Call city or state numbers for animal carcass disposal

Question: Auwe. Last week we called the dead animal pickup number listed in the phone book about a dead cat lying near the curb at Vineyard Boulevard and Punchbowl Street, and a week later it's still there! ... What number are we supposed to call?

Answer: Who to call depends on whether the animal carcass is on a state or a city roadway, and in a rural or urban part of Oahu (if the carcass is on a city street).

In this case the roadway is overseen by the state Department of Transportation, and the number to call is 831-6714, the state highways division hotline. Press 1 for dead animal pickup. After hours, call 485-6200.

Since we were calling to confirm the phone number, we also reported the dead cat, although the best we could do on the location was to say that it was on the mauka side of the intersection, near a directional sign for the National Cemetery of the Pacific, as you had mentioned in your call to Kokua Line. We hope the unfortunate feline's remains will have been removed by the time this item is published.

If it had been a city street within Honolulu, the number to call would be 768-3200. Press 1 and then press 8, to connect to the Honolulu Refuse Collection Yard. It's open 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays.

Areas outside Honolulu are covered by the Department of Facility Maintenance. The phone numbers for those areas (including Pearl City, Kailua, Kaneohe, Kapolei and others) are listed under "dead animal pickup" on the first page of city and county listings in the phone book.

Your query begs the question of how the general public is supposed to know whether the city or state oversees a given thoroughfare. One way to find out is to call the city Department of Design and Control's Land Division at 768-8725.