City of Houston
Bicycle Advisory Committee
Education Subcommittee

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

HOUSTON BIKEPLAN

Meeting to be held in person and virtually via Microsoft Office Teams
Wednesday, December 20, 2023; 2:30 – 4:30pm

In-Person: John B. Raia Conference Room, 611 Walker St

Call-In Option: +1 936-755-1521 **Conference ID:** 251 846 658 247

Microsoft Teams Meeting Link:

For meeting documents, please visit our website

Comments received via email by 5:00pm the day before the meeting will be read into the record during public comment.

The public is invited to speak for up to two (2) minutes each at the beginning of the meeting.

Agenda

Discussion Regarding the Following Items:

1. Director's Report
2. Chair's Report
3. Public Comment
4. Presentation: Vision Zero Houston Update
5. Discussion: Future Bikeways Metrics and Data
6. Discussion: Bike Plan Website
7. Open Forum
8. Announcements

City of Houston
Bicycle Advisory Committee
Education Subcommittee

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

HOUSTON BIKEPLAN

December 20, 2023

Call to Order. Meeting was called to order at 2:37pm.

Roll Call:

Tom Compson, BAC Chair	**Present**
Leah Chambers, Subcommittee Co-Chair	**Present**
Jessica Wiggins, Subcommittee Co-Chair	**Present**
Carl B. Salazar	**Present**
Joe Cutrufo	**Present**
Lisa Graiff	**Present**
Ben Drews	Absent
Robin Holzer	Absent

Additional BAC Members Present: Tracy Alexander, Commander James Dale (HPD, in for Kristine Anthony-Miller), Amar Mohite, Mike Van Dusen

Ex-Officio Members:

David Fields	**Present**
Ian Hlavacek	Absent
Juvenal Robles	Absent

- Director's Report. David Fields gave the Director's Report.
  - The committee's action item to outreach to fleets to incorporate our Bike Friendly Driver's course into their training is ongoing. We're currently in contact with CenterPoint and have sent them the training videos. They're currently reviewing them to see how they can fit in their fleet training plans. The videos are also hosted on BikeHouston's YouTube channel; spread the word and keep us informed as you share.
  - All three priority bikeway corridors
    - Hillcroft Ave: We received a Reconnecting Communities Grant and are finalizing paperwork before sending out the RFP for consultant.
    - Irvington Ave: currently working with Harris County; more updates to come in 2024.
    - Washington Ave: H-GAC awarded a grant for the planning study, and we kicked off this week. Public engagement will start in 2024.

- Co-Chairs' Report. Jessica Wiggins and Leah Chambers gave the Co-Chairs' Report.
  - Jessica is stepping down from the BAC at the end of the year as she transitions into her new role at Harris County Precinct 4.

  - Remember the three things the committee set out to do this year:
    - Increase bike friendly trainings by 25%.
    - Update the BAC website.
    - Increase participation in Bike Month activities.

- Public Comment.
  - No public comments were submitted via email, nor received during the meeting.

- Vision Zero Houston Update. Sofia Font, Vision Zero Coordinator presented on the progress of the Vision Zero Action Plan since its adoption in 2020 and actions completed in 2023.
  - Vision Zero Houston website
  - High Injury Network Map
  - Vision Zero Dashboard. A layer in the dashboard shows the most dangerous roads for cyclists.
  - 2023 Infrastructure Design Manual. Chapter 15 now has a multi-modal service standard; Chapter 17 has updated bikeway design standards.

- Discussion: Future Bikeways Metrics and Data. Staff member Brian Smith II led a discussion asking the BAC's feedback for metrics to add to routine bikeways reporting. Additions to consider:
  - Information on bikeway projects in the greater Houston area—project status and funding.
  - Bike events: leverage existing calendars by bike shops and cycling organizations.
  - Fleet education (Bike Friendly Drivers training).
  - Safe Routes to School Programming.
  - Training and Education: LCI seminars hosted.
  - Outreach metrics—activities, events, organizations contacted.

- Discussion: Bike Plan Website. Staff Member Brian Smith II led a discussion on subcommittee recommendations to improve content on the Houston Bike Plan website.
  - Recommendation: review click-rates and what pages are engaged most often,
  - Recommendation: highlight key metrics and show Bike Plan progress up front. Consider a graphic or scorecard on the home page.
  - Recommendation: reactivate mailing list/routine email updates.
  - Recommendation: consider moving administrative details of BAC (agenda, minutes, etc.) to City of Houston main website.

- Open Forum.

City of Houston
Bicycle Advisory Committee
Education Subcommittee

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

HOUSTON BIKEPLAN

- Announcements/Events.
  - Texas Statewide Active Transportation Plan. TxDOT is seeking public comments for the state's first Statewide Active Transportation Plan. Comments must be postmarked by Nov 30th. Learn more on their website: https://www.txdot.gov/projects/projects-studies/statewide/statewide-active-transportation-plan.html,
  - NHHIP Public Meetings. TxDOT is hosting a series of public meetings on the North Houston Highway Improvement Project (I-45).
    - In-Person: 12/6, 12/11, 12/14
    - Virtual: 12/7, 12/12, 12/13
    - Meeting information is online: https://www.txdot.gov/nhhip/public-engagement/public-meeting-series-december-2023.html
- Upcoming BAC Meetings
  - **Bicycle Advisory Committee: 1/24, 2:30pm**
  - **Infrastructure Subcommittee: 2/28, 2:30pm**
  - **Education Subcommittee: 3/27, 2:30pm**

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:22pm.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Education Subcommittee

December 20, 2023

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Mission and Vision

BAC Mission
To advise and make recommendations to the commission and the director on issues related to bicycling in the city including, but not limited to, amendments to the Bike Plan, bicycle safety and education, implementation of the Bike Plan, development of strategies for funding projects related to bicycling, and promoting public participation in bicycling.

BAC Vision
By 2027, the City of Houston will be a Safer, More Accessible, Gold Level Bike-Friendly City

BAC Education Subcommittee Roll Call

Tom Compson, Chair BAC

Leah Chambers, Co-Chair

Jessica Wiggins, Co-Chair

Carl B. Salazar

Joe Cutrufo

Lisa Graiff

Ben Drews

Robin Holzer

Ex-Officio Members

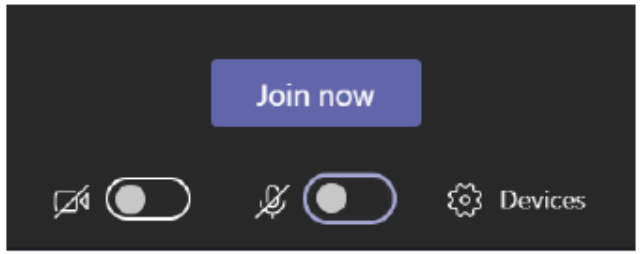
Ian Hlavacek

David Fields

Juvenal Robles

Microsoft Teams Meeting Instructions

Microsoft Teams Meeting Instructions



Please Remember to Stay on Mute, unless Identified by the Chair to speak

If you are connecting through the phone, please mute/unmute by pressing *6





Agenda

1. Director's Report
2. Co-Chair's Report
3. Public Comment
4. Vision Zero Houston Update
5. Discussion: Future Bikeways Metrics and Data
6. Discussion: Bike Plan Website
7. Open Forum
8. Announcements

The public is invited to speak for up to two (2) minutes each at the beginning of the meeting.

Director's Report

David Fields

Co-Chair's Report

Jessica Wiggins

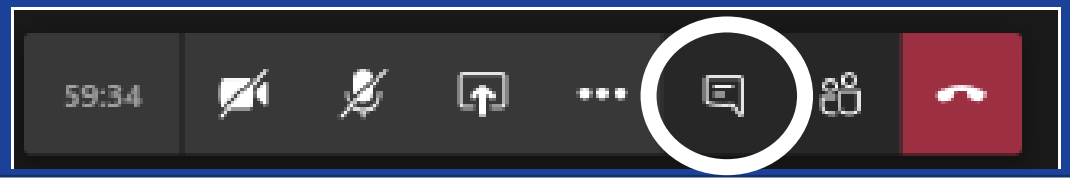
Leah Chambers

Public Comment

Send **written comments** to bac@houstontx.gov by 5:00pm the day before a BAC meeting. Comments will be read aloud by staff during the meeting.

Comment by **Phone:** to join dial 936-755-1521; ID 594 297 824# Press ***6** to unmute when called upon by the Chair

Comment via **Microsoft Teams**: Type your name and that you would like to comment





Sofia Font

Vision Zero Coordinator

HOUSTON VISION ZERO

OUR STREETS • OUR LIVES • OUR COMMITMENT

BAC - Presentation

December 20, 2023

The Path to Vision Zero

2019:
Mayor Sylvester Turner signs Vision Zero Executive Order

Commitment to end traffic deaths and serious injuries on Houston's streets by 2030





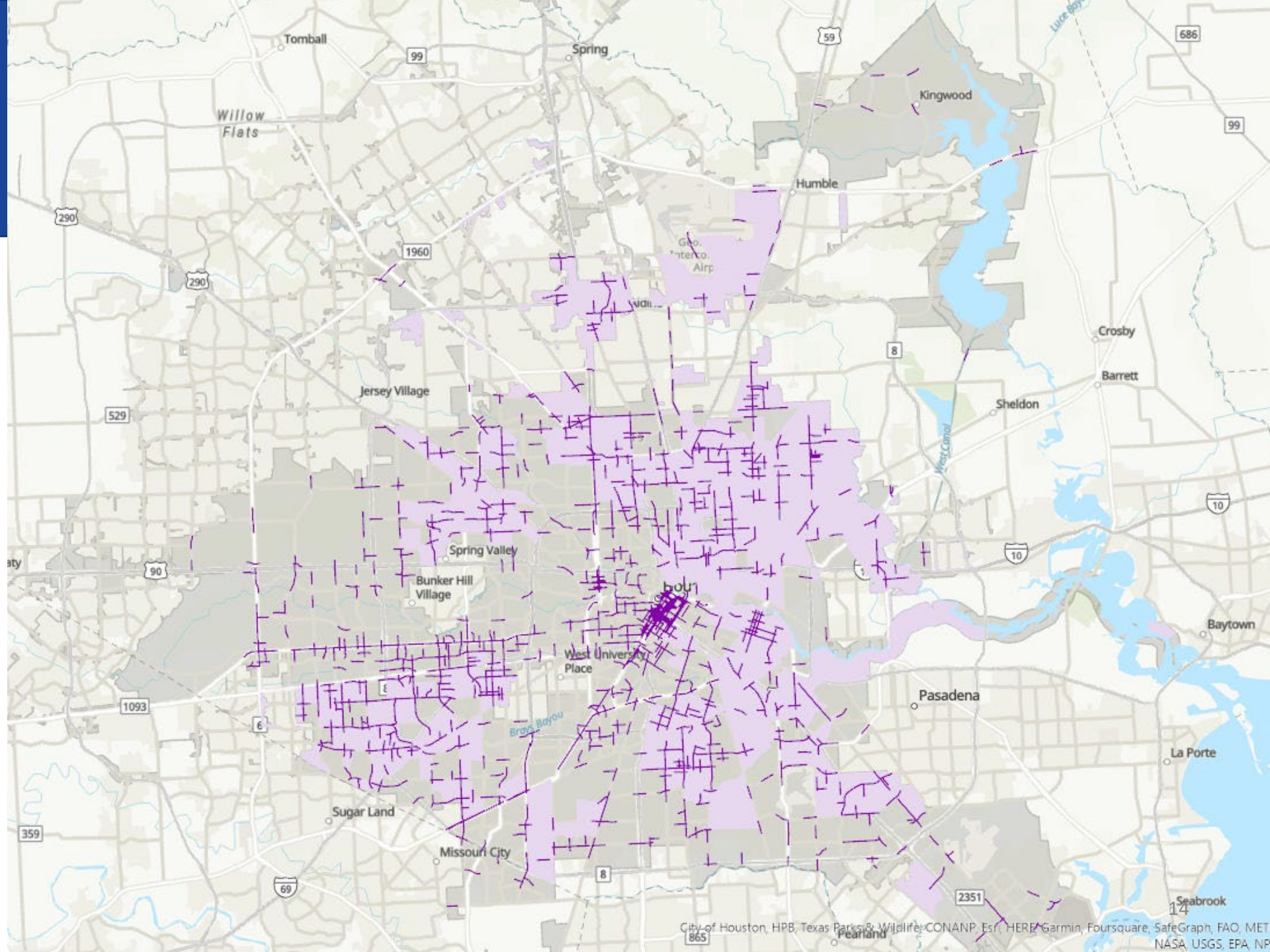
2020:
Release
Vision Zero
Action Plan

Implementation Group

- City of Houston
  - Planning & Development
  - Houston Public Works
  - Mayor's Office of Communications
  - Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
  - Human Resources
  - Legal Department
  - Houston Police Department
  - Houston Health Department
  - Houston Fire Department
- M E T R O
- Harris County
- Houston-Galveston Area Council
- TxDOT
- Federal Highway Administration
- Houston Parks Board
- Voice of Houston representative

High Injury Network: 2023

9% of Houston's streets account for 58% of Houston's Traffic Deaths and Serious Injuries



Leadership & Collaboration



METRO



HOUSTON PUBLIC WORKS



HOUSTON TRANSTAR

HOUSTON PARKS BOARD

HARRIS COUNTY HCSO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

H-GAC Houston-Galveston Area Council

Harris County VISION ZERO Safer Streets. Safer You.



Texas Department of Transportation

TOGETHER FOR® SAFER ROADS

HOUSTON BCycle™

Houston Coalition for Complete Streets

madd® NO MORE VICTIMS®

LINK HOUSTON

AAA

BIKEHOUSTON®

Federal BIL Grants 2022

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: HIN

Reconnecting Communities:
Hillcroft Ave Planning
$550k Awarded

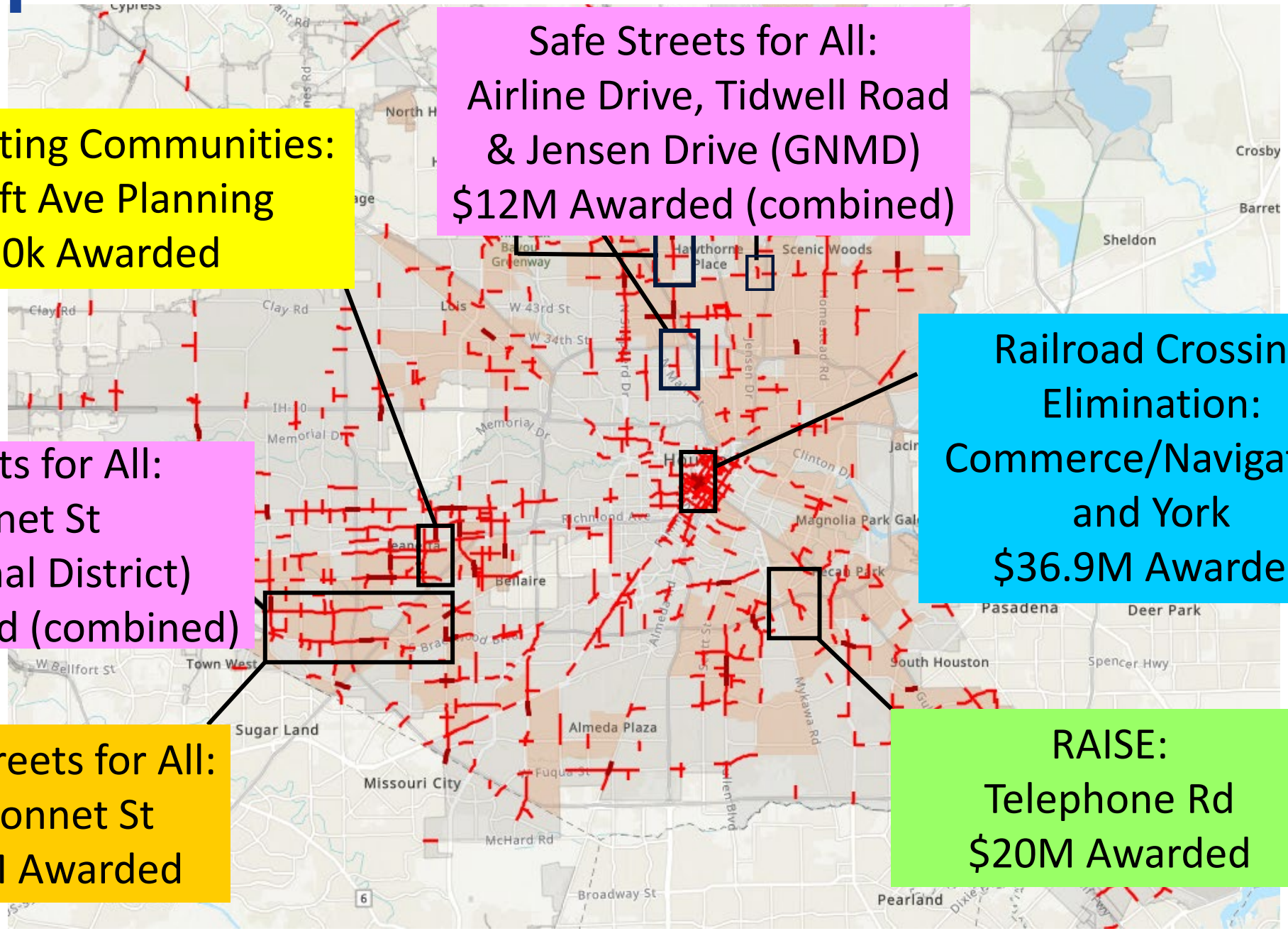
Safe Streets for All:
Airline Drive, Tidwell Road
& Jensen Drive (GNMD)
$12M Awarded (combined)

Railroad Crossing
Elimination:
Commerce/Navigation
and York
$36.9M Awarded

Safe Streets for All:
Bissonnet St
(International District)
$12M Awarded (combined)

Safe Streets for All:
Bissonnet St
$29M Awarded

RAISE:
Telephone Rd
$20M Awarded



Fatality Review Board



Implementing Vision Zero

Garden City Drive









Crosswalk Art at Franklin Elementary School



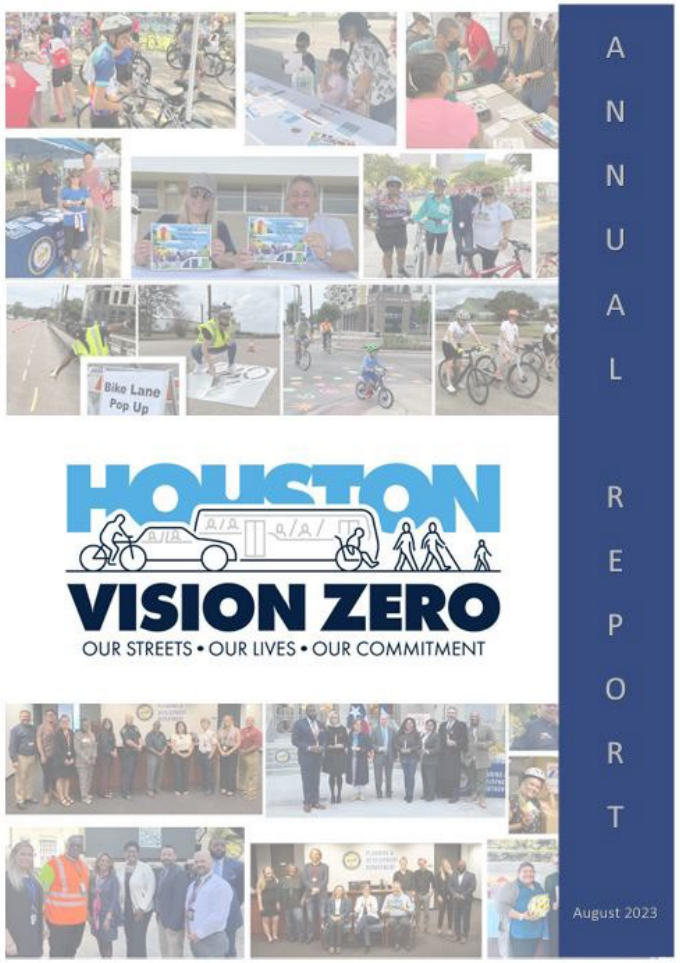


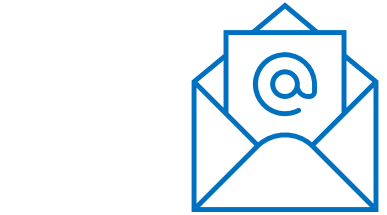


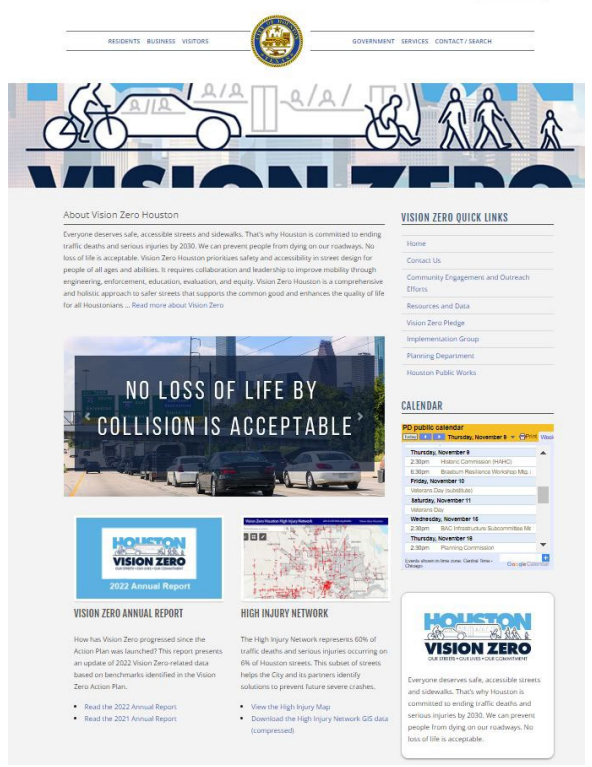
Campaigns & Website











Vision Zero Coloring & Activity Book / Safety Brochure

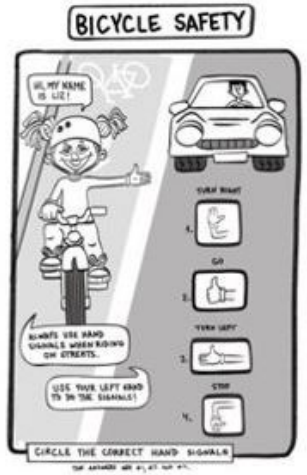














WALKING SAFETY

1. Follow signs and signals.
2. Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available and barrier-free.
3. If there is no sidewalk, or if a sidewalk is inaccessible, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
4. Always keep alert; don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes (and ears) off the road.
5. Whenever possible, cross streets at crosswalks or intersections, look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
6. If a crosswalk or well-lit area is not accessible, please monitor for a long, clear opening in traffic before crossing the street.
7. Drinking and drugs can impair your judgment; consume responsibly.



BIKING SAFETY

1. Get acquainted with traffic laws; bicyclists must follow the same rules as motorists
2. You may ride two abreast if you are not impeding the normal flow of traffic or when you are riding on a designated bikeway; otherwise ride single file.
3. Remain alert, keep your head up and look around; watch for opening car doors and other hazards.
4. Use hand signals when turning and use extra care at intersections.
5. A horn or bell, a rear-view mirror, reflectors and a bright headlight also are recommended.
6. Never hitch onto cars.
7. Before entering traffic, stop and look left, right, left again and over your shoulder.



DRIVING SAFETY

1. Look out for pedestrians everywhere, always.
2. Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions such as nighttime or bad weather.
3. Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
4. Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk - there may be people crossing that you can't see.
5. Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
6. Follow slower speed limits in school zones and in neighborhoods where children are present.
7. Be extra cautious and double check surroundings when backing up.

2022: A Year of Outreach, Education, & Engagement



Safe Routes to School – Acres Home











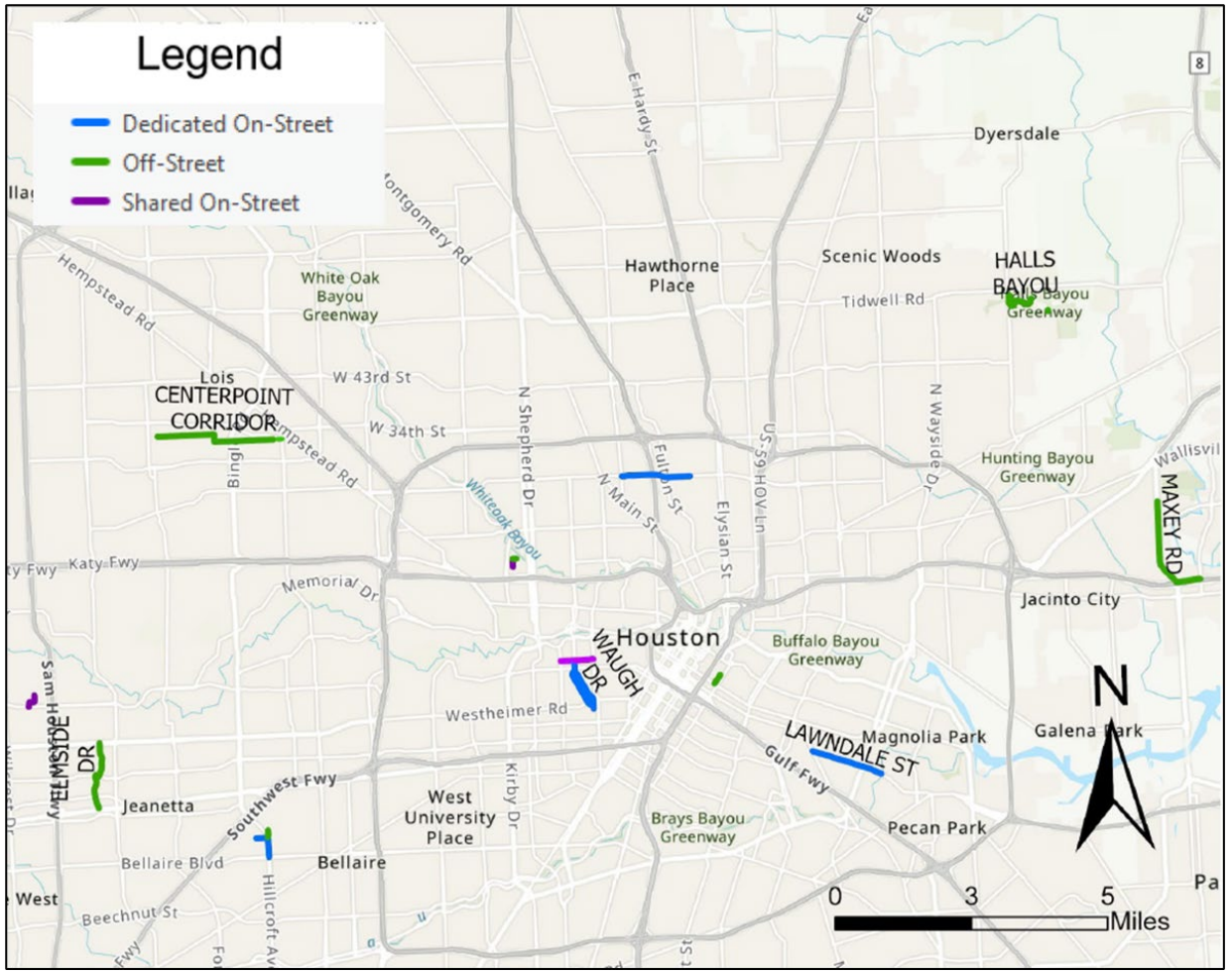


Miles of Sidewalks and Bikeways constructed

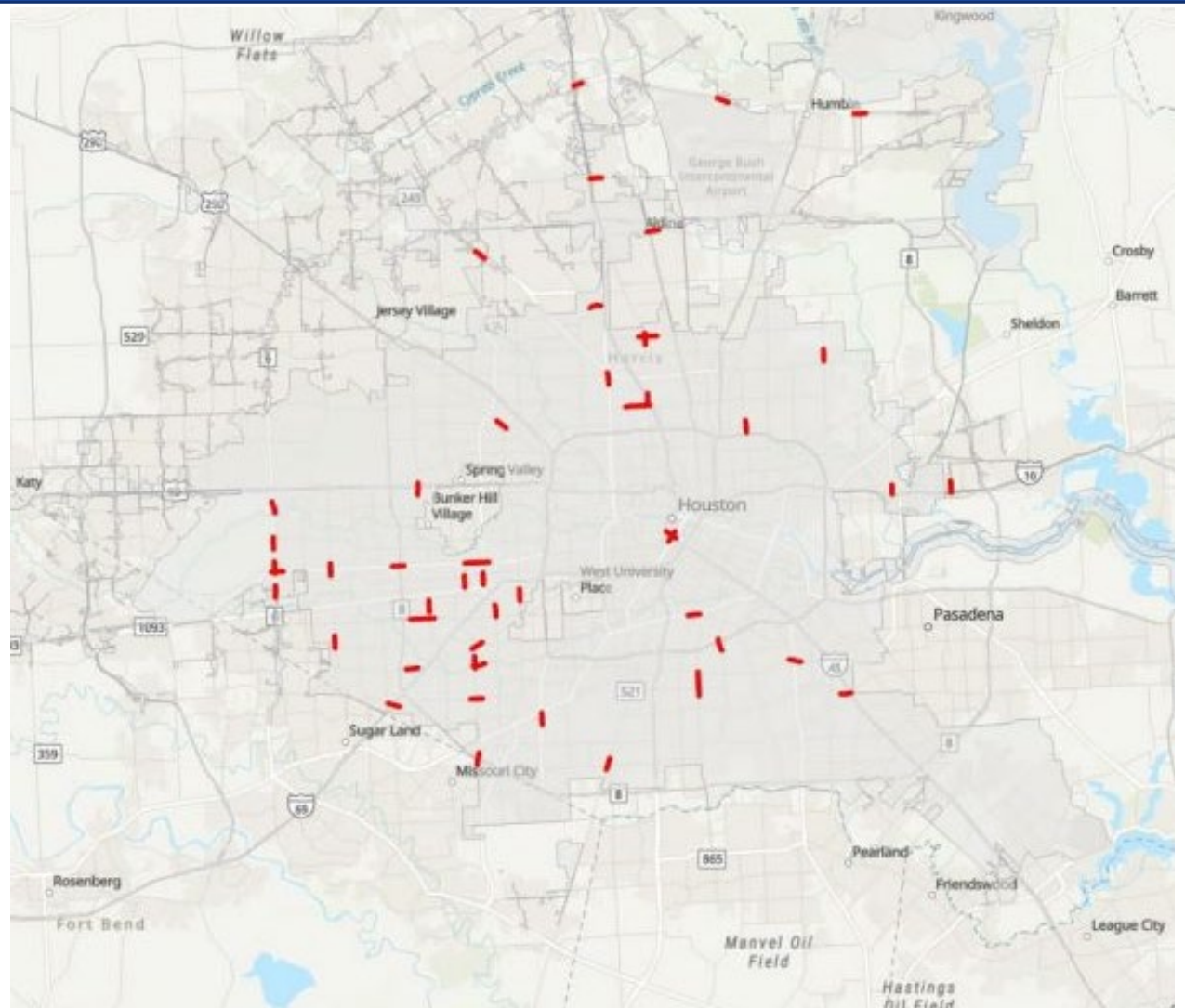
Bikeways	Miles Built in 2022	Total Miles Built as of December 31, 2022	Miles Programmed 2023
Dedicated On-Street	10	39	75
Shared On-Street	0	33	1
Off-Street	10	334	79
Total	**20**	406	155

Locations of Bikeways built in 2022:

- Almeda Road
- Carpenter's Bayou Trail
- High Star Drive
- Hillcroft Avenue/Westward Drive
- Lawndale Street
- Spring Branch Trail (Wirt Road to Blalock Road)
- Walnut Bend Lane
- Waugh Drive/Commonwealth Street
- West Dallas (Shepherd Drive to Tirrell Street)
- Westward Street



Priority Segments



26 Miles
Priority Segments

From Plan to Implementation: 2021-2022



- **44** All 13 Priority Actions + 31 Strategic Actions Initiated
- **35** Miles of Sidewalk
- **1,000+** New/Reconstructed Curbs Ramps
- **62** Miles of Bikeways
- **10** Capital Improvements Projects (Multimodal Safety)

2023 Efforts

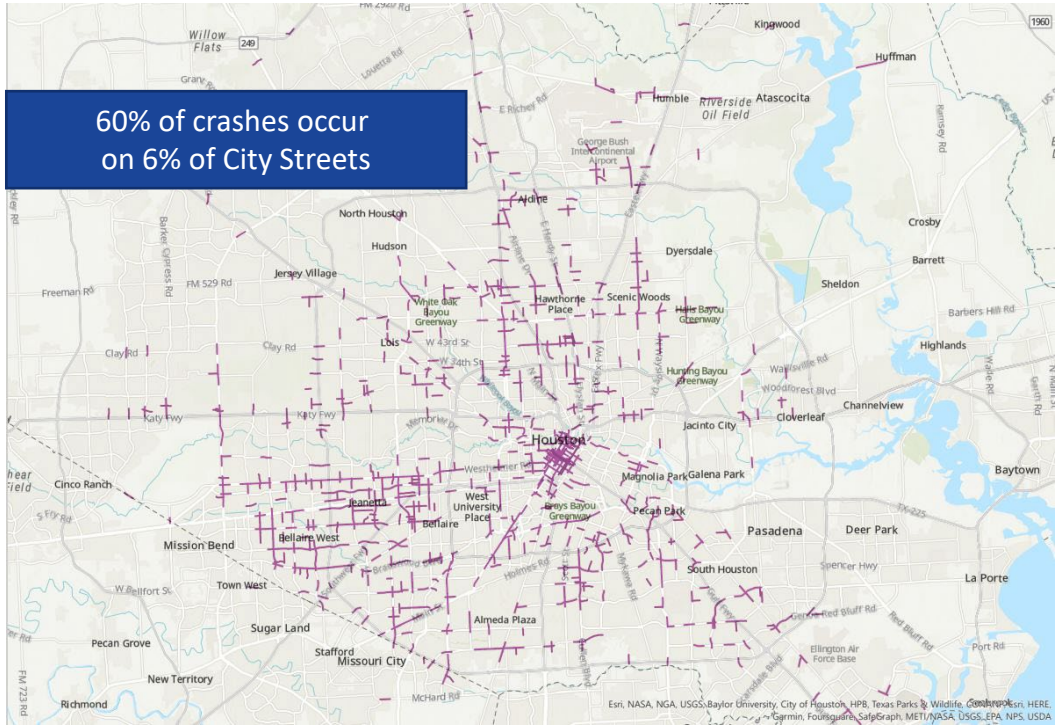
Actions as of December 2023

Communications

- Drop the “A” Word Education
- Vision Zero Educational Videos for K-12 grade
- Distracted Drivers event in collaboration with AAA
- Vision Zero Summer Camp
- Updates: Quarterly Dashboard, HIN, Humans of Houston

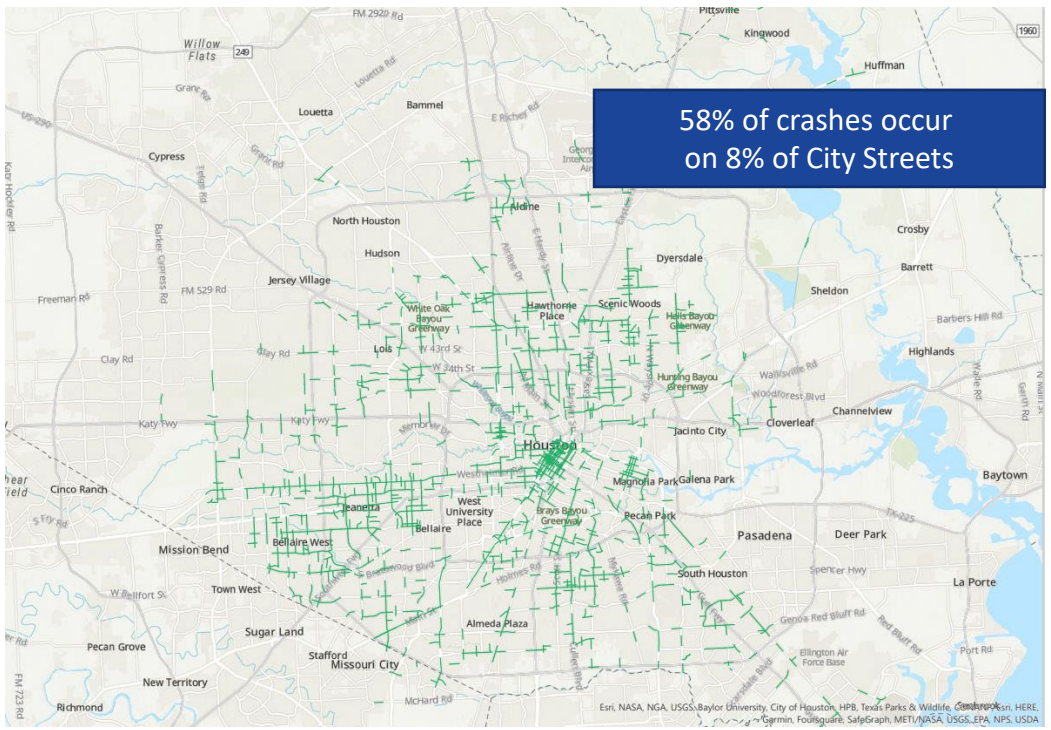
Vision Zero High Injury Network updates

2014-2018 (HIN 2018)



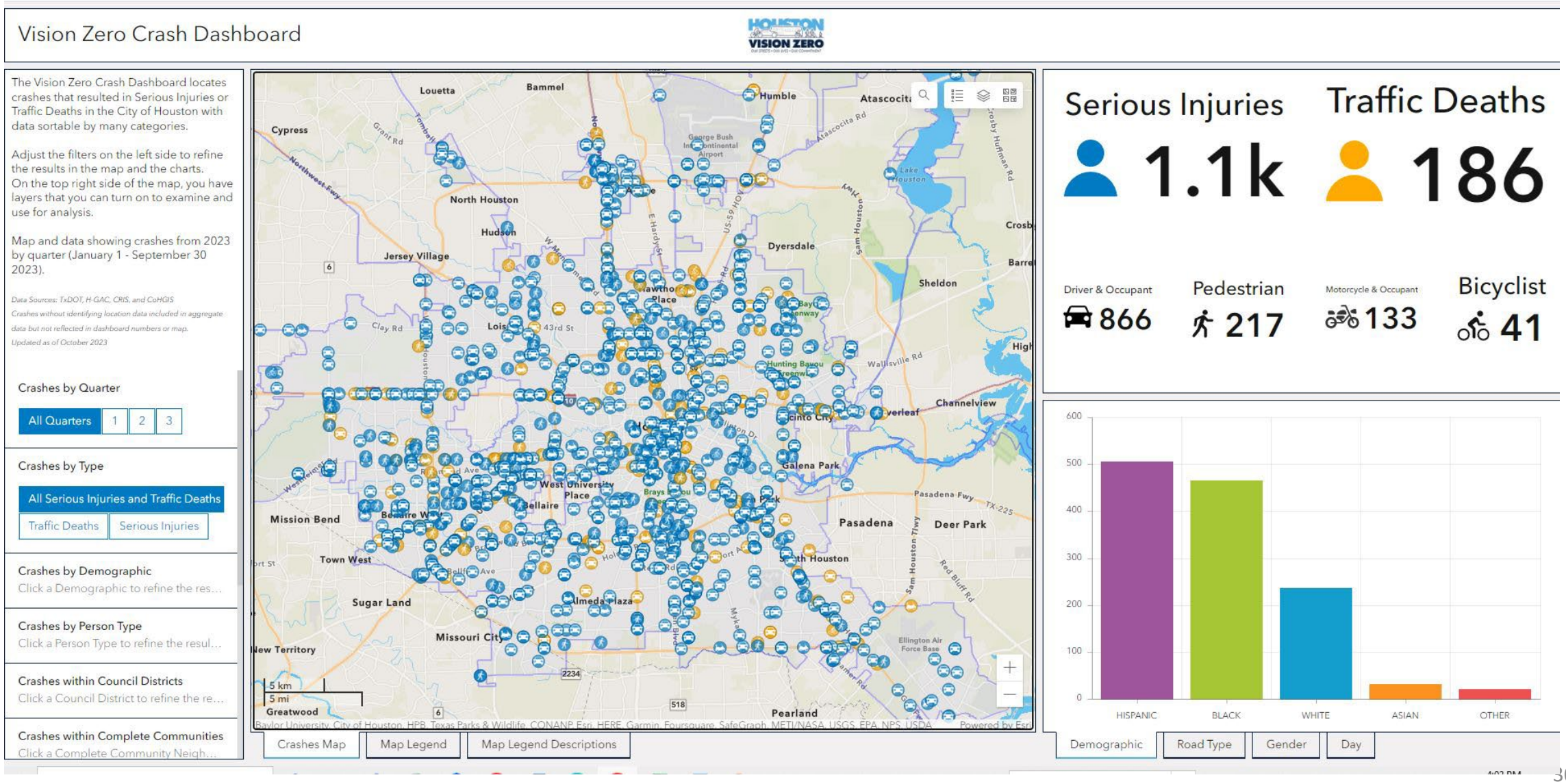
426 Miles

2018-2022 (HIN 2022)



596 Miles

Vision Zero Dashboard
Traffic Deaths & Serious Injuries Quarterly Data 2023



Actions as of December 2023

Safe Systems

- **Design Standards & MMLOS**
- **Walk audit tool**
- Fatality Review Board
- Citywide Freight Map

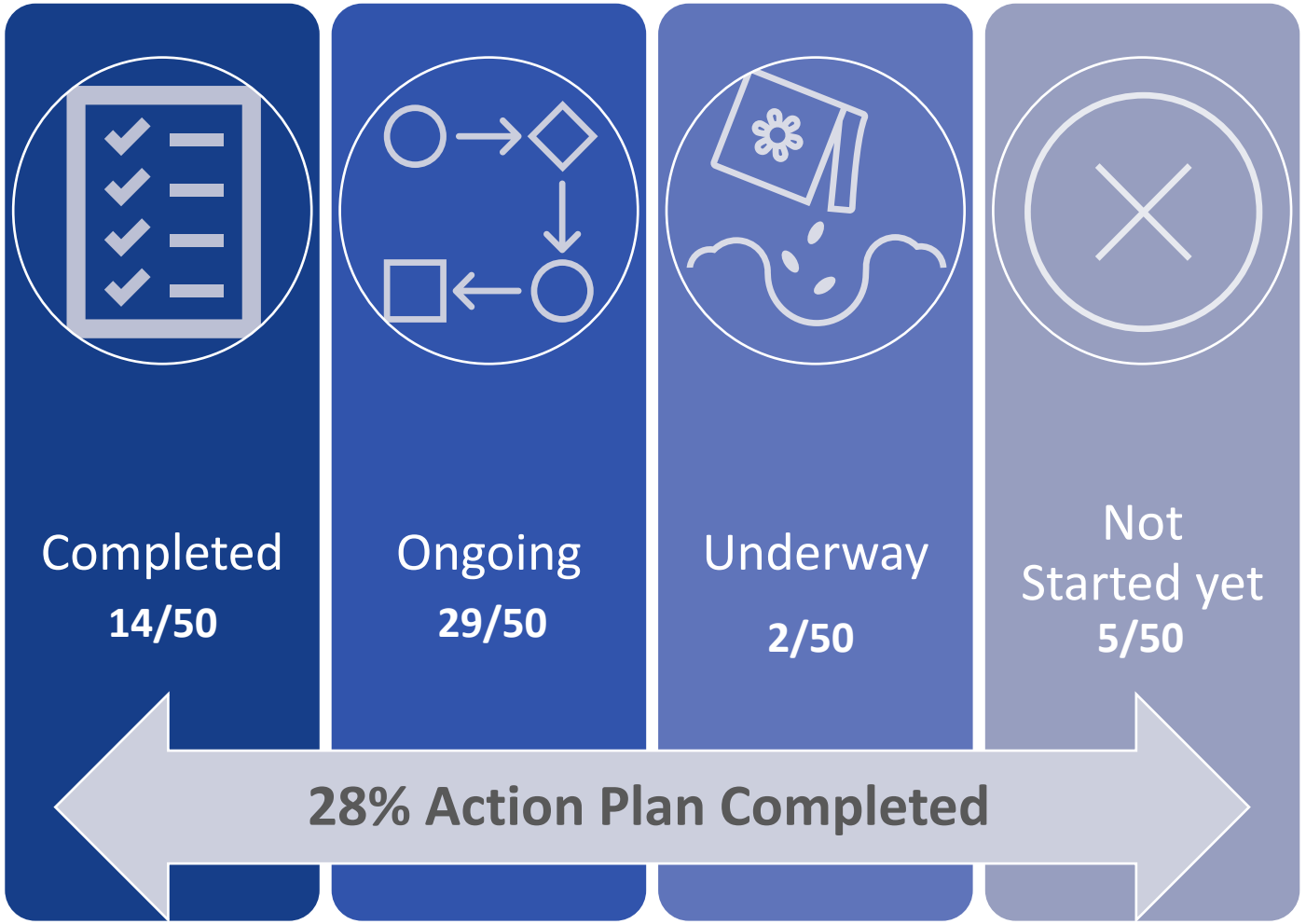
Safe Speeds

- Update Neighborhood Traffic Management Program/Slow Streets
- **Lobby for change to Statewide prima facie speed limit**
- Prioritize speed management in corridor design

Programming

- Redesign 10 HIN locations every 2 years and implement reconstruction within the following fiscal year
- 50 miles of new sidewalks each year; implement new in lieu fee
- Install at least 25 miles of high-comfort bicycle facilities

Vision Zero Actions Completed since 2020



THANK YOU!

Sofia Font
Vision Zero Coordinator

sofia.font@houstontx.gov
mobility.planning@houstontx.gov

Phone
(832) 393.6600

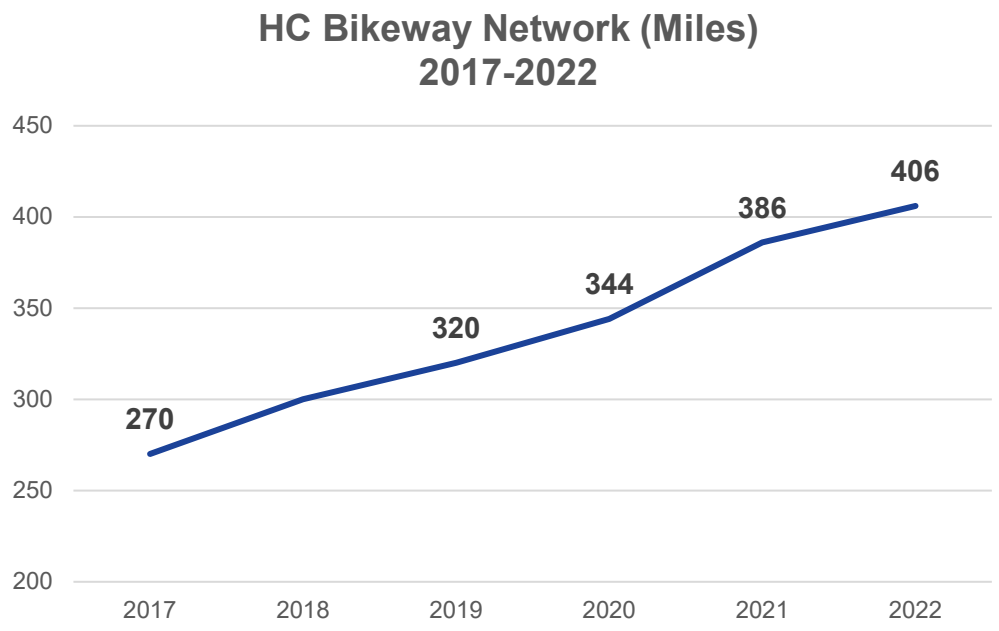
www.visionzerohouston.com

Future Bikeways Metrics and Data

Brian D. Smith, II
Planning & Development Department

Network Mileage

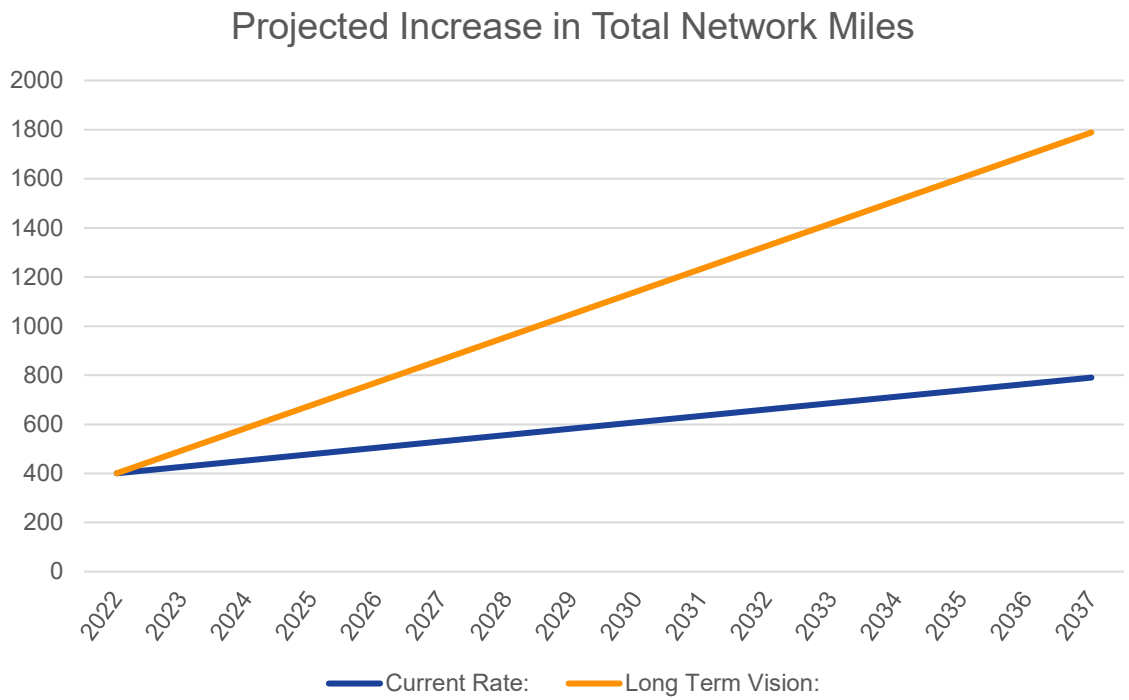
Since adoption of the Houston Bike Plan, Houston's high-comfort network has increased by **136 miles (50%)**



Year	Miles	Inc	% Inc
2017	270		
2018	*No Data*		
2019	320	50	19%
2020	344	24	8%
2021	386	42	12%
2022	406	20	5%
Total		**136**	**50%**

Projected Expansion

At its current rate, Houston's bicycle network is projected to grow to **500 miles by 2026**



- Current Growth: 26 mi/year
- Projected Mileage in 2037: 796

*To reach the Houston Bike Plan's Long-Term Vision (1,789 mi) by 2037, the network needs to grow by **92 mi/year.***

Goal: Improve Safety

Metric	2016	2018	2020	2022	Δ Since Last Report (2021)	Δ Since Bike Plan (2016)	Δ Average Per Year
# of bicycle-related crashes reported	417	397	320	391	+22% (+71)	-6% (-26)	-1% (-4.33)
# of bicycle-related fatalities (5-yr avg)	5.4	6.8	10.4	12.0	+15% (+1.6)	+122% (+6.6)	+20% (+1.1)
# of bicycle fatalities per 10,000 commuters	10.22	12.47	23.36	23.41	+0% (+0.05)	+129% (+13.19)	+22% +(2.20)
# of Bicycle Friendly Businesses	4	8	8	13	+63% (+5)	+225% (+9)	+38% (+1.5)
# of Bicycle Friendly Universities	0	1	1	1	+0% (+0)	+100% (+1)	+17% (+0.17)

Goal: Increase Access

Metric: Within distance of a high-comfort bicycle facility	2016	2018	2020	2022	%Δ Since Last Report (2021)	%Δ Since Bike Plan (2016)	%Δ Average Per Year
% jobs within 1/2 mile	46%	50%	72%	65%	-9%	+41%	+7%
% population within 1/2 mile	38%	44%	48%	52%	+8%	+37%	+6%
% minority population within 1/2 mile	32%	46%	47%	48%	+2%	+50%	+8%
% low-income population within 1/2 mile	32%	42%	61%	64%	+5%	+100%	+17%
% population with comfortable access (within 1/2 mile) to Bayou Greenways	21%	42%	44%	46%	+5%	+119%	+20%
% Transit Nodes (Transit Centers, Park & Rides, and light rail stations) within 1/4 mile	37%	51%	47%	49%	+4%	+32%	+5%
% schools and libraries within 1/4 mile	23%	28%	27%	26%	-4%	+13%	+2%
% community and multi-service centers within 1/4 mile	33%	39%	39%	39%	0%	+18%	+3%

Goal: Increase Ridership

Metric	2016	2018	2020	2022	Δ Since Last Report (2021)	Δ Since Bike Plan (2016)	Δ Average Per Year
Commute mode share	0.54%	0.53%	0.40%	0.30%	-25%	-44%	-7%
# of permanent count stations	2	4	4	4	0% (0)	+100% (+2)	+17% (+0.33)
# of bike boardings on METRO (annual)	262,649	283,019	187,514	174,736	-7% (-12,778)	-33% (-87,913)	-6% (-14,652)
# of BCycle checkouts (annual)	98,449	165,585	299,204	200,000	-33% (-99,204)	+103% (+101,551)	+17% (+16,925)
Annual city events that support increased ridership (Sunday Streets, Tour de Houston, BAC meetings, etc.)	11	29	22	16	-27% (-6)	+45% (+5)	+8% (+0.83)

Goal: Develop and Maintain Facilities

Metric	2016	2018	2020	2022	Δ Since Last Report (2021)	Δ Since Bike Plan (2016)	Δ Average Per Year
Miles of high-comfort bikeways per capita (10,000 people) (existing and programmed)	1.17	1.5	1.72	2.4	**+40% (+0.68)**	**+105% (+1.23)**	**+18% (+0.21)**
Population within 1/4 mile of a BCycle Station	27,900	100,179	208,897	212,369	**+2% (+3,472)**	**+661% (+184,469)**	**+110% (+30,745)**
Jobs within 1/4 mile of a BCycle station	115,600	417,294	439,668	415199	**-6% (-24,469)**	**+167% (+259,599)**	**+28% (+43,267)**
% of major transit nodes with secured bike parking	4%	4%	35%	TBD	**TBD**	**TBD**	**TBD**
Dedicated City staff (FTE) for bikeway program	1	5	*No data*	7.6	**-**	**+660% (+6.6)**	**+110% (+1.1)**

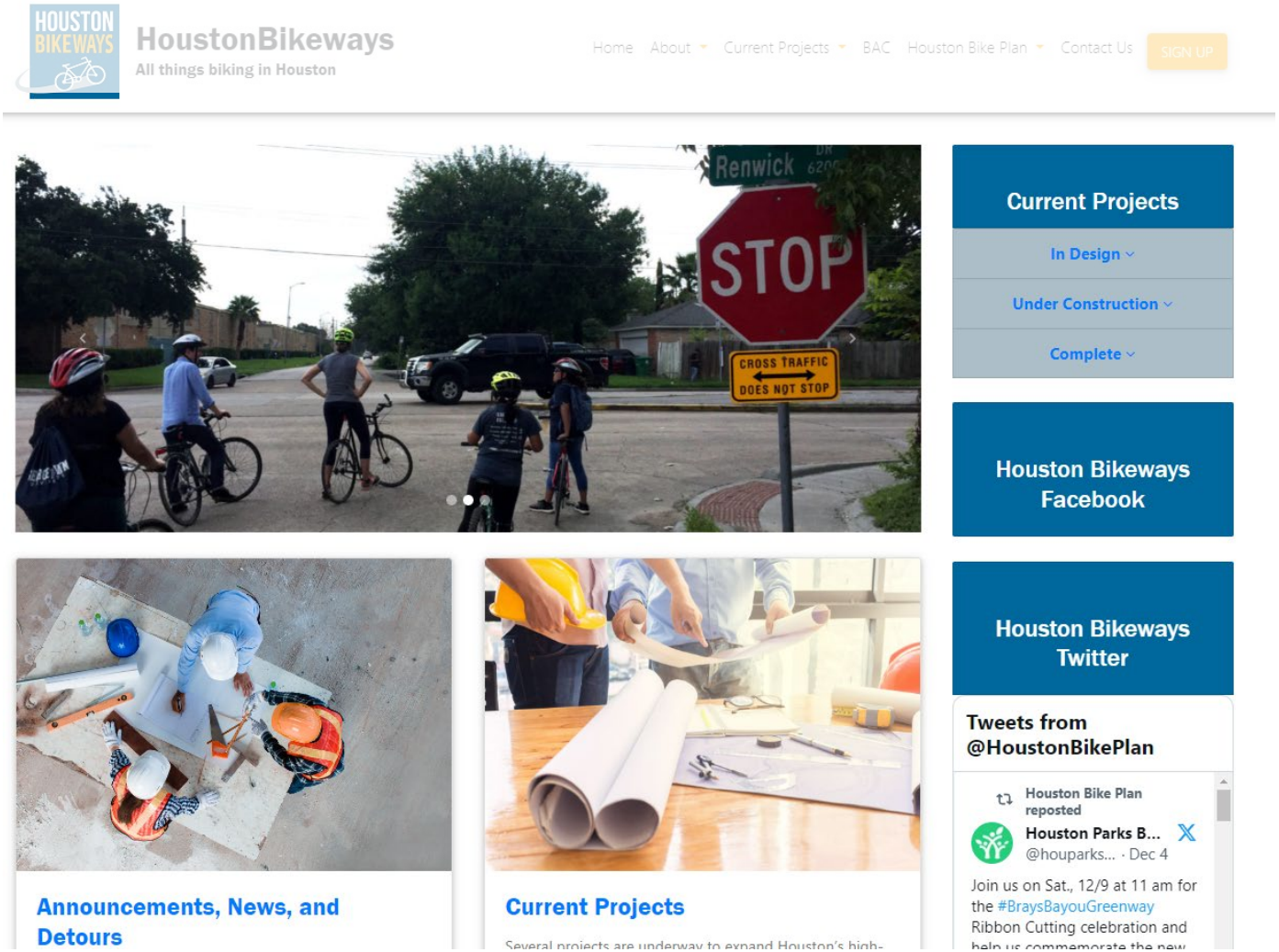
Future Metrics

Metric	*Notes/Staff Comments*
# of scheduled bikeways closures/detours	*Maintain as a routine tally, not for report*
# bike crashes: - by council district - on/off corridors with HC bicycle facilities - on TxDOT facilities	*Utilize VZ dashboard and reports for data*
Sweeper Usage	*Total number of miles swept* *Routine maintenance report (days out)* *# of times sweeper is deployed*
Bike Friendly Training	*Metric was tracked in previous reports, but we need a more accurate way of tracking trainings given and attendance*
Share of transportation budget spent on cycling	*$$$ spent on constructing bikeways (more/less than budgeted amount)* *Share of transportation budget spent on bikeways*
Bike Friendly Drivers Training (COH)	*Number of COH employees who complete training annually* ***(397 in 2023; produce quarterly)***
Bike counts	*Utilize H-GAC counters program*
Bikeway-related 311 calls	*Maintenance requests; requests to add facilities*

Discussion: Bike Plan Website

Brian D. Smith, II
Planning & Development Department

Updating the Website



We are making changes to the Houston Bike Plan website in 2024 and are asking the Education Subcommittee for feedback on what to update.

Ask: Provide content- and information-based recommendations. Some content may migrate to other sites (Let's Talk Houston, City of Houston website).

Agenda

1. ~~Director's Report~~
2. ~~Co-Chair's Report~~
3. ~~Public Comment~~
4. ~~Vision Zero Houston Update~~
5. ~~Discussion: Future Bikeways Metrics and Data~~
6. ~~Discussion: Bike Plan Website~~
7. Open Forum
8. Announcements

The public is invited to speak for up to two (2) minutes each at the beginning of the meeting.

Open Forum

Announcements

Next Meetings:

- Bicycle Advisory Committee: January 24, 2:30-4:30pm
- Infrastructure Subcommittee: February 28, 2:30-4:30pm
- Education Subcommittee: March 27, 2:30-4:30pm

Thank You

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

832-393-6600 | www.houston.tx.gov/planning