



Office of the City Manager

100 S. Hill Street-P.O. Box T | Griffin, GA 30224

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April 3, 2014

Mr. Albert V. Shelby III
State Program Delivery Engineer
Georgia Department of Transportation
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dear Mr. Shelby,

I am in receipt of your letter dated March 26, 2014, regarding the bicycle lanes and parking configuration on North Hill Street, State Route 155 (PI 0010333) in downtown Griffin. As you know this project is part of our 2006 Town Center LCI which recommended improved pedestrian and bicycle transportation alternatives. These recommendations, however, were based on the Number One priority from the study which was to relocate State Route 155 from the downtown area to the most logical location along McDonough Road. This recommendation has been delayed due to funding. As long as heavy traffic, including truck traffic, is routed along Hill Street in downtown, we agree that pedestrian and bicycle traffic will be hazardous.

We have engaged the services of Falcon Design, who have worked with GDOT officials in traffic studies and designs that we feel will be best suited for our downtown. We have most recently, verbally and now in your letter of March 26, been advised that our design does not coincide with what is "recommended" by GDOT. We would ask for a specific declaration from GDOT as to exactly what will be approved for construction so that our project may move forward. Realizing that Hill Street is a State Route, we would like to know precisely what GDOT will approve, not what is "recommended".

We do not feel that reverse angle parking would be acceptable to our downtown businesses who are trying diligently to stay open in spite of increasing challenges from strip malls and big box retailers. During a time of economic struggle we do not feel that the learning curve for manipulating reverse angle parking for visitors to downtown would be prudent.

If reverse angled parking is going to be required if bike lanes are added, we would request the LCI funding be approved without bike lanes. We would proceed with improving the pedestrian and traffic portion the streetscape. Since we are into our eighth year on this project, we would respectfully ask for clarity at your earliest convenience.

Growing, TOGETHER



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenny L. Smith", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Kenny L. Smith
City Manager

CC: City Commission
Brant Keller, Public Works and Utilities
Kenwin Hayes, DDA
Sean Hayes, Falcon Design
Adam Price, Falcon Design
Kathy Zahul, State Traffic Engineer
Thomas Howell, District Engineer
Sam Wellborn, Board Member
K. Joe Carpenter, Director of P3 / Program Delivery



March 26, 2014

PI 0010333, Spalding County
North Hill St; Solomon St & 5th St in Downtown Griffin - LCI



Mr. Kenny L. Smith, City Manager
City of Griffin
100 South Hill Street
Griffin, GA 30223

Mr. Smith:

As discussed in a meeting held on March 4, 2014, the Department has concerns regarding the proposed location of the bike lane in the project's draft concept report. The bike lane is shown on the left side of the travel lane adjacent to the raised median. Also, there is existing angled parking on the right side of the travel lane.

The Department would rather see the bike lane placed on the right side of the travel lane. Most drivers and bikers expect the bike lane to be on the right. Since the safety of bicyclist adjacent to angle parking is a concern, we further recommend that the angled parking be converted to reverse angle parking. Reverse angle parking will provide better sight distance for parked drivers to see approaching bicyclists.

If you have any questions, please contact the Project Manager, Justin A. Banks at (404) 631-1153.

Sincerely,

Albert V. Shelby III
State Program Delivery Engineer

AVS:BWS:JAB

cc: Brant D. Keller, PhD – Public Works & Utilities Director
Kenwin M. Hayes, Sr. – Downtown Development Authority Director
Kathy Zahul, P.E., State Traffic Engineer
Thomas Howell, P.E., District Engineer
Sam Wellborn, Board Member
K. Joe Carpenter, Jr., P.E., Director of P3/Program Delivery