City of Houston
Bicycle Advisory Committee
Infrastructure Subcommittee

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

HOUSTON BIKEPLAN

Meeting to be held in person and virtually via Microsoft Office Teams
Wednesday, November 15, 2023. 2:30 – 4:30pm
John B. Raia Conference Room, 611 Walker St

Call-In Option: +1 936-755-1521 **Conference ID:** 114 253 400#

Microsoft Teams Meeting Link:

For meeting documents, please visit our website

Comments received via email by 5:00pm November 14th 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. Ben Drews and Councilman William Ferguson (City of Sugar Land): Brazos River Park Trails and Pump Track
5. Velosolutions/American Ramp Company: Community Benefits of Pump Tracks and Skills Areas
6. Discussion: Future Bikeways Metrics and Data
7. Open Forum
8. Announcements/Events

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HOUSTON BIKEPLAN

November 15, 2023

Call to Order. Subcommittee Chair Joe Cutrufo called the meeting to order at 2:40pm.

Roll Call:

Tom Compson, BAC Chair	**Present**
Alejandro Perez, BAC Vice Chair	**Present**
Joe Cutrufo, Subcommittee Chair	**Present**
Leah Chambers	**Present**
Lisa Graiff	**Present**
Trevor Reichman	**Present**
Jessica Wiggins	Absent
Yuhayna Mahmud	Absent
Ben Drews	**Present**
Amar Mohite	**Present**
Mike VanDusen	**Present**
Ana Ramirez Huerta	Absent
Robin Holzer	**Present**

Ex-Officio Members:

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

- Director's Report. David Fields gave the Director's Report.
  - BAC Reappointments. BAC members with terms expiring in January must contact staff to give their intentions on whether they plan to seek reappointment. We're maintaining a list of BAC members who'd like reappointment and a list of potential new members to contact. Remember staff gives recommendations, but BAC members are ultimately appointed by the Mayor.
  - For the last year staff has been updating the Infrastructure Design Manual's chapters 15 (Traffic and Signal Design) and 17 (Bicycle, Transit and Pedestrian Design). The changes will go into effect November 27, and staff will present bikeway-specific updates to the BAC in 2024.

- Chair's Report. Joe Cutrufo gave the Chair's Report.
  - BikeHouston is updating the Houston Bike Map. It's a nice problem to continue to update in the middle of design because so many bikeways are being completed. However, maintenance and detours need to be more consistent. A more cohesive method of temporary and long-term detours is needed. We also need to keep a

concerted effort to keep bikeways clean. Volunteers cannot do it alone. Continue to report clogged bike lanes to 311.
  - The election is ongoing. We have a good tailwind with the current administration furthering the goal to be a Gold-level bike friendly community, but there is still work to do. It's up to this committee to keep moving the work forward.

- Public Comment.
  - No public comments were submitted via email.
  - Bryan Dotson made comments regarding his presentation at a previous meeting on connecting Buffalo Bayou and Brays Bayou trails via a new trail at Piping Rock/SH 6.
  - Ed Pettitt made comments advocating for a uniting policy to standardize improvements to the Columbia Tap trail, which currently has different agencies improving different extents of the trail with different standards.

- Brazos River Park Trails and Pump Track. BAC member Ben Drews and City of Sugar Land Councilman William Ferguson presented on the community benefits of installing pump tracks and the economic benefits reaped by the City of Sugar Land, which recently installed a pump track at Brazos River Park.

- Community Benefits of Pump Tracks and Skills Areas. Jeremy Jones of American Ramp Company presented on planning, design, and construction considerations for pump track and skills area installation.

- 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:
  - Sweeper usage: times sweeper goes out; maintenance issues; 311 calls for sweeping.
  - Bike counts
  - Safety/Crashes: comparison with HIN and HC bikeways map, speed limits and bikeways, crashes on streets with HC bike facilities
  - RFI: presentation to BAC on the state of BCycle/bike share in Houston

- Open Forum.

- 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
  - **Education Subcommittee: 12/20, 2:30pm**
  - **Bicycle Advisory Committee: 1/24, 2:30**
  - **Infrastructure Subcommittee: 2/28, 2:30**

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Infrastructure Subcommittee

November 15, 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

Infrastructure Subcommittee Roll Call

Tom Compson, Chair BAC

Joe Cutrufo, Infra SC Chair

Alejandro Perez

Leah Chambers

Lisa Graiff

Trevor Reichman

Jessica Wiggins

Yuhayna Mahmud

Ben Drews

Amar Mohite

Mike VanDusen

Ana Ramirez Huerta

Robin Holzer

Ex-officio Members

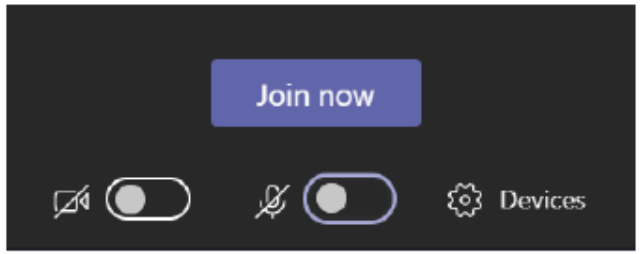
Ian Hlavacek

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. Chair's Report
3. Public Comment
4. Presentation: Brazos River Park Trails and Pump Track
5. Presentation: Community Benefits of Pump Tracks and Skills Areas
6. Discussion: Future Bikeways Metrics and Data
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The public is invited to speak for up to two (2) minutes each at the beginning of the meeting.

Director's Report

David Fields
Chief Transportation Planner,
Planning & Development Department

Chair's Report

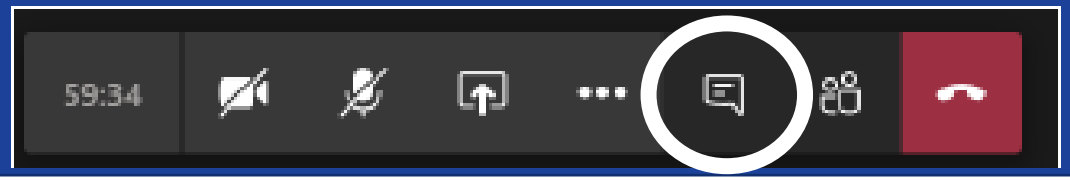
Joe Cutrufo
Chair, Infrastructure Subcommittee
BikeHouston

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 114 253 400# Press ***6** to unmute when called upon by the Chair

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



Brazos River Park Trails and Pump Track

Ben Drews, BAC
Councilman William Ferguson, City of Sugar Land



“The Power of Pump Tracks”

Presentation for COH - BAC

November 15, 2023

Agenda

- Community Benefits
- Health Benefits
- Economic Benefits
- Councilman William Ferguson
- Questions?

Community Benefits

- Fun way to engage kids in being active
- A gateway to more active riders and skilled riders
- Encourages interaction among the community and creates connections





Health Benefits

- Cycling decreases the risk of type 2 diabetes by as much as 40%
- Just a medium amount of cycling(13 minutes per day) resulted in a 28% lower risk of mortality
- A study in Bentonville found a benefit of $86M in health benefits over the course of a year





Economic Benefits

- Bicycling provided $137 million in economic benefits to Northwest Arkansas in 2017
- In 2010 Orange County supported 516 jobs and had an estimated positive economic impact of $42.6 million
- A 2013 study said that the Silver Comet Trail generates about $120 million in total expenditures throughout the state each year, supporting about 1,300 jobs and about $37 million in earnings.







Councilman William Ferguson



Questions?

Community Benefits of Pump Tracks and Skills Areas

American Ramp Company

Bike park programming for everyone.



Intro



Jeremy Jones
Project Development Director
Central Territory

7+ years supporting the development of public bike park projects

300+ individual public projects improving access and quality of life in communities in Texas and across the Central United States

$25M+ in public funds managed for project developments

Major Bike Park Programming

Major Program Types

- Pump Tracks
- Skills Courses/Trails
- Jump-Lines
- Flow and Slopestyle Lines
- Bicycle Playgrounds



Principles of Sustainable Development

Key Planning Principles

- Access and Enrollment
- Diversity of Experiences
- Sustainable design and constructio practices
- Integrated Design and Build
- Community Partnerships
- Diversify Value Objectives



Bike Park Programming

Integrated bike program types.







Cont.





Cont.





Cont.





Case Study – The Integrated Bike Park - Fort Smith, Arkansas



Case Study – The Integrated Bike Park - Fort Smith, Arkansas



Case Study – The Integrated Bike Park - Fort Smith, Arkansas



Case Study – The Integrated Bike Park - Fort Smith, Arkansas



Case Study – The Integrated Bike Park - Fort Smith, Arkansas



Case Study – The Integrated Bike Park - Fort Smith, Arkansas

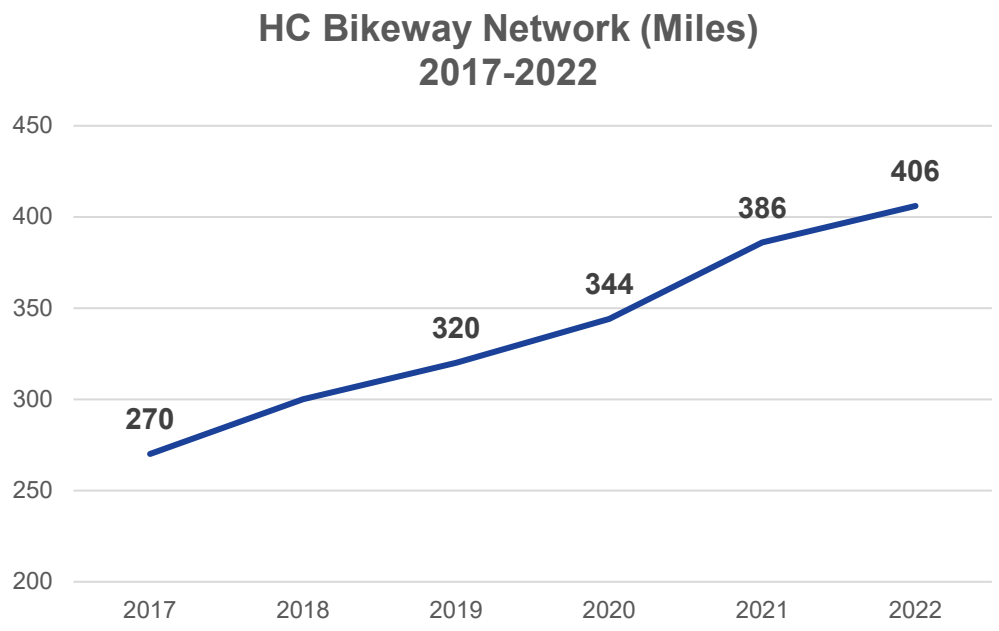


Future Bikeways Metrics and Data

Brian D. Smith, II
Planning & Development Department

Network Mileage

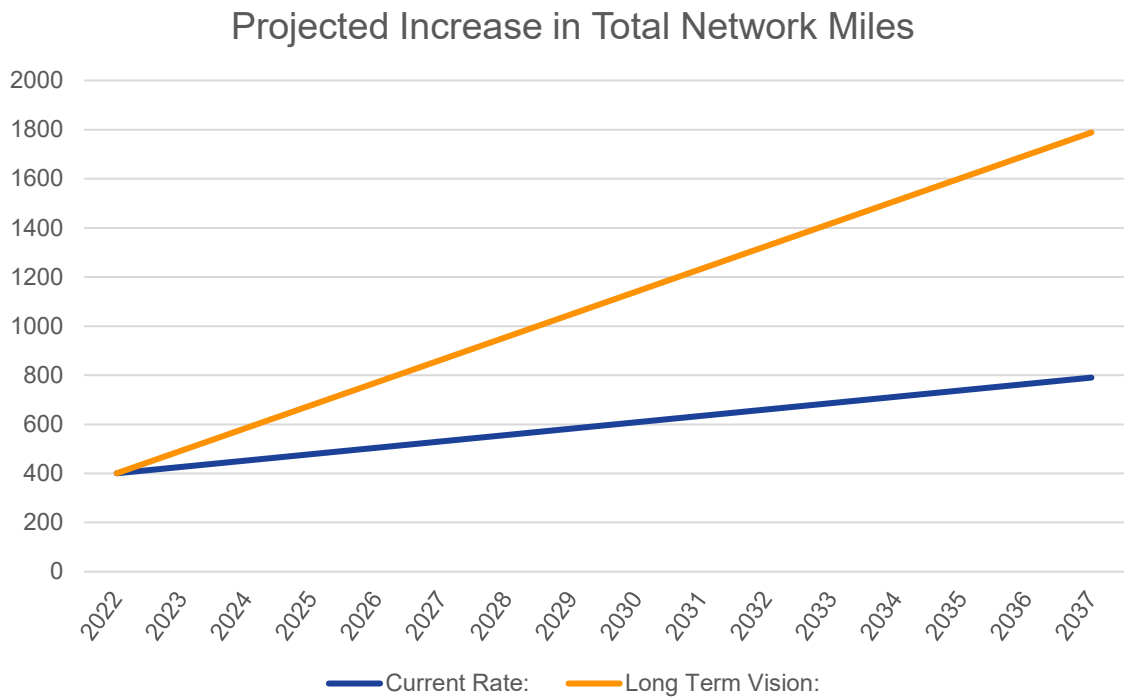
Since adoption of the Houston Bike Plan, Houston's high-comfort network has increased by **136 miles (50%)**



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	*Utilize VZ dashboard and reports for data*
Sweeper Usage	*Total number of miles swept* *Routine maintenance report (days out)*
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*

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Open Forum

Announcements and Events

Texas Statewide Active Transportation Plan

- TxDOT is seeking public comments for Texas's first Statewide Active Transportation Plan
- Comments must be submitted or postmarked by Nov 30th
- 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)
- Meetings can be joined in person or virtual
- Website: https://www.txdot.gov/nhhip/public-engagement/public-meeting-series-december-2023.html

PUBLIC MEETING SERIES SCHEDULE

SEGMENT 3* (DOWNTOWN ROADWAYS)

IN-PERSON:
Wed., Dec. 6, 2023
St. John's Downtown Church
2019 Crawford Street, Houston, TX 77002
5 -7 p.m.
PRESENTATION: 5:15 P.M.

VIRTUAL:
Thurs., Dec. 7, 2023
5 -7 P.M.
PRESENTATION: 5:15 P.M.
www.nhhippublicmeetings.com/Segment3
or scan the segment QR code

**Meeting will feature design changes and seek public feedback specific to the Project 3B reevaluation.*

SEGMENT 2 (I-45 FROM I-10 TO I-610)

IN-PERSON:
Mon., December 11, 2023
Moody Community Center
3725 Fulton Street, Houston, TX 77009
5 -7 p.m.
PRESENTATION: 5:15 P.M.

VIRTUAL:
Tue., Dec. 12, 2023
5 -7 p.m.
PRESENTATION: 5:15 P.M.
www.nhhippublicmeetings.com/Segment2
or scan the segment QR code

SEGMENT 1 (I-45 FROM I-610 TO BELTWAY 8)

IN-PERSON:
Thurs., Dec. 14, 2023
Aldine Ninth Grade Center
10650 North Freeway, Houston, TX 77037
5 -7 p.m.
PRESENTATION: 5:15 P.M

VIRTUAL:
Wed., Dec. 13, 2023
5 -7 p.m.
PRESENTATION: 5:15 P.M.
www.nhhippublicmeetings.com/Segment1
or scan the segment QR code

Should you need assistance with meeting access services, translation services, or other accommodations, please call (713) 802-5199 no later than 4 p.m. by the following dates for:

- Segment 3 meetings, Thurs., Nov. 30, 2023
- Segment 2 meetings, Mon., Dec. 4, 2023
- Segment 1 meetings, Fri., Dec. 8, 2023

If you do not have internet access, you may call (713) 866-7040 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process, by appointment only with TxDOT staff. Those without internet access are encouraged to attend in-person meetings.

Announcements

Next Meetings

- Education Subcommittee: December 20, 2:30-4:30pm
- Bicycle Advisory Committee: January 24, 2:30-4:30pm
- Infrastructure Subcommittee: February 28, 2:30-4:30pm

Thank You

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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