



# Nottingham Area Paving and Drainage

CIP No. M-000247-0001

## PROJECT INFORMATION

*Updated November 2016*



# About the Project Area

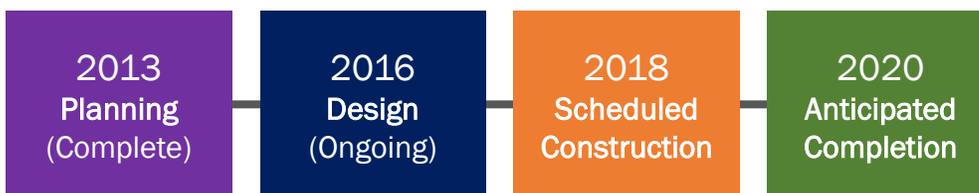
This Capital Improvement Plan project provides storm water drainage and paving improvements to reduce the potential for structural flooding in the Nottingham neighborhood.

Project limits encompass Kirkwood Road from Memorial Drive to Britoak Lane (south of Katy Freeway).

The Nottingham Paving and Drainage Project is at 90% in the design stage.

The project is funded and programmed for construction in late 2017 or early 2018.

## PROJECT TIMELINE



*\*Timeline subject to change.*

### Public Input Meetings held:

June 16, 2016  
July 12, 2016

### Meeting Locations:

Thornwood Elementary School  
14400 Fern Dr.  
Houston, TX 77079

Memorial West Community Club  
700 N Kirkwood Rd.  
Houston, TX 77079

### Presenter:

Carol Haddock, P.E.  
Deputy Director  
Engineering and  
Construction Division

Department of Public  
Works & Engineering  
(PWE)

### Total # of Attendees:

150

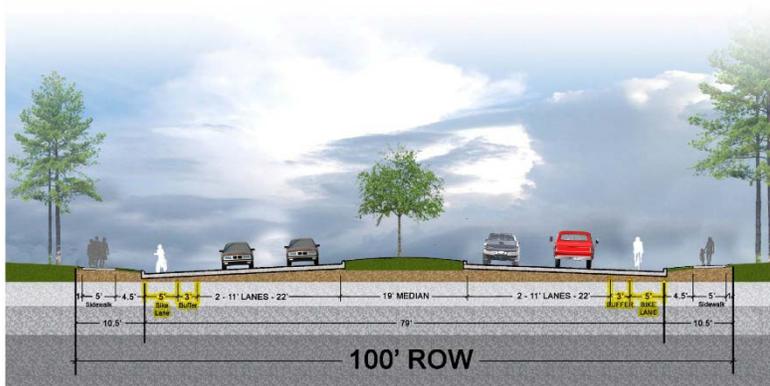
# Project Details

Proposed improvements as presented at the public meeting include:

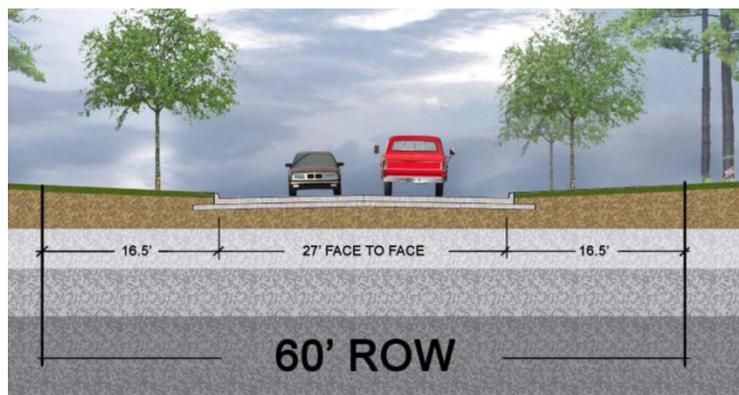
- All work will be done within the existing right-of-way. Roadway will be reconstructed.
- Increasing the lane width from 10-ft to 11-ft.
- Widening the on-street bike lane from 4-ft to 5-ft with a 3-ft painted buffer.
- Adding dedicated left turn lanes by decreasing the median width from 31-ft to 19-ft or 23-ft.
- Sidewalks will be widened from 4-ft to 5-ft.
- Underground storm sewer will be added and upsized. Water and wastewater lines will be replaced.

The reconstruction of Woodthorpe Lane includes:

- All work will be done within the existing right-of-way.
- Reconstruction of the roadway will decrease the width from 27-ft to 26-ft.
- Underground storm sewer will be added. Water and wastewater lines will be replaced.



**KIRKWOOD NORTH OF MEMORIAL**



**WOODTHORPE**

\*Project design subject to change.

# Summary of Public Comments

## Left Turn Lanes

Residents do not support left turn lanes due to the lack of daily use, and the anticipated increase in traffic speeds, cut through traffic, and impervious cover, which will require additional detention. Residents suggest left turn lanes at Kimberley Lane and Memorial Drive only.

### *PWE Response:*

*We are considering options for limiting additional left turn lanes. A comprehensive traffic study of the area is on-going, including an in-depth review of left turn movements. The study is looking at possibilities to reduce the number of left turn lanes overall. Once study results are available, we will issue a Project Information Update with new information.*

Major Categories or Areas of Concern Are:

Left Turn Lanes

Medians

Trees

Bike Lanes

Nottingham

Task Force

Recommendations

Comment Period:

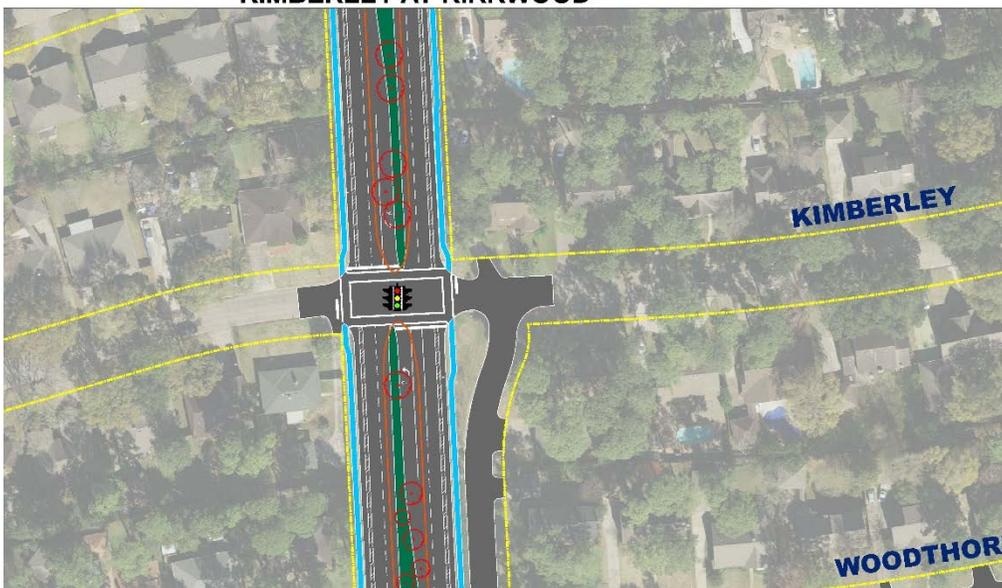
June 16 thru

August 12, 2016

# of Comments Received:

700+

KIMBERLEY AT KIRKWOOD



# Summary of Public Comments

## Medians

Residents recommend reducing the number of median openings. Current median width allows cars to safely pause in traffic before turning left onto Kirkwood Rd. The U-turn maneuver is both protected and easier with the wider median openings. Residents do not favor improvements that require a reduction in the overall median width.

## PWE Response

*We are reviewing feasible options to minimize encroachment into the median while we await the more detailed traffic and tree studies. We will adjust our recommendations based on these studies once they are available. We will issue an updated Project Information Update with any new information.*



Major Categories or Areas of Concern Are:

Left Turn Lanes

Medians

Trees

Bike Lanes

Nottingham

Task Force

Recommendations

*Pending traffic and tree studies will determine the width and number of median openings.*



# Summary of Public Comments

## Trees

Residents feel that the removal of trees within the esplanades will diminish aesthetics and potentially impact property values. While they understand that the removal of some trees are necessary, residents would like the City to save as many trees as possible.

### *PWE Response:*

*We understand resident concerns that the proposed project design affects the esplanades and greenspace. We believe that a reduction in left turn lanes, will also aid in saving some of the more mature trees in the existing esplanades. PWE Engineers will adhere as closely as possible to design standards and the COH Tree Ordinance by considering all options as we finalize the roadway layout and improve mobility in this section.*

Major Categories or Areas of Concern Are:

Left Turn Lanes

Medians

Trees

Bike Lanes

Nottingham

Task Force

Recommendations



For more information on the City of Houston Tree Ordinance, Please visit: <http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/forestry/treeordinance.html>

# Summary of Public Comments

## Bike Lanes

Residents believe that the proposed bike lane configuration should include a physical barrier such as plastic bollards or armadillo humps between the bicycle lane and the car lane to enhance the comfort level of cyclists. Bike lanes should also be moved away from the curb and incorporated into a dual-use 6- to 8-ft walkway/ bikeway. Residents also believe that bike lanes along Kirkwood Rd. are unsafe due to high traffic speeds and volumes.

## PWE Response

*The City of Houston Complete Streets Program provides mobility goals that include bike facilities. Current 4-ft on-street bicycle facilities are acknowledged by the City as low comfort bicycle facilities and not an appropriate design for a corridor of this nature. While a 5-ft bike lane with 3-ft buffer does provide a more amendable high-comfort facility, public concern regarding perceived safety issues of an on street facility is acknowledged. Dual use pathways or side paths were proposed by the public as an option, but should be properly configured to 8-ft minimum to allow for both pedestrian and bicycle movements. Studies are being conducted evaluating such recommendation. Once study results are available, we will issue a Project Information Update with new information.*

Major Categories or Areas of Concern Are:

Left Turn Lanes

Medians

Trees

**Bike Lanes**

Nottingham

Task Force

Recommendations



*At this time, we do not recommend removing bike facilities from Kirkwood.*



# Summary of Public Comments

## Nottingham Task Force Recommendations

- Reconstruct two lanes each direction
- Maintain current median width
- Provide left turn lanes at signalized intersections only
- Eliminate existing and proposed bike and buffer lanes, replace with dual use six-foot side paths for pedestrian and bikes

## PWE Response

*The City of Houston received the Nottingham Task Force August 4, 2016 letter. We are evaluating the above summarized recommendations and have commissioned additional technical analysis. Once analysis results are available, City Staff will meet to determine appropriate changes to the design elements as previously presented in the public meetings.*

*The City will issue an updated Project Information Report when design decisions are finalized.*

Major Categories or Areas of Concern Are:

Left Turn Lanes

Medians

Trees

Bike Lanes

**Nottingham Task Force Recommendations**

*At this time, we do not recommend removing bike facilities from Kirkwood.*

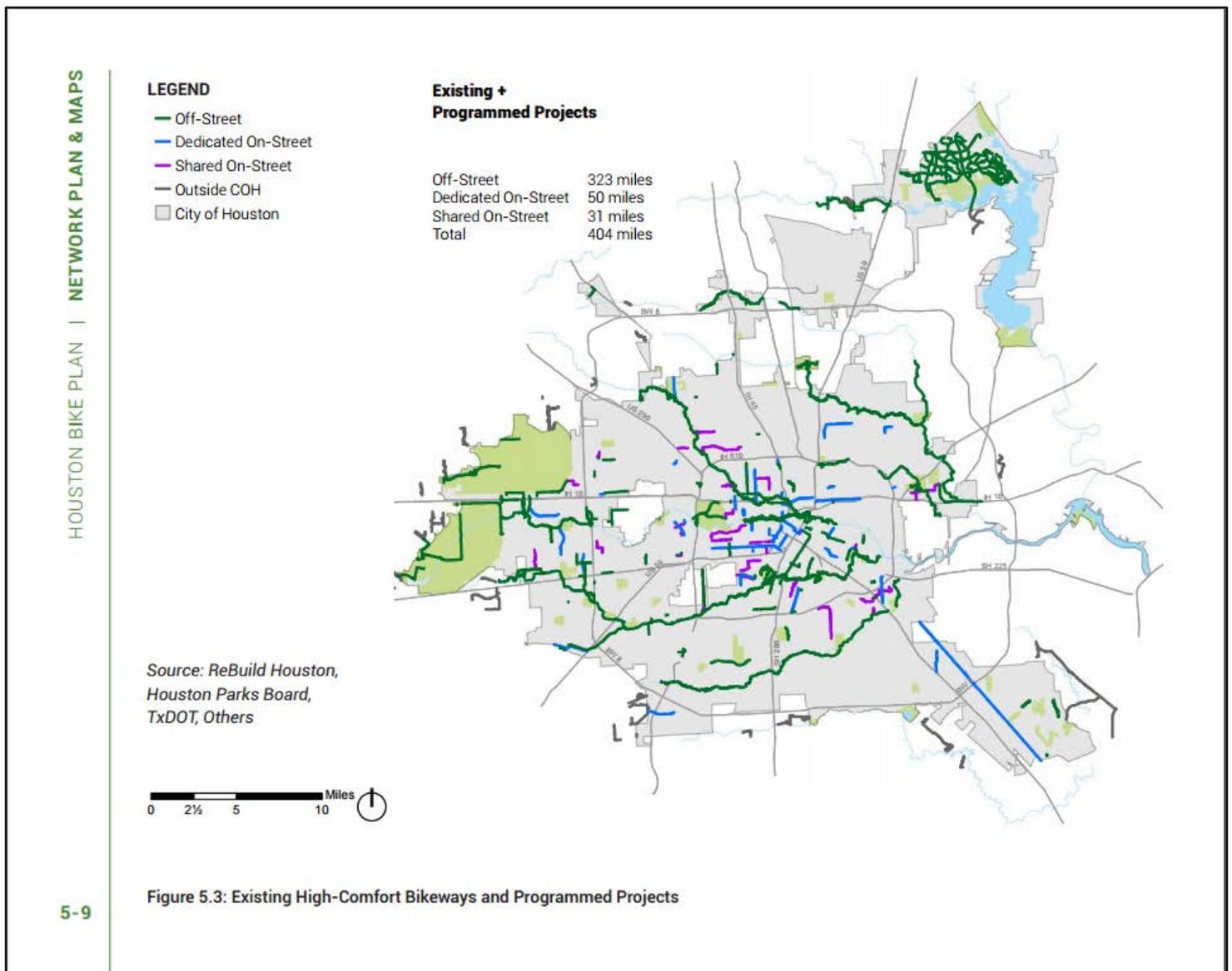


# About the Houston Bike Plan

The City of Houston developed the Houston Bike Plan through a 12-month planning effort to update the City's Comprehensive Bikeway Plan originally adopted in 1993. The City and the Houston region have made great strides in improving people's ability to bike to more destinations, earning a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community award from the League of American Bicyclist in 2013. New trails are being built along our bayous, new protected bikeways have been installed, and more people are riding all over the city.

For more information, please visit:

<http://houstonbikeplan.org/about-the-houston-bike-plan>



# About Complete Streets and Rebuild Houston

## ABOUT COMPLETE STREETS

Houston Complete Streets and Transportation Plan (Executive Order 1-15) guides the development of mobility planning and design of the City of Houston street and drainage projects. This Executive Order identifies goals and steps to move the city toward the achievement of Complete Streets through the planning, designing, budgeting, constructing, and reconstructing of all transportation improvements. The Executive Order recognizes that all streets are not the same and that reconstruction of the public right-of-way (ROW) should strongly utilize context sensitive design, incorporating local development context, and also take into account the role a particular corridor plays in the region's multimodal transportation networks. The introduction of these programs, as well as other initiatives that address multimodal safety on the region's roadways, requires rethinking existing planning and design. Evaluating existing approaches ensures that projects developed and constructed by the City of Houston meet these objectives.

## ABOUT REBUILD HOUSTON

The reconstruction of the City's street and drainage infrastructure following the guidelines of the Complete Street and Transportation Plan is made possible through resources provided by the ReBuild Houston Program. ReBuild Houston is a voter-initiated and voter-approved, Pay-As-You-Go program to address the City of Houston's street and drainage infrastructure needs in a systematic, prioritized and objective manner. ReBuild Houston is a part of the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and the 10-Year plan for Streets & Drainage. Street & Drainage improvement projects are separated into three phases of planning, design, and construction which allows for a much more detailed and objective planning process that complements the City's established Capital Improvement Plan.

To learn more about the ReBuild Houston and Street & Drainage infrastructure improvement process visit [www.rebuildhouston.org](http://www.rebuildhouston.org).

To obtain a full copy of the technical memo detailing all of the public comments received at the public meeting email: [pweplanning@houstontx.gov](mailto:pweplanning@houstontx.gov)

