The Challenges of Retrofitting Walkability

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The Challenges:

- Setting Goals/Visions
- Identifying a Champion
- Finding Partners
- Working with Stakeholders
- Funding
- Grant Writing
- Network Planning
- Design
- Limited ROW
- Outdated Drainage
- Cost Estimating
- Bidding
- Etc 1
- Etc 2
- Etc 3
- Even more Etc to make the list look really long
The Challenges:

- Challenge 1: Planning
- Challenge 2: Design
The Challenges:

- Challenge 1: Planning
- Challenge 2: Design
Greater East End Management District

District Boundary Map

General Boundaries
The District is 15 square miles East of Downtown Houston.
North: Clinton Drive
East: 610 East Loop
South: Telephone Road to I-45 Gulf Freeway
West: Houston Belt and Terminal Railroad to U.S. 59 North

East End District Boundary

METRO - East End Light Rail Line (Completed October 2013)
Catalyst: Light Rail
Downtown CBD

East End

Focus Area

Study Area
East End Mobility Study

Discussion of Mobility Improvement Opportunities

March 2012

Prepared for:
Figure 1.3 1940-2010 Historical Population Trends - Study Area from US Census
Using HCM Planning Level methodology...
**Canal Street (65' ROW):** two or three-lane roadway with parallel on-street parking to support increases commercial development expected on the corridor.
The Challenges:

- Challenge 1: Planning
- Challenge 2: Design
Challenge 3: Design

- Sub-challenge: Canal
Challenge 3: Design

- Sub-challenge: Canal
- Sub-challenge: Canal at Hutcheson
Drainage is expensive

- Grant: $620,000
- Engineer’s estimate: $613,000
- Low Bid: $914,000

(that’s 49% higher than the estimate for those of you who want to rub it in)
WHAT. THE. HECK. WENT. WRONG?

- Storm inlets: +374%
- Storm pipes: +120%
- Sidewalks: +67%
- Curb/gutter: +61%
- Driveways: 69%
- Asphalt Demo: +39%
- Truncated domes: 192%
laugh