enhancing features are raised divider islands, approximately one-foot wide and six inches high, demarking

turning lanes at the following intersections: S. 19<sup>th</sup> Street/Park Boulevard, Camelia Avenue/S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street to S. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, S. Acadian Thruway, and Community College Drive. These raised divider islands replace the previously proposed pavement markings in these locations and are expected to improve safety and traffic operations by controlling access for turning vehicles at the identified intersections. Specifically, at the S. Acadian Thruway intersection, the newly proposed divider island begins approximately 200 feet east of the intersection and ties into the proposed raised median island beginning just east of Beverly Drive. The current plans continue to allow drivers to turn left into and out of Beverly Drive, which does not change the existing traffic flow.

The proposed plans include the addition of an eastbound left turning lane on Government Street at S. Acadian Thruway, a movement that is currently not allowed. The raised median beginning just east of Beverly Drive, shown on the exhibit presented during the December 17, 2015 public meeting, was designed as per the required design features (taper and storage lengths) for this turning lane and further enhances the safety purpose and need of the project.

We continue to work in coordination with East Baton Rouge City/Parish who will take ownership of this corridor after construction is complete.

Again, we appreciate your comments.

Thank you,

*Anna*

**Anna S. Hanks, P.E.**

Special Projects Engineer  
Project Management Section

**Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development**

P.O. Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

1201 Capitol Access Road (Room 503-H) | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

☎ 225.379.1726 | ✉ [anna.hanks@la.gov](mailto:anna.hanks@la.gov) | 🌐 [www.dotd.la.gov](http://www.dotd.la.gov)

*This document and the information contained herein is prepared solely for the purpose of identifying, evaluating and planning safety improvements on public roads which may be implemented utilizing federal aid highway funds; and is therefore exempt from discovery or admission into evidence pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 409.*



## Maria Reid

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**From:** Anna Hanks  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 03, 2017 8:31 AM  
**To:** 'ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com'; Coleman Brown  
**Cc:** Maria Reid; Tom Stephens; Dr. Ernest Johnson; Victoria Guidry  
**Subject:** RE: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave

Dr. Johnson,

We are not aware of any DOTD administrative steps that you should take with regard to the issues of concern you have raised. I have spoken with DOTD's property group attorney representing the BR area, Victoria Guidry. She is aware of your concerns and has said she will be happy to speak with you directly.

Mrs. Guidry's telephone number is (225) 242-4671; and her email address is [victoria.guidry@la.gov](mailto:victoria.guidry@la.gov). She is copied on this email.

Please feel free to contact her at your convenience.

Thank you,

*Anna*

**Anna S. Hanks, P.E.**  
Special Projects Engineer  
Project Management Section

**Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development**  
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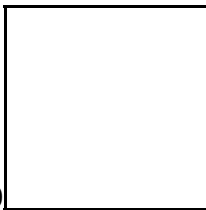
**From:** ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com [mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 01, 2017 3:32 PM  
**To:** Coleman Brown <coleman@colemanbrown.com>; Anna Hanks <Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV>  
**Cc:** Maria Reid <Maria.Reid@la.gov>; Tom Stephens <tstephens@brgov.com>; Dr. Ernest Johnson <lanacp1@juno.com>  
**Subject:** RE: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave

Are there anymore administrative steps that we should take before filing a lawsuit, i.e. appeal and to whom?

Thanks very much for your assistance.

E. Johnson, J.D., D.D.  
3313 Government Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

225.334.7490



----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave  
From: Coleman Brown <[coleman@colemanbrown.com](mailto:coleman@colemanbrown.com)>  
Date: Mon, July 17, 2017 9:56 am  
To: Anna Hanks <[Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV](mailto:Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV)>  
Cc: "[ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com](mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com)" <[ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com](mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com)>, Maria Reid <[Maria.Reid@la.gov](mailto:Maria.Reid@la.gov)>, Tom Stephens <[tstephens@brgov.com](mailto:tstephens@brgov.com)>, "Dr. Ernest Johnson" <[laneacp1@juno.com](mailto:laneacp1@juno.com)>

This does not answer your question, does it ?

Coleman D. Brown, CSI, CCS, RA  
6554 Florida Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, La.  
70806

225-925-8176  
225-925-8177 fax  
225-636-9080 mobile

On Jul 17, 2017, at 9:01 AM, Anna Hanks <[Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV](mailto:Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV)> wrote:

Dr. Johnson,

After discussions with East Baton Rouge City/Parish (who will take ownership of the route after construction) and the design consultant for the Government Street project, the construction plans remain as proposed and will include a raised divider median in this location on Government Street (drawing attached). Left turns into and out of the existing driveway at 3313 Government Street will not be allowed after construction. Full access is maintained at Beverly Drive.

The intersection of Government Street and Acadian Thruway, like all existing intersections along the corridor, was studied and its design was developed in response to the primary focus of this project, to provide safe and diverse multimodal transportation options.

Sincerely,

*Anna*

**Anna S. Hanks, P.E.**

Special Projects Engineer  
Project Management Section

**Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development**

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**From:** [ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com](mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com) [<mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com>]

**Sent:** Saturday, June 17, 2017 12:04 PM

**To:** Anna Hanks <[Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV](mailto:Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV)>

**Cc:** Maria Reid <[Maria.Reid@la.gov](mailto:Maria.Reid@la.gov)>; 'Tom Stephens' <[tstephens@brgov.com](mailto:tstephens@brgov.com)>; Coleman Brown <[coleman@colemanbrown.com](mailto:coleman@colemanbrown.com)>; Dr. Ernest Johnson <[lanacp1@juno.com](mailto:lanacp1@juno.com)>

**Subject:** RE: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave

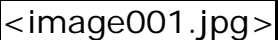
Ms. Hanks

Thanks very much for the update. I look forward to receiving the results of your meeting with the City/Parish.

E. Johnson, J.D., D.D.

3313 Government Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

225.334.7490 <

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave

From: Anna Hanks <[Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV](mailto:Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV)>

Date: Wed, June 14, 2017 10:44 am

To: "'[ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com](mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com)'" <[ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com](mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com)>

Cc: Maria Reid <[Maria.Reid@la.gov](mailto:Maria.Reid@la.gov)>, "'Tom Stephens'" <[tstephens@brgov.com](mailto:tstephens@brgov.com)>, Coleman Brown <[coleman@colemanbrown.com](mailto:coleman@colemanbrown.com)>, "Dr. Ernest Johnson" <[lanacp1@juno.com](mailto:lanacp1@juno.com)>

Dr. Johnson,

It is my understanding that you met with Secretary Wilson. I am currently discussing your concerns about the raised median island in front of your driveway with the City/Parish and design consultant.

I want to share with you the timeframe for the project. Depending upon finalization of the plans, we hope to bid the project by late summer/early fall. Construction will begin approximately three months after award of contract and we expect construction time to be 18-24 months, depending on weather.

Thank you,

*Anna*

225.379.1726

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**From:** [ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com](mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com) [<mailto:ernestjohnson@lacapfund.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, June 05, 2017 6:53 PM

**To:** Anna Hanks <[Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV](mailto:Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV)>

**Cc:** Maria Reid <[Maria.Reid@la.gov](mailto:Maria.Reid@la.gov)>; 'Tom Stephens' <[tstephens@brgov.com](mailto:tstephens@brgov.com)>; Coleman Brown <[coleman@colemanbrown.com](mailto:coleman@colemanbrown.com)>; Dr. Ernest Johnson <[lanacp1@juno.com](mailto:lanacp1@juno.com)>

**Subject:** RE: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave

Ms. Hanks

Thanks very much for your response to my certified letter. However, Mid-South Communications is still unclear as to whether cars traveling eastbound on Government street will be able to continue making a left turn into the 3313 Government street building parking lot after the S. Arcadian Thruway intersection divider island is installed.

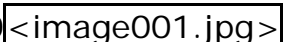
Thus, since we have requested meetings both in our letter and my conversation with you in order to get questions answered face to face and your email failed to address the meeting request we will take that to mean that no meeting will be granted.

Therefore, please be advise that Mid-South Communications Company objects and intends to seek damages for reduction in property value if your proposed project will prevent the present exist and entrance from any direction to its Government street parking lot.

E. Johnson, J.D., D.D.

3313 Government Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

225.334.7490 <

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: H.011295, LA 73 (Govt St) East Blvd - Lobdell Ave

From: Anna Hanks <[Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV](mailto:Anna.Hanks@LA.GOV)>

Date: Mon, June 05, 2017 12:50 pm

To: "'[ERNESTJOHNSON@LACAPFUND.COM](mailto:ERNESTJOHNSON@LACAPFUND.COM)'"

<[ERNESTJOHNSON@LACAPFUND.COM](mailto:ERNESTJOHNSON@LACAPFUND.COM)>

Cc: Maria Reid <[Maria.Reid@la.gov](mailto:Maria.Reid@la.gov)>, "'Tom Stephens'"

<[tstephens@brgov.com](mailto:tstephens@brgov.com)>

Dear Dr. Johnson,

We are in receipt of your letter dated May 15, 2017 in response to DOTD's notification of the proposed access management design features at selected intersections along Government Street. We appreciate you taking our phone call last week to discuss the matter.

As you are aware, the recently proposed safety-enhancing features are raised divider islands, approximately one-foot wide and six inches high, demarking turning lanes at the following intersections: S. 19<sup>th</sup> Street/Park Boulevard, Camelia Avenue/S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street to S. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, S. Acadian Thruway, and Community College Drive. These raised divider islands replace the previously proposed pavement markings in these locations and are expected to improve safety and traffic operations by controlling access for turning vehicles at the identified intersections. Specifically, at the S. Acadian Thruway intersection, the newly proposed divider island begins approximately 200 feet east of the intersection and ties into the proposed raised median island beginning just east of Beverly Drive. The current plans continue to allow drivers to turn left into and out of Beverly Drive, which does not change the existing traffic flow.

The proposed plans include the addition of an eastbound left turning lane on Government Street at S. Acadian Thruway, a movement that is currently not allowed. The raised median beginning just east of Beverly Drive, shown on the exhibit presented during the December 17, 2015 public meeting, was designed as per the required design features (taper and storage lengths) for this turning lane and further enhances the safety purpose and need of the project.

We continue to work in coordination with East Baton Rouge City/Parish who will take ownership of this corridor after construction is complete.

Again, we appreciate your comments.

Thank you,

*Anna*

**Anna S. Hanks, P.E.**  
Special Projects Engineer  
Project Management Section

**Louisiana Department of Transportation and  
Development**  
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<Acadian\_and\_Gov't.pdf>