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, June 26, 2024. 2:00 – 4:00pm
John B. Raia Conference Room, 611 Walker St

Call-In Option: +1 936-755-1521 **Conference ID:** 989 949 623#

Microsoft Teams

For meeting documents, please visit our website

Comments received via email by 5:00pm May 21st will be read into the record during public comment.

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

Agenda

Discussion Regarding the Following Items:

1. Director's Report
2. Chair's Report
3. Public Comment
4. Chevron: Bike Friendly Business Best Practices
5. Vision Zero Houston Dashboard Demonstration
6. Bike Month Debrief/Discussion
7. Open Forum
8. Announcements/Events

City of Houston
BAC Education Subcommittee

June 26, 2024

Call to Order. BAC Chair Tom Compson began the meeting at 2:05pm.

Roll Call: (**bold** indicates present)
Leah Chambers, Chair
Tom Compson, BAC Chair
Carl B. Salazar
Joe Cutrufo
Ben Drews
Robin Holzer

Additional BAC Members Present:
Trevor Reichman
Mike VanDusen
Alejandro Perez, BAC Vice Chair

Ex-Officio Members:
Jennifer Ostlind, Planning & Development
Ian Hlavacek, Houston Public Works
Patricc Fortiori, Parks & Recreation

Item 1: Director's Report. Jennifer Ostlind gave the Director's Report.

Houston BCycle will shut down permanently at the end of the month. We are working with them to close operations and leading the move/salvaging of equipment. We're in contact with the BCycle brand parent organization to transfer equipment to other cities who use the same equipment.

The pause on Shepherd-Durham Phase II was removed and the plan is moving forward with the protected bike lanes intact. There were two negotiations for the plan moving forward: 1) narrowing the widened sidewalks and 2) not narrowing vehicle travel lanes.

The July BAC meeting will kick off the public comment period for the proposed naming of the Pat Walsh Bikeway. Staff will present the proposal, and there will be a 60-day notice period to gather public comments.

Item 2: Chair's Report. BAC Chair Tom Compson gave the Chair's Report.

Chair Compson gave a reminder about the book *Bike Battles: A History of Sharing the American Road* by James Longhurst, which discusses the history of bicycles on our roads, public opinion, and legislation.

Item 3: Public Comment.

No written comments were submitted prior to the meeting.

No spoken comments were received during the meeting.

Item 4: Bike Friendly Business Best Practices.

Roland Kennedy and Joy Roth of Chevron gave a presentation on Chevron's earning Silver Bike Friendly Business recognition from the Bike League and the company's best practices that contributed to fostering a bicycling community amongst its staff and leadership.

Item 5: Vision Zero Houston Dashboard.

Sofia Font, Transportation Planner/Vision Zero Coordinator, Planning & Development, gave a presentation on Vision Zero Houston's interactive crash dashboard and lead a demonstration on how to use it to find and refine crash data.

Item 6: Bike Month Debrief.

BAC members held a discussion on this year's Bike Month and ideas to carry forward into next year.

- October is another significant month for walk/bike activities, especially to school.
- Fall is a good time to recruit more bike commuters; May weather can disincentivize new bike riders.
- Staff will begin consolidating known October events to share with the group. The Education Subcommittee will restart Bike Month group to plan for the fall and look for opportunities to connect with HISD and schools.

Item 7: Open Forum.

No topics during Open Forum.

Item 8: Announcements and Events.

Upcoming Events

City of Houston
BAC Education Subcommittee

- 7/10, James Bute Park/Historic Frost Town Master Planning Session, Frost Town Brewing, 100 N Jackson St, 6-8pm
- Opportunities to volunteer at iCanBike Houston all July [Website]

Next Meetings
- Bicycle Advisory Committee: July 24
- Infrastructure Subcommittee: August 22
- Education Subcommittee: September 26

Adjournment. Meeting Adjourned at 4:12pm.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Education Subcommittee

June 26, 2024

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

Leah Chambers, Chair

Tom Compson, BAC Chair

Carl B. Salazar

Joe Cutrufo

Lisa Graiff

Ben Drews

Robin Holzer

Ex-Officio Members

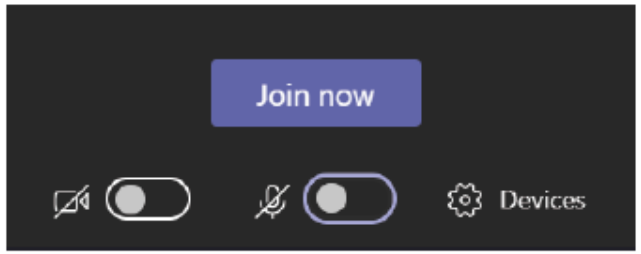
Ian Hlavacek

Monique Johnson

Patricc Fortiori

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. Chair's Report
3. Public Comment
4. Chevron: Bike Friendly Business Best Practices
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Director's Report

Jennifer Ostlind, AICP
Interim Director
Planning & Development

Chair's Report

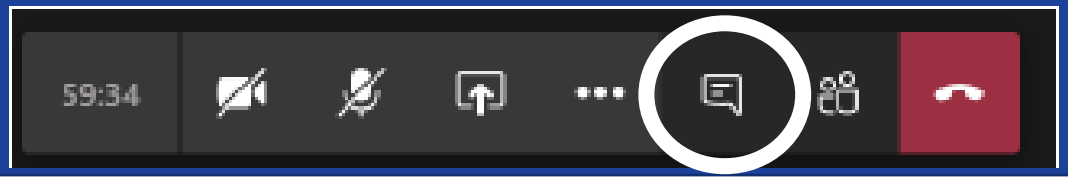
Tom Compson
Community Advocate
Chair, BAC

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 989 949 623# Press ***6** to unmute when called upon by the Chair

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



Bike Friendly Business Best Practices

Roland Kennedy and Joy Roth
Chevron

the human energy company™

Chevron

Houston’s largest bicycle friendly business

26 June 2024



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Chevron’s Human Energy Commuting Journey

Where we started

- Moved downtown in 2005 with no programs for bicycle commuters (though full subsidy for Metro use)
- Secure bike storage later installed at request of bike commuters
- Subsidized gym membership for all employees enables bike commuting
- Employee-led group established to promote better conditions and more bike commuters



Where we’ve come

- Largest silver-award bike-friendly business in all of Texas
- Increase in riders/decrease in cars
- Reinforced benefit of downtown location and living in Houston
- Increase in employee health and satisfaction
- Ongoing programming to encourage more bike commuters

How can sharing details of our journey help other business and organizations become more bike friendly and reap similar benefits?

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bike commuting benefits companies

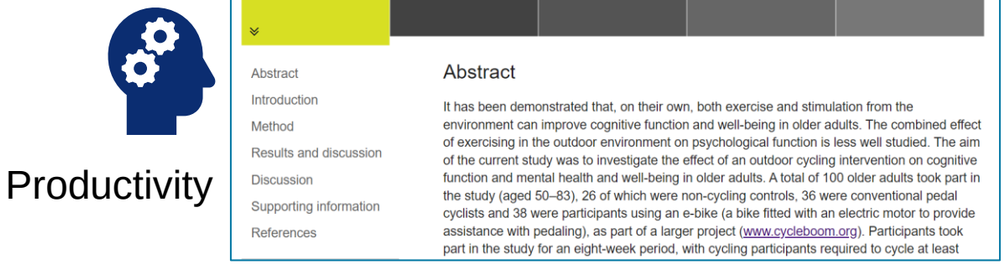
Journal of Transport & Health
Volume 22, September 2021, 101111

Quantifying the health and economic benefits of active commuting in scotland

Graham Baker [a], Rebecca Pillinger [a 1], Paul Kelly [a], Bruce Whyte [b]

Health

Productivity



The effect of cycling on cognitive function and well-being in older adults

Louise-Ann Leyland, Ben Spencer, Nick Beale, Tim Jones, Carien M. van Reekum

Published: February 20, 2019 • https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0211779

Article | Authors | Metrics | Comments | Media Coverage

Abstract
Introduction
Method
Results and discussion
Discussion
Supporting information
References

Abstract

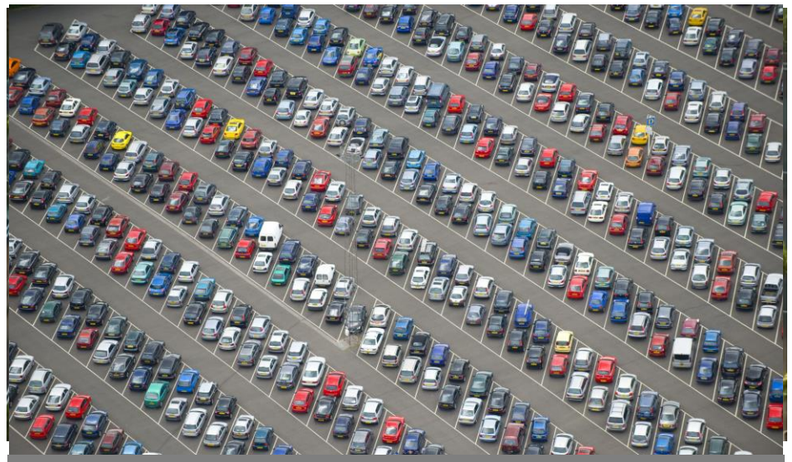
It has been demonstrated that, on their own, both exercise and stimulation from the environment can improve cognitive function and well-being in older adults. The combined effect of exercising in the outdoor environment on psychological function is less well studied. The aim of the current study was to investigate the effect of an outdoor cycling intervention on cognitive function and mental health and well-being in older adults. A total of 100 older adults took part in the study (aged 50–83), 26 of which were non-cycling controls, 36 were conventional pedal cyclists and 38 were participants using an e-bike (a bike fitted with an electric motor to provide assistance with pedaling), as part of a larger project (www.cycleboom.org). Participants took part in the study for an eight-week period, with cycling participants required to cycle at least

Increases employee engagement



Experience

Lower Cost



Reduces cost of subsidized parking

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big business is bullish on bikes

- Don’t just think bike shops and non-profits are the only bicycle friendly businesses

Business	level	BFB since	# employees	city
Meta HA	Platinum	2012	27,000	Menlo Park
LinkedIn	Platinum	2014	38,000	Sunnyvale
Target Corporation	Platinum	2014	10,000	Minneapolis
Walmart Stores Inc	Gold	2015	23,000	Bentonville
3M	Gold	2014	10,000	St. Paul
Travelers Insurance	Silver	2015	6,800	Hartford
Texas Instruments	Silver	2013	6,500	Dallas

What is possible?

- To compete with tech companies, Walmart’s initiative* targets increasing “low carbon” commuting by factor of 10
  - formalized process
  - dedicated staff
  - adjusted infrastructure
  - influenced safe bikeway construction
  - scaled down parking facilities

* https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-03-27/walmart-employees-encouraged-to-commute-without-a-car



Bloomberg US Edition

Live Now Markets Economics Industries Tech AI Politics Wealth Pursuits Opinion Businessweek

Green | Next Jobs

Walmart Is Changing the Way Its Employees Get to Work

The company’s new director of workplace mobility is trying to get 10% of its Bentonville, Arkansas, workforce on bikes, scooters and in carpools.

Kourtney Barrett, director of workplace mobility for Walmart, in Bentonville, Arkansas. *Photographer: Terra Fondriest/Bloomberg*

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ridership growth from internal and external factors

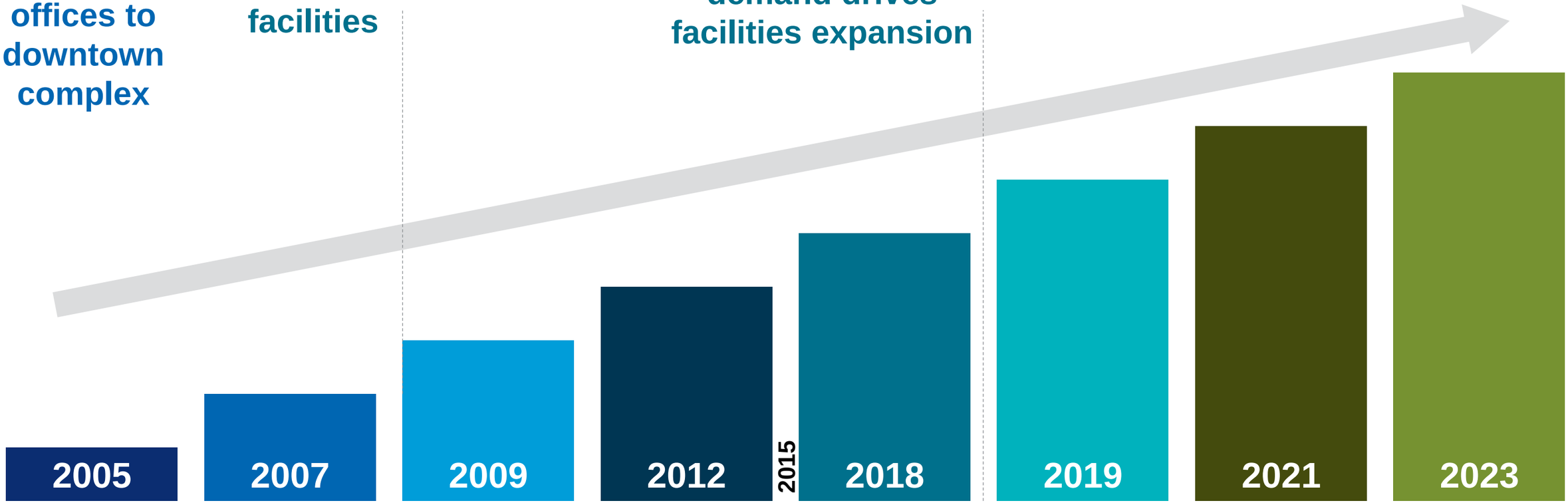
consolidate multiple suburban offices to downtown complex

focus on facilities

city infrastructure increases ridership

demand drives facilities expansion

engage workforce with education, encouragement, and evaluation



2005 — CVX to 1500 Louisiana; 8 bike lockers

2007 — CVX adds 1400 Smith and on-site showers

2009 — bike lanes added in Heights, 1st Ward, 3rd Ward

2012 — CVX adds secure bike cage

2015 — Lamar

2018 — White Oak to Buffalo Bayou connection

2019 — 1st CVX Bike to Work Day; 2nd bike cage

2021 — Downtown connected from bayou to Midtown & Polk/ EaDo

2023 — Establish CVX Human Energy Commuting council

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components of a bicycle friendly business

Engineering

Secure bike parking

On site showers and lockers

bike repair supplies

Proximity to bike lanes

Encouragement

Bike buddy program

Bike month activities

Reduced health insurance premiums

Event participation safety prizes



Engagement / Equity

Include with new hire/info package

piggyback with internal interest groups and events

Volunteering in community

Represent safety concerns/deltas with COH

Share lessons learned/best practices with other external entities

Bike commuting is for everyone

Education & Evaluation

Commute safety and logistics Q&A panel sessions

Bike facilities tours

Bike fairs

Repair workshops

Survey to understand existing and potential riders

Set goals for commuting (e.g. participation, rides replaced)

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Chevron

human energy•

Engineering

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Multiple location to park bicycles



parking flyer provided at kiosk

- Two bike cages requiring SmartBadge access inside the Chevron garage (~80 spaces) and 8 individually-assigned bike lockers. Enter either on Bell St or Clay St just east of Smith
- Bike racks outside the 1400 Smith St building on Ruthven St (~18-30 spaces) & Andrews St (~5 spaces)
- Additional undercover bike parking in the 1600 Smith Garage on the corner of Andrews & Ruthven streets (~40 spaces total)
- Or utilize b-cycle, Houston bike share

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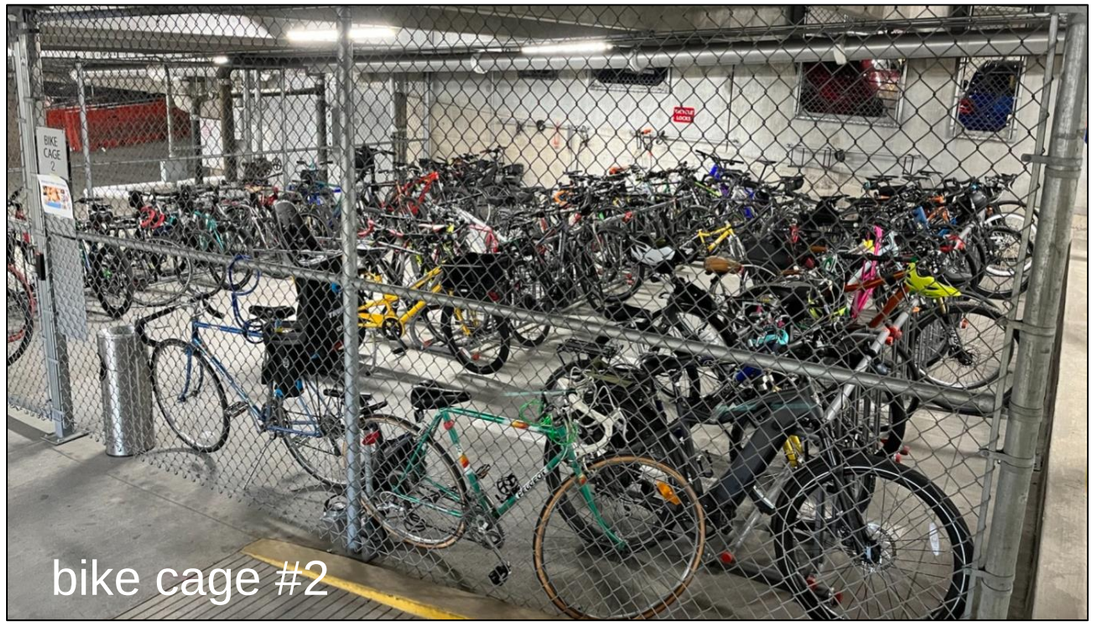
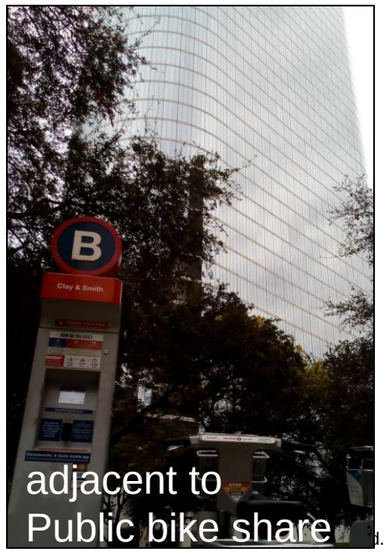
variety of bike storage options



bike cage #2



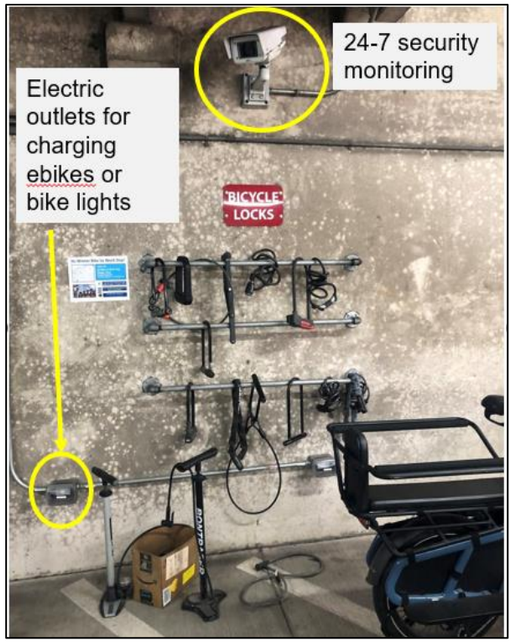
adjacent to Public bike share

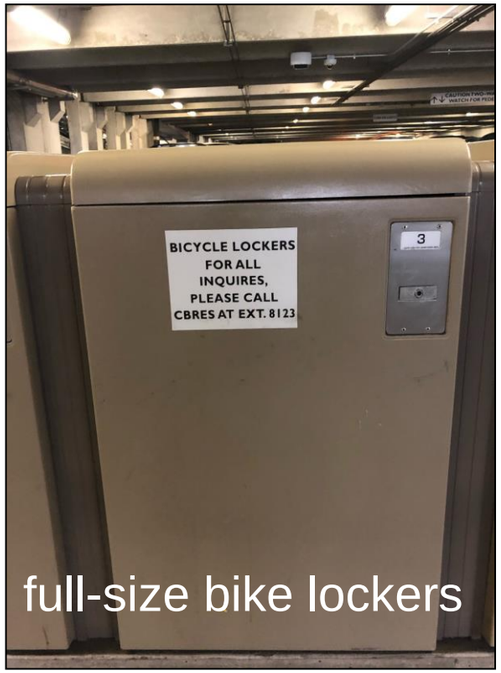




signage for safety


second building exterior





full-size bike lockers

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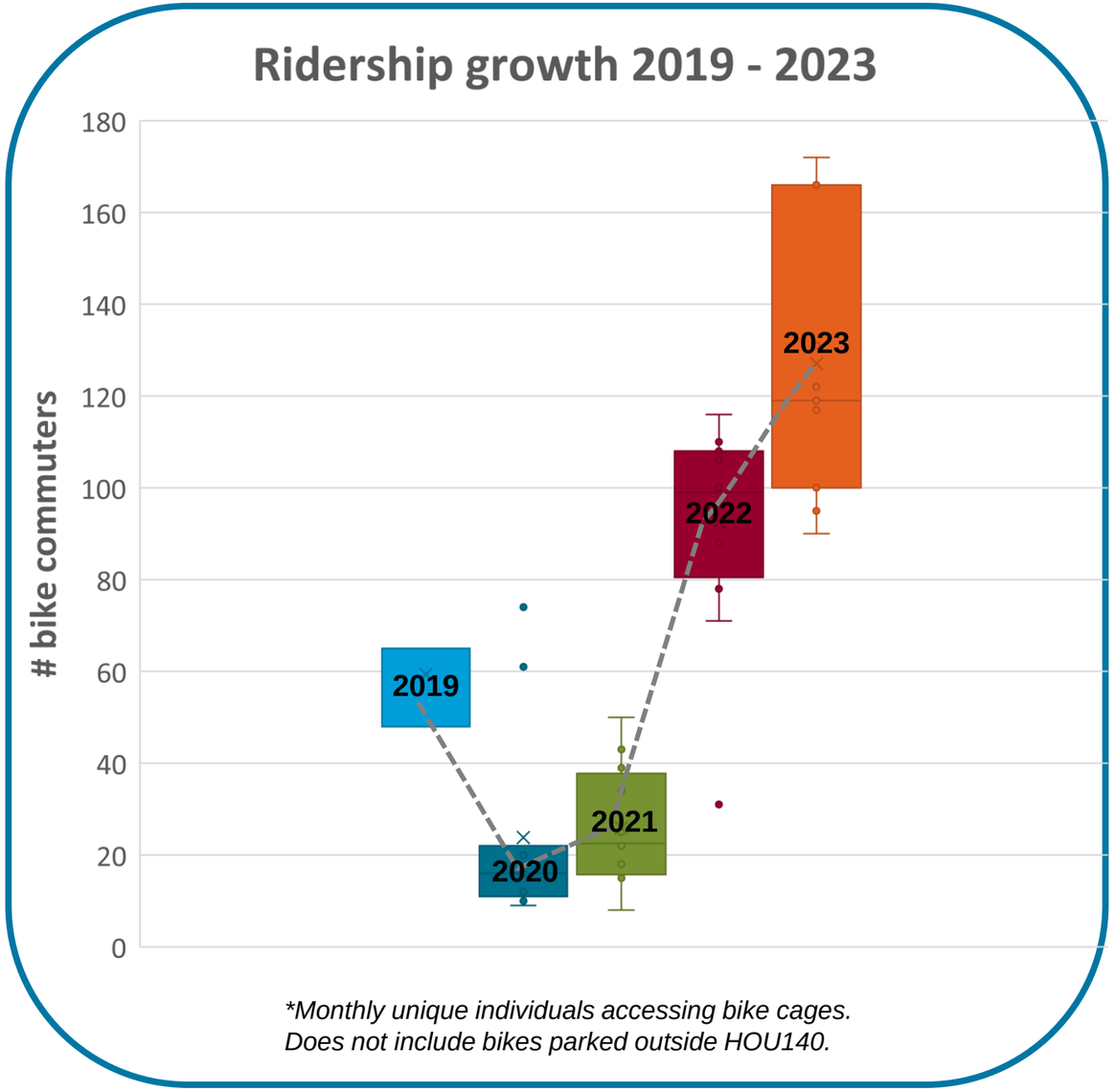
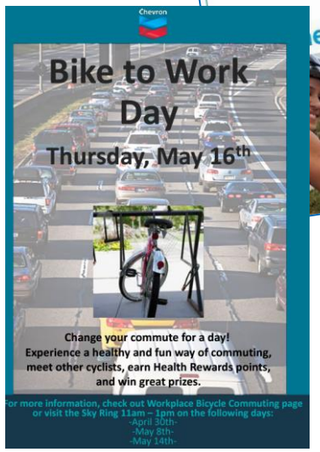
>doubled participation - grassroots effort with help from department contacts

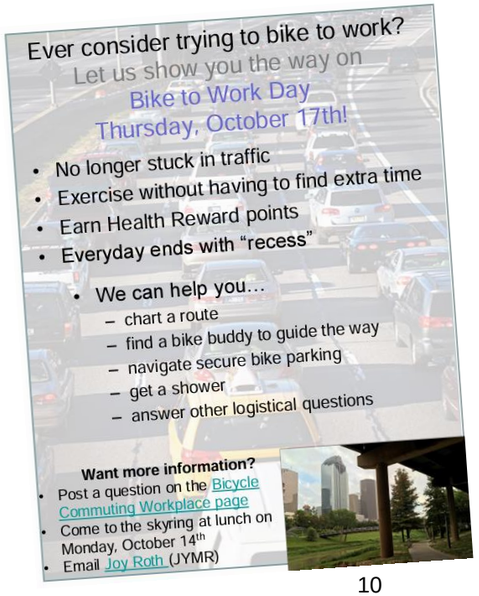


**Monthly unique individuals accessing bike cages.*
Does not include bikes parked outside HOU140.









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Encouragement & Education

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three campaigns per year

January – New Year, New Commute

New Year, New Commute Events

Thursday, January 25th is Chevron Bike-to-Work Day!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
14	15	16	17 Table in 1500 **skyring** **(11 - 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan	18 Table in 1500 **skyring** **(11 - 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan. **Facilities tour @noon** • Walk route from bayou to CVX • Tour bike cages & locker rooms	19	20
21	22 **Virtual** - Teams Q&A on how to make bike commuting work **(noon to 12:30 pm)** Get answers about logistics, routes, safety concerns, etc.	23 **Bike Maintenance** in the Mezzanine **(11:30 to 12:15)** • Tube changing demo and practice	24 Table in 1500 **skyring** **(11 to 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan • Mezzanine bike maintenance **Facilities tour @noon** • Walk route from bayou to CVX • Tour bike cages & locker rooms	25 **Bike to Work Day** Enter drawing for prizes by bringing your helmet to the skyring **at 11:30am** - Bike to **HAPPY HOUR Frost Town** **(rain date February 1st)**	26	27
28 Group ride @8:30am Meet on Sabine Street bridge close to the office (rain date Feb 4th)	29	30	31	01 BTWD rain date	02	03

May – National Bike Month

Chevron Bike Month Events

Wednesday, May 17th is Chevron Bike to Work Day!

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
01 **Virtual** -Teams Q&A on how to make bike commuting work **(12 to 12:30)** Get answers about logistics, routes, safety concerns, etc.	02 Table in 1500 skyring **(11 to 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan.	03 Table in 1500 skyring **(11 to 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan.	04 Table in 1500 skyring **(11 to 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan. - Bike to **HAPPY HOUR (TBD)**	05
08 **Virtual** -Teams Q&A on how to make bike commuting work **(12 to 12:30)** Get answers about logistics, routes, safety concerns, etc.	09 Table in 1500 skyring **(11 to 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan.	10 Table in 1500 skyring **(11 to 12:30)** • **Walk route from bayou to CVX @ noon** • **Tour bike cages & locker rooms** - Bike to **HAPPY HOUR** (Boheme)	11 **BIKE FAIR in mezzanine (11 to 1 pm)** • Houston Metro bus bike rack demo • How to change a tube demo • **Tour cages, lockers, and bayou @ noon**	12
15 **Virtual** - Teams Q&A on how to make bike commuting work **(3 to 3:30 pm)** Get answers about logistics, routes, safety concerns, etc.	16 Table in 1500 skyring **(11 to 12:30)** • Info share • Find a bike buddy or caravan.	17 **Chevron Bike to Work Day** Enter drawing for prizes by bringing your helmet to the skyring **at 11am** – meet in front of the HOU150 auditorium. - Bike to **HAPPY HOUR (TBD)**	18	19 and Saturday 20 Volunteer event (9am to noon) @ Freewheels Houston Prepare bikes and distribute to refugees and veterans emerging from homelessness
22	23	24	25	26 City of Houston – Bike to Work Day - Ride from EaDo Bike Co to City Hall 7:30 am https://houstonbikeplan.org/btw d2023
29	30	31	01	02

October – Cooler Commute

week of October 2nd

the human energy company commuting

Cooler Commute is Coming!

Join for one of the upcoming events to help get you on the road to healthier, less expensive, lower carbon commuting.



Virtual commute logistics Q&A session
Monday, 11:30-12:15 (Teams)

tire / tube changing demo & workshop
Tuesday, 11:45am mezzanine





facilities tour:
bike cages, building-to-bayou connector, showers
Wednesday, 11:30 (meet in in Skyring)

Bike to Work Day
free showers
Happy Hour at McIntyres
4:30pm departure



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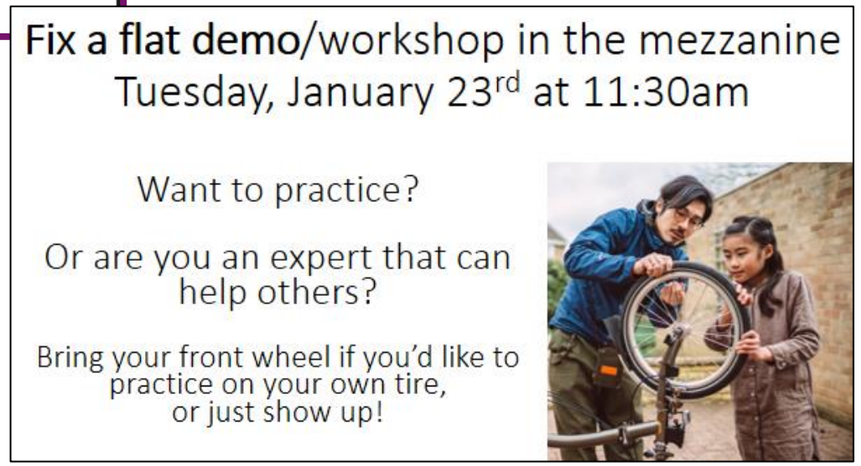
and proprietary information and is not to be distributed or disclosed to others with

encouragement and education of future riders











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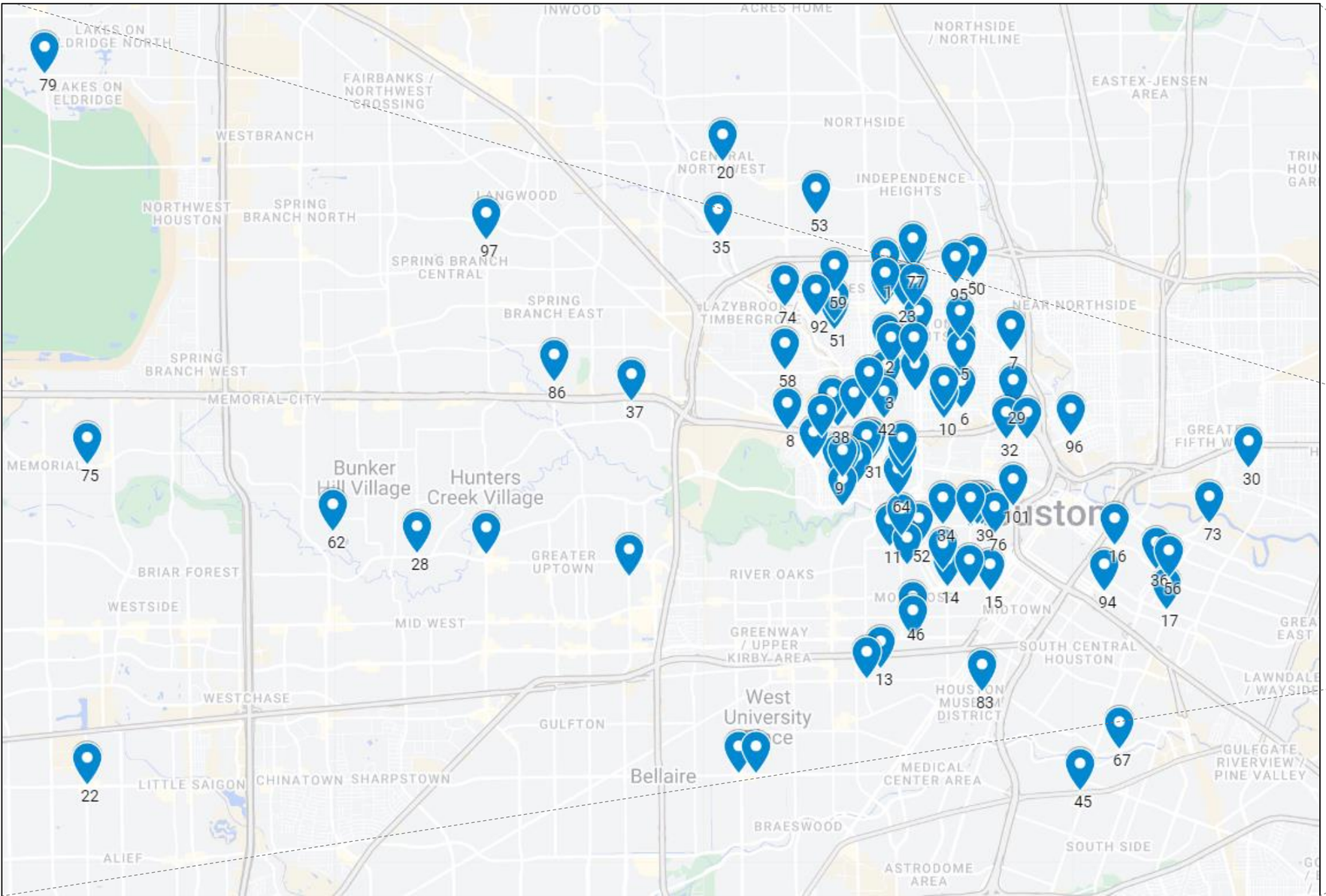
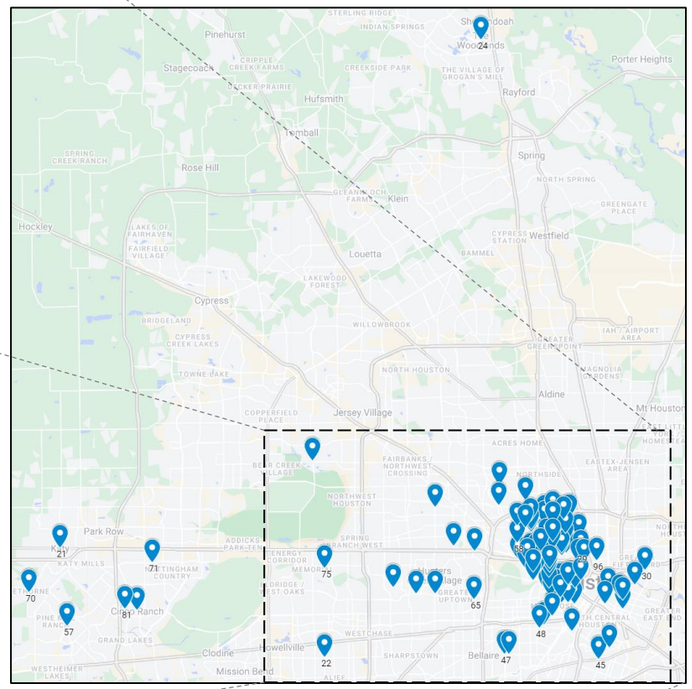
Bike buddy interactive map

linking potential riders with experienced colleagues





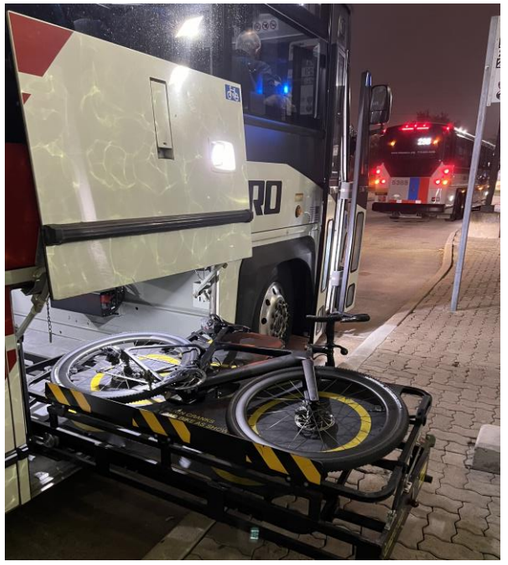


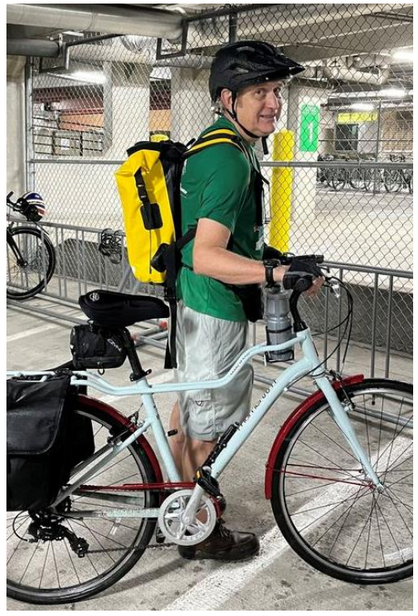
Diversity in demographics, geography, commute mode, et cetera



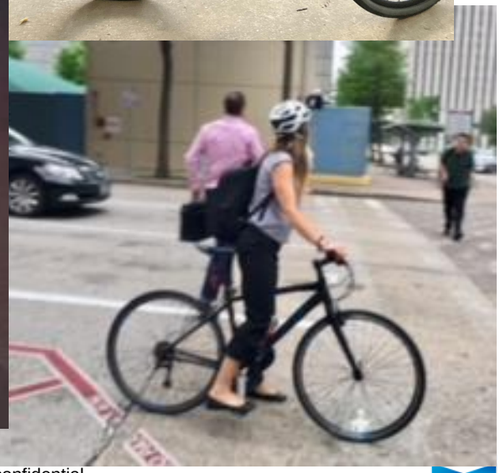
















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Company publication features

healthy heart, healthy you



biking to work

A simple way to squeeze in physical activity and boost your emotional well-being.

Commuting to and from work is a daily necessity for those with in-office jobs. Why not make the most of that time by doing something healthy during your commute? Biking to work is an option for those who live near their work locations and/or who can find trails that provide a safe route. Joy Roth, a Chevron employee who works in downtown Houston and lives about five miles away in the Heights neighborhood, has made a habit of biking to work. "In the morning I arrive energized, and leaving at the end of the day feels like recess," she said.

Joy shared that she enjoys biking to work because it means not having to sit at traffic lights. Plus, it is a guaranteed time to exercise, gather her thoughts and take in nature.

'In the morning I arrive energized, ... and leaving at the end of the day feels like recess.'

The time also serves as family bonding time for her and her daughter whose elementary school is on the route to work. The pair use a bike and bike trailer to ride together for the parts of the route that are overlapping. Overall, biking to work helps Joy take

health coaching

Not sure if coaching is right for you? Read what one participant had to say about his experience. "I've always found their comments to be very comforting."

'If anyone hasn't tried the WebMD coaching program before, I suggest you give it a try. It's something very worthwhile.'

For more information on how you too can begin a healthy lifestyle, log in to the **Healthy Heart** program and take your health questionnaire. If eligible for **Healthy Heart**, you can also begin your journey with a health coach and get help with the health issues that matter most to you. Register for **Healthy Heart** today and call: 1-888-321-1544 (from inside the U.S.) 925-842-8346 (from outside U.S.) to get connected with a coach.

Health coaching is available to you if you are a U.S.-payroll employee and you are eligible for Chevron's health plans. Health coaching is also available to your eligible spouse or domestic partner. Eligible child or other dependents age 18 years and older cannot use telephonic coaching, but all other program tools

houston bike commuting duo vivek and sofie patel cycle together to work and daycare.



In Houston, many bike commuters have an easy commute on new bikeways put up throughout the city. Commuters at greater distances get creative when they're motivated. Pete Clark regularly bikes to catch the Woodlands Express bus before his hour-long bus commute. Dave Barrow sometimes takes his bike on the bus from Katy and then bikes home 27 miles, which takes roughly two and a half hours. There are six employees who drop off their kids using their bikes as part of their bike commutes. Four of those bike with their children to the onsite childcare facility in downtown Houston.

Our new London office also has a vibrant Bike to Work group. In May, the Pride network sponsored its first NipNip Workplace Cycle Bike Surgery in the office. This was a great way to kick off the summer for both regular cyclists and those who wanted to dust off their bikes and get back in the saddle. Bikes were serviced, connections were made and everyone went home safer and happier. In August, the London office introduced the Cycle to Work + program, which provides tax-protected purchase options for bikes and accessories. Learn more about this program here.

The Bike Surgery and Cycle to Work + program is part of the London office's efforts to support the workforce in making health and wellness and improving work-life balance priorities.

Our biking community is proud to choose biking as their preferred mode of transportation. It's their way of demonstrating their personal commitment to being part of the energy transition discussion while improving their own well-being.



Houston bike commuter, Mark Stehouwer, gets creative during his commute.



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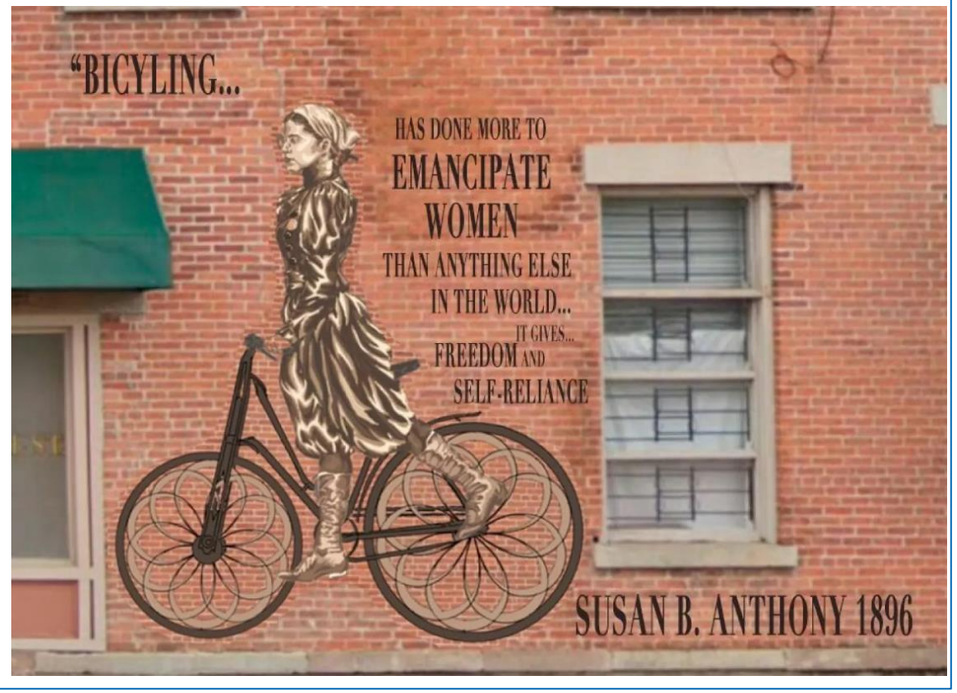
Equity – partnership with DEI/ “Affinity” networks

- Black Employee Network Leadership Forum – mini health fair (August 2023)





- "Women on Wheels: Freedom of movement in the movement for freedom!“ (March 2024)
- Join us in an informal panel discussion to highlight the role of the bicycle in the women’s freedom movement, and how it plays a role in our lives today. This is a co-sponsored event of the Houston Women’s Employee Network (HWEN) and Human Energy Commuting (bike commuter) group, to inspire, empower, and acknowledge the history and impact that many women make in their own journeys. This event is open to all, regardless of bike ownership status.



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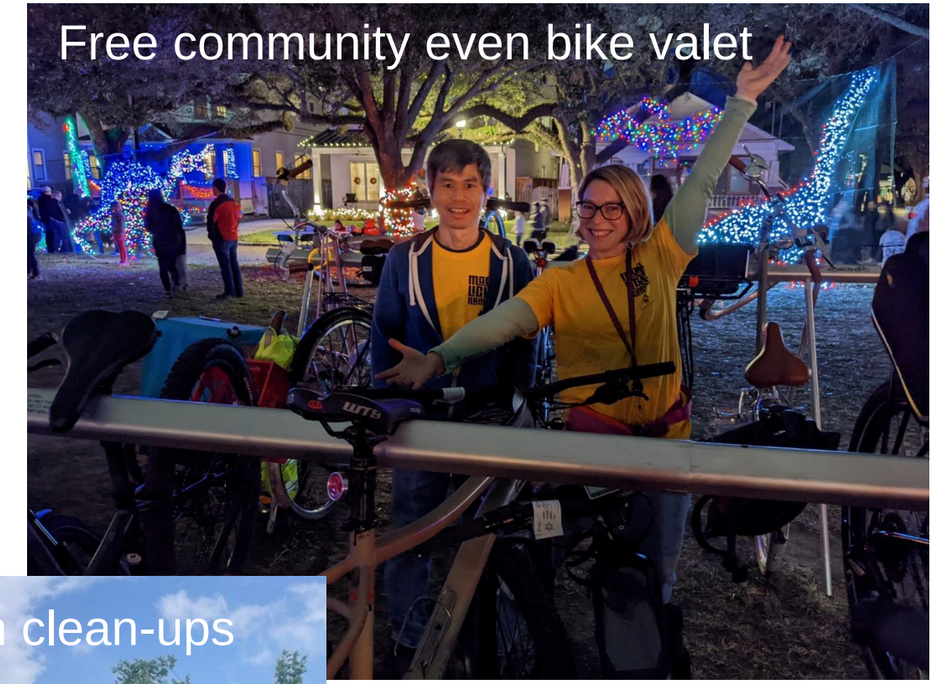
community engagement as individuals







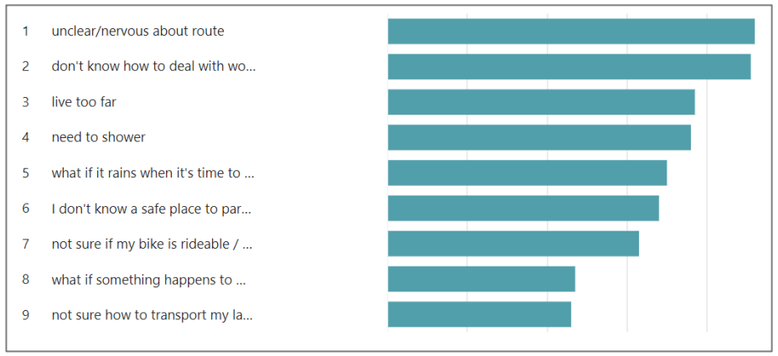




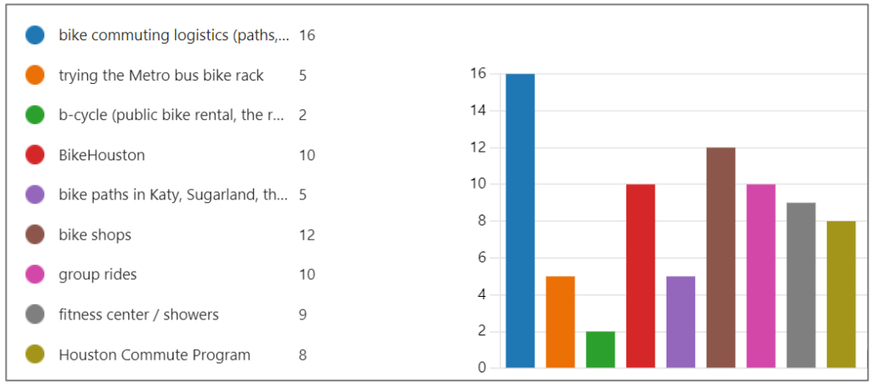


Evaluation and Planning - Annual surveys

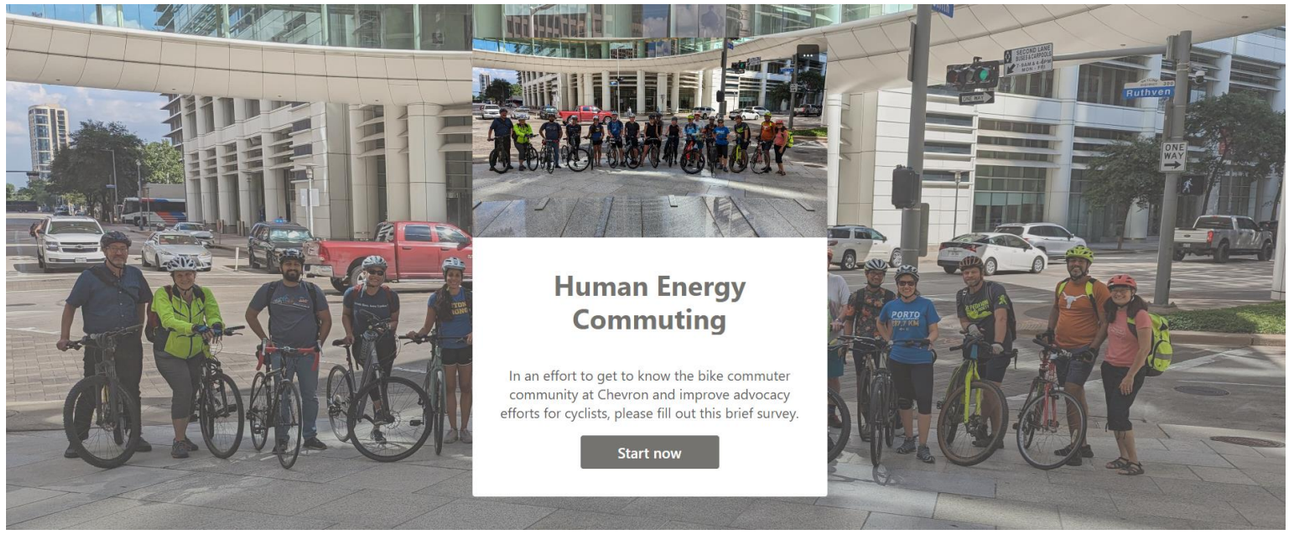
- Understand roadblocks to greater participation and consistency



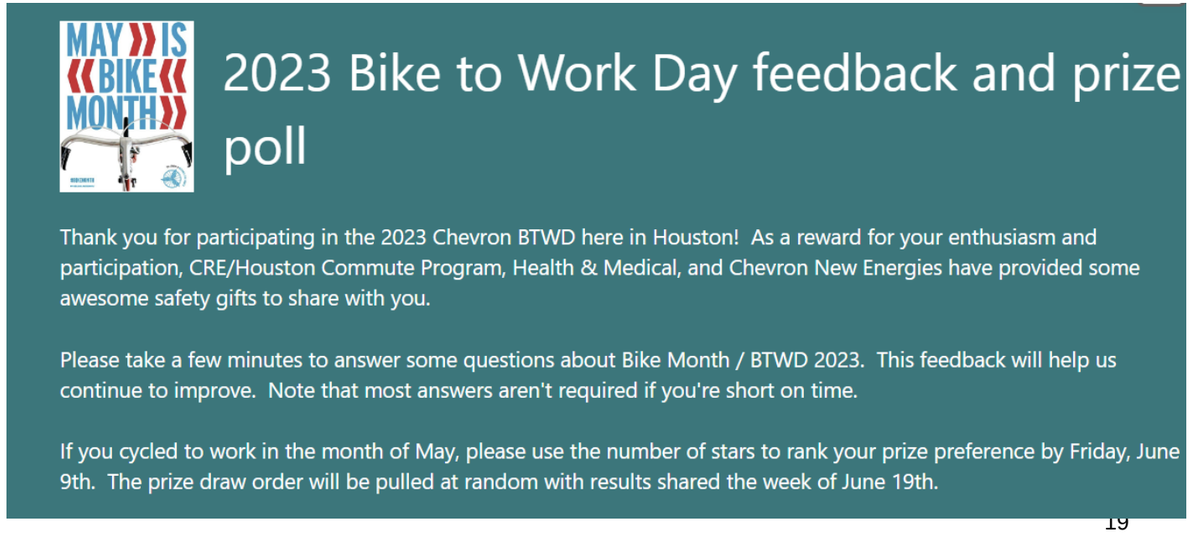
- What do people want to learn about at ?



2024



2023



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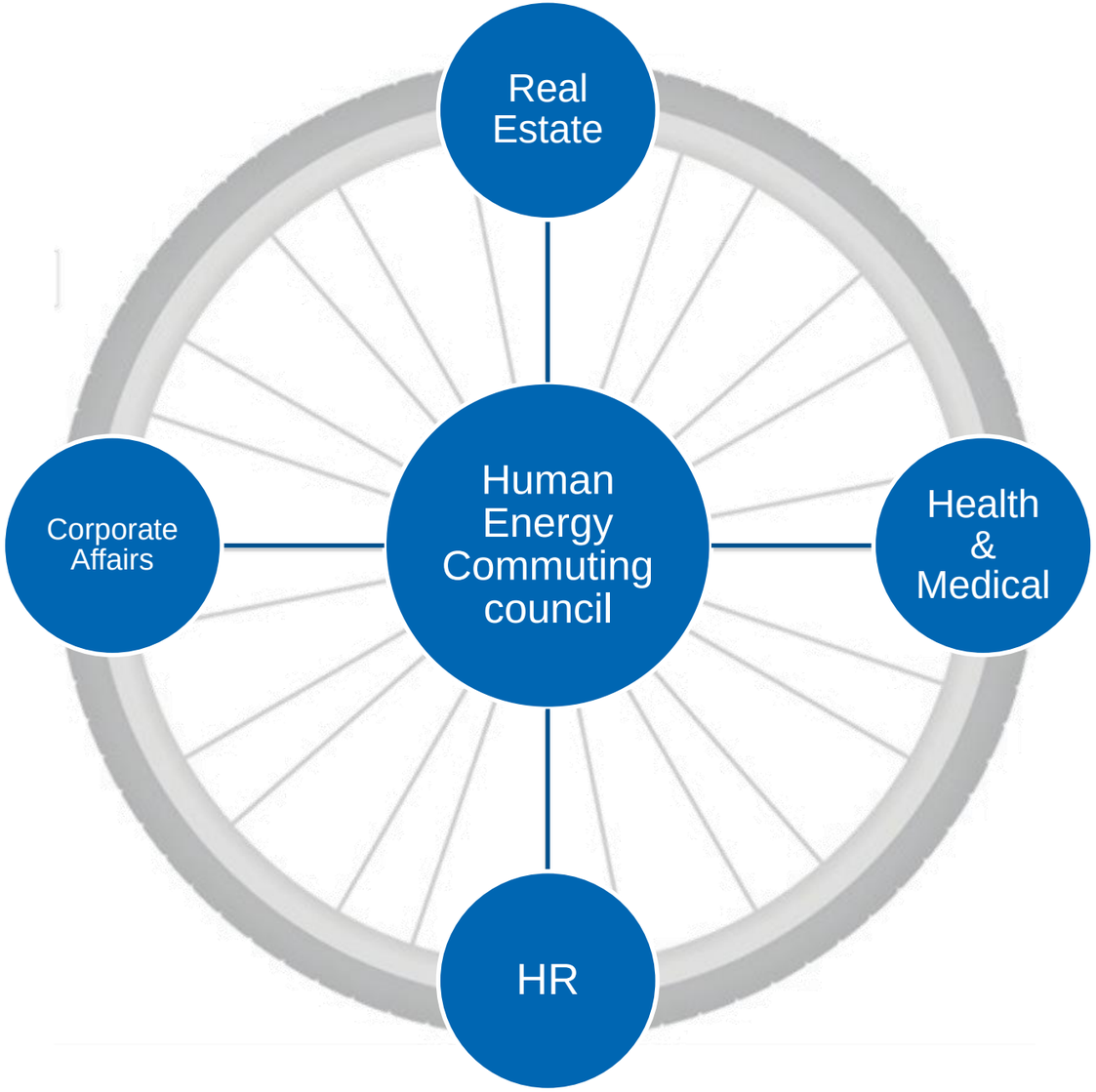
Establish multi-departmental commuting council

Mission Promote and enable bicycle commuting (and alternative transportation) for the benefit of health and wellness of employees, the environment, and the communities in which we operate.

Powered by the Pedal Posse Bike commuter community volunteers with roles roughly aligned with requirements of the League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB℠) program

Link entities for focused effort



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Chevron
human energy

Jeff Gustavson

President - Chevron New Energies

As the bike commuter group at Chevron has grown, Jeff volunteered to be our Human Energy Commuting Executive Sponsor at Chevron and is also a long-time bike commuter himself. As the President of Chevron New Energies, he reports to Mike Wirth, CEO of Chevron which is number 10 on the Fortune 500 list. Jeff is a proud sponsor of active commuting and regularly joins us for bike happy hours.



Source: New tech, partnerships touted at CERAWeek —Chevron
Chevron Launches 'New Energies' Unit Led by Former US Shale Head | Hart Energy

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Chevron’s Bicycle Friendly Business Journey

- Growth was initially driven by employee need
- Feedback loop with company’s commitment and alignment with vision and values
- Dovetailing of area infrastructure improvements and increased participation
- Company realizes multiple benefits to the business
- Reinforced benefit of downtown location and living in Houston
- Ongoing programming to encourage bike commuting grown within Chevron and together with other Houstonians

How can sharing details of our journey help other Houston entities become more bike friendly, reap similar benefits, support their people, and support the city?



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Chevron Fellows & Bike Commuters

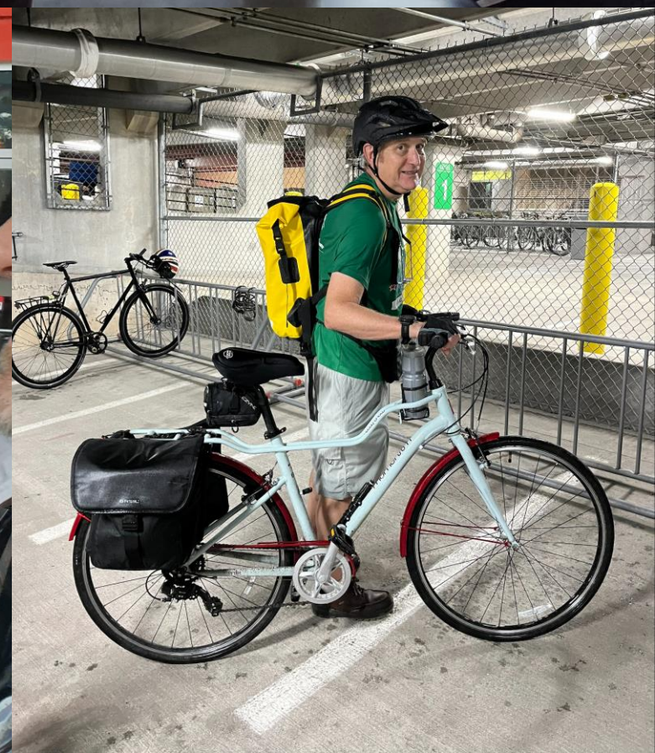
At Chevron, a Fellow designation is Chevron's highest recognition for excellence in technology. These individuals have shown themselves to be innovative developers and deployers of technical solutions. There are currently 27 active fellows at Chevron and of those, 5 are regular bike commuters:

- Peter Clark
- Dr. Kenneth Ehman
- Dr. Alex Loddoch
- Dr. Boqin Sun
- Dr. Eric Upchurch

An honor to have such distinguished individuals as part of our bike commuter group!







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Chris Martin

Anchor Server Support

Chris Martin joined the bike commuter community in October 2021. Chris lives outside the Beltway and used to drive 15 minutes to the Park and Ride lot. He now bikes 10 minutes to a stop closer in and brings his bike on the Metro utilizing the bike beds under the Park and Ride bus or on front if using a city bus.

He cuts time off his total commute and has a much more pleasant start and end to the day. If you have questions about how to load a bike on a bus, stop by the Tech Café and ask Chris.



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Boqin Sun

Petrophysics Research Consultant

A faithful bike commuter, Boqin was originally influenced by a mentor while working in San Ramon. After 10 years of a painfully long-distance commute by car, he started riding his bike to work and has never gone back. He continues to bike commute because of motivation from peers and is a regular at after work bike happy hours.

He prefers riding the safest routes with ease of access, so he chooses commuting via White Oak to Buffalo Bayou downtown. It's not the most direct route, but he doesn't mind since he often rides longer just to get in more miles, riding at least 15 miles (each day?) total for the 4-5 days he rides in. He has a shower-only membership with a locker at the Chevron gym so he can look professional/get set for the workday once he arrives. During his commute, he enjoys watching the sunrise on most days and in the winter, gets a nice sunset on the way home.

--

When I moved to Houston from San Ramon, I was so determined to continue my ride to work journey. One of my key criteria for selecting where I was going to stay was the house being close to a trail. While I did find my current place, back then the Houston trail system was not completely built yet. The trail close to my house did not go very far, and I was kind of disappointed with my decision. Thanks to Houston city planners and the efforts of local cyclists, a few years later the White Oak and Buffalo Bayous were fully connected by bike trails, and now I can enjoy a full 37 mile loop any time I want.



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Doug Goff

Exploration Manager

Doug has been biking to work for about a year. This is not his first time as a bike commuter, having routinely biked to work in La Habra and San Ramon earlier in his career with Chevron. When he moved to Houston, Doug switched to driving and taking the bus. “I missed bike commuting when I moved to Houston. It seemed I just lived too far away to do it, but now that I moved into the Washington Corridor, I have switched back to biking as much as possible.”

Doug likes that it is a safe commute from Jackson Hill Street, along Buffalo Bayou and into downtown. Plus, it takes about the same amount of time as taking the bus. “What I like the best is that I can control my own schedule. Taking the bus can be frustrating. Even though it runs every 15 minutes, I am always waiting for a bus that never shows up or is 10 minutes late…”.

When he started bike commuting last year he invested in a new helmet and a new headlight and taillight set. “Bike lights are so much better and cheaper than they used to be. I bought a new set for less than $20, and I only have to charge it every few weeks.” He also has a Timbuk2 messenger bag that doubles as a briefcase making it easy to get his laptop and clothes to and from work. Biking isn’t his only exercise, but it is a great supplement to his daily walk, yoga and softball. “Not bad for a man of my age”!

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Tonya Richardson

Earth Scientist

Welcome to Tonya Richardson, a new addition to the Houston bike commuter community! Tonya lives in the Heights and was paying $60/month for parking to drive 15 minutes to the office in traffic. With Return to Work, she seized the opportunity to save money, cut personal carbon emissions, and increase her fitness by biking between home and work. She first asked co-workers about favorite biking gear, safety devices, and daily routines, then got a tune-up for her 18-year-old mountain bike, and lastly discovered dedicated bike lanes recently built by the City of Houston.

Now, she regularly rides 30 minutes to and from the office and has a much more engaging, refreshing, and scenic trip along the way. Additionally, this transition has led her to biking elsewhere in the city, including meeting friends for brunch, doing local shopping, and joining weekly happy hours.



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Leo Chang

Reservoir Engineer

Leo didn't get much time on a bike growing up, but in college, he bought a $200 Schwinn from Target to get around. It got rusty and squeaky, but it worked. Fast forward, he now regularly cycles and though his current residence isn't ideal for commuting, he used to regularly bike 15 miles round trip and had a shower membership at the gym to manage the muggy Houston mornings.

Last May during Bike to Work Month, Leo joined other Chevron volunteers at Freewheels Houston, a non-profit organization that provides bicycles for refugees and veterans who don't own a car and need the freedom to get around. Freewheels takes donated bicycles, cleans and tunes them up, then gives them away to those in need. They also buy new bicycles from donated funds and utilize volunteers to assemble.

Ever since that first volunteer day, Leo now regularly helps on his Fridays off. He started cleaning donated bikes. After several shifts, he began shadowing a mechanic in the shop. It took some time to learn all the ins and outs to ensure each bike is both safe and looks good, but now he can tune up a bike in one volunteer shift.

During his time at UT Austin, he was involved in the Orange Bike Project where he learned to work on bikes. Once he discovered Freewheels Houston, his prior experience spurred him to continue volunteering. He enjoys the continual learning and challenges of bike mechanic work.



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Avery Cate

Patent Agent

"I completed my first Bike Commute to Chevron yesterday! Thank you to the Human Energy Commuting group for getting me set up with a buddy to show me the way to ride in from the Heights and where to park when I got here.

For years I have lived close to downtown and wanted to bike to work, but it wasn't easy to manage at my previous job. I joined Chevron 1 month ago, found out about the bike commuting community here via their Biketober events, and was able to get plugged in right away and set up with a buddy to show me the way.

I realize now the only thing holding me back from biking to work was a lack of confidence. It's not that hard and doesn't require a lot of fancy equipment - a bike, helmet, and backpack will do! I encourage anyone who's on the fence about biking to work to get in touch with Human Energy Commuting group and give it a try... I'm SO glad I did!"



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Justin Palmer

Geologist

Justin's no stranger to bike commuting: he rode his bike to high school in California, to undergrad in Arkansas, and to grad school in Colorado. Now working in Houston, he traded out carrying books during his commute to transporting a laptop, work clothes, and his 3-year-old son Teddy.

Justin’s 4-mile bike commute goes along the Buffalo Bayou trails from near Memorial Park to the downtown Houston office. His wife takes their 3-year-old son, Teddy, to daycare, then Justin takes him home on the bike three days a week. It's an everyday adventure: smelling the bats at Waugh bridge, observing construction progress, admiring the tall crane, and watching firetrucks go by. His view from the bike is an upgraded experience from a car seat. Justin gives him the choice -- bike or car -- and he eagerly chooses the bike; it's his favorite form of transportation. "This is a way to have a different experience with your kid where it's not a manufactured experience."

It's not uncommon to hear people ask if he feels safe as he bikes, particularly with his son on the back. But Justin notices that cars give him a wide berth when he has the child seat on the back, whether Teddy is in it or not. And while finding safer routes in a place like Houston has been a learning curve, he is generally able to find side streets that get him to his destination when there isn't a bike trail.

The commute would require about the same amount of time whether he drove or biked, so choosing to bike is equally convenient with the added benefits of exercise, fresh air, and building memories with Teddy.

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Laura Lundell

Data Engineer

Since moving to Houston in 2020, Laura deliberately chose to live in a spot that was bikeable for Houston so she wouldn’t need to drive once everyone returned to the office. Having lived in other cities where biking was her primary mode of transportation, she wanted Houston to be the same, despite what everyone said when she moved: “But you have to have a car in Houston!”

Commuting on bike feels like winning -- avoiding traffic, getting fresh air, and a bit of exercise before starting the day. Once she met Joy and others in the bike community at Chevron, it was a game changer knowing there were others who also valued the lifestyle at Chevron. She’s glad for the gradual improvements to bike infrastructure in her short time in Houston and is grateful to be part of the Chevron and broader Houston bike communities.



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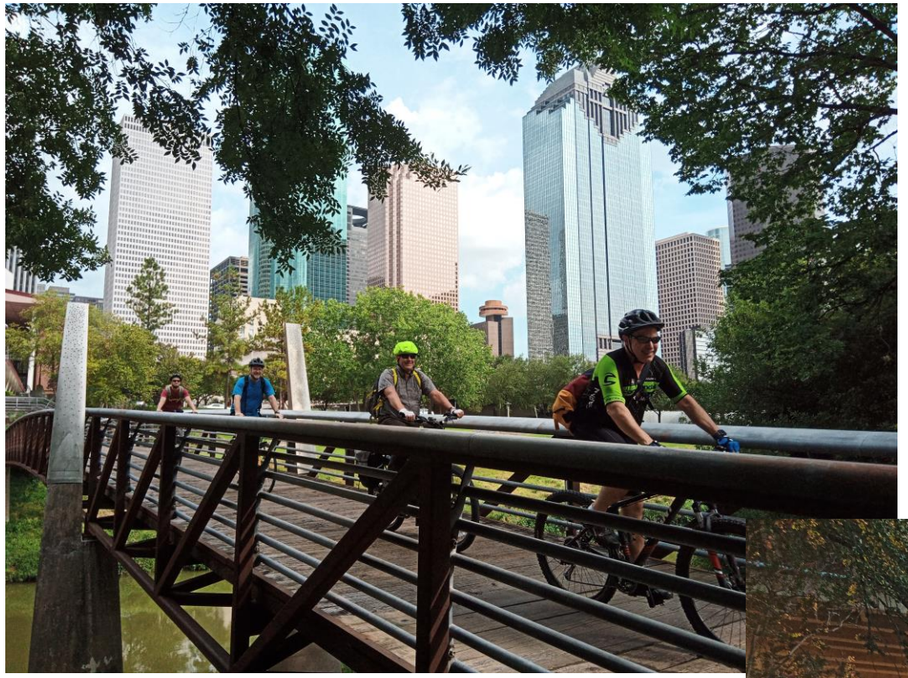
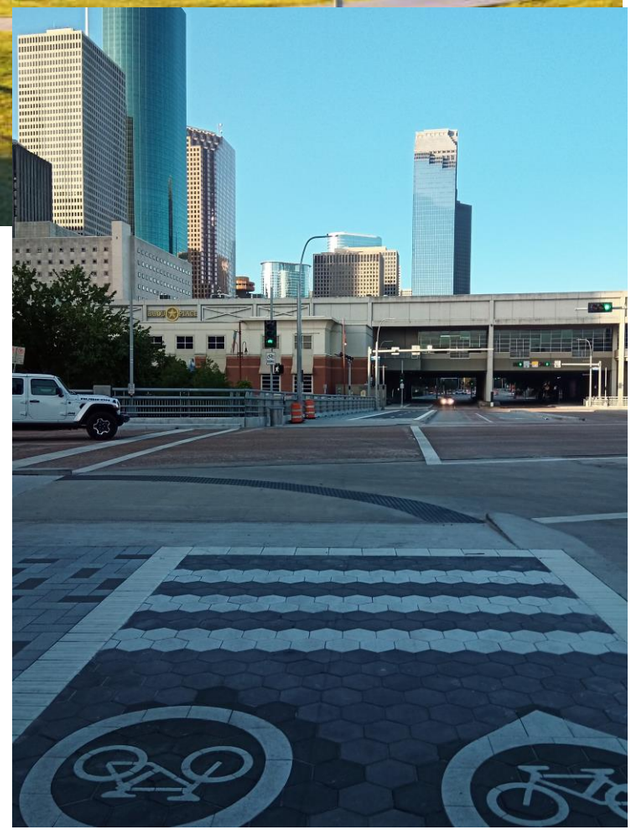
Show colleagues how livable and bikeable Houston can be









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Bicycle Friendly Businesses (BFB): By the numbers

Chevron ranked #16 largest BFB in US

48 Total BFB in Texas

5 BFB in Texas with >2000 employees

Chevron only O&G E&P BFB in US

21 Bronze level BFB Texas

Chevron ranked #1 largest BFB in Texas

Forbes

FORBES > LIFESTYLE > TRAVEL

Bicycle Friendly Businesses Across U.S. Now Top More Than 1,450

Tanya Mohn Contributor
I cover road safety and consumer travel.

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Sep 26, 2023, 10:15pm EDT

Listen to article 4 minutes



The League of American Bicyclists honored 34 new and renewing organizations in its latest round of ... [+] LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS

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National Bike to Work Day – May 2019











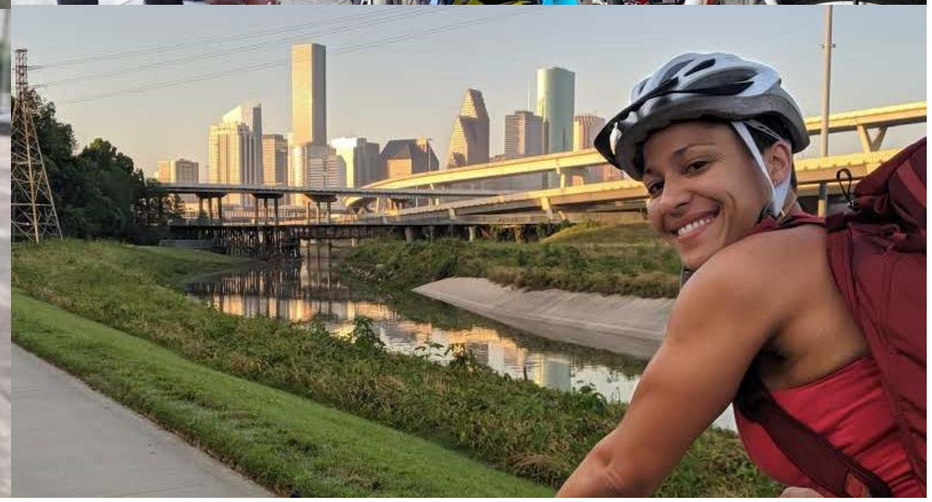

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CVX-HOU Bike to Work Day: May 17th

World Bicycle Day: June 3rd

CVX around the globe: Commuting via Human Energy



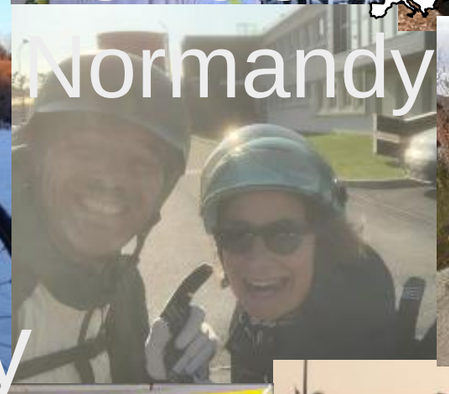










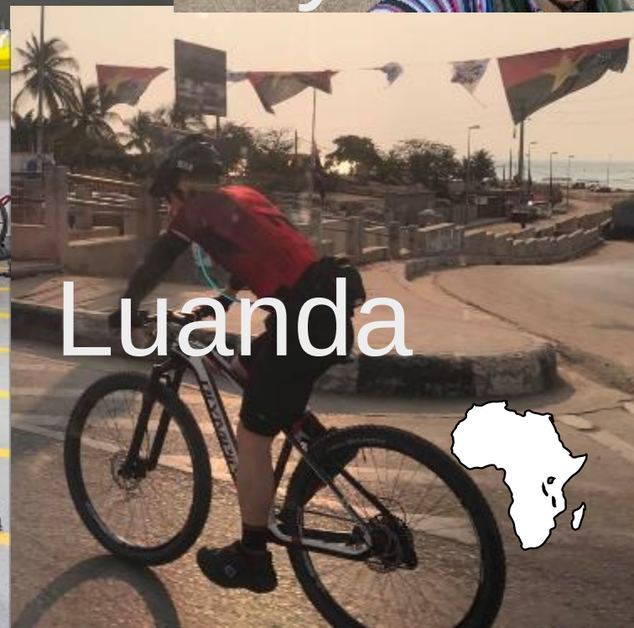




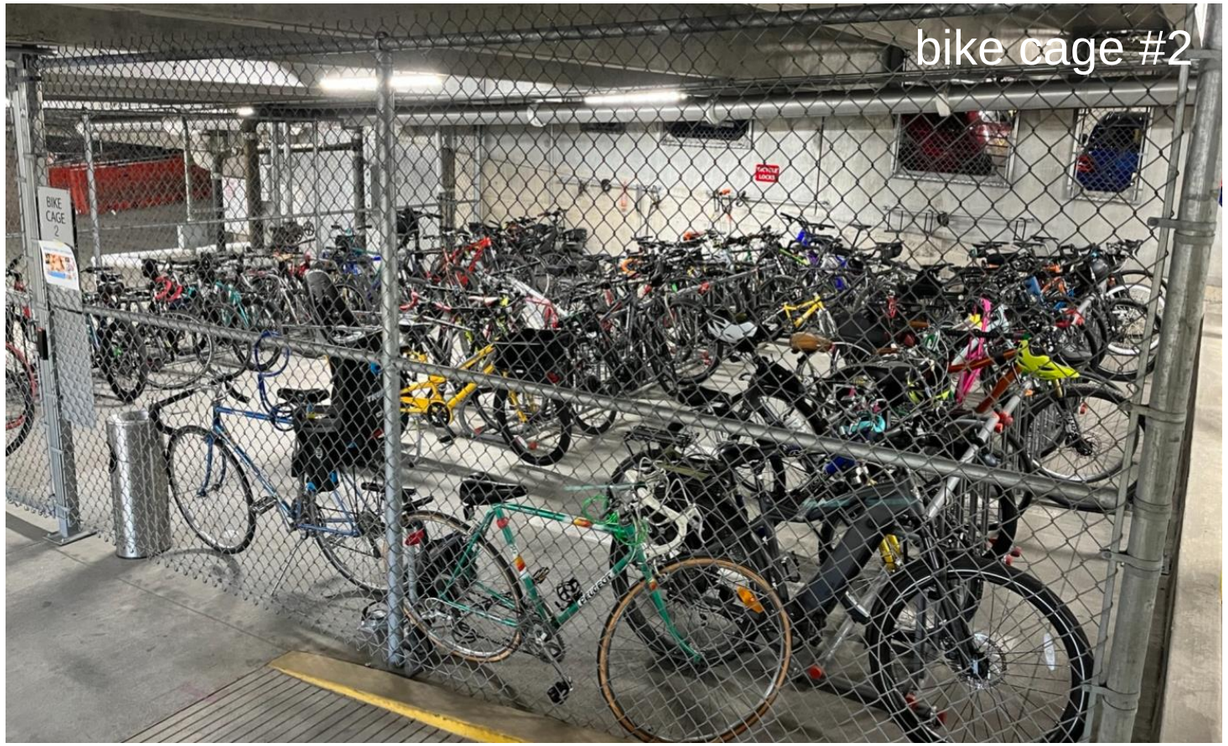


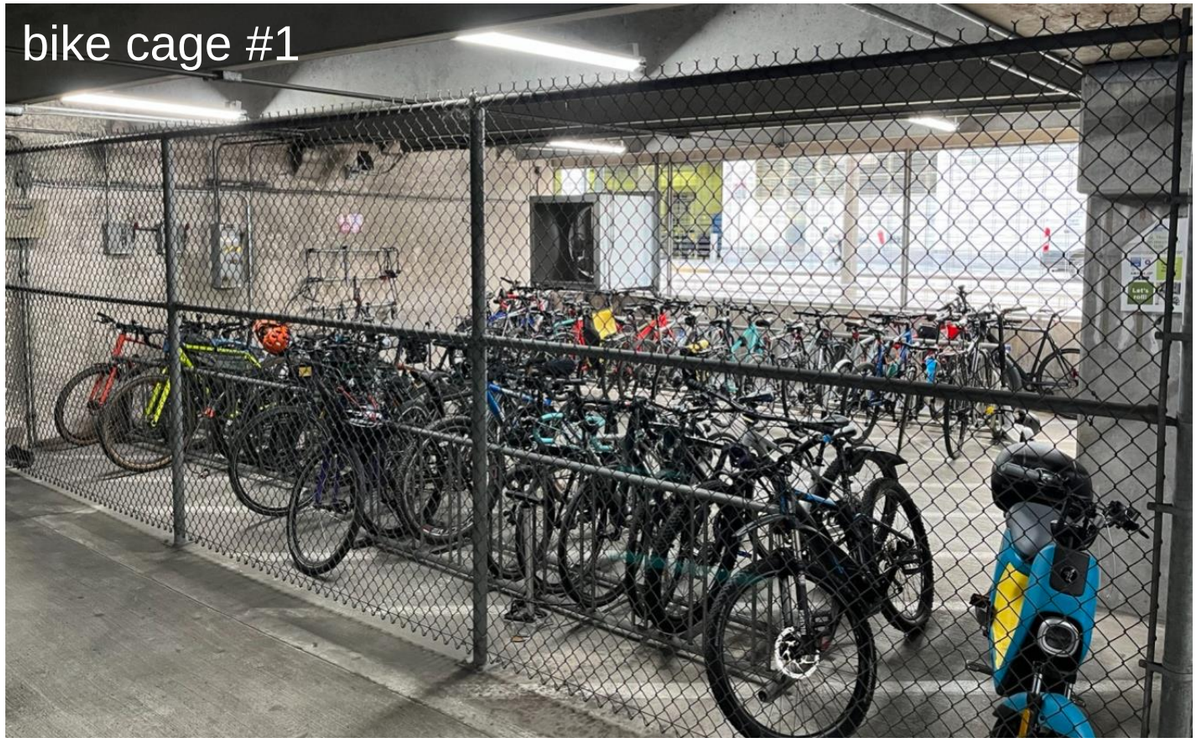






Bike cages were overflowing on Bike to Work Day - demonstrating viability for more employees





What barriers are preventing the event-only riders from making biking their primary transportation mode?

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[Local residents embrace commuting by bike | Business | theleadernews.com]



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HAPPEN HOUSTON

Inside Today: Editor Adam Zuvanich bids farewell • Page 3A

THE LEADER.

Covering the Heights, Garden Oaks, Oak Forest & the neighborhoods of North Houston

Saturday, June 25, 2022 • Vol. 67 • No.26

WE'VE BEEN TO MARKET
New Items Arriving!
Come in & SEE!
Darlene's

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713-434-6923

BILLY HARTMAN
It's not just my business. It's my neighborhood.
Hartman & ASSOCIATES
713.861.2004

INSIDE.

Vaccines for kids. Children as young as 6 months old can receive COVID-19 vaccines.
Page 4A

Art class. You can paint a portrait of Frida Kahlo on Saturday at Casa Ramirez FOLKART.
Page 7A

Duplex dilemma. Local residents and a developer likely won't get what they both want.
Page 1B

Heights Boulevard gets bike-friendly makeover

By Charlotte Aguilar
caguilar@mcelveypartners.com

Heights Boulevard, between 14th and 20th streets, has received a half-million-dollar "rehab" that has left it looking better, riding smoother — and purposefully more hospitable to bicyclists.

The project, completed in late May, was part of Mayor Sylvester Turner's 2020 Street Rehabilitation Initiative, which uses a complex formula to identify about 300 lane miles of city streets to improve each year. That's rehabbing — not quick-fix pothole repair nor complete reconstruction, but customized improvement of mobility factors such as surfaces, curbs, gutters, drainage, accessibility ramps and sidewalks.

The formula involves a strategic street-by-street assessment of condition and needs by Houston Public Works' Transportation and Drainage Operations, prioritizes projects and allots them by city council district, based on the lane miles of streets in each district.

In what is tantamount to winning a lottery, the Heights project's numbers came up for District C. Katy-based Grava, LLC, the contractor, did an asphalt mill and overlay, repairing damages to the base and smoothing the surface, to "provide a better ride quality in that area," according to a statement supplied by Houston Public Works spokesperson Erin Jones.

Finally, before striping the street, the bike lane was "enhanced" by adding a 3-foot diagonally striped buffer zone between vehicles and bicycles, with a designated parking lane along the curb on parts of the boulevard.

The cost of the project was $492,185.41, according to Jones.

Photo by Carlos Aguilar
The City of Houston's "rehab" of Heights Boulevard between 14th and 20th streets included surface milling to improve the ride as well as creating a 3-foot buffer between bicyclists and vehicle traffic.

Making it (to) work

Photo by Joy Roth
Former Woodland Heights resident Heather Szabo rides her bicycle along the White Oak Bayou Trail on the way to her downtown office. She is among the area residents who regularly commute by bike, with many working for Chevron.

Local residents embrace commuting by bike

By Adam Zuvanich
azuvanich@theleadernews.com

Joy Roth is a self-described cheerleader for commuting by bicycle, having recruited several of her fellow Chevron employees to pedal to work instead of pressing the gas pedal in an automobile. She readily ticks off the benefits of riding to their downtown office building on a bike, such as improving fitness, lowering transportation costs, decreasing stress and reducing one's carbon footprint.

But Roth admits that it's not for everyone — not even in her own household.

She and her husband, Ryan Smith, both work for Chevron and make daily 3-mile treks from their home in Woodland Heights to the energy company's office building at 1400 Smith St. Roth rides her bike while her husband drives, sometimes more slowly.

"Getting out of downtown at the end of the day, from my office I can see traffic backed up two blocks around the corner," Roth said. "If I'm riding, I don't even deal with that. I hop on the bayou trail and avoid all the traffic."

Roth is one of more than 100 Chevron employees who regularly commute by bike, according to her and fellow employee Mayank Malik, a Heights resident. They said roughly 40 of those employees live in the Greater Heights, Rice Military area or along the Washington Avenue corridor.

They are part of a citywide movement in which residents are relying more on walking and riding bikes and less on driving cars and trucks — for environmental, economic and personal health reasons — as Houston's elected officials push for more multimodal transportation options and increased connectivity within the city's sidewalk and trail networks.

"I think Houston's bought in," said Heights resident Matt Ronaini, another Chevron employee. "I think people in the Heights like it, and it's why people move into

Photo by Matt Bennett
Heights-area residents and Chevron employees, from left to right, Matt Bennett, Alex Turner, Joy Roth, Mayank Malik, Heather Szabo and Jonathan Bowman often ride bikes to work.

See Bike | 6A

Sandel's life to be celebrated with car show

By Adam Zuvanich
azuvanich@theleadernews.com

A Sunday car show at American Legion Post 560 in Garden Oaks will serve as a celebration of life for Lloyd Sandel, the Surfhouse owner who died May 28 at age 78.

The Show & Shine Car Show is scheduled for noon-5 p.m. Sunday at the local Legion post, 3720 Alba Rd., according to Sandel's wife, Carol. She said the free event will include a memorial service for her husband, who liked surfing, skating and cars, especially Volkswagens.

"Just show up with a cool car and show your car off," Carol Sandel said.

Barbecue plates as well as T-shirts with Lloyd Sandel's photo on them will be available for purchase, with proceeds benefiting Surfhouse, the longtime Oak Forest shop at 1737 W. 34th St., Suite 400. Drinks, including alcoholic beverages, also will be available for purchase.

"You just show up and enjoy yourself," Carol Sandel said.

A fundraising auction in Lloyd Sandel's honor, benefiting his wife and Surfhouse, was held June 18. The shop, which sells surfboards, skateboards and related apparel and equipment, has operated in Oak Forest for 55 years.

Photo from Facebook
A celebration of life for Lloyd Sandel, the Surfhouse owner who died May 28 at age 78, will be held in the form of a car show scheduled for Sunday at American Legion Post 560 in Garden Oaks.

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Chevron

Navigating the Vision Zero Dashboard

Sofia Font
Transportation Planner III. Vision Zero Coordinator

June 26, 2024.



2020:
Release
Vision Zero
Action Plan

Vision Zero Action Plan Communication Approach

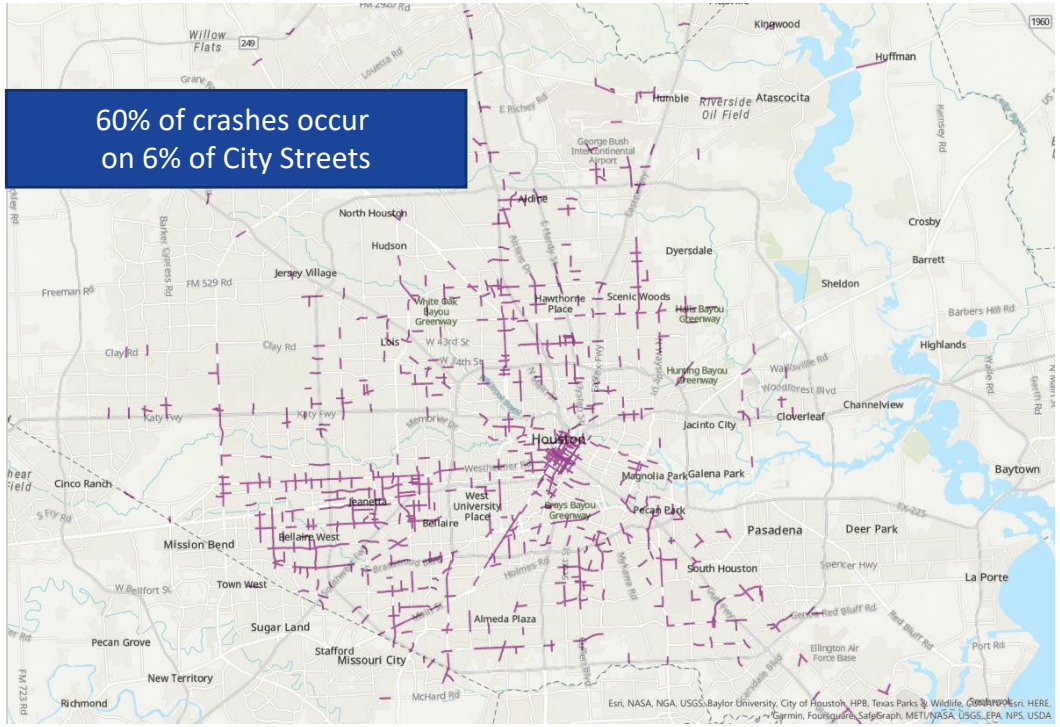
Action 1.1.- Report Vision Zero efforts and effectiveness to the Public:

-Create a public-facing dashboard, updated no less than every three months.

-Develop an annual report card on action plan progress and measures.

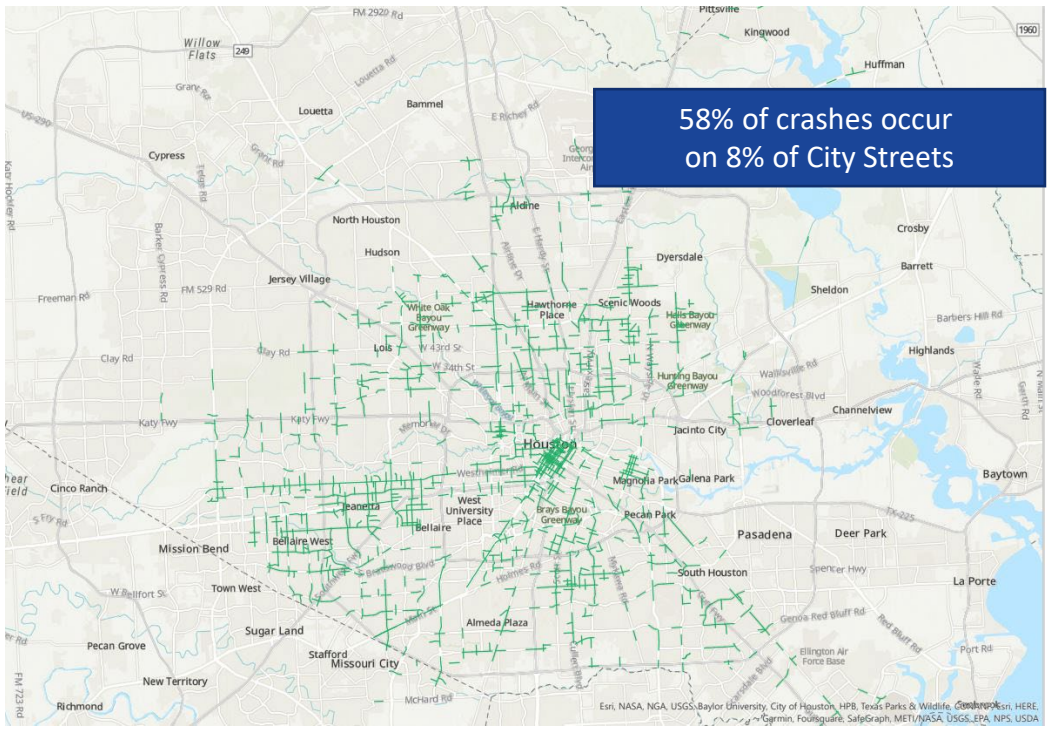
High Injury Network updates

2014-2018 (HIN 2018)



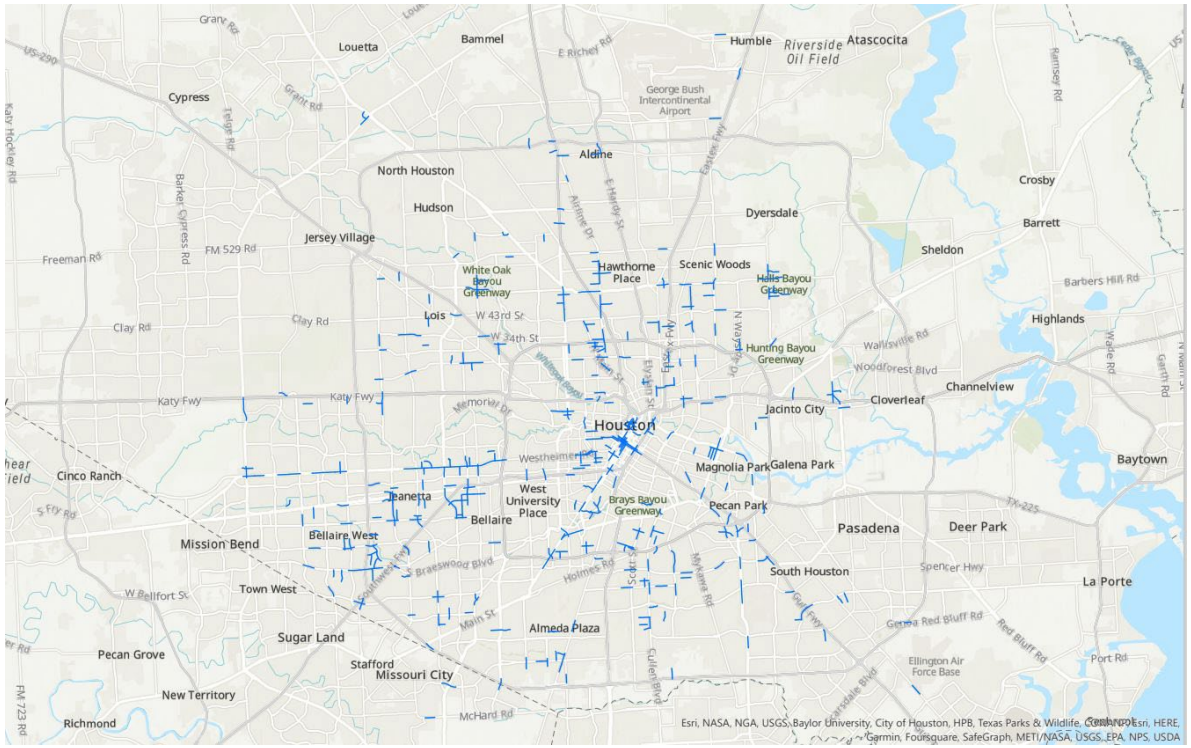
426 Miles

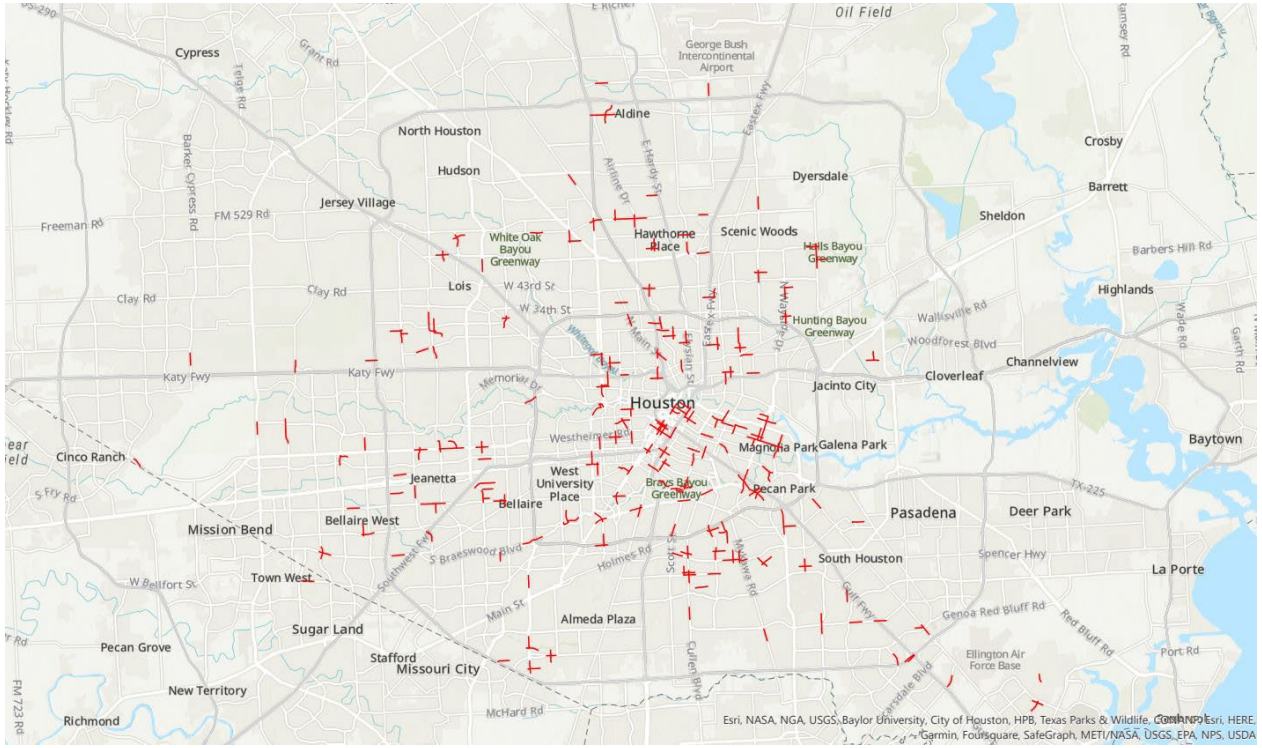
2018-2022 (HIN 2022)



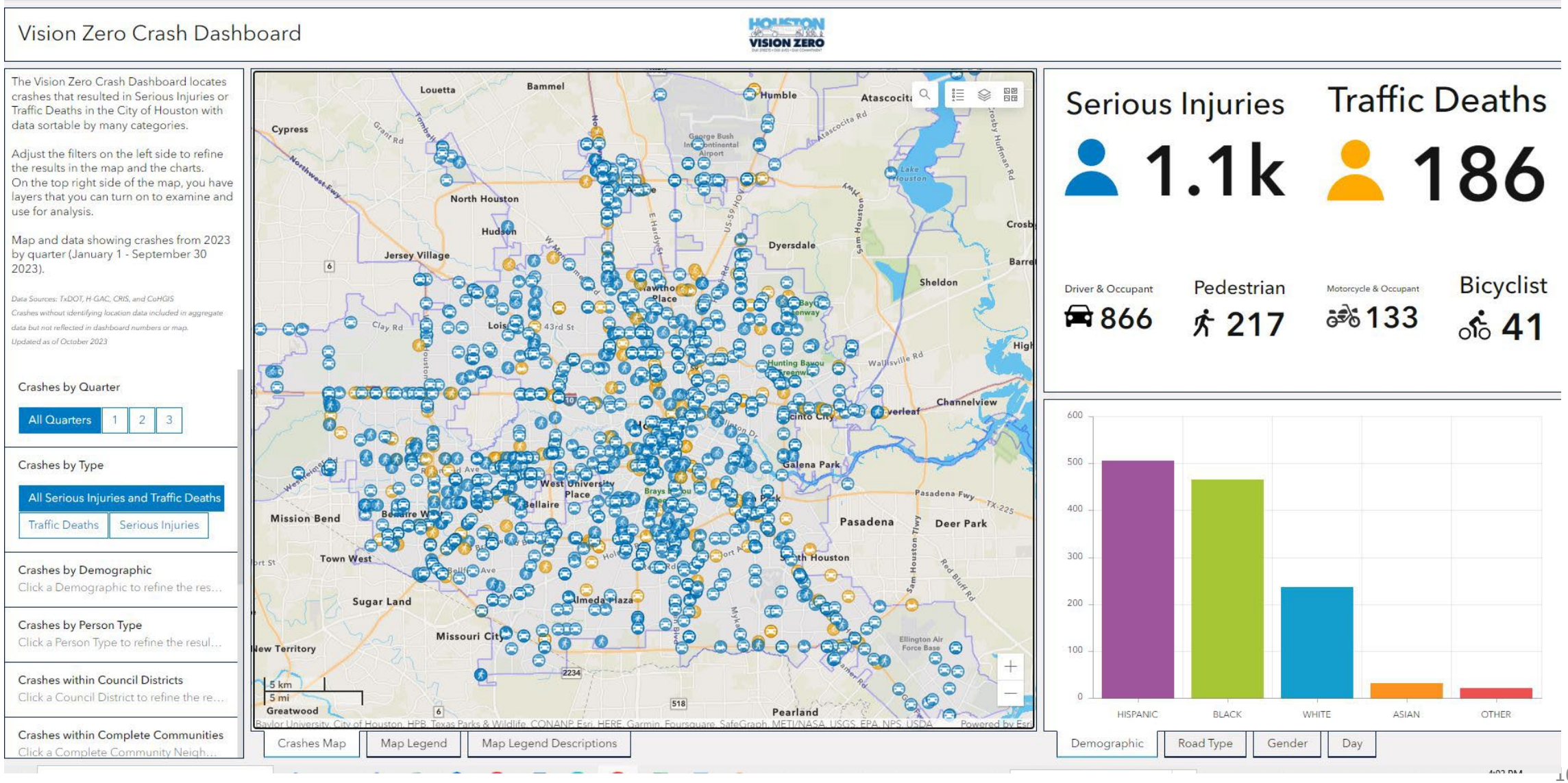
596 Miles

Ped & Bike High Crash Streets





Vision Zero Dashboard
Traffic Deaths & Serious Injuries Data 2023



Vision Zero Dashboard

- ✓ The Vision Zero Crash Dashboard locates crashes that resulted in Serious Injuries or Traffic Deaths in the City of Houston with data sortable by many categories.
- ✓ Map and data showing crashes from 2023 by quarter (January 1 - December 31, 2023).
  - ✓ *Data will be updated and will be showing from 2018 – to the current quarter of 2024*
- ✓ Filters:
  - ✓ By Time: Quarterly
  - ✓ By Crash Severity:
  - ✓ By Demographics
  - ✓ By Road User
  - ✓ By Council District
  - ✓ By Complete Communities
    - ✓ *Filters will be updated and plans to include Precinct, Management District, Superneighborhood, MUD and TIRZ*
  - ✓ By Age
  - ✓ By Contributing Factors
  - ✓ By Road Type
- ✓ Layers:
  - ✓ HIN 2018 & 2022
  - ✓ Ped & Bike High Crash Streets


ANY
Questions?

THANK YOU!

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Bike Month Debrief

Bike Month Debrief

- What did you see?
- What did you experience?
- Any ideas for next year?

Agenda

1. ~~Director's Report~~
2. ~~Chair's Report~~
3. ~~Public Comment~~
4. ~~Chevron: Bike Friendly Business Best Practices~~
5. ~~Vision Zero Houston Dashboard Demonstration~~
6. ~~Bike Month Debrief/Discussion~~
7. Open Forum
8. Announcements/Events

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: Jul 24
- Infrastructure Subcommittee: Aug 22
- Education Subcommittee: Sep 26

Thank You

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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