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, March 23, 2022; 2:30 – 4:30pm
John B. Raia Conference Room, 611 Walker St

Call-In Option: +1 936-755-1521 **Conference ID:** 524 722 257#

Microsoft Teams Meeting Link:

For meeting documents, please visit our website

Comments received via email before 2:00pm on March 23 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. Chair's Report
2. Public Comment
3. Bill Mintz, Freewheels Houston: Bicycles for Refugees
4. Sofia Font, City of Houston: Vision Zero Update
5. Brian Smith II, Bike to Work Day Update
6. Open Forum
7. Announcements

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Education Subcommittee

March 23, 2022

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

Roll Call

Tom Compson, Chair

Alejandro Perez, Vice Chair

Tracy Alexander

Leah Chambers, Education SC Vice Chair

Adam J. Williams

Carl B. Salazar

Com. Kristine Anthony-Miller

Beth Martin

Lisa Graiff

Trevor Reichman

Jessica Wiggins, Education SC Chair

Yuhayna Mahmud

Nick Hellyar

Judith Villarreal

Amar Mohite

Mike VanDusen

Ana Ramirez Huerta

Nikki Knight

Robin Holzer

Veon McReynolds

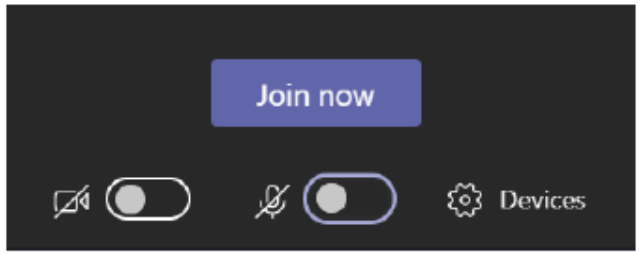
Ian Hlavacek

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

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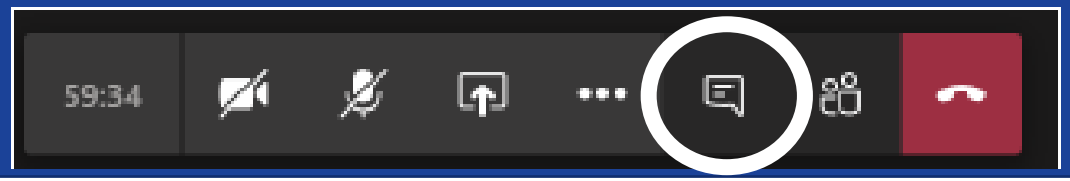
Public Comment

Send **written comments** to bac@houstontx.gov by 2:00pm the day of a BAC meeting. Comments will be read aloud by staff during the meeting.

Comment by **Phone:** to join dial 936-755-1521; ID 524 722 257#. Press ***6** to unmute when called upon by the Chair

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



Freewheels Houston: Bicycles for Refugees

Bill Mintz
Freewheels Houston

Freewheels Houston



Freewheels Houston



Freewheels Houston



Freewheels Houston



Freewheels Houston



Freewheels Houston



Freewheels Houston



March 23rd, 2022

Sofia Font Vision Zero Coordinator

Vision Zero in 2021

11 Implementation Group Meetings

Actions initiated:

13 Priority Actions and
13 Additional Actions

$4M TxDOT HSIP Grant +
$40K TxDOT Safety Grant

APA Texas Chapter Implementation Award

Create more opportunities for general stakeholder collaboration in mobility projects, overcoming issues of disenfranchisement

Include grassroots organizations and community leaders in Vision Zero committees to provide guidance on equity and equitable outcomes in Vision Zero work.

Develop and disseminate new educational resources to equip new drivers with information on how to be safe on Houston streets, emphasizing unsafe behaviors identified in the High Injury Network.

Develop and disseminate new education resources for walk, bike, and bus safety for K-12 students.



3 New Starts

Coordinate with TxDOT and H-GAC on a Houston-focused education campaign to target impaired driving.

Work with the State to include Vision Zero language and resources on reducing traffic fatalities in Defensive Driving course.

Provide publicly accessible ways for residents to contribute qualitative data regarding street safety and risks, including expansion of 311 system.

Priority Actions (ongoing):

- Report Vision Zero efforts and effectiveness with a public facing dashboard and an annual report card.
- Implement a citywide communication campaign on street safety to celebrate the reality that people use different modes of transportation to get around Houston.
- Train city employees about how to speak to public and media about crashes.

Communication (10 Actions)

2 New Starts

Coordinate Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to safely accommodate traffic demands.	Join with law enforcement and legal system to analyze traffic citations and court convictions.	Incorporate Vision Zero goals into Mayor's Police Reform Task Force recommendations.	**Require construction sites to provide safe and convenient pedestrian, bicycle, wheelchair, and transit access.**	Coordinate all bike network and transit network extensions with bikeshare services.
Perform systematic review of all trail/street crossings, recommend safety improvements, and implement all trail crossing improvements.	**Collaborate with VZ Texas cities about traditional police enforcement of traffic violations and alternative enforcement options.**	Expand fatal crash review board to multidisciplinary group of City departments (STARTED)	Utilize Connected Vehicle/Internet of Things data sources to inform near misses and other unreported conditions (STARTED)	Enable the public and City to collect uniform, useful sidewalk condition data by creating a user-friendly Pedestrian Access Route audit tool (STARTED)
Give higher consideration to planning, design, and engineering firms bidding for city roadway projects who attend safety training.	Coordinate with METRO on design criteria (METRO Transit Design Guidelines). (STARTED)	Make Houston-area vehicle fleets the safest in the nation. (STARTED)	Establish and enroll Houston-area businesses in Safe Fleet Management Program.(STARTED)	Designate citywide freight network. (STARTED)

Priority Actions (ongoing):

- Reframe the City's transportation planning tools: shift citywide standards to Multimodal Level of Service. Prioritize Vision Zero goals in the Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM).
- Evaluate every city roadway reconstruction project for multimodal safety needs and opportunities at project inception.
- Identify high-risk roadway features and develop templates to simplify consistent safety redesigns.

Safe Systems (18 Actions)



1New Start

Re-evaluate the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program and expand to a shared street implementation program which prioritizes people walking and biking and includes countermeasures to slow vehicle speeds. Target program availability to socially vulnerable communities.

Revise crosswalk and sidewalk policies: -Establish criteria for regularly spaced safe crossings on major streets. -Establish enforcement mechanisms for residential sidewalk maintenance, including providing means for residents to report hazardous conditions (linked to action 1.2). -Revisit striping maintenance.

Lobby for state authority to establish a 25mph default speed limit on city residential streets and 30mph speed limit on all other city streets.

Priority Actions (ongoing):

- Determine safest vehicle speeds for all people using the street and then design the street to support that speed.
- Use design as a tool to support and enforce pedestrian right-of-way at intersections and crosswalks.
- Use signal timing to maximize safety and comfort of all modes over vehicle throughput.

Safe Speeds 6 Actions

Design City of Houston street reconstruction projects so that every bus stop is built to METRO specifications.

Support implementation of METRONext by fast tracking complementary projects that improve access to and from transit stops.

Develop a pedestrian/sidewalk plan to target investment in walkability infrastructure. Start by focusing efforts in the pedestrian High Injury Network and high-density pedestrian areas.

Evaluate feasibility of road diets/reassignment of lanes on streets targeted for repaving in the City's Street Rehabilitation Program, including but not limited to corridors identified in the High Injury Network and Houston Bike Plan.

Adopt Hands Free ordinance which prohibits the use of all electronic hand-held devices while operating a vehicle.

Set aside capital projects funding to include multimodal safety projects. (STARTED)

Leverage outside funds (including METRO, TIRZ, and Management Districts) for pedestrian and bicycle improvements for every roadway project along transit routes and in TIRZs and Management Districts. (STARTED)

Establish a pipeline of projects to be funded with federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) money through Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and other funding opportunities. (STARTED)

Create a "quick planning" program to assess all council districts every two years for low-cost pedestrian safety improvement projects. (STARTED)

Develop a pedestrian/sidewalk plan to target investment in walkability infrastructure. Start by focusing efforts on the pedestrian High Injury Network and high-density pedestrian areas. (STARTED)

Develop a two-year implementation plan for elements of the Houston Bike Plan, including bikeway maintenance, recommendations from Road Safety Audits, and public feedback on Vision Zero to any future bike plan updates. (STARTED)

Implement a citywide Safe Routes to School program which proactively improves walking and biking access to school. (STARTED)

1New Start

Priority Actions (ongoing):

- Redesign 10 locations on the High Injury Network (HIN) every two years and implement reconstruction within the following fiscal year.
- Construct at least 50 miles of sidewalks each year.
- Construct at least 25 miles of high-comfort bicycle facilities each year.
- Inventory and prioritize street improvements within a half-mile of transit centers to improve safety and access for persons with a disability.

Programming 16 Actions

Vision Zero Strategic Planning 2022

	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Implementation Group	**Strategic Planning New Starts 2022 Q1 and Q2**	TOPIC: Target Impaired Driving Campaign & Safe Systems	TOPIC: Education Resources K-12 students	**TOPIC: Develop a pedestrian/ sidewalk plan**	TOPIC: Collaborate with Vision Zero Texas	**Strategic Planning Q3 and Q4 (Review New Starts and Priorities Status)**	TOPIC: Lobby for State Authority & Speed Management				City Council Committee presentation on Speed Management	
Community Engagement Efforts			Dashboard Due / AAA Traffic Safety event	Tour of Houston / Bike Walk Houston Academy	Bike to Workday	1st Community Meeting Dashboard Due	2nd Community Meeting	Mayor's BTS Fest at NRG	Dashboard Due		Thanksgiving Parade / Texas World Day of Remembrance for the Victims of traffic violence	3rd Community Meeting

Bike to Work Day Update

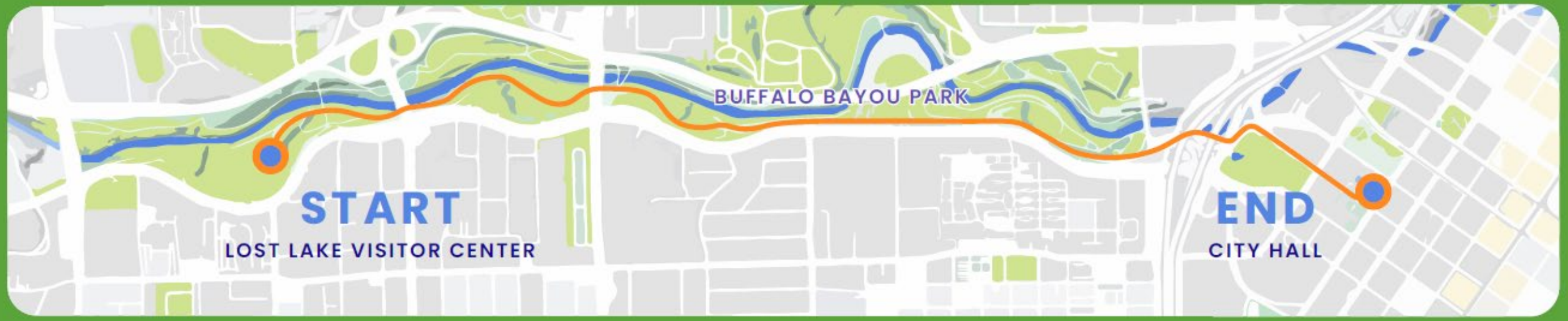
Brian Smith II
Planning & Development

Bike to Work Day

Bike to Work Day: Morning of May 20

- Ride: Lost Lake Visitor Center to City Hall (Buffalo Bayou)
- Staff is coordinating details with Mayor's Office of Special Events, HPD, BCycle
- Outreach campaign to start soon
  - Finalizing flyer





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Announcements and Events

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MacGregor Park Cleanup

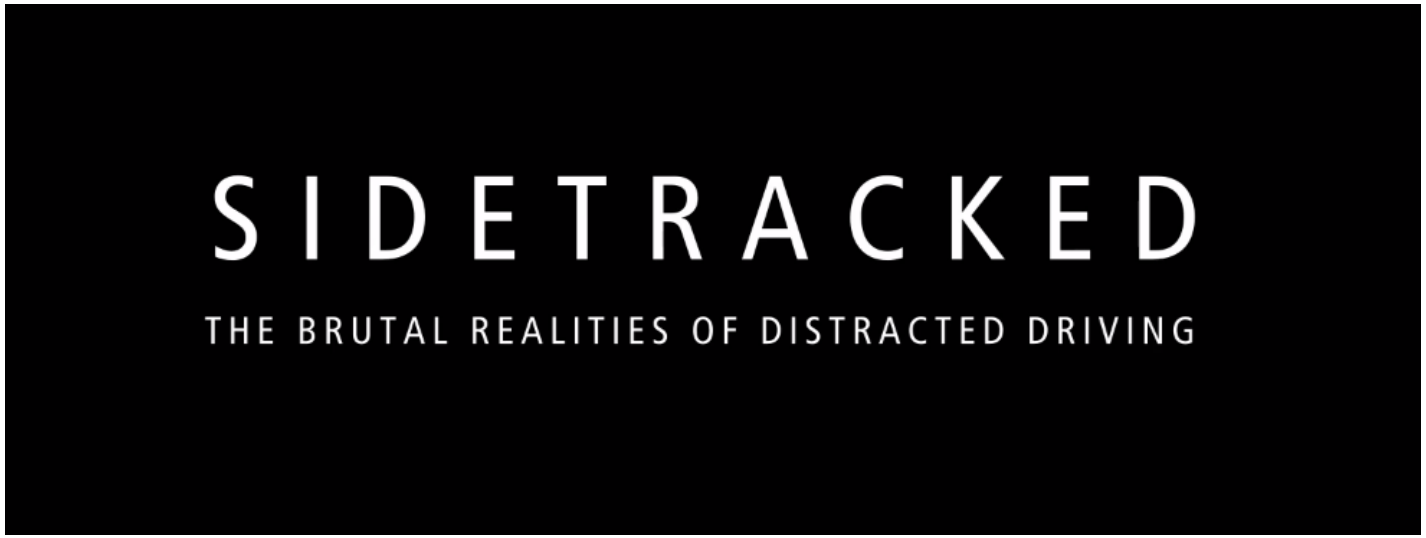
- Houston Parks Board is hosting a cleanup of MacGregor Park (5225 Calhoun Rd, Houston 77021)
- Sat 3/26, 9am-12pm
- Volunteers must be at least 12 years old, and those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult 21 or older
- To register: LINK



Announcements

Movie Premiere: Sidetracked

- Vision Zero Houston is hosting the premiere of ‘Sidetracked”, a documentary on the consequences of distracted driving in Houston
- Hermann Square lawn in front of City Hall (901 Bagby St, Houston 77002)
- Thursday, 3/31 at 10:30am
- View the trailer: LINK



Announcements

Next Meetings

- Bicycle Advisory Committee: April 27, 2:30-4:30pm
  - In-Person/Virtual: City Council Chambers with Microsoft Teams
  - Chair/Staff required to be in-person
  - BAC Members and the public have option to join via Teams
- Infrastructure Subcommittee: May 25, 2:30-4:30pm
- Education Subcommittee: June 22, 2:30-4:30pm
  - Subcommittee meetings can be 100% virtual
  - Space reserved in Bob Lanier Public Works Building

Thank You

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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