



LEBANON PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**OCTOBER 3, 2023 - 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
LEBANONNH.GOV/LIVE**

-
- 1. Call to Order**
 - 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. September 5, 2023
 - 3. Open to the Public**
 - 4. Study Items**
 - A. DPW Update
 - B. Mechanic St/Mascoma St/High St Roundabout
 - C. Updates from Other Boards
 - Planning & Development Department
 - Planning Board
 - City Council
 - Police Reports
 - Mascoma River Greenway Coalition
 - Class VI Roads
 - Rails to Trails
 - Communications Plan
 - 5. Other Business**
 - 6. Future Agenda Items**
 - A. Overview of Strava Data
 - B. Bike Friendly Community Designation Renewal
 - C. Safety Action Plan/Vision Zero Policy
 - D. 12A path legal review/status
 - E. Route 10 Ped-Bike corridor
 - 7. Adjournment**

The order of agenda items is subject to change.

Meetings are open for in-person and remote attendance. Members of the public that wish to attend remotely may do so by going to LebanonNH.gov/Live where you will find instructions on how to enter the meeting. Members of the public will be able to participate and ask questions through the City's virtual platform or by phone. Please note: Should technical difficulties occur during the meeting that disrupts virtual or phone connection(s), the meeting will continue without remote access capabilities.

DRAFT

**PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL &
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM LebanonNH.gov/LIVE
7:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Colin Smith (Chair); Marie McCormick; Adams Carroll; Erling Heistad (City Council); Haynes Bunn; Sean Dittrich; Amy Chan; Jared Toon (Alt)

MEMBERS ABSENT: George Sykes (City Council, Alt); Dave Koch (Alt); Clifton Below (Alt)

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Corwin (Deputy Planning & Development Director)

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 1, 2023

A Motion was made by Mr. Heistad to accept the meeting minutes of August 1, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Carroll.

**The vote on the MOTION was approved (7-0-0).*

3) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Pelletier explained that he would like to discuss the proposed roundabout in the High Street area. Chair Smith stated that this item could be placed on the Committee's next agenda. Mr. Carroll noted that he believes this project is in its final design phase at this time. While additional input may be received, he is unclear if this Committee is the appropriate place for it at this time.

4) STUDY ITEMS

A. Sachem Village Fall Walk and Roll event

Ms. McCormick explained that Hanover Ped Bike approached the City requesting a collaborating for a Walk and Roll event at Sachem Village. Sachem Village is located in West Lebanon. She volunteered to be part of the collaboration. There is question as to whether this event will be able to occur, as it is to be located on Dartmouth property. There are no alternate locations proposed at this time.

Mr. Carroll noted that this area may not all be Dartmouth property and instead be part of a City right of way. Ms. McCormick stated that she would look into this.

B. Walk Bike Ride Lebanon: Non-Infrastructure Prioritization

Chair Smith explained that the Committee provided input for the plan for non-infrastructure projects. The intention is to review the list of projects and prioritize them. The plan includes infrastructure/capital projects, of which several were preliminarily costed out and are being considered further. Other items that can improve conditions outside of infrastructure items are also included, such as policies, educational programs, pilots, and safety enhancements.

1 The Committee reviewed the list and agreed to consider a prioritization discussion for a future meeting.

2
3 C. Bike and Learn fall bike ride
4

5 Ms. McCormick explained that the proposal is for a guided ride with an educational component. The
6 proposed date is Thursday September 28th from 5pm-6pm. This will occur on the Mascoma River
7 Greenway. The topics of discussion will revolve around the Greenway.
8

9 D. Updates from Other Boards
10

11 • Planning Office - Planning Staff

12 No updates at this time.
13

14 • Safe Routes to School - Planning Staff

15 No updates at this time.
16

17 • City Council

18 Mr. Heistad stated that the Council is discussing a Class VI road designation tomorrow evening that may
19 impact the Committee.
20

21 • Planning Board/CIP Meeting

22 No updates at this time.
23

24 • Police Reports

25 Ms. Bunn stated that, according to the City Manager report, there was one additional crash involving a
26 pedestrian or bicyclist in July, leading to a total of four this year. At this time last year, there had been a
27 total of six crashes.
28

29 • Mascoma River Greenway Coalition

30 It was noted that there will be a local concerns meeting regarding the Mechanic Street sidewalk project on
31 September 21, 2023 at 6pm in the Council Chambers.
32

33 • Class VI Roads

34 It was noted that this Committee is taking the summer off.
35

36 • State of NH Updates

37 There were no updates at this time.
38

39 • Rails to Trails

40 Ms. Chan gave a brief update on this item.
41

42 • Communications Plan

43 Ms. McCormick stated that the Police Department had a nice back-to-school safety event.
44

45 **5) OTHER BUSINESS**

46 A. Updates on City and NHDOT Projects

47 Mr. Corwin stated that the City was considering a RAISE Grant for the Sachem connector, but this does
48 not seem to be the appropriate grant. Other funding sources are being sought at this time.
49

50 B. High Contract Crosswalks Project

51 Chair Smith noted that a representative from the DPW should be attending a future meeting to further
52 discuss this topic. The intention is to complete a couple of high contract crosswalks this year as pilot
53 projects. The Committee noted that it will be interested in seeing data from these pilot locations.
54

6) **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & FOLLOW-UP NEEDS:**

A. Bike Friendly Community Designation Renewal

The Committee noted that it would keep this on its radar, for action next year.

B. Safety Action Plan / Vision Zero Policy – *This item was not directly addressed at this time.*

C. 12A path legal review / status

Mr. Corwin stated that Staff continues to work with the property owner on opening up this path. The path appears to be stable ground and signs regarding usage of the trail will be posted. Bikes will likely not be allowed on the path to begin with.

D. Route 10 ped-bike corridor – *This item was not directly addressed at this time.*

7) **ADJOURNMENT:**

A Motion was made by Ms. Chan to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Heistad.

**The vote on the MOTION was approved (7-0-0).*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristan Patenaude, Recording Secretary

Petition to stop the “Circle to Nowhere”

(High, Mascoma, & Mechanic St Roundabout)

16April2023

Members of the Lebanon City Council, from your constituents,

As voters of the City of Lebanon, we voice strong concerns regarding this wasteful, ill conceived, and unnecessary project.

-This project is a poor use of the concept due to the severe grade change across the circle.

-This project will be very expensive, apx. \$6.5million.

-This project will take over \$1million of taxable property off the tax rolls, only to increase the tax burden to the citizenry.

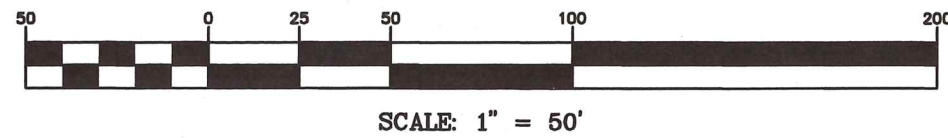
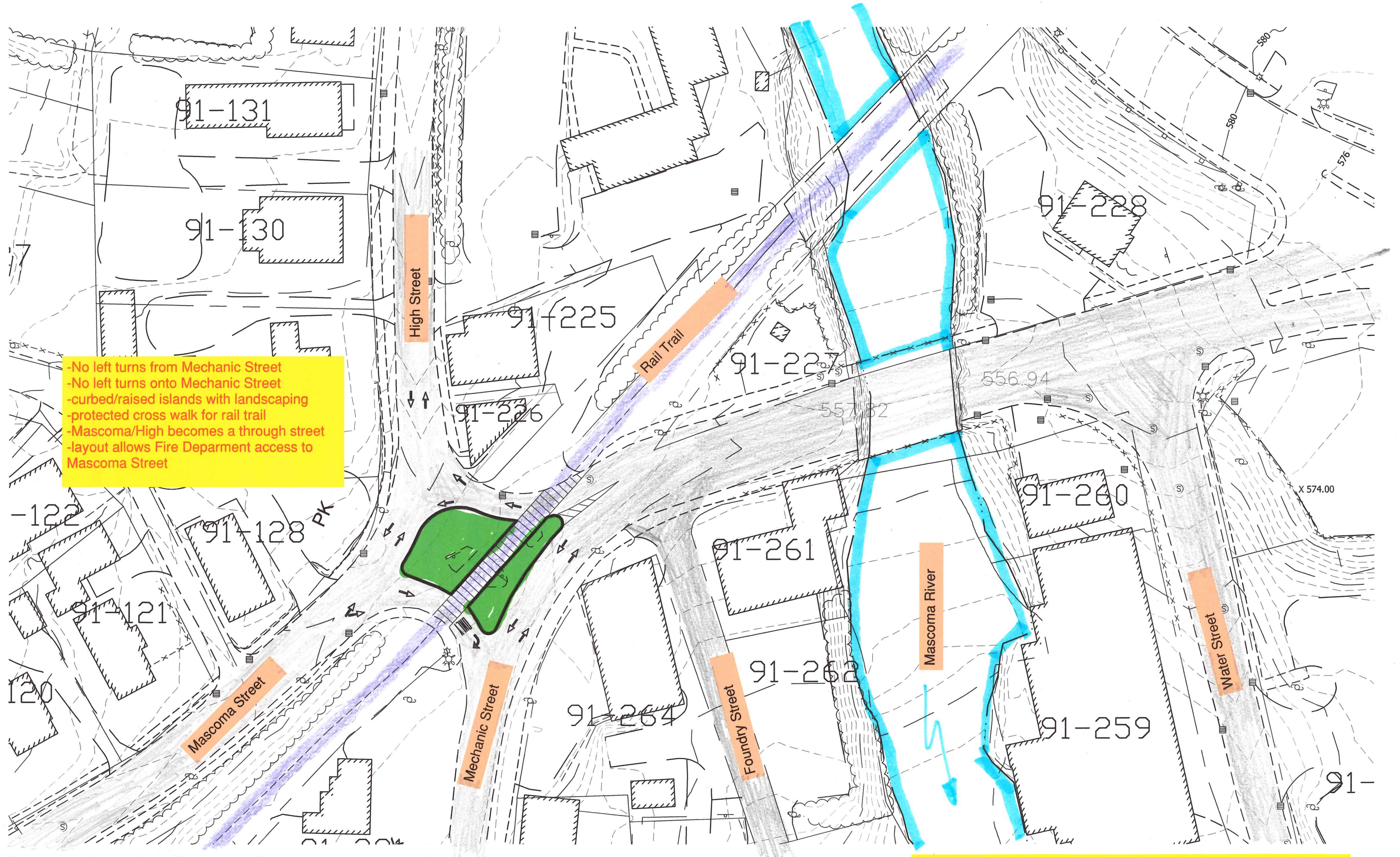
-This project will provide no traffic benefit, only frustration to drivers.

-This project will be very disruptive for 2-3 while it is being built.

-This project will disrupt the flow of the Mascoma Greenway.

We, the voters, call on the City of Lebanon to stop this project and allocate the resources to worthy and workable projects, such as the roundabout at High/Hanover Streets, or a sidewalk along Mechanic Street, or restoration of Hanover St over I-89.

Name of Resident	Signature of Resident	Address and Phone	Date Signed



ALTERNATIVE to the "CIRCLE TO NOWHERE"
 25May2023

HELP STOP THE "CIRCLE TO NOWHERE"!

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO STOP A WASTEFUL,
UNNECESSARY PROJECT.



- This project is a poor use of the concept due to the severe grade change across the circle.
- This project will be very expensive, apx. ~~\$6.5~~million. \$4.7
- This project will take over \$1million of taxable property off the tax rolls, only to increase the tax burden to the citizenry.
- This project will provide no traffic benefit, only frustration to drivers.
- This project will be very disruptive for 2-3 while it is being built.
- This project will disrupt the flow of the Mascoma Greenway.

PLEASE SIGN THE PETION TO STOP THIS
"CIRCLE TO NOWHERE"

My name is Tracy Pelletier. My wife Julie and I have lived on Mechanic Street for the last 22 years on property that abuts the Rail Trail. We feel strongly that the rail trail is a wonderful amenity here in Lebanon. In fact, my parents owned the property that is currently a parking lot next to the underpass. Day in and day out we see the heavy use of the trail and we feel this is a major benefit to Lebanon to have such a nice system in place. Don't get me wrong, we've definitely had some issues: a guy coming off the Rail Trail and sleeping in our hammock, garbage thrown on our property, kids throwing rocks against our garage and people parking at night shining headlights into our living room and bedroom. We know it is a small portion of users that makes this burdensome, so we still feel it is important to maintain the trails, keep the system connected and expand what is currently in place. This leads to the following concerns for the roundabout project that will intersect the Rail Trail that has been developed in recent years.

- 1) The city will need to raise the grade by the old Napa building by about 8 feet to make the circle as level as possible. However, they will not be adjusting the sidewalk height from its current state by the building. This creates a tunnel-like effect for pedestrians to walk, and their heads will be about the height of car/truck tires going by. To account for snow plows clearing the street, they are discussing putting up a wall approximately 5-6 feet in height, but they do not take into consideration that the sun rises behind the building and the wall would block the sunset. This means virtually no sun to warm up the ice, sleet and snow that will cover this area. Not to mention, it will be a constant maintenance issue trying to keep this area clear of debris.
- 2) The current plan consists of removing the stop signs on High St. and Mascoma St. which would allow pedestrians to cross the streets safely while cars enter/exit the roundabout. I understand that if we have the signs in place, it defeats the purpose of keeping cars moving. However, I feel the plan does not take into consideration the safety of the pedestrians since the vehicles will have more to calculate while maneuvering the roundabout and may not see somebody crossing the street.
- 3) After millions of dollars were spent resurrecting the Rail Trail tunnel on the east side of Lebanon and likely millions on prepping, paving and fencing the west side of the Rail Trail, the city is opting to place a large obstruction in the center of this system. It will force pedestrians off the trail, causing them to cross traffic twice before they can get back on to the trail. I believe many people will still try to cut straight through the roundabout and create a safety issue. Others will likely opt to turn around at this intersection and return in the direction they came, meaning the roundabout hinders the connection of the old rail line.
- 4) Once the Kleen Laundry building gets developed there will be significant traffic (car and pedestrian) entering and exiting Foundry St. If cars are trying to enter onto Mechanic St., I have concerns about visibility around the old Napa building to safely merge into traffic. This in turn would impact pedestrians' ability to safely get to the trail.
- 5) There were contaminants found under the Napa building coming from Eastmans garage, and we don't know if this is being addressed properly.

6) Bicyclists going down High St. from Sacred Heart Church who want to either get on the Rail Trail or take a left on Mechanic St. will likely be involved with the vehicle traffic of the roundabout.

MONEY ISSUES

1) This project is approximately 5 million dollars with the state picking up some of the tab. How is this project going to improve this intersection? There are only about 2 fender benders a year right now with the intersection as it is. How do we as a city justify spending this type of money for a project that does not seem like it will improve both vehicle and pedestrian traffic at this intersection? Especially considering that we will be removing more properties off the tax roll so the residents have more of a tax burden.

Questions I've asked without a response :

- 1) What is the traffic count on this stretch of Mechanic St compared to 10, 20 and 30 years ago?
- 2) How many accidents have we had at the current intersection? Any fatal accidents? How does this compare to other roundabouts in the region? (WRJ, Hanover, etc.)
- 3) Does the roundabout around Colburn Park work well for traffic flow?
- 4) How many accidents occurred when arrows were clearly painted on the pavement showing vehicle traffic which way to go?

I do believe we should make some improvements to this area- just without causing more concern for our pedestrians. I have offered written plans and verbal suggestions to both the prior and current city engineers. I received minimal consideration for any of the plans. Dan Nash and I have submitted at least one alternative plan for this intersection that might be viable for vehicle/pedestrian safety.

From: [Colin Smith](#)
To: [Tim Corwin](#)
Cc: [Marie McCormick](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: ROUNDABOUT
Date: Monday, September 25, 2023 8:05:14 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To add to the info from Mr Pelletier...

----- Forwarded message -----

From: embtse@aol.com <embtse@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Sep 25, 2023, 7:54 AM
Subject: ROUNDABOUT
To: Colin Smith <colin76@gmail.com>

Colin

I forgot to mention my concern about Title XX Transportation, Administration of Transportation Laws #228:60-a Railroad Right of Way.

I. No railroad right-of-way in this state shall be used for any purpose that would unreasonably limit the ability to restore rail service over the right-of-way at minimum cost if such service were to be required in the future.

Sorry, I meant to add this in my prior message.

Thanks,
Tracy G. Pelletier
Top Stitch Embroidery
603-448-2931
embtse@aol.com

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

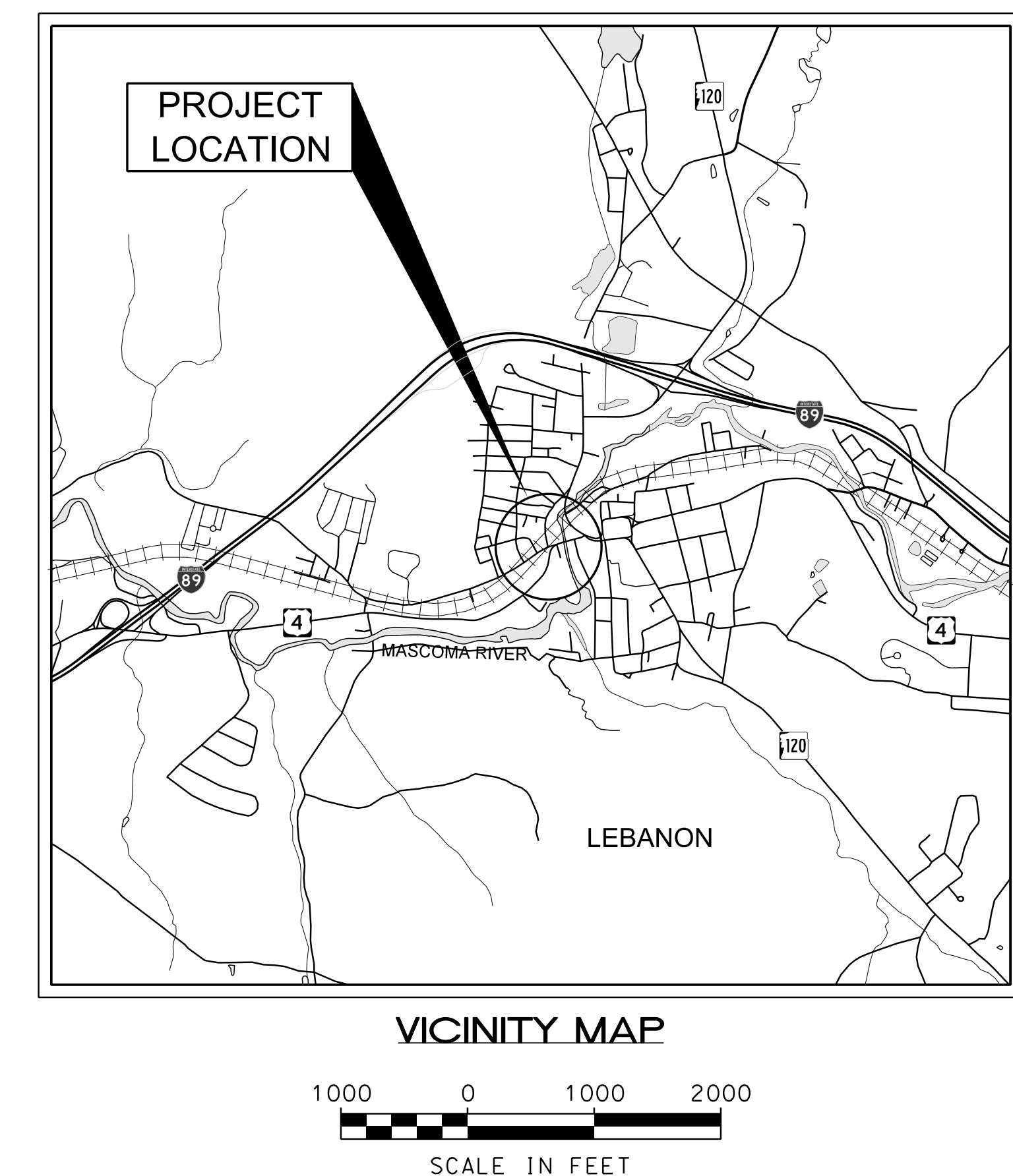
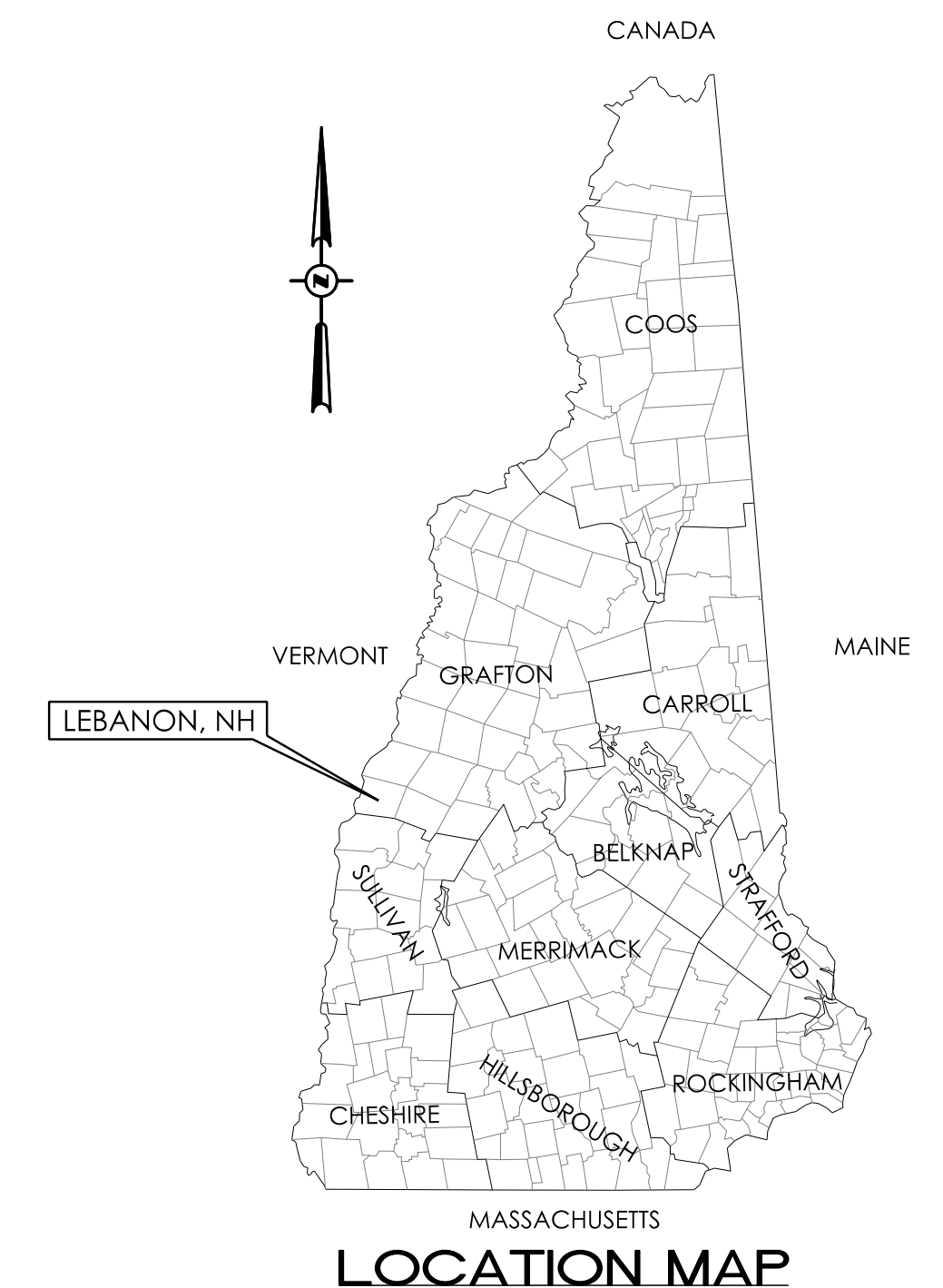


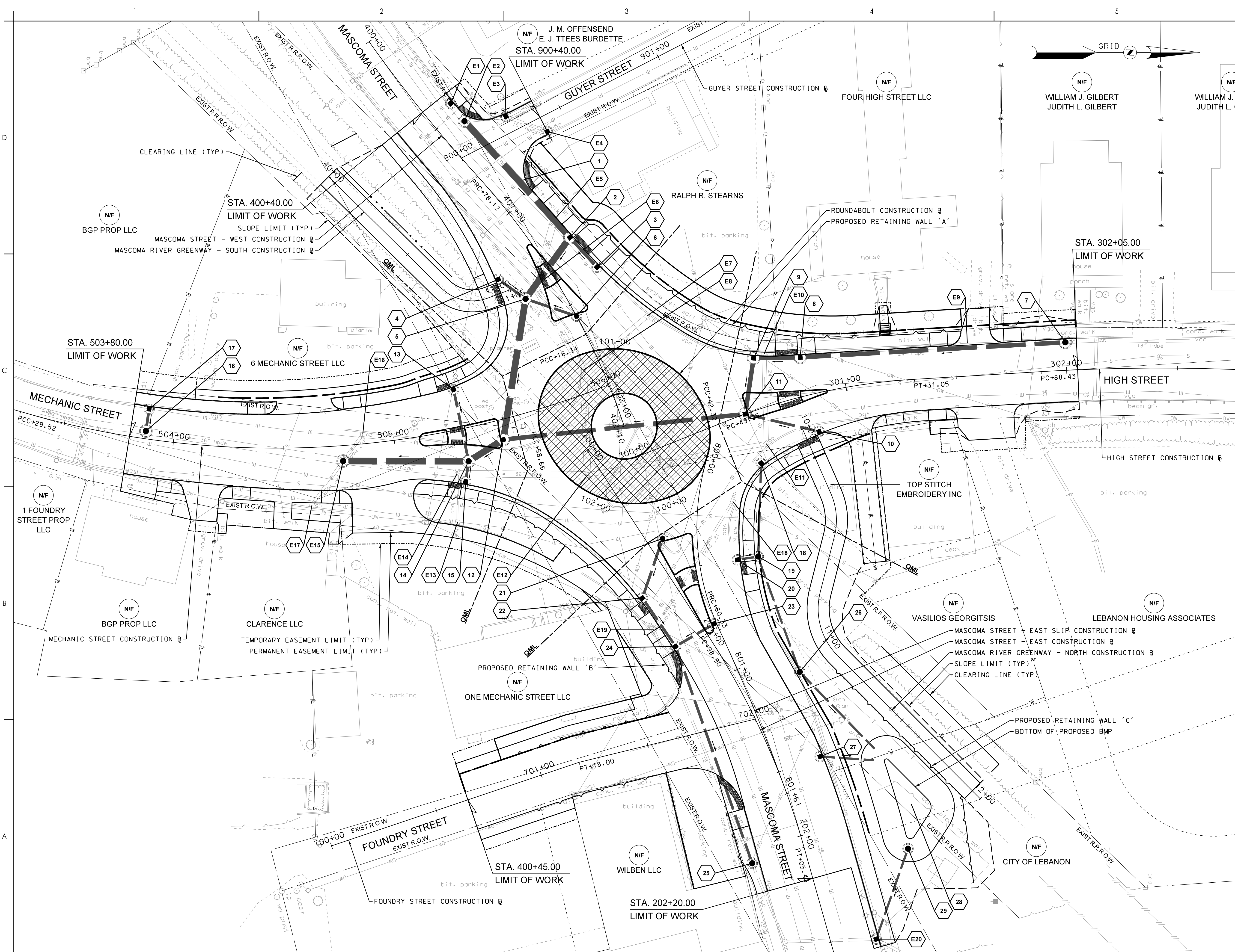
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CITY OF LEBANON, NH

ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION MECHANIC STREET, HIGH STREET & MASCOMA STREET INTERSECTION

AUGUST 2023

PROJECT NUMBER: 179450281





Notes

Revision	By	Appd	DATE

Issued	By	Appd	DATE

File Name: 40794GEN	TJG Dwn.	TJG Dsgn.	DEM Chkd.	XX/2023 DATE
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Permit/Seal	
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Client/Project Logo	
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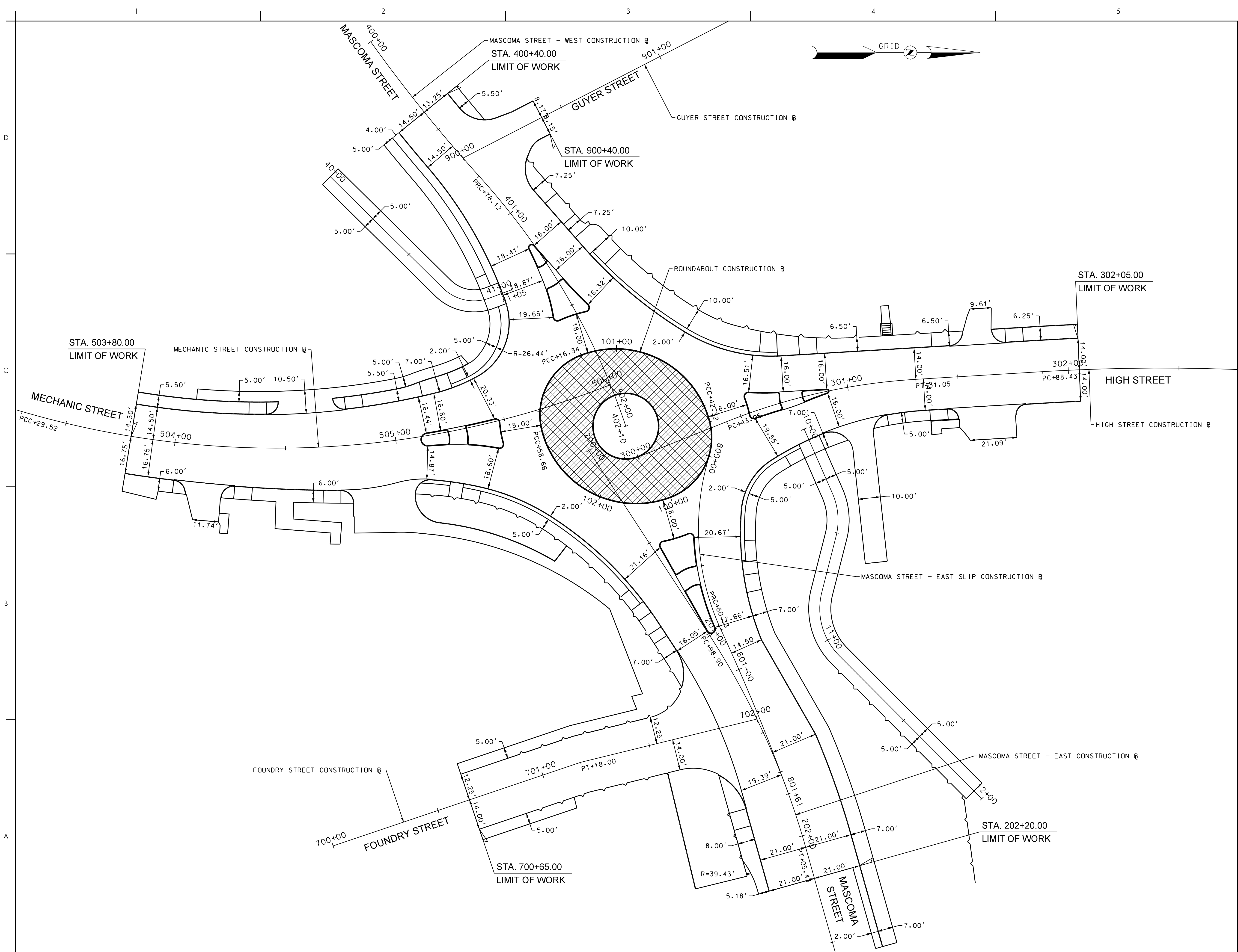
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CITY OF LEBANON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION MECHANIC, HIGH & MASCOMA STREET INT. LEBANON, NH	
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Title	
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GENERAL PLAN	
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Project No.	40794	Scale	1" = 20'
Revision	Sheet	Drawing No.	C-XXX
-	24 of 57		



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Issued	By	Appd	DATE
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File Name: 40794LAY	TJG	TJG	DEM	XX/2023
	Dwn.	Dsgn.	Chkd.	DATE

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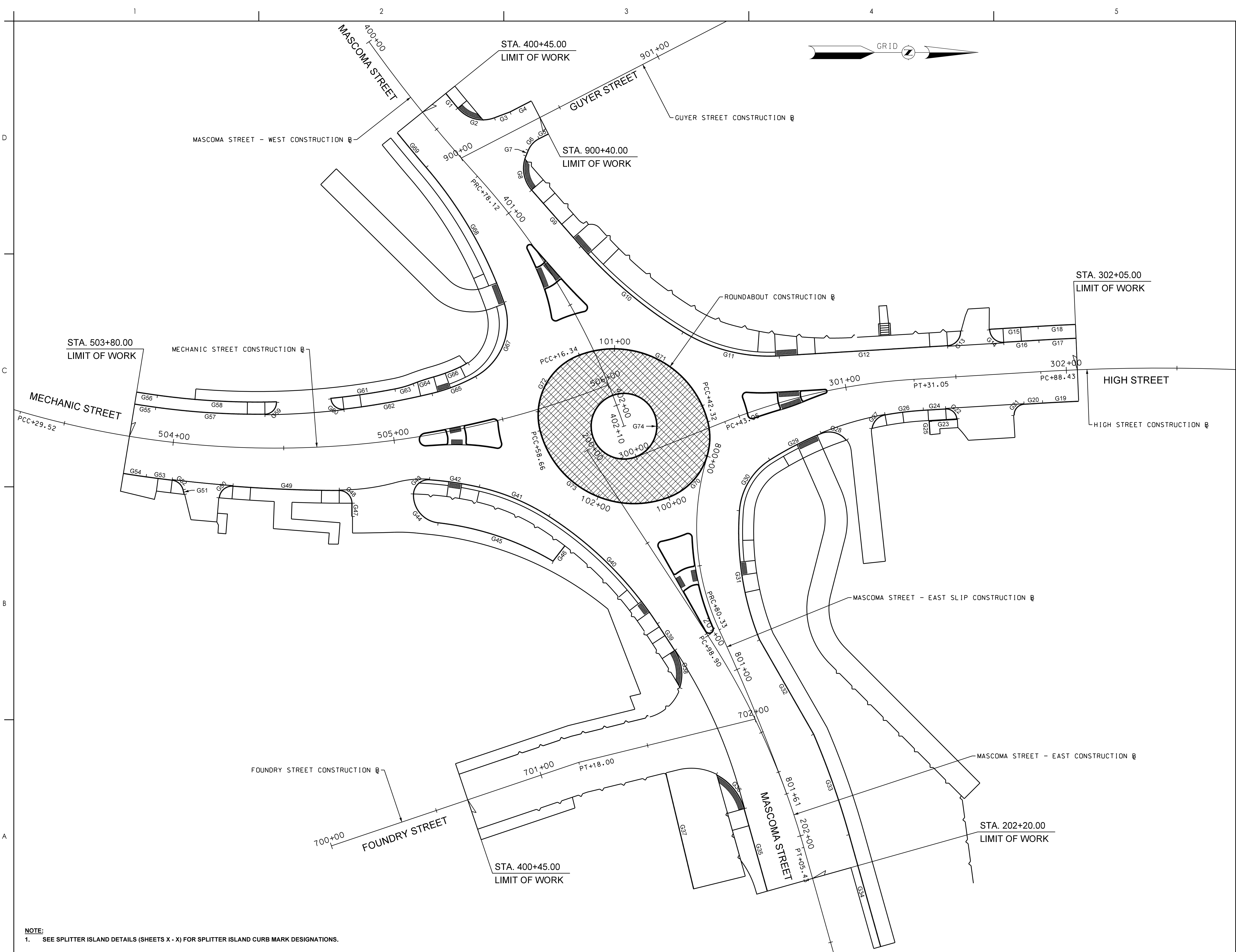
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION
MECHANIC, HIGH & MASCOMA STREET INT.
LEBANON, NH

Title
PAVEMENT LAYOUT PLAN

Project No.	Scale
40794	1" = 20'

Revision	Sheet	Drawing No.
-	34 of 57	C-30X



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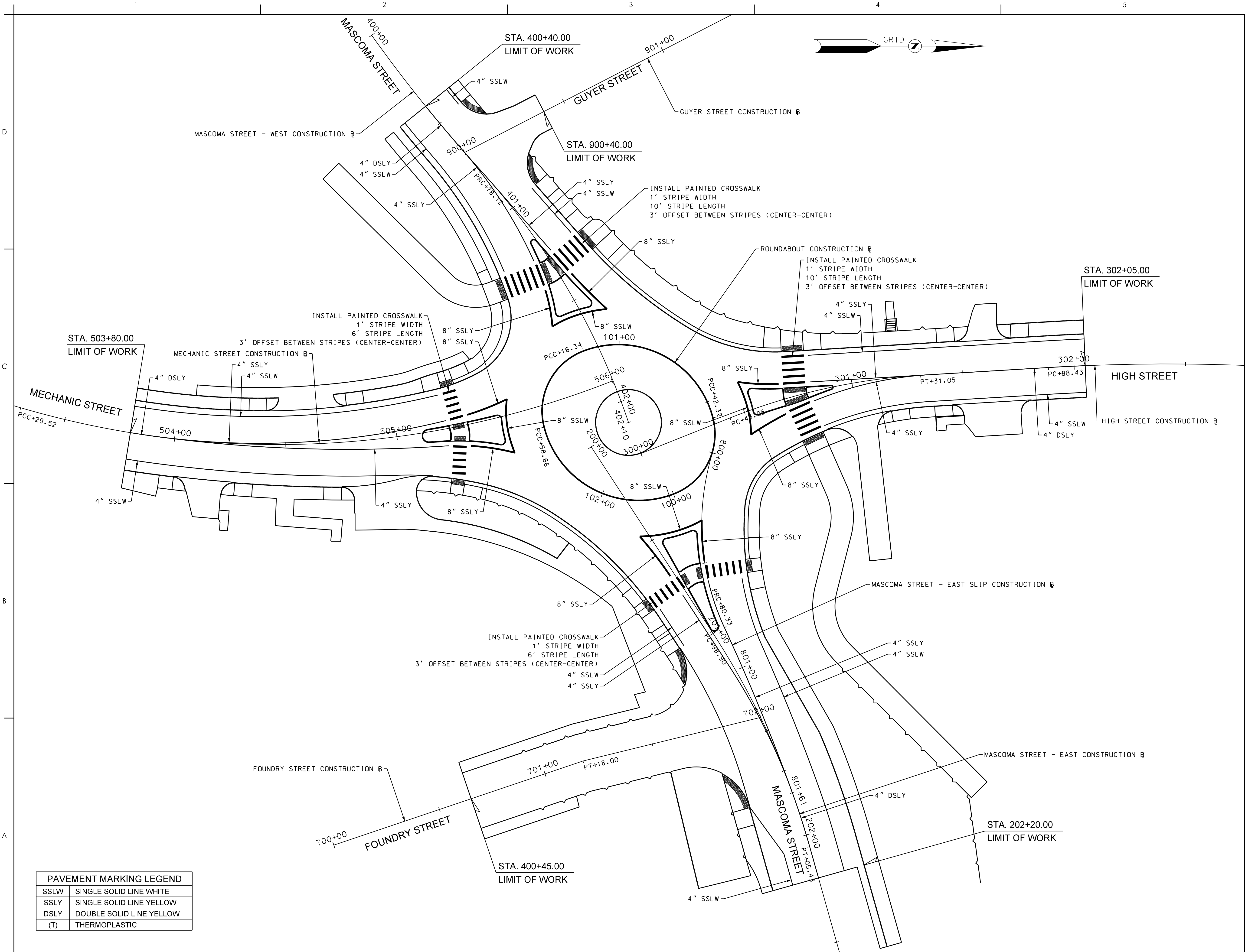
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION
MECHANIC, HIGH & MASCOMA STREET INT.
LEBANON, NH

Title
CURB TIE PLAN

Project No.
40794 Scale
1" = 20'

Revision Sheet Drawing No.
- 35 of 57 C-30X

NOTE:
1. SEE SPLITTER ISLAND DETAILS (SHEETS X - X) FOR SPLITTER ISLAND CURB MARK DESIGNATIONS.



PAVEMENT MARKING LEGEND	
SSLW	SINGLE SOLID LINE WHITE
SSLY	SINGLE SOLID LINE YELLOW
DSLW	DOUBLE SOLID LINE WHITE
DSLW	DOUBLE SOLID LINE YELLOW
(T)	THERMOPLASTIC



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File Name: 40794PVM TJG TJG DEM XX/2023
Dwn. Dsgn. Chkd. DATE

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MECHANIC, HIGH & MASCOMA STREET INT.
LEBANON, NH

Title
PAVEMENT MARKING PLAN

Project No. 40794 Scale 1" = 20'

Revision Sheet Drawing No. C-30X
- 36 of 57