Quality of Life
Transportation, Technology &
Infrastructure
Joint Committee Meeting
Proposed Allen Parkway Improvements
Buffalo Bayou Park Improvements

Lost Lake

Johnny Steele Dog Park

Eleanor Tinsley Park
Allen Parkway Project Goals

- Improve public safety for park and parkway uses
- Improve access to/from neighborhoods south of Allen Parkway
- Provide vehicular parking for Buffalo Bayou Park
- Create a “scenic bayou drive” between Shepherd and Downtown
Roadway Modifications

• Safety
  Install traffic signals & pedestrian crossings at 4 locations
  Landscape medians to calm traffic
  Reduce speed limit

• Access
  Provide safer access to IH-45 (TXDOT)
  Provide safe access points to Buffalo Bayou Park for all users

• Parking
  Provide approximately 175 spaces along Buffalo Bayou Park
Existing Lanes

BUFFALO BAYOU PARK

WESTBOUND

ALLEN PARKWAY

EASTBOUND

FRONTAGE

SWA Group
Proposed Lanes

BUFFALO BAYOU PARK

ACCESS LANE

WESTBOUND

ALLEN PARKWAY

EASTBOUND

SWA Group
Proposed Improvements
Taft Street - Existing Conditions
Taft Street - Parking & Access Lane
Create a more urban environment to encourage lower speeds
West of Taft Street - Existing Median
West of Taft Street - Proposed Westbound
East of Park Vista Drive – Existing Frontage
Skyline View
Eastbound Allen Parkway

Video Animation
Traffic Analysis

- Existing peak hour traffic volumes
- Existing lane configurations and signal timings
- Proposed lane configurations with new signal timings
- Analyzed various scenarios
  Existing vs. Proposed
  40 mph vs. 35mph
  AM and PM peak hours
# Travel Time Comparison

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<th>AM Peak Hour Travel Time (min)</th>
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<td><strong>Difference</strong></td>
<td>.98 =</td>
<td>.69 =</td>
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<td>59 seconds</td>
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Conclusion

- **Safer access when crossing Allen Parkway**
  - Addition of three traffic signals with pedestrian crossings
  - Addition of a pedestrian-activated traffic signal
  - Reduced speed

- **Auto traffic benefits**
  - Safer access to IH-45 (TXDOT)
  - Road alignment is improved

- **Parking for Buffalo Bayou Park**
  - Approximately 175 spaces
Proposed Project Schedule & Budget


- Construction  July 2015 – May 2016

- Project Budget  $10 MM
Requested Action of Council

- Increase of Downtown Redevelopment Authority’s debt authorization
  - Existing $30 million
  - Proposed Increase of $60 million

- Why? Major DRA projects 2015-2017:
  - Dallas Street Shopping District Improvements
  - Main Street Improvements
  - Allen Parkway
  - South downtown park