

TexITE Presentation

Safety Implementation Success in Houston's Special Districts

Presented by:



Jake Gutekunst, PE, AICP
The Goodman Corporation



Don Huml
Hawes Hill and Associates

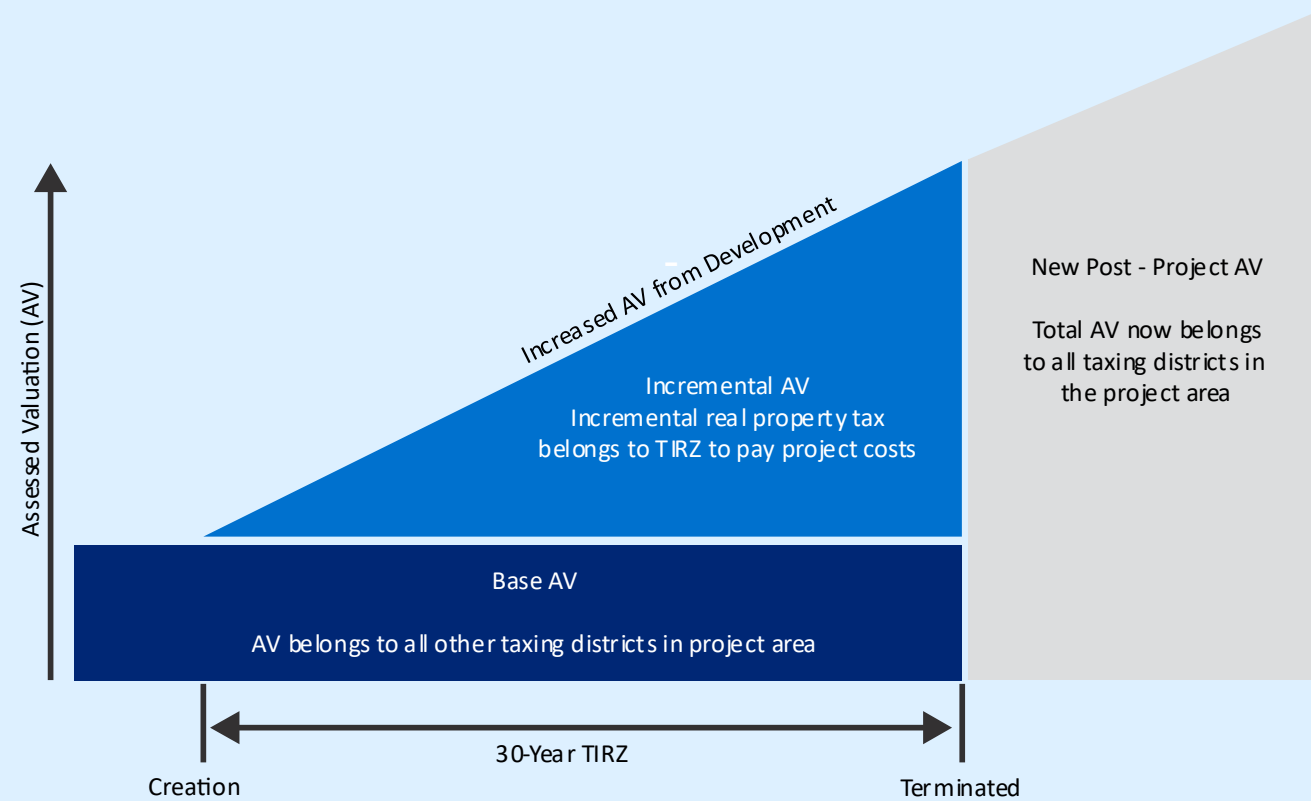


What is a TIRZ?

TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE

- Economic development financing tool
- Created by and regulated by a city or county
- Governed by Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code
- 400+ Zones throughout Texas today
- Intended to support projects that would not occur “but for” a Zone

HOW IT WORKS



What is a Management District?

PURPOSE / USE:

- Support existing major commercial areas
- Promote revitalization / redevelopment
- Support raw land development

AVENUE FOR CREATION:

- State Legislature
- Petition with the TCEQ

POWERS & DUTIES:

- Governed by a Board of Directors
- May levy taxes, assessments, or impact fees in accordance with its Service Plan and only by petition of affected property owners



What are special districts' roles in transportation infrastructure?

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED BY A SPECIAL DISTRICT?

- Roadways and associated utilities & drainage
- Streetlights, public safety
- Traffic control
- Parking facilities
- Transit systems
- Pedestrian walkways, bike lanes

TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE



Design



Construction



**Maintenance &
Operations**

MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Overview of Projects



**Led or
Championed
by Special
Districts**



**Safety and/or
multimodal
focus**



**Trails and
sidewalk
connections**



**Safe
Crossings**



**Maintenance
and gap filling**

Columbia Tap Trail Improvements

LOCATION:

Shell Energy Stadium to Dixie Drive

FUNDING:

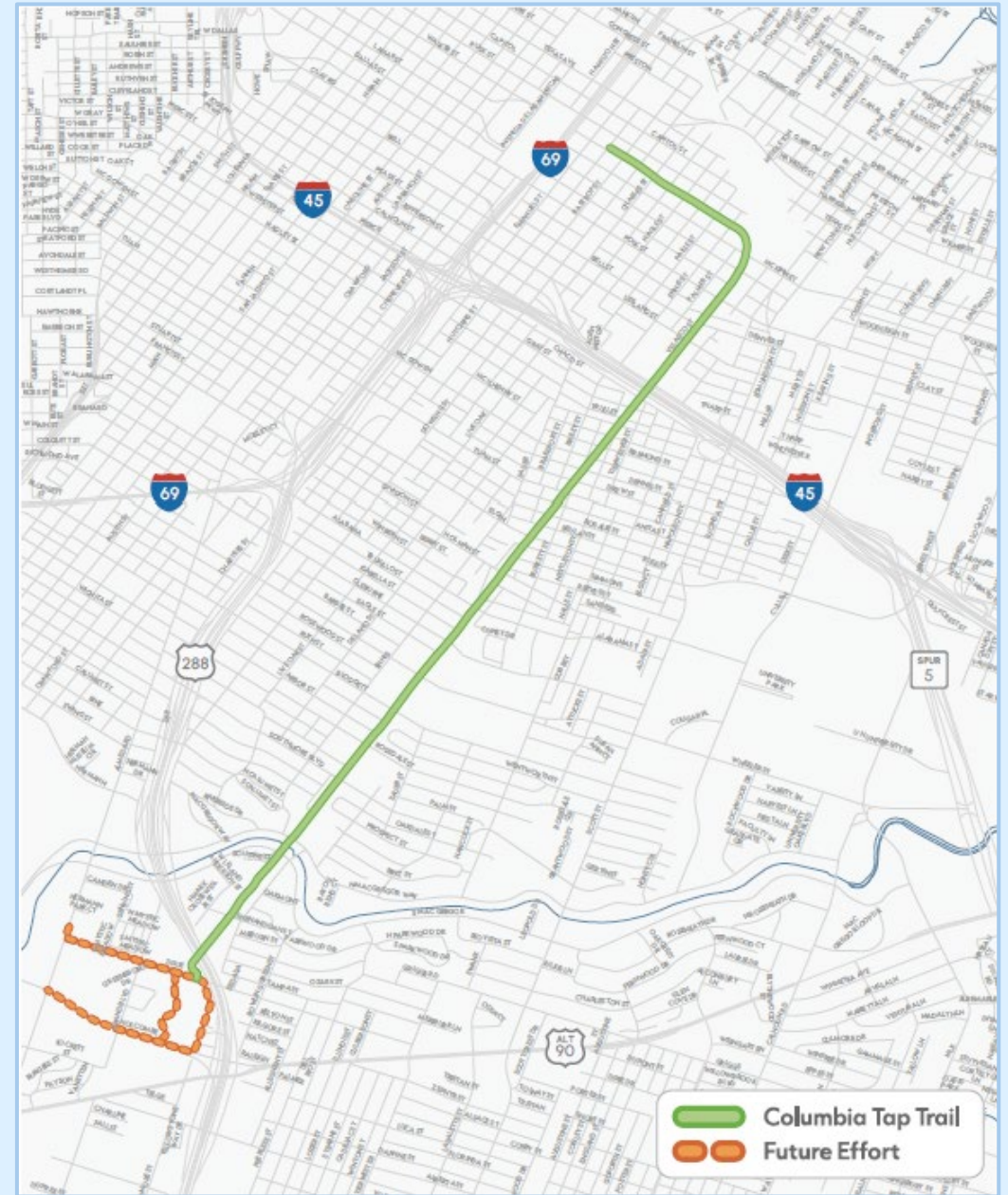
H-GAC/FTA Grant

East Downtown Management District (EaDo)

Greater Southeast Management District (GSEMD)



EaDo



Columbia Tap Trail Improvements

SCOPE (GSEMD Implementing):

Phase 1:

- Trails and sidewalk connections

Phase 2:

- Install intersection crossing safety improvements throughout the corridor (pavement markings, signage, RRFB/PHBs)
- Wayfinding and Signage
- Emergency Call Boxes
- Mile Markers



EaDo



Banner District Refresh



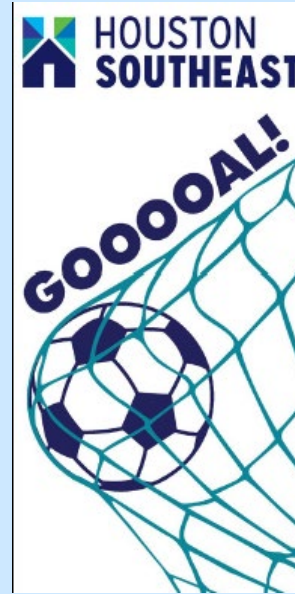
SIDE A



SIDE B



SIDE A



SIDE B



SIDE A



SIDE B

LOCATION:

Almeda Road (IH-69 to Ewing),
MLK Boulevard (Wheeler to LP-610),
Griggs Road (Scott to Long),
OST (England to MLK)

FUNDING:

Greater Southeast
Management District
(GSEMD)

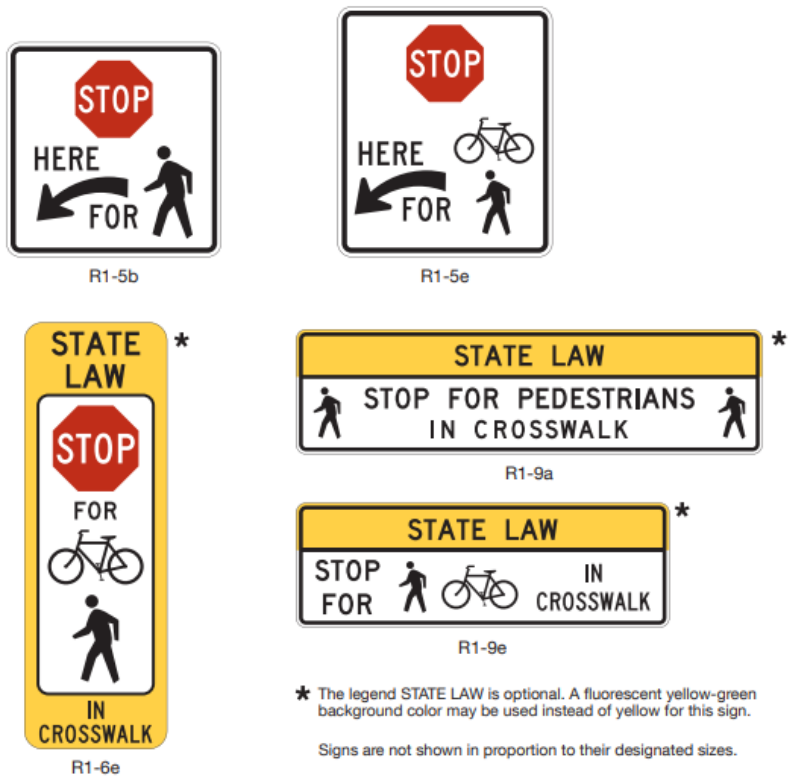
SCOPE:

Install 225 new branded WC
themed banners



Columbia Tap Trail Improvements

Figure 2B-2. Unsignalized Pedestrian Crosswalk Signs



* The legend STATE LAW is optional. A fluorescent yellow-green background color may be used instead of yellow for this sign.

Signs are not shown in proportion to their designated sizes.

Texas MUTCD 2025



Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

Bering Ditch Trail Connection

REASON:

- ✓ Connection
- ✓ Consistent
- ✓ Close Gap

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

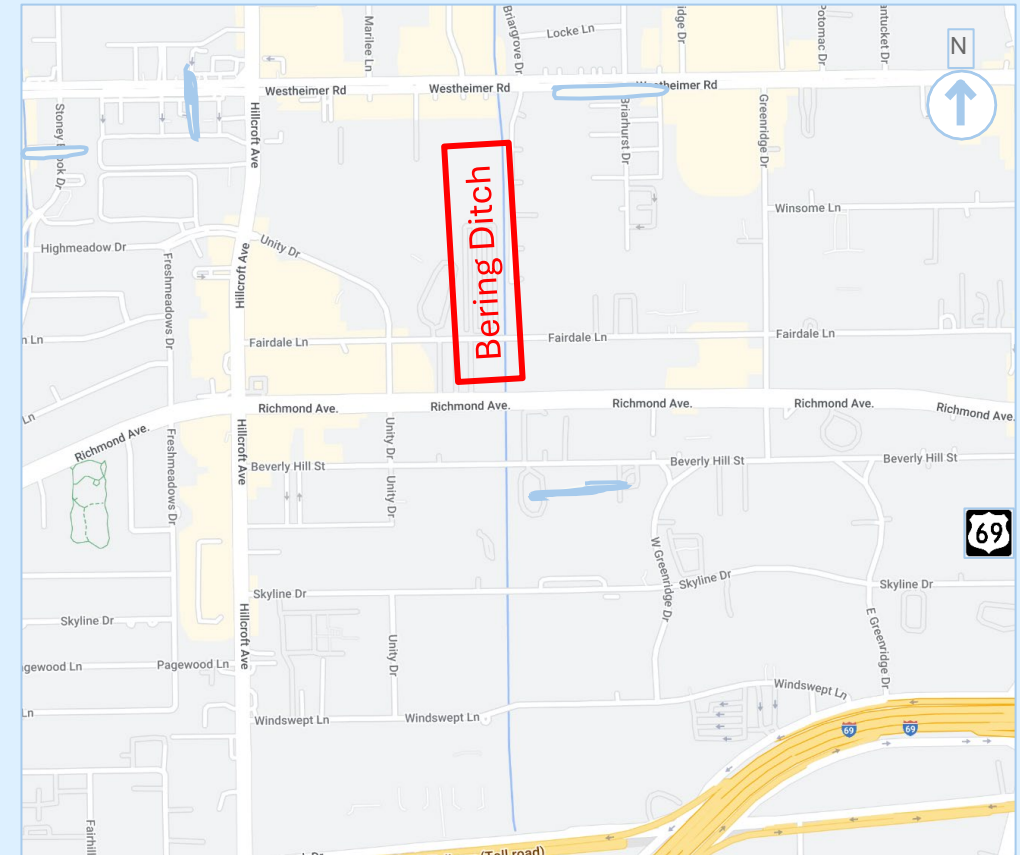
- 1,650 feet corridor
- 7 feet – 15 feet available for sidewalk along east side of Bering Ditch

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

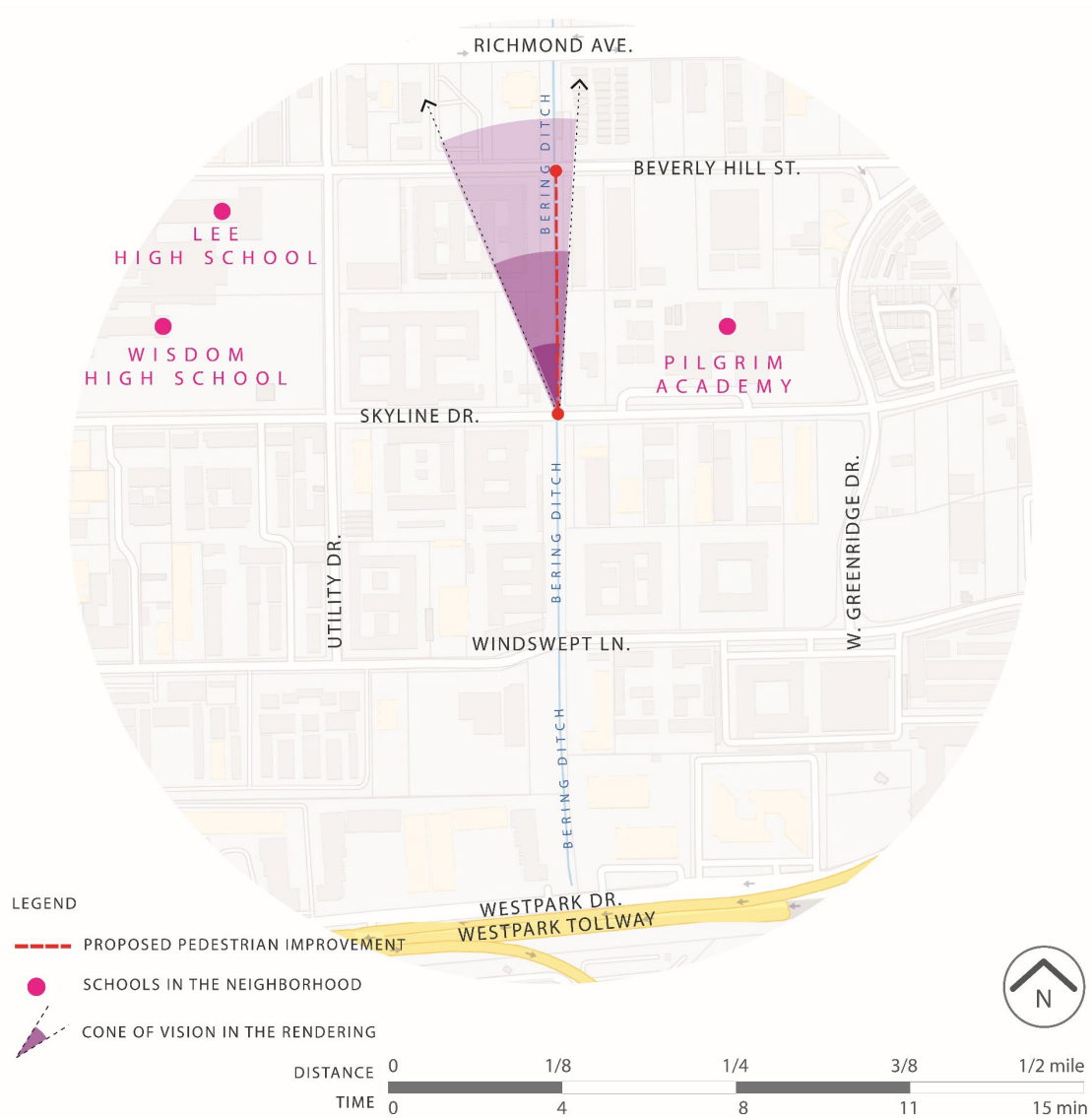
- 4-8 feet wide sidewalk on east side of Bering Ditch
- Install or upgrade ADA ramps and crosswalks to cross Fairdale Ln

CONCERN:

- Right of way along east side of Bering Ditch



St. George Place – Bering Ditch



Before



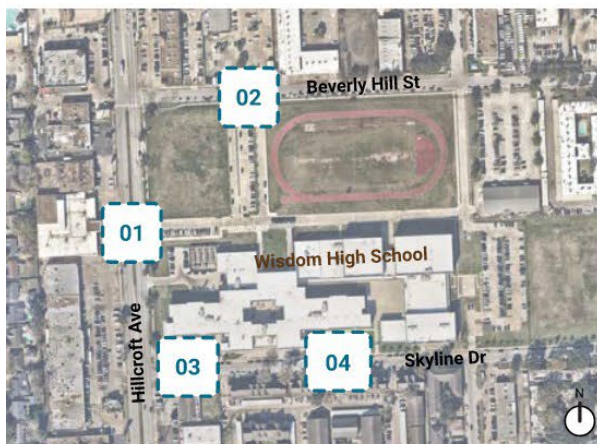
After



St. George Place – Bering Ditch

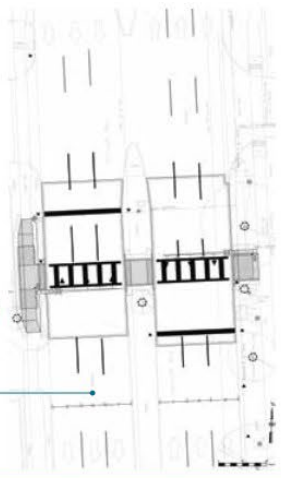


CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS



01 HILLCROFT AVENUE

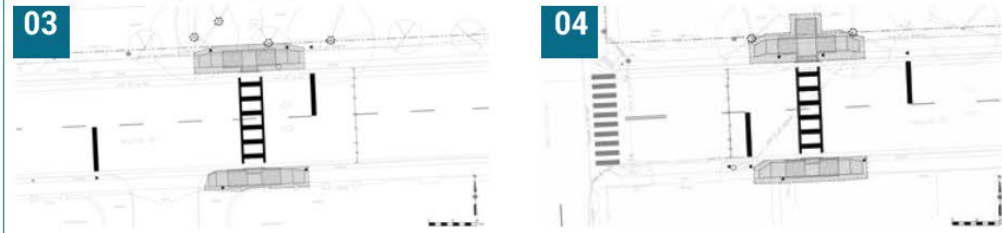
Install mid-block crossings with ADA ramps, high visibility crosswalk, pedestrian refuge island, Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB), pavement markings, and signage



Asphalt pavement mill and overlay by Houston METRO between Westheimer Road and Westpark Drive

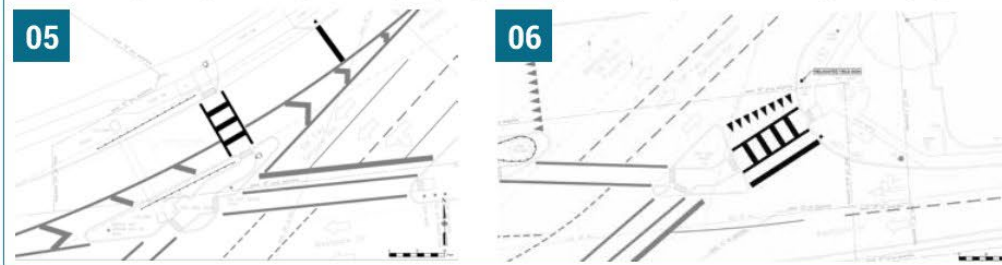
03-04 SKYLINE DRIVE

Install mid-block crossings with ADA ramps, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB), high visibility crosswalk, pavement markings, and signage



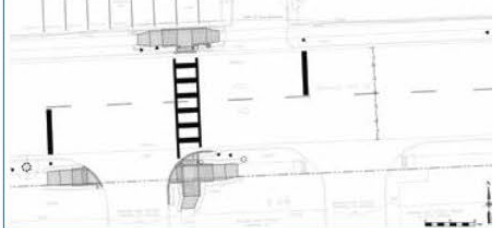
05-06 WESTPARK DRIVE

Install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB), high visibility crosswalk, pavement markings, and signage



02 BEVERLY HILL STREET

Install mid-block crossings with ADA ramps, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB), high visibility crosswalk, pavement markings, and signage



SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS



School Zone Flashing Beacon



Near The School at St. George Place, Houston (Source: Google StreetView)

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)



7237 Airline Dr, Houston

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)



934 N Shepherd Dr, Houston (Source: Google StreetView)

St. George Place Safe School Crossing Improvements



Student Crossing Hillcroft Avenue

Connect Community is dedicated to empowering Gulfton residents through skill development and mutual support. **Scan the QR code to learn about the need for safer streets for Wisdom High School students!**



Project Need

Safe crossing options for pedestrians, especially for students at Wisdom High School and Pilgrim Academy.

Project Purpose

THE GOAL:

- Significantly reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries on Hillcroft Avenue
- Address critical traffic concerns
- Enhance pedestrian infrastructure



Project Partners



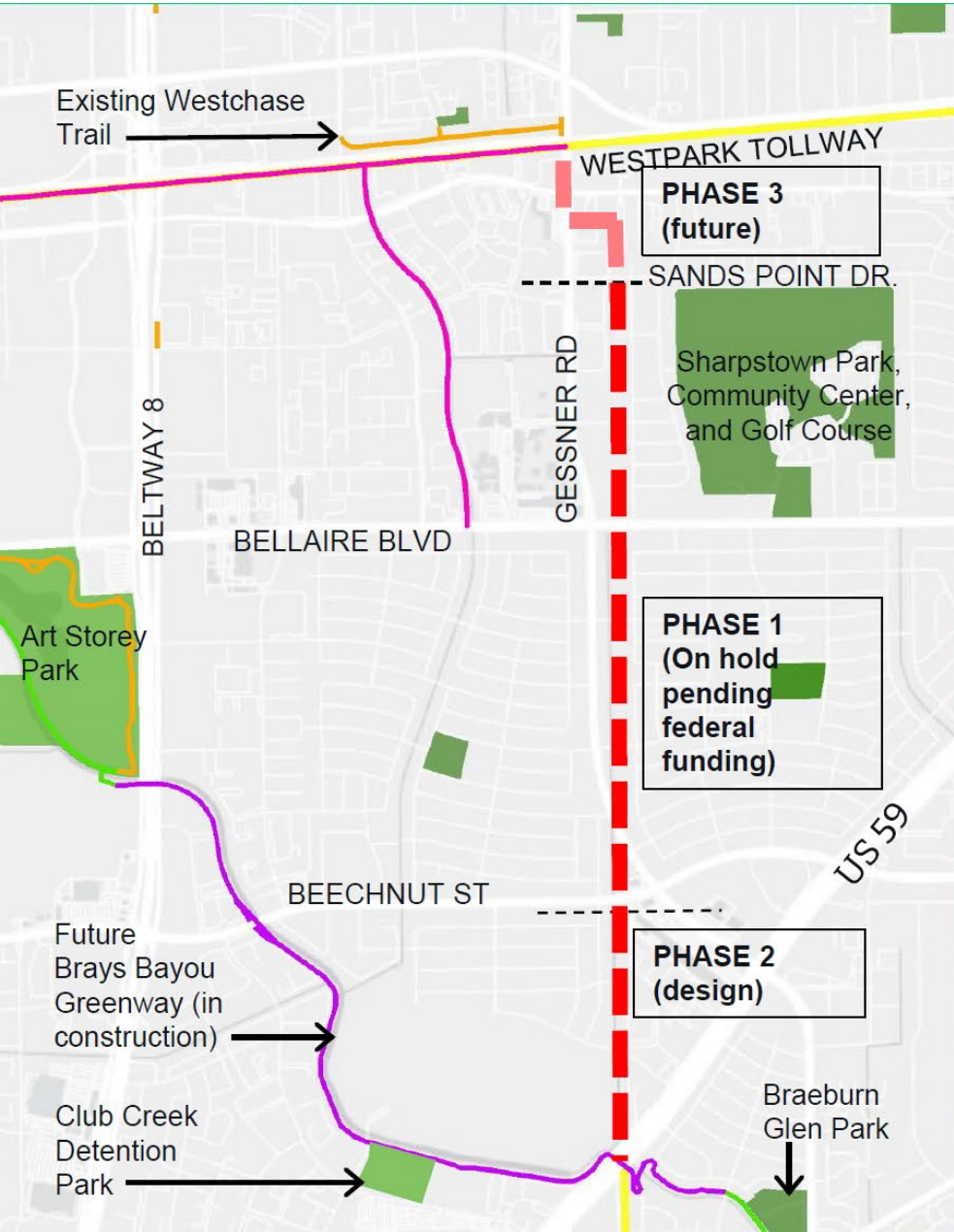
- Led Project Development, Design, Pursuit of Funding
- Leading Project Implementation and Coordination

- Provided Grant Funding
- Partner in Project Implementation and Coordination

- Partner in Project Implementation and Coordination

- Project Champion
- Partner in Coordination with Community

Sharpstown Trail



In 2014, the City of Houston and CenterPoint Energy signed a Master License Agreement that allowed the city to build hike-and-bike trails on CenterPoint Energy utility corridors. This agreement opened the potential for a greatly expanded trail system across the city.

The Sharpstown Trail, when complete, will take advantage of an underutilized green space within the community to provide connectivity, health, safety, and economic benefits. It will connect the Sharpstown neighborhood to the existing Westchase Trails to the north and Brays Bayou Greenway to the south.

Project Partners:

Houston Parks and Recreation Department – Project Sponsor
Southwest Redevelopment Authority – Project Funder
Southwest Management District – Trail Maintenance
Houston Parks Board – Project Manager



Mayor Sylvester Turner



HOUSTON
PARKS BOARD



HPARD
HOUSTON PARKS
AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
A CAPRA Accredited Agency

Maintenance: Sidewalk Replacements

- 28,361 LF Sidewalks to Date
- Over \$3 Million TIRZ Investment
- Improves Pedestrian Safety and Mobility
- Creates Sense of Place and Promotes Economic Development



Maintenance: Concrete Panel Replacements

- 639 Panels Replaced to Date
- Over \$7 Million TIRZ Investment
- Extends Life of Road
- Leverages Transportation Dollars
- Provides Crash Reductions





Source: America's Test Kitchen