Image: Structure of the st			
PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE Date Completed:			
PROPERTY INFORMATION Building or Project Name: <u>Gay Street</u> <u>Streetscapes Improvements</u> Street Address: <u>100 &amp; 200 Blocks</u> Tax Identification Number(s):	PROJECT ARCHITECT/ENGINEER PLEASE PRINT David Harrell Name: David Harrell Company: Vaughn & Melton Address: 1909 Ailor Avenue City: Knoxville State: IN Zip: 37921 Telephone: 546-5800		
PROPERTY OWNER PLEASE PRINT	Fax: 546-4714 E-mail: dtharrellevaughnmelton.com		
Company: <u>City of Knoxville</u> Address: <u>400 Main Street</u> City: <u>Knoxville</u> State: <u>TN</u> Zip: <u>37902</u> Telephone:	PROJECT CONTRACTOR PLEASE PRINT OF yet determined Company:		
Fax:	City:          Telephone:		
information required as part of this application.	PROJECT CONTACT		
PROJECT INFORMATION	All application-related correspondence should be directed to:		
LEVEL 1: \$30 Minor Alteration of an Existing Building/Structure Sign Sichwalt, Vighting, LEVEL 2: \$70 + Landscape renovation Major Alteration of an Existing Building/Structure Addition to an Existing Building/Structure LEVEL 3: \$100 Construction of New Building/Structure	PLEASE PRINT Name: Tom Clabo Company: City of Knoxville Address: 1400 Loraine St. City: Knoxville State: TN Zip: 37921 Telephone: 215-6100 Fax: 215-6109 E-mail: tolabo ecityoftchoxville.org		

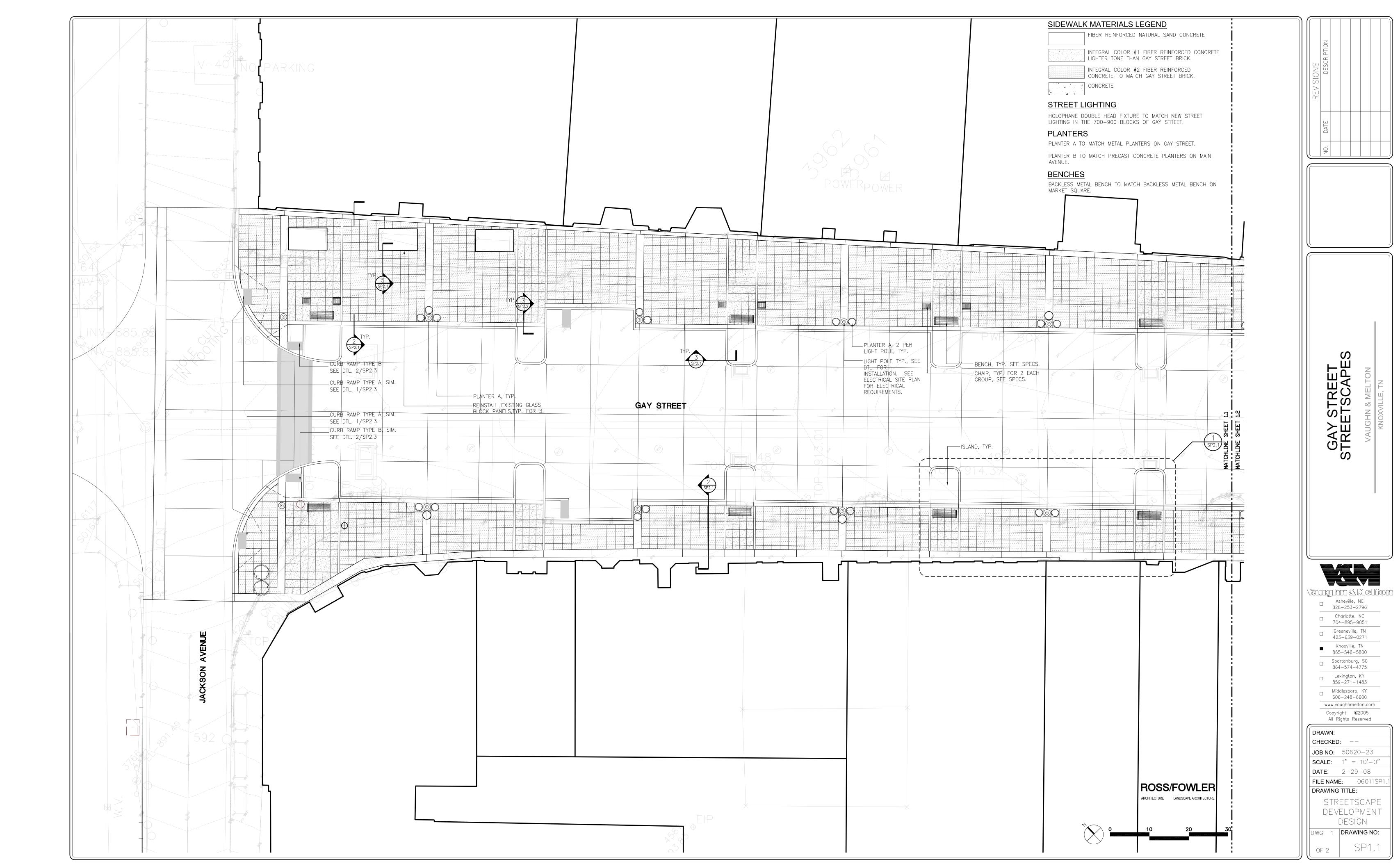
NOTE Payment is due at time of application Please make check payable to Knoxville Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission.

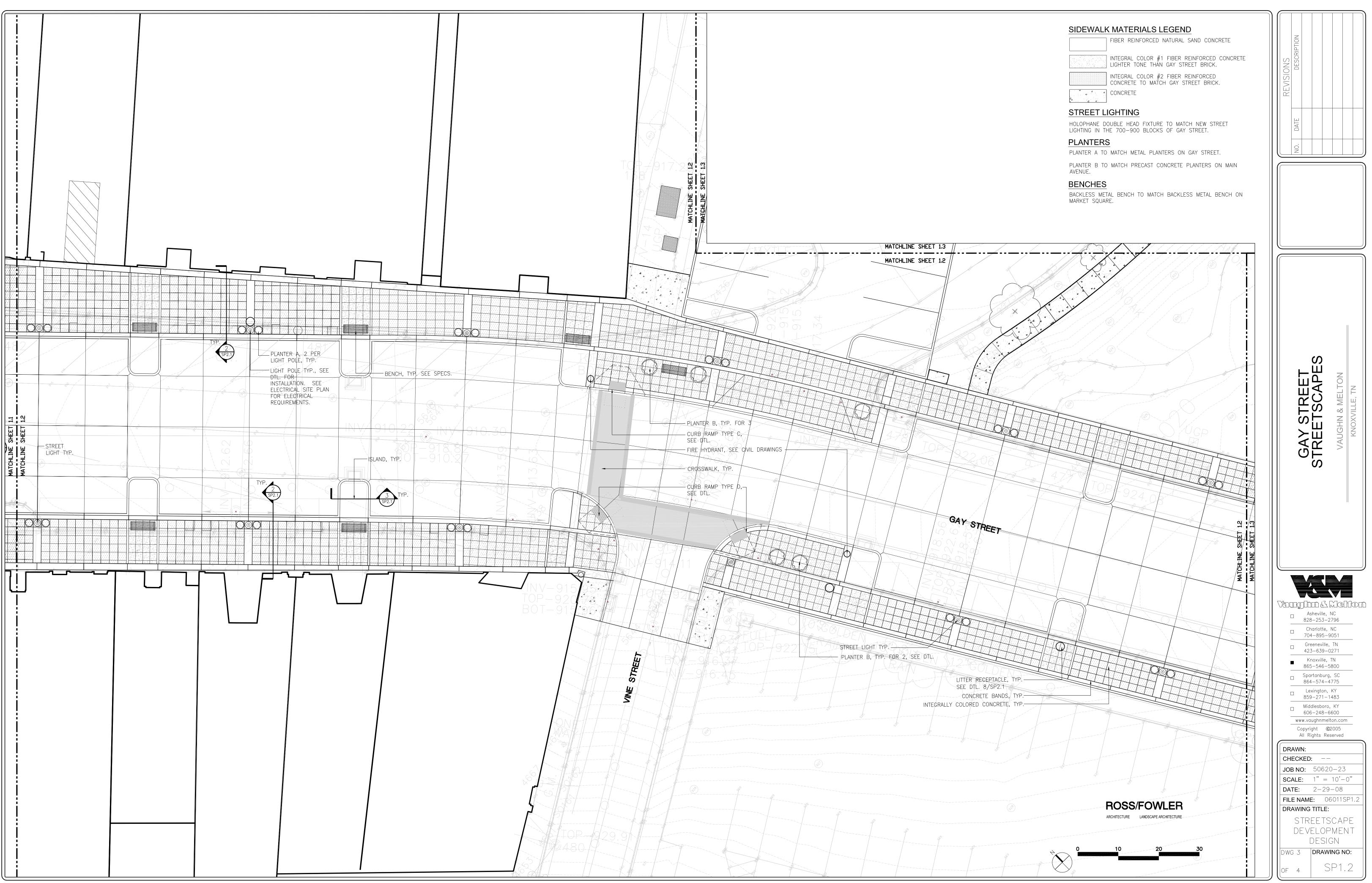


100 BLOCK OF GAY STREET LOOKING SOUTH

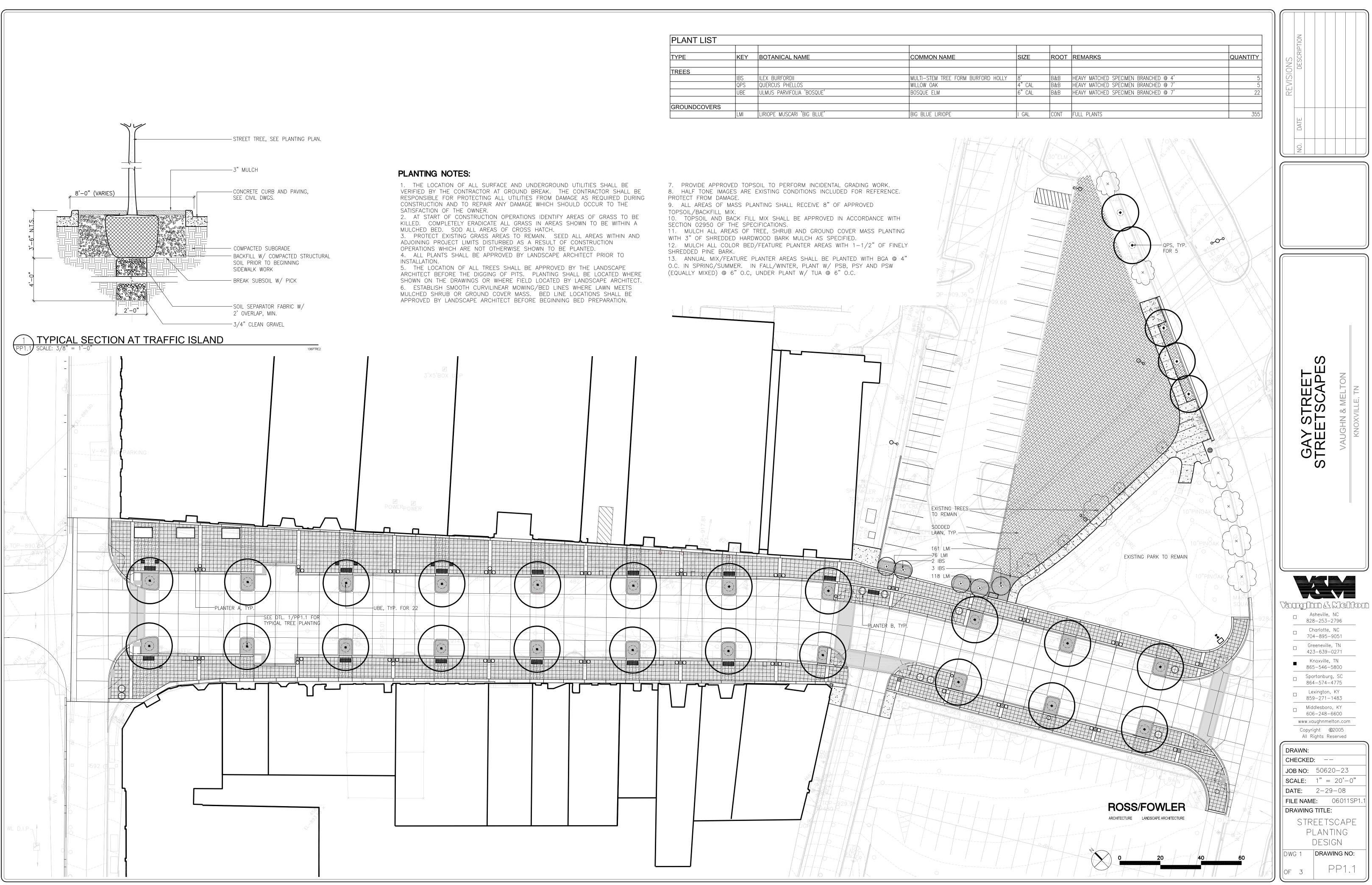


200 BLOCK OF GAY STREET LOOKING NORTH



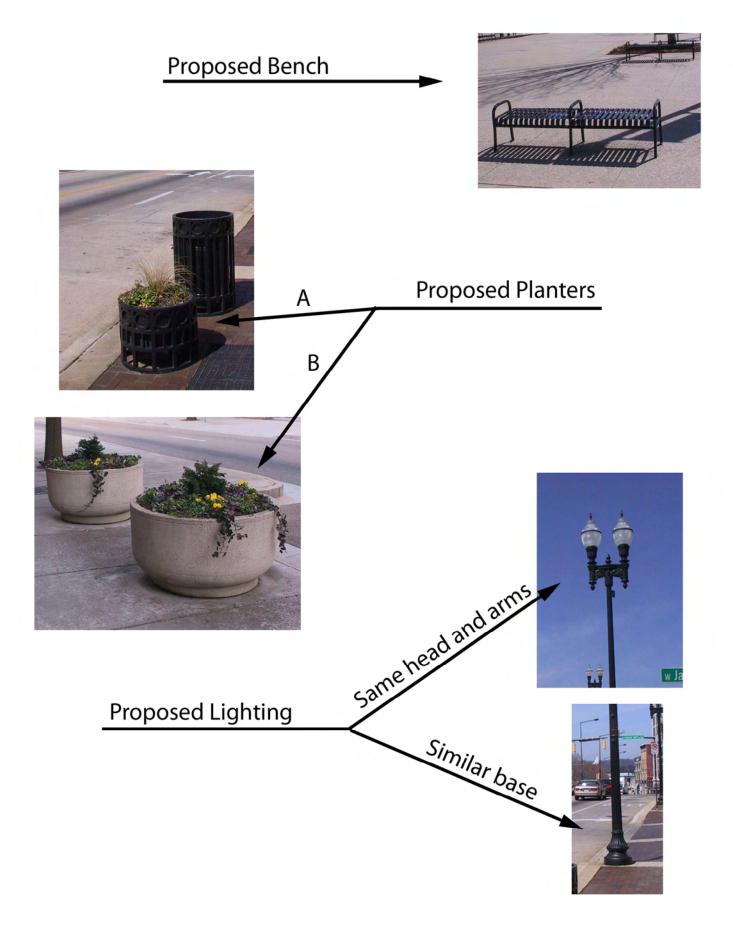






PLANT LIST			
TYPE	KEY	BOTANICAL NAME	COMM
TREES			
	IBS	ILEX BURFORDII	MULTI-S
	QPS	QUERCUS PHELLOS	WILLOW
	UBE	ULMUS PARVIFOLIA 'BOSQUE'	BOSQUE
GROUNDCOVERS			
	LMI	LIRIOPE MUSCARI 'BIG BLUE'	BIG BLU

## **Gay Streetscape Fixtures**



## MEMORANDUM

TO:	Mike Reynolds
FROM:	Ann Bennett
DATE:	March 11, 2008
RE:	Proposed improvements – 100 block of S. Gay Street

The 100 block of S. Gay Street is included in the Southern Terminal and Warehouse Historic District. I have reviewed the improvements proposed for Gay Street between Jackson and Summit Hill. The 200 block is not part of the District.

Appendix C of the Downtown Design guidelines is the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation; I have outlined below the Standards that I believe apply to this question.

**Standard 1:** A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

**Standard 2:** The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

**Standard 9:** New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, sale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

In addition, the following definition of setting can be found at the National Park Service website (<u>www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/standguide/overview/overview\_setting.htm</u>) dealing with the Standards:

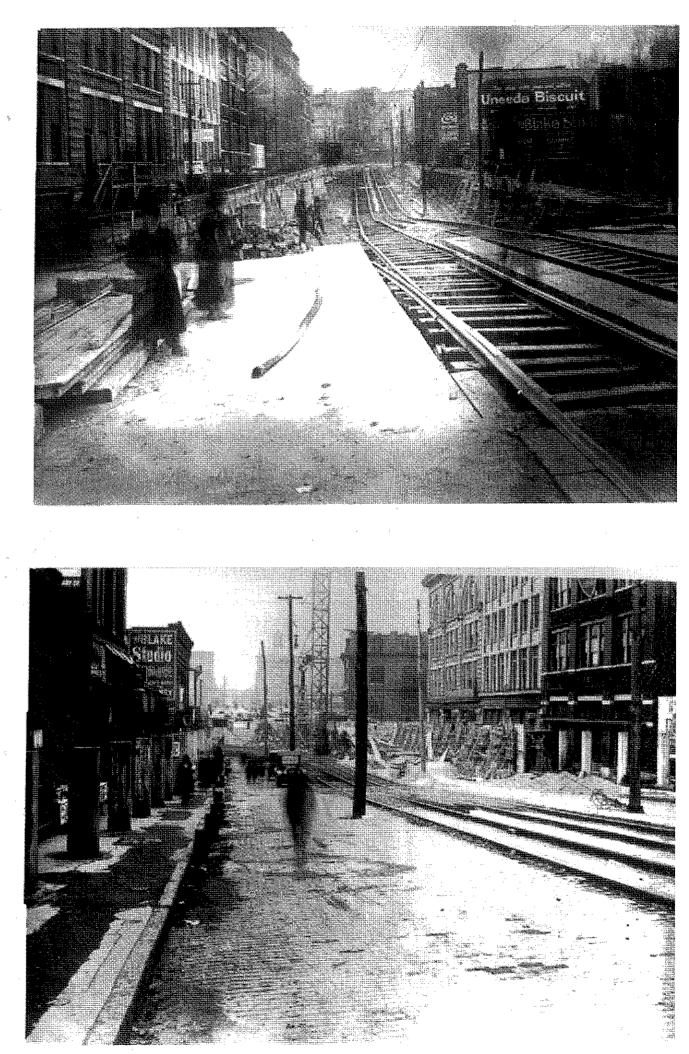
"The setting is the larger area or environment in which a historic property is located. It may be an urban, suburban, or rural neighborhood or a natural landscape in which buildings have been constructed. The relationship of buildings to each other, setbacks, fence patterns, views, driveways and walkways, and street trees together create the character of a district or neighborhood."

While I think that the new improvements, provided a curb line is retained, are appropriate, and include only alterations that are necessary because of the change in uses that has occurred on the 100 block, I also think that the inclusion of street trees in the 100 block is not appropriate. I have included copies of photographs of the 100 block to illustrate this point.

I am concerned about the design for the following reasons:

- The current alignment of street and sidewalks provides the historic frame for the buildings. This alignment has not changed over time, and is original. If contemporary uses require alteration of this relationship, the changes should be minimally intrusive. The use of surface bulb-outs, perhaps containing lighting, for example, would be preferable to the inclusion of street trees.
- 2) The sidewalk paving materials are also accurate for this historic time period. The retention of a concrete curb is particularly important to provide a frame for the building facades.
- 3) The proposed improvements call for street trees to be evenly spaced down the block. This district is, as the name confirms, a warehouse district. The buildings were built for a mixture of industrial and warehouse uses and their supporting commercial business, all dependent on the trade generated by the location of the Southern Terminal. Street trees were not part of that urban mixture. In my opinion, adding street trees to the urban landscape diminishes the design impact of the buildings, and makes it difficult to see and understand their design. It would be possible to locate a more heavily treed landscape in the 200 block, where the original buildings no longer exist and green space has been incorporated into the area.

Ann Bennett



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