THE WASHINGTON ON WESTCOTT ROUNDABOUT INITIATIVE
A MODERN ROUNDABOUT in HOUSTON
THE WASHINGTON ON WESTCOTT ROUNDABOUT INITIATIVE, INC.

- ORIGINS
- PROCESS
- CONSTRUCTION
- CONSIDERATIONS
- CLOSING
The roundabout is known as The WOW Roundabout

The organization is known as “WOW”

The Washington on Westcott Roundabout Initiative, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) - 1998

Public Private Partnership with the City of Houston - 2003

Project Area is 3.62 acres

Project Cost to date $2.2M
LOCATION

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77007
29°46’15.88” N 95°25’24.61” W
HOW DID WE DO THIS?
COMPONENTS

IDEAS

COMMUNITY

FUNDING
EXISTING CONDITIONS

• INNER LOOP

• HISTORIC CORRIDOR

• PLACES – MIXED USE
  TRADITIONAL + RE-DEVELOPED NEIGHBORHOODS
  COMMERCIAL- INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES
  ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
  MEMORIAL PARK
  BAYOU BEND – MFA Houston
  DOWNTOWN

• CIRCULATION AND EDGES
  IH 10
  IH 610 LOOP
  MEMORIAL DRIVE
  BUFFALO BAYOU
1994 – 1998

• **WASHINGTON AVENUE COALITION**
  Neighborhoods along the Avenue
  West End Business
  Avenue CDC

• **CITY OF HOUSTON**
  Mayor’s office invites collaboration with EDI Architecture
  and CoH Planning + Development
“A Charming Traffic Circle”

The Washington Avenue Coalition Concept
1998 – 2003

• WOW
  Chartered as 501(c)(3)
  Representation from four neighborhoods
  Representation from Memorial Elementary School
  Representation from neighborhood businesses

• WOW - PRIVATE FUNDING
  Executive Director
  Project Development
  Community Process

• CITY of HOUSTON – PUBLIC FUNDING
  Feasibility Study - $25K
  CIP 2002 – Design $500K
WOW CRITERIA

• TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE
• CONTEXT SENSITIVE
• MULTI-MODAL
• INCREASE WALKABILITY
• REINFORCE PROXIMITY TO MEMORIAL PARK
• GATEWAY TO HISTORIC WASHINGTON AVE.
• PRESERVE THE MAGNIFICENT OAK TREE
COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY

VIEW WEST FROM WASHINGTON AVENUE

WASHTON ON WESTCOTT ROUNDABOUT

ALTERNATIVE 3

SCULPTURE / PUBLIC ART OVERLAY
SCOPE OF WORK

• CITY OF HOUSTON
  ROADWAY DESIGN AND ENGINEERING
  ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION
  INFRASTRUCTURE RELOCATION COORDINATION
  ROAD CLOSURES AND TRAFFIC CONTROL

• WOW ROUNDBOUT INITIATIVE
  LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT + DESIGN
  PUBLIC ART SCULPTURES
  ROADWAY PAVERS + SIDEWALK MATERIAL
  TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING
  BENCHES + TRASH RECEPTACLES
  NEIGHBORHOOD AND DONOR WALLS
  LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION
  SIDEWALK AND LANDSCAPE ILLUMINATION
FUNDING + KNOW HOW

2003

- PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
  City of Houston Ordinance

- WOW - PRIVATE FUNDING
  Improvements

- WOW – DESIGN RFP AND SELECTION PROCESS
  Landscape Architect – KEIJI ASAKURA
  Artist (Public Art) – TIM GLOVER

- CITY OF HOUSTON – PUBLIC FUNDING
  RFP for GC
  CIP 2003 – Construction $1M
WOW Roundabout
Houston, Texas
Preliminary Landscape Plan
March 2003
CONSTRUCTION
CONSTRUCTION

• PHASE 1  2004 – 2006
  City of Houston roadway construction

• PHASE 2  2006 – 2007
  WOW landscape, hardscape, furnishings,
  electrical, irrigation + infrastructure improvements

• PHASE 3  2007 - present
  WOW Native Plantings + Public Art
PHASE 1
PHASE 1
IN ADDITION TO EXECUTING CONSTRUCTION, WHAT IS THE CRITICAL GOAL?
KEEP TRAFFIC MOVING!
PHASE 1 – TRAFFIC PLAN
PHASE 1 – TRAFFIC PLAN
PHASE 2 – WOW IMPROVEMENTS

- RICE MILITARY
- WASHINGTON ON WESTCOTT
- WOW ROUNDABOUT
- WOODCREST
- CRESTWOOD
- CAMP LOGAN

ELEVATION WALL

scale: 3/4" = 1'-0"
PHASE 3 – WOW PLANTINGS + SCULPTURE
PHASE 3 – WOW PLANTINGS + SCULPTURE
AFTER – THE WOW ROUNDABOUT
• DESIGN

• ASSETS

• DETAILS

• CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION
CONSIDERATIONS

- DESIGN
  GEOMETRY
  APPROACHES
CONSIDERATIONS

• ASSETS
  OPTIMIZE DESIREABLE, UNIQUE CHARACTER AND QUALITIES
CONSIDERATIONS

• DETAILS
CONSTRUCTION METHODS
CONSIDERATIONS

• CA COORDINATION
  ANTICIPATE
  COMMUNICATE
CONSIDERATIONS

• DETAILS
  MATERIALS
  DESIGN
  DURABILITY
BEFORE + AFTER
COMMUNITY CREATING PLACES
THE WOW ROUNDBOYUT INITIATIVE, INC.
THE WOW ROUNDBOUT INITIATIVE, INC.