



# CITY OF HOUSTON

Planning and Development

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May 23, 2017

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### Proposed Amendments to the 2016 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP)

The City of Houston Planning Commission will hold a **public hearing on Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. in the City Hall Annex Chambers, Public Level, 900 Bagby Street, Houston, Texas, 77002**. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow interested citizens to be heard concerning proposed changes to the 2016 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP). The MTFP identifies right-of-way needs and proposes roadway alignments within the city limits of Houston and its Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). The MTFP does not initiate the timing of right-of-way acquisition or construction activities related to the roadways.

Information on each proposed amendment will be available for public review at an **open house to be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the United Way Community Resource Center, 50 Waugh Drive, Houston, Texas, 77007**. The applicants and Planning and Development Department (P&D) personnel will be available at the open house to answer questions.

This notification package - which includes this letter, information about the specific amendments which may be of interest to the respective property owner, and some frequently asked questions - has been mailed to property owners and registered civic associations adjacent to roadways included in the amendment request.

In addition to making comments at the Public Hearing, **written comments may be submitted using the online comment form until the comment deadline of July 7, 2017**. All comments, whether written or in-person, will be considered by the Planning Commission before a final decision is made on each amendment request. Additionally, the Commission will weigh information provided by P&D and other government transportation agencies in the Houston region.

Four weeks after the public hearing, on August 17, 2017, staff will present recommendations to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will vote on each amendment and forward its recommendations to City Council by September 1, 2017. Once an ordinance for the amendments has been adopted by City Council, a new MTFP will be published by the City.

More information about the MTFP and proposed amendments are available on the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan webpage at [www.houstonplanning.com](http://www.houstonplanning.com). The information, as well as the online comment form, can be found by selecting "**2017 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan Amendments**" link under "Announcements". You may contact the Planning & Development Department at 832-393-6660 or email [kevin.mcnally@houstontx.gov](mailto:kevin.mcnally@houstontx.gov).



## 2017 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP) Amendments

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q What is a Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP) Amendment?**

**A** The City of Houston's MTFP was first adopted by City Council in 1942. It is a long range plan that provides for a system of thoroughfares and collectors to support overall mobility. It does not deal with timing of right-of-way acquisition or road construction. The Plan is updated through an annual amendment process. Amendments generally delete, add or modify a portion of a planned Thoroughfare or Collector. Streets such as Hillcroft Avenue, Kirby Drive, and FM 2100 are examples of planned Major Thoroughfares that have matured over the years. The Plan will continue to be modified in order to meet Houston's growing transportation needs.

**Q What is an alternative?**

**A** When the City receives an application to amend the MTFP, staff evaluates the proposed request and studies the adjoining area's major roadway network. The Planning Department (P&D) may identify and evaluate other options in the area, other than the one submitted by the applicant. Such options will be presented as alternatives at the Open House so that all interested parties are aware of options being considered by P&D and Planning Commission.

**Q I received a letter from the City. Why? What does this have to do with me?**

**A** If you have received a notice in the mail from the City, it means that our records show you own property that may be located close to or that may be impacted by a proposed amendment to the MTFP. Please read the enclosed report to learn more about the proposed amendment that may impact you and your property.

**Q My property is located in the County, not within the City limits. Why is the City dealing with issues in the County?**

**A** The MTFP covers not just the major road network within the City limits, but also within the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). This allows transportation needs to be addressed on a regional basis.

**Q I am concerned about a proposed amendment. What can I do?**

**A** First, you can find out more about the amendment request in the following ways:

- Read the report that was included in the mail out; see other helpful links on our website (*see below*)
- Go on-line to review the application and letter of justification submitted by the applicant:  
↳ [www.houstonplanning.com](http://www.houstonplanning.com) – click **2017 MTFP Amendment Requests** under **Announcements**
- Attend the **public open house** to meet with the applicant, talk to City staff & fill out a comment form:  
↳ Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30 p.m., United Way Community Resource Center, 50 Waugh Drive, Houston, TX 77007 (*see map on reverse*)
- Contact the Planning Department staff and/or the applicant

Then, if you would like to make your concerns known to the City you can:

- Write an email, letter or fax to the City expressing your concerns
- Attend the **public hearing** and speak directly to the Planning Commission  
↳ Thurs. July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 p.m., City Hall Annex Chambers, 900 Bagby, Houston, TX 77002 (*see map on reverse*)

**Q What is going to happen at the public open house on June 14<sup>th</sup>? (*see map on reverse*)**

**A** There will be map displays and information about each amendment request. You can walk around and view the information and learn more about the amendment requests that are of interest to you. You will also be able to have one-on-one conversation with the applicants and P&D staff. Also, you can learn more about what will happen at the public hearing and how you can best express your concerns to the Planning Commission.

**Q What is going to happen at the public hearing on July 20<sup>th</sup>? (*see map on reverse*)**

**A** The Planning Commission holds a public hearing to provide an opportunity for concerned citizens to make their views known publicly. Comments submitted by July 7<sup>th</sup>, using the online comment form on the website (refer to instructions above to locate the link on the website), will also be taken into account by the Planning Commission in making a decision on amendment requests. Additionally, the Commission will weigh information provided by the P&D staff and other government agencies concerned about transportation in our region.

**Q Who decides what to do?**

**A** Four weeks after the public hearing, P&D will present its recommendations to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will vote on each amendment and forward its recommendations to City Council by September 1, 2017. Once an ordinance for the amendments has been adopted by City Council, a new MTFP will be published by the City and made available as a reference to other agencies and the public throughout the year.

**City of Houston - Planning & Development Department**

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1562 Houston Texas, 77251-1562

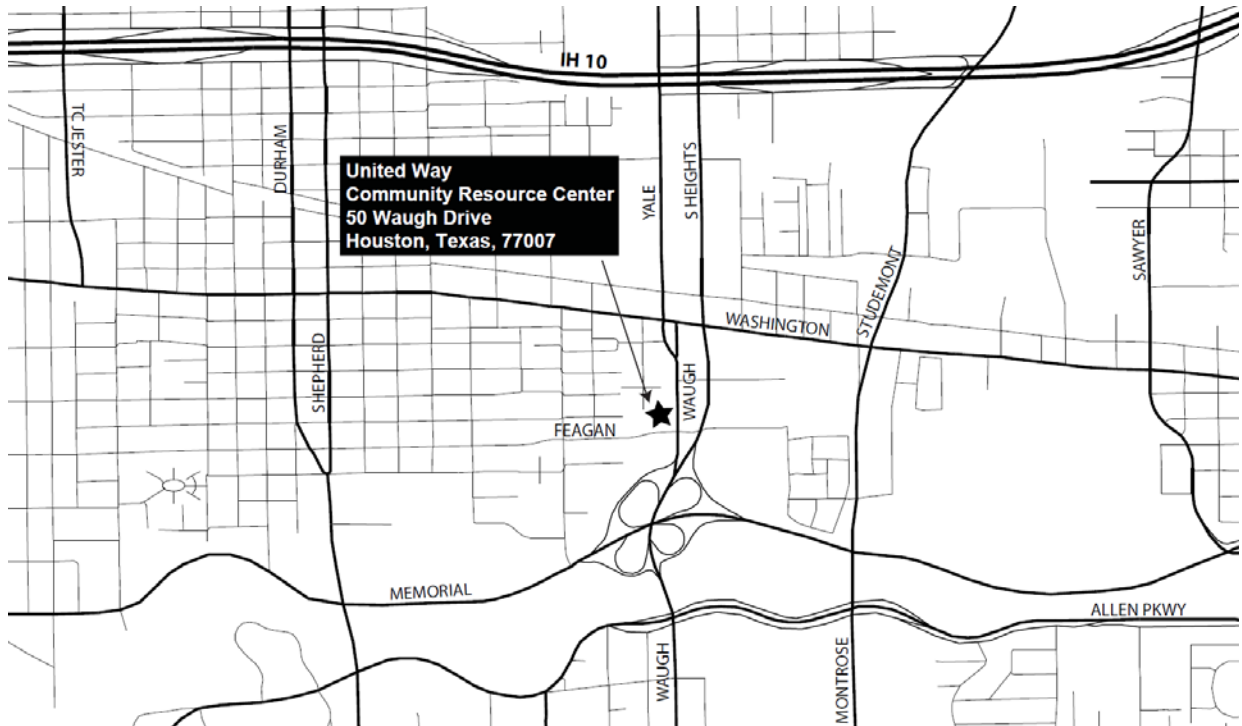
Physical address: 611 Walker, Houston Texas, 77002

Phone: 832.393.6660

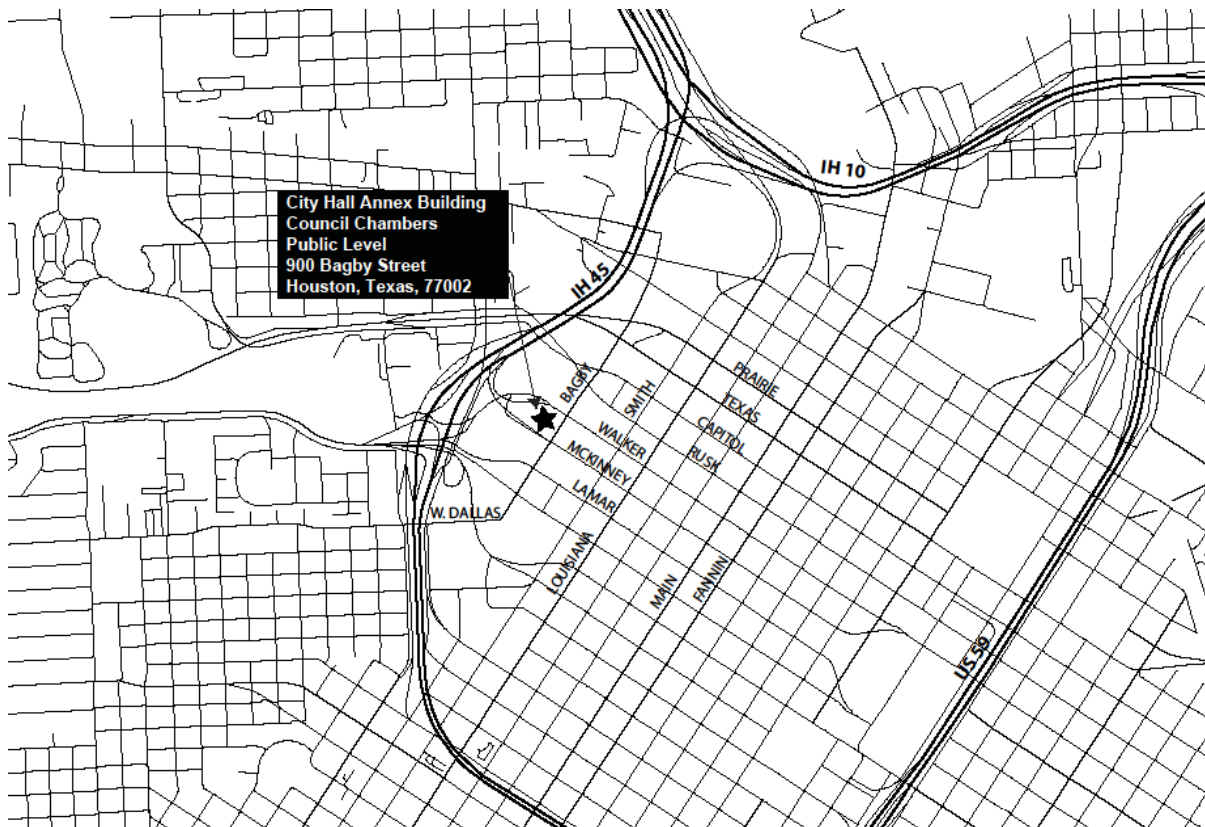
Fax: 832.393.6661

Email: [mobility.planning@houstontx.gov](mailto:mobility.planning@houstontx.gov)

**Map of Public Open House Location,  
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 (5:30 - 7:30 p.m.)**



**Map of Public Hearing Location,  
Thursday, July 20, 2017 (2:30 p.m.)**



# PRELIMINARY REPORT

## E-2: Ernestes Road

**APPLICANT:** Harris County Engineering Department

**LAMBERT:** 4357, 4358  
**JURISDICTION:** Harris County

**PRECINCT:** Harris County Pct. 3  
**DISTRICT:** N/A

### **PROPOSAL:**

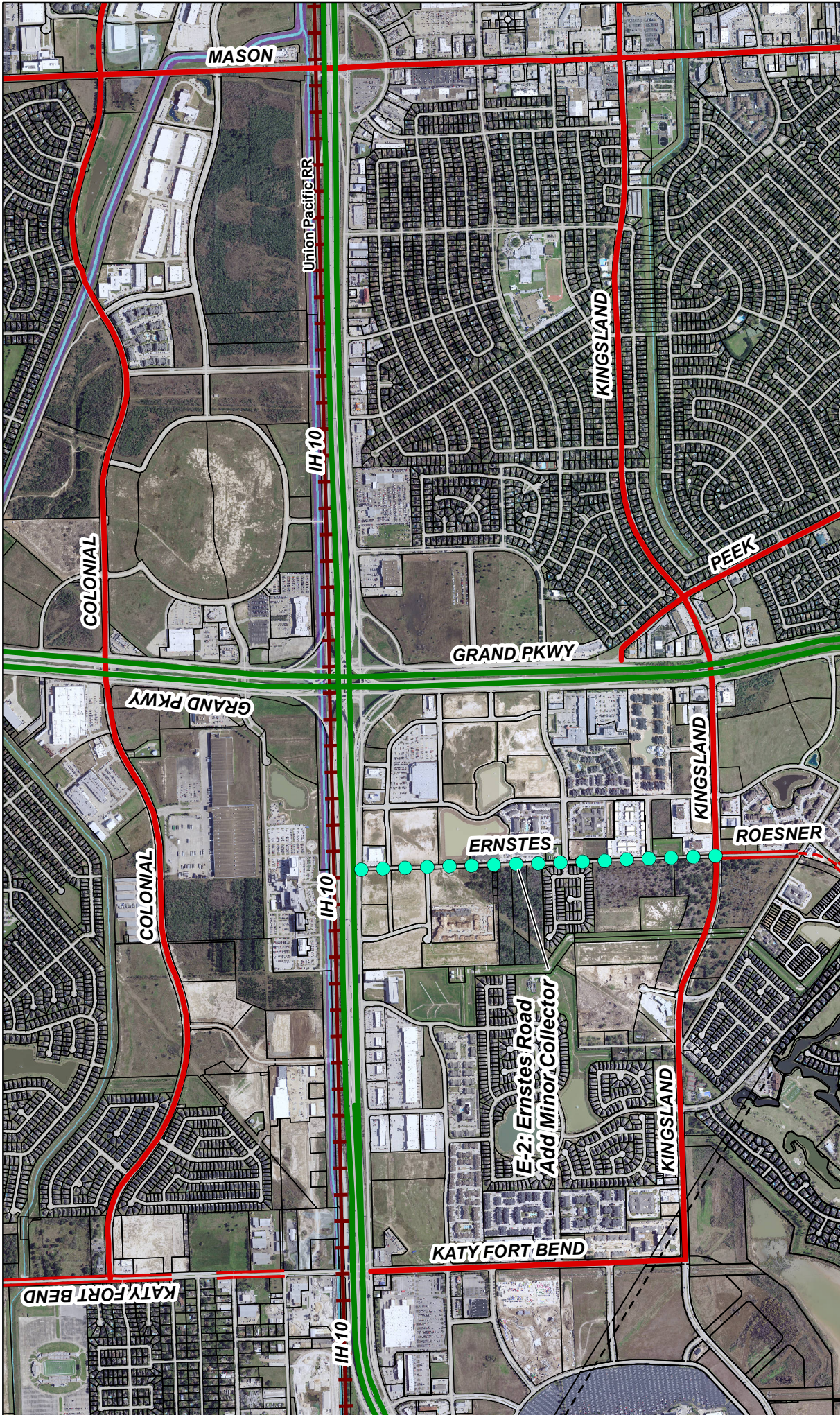
Harris County Engineering is requesting the addition of Ernestes Road between I-10 and Kingsland Blvd. as a minor collector (MN-2-60) to the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP).

### **APPLICANT'S JUSTIFICATION and HISTORY:**

Ernestes Road is an unimproved road located in western Harris County, just west of the Grand Parkway, extending from the Katy Freeway/IH 10 to Kingsland Blvd. approximately one mile. Ernestes Road first appeared on the MTFP in 1966, when the MTFP was expanded to include the area west of SH 6 and was removed from the MTFP in 1986. Before being removed from the MTFP, Ernestes Road was proposed to connect to Roesner Road, which is currently shown on the MTFP to extend from FM 1463 in Fort Bend County to Kingsland Blvd.

Harris County's request to classify Ernestes Road as a two-lane, 60 ft. right-of-way (ROW) minor collector will provide for a future direct connection from Roesner Road to the frontage road of IH 10. Harris County plans to widen the Ernestes ROW from 60 ft. to 80 ft. as the road approaches Kingsland Blvd. This would help to accommodate the necessary turn lanes and through lanes at the proposed intersection of Kingsland Blvd., Roesner Road, and Ernestes Road.

Currently, there is dedicated ROW of variable width along the proposed Ernestes Road alignment, but the unimproved roadway is not paved or currently maintained by Harris County. Recent platted developments on either side of the road have dedicated ROW as needed for creation of a future 60 ft. ROW road. One such development along Ernestes Road at the IH 10 intersection has recently received approval to construct a short segment of the Ernestes Road public roadway.



## E-2: Ernstes Road | 2017 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan Amendment Request

### 2017 MTFP Amendment

- Add —●—
- Realign —○—
- Remove —X—

- Street Class —■—
- ROW Width —▲—
- No. Lanes —◆—

### 2016 MTFP

- Freeway —■—
- Major Thoroughfare —■—
- Major Collector —■—
- Minor Collector —■—
- Transit Corridor Street —■—

- Local Street —■—
- Railroad —■—
- Waterway —■—
- Park —■—

