City of Houston
Bicycle Advisory Committee

City Hall Annex Council Chambers, 900 Bagby Street, Public Level
January 16, 2019
2:30-4:30pm

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Director's Report
3. Chair's Report
4. Approval of October Minutes
5. Build 50 Challenge Update
6. Safer Streets Initiative Update
7. Vision Zero Discussion and Possible Action
8. Bike Month (including Bike to Work and School Days) Discussion and Possible Action
9. Staff and Committee Member Announcements
10. Public Comment

The public is invited to speak for up to two (2) minutes each. The public is also encouraged to submit written comments to bac@houstontx.gov. Updates and committee notes will be available

DRAFT Minutes of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

January 16, 2019
Meeting held in
Council Chambers, Public Level, City Hall Annex
2:30 p.m.

Call to Order
Chair Maya Ford called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. with a quorum present.

Maya Ford, Chair
Clark Martinson, Vice Chair
Toloria Allen
Kristine Anthony
Katrina Bayer
Oni Blair — Absent
Neil Bremner
Robin Holzer
Beth Martin
Yuhayna Mahmud
Clint McManus
Veon McReynolds
Amar Mohite
Dian Nostikasari
Doug Overman
Alejandro Perez
Ana Ramirez Huerta
Sandra Rodriguez
Mike VanDusen
Adam Williams

EXOFFICIO MEMBERS

Parks & Recreation (Vacancy) — Absent
Ian Hlavacek
Jennifer Ostlind

1. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Maya Ford welcomed new and returning members to the first Committee meeting of the year. Planning & Development Interim Director Margaret Wallace Brown shared with the Committee that Pat Walsh had passed away last November. She stated the whole department is here to support the Committee and Jennifer will now be the Planning and Development ex-officio member of the Committee.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
The Director's Report was given by Assistant Director Jennifer Ostlind. Planning staff and partners are in the later stages of the Build 50 Challenge to spend over $11 million towards the construction of

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a high-comfort bikeway network. We are continuing to engage communities around the bikeways that make up a regional “spine”, keeping them abreast of any design or construction updates. The next stage will be educating new riders and motorists on how to use the new bikeways effectively. Planning staff are working with ARA on draft ordinance language for dockless shared vehicles, such as scooters and e-bikes. Staff are also finalizing the Bike Friendly Communities application renewal to maintain or improve our status as a bronze-level bike-friendly city. The application will be sent February 5, 2019. Planning is also in the beginning stages of initiating Vision Zero.

3. CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Maya Ford led the Committee in introductions. The Chair, Maya Ford, created a Year in Review handout for the Committee to highlight accomplishments during 2018. Chair Ford emphasized communication being key to success in 2019. Chair Ford also shared images of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in Spain and Italy as part of her holiday trips and how it compares to Houston bike infrastructure.

4. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES

Committee action: Approve the October 10, 2018 Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting minutes.

Motion: **Holzer** Second: **Bayer** Vote: **Unanimous** Abstaining: **None**

5. BUILD 50 CHALLENGE UPDATE

Staff member Pete Eccles presented on an overview of the Build 50 Challenge, the regional spine network plan, and the status of bikeway implementation. Near Northside package of projects are farthest along, with all designed and Lyons nearly complete with construction. Hardy and Elysian will be next to be constructed. Engagement is more iterative and complex than shown in the handout. Eccles also highlighted some lessons learned through the rapid bikeway implementation, such as coordination with other City departments and outside agencies. Also, Planning now regularly attends design review meetings during the design process in order to better understand the design tradeoffs and better communicate these to the public and other agencies. Moving forward, Planning is working on pre-construction engagement for projects phasing into construction, considering a No Parking in the Bike Lane Ordinance and begin engaging the public for additional corridors, including Gulfton, Second Ward and Clear Lake. Staff expects BAC subcommittees to assist with all these activities. Questions were taken.

6. SAFER STREETS INITIATIVE UPDATE

Houston Public Works ex-officio member Ian Hlavacek provided an update on the Safer Streets Initiative, including an overview of the history of the program, intersections studied under the Road Safety Audit (RSA), and status of the RSAs. RSA Round 2 will kick off on January 28 to study the next six intersections. Discussion ensued.

7. VISION ZERO DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Staff member Lauren Grove presented an overview of Vision Zero, including what it is, how to identify the problem, and core steps to developing a Vision Zero process. A key next step is to create a data team with staff from multiple departments to collect data. Formal adoption by the Mayor is anticipated in mid-May. Committee members could consider what their agencies or communities are doing to advance the goal of eliminating roadway fatalities. Discussion ensued.

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Committee action: Request staff of prepare a resolution with history of Vision Zero, definitions, what we have accomplished, the need, and that the city should adopt a holistic approach to adopt Vision Zero.

Motion: **Holzer** Second: **Martinson** Vote: **Unanimous** Abstaining: **None**

8. BIKE MONTH (INCLUDING BIKE TO WORK AND SCHOOL DAYS) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Staff member Melissa Beeler stated Bike to Work Day is scheduled for May 17th this year.

Robin Holzer reminded the Committee of their work for Walk and Bike to School Day in October 2018 and announced that the next opportunity to work with school for Walk and Bike to School Day is May 8, 2019. She put out a call for partnerships with schools that are already participating in these events so that Committee members and their agencies can help make walking and biking more visible. Chair Ford offered January 31st to provide school names to staff. Committee members will start a working group to determine school partnerships and what resources they can provide schools for the event. Clint McManus requests the Committee to consider in future years to have Bike Month in April. Discussion ensued.

Ana Ramirez Huerta provided an update of Safe Routes to Schools funding and application process coming up. $8.7 million is available for urban areas across Texas. The call will open in mid-February with preliminary applications due in April and full applications due in August 2019. Webex presentations about the application process will be on February 19 and March 7. There will be a Houston District workshop February 14.

9. STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oath of office form must be signed by new members. Returning members must also provide an oath of office form as well. TPIA training is required for all committee members

Next Committee Meetings:

- Infrastructure Subcommittee: February 28 at 2:30pm, 611 Walker, 6th floor
- Education Subcommittee: March 14 at 2:30 at 611 Walker, 6th floor
- Quarterly Meeting: April 24 at 2:30pm at City Hall Annex Council Chambers

Important dates and announcements

- METRONext public meetings – Jan. 26 to Feb. 13
- H-GAC TIP Call for Projects public meetings – Feb. 5 (west side) and Feb. 12 (H-GAC)
    - Public comment period from Jan 16 to Feb 28
- BikeHouston People for Bikes Draft - Feb. 12
- Texas Bike Summit – Feb. 23-24
- Texas Cyclists in Suits – Feb. 25
- LAB Bike Summit – March 8-12
- Tour de Houston - March 17
- Mid Main Bike Month Party - May 2
- Walk & Bike to School Day - May 8
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- Ride of Silence - May 15

- Bike to Work Day - May 17
- BikeHouston Bike Summit - May 17
- BikeHouston Street Fest - May 18
- Moonlight Bicycle Ramble - Oct 19

Vice Chair Martinson shared that the first round of the technical committee review of H-GAC's TIP call for projects has been completed. Of 41 active transportation projects, probably eight will be funded. Of those, two will be implemented by Westchase Management District, one by Houston Parks Board and the rest is by TxDOT. There is a question as to why active transportation projects score much more poorly than highway projects on the benefit analyses. Ped-bike is 2% of the TIP funding.

Katrina Bayer shared that the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) is meeting at 3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor at 9:30am on Friday January 25. High-Capacity Transit Task Force will convene afterwards at the same location.

Yuhayna Mahmud of METRO has an off-street path from Brays Bayou to Columbia TAP under construction. METRO is also coordinating with the City of Houston on a bikeway on Leeland Street. METRONext, the transit long-range vision, is holding public meetings to gather feedback on recommendations. Meeting schedule is available at METRONEXT.org.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Committee, Chair Maya Ford adjourned the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

_____ _____

Maya Ford
Chair

Jennifer Ostlind
Interim Secretary

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Bicycle Advisory Committee

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

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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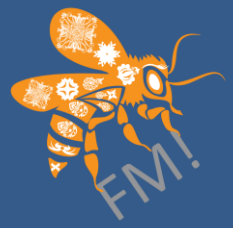

Maya Ford, FordMomentum!

Italy + Spain 2018

Commuter Bicycle Infrastructure, Access, and Safety



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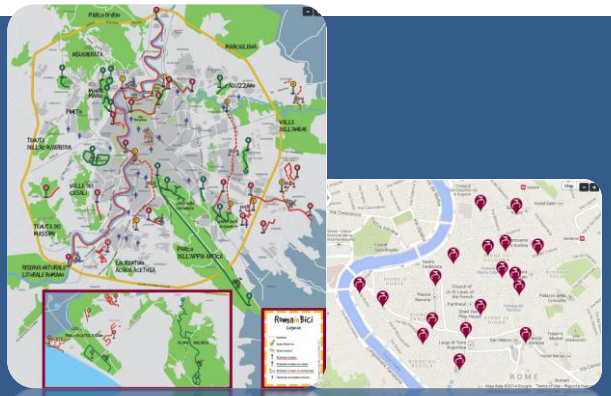
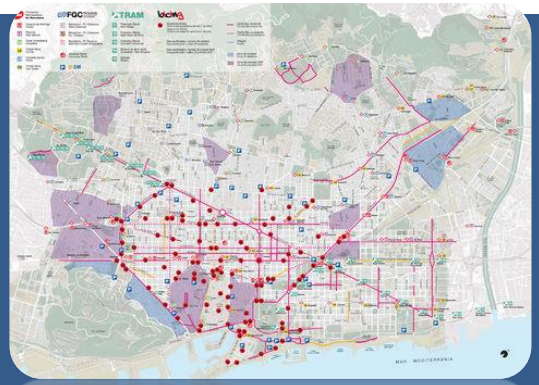


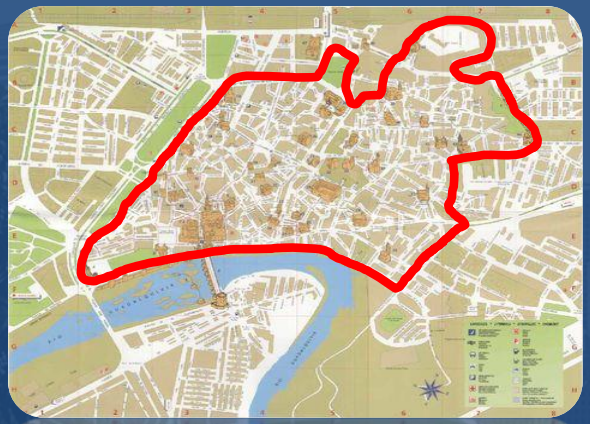
ROME, ITALY



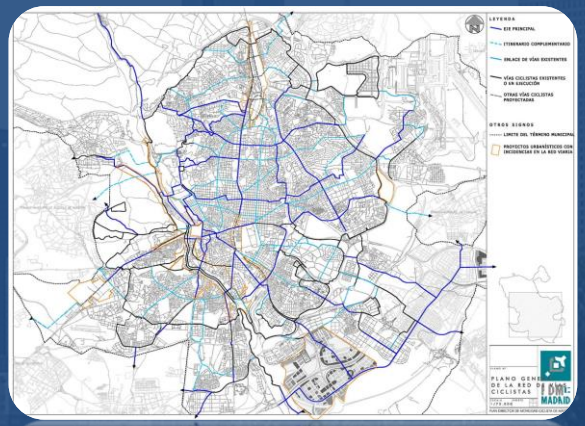
BARCELONA, SPAIN



MALAGA, SPAIN



CORDOBA, SPAIN



MADRID, SPAIN

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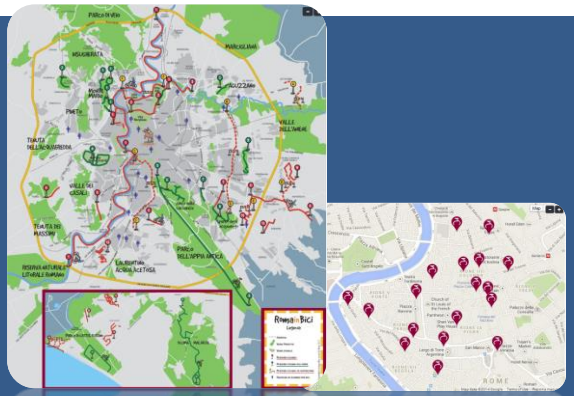


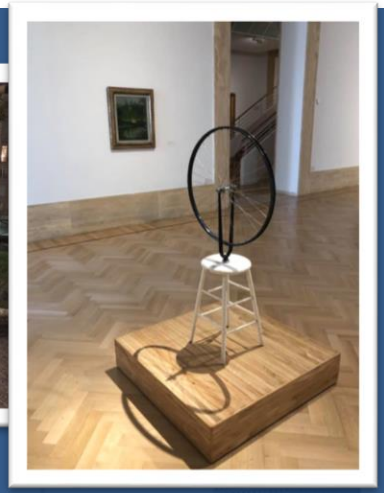
ROME, ITALY

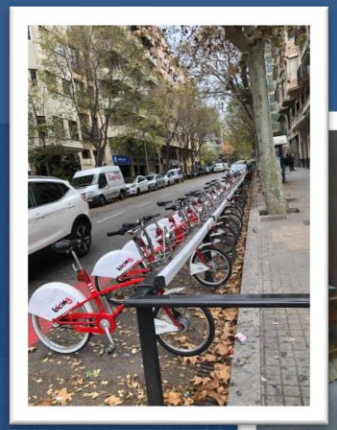


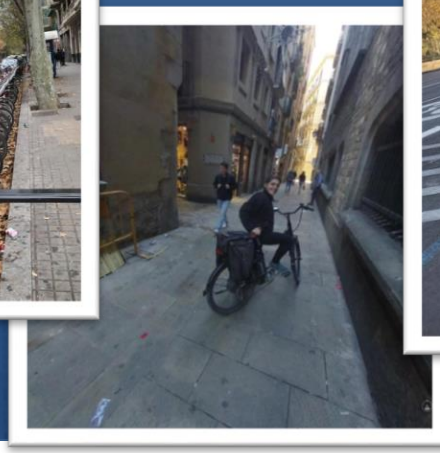
BARCELONA, SPAIN



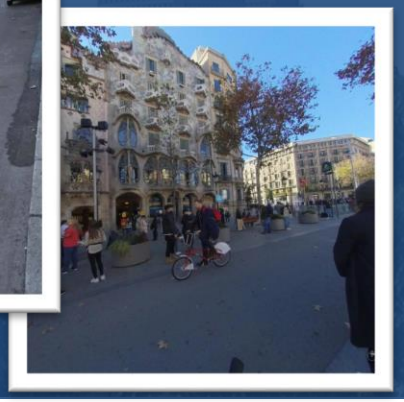












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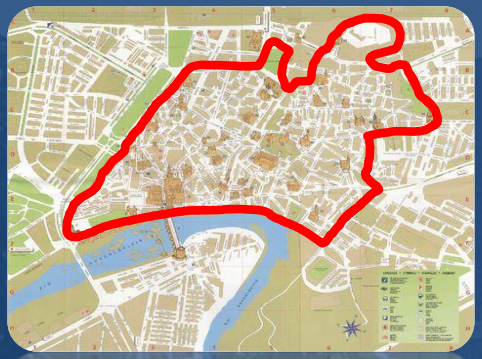
MALAGA, SPAIN





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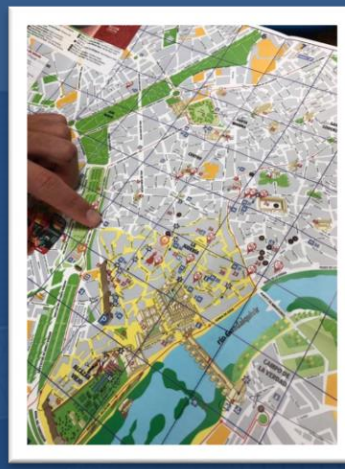



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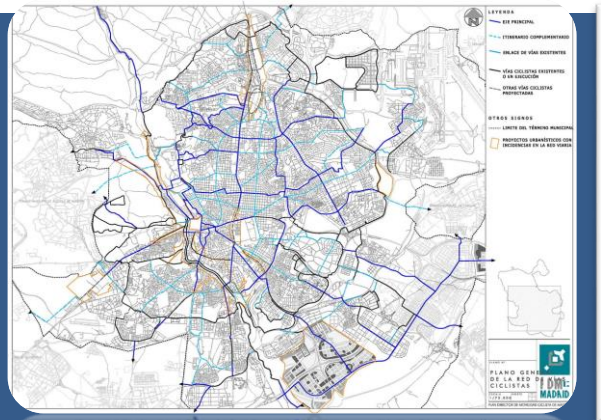

MADRID, SPAIN











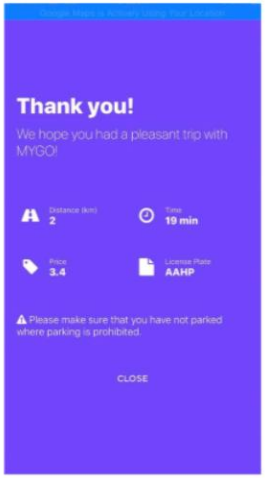

CITY OF HOUSTON TEXAS

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Build 50 Challenge Update

Peter Eccles

Planning & Development

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Build 50 Challenge Update

- In April 2018, Commissioner Rodney Ellis of Harris County Precinct 1 pledged $10 million to expand Houston's "high-comfort" bikeway network
- City leads planning, public engagement; provides additional funding



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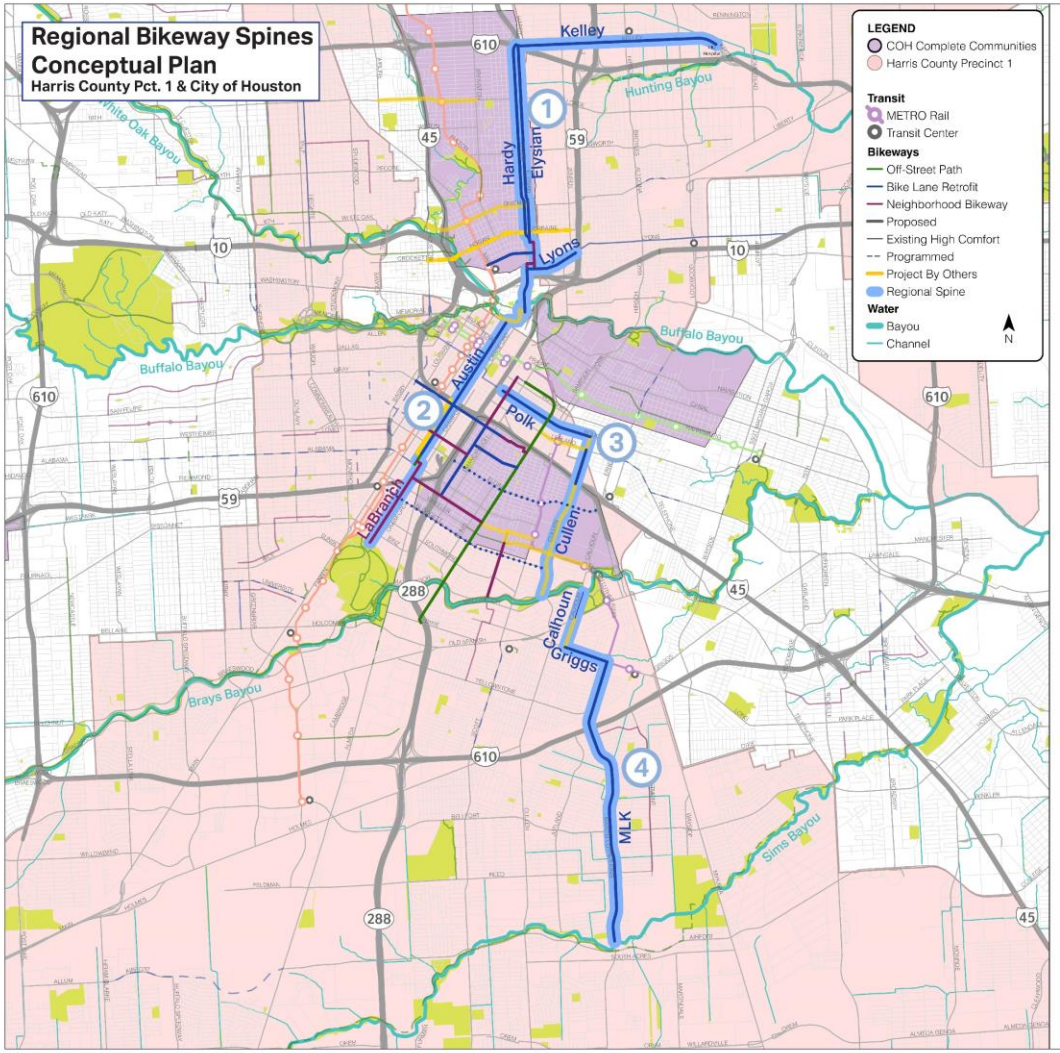
Regional Spines

- Using bayou trails as anchors, connects many underserved communities with the region's jobs, parks, and other major destinations
- Rapid implementation
- Will expand Houston's "high-comfort" bikeway network from ~8 to nearly 30 miles



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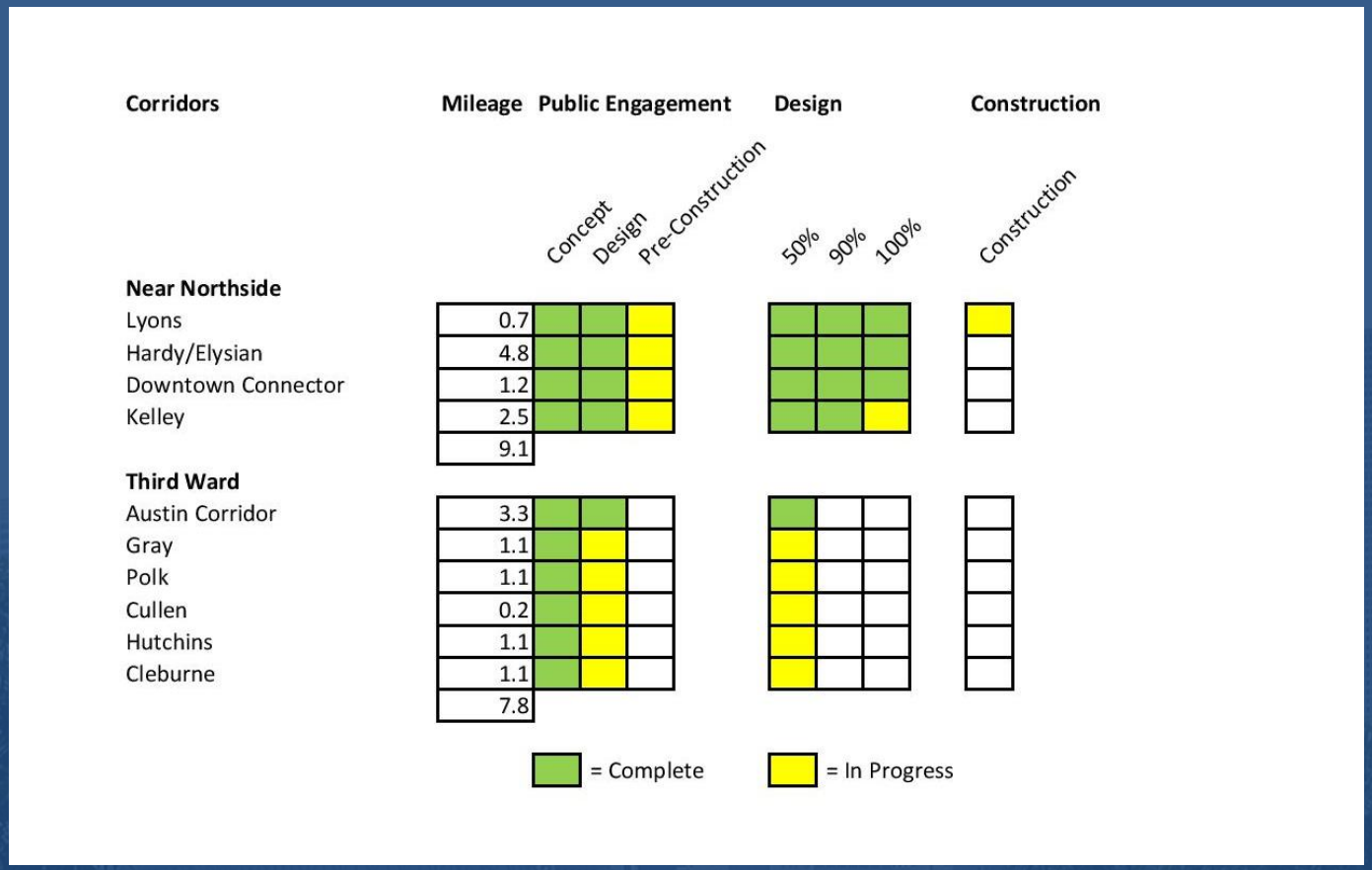
Implementation Status – Precinct 1



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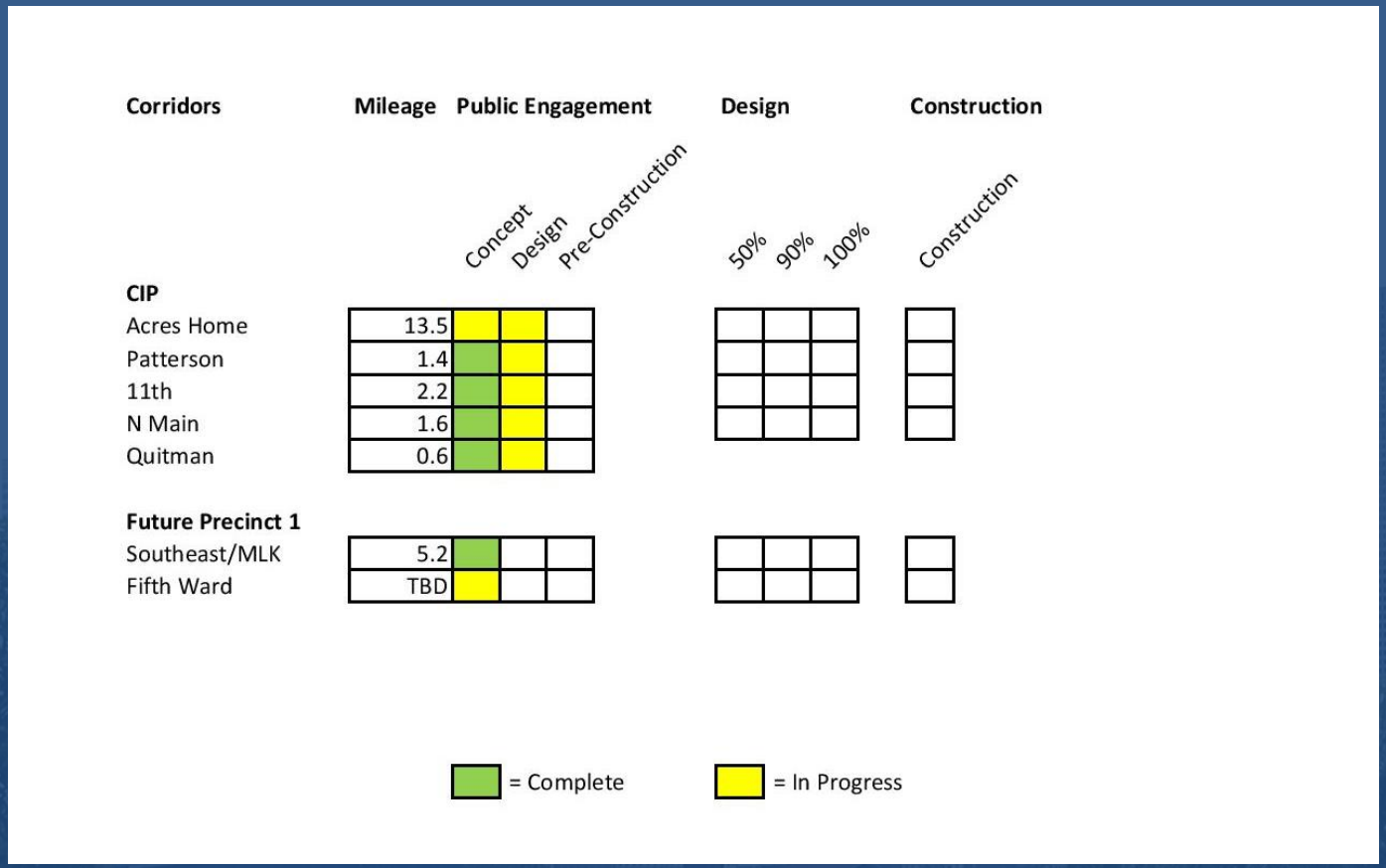
Implementation Status – CIP & Future



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Lessons Learned

- Coordination with other City Departments: Solid Waste, ARA, etc.
- Coordination with outside agencies: MDs, TIRZs, etc.
- Planning staff now attend 50%, 90% Design Review Meetings

Moving Forward

- Pre-construction Engagement
- No Parking in the Bike Lane ordinance
- Additional Corridors:
  - *Gulfton*
  - *Second Ward*
  - *Clear Lake*

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Safer Streets Initiative Update

Ian Hlavacek, P.E.

Houston Public Works

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Vision Zero Briefing

Lauren Grove

Planning & Development Department

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EkcAZQOzJV0

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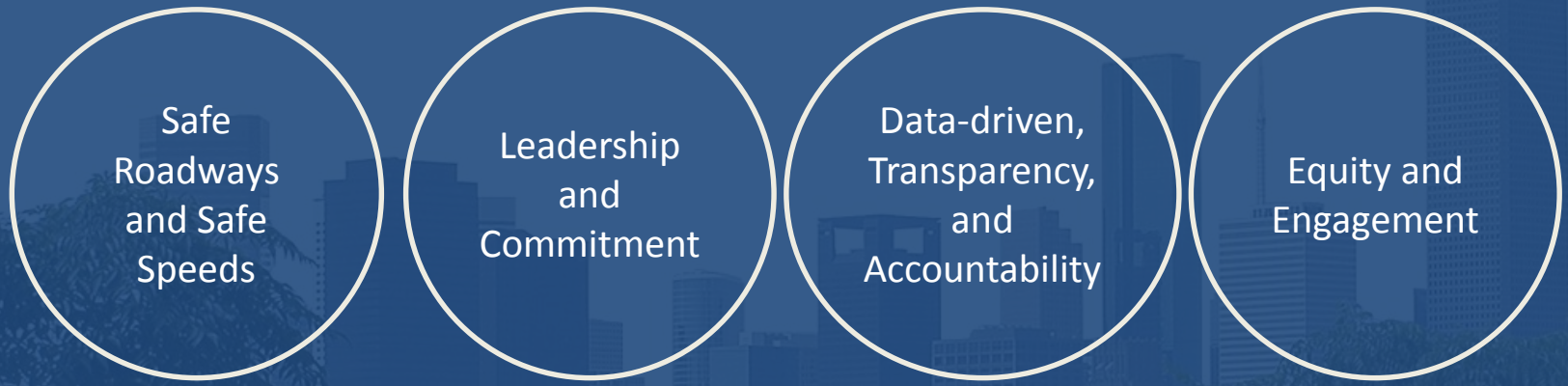
Vision Zero

Strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and serious injuries within a decade



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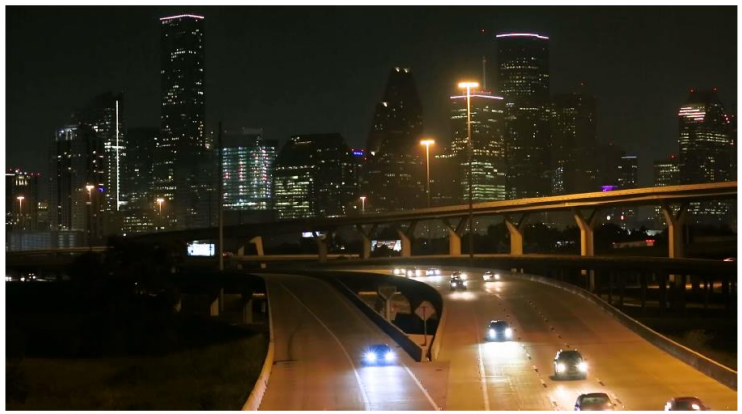
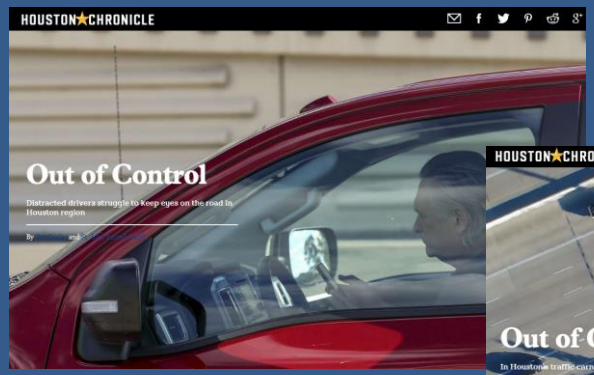
What is the problem?

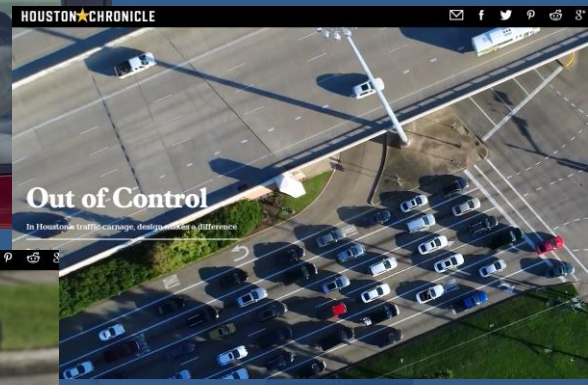


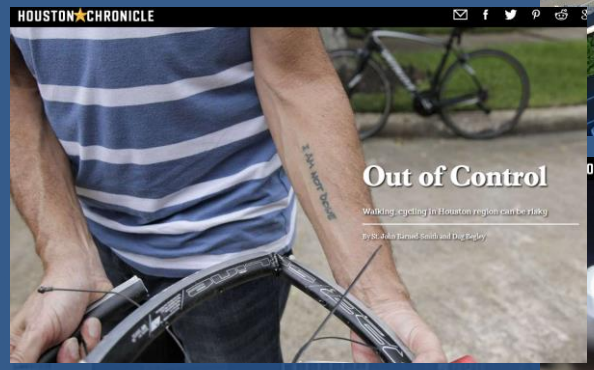
Out of Control

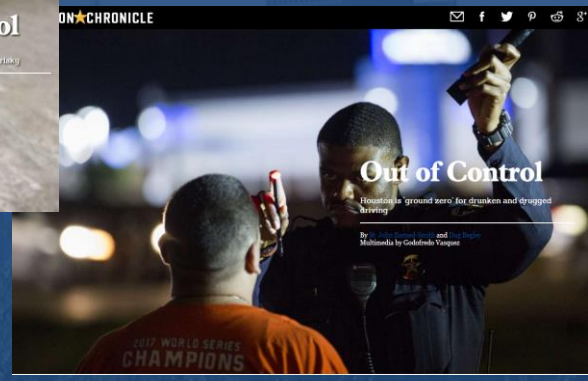
Houston's roads, drivers are country's most deadly

By Dug Begley and St. John Barned-Smith
Multimedia by Godofredo Vasquez









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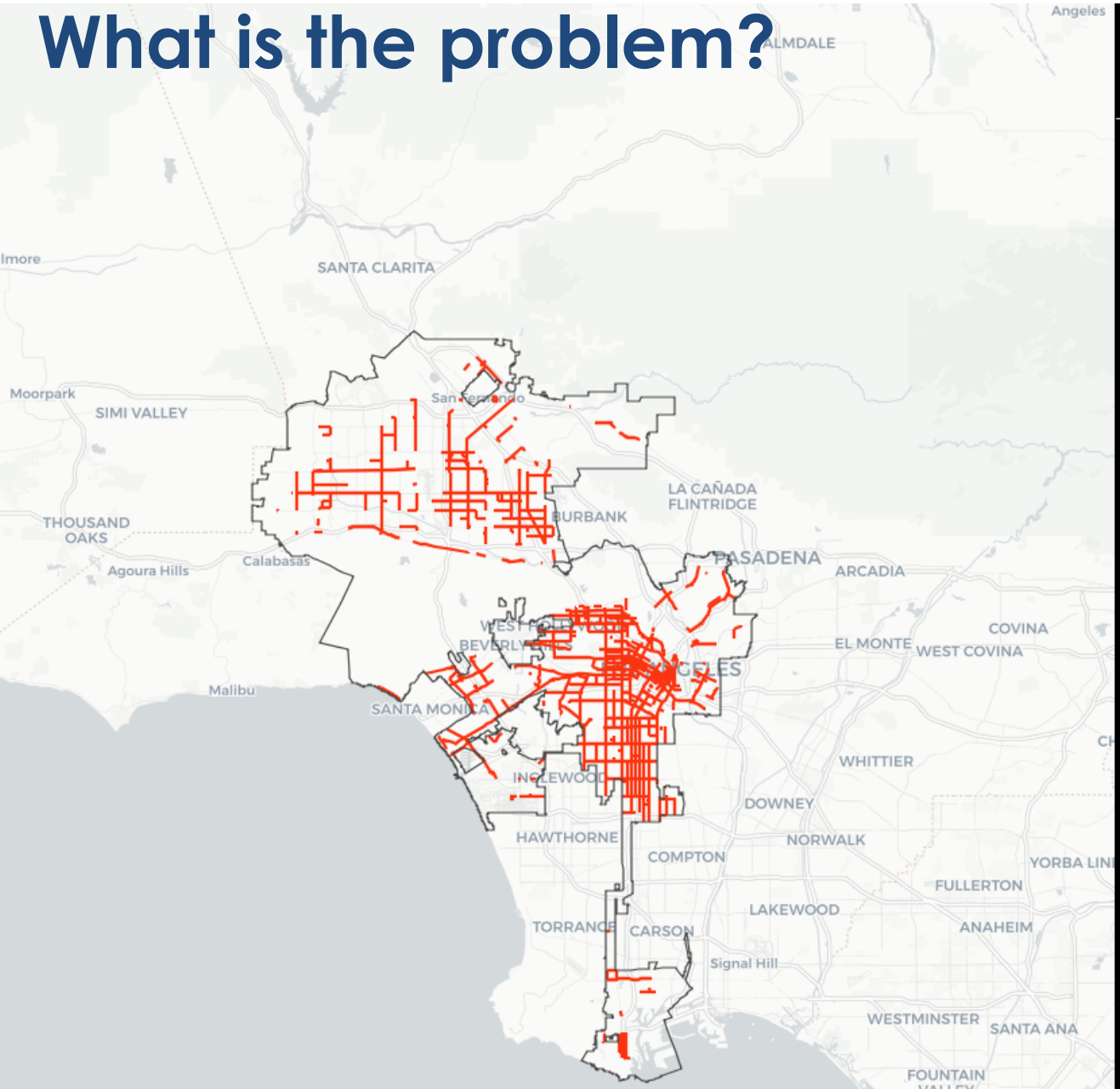
What is the problem?



VISION ZERO
LOS ANGELES | 2015-2025

High Injury Network

How Can We Achieve Vision Zero?

Over 65% of all severe and fatal traffic collisions involving people walking occur on just 6% of our City streets.

By focusing resources on these streets, we can get closer to our Vision Zero goal.

Community Health and Equity Index

Nearly half of the High Injury Network streets are in communities burdened

Developing a Process

Core Steps	City of Houston leads the effort to adopt Vision Zero.	City of Houston creates a Vision Zero Task Force.	Vision Zero Task Force produces Vision Zero Action Plan.	Mayor and City Council pursues ordinance changes and funding.	Other City departments identify and pursue short and long-term strategies to reach goal.
	To do: Executive Order	**To do**: Designate departments, organizations, districts; determine meeting frequency	**To do**: address equity, establish progress reporting mechanism, data collection methods	**To do**: determine funding for staff support of Vision Zero, determine priority ordinance changes	**To do**: internal engagement to brainstorm how departments can participate

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To get to Executive Order…

- Data
  - Crashes, fatalities, and the demographic makeup and causes of those
- Existing Programs
  - Complete Streets, Master Plans, Mobility Plans, Regional Plans, etc.
- Vision Zero Steering Committee and Vision Zero Task Force
  - Committee
    - To ensure that City agencies are accountable and take the actions needed to reach the Vision Zero goals; to coordinate, implement, and evaluate near-term and longer-term actions
  - Task Force
    - Comprised of Steering Committee plus members from other Departments and Bureaus

What we've done so far…

November 7, 2018

Senior-level meet w/ Planning and Development, Houston Public Works (HPW), and Houston Police Department (HPD)

December 7, 2018

Senior-level meet w/ Planning and Development, HPW, HPD, Houston Fire Department (HFD), and Houston Health Department (HHD)

December 17, 2018

Planning and Development meet w/ HPD to discuss data collection and crash reports

December 20, 2018

Planning and Development meet w/ HFD to discuss data collection and crash reports

January 10, 2019

Planning and Development meet w/ HHD to discuss data collection and management

Moving Forward

- Data collection and analysis
  - Significant progress toward High Injury Network (detailed crash profiles w/ countermeasures) prior to estimated May 2019 formal adoption
    - Formation of Data Task Force?
- Message and directives in the interim, prior to Executive Order
  - How can we start to obtain community feedback?
  - What needs to change at your own agency to make Vision Zero successful?
  - How do we start to engage other agencies?

Bike Month

- Key Dates
  - Bike to School Day – May 8
  - Bike to Work Day – May 17

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Important Dates

- METRONext public meetings
  - Jan. 26 to Feb. 13
- H-GAC TIP Call for Projects public meetings
  - Feb. 5 (west side) and Feb. 12 (H-GAC)
  - Public comment period Jan 16 to Feb 28
- TxDOT Safe Routes to Schools/Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects
  - https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/modes-of-travel/bicycle.html

Bike Houston Important Dates

- BikeHouston People for Bikes Draft - Feb. 12
- Texas Bike Summit – Feb. 23-24
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Next Meetings

Infrastructure Subcommittee

February 28, 2:30-4:30pm, 611 Walker, 6th Floor

Education Subcommittee

March 14, 2:30-4:30pm, 611 Walker, 6th Floor

Bicycle Advisory Committee

April 24, 2:30-4:30pm, City Hall Annex Council Chambers

Safer Streets Initiative Update

BAC Presentation – 1/16/19

Ian Hlavacek, P.E.
Houston Public Works

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History

- **2017**: Complete Communities / Safer Street Initiative
- **May 2018**: Expansion of Safer Streets Initiative
- **Summer 2018**: Work with BikeHouston and LINK Houston to identify priority intersections.
- **September 2018**: Road Safety Audit Phase 1
- **January 2019**: Road Safety Audit Phase 2

Safer Streets for People Walking & Biking

Priority Intersections

Approved by Mayor Turner
July 13, 2018

LINK Houston Crash-based

1. Fannin & Pierce
2. Ranchester & Bellaire
3. Westheimer & S Dairy Ashford
4. Long Point & Gessner
5. Westpark Dr & U.S. 59 South
6. Old Spanish Trail & 288 South
7. Fondren & West Bellfort
8. Bissonnet & Wilcrest
9. West & Airline
10. Bellaire & S Gessner

BikeHouston Members

1. **Sunset & Main & Fannin***
2. Shepherd & Allen Pkwy & Kirby
3. Taylor & Spring & MKT Trl
4. 11th St & Nicholson
5. West 610 & Woodway & Arbor. Trl
6. **Houston & Spring & MKT Trl***
7. Hawthorne & Spur 529 & Holman
8. Patterson & Washington
9. Waugh/Heights & Memorial
10. Weslayan & Westpark/US 59
11. Morningside & Bellaire

* Project already in progress

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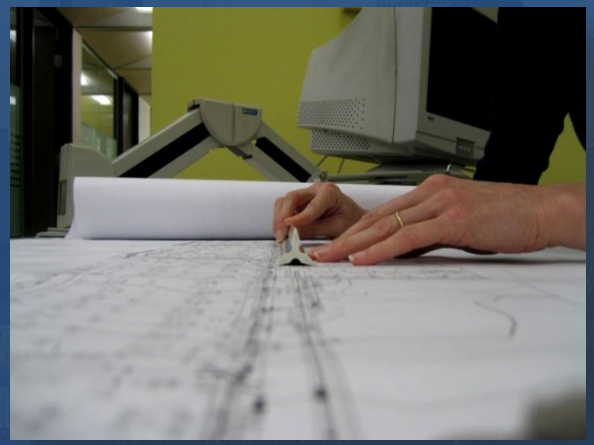
Road Safety Audit Definition

A **formal safety performance examination** of an **existing or future road** or intersection by an **independent, multi-disciplinary RSA team**.







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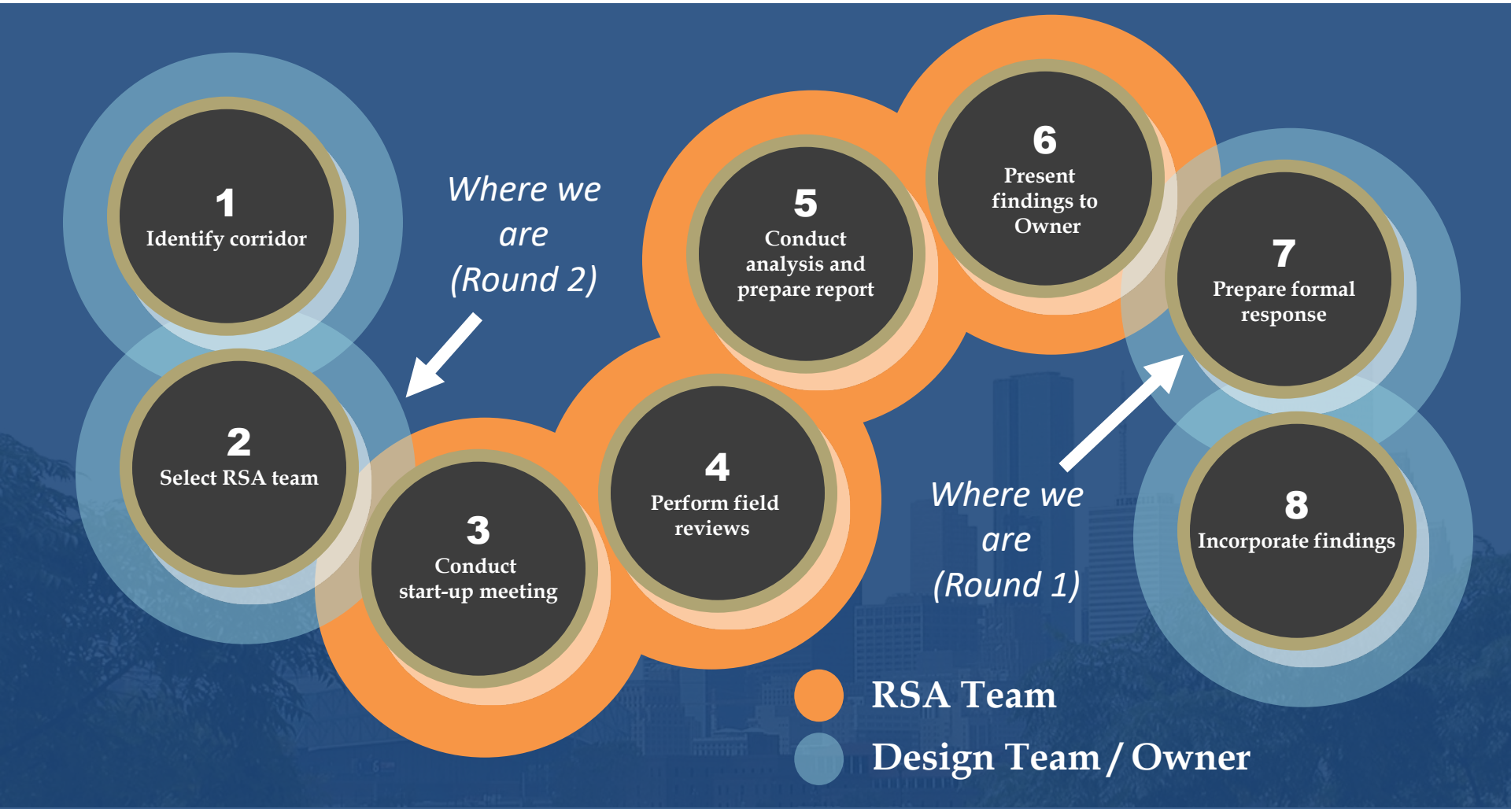
General Characteristics of an RSA



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“Forensic” Analysis

- Crash trends
- Collision diagrams
- Traffic counts
- Houston Bike Plan
- On site observations
- Geometrics
- Pavement condition
- Signs and markings
- Human factors contributions



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Preliminary Findings: General Issues and Concerns

- Pedestrian and bicycle crashes
- Pedestrian and bicycle comfort
- Aggressive driving/excessive speeds
- Mitigating turning movement conflicts
- Lighting to see pedestrians and bicycles
- ADA/accessibility
- Connections to transit
- Connections to businesses, schools, residences



Next Steps

- ~~FHWA will prepare a draft recommendation report~~
- ~~HPW will review and respond with proposed actions~~
- FHWA will prepare final report, which will be made public
- HPW and partners will seek funding and develop timeline for implementation
- Next six intersections will be analyzed in ~~Spring 2019~~ two weeks!

Next 6

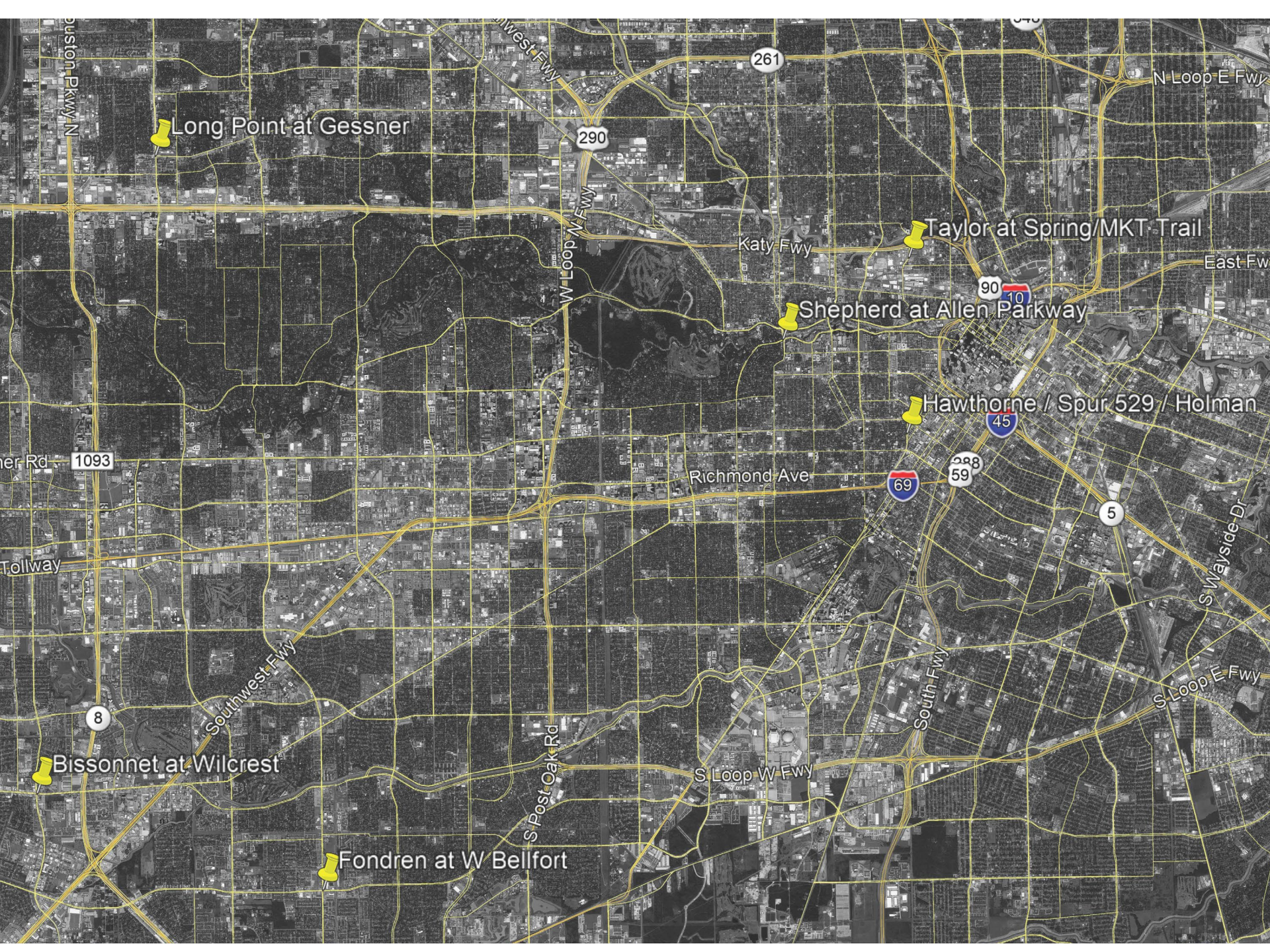
LINK Houston Crash-based

1. Fannin & Pierce
2. Ranchester & Bellaire
3. Westheimer & S Dairy Ashford
4. Long Point & Gessner
5. Westpark Dr & U.S. 59 South
6. Old Spanish Trail & 288 South
7. Fondren & West Bellfort
8. Bissonnet & Wilcrest
9. West & Airline
10. Bellaire & S Gessner

BikeHouston Members

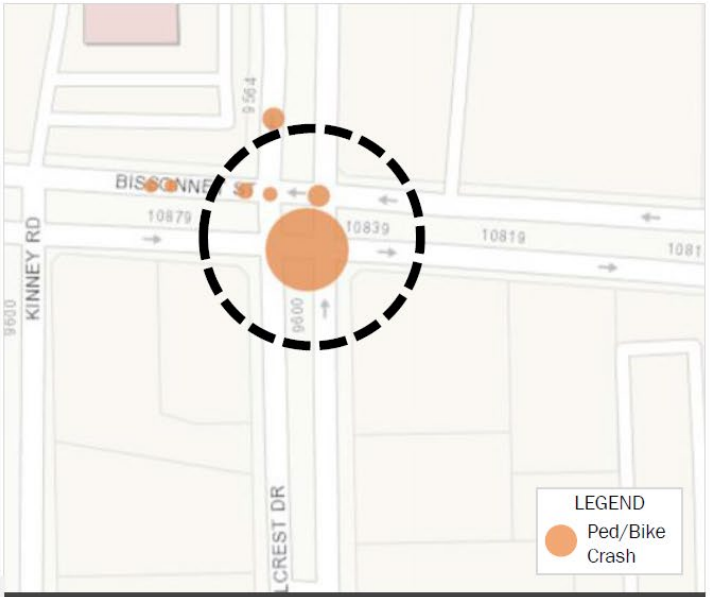
1. **Sunset & Main & Fannin***
2. Shepherd & Allen Pkwy & Kirby
3. Taylor & Spring & MKT Trl
4. 11th St & Nicholson
5. West 610 & Woodway & Arbor. Trl
6. **Houston & Spring & MKT Trl***
7. Hawthorne & Spur 529 & Holman
8. Patterson & Washington
9. Waugh/Heights & Memorial
10. Weslayan & Westpark/US 59
11. Morningside & Bellaire

* Project already in progress


Long Point at Gessner
Taylor at Spring/MKT Trail
Shepherd at Allen Parkway
Hawthorne / Spur 529 / Holman
Bissonnet at Wilcrest
Fondren at W Bellfort
261
290
90
10
45
69
59
5
8
1093
W Loop N Fwy
Katy Fwy
Richmond Ave
Southwest Fwy
South Fwy
S Loop W Fwy
S Loop E Fwy
N Loop E Fwy
East Fwy
S Post Oak Rd
S Wayside Dr
Tollway

Safer Streets Priority Intersections
for People Walking & Biking





Neighborhood	Alief
# of crashes	8 (8 walking, 0 biking) 1 ped death
Value of prevention	$13.0m
# population in tract [a]	2,780 48201453300
% HHs in poverty [a]	36%
% HHs with no vehicle [a]	10%
# jobs in proximity [b]	720
# schools within ¼-mile [c]	3
# transit stops adjacent [d]	4 (150 weekday boardings/alightings)

8 of 10

BISSONNET & WILCREST

Sources: A. H-GAC Demographic Data Explorer, B. H-GAC Activity-Connectivity Explorer, C. Google Maps, D. Houston METRO

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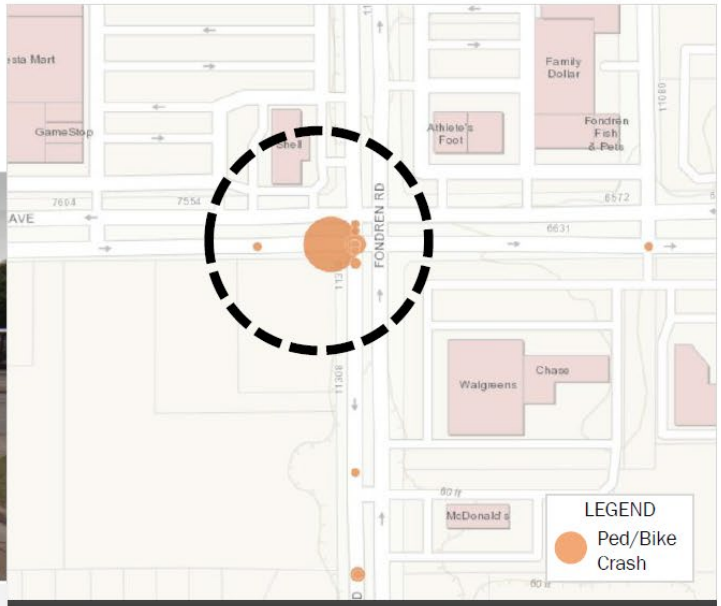
Safer Streets Priority Intersections
for People Walking & Biking





Neighborhood	Greater Fondren Southwest
# of crashes	12 (11 walking, 1 biking) 1 ped death
Value of prevention	$14.3m
# population in tract [a]	5,142 48201423302
% HHs in poverty [a]	20%
% HHs with no vehicle [a]	14%
# jobs in proximity [b]	791
# schools within ¼-mile [c]	2
# transit stops adjacent [d]	3 (504 weekday boardings/alightings)

7 of 10

FONDREN & WEST BELLFORT

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows

Sources: A. H-GAC Demographic Data Explorer, B. H-GAC Activity-Connectivity Explorer, C. Google Maps, D. Houston METRO

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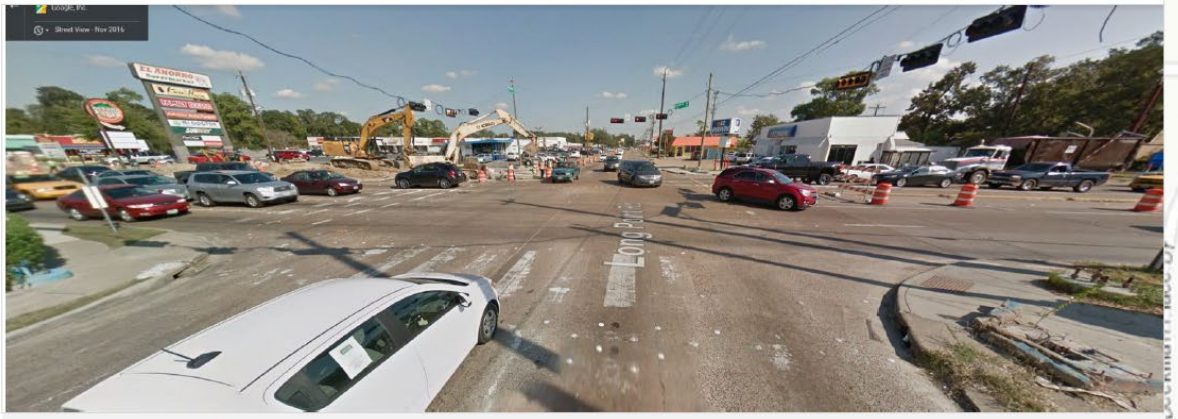
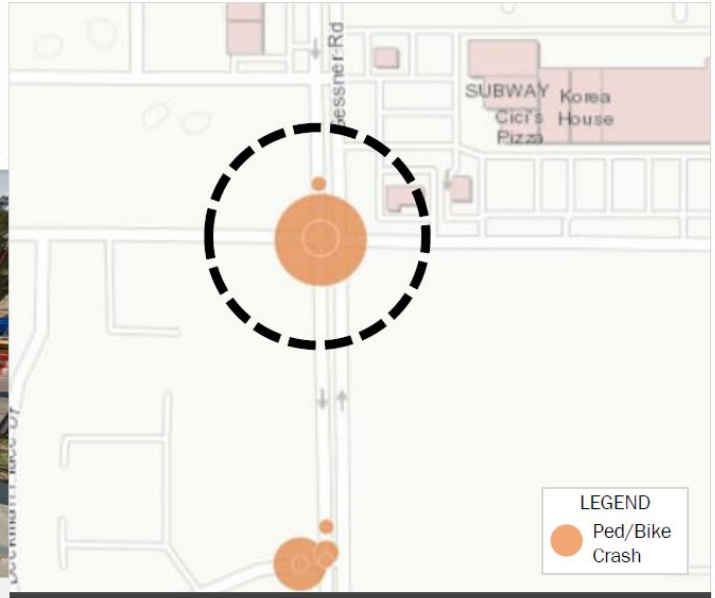
Safer Streets Priority Intersections
for People Walking & Biking





Neighborhood	Spring Branch West
# of crashes	4 (4 walking, 0 biking) 1 ped death
Value of prevention	$14.7m
# population in tract [a]	4,324 48201522202
% HHs in poverty [a]	38%
% HHs with no vehicle [a]	10%
# jobs in proximity [b]	431
# schools within ¼-mile [c]	2
# transit stops adjacent [d]	2 (303 weekday boardings/alightings)

4 of 10

LONG POINT & GESSNER

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

Sources: A. H-GAC Demographic Data Explorer, B. H-GAC Activity-Connectivity Explorer, C. Google Maps, D. Houston METRO

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Hawthorne/Holman/Spur



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Spring/Taylor/MKT Trail



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Shepherd/Allen Pkwy/Kirby



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RSA Round 2

Kick-Off Meeting:

- Monday Jan 28 at 1PM
- Transtar (6922 Katy Rd), Room 216

Close-Out Meeting:

- Friday February 1 at 1 PM
- Transtar, Room 120A

Please RSVP to ian.hlavacek@houstontx.gov

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Bike Project Implementation Status, Updated January 16, 2019

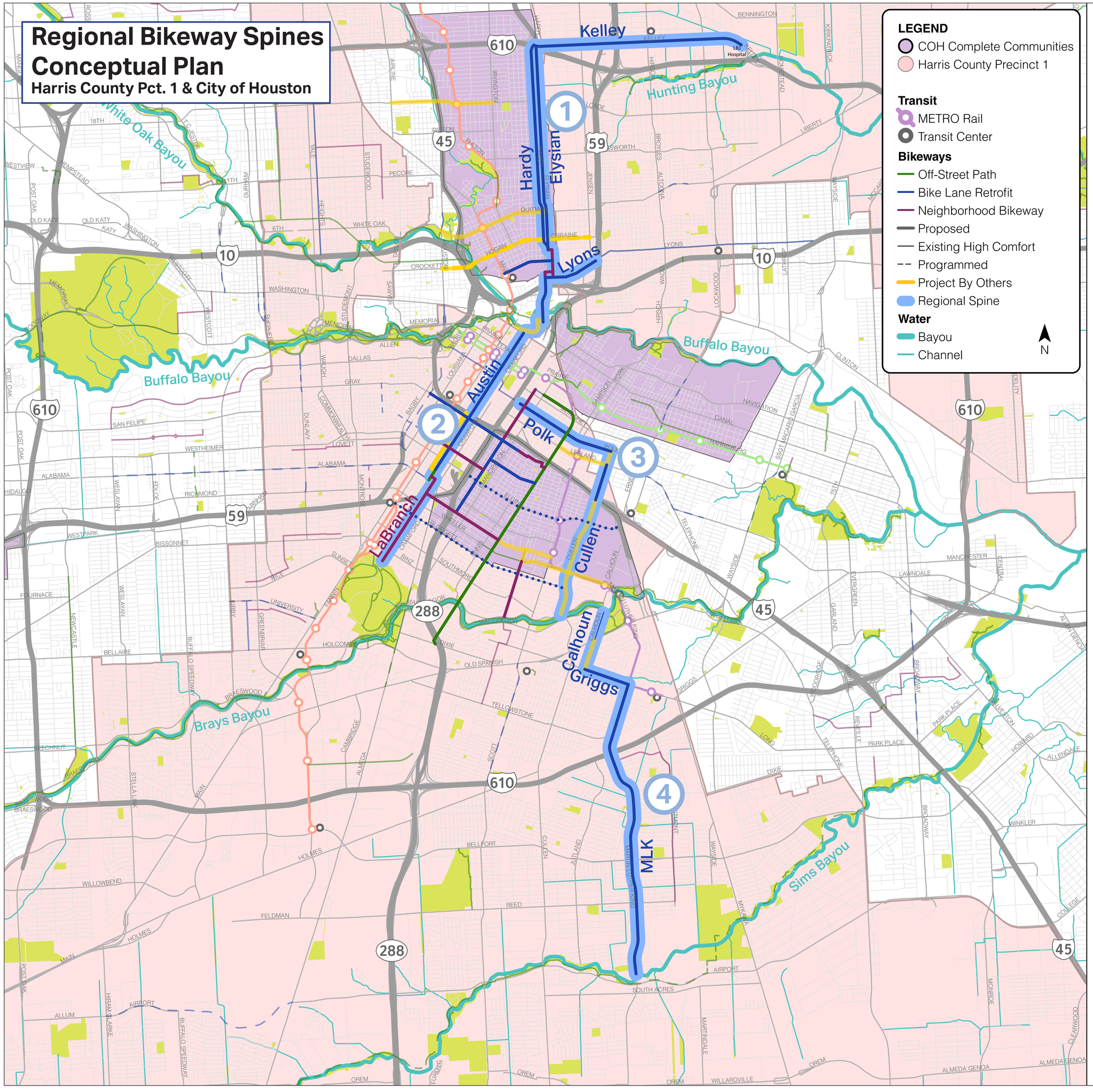
Prepared for the Bicycle Advisory Committee
City of Houston Planning Development Department

Corridors	Mileage	Public Engagement			Design			Construction
		Concept	Design	Pre-Construction	50%	90%	100%	Construction
Near Northside								
Lyons	0.7	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Hardy/Elysian	4.8	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Downtown Connector	1.2	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Kelley	2.5	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Total Mileage	9.1							
Third Ward								
Austin Corridor	3.3	■	■		■			
Gray	1.1	■	■		■			
Polk	1.1	■	■		■			
Cullen	0.2	■	■		■			
Hutchins	1.1	■	■		■			
Cleburne	1.1	■	■		■			
Total Mileage	7.8							
CIP Funding								
Acres Home	13.5	■	■					
Patterson	1.4	■	■					
11th	2.2	■	■					
N Main	1.6	■	■					
Quitman	0.6	■	■					
Total Mileage	19.3							
Future Precinct 1								
Southeast/MLK	5.2	■						
Fifth Ward	TBD	■						

■ = Complete ■ = In Progress

Regional Bikeway Spines Conceptual Plan

Harris County Pct. 1 & City of Houston



LEGEND

- COH Complete Communities
- Harris County Precinct 1

Transit

- METRO Rail
- Transit Center

Bikeways

- Off-Street Path
- Bike Lane Retrofit
- Neighborhood Bikeway
- Proposed
- Existing High Comfort
- Programmed
- Project By Others
- Regional Spine

Water

- Bayou
- Channel

N

1 NORTHEAST — Hardy - Elysian - Kelley — 9.2 Miles

Extents:
Buffalo Bayou to LBJ Hospital

Neighborhoods:
Near Northside; Kashmere Gardens; Fifth Ward

Destinations:
LBJ Hospital; Kashmere Transit Center; 4 HISD schools; Buffalo Bayou

Future Connections/Improvements
Buffalo Bayou (BG2020); Downtown (Austin Street); Hunting Bayou (BG2020); Fifth Ward (Lyons)

2 CENTRAL — Austin Corridor — 3.3 Miles

Extents:
Buffalo Bayou to Hermann Park (Brays Bayou)

Neighborhoods:
Downtown; Midtown; Museum Park

Destinations:
Buffalo Bayou; Downtown/Midtown jobs and attractions; Museum District; Hermann Park

Future Connections/Improvements
Hermann Park Trails (Master Plan); Buffalo Bayou trail (BG2020)

3 EAST — Polk - Cullen — 3.4 Miles

Extents:
Lamar Cycle Track to Brays Bayou

Neighborhoods:
Downtown; East Downtown; Eastwood; Third Ward; MacGregor

Destinations:
Downtown/GRB; Bastrop Promenade; Columbia Tap; University of Houston; TSU; Brays Bayou

Future Connections/Improvements
Includes HC Pct. 1 Cullen reconstruction project from IH 45 to Brays Bayou

4 SOUTHEAST — Calhoun - Griggs - MLK — 5.2 Miles

Extents:
Brays Bayou to Sims Bayou

Neighborhoods:
MacGregor; OST/South Union; South Acres; Sunnyside

Destinations:
UH; Brays Bayou; MacGregor Park; Palm Center; Sims Bayou

Future Connections/Improvements
Park system along Sims Bayou (BG2020)