Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinating Committee

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization Tuesday, June 27, 2023 Fort Myers Collaboratory 2031 Jackson Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901



10:00 a.m.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call/Introductions
- 3. Public Comments on Items on the Agenda
- 4. *Approval of the May 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- 5. Presentation on the US 41 at Bonita Beach Road PD&E Study (FDOT)
- 6. Presentation on the SR 78/Bayshore Road Capacity Study (FDOT)
- 7. Midtown Streetscaping Master Planning Update (Carl Karakos)
- 8. Lee Tran Presentation on Mobility on Demand (Dawn Huff)
- 9. Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates
- 10. Public and Member Comments on Items not on the agenda
- 11. Announcements
- 12. Topics for next meeting
- 13. Information and Distribution Items

Adjournment

*Action Items

†May Require Action

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO at 239-330-2243 or by email at cbarraco@leempo.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.

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Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Tuesday, May 23, 2023
Fort Myers Collaboratory
2031 Jackson Street,
Fort Myers. FL 33901



10:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

The in-person meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by BPCC Chair Henry Burden.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call/Introductions

MPO staff recorded the roll as those in attendance introduced themselves. There was a quorum. Those in attendance included:

From the BPCC

Brandon Kaczmarek Lee County Parks and Recreation

Clarissa Diaz LeeTran

David Wagley Lee County Department of Community Development Farhan Butt Lee County Department of Community Development

Henry Burden Member-at-Large/Chair Jennifer Hagen Member-at-Large

Jodi Walborn Blue Zones

Lee Waller Lee County Parks and Recreation

Randy Krise CAC

Scott Stryker Village of Estero

Simone Behr Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau

Syndi Bultman Lee Health Trauma

Teresa Lewis Member-at-Large/Vice-Chair

Others in attendance included Ron Gogoi and Don Scott with the Lee County MPO; Thomas Marquardt with Lee County Department of Transportation; George Schwigk with Cape Coral Police Department; and Nick Duncan with the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments on items on the agenda.

Agenda Item #4 - *Approval of March 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Teresa Lewis made the motion to approve the March 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Syndi Bultman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Recommendation of TA/SU/CARU Multimodal Project Priorities

Mr. Ron Gogoi presented a table of the recommended TA/SU/CARU Multimodal Project Priorities and reported that the San Carlos project to enhance the existing sidewalk on the west side from Summerlin to Kelly Road has been removed as staff determined there is a need for sidewalks on both sides. Staff will be doing some modelling analysis as part of the 2050 Transportation Plan Update to justify the need for widening the segment from Linda Lloma to Kelly 4 lanes and adding a bike/ped facility on the east

side. Staff has added a new project in the priority list that calls for a sidewalk on the east side from Summerlin to Linda Loma. This segment has 4 travel lanes and there is sufficient right of way on the east side to add a 8' sidewalk His presentation can be viewed at the following link: TA/SU/CARU Priorities

Ms. Teresa Lewis made the motion to recommend MPO Board approval of the TA/SU/CARU Multimodal Project Priorities. Ms. Syndi Bultman seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Discussion of SUN Trail Priorities

Mr. Gogoi clarified that he would like to discuss the SUN Trail the Office of Greenways and Trails Council approved the proposed changes to the SUN Trail Network including the changes that were requested by the Collier MPO. The Collier MPO changes include the alignment crossing at the Lee and Collier County line with the new alignment now including Old 41 from Bonita Beach Road to Veterans Memorial Boulevard, Veterans Memorial Boulevard from Old 41 to Livingston Road. The changes to Livingston Road calls for a shared use path on the FP&L corridor with additional alignment changes in Collier including the removal of the alignment in Rookery Bay and adding the Rattlesnake Hammock Road from Rick King Memorial Parkway to Collier Boulevard. Going back to the SUN Trail priorities, Mr. Gogoi informed the committee that \$200 million will be available in FY 2025 for funding the unfunded projects from last year, pay for cost increases to funded projects, and advancing already funded project phases. The SUN Trail solicitation by FDOT for which the new priorities are being developed will be in October not June.

The committee then discussed the projects in the priority list. Mr. Wagley and Mr. Marquardt reported on proposed improvements and the status of programmed facilities on Littleton Road. The committee asked Mr. Gogoi to leave out the request for replacement of the canal crossings from the JYLP enhancement project and instead add a request for a direct crossing of Daniels Parkway using either a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon or an overpass. Mr. Stryker made the argument that if JYLP is touted as a linear park then there has to be a safe and direct crossing over Daniels Parkway. Mr. Gogoi said he would coordinate with LCDOT and County Parks and will provide an update on the committee request when he brings the priorities back for approval. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: SUN Trail Priorities

Agenda Item #7 - Discussion of Candidate Locations for Cycle Tracks

Mr. Gogoi stated that he anticipated this discussion to be the first of many to identify a location for protected bicycle lanes that the MPO will be funding and including among the priorities next year. He provided two examples of existing protected bicycle lanes and one which was underway as part of a repaving project. He also reported design requirements under the Florida Design Manual and the Florida Green Book and shared two candidate locations within the City of Fort Myers offered by City Engineer and BPCC member Carl Karakos who could not be at the meeting. He asked committee members for suggestions for candidate locations or later by email that he could run it by local governments or FDOT. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: Cycle Tracks.

Mr. Gogoi asked the Chair if Mr. Don's Scott item on legislative bills could be moved up next. Chair Burden agreed.

Agenda Item #9 - Approved Legislative Bills and Appropriation Project Requests

Mr. Scott provided an update on Approved Legislative Bills and Appropriation Requests. His presentation can be viewed at the following link: Legislative Bills and Appropriations Mr. Gogoi asked

the Chair if Agenda Item #10 for Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates could be taken next, and he said that he will get to item 8 after that. Chair Burden agreed.

Agenda Item #10 - Local Agency/FDOT/MPO Updates

Ms. Clarissa Diaz with LeeTran provided LeeTran updates. Mr. Gogoi discussed cross sections on the improvements proposed under the SR 78 4-lane PD&E Study from I 75 to SR 31, and the proposed Alico Extension. Mr. Thomas Marquardt with Lee County Department of Transportation provided a brief report on the May 11th Alico Extension public meeting. Mr. Gogoi and Mr. Marquardt also reported on the status of the Pine Island Road Shared Use Path Feasibility Study, the Matlacha Permanent Repairs and the bridge replacement project on Little Pine Island Road.

<u>Agenda Item #8 - MPO Resolution to Opt Out of Set Aside for Safe and Accessible Transportation</u> <u>Options (Complete Streets)</u>

Mr. Gogoi explained the calculations used for Set Aside for Safe and Accessible Transportation Options, provided a background on the Set Aside requirement, and the FDOT initiated opt out provision. He also said this is another name for Complete Streets. He reported that the Lee MPO may very well be already meeting more than the set aside for FY 2023 using the MPO allocated Planning Funds (PL) and the SU/TALU funds. He shared a table on the Complete Street related activities that the Lee MPO have undertaken in 2022. Mr. Gogoi's presentation can be viewed here: MPO Opt Out

Agenda Item #11 - Public and Member Comments on Items not on the agenda

Mr. Scott Stryker commented on the need for pathways on US 41 in south Lee County. Mr. Gogoi said FDOT was going to present on the US 41/Bonita Beach Road project at the next BPCC meeting and one of the alternatives include 12' shared use paths on both sides of 41 for a very short stretch around the intersection.

Agenda Item #12 - Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item #13 - Topics for next meeting

Chair Burden asked for topics for next meeting to be sent to Mr. Gogoi.

Agenda Item #14 - Information and Distribution Items

The information and distribution was <u>posted to the MPO website</u> and provided to the BPCC via email prior to the meeting.

Ms. Jennifer Hagen commented on Resilient Lee Task Force Meetings and the discussion on trails.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

An audio recording of the meeting can be accessed at the following link: BPCC May 23, 2023

*Action Items †May Require Action

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cbarraco@leempo.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired call (800) 955-8770 Voice / (800) 955-8771 TDD. The MPO's planning process is conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. Any person or beneficiary who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status may file a complaint with the Lee County MPO Title VI Coordinator, Calandra Barraco, at 239-330-2243, or in writing at P.O. Box 150045, Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0045.

PRESENTATION ON THE US 41 AT BONITA BEACH ROAD PROJECT DEVELOPENT & ENVIRONMENT STUDY

DISCUSSION ITEM:

FDOT is currently conducting a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study for the US 41 and Bonita Beach Road intersection. The study is evaluating alternatives for improvement that include an eight lane US 41 with traffic signal or a six lane US 41 with a partial displaced left turn. The current estimated completion date is late 2024. The link to the project website that provides further information on the project is 444321-1 US 41 at Bonita Beach Road (C.R. 865) Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study (swflroads.com). FDOT Project Manager Patrick Bateman will be at the June 27th BPCC to provide a presentation on the project and to field questions.

PRESENTATION ON THE SR 78/BAYSHORE ROAD CAPACITY STUDY

DISCUSSION ITEM:

FDOT is currently conducting a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study on SR 78 from I-75 to State Road 31 to evaluate potential alternatives to enhance safety, accommodate future traffic demand, and to improve the roadway design to serve the needs of all users, including bicyclists and pedestrians.

The current estimated completion date is Early 2024. The link to the project website that provides further information on this project is <u>444937-1 State Road 78/Bayshore Road Capacity Study from I-75 to State Road 31 in Lee County (swflroads.com)</u>. FDOT Project Manager Patrick Bateman will be at the June 27th BPCC to provide a presentation on the project, and to field questions.

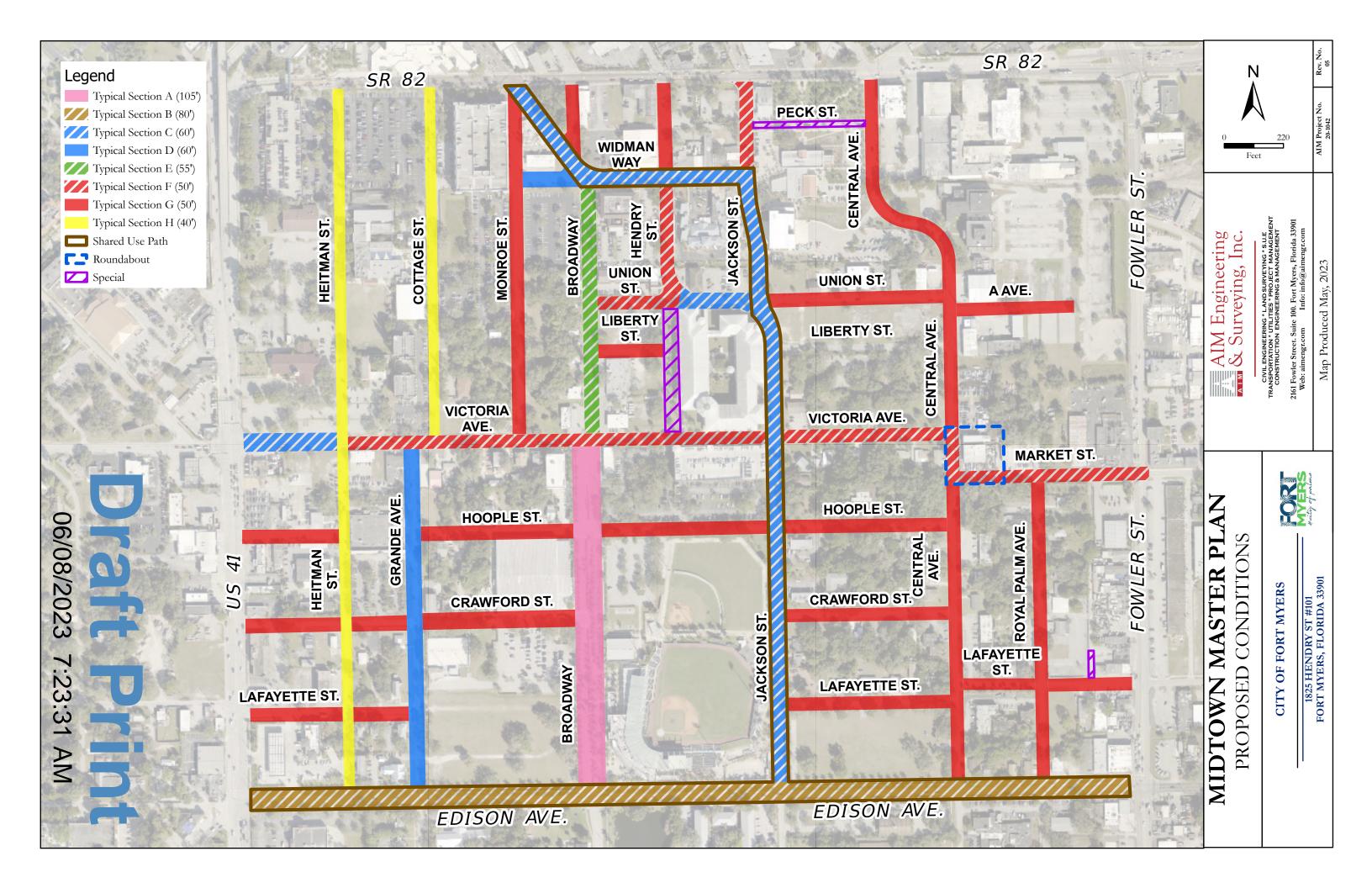
MIDTOWN STREETSCAPING MASTER PLANNING UPDATE

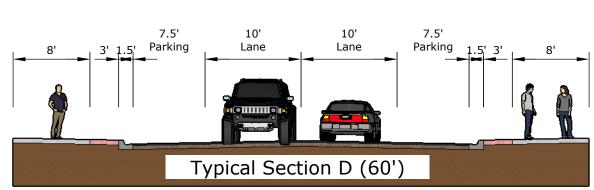
DISCUSSION ITEM:

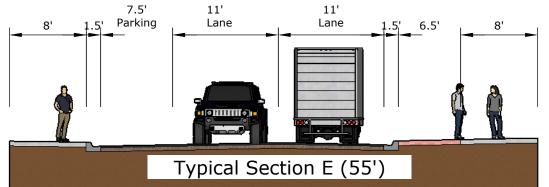
This is a follow up to the Midtown streetscape master planning presentation provided by AIM Constructing Contracting (ACC) at the March 26th BPCC meeting. ACC's current master-planning effort generally includes developing recommendations for drainage, water, sewer, and streetscape typical improvements, as well as design and construction phasing approaches.

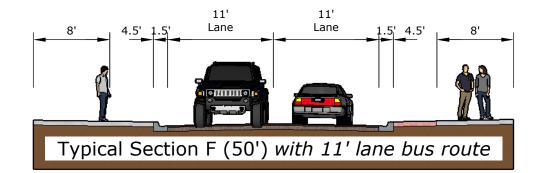
ACC will present and discuss their latest typical street plans and sections for various ROW widths they have developed as part of the master planning effort. **Attachment A** includes the street plans, cross sections, and proposed conditions map.

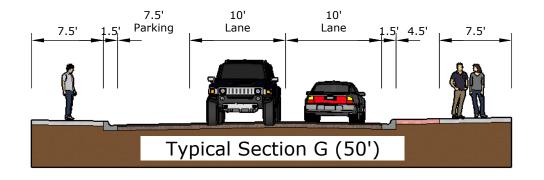
The boundaries of the Midtown area are from Cleveland Avenue (US 41) to the west, Edison Avenue to the south, Evans Avenue to the east, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (SR 82) to the north.

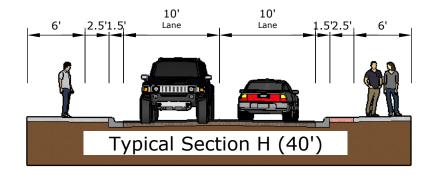




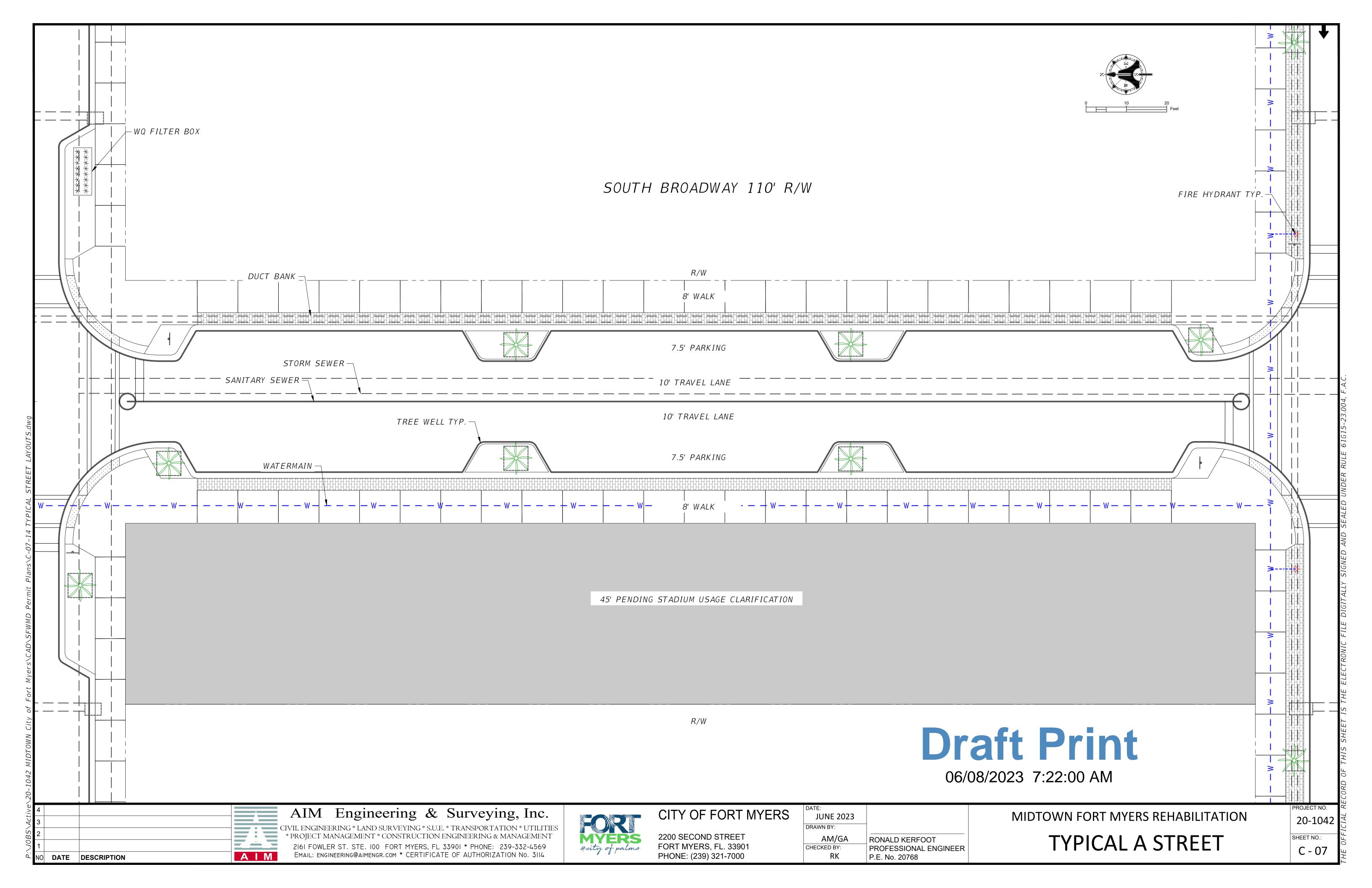


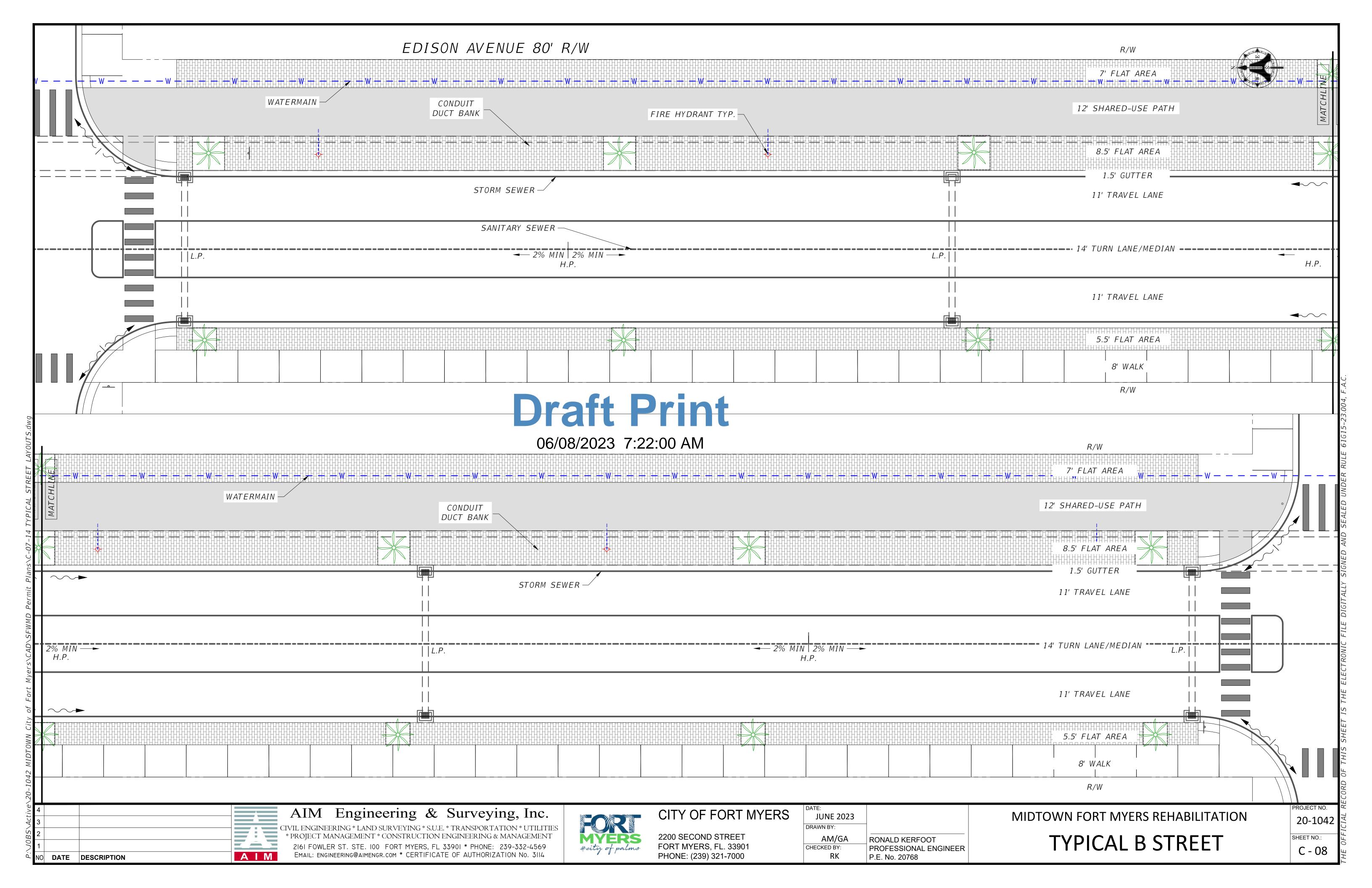


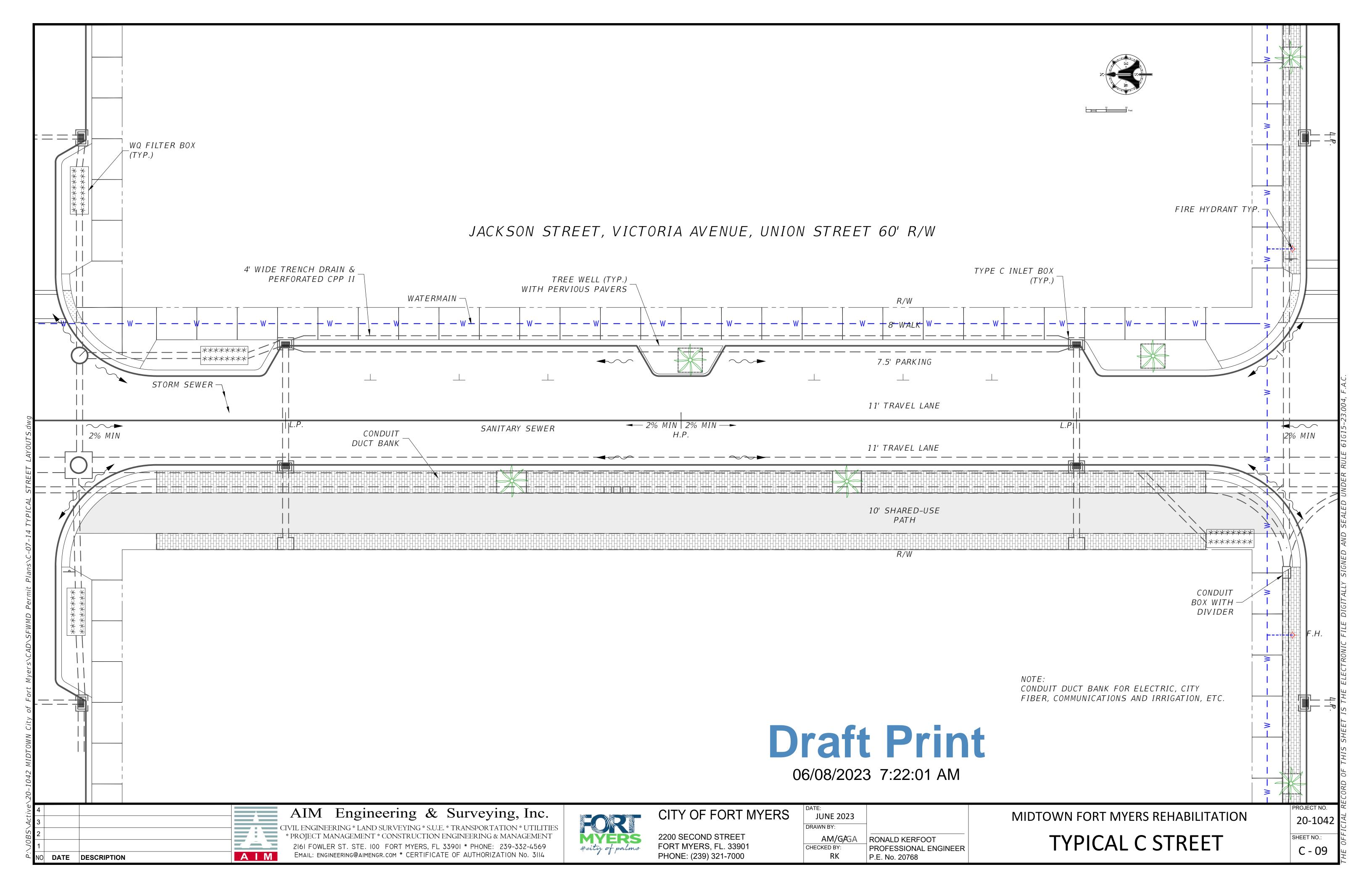


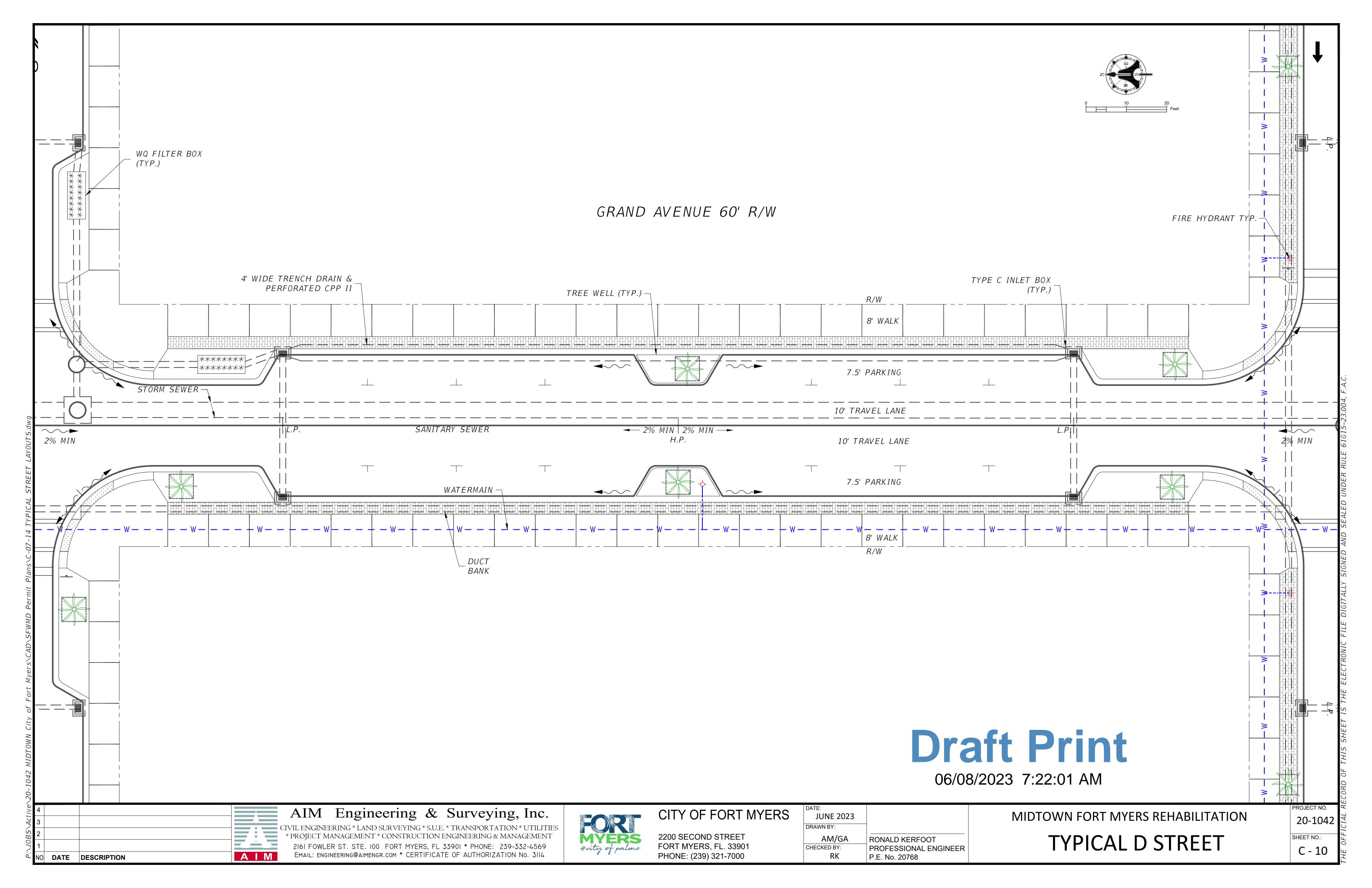


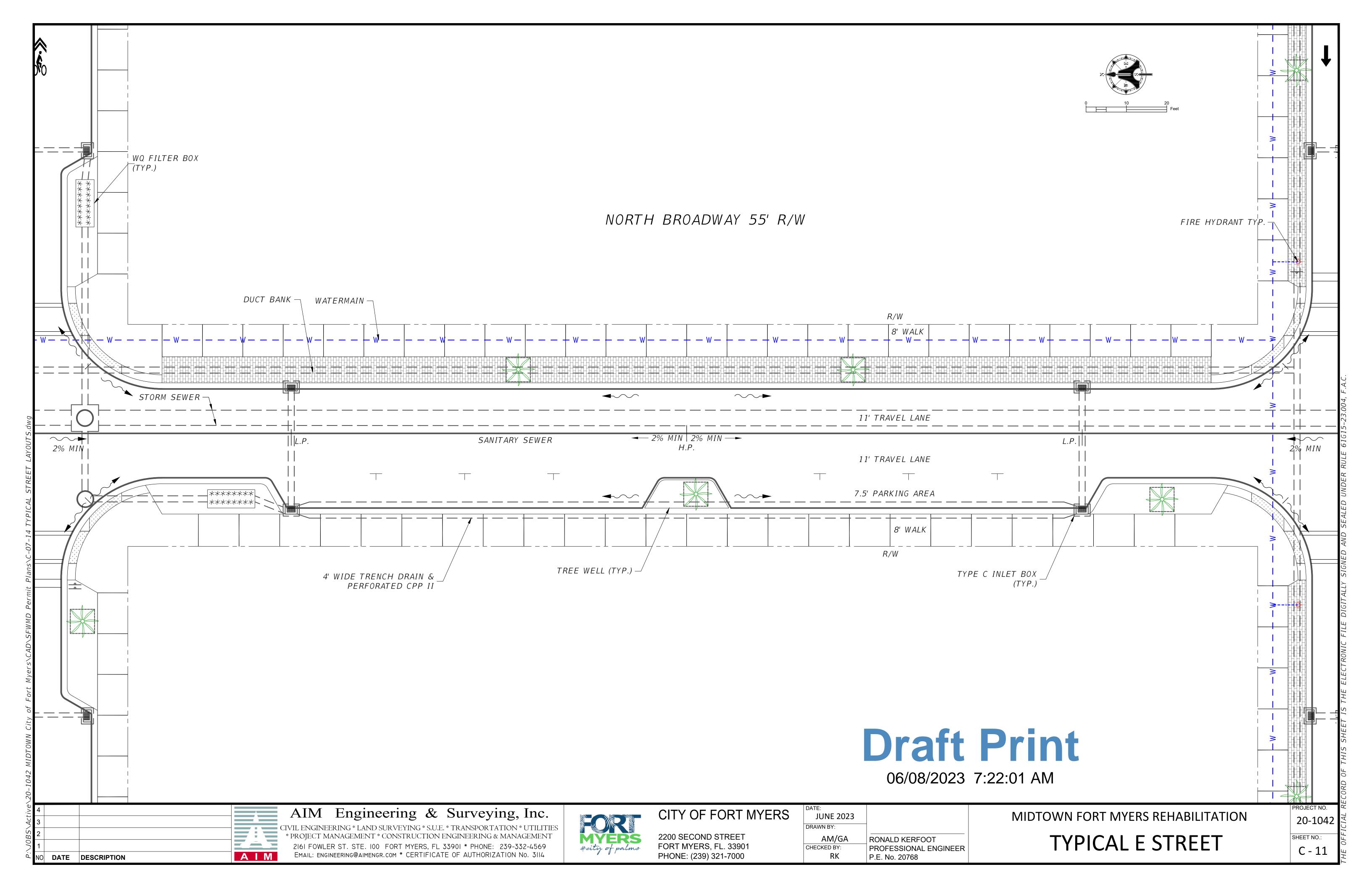
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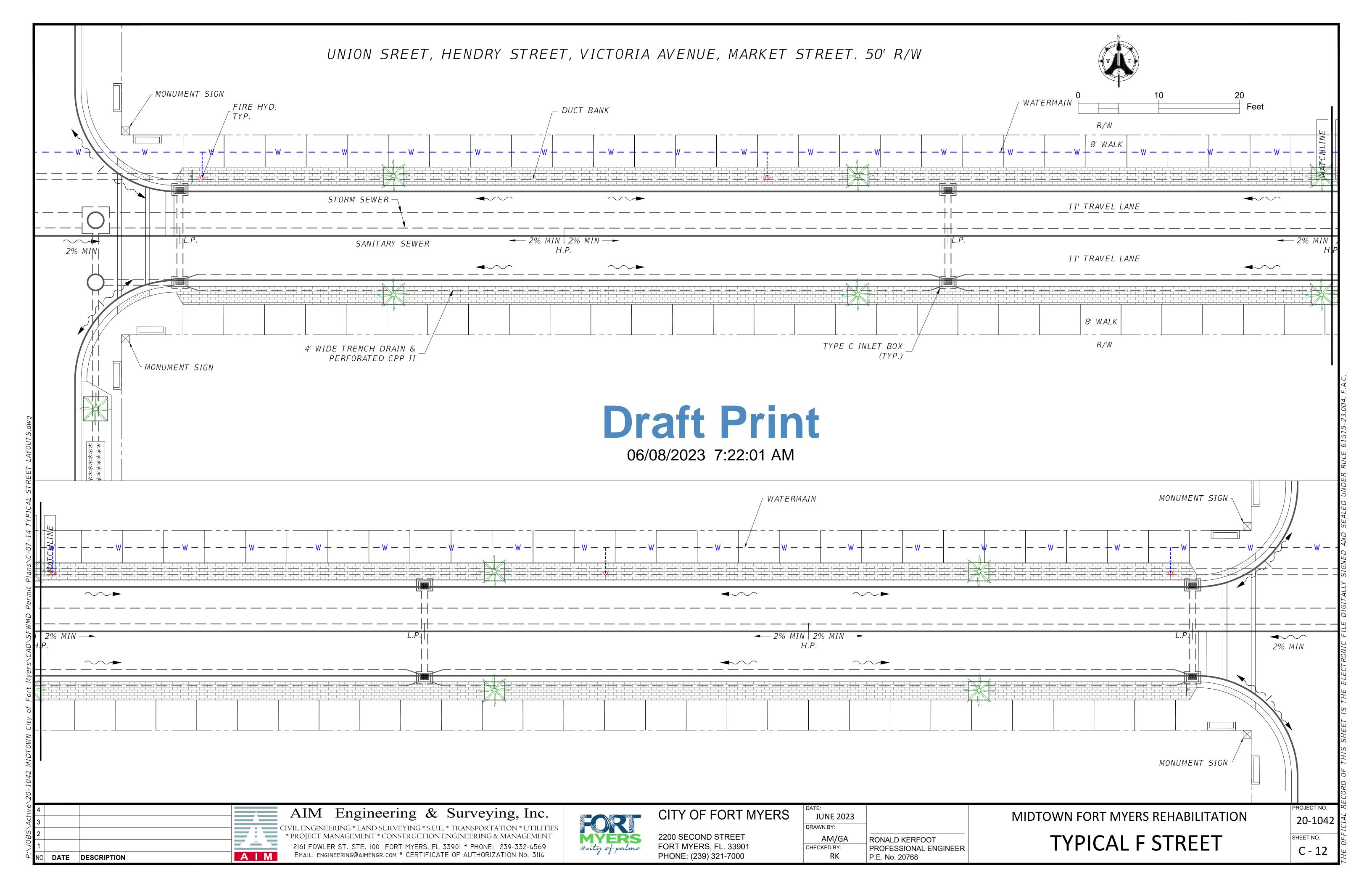


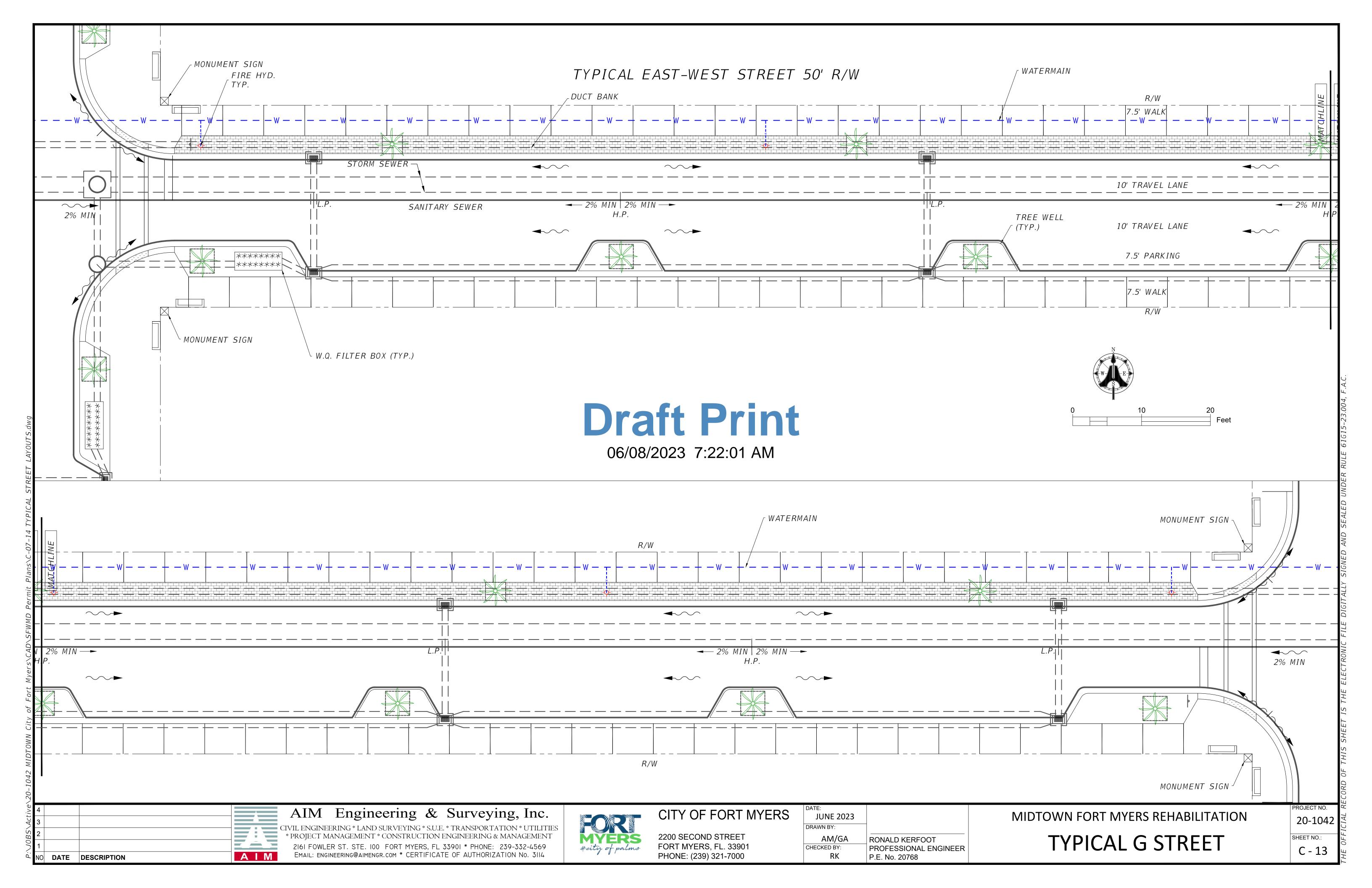


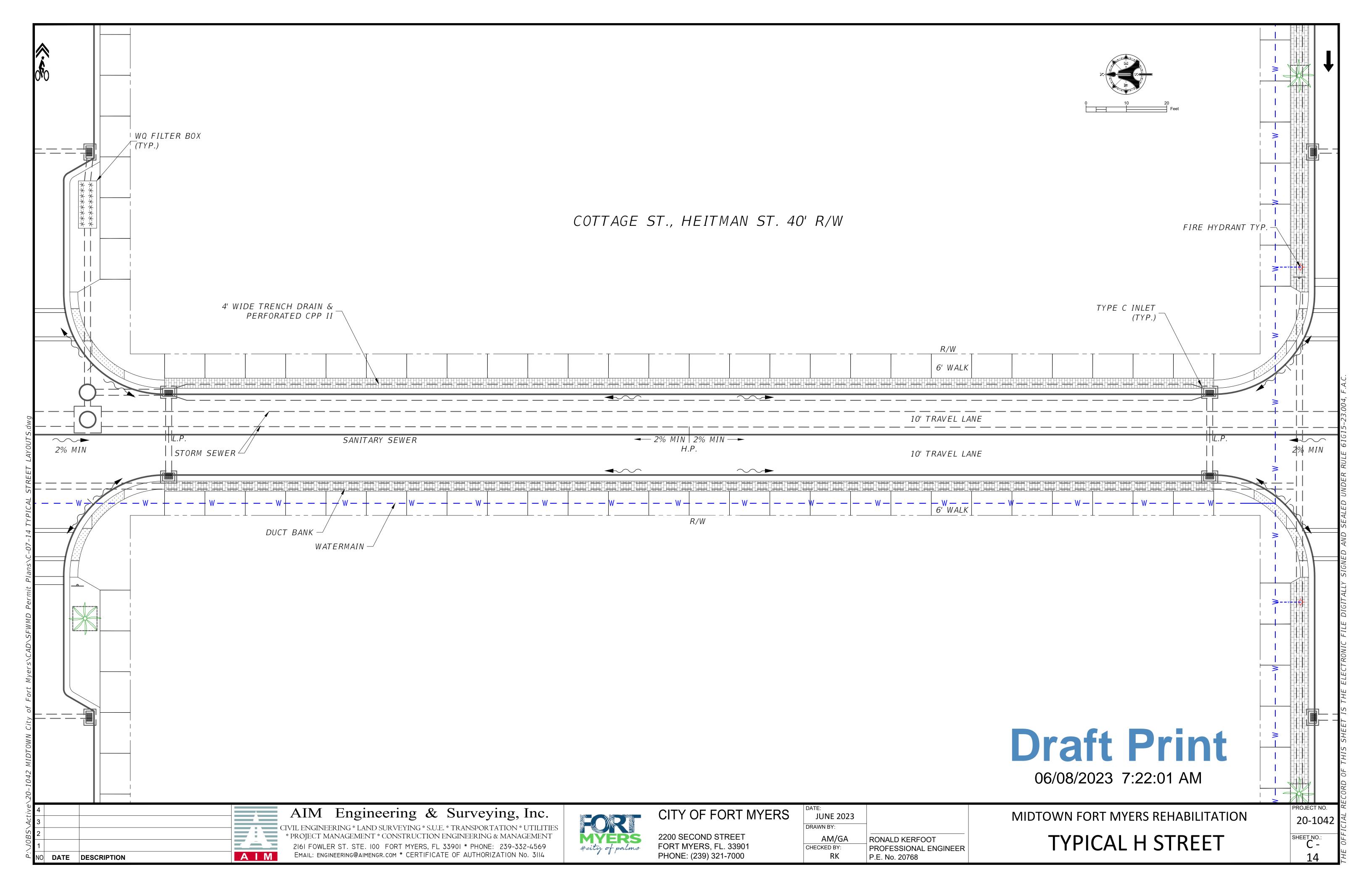












LEETRAN PRESENTATION ON MOBILITY ON DEMAND

DISCUSSION ITEM:

LeeTran is currently operating Mobility on Demand (MOD) pilot programs in Bonita Springs and Lehigh Acres. The MOD model has been gaining popularity in use among public transit providers as the service allows more personalized service and flexibility.

LeeTran rolled out its first ever MOD initiative in 2022 in the Bonita Springs area and on March 2nd of this year they launched a second one in Lehigh Acres. ULTRA on Demand, as MOD is called in Lee County supports LeeTran's fixed route service by allowing passengers to travel to destinations within the MPO area or to stops along the fixed route system to reach destinations outside the service area.

At the June 27th BPCC meeting, LeeTran staff will be providing a presentation on their MOD program and the progress the service has been making in these two areas. In addition to the MOD service, LeeTran will also cover questions on the fixed route service.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comments from Mr. John Majka were not submitted in time for the May BPCC meeting so they have now been included as part of the June 27th BPCC meeting. Mr. Majka's comments and the images that he included in his email are **attached**.

From: jjm66@aol.com <jjm66@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:10 AM

To: Don Scott <<u>dscott@Leempo.com</u>>; Ron Gogoi <<u>rgogoi@Leempo.com</u>>; Derek P. Rooney <<u>derek.rooney@gray-robinson.com</u>>; <u>carlos.a.gonzalez@dot.gov</u>; Charles A. <OIG> Ward

<<u>chuck.ward@oig.dot.gov</u>>; Scott V. Harding <<u>scott.v.harding@oig.dot.gov</u>>

Subject: 5-23-2923 BPCC Public comment with 6 images fpn 429823

Dear BPCC Chair,

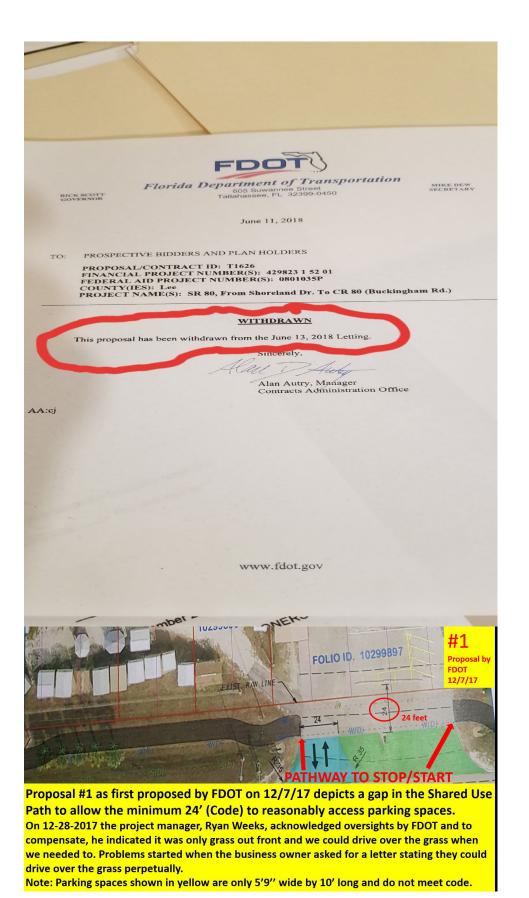
Please ask FDOT the following questions.

- 1. If fpn 429823 was not put out for letting in April of 2018 as scheduled, then indefinitely withdrawn from the FDOT tentative 5-year work program on June 11, 2018, (see attached) why isn't there correspondence to Commissioner Mann's Letter to FDOT dated June 8, 2018 indicating to the Commissioner that it was totally unnecessary to continue litigating the modification of my non-conforming grandfathered access point?
- 2. Why does the attached class of action determination from FDOT incorrectly state there will be no significant impacts to access?
- 3. How did the unbuildable segment of fpn 429823 depicted in the Department's first proposal in 2017, somehow become a buildable segment? Please see the feasibility study provided to the BPCC in the information packet for the May 26th 2015 BPCC meeting which documents how the proposed project would be unsafe, cost prohibitive, and have unbuildable segments.
- 4. Why would FDOT attorneys use an excerpt from an email from Director Scott in October of 2018 indicating fpn 429823 would be pursued as an 8-ft concrete sidewalk when fpn 429823 wasn't even on the FDOT 5-year tentative work program?
- 5. Why wasn't the no build option considered by the LEE MPO as required by federal law?
- 6. Did FDOT misappropriate Federal funding to construct fpn 429823 as the least safest option, the most expensive option, and the option with the absolutely lowest level of service solely to very loosely support litigation against the small business owner in an underserved community?

Please start letting the public see all my comments and images.

Thank you John Majka

Sent from AOL on Android





Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR

801 North Broadway Avenue Bartow, FL 33830

MIKE DEW SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

March 2, 2018

Ryan Weeks - Project Manager

Jonathon A. Bennett - Environmental Project Manager From:

Bernie Masing, Sharon Hedrick Harris, Greg Bowne, Jon Sands, Brian Blair, Sara Stevenson, Copies:

Tanya Merkle, Brent Setchell, D'Juan Harris, Marlon Bizerra, Bill Hartmann, Jeffrey James,

Vivianne Cross, Randy Cimini-Atkins, EMO file

429823-1-52-01 Financial Project ID: Subject: Federal Project ID: 0801-035-P

County/Section No: Lee

SR 80 from Shoreland Drive to CR 80 (Buckingham Road) Description:

This is a class of action determination for the subject project.

This project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(c), effective October 30, 2015, for the following type of project action:

3. Construction of bicycle and pedestrian lanes, paths and facilities.

It has been determined that the project will not cause significant adverse impacts to local traffic patterns, property access, community cohesiveness, planned community growth, wetlands, land use patterns, air quality, noise, water quality, navigation, and National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers. The project will not cause significant impacts to floodplains. There are contamination related impacts to this project if dewatering occurs. Please review the attached Contamination Plan Markings. Additional right-of-way will not be required, and there will be no relocations.

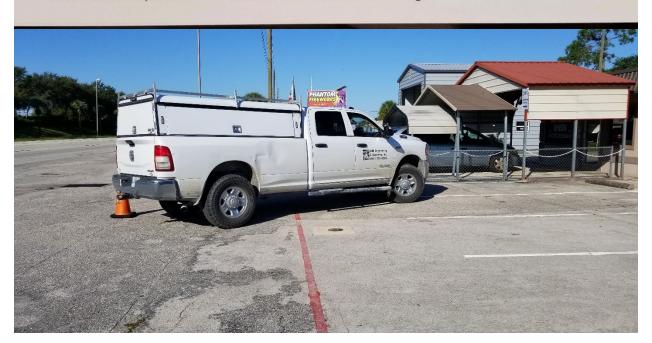
It should be noted that the project is located within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Consultation Area for Audubon's crested caracara, Florida grasshopper sparrow, American crocodile, West Indian manatee, redcockaded woodpecker, Florida scrub jay, Southwest plants list, and Florida bonneted bat. The project is also located within the Core Forage Area for two wood stork nesting colonies and the Common Range for the Florida black bear. Habitat may also be present for the gopher tortoise. A gopher tortoise survey is recommended 90-days prior to construction to ensure gopher tortoises are not impacted by the proposed construction. A protected species memo was completed for this project and can be found attached. Section 7-1.4: Compliance with Federal Endangered Species Act and other Wildlife Regulations of the Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction manual should be adhered to for wildlife involvement during

Department states the following:

a. On October 3, 2018, following the Department's unsuccessful negotiations with Lee
 County who refused to accept maintenance responsibility of the previously proposed Share
 Use Path, Donald Scott, Executive Director of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning
 Organization (MPO) sent the Department's District Secretary the following email:

Per our discussion regarding the SR 80 multi-use pathway project from Shoreland Drive to Buckingham Road, now that Lee County has indicated that they will not maintain the asphalt multi-use pathway consistent with the FDOT requirements for this facility, the Lee MPO requests that the second option of building a concrete sidewalk be pursued. Our understanding is that this will include a redesign to an eight-foot sidewalk, which will eliminate the need for a local entity maintenance agreement for this project. We also understand that the fiscal year for construction will depend on our funding availability. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thanks.

Filed October 29, 2018 4:14 PM Division of Administrative Hearings





June 8, 2018

John Manning District One

Cecil L Pendergrass District Two

Larry Kiker District Three

Brian Hamman District Four

Frank Mann District Five

Roger Desjarlais County Manager

Richard Wm. Wesch County Attorney

Donna Marie Collins Hearing Examiner Florida Department of Transportation District 1 10041 Daniels Parkway Fort Myers, FL 33913

RE: John Majka dba JPM VENTURES, INC 13850 Palm Beach Boulevard. Widening Project

Gentlemen, and Ladies:

The above referenced gentleman visited me yesterday and shared his story about consequences he is about to suffer, the result of a planned SR 80 project in front of his place of business. I recognize this is a state project, but it will occur in my Commission District, and since he appears to have run into a brick wall with the state he came by here in hopes of some possible reprieve.

State plans presently appear to create havoc for his business that has been in that location some twenty years. Mr. Majka has industriously grown his little business at that location for all those years with no problems whatsoever to the state transportation needs along that road front. It seems to me that some reasonable accommodations might be found to soften the blow to his hard earned business. He's being told that his only relief is to go to Tallahassee, which is most difficult for local folks and expensive to boot. It's been my experience that sending local problem cases "to Tallahassee" is an age old method for dealing with minor issues we wish would go away.

Your Ft. Myers office has historically shown great empathy in dealing with these kinds of matters, and I'm hoping you might take one more quick look at this case to see if a friendlier, good citizen and taxpayer solution might be found.

Sincerely,

Frank Mann

cc: FDOT, Southwest Florida, Main Office

cc: Randy Cerchie cc: John Majka

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. FDOT is holding a Public Meeting on the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan. The in-person public meeting, to be held at the Cape Coral Technical College, 360 Santa Barbara Boulevard North, Cape Coral, on June 22, will begin at 5:00 p.m. The virtual meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. on June 29. See attachment for details.



RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR 801 N Broadway Avenue Bartow, FL 33830 JARED W. PERDUE, P.E. SECRETARY

Contact: Janella Newsome

For Immediate Release

June 14, 2023

(863) 519-2828 | Janella.Newsome@dot.state.fl.us

SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan Public Meeting

In-Person: Thursday, June 22, 2023, from 5 – 7 p.m. Virtual: Thursday, June 29, 2023, from 6 – 7 p.m.

Bartow, **Fla.** – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is hosting a public meeting for the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan in Lee County.

Based on input gathered during earlier phases of this project, FDOT has created a proposed Corridor Vision Plan for SR 78 (Pine Island Road). The proposed plan outlines goals and potential strategies to guide transportation and land use decisions by the City of Cape Coral, Lee County, and Lee County MPO over the next 50 years. The purpose of this public meeting is to solicit feedback regarding the Proposed Corridor Vision Plan. Your input will help us determine if the current plan reflects community desires.

You can participate in the SR 78 (Pine Island Road) Proposed Corridor Vision Plan Public Meeting live online or in-person. The same materials will be displayed at both the online and in-person events and will also be posted by June 15, 2023, on the project website at https://www.swflroads.com/project/442083-1.

In-Person Option: The in-person open house is scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2023, at Cape Coral Technical College, 360 Santa Barbara Boulevard N, Cape Coral, FL 33993. Attend the in-person event anytime between 5 and 7 p.m.

Virtual Option: The virtual event is scheduled for Thursday, June 29, 2023, from 6 to 7 p.m. Please register to attend at https://bit.ly/41giOhj. The live event can also be accessed online through the project website at https://www.swflroads.com/project/442083-1. Once registered, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting online. Please review the meeting materials online through the project website prior to this event.

Website: View the materials online at https://www.swflroads.com/project/442083-1. Comments can be provided through the project website. After reviewing the public meeting materials and/or participating, you may submit comments in three different ways: 1) on the project website; 2) by emailing the FDOT Project Manager, Tanya Merkle, at tanya.merkle@dot.state.fl.us; or 3) mailing comments to Tanya Merkle, Manatee Operations Center, 14000 SR 64, Bradenton, FL 34212. While comments about the project are accepted at any time, please note that comments must be received or postmarked by July 10, 2023, to be included in the project record. A summary of the meeting comments and responses will be available on the website approximately 30 days after the comment period close.

FDOT solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. People who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, at (863) 519-2287 or email at Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us at least seven (7) days prior to the public meeting.

The Florida Department of Transportation may adopt this planning product into the environmental review process, pursuant to Title 23 USC § 168(d)(4), or to the state project development process.

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state's environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida's residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department's mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.