

**Minutes of the 22 January 2018**  
**Special Meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners**  
**Held at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room**  
**Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, North Carolina**

Present at the 22 January 2017 meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners were Chairman Johnny Riddle, Commissioner Jill Austin, Commissioner Mark Ledford, Commissioner John Stallings, Commissioner Jeff Whitson, County Manager Nathan Bennett, Clerk to the Board Jason Robinson, County Attorney Donny Laws (joined meeting at 11:00), Planning and Economic Development Director Jamie McMahan, Finance Director Lynne Hensley, and Finance Officer Brandi Burluson.

**Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Riddle called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Stallings made a motion to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Whitson. The vote to approve was unanimous (Attachment A).

**Finance and Budget Update**

The Board first heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett concerning the budgeting process. Mr. Bennett stated that he would be sending out funding requests to outside agencies in February as well as giving department heads budgeting sheets. Those will be coming back in to the finance office in March and the commissioners will be getting into the process in April. Finance Officer Brandi Burluson gave the Board a schedule of budget sessions (Attachment B). Discussion followed concerning an inmate that had been hospitalized in November, and debt service payments. Discussion also followed concerning the mowing contract. Mr. Bennett stated that the contract is renewable for another year and recommend doing that and then maybe looking at a multi-year contract.

**Capital Projects**

County Manager Nathan Bennett and Planning and Economic Development Director Jamie McMahan updated the Board on the progress of the East Yancey Sewer project. According to Mr. Bennett and Mr. McMahan they had met with an engineer with Withers Ravenell who originally designed the system in order to finish out the system. According to Mr. Bennett there is about \$400,000 remaining to finish out the system to Burnsville. Discussion followed concerning the remaining sections to be complete. According to Mr. Bennett and Mr. McMahan all of the 80 South section is complete to Hickory Springs. The section coming to Burnsville is complete to Motorsports Lane and then it is not connected at the creeks.

**Joint Meeting with the Yancey County Board of Education**

The Board next met with the Yancey County Board of Education. Present for the Board of Education was Chairman Angie Weatherman, Vice-Chair Jeanne Tyner, Member Norb McKinney, Member Mike Orr, and Member Edwin Fortner as well as Superintendent Dr. Tony Tipton and Finance Officer Robbie Renfro and Clerk to the Board of Education Landon Beaver. Planning and Economic Development Director Jamie McMahan spoke first concerning the new school and gave an update on the progress of Blue Ridge Elementary School. Mr. McMahan stated that the project is scheduled to be on time but there have been some delays with the metal building contractor as well as the news that some improvements must be done to Cane River School Road. Mr. McMahan also gave the two boards an update on the sewer extension to Cane River Middle School and Blue Ridge Elementary. County Manager Nathan Bennett next spoke about the upcoming budget year and explained the formula that he is looking at to raise the school system's current expense budget. According to Mr. Bennett, he is looking at using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to determine any increases going forward. For the school system that would be an increase of 2.1% or \$65,368. The two boards next heard from Board of Education Chair Angie Weatherman about capital needs over the next 5 years, per student spending at the elementary school and about the good accomplishments of the school. The two boards also discussed the exceptional children's program.

**Future Projects and Initiatives**

The Board next heard from County Manager Nathan Bennett concerning the child support enforcement contract. According to Mr. Bennett, the current contract with D and D Collections is expiring this year and need to know what direction to go. Discussion followed concerning renewing the contract as well as taking the collection on as a function of the

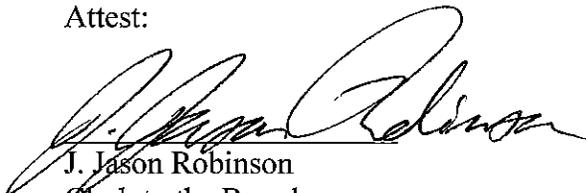
Department of Social Services. Mr. Bennett also spoke to the Board concerning the resolution of support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Town of Burnsville. According to Mr. Bennett the Town of Burnsville has already approved this resolution for the enhancement of 19-E as well as the gateways to the Town of Burnsville. Mr. Bennett gave the Board a copy of the proposed enhancements (Attachment C). According to Mr. Bennett after the initial installation of the enhancements it is left up to the municipality/county to maintain the enhancements. Discussion followed concerning the cost of this as well as the possibility of doing "gateways" at each end of the county. Upon the end of discussion, the Board directed the county manager by unanimous consent to send a letter to the mayor saying that the Board is not interested in entering into the resolution. The Board then heard an update to the hotel study and discussed the future of that study. The Board also heard from County Attorney Donny Laws concerning Zacceaus Legal Services. Mr. Laws updated the Board after having a conversation with Mark Bardill with Zacceaus. He has agreed to do the remaining cases as well as some of the cases that he has not started on for \$950 for each file; these are a limited number with the rest of the files being returned to Mr. Laws. Upon hearing from Mr. Laws, Commissioner Whitson made a motion to enter into a contract with Zacceaus Legal Services for a limited number of foreclosure cases. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Austin and the vote to approve was unanimous. The Board also heard from Mr. Bennett concerning condemnation of the East Yancey sewer and discussion of economic development projects. Mr. Bennett also gave an update on many of the County departments.

**Adjournment**

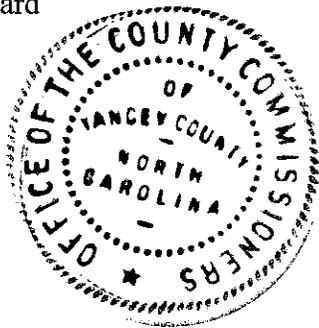
Having no further business Commissioner Ledford made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Commissioner Stallings. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

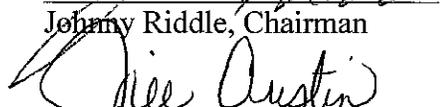
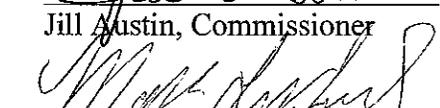
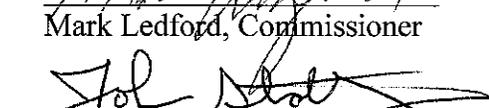
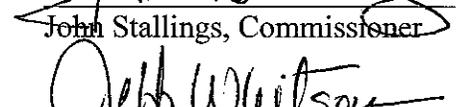
Approved and authenticated on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018.

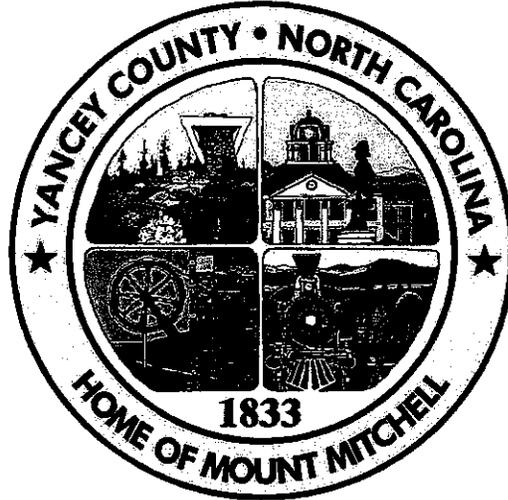
Attest:

  
J. Jason Robinson  
Clerk to the Board

(county seal)



  
Johnny Riddle, Chairman  
  
Jill Austin, Commissioner  
  
Mark Ledford, Commissioner  
  
John Stallings, Commissioner  
  
Jeff Whitson, Commissioner



**AGENDA  
YANCEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
January 22, 2018**

- I. Call to Order - Chairman Riddle
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Finance and Budget Update
- IV. County Operations/Services
- V. Capital Projects Update
- VI. Future Initiatives
- VII. General Discussion
- VIII. Joint Meeting with the Yancey County Board of Education
- IX. Adjourn

*Attachment B*  
**YANCEY COUNTY 2018-2019 BUDGET CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY 2018**

THURSDAY, FEB 15

DISTRIBUTION OF 2018-2019 BUDGET PACKETS TO DEPT HEADS

**MARCH 2018**

THURSDAY, MAR 15

DEPT HEAD 2018-2019 PACKETS DUE BACK TO FINANCE OFFICE

**APRIL 2018**

WEEK OF APRIL 9

BUDGET WORK SESSION(S) WITH COUNTY MANAGER & FINANCE

MONDAY, APRIL 23 @ 9:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS

1. 2018-2018 BUDGET WORK SESSION
2. 2017-2018 AMENDMENT, IF NEEDED

**MAY 2018**

MONDAY, MAY 7 @ 9:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS

1. 2018-2019 BUDGET WORK SESSION
2. 2017-2018 AMENDMENT, IF NEEDED

MONDAY, MAY 21 @ 9:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS

1. 2018-2019 BUDGET WORKSESSION
2. DEPT HEAD & AGENCY DISCUSSIONS, IF REQUESTED

**JUNE 2018**

MONDAY, JUNE 4 @ 9:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS

1. FINAL 2018-2019 BUDGET WORKSESSION
2. 2017-2018 AMENDMENT, IF NEEDED

MONDAY, JUNE 11 @ 6:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS

1. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET
2. ADOPTION OF THE 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

MONDAY, JUNE 25 @ 9:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS (ONLY IF NOT ADOPTED ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup>)

1. ADOPTION OF THE 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET
2. FINAL 2017-2018 BUDGET AMENDMENT

US 19 Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples Focus Areas - (Gateways)

MAJOR Gateway (Western End) -  
Intersection to US 19 Business  
and US 19 Bypass

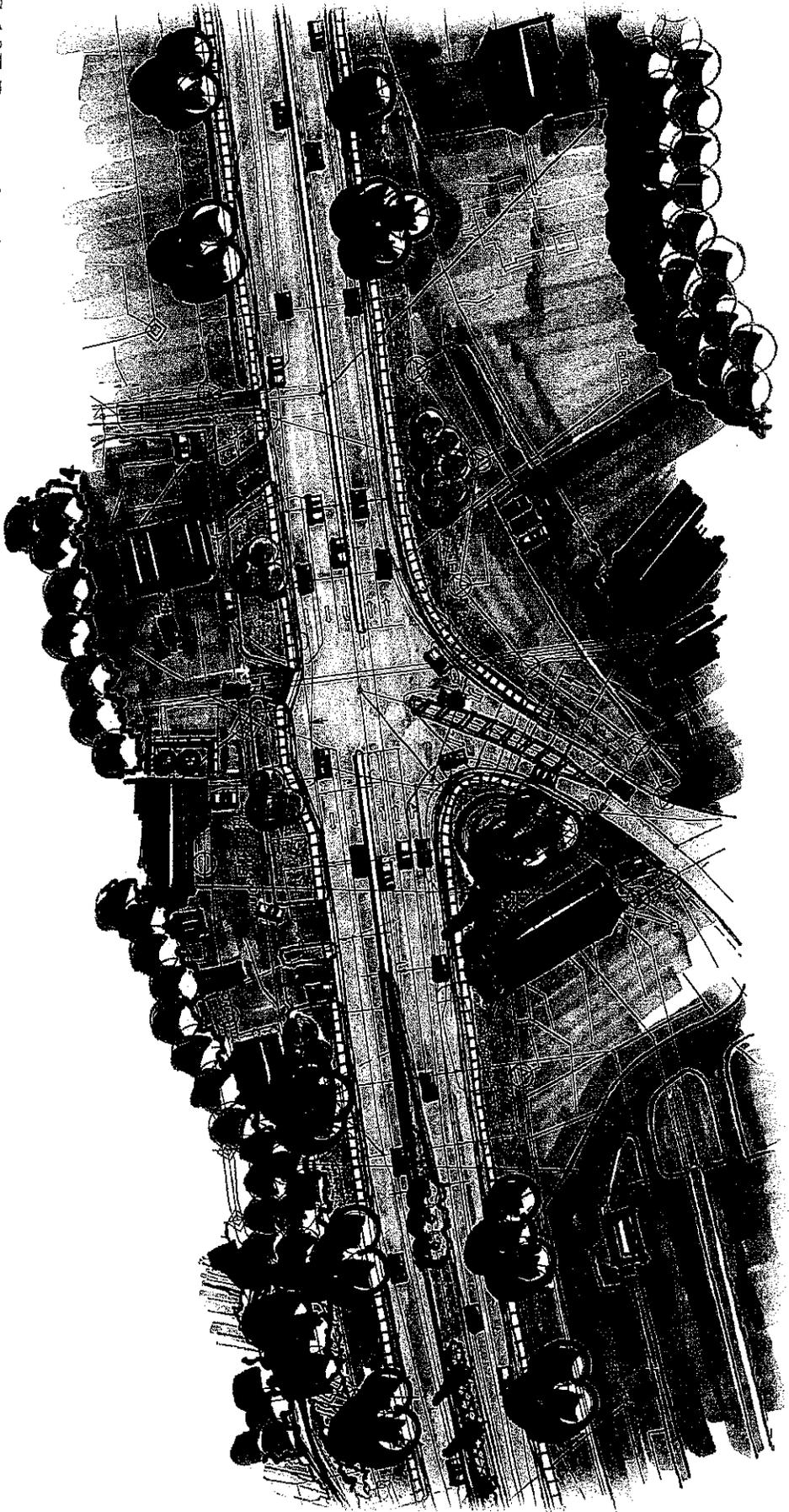


MAJOR Gateway (Eastern End) -  
Intersection to US 19 Business  
and US 19 Bypass

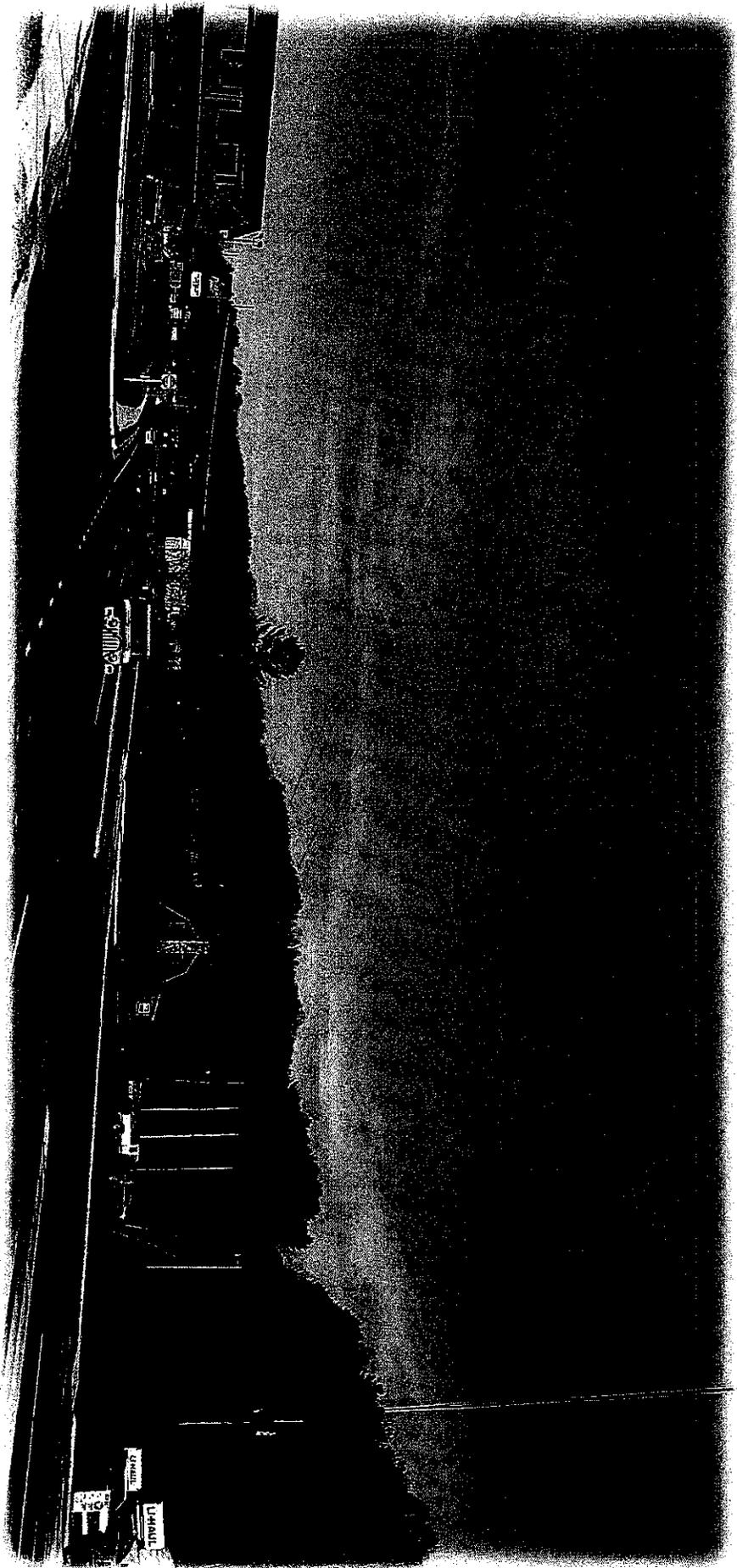
MAJOR Gateway (Southern  
Access) - Gateway to Downtown  
Blowing Rock (US 321 BUS)

Gateway Development-(Focus Area):

- Major Gateways
- Softscapes
- Hardscapes
- Public Art (Placemaking)
- Established Gateway(s)
- Year Round Color
- Sodding or Enhanced Seeding & Mulching
- Robust Plant Beds
- Larger Specimen Trees – Road Canopy
- Dedicated Specimen Flowering Trees @ Gateways

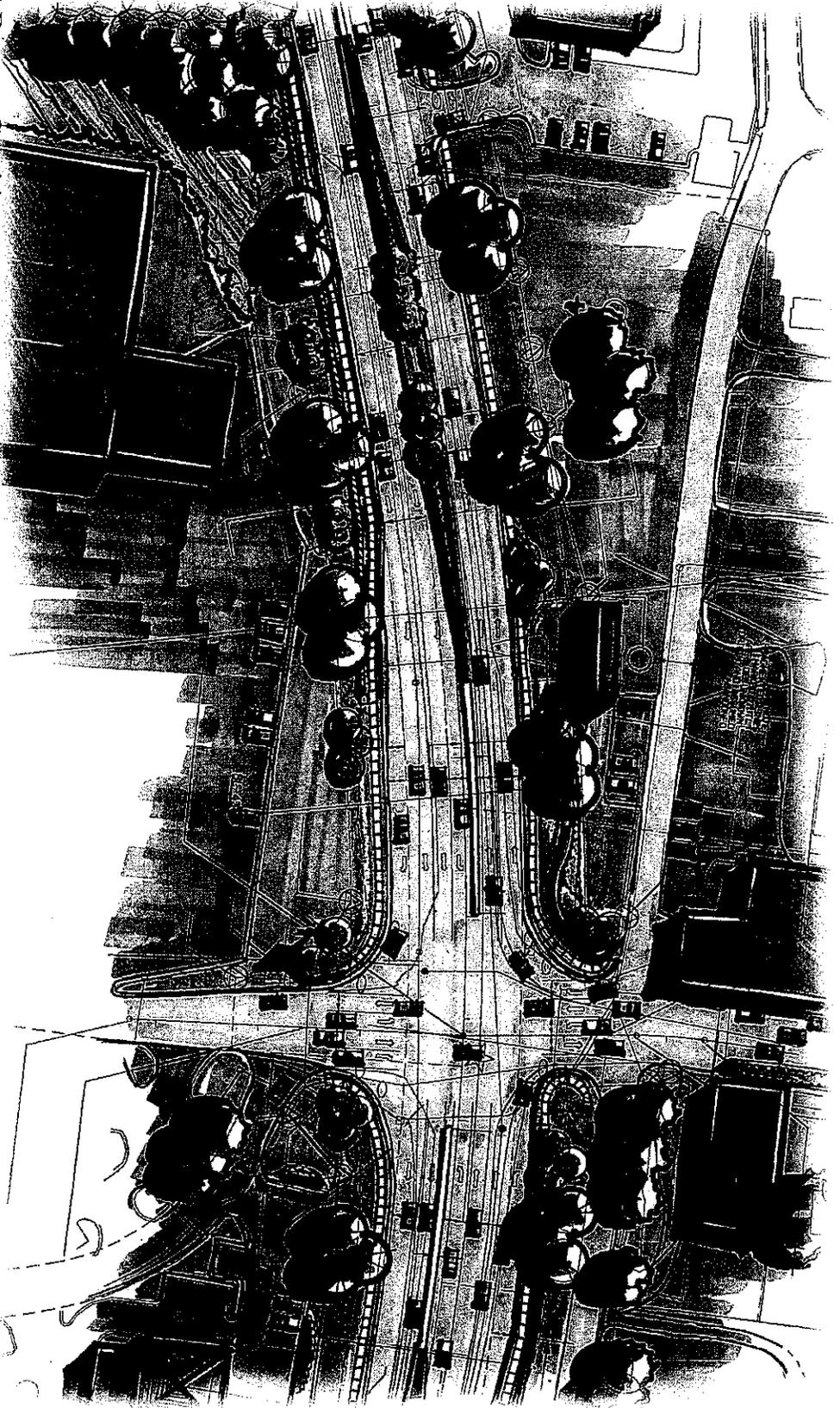


US 19E Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples – (Corridor Zone One - PROPOSED)



US 19E Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples - (FOCUS Area Gateways- EXISTING)

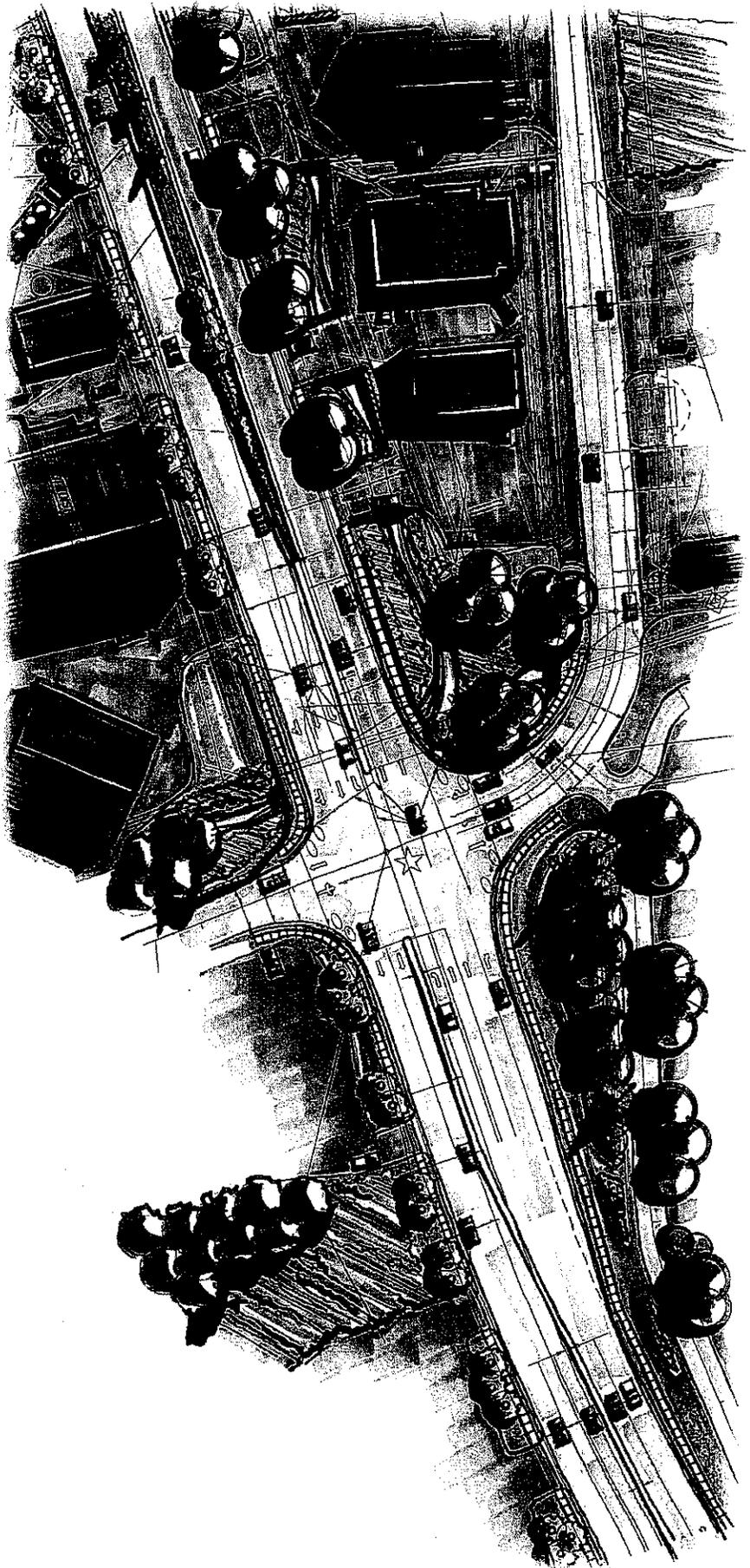
US 19E Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples – (Corridor Zone Two - PROPOSED)



US 19E Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples – (FOCUS Area Gateways - EXISTING)



US 19E Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples – (Corridor Zone Three - PROPOSED)





US 19E Bypass Corridor Conceptual Examples - (FOCUS Area Gateways- EXISTING)