



Phillip Worthing

DEVELOPMENT AT LECKWITH QUAY

B4267 Highway Alignment, Relaxations and Departures





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TYPE OF DOCUMENT (VERSION) PUBLIC

PROJECT NO. 70053561

OUR REF. NO. 70053561/GW

DATE: FEBRUARY 2020

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70053561-WSP-XX-XX-DR-CE-103 Highway Design Vision splays, departures and Relaxations from Standard

70053561-WSP-XX-XX-DR-CE-104 Proposed Highway Long. Section

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1. Leckwith Quay is a 7.7 ha site located between the A4232, Leckwith Road and the River Ely on the outskirts of Cardiff in the Vale of Glamorgan CF11 8AU. The site is under consideration for a mixed-use development consisting of commercial premises and residential dwellings along with associated public open space, amenities and including a realignment of the existing B4267 Leckwith Road link and a new bridge crossing of the River Ely. The existing B4237 runs through the site on a viaduct which is in very poor conditions. The new road alignment has been arranged to allow the existing road to remain open during its construction. The new bridge has been positioned immediately upstream of the existing, listed masonry bridge, which is to be retained to allow pedestrian and cyclist access to the site.
- 1.1.2. The development is currently split into two parcels on either side of the proposed new bridge crossing referred to as the northern (1.3 ha) and the southern plateaus (6.4 ha). The site extends approximately 890 m along the Ely riverbank in the Vale of Glamorgan (with the opposite bank within Cardiff City Authority) and some 100m inland. A new signalised four arm junction is proposed to allow access to each development parcel.
- 1.1.3. This technical note examines the proposed geometric alignment of the proposed realignment of the B4237 and the Relaxations and Departures from Standard that would be required to construct the new road whilst keeping the existing route open to traffic.

2 HIGHWAY ALIGNMENT STANDARDS

- 2.1.1. The existing B4237 over its length through the site is a single carriageway, subject to a 40mph speed limit to a point near the northern bridge abutment, where it reduces to 30mph on the approach to the roundabout junction with the A4232. For the purposes of this assessment a design speed of 70A kph has been assumed for the existing road subject to 40pmh limit and 60kph for the 30mph section on the approach to the junction, in accordance with Table 2.5 of CD109
- 2.1.2. When referencing CD109 Highway Link Design, the existing and proposed alignments of the B4267 Leckwith Road on the approach to Leckwith Roundabout has been compared with the requirements listed in 2.10. A summary of conforming standards for 70kph and 60kph is provided below for reference.

Stopping Sight Distance	70kph	60kph
Desirable Minimum	120m	90m
OSBDM	90m	70m
TSBDM	70m	50m
Horizontal Curvature		
Desirable Minimum (5% superelevation)	360m	255m
OSBDM	255m	180m
TSBDM	180m	127m
Vertical Curvature		
Desirable minimum Crest K value	30	17
OSBDM Crest K value	17	10
Absolute Min sag K value	20	13

In addition, CD109 table 5.1 confirms the maximum desirable gradient for a single carriageway all-purpose road should be 6%

3 EXISTING CONDITIONS B4267 LECKWITH ROAD

3.1 HORIZONTAL CURVATURE

3.1.1. The section of road along the existing viaduct section is within a 40mph zone, where measurements taken from the topographical survey indicate a minimum horizontal curvature radius of approximately 180m. This equates to Two Steps Below Desirable Minimum radius for 70kph (with superelevation of 7%.)

3.2 FORWARD VISIBILITY/STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE

3.2.1. Forward visibility along the viaduct/bridge section of the existing road is generally curtailed by the 'new' vehicle parapet guard rail placed immediately adjacent the kerb lines. In the northbound direction (downhill, towards the A4232 Junction), forward visibility measured to/from the centre of the northbound lane is approximately 90m and equates to a One Step Below Desirable Minimum for 70kph. The forward vision splay crosses the southbound lane of the carriageway. In the southbound direction (uphill, away from the A4232 Junction) forward visibility measured to/from the centre of the northbound lane is limited to approximately 50m minimum, in front of the parapet guard rail. This represents a Three Step Departure Below Desirable Minimum for 70kph

3.2.2. Its apparent that the northbound stopping sight distance to the A4232 junction stop line of at least 90m was achieved with the original highway alignment, however when observing street furniture, and measuring from the topographical survey, directional signs and posts makes this difficult to maintain. Therefore, in reality the alignment currently achieves approximately 70m stopping sight distance, which is One Step Below Desirable Minimum for 60kph.



3.3 VERTICAL ALIGNMENT/GRADIENT

3.3.1. Measuring distances between contours generated using the 3d values in the topographical survey confirm the gradient of the road is between 6% and 7% and is marginally greater than the maximum desirable gradient for AP Single Carriageway at 6%, Table 5.1 CD109 Highway Link Design.

3.3.2. The section of road along the existing viaduct section is within a 40mph zone, where measurements taken from the topographical survey indicate a minimum horizontal curvature radius of approximately 180m. This equates to Two Steps Below Desirable Minimum radius for 70kph (with superelevation of 7%.)

4 PROPOSED B4267 HIGHWAY REALIGNMENT

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1. The current Masterplan development for Leckwith Quay, incorporates the replacement of the viaduct and river crossing, and provides a new signalised junction which will enable access into the land parcels. The alignment will be repositioned so that the new highway can be built whilst the existing road remain operational. Due to the constraints of the site however, this would require Departures and Relaxations from the standards set out CD109 Highway Link Design since the road ultimately need to tie back into the existing carriageway through the underpass of the A4232.
- 4.1.2. As part of the development proposal it is proposed that the existing change of speed limit from 40mph to 30mph would be moved southwards to the commencement of the realigned section. Hence this initial assessment against standards has been made on an assumed design speed for the realigned road of 60kph.

4.2 HORIZONTAL CURVATURE

- 4.2.1. The proposed realigned section of the highway is constrained by the need to build the new road off-line, the need to maintain the existing listed bridge and the 'gap' between the abutments of the A4232 underpass approach to the roundabout junction. To respect these constraints the proposed alignment therefore can only achieve a minimum horizontal radius of 90m, which equates to a Three Step Departure Below Desirable Minimum radius for 60kph

4.3 FORWARD VISIBILITY/STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE

- 4.3.1. The desirable minimum stopping sight distance for 60kph is 90m and with verge widening this can be achieved in the northbound direction and on the approach to the proposed new signalised junction stop lines. In the southbound direction visibility is likely to be constrained by a parapet guardrail and/or cutting face. A forward visibility of 70mph has been assumed in this direction to minimise the extent of verge widening required. This would equate to a Relaxation of One Step Below Desirable Minimum for 60kph.
- 4.3.2. On the southbound approach to the existing Leckwith Roundabout, forward visibility is constrained by the corner of the A4232 underpass bridge abutment. The visibility constraint is more pronounced with proposed new alignment as the approach angle of the highway is less acute compared to the existing alignment. The instantaneous minimum visibility to the stop-line, measured to/from the centre line of the nearside lane is 52m, although greater visibility is available to the off-side lane and junction signal heads. This would be approximately Two Steps Below Desirable Minimum for 60kph and would require a Departure from Standard to be approved (Section 2 of CD109 does not allow Relaxations for standard on the immediate approach to junctions)

4.4 VERTICAL ALIGNMENT/GRADIENT

- 4.4.1. A draft vertical alignment has been developed for the proposed realigned highway. The alignment has assumed a maximum 1:100 year + climate change allowance river flood level of 8.11m AOD, a soffit freeboard of 600mm and a bridge deck construction thickness of 1.65m, to define a preferred minimum road level at the proposed bridge crossing of 10.36 (note, the assumed flood level is based on the existing available information and may be subject to change following detailed flood modelling). The vertical alignment has also been designed to tie into existing road levels at the A4232 underbridge, to preserve existing headroom to the over bridge soffit. This requires a steep climb from the underbridge to the new river bridge at a maximum gradient of 8%. Road levels at the northern and southern river bridge abutments will be 9.890m AOD and 11.014m AOD respectively. A maximum longitudinal gradient of 1.5% has been assumed for the extent of the river bridge and the proposed new signalised junction. It should be noted that whilst the bridge soffit levels will be above the estimated 1:100 plus climate change flood level (8.11m AOD), the soffit level at the northern bridge abutment will be 8.33m AOD and therefore it is not possible to maintain a 600mm freeboard across the whole length of the bridge.
- 4.4.2. This results in a vertical alignment of maximum gradient of approximately 6.5% for the majority of the remaining alignment, which increases to 9.4% at its tie in with the existing highway.
- 4.4.3. To achieve the above vertical alignment requires minimum crest and sag curves of 6 across the bridge and 1.5 on the immediate approach to the Leckwith roundabout which would depart from the stated minimum standard. Some improvement in vertical alignment may be achieved however following confirmation of flood levels and bridge deck construction and with refinement of the design.

4.5 JUNCTION INTERVISIBILITY

- 4.5.1. The requirements for vehicle intervisibility at signal-controlled junction is defined in Section 7 of CD123 Geometric design of at-grade priority and signal controlled junctions. The Standard requires that a zone of visibility between each arm of the junction is available from a point 2.5m back from each stop line.
- 4.5.2. The proximity of the proposed new junction to the river bridge and the requirement for abutment retaining walls with parapets to allow access to the river and abutments and to minimise impact on the adjacent listed masonry bridge, compromises the intervisibility to and from the northern arm of the junction. A Relaxation of this requirement is therefore required.

5 HIGHWAY ALIGNMENT SUMMARY

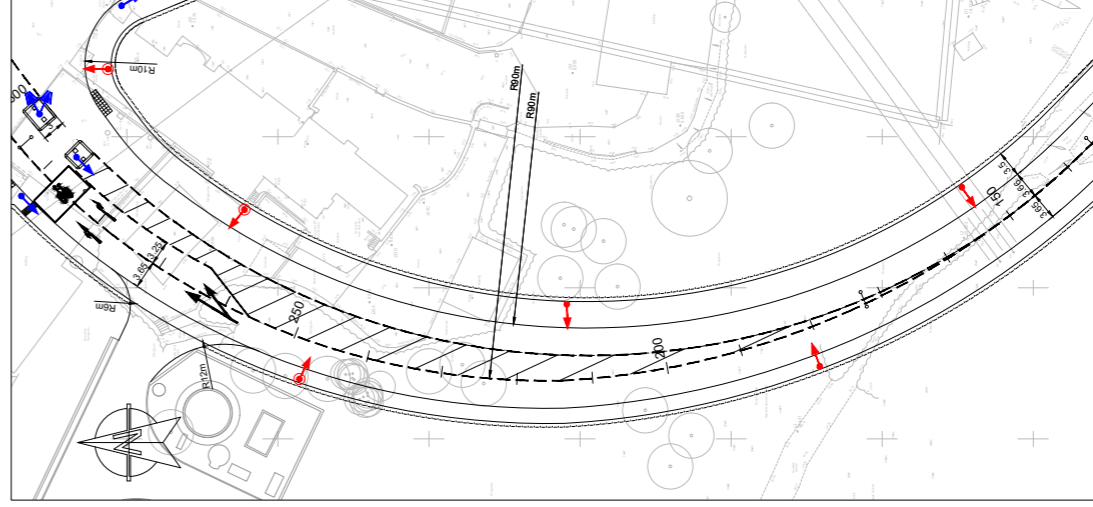
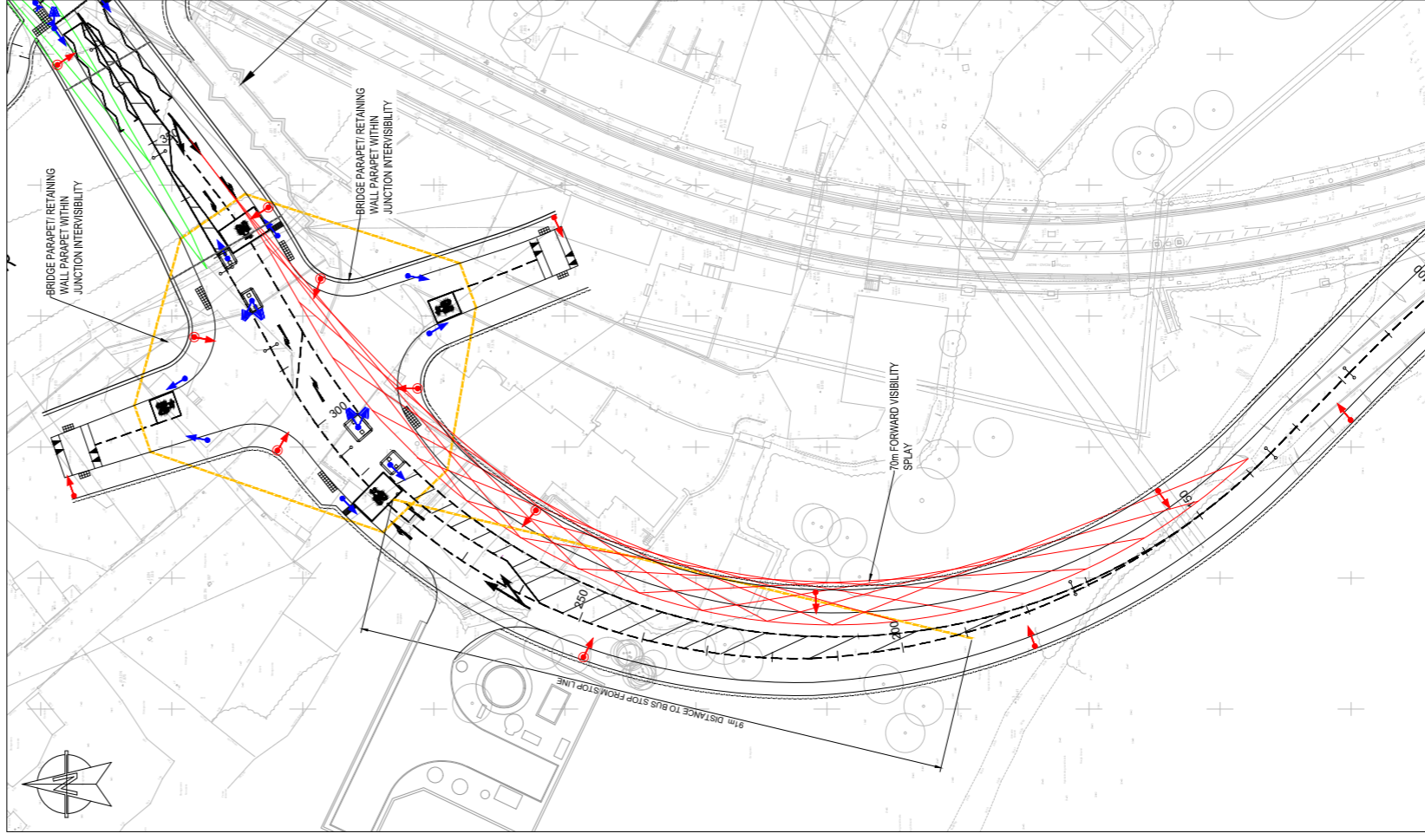
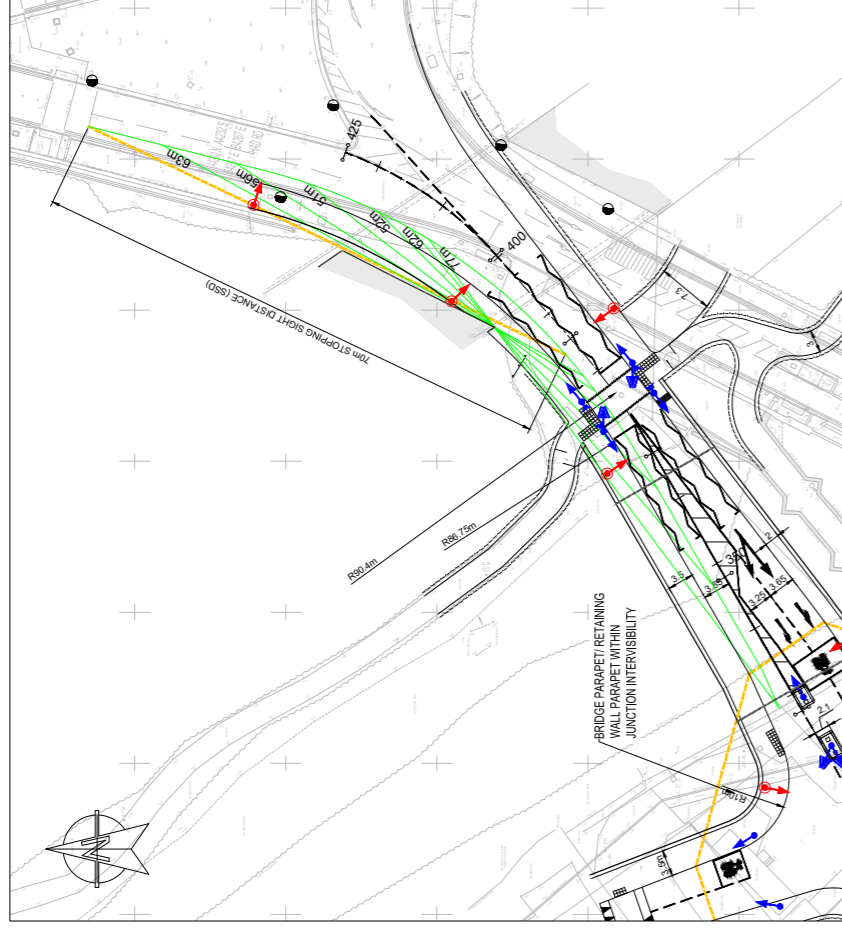
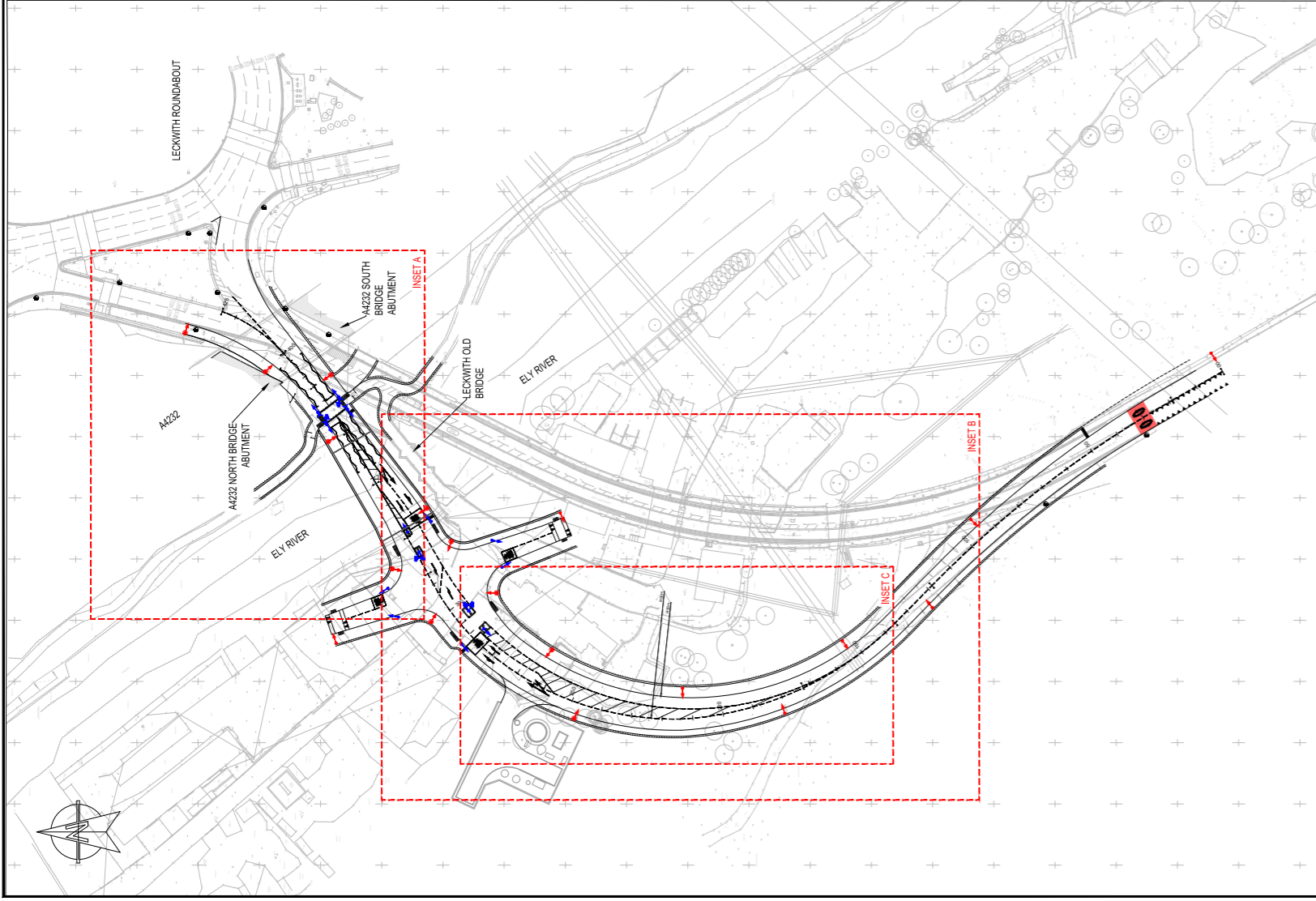
Table 1 below, summarises the existing and proposed highway alignment geometry constraints.

Element	Existing B4262	Proposed B4267	Comments
<i>Speed Limit</i>	40 mph generally 30 mph approach to roundabout)	30mph throughout	Speed limit change to 30mph to be moved to commencement of realigned section.
<i>Design Speed</i>	70A kph generally 60A kph approach to roundabout	60A kph throughout	Reduced speed limit to 30mph for realigned section.
<i>Horizontal Radius</i>	180m minimum (2 step relaxation)	90m minimum (3 step relaxation)	Tighter horiz curvature required to address alignment constraints
<i>Forward visibility</i>	90m northbound (1 step relaxation) 50m southbound (3 step relaxation)	90m northbound (Des. Min.) 70m southbound (1 step relaxation)	Existing visibility constrained by viaduct parapet guardrail. Verge widening on proposed alignment required to achieve stated visibility.
<i>Stopping Sight Distance to Leckwith Roundabout</i>	90m, but reduced to 70m by obstructions	52m minimum to nearside lane	Existing A4232 bridge abutment constrains SSD on proposed alignment. Departure required
<i>Maximum Gradient</i>	6 to 7% 9.4% at tie-in.	6.5% generally, but increasing to 9.4% at tie-in. 8% on southbound approach to new river bridge	Refinement of vertical alignment possible once flood levels and bridge design confirmed may allow improvement
<i>Vertical Design</i>		Min K crest 6 Min K sag 1.5	Departure of K values required on approach to Leckwith Roundabout to allow bridge levels to be developed. Refinement of vertical alignment possible once flood levels and bridge design confirmed.
<i>Junction Intervisibility</i>	N/A	Northern junction arm visibility zone compromised by bridge/retaining wall parapet	Relaxation required

Table 1: Highway Alignment Summary



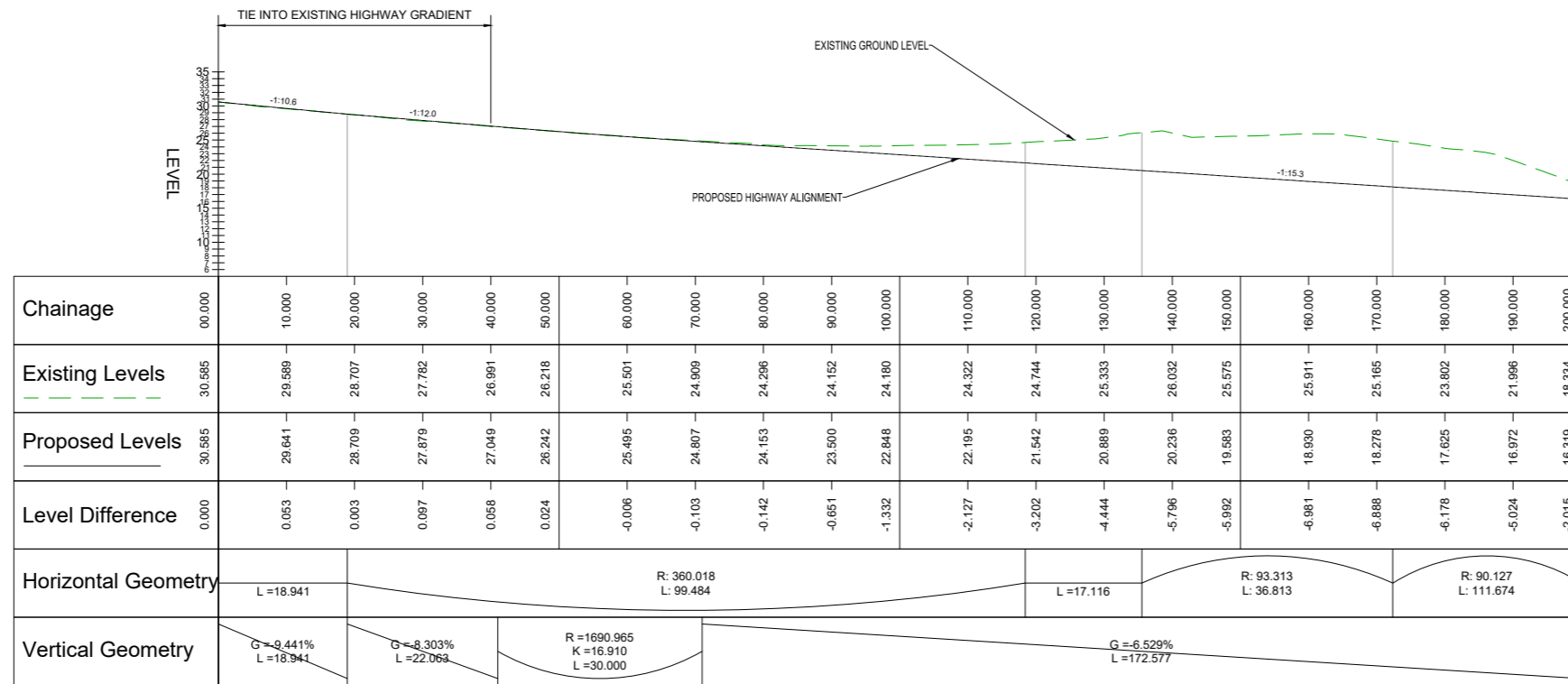
Appendix A : Drawings



DO NOT SCALE

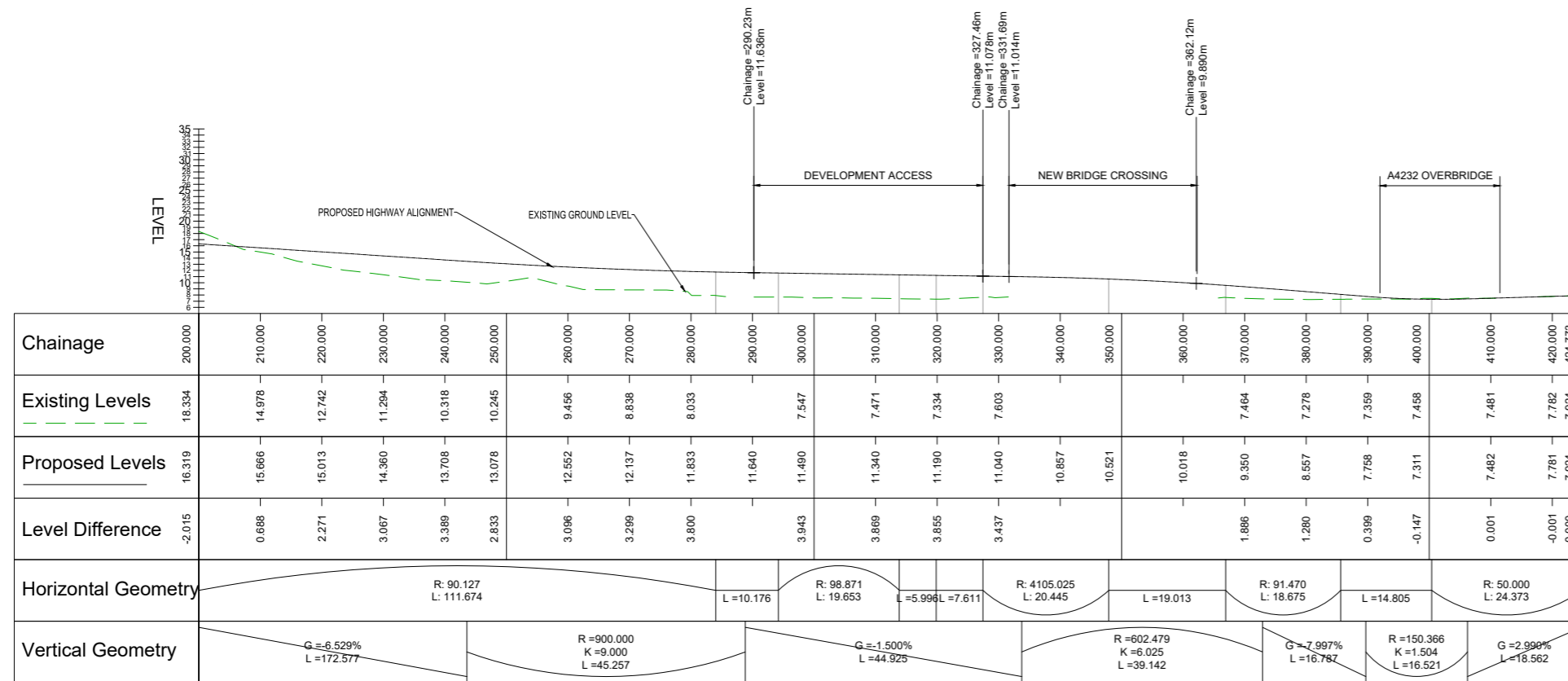
- NOTES**
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 3. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
 4. THIS DRAWING IS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY AND IS SUBJECT TO DETAILED DESIGN.
 5. HIGHWAY GEOMETRY & DESIGN IS SUBJECT TO TECHNICAL APPROVAL OF THE ADOPTING HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES.

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	TITLE: B4287 LECKWITH ROAD HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS HIGHWAY DESIGN VISION SPLAYS, DEPARTURES & RELAXATIONS FROM STANDARDS		
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ROAD1 (CH.0-200) - LONGSECTION
HORIZ 1:500, VERT 1:500. DATUM: 5.000m

MAIN ROAD - LONGSECTION
SCALE: H 1:500, V 1:500. DATUM: 5.000



ROAD1 (CH.200-225) - LONGSECTION
HORIZ 1:500, VERT 1:500. DATUM: 5.000m

MAIN ROAD - LONGSECTION
SCALE: H 1:500, V 1:500. DATUM: 5.000

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TITLE:	B4267 LECKWITH ROAD HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS HIGHWAY LONG SECTION		
SCALE @ A1:	AS SHOWN	CHECKED:	APPROVED:
PROJECT NO:	DESIGNED:	DRAWN:	DATE:
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