



CITY OF HOUSTON

Planning and Development

Annise D. Parker

Mayor

December 20, 2010

Marlene L. Gafrick
Director
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-
1562
611 Walker, 6th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

T. 713.837.7760
F. 713.837.7703
www.houstontx.gov

Subject: 2011 Special Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan Amendments
(MTFPA)

Dear Property Owner:

City of Houston's Planning & Development Department and Fort Bend County Engineering are requesting amendments to the City of Houston's 2010 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP) that address current discrepancies with Fort Bend County's Major Thoroughfare Plan. The City of Houston Planning Commission will hold a **Public Hearing on Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. in the City Hall Annex Building, Council Chambers, Public Level, 900 Bagby Street, Houston, Texas, 77002.** The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow interested citizens to be heard concerning proposed changes to the 2010 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP). The MTFP identifies right-of-way needs and proposes roadway alignments within the city limits, and the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). The MTFP does not address the timing of any right-of-way acquisition or construction activities related to the roadways.

Information on each proposed amendment will be available for public review at an **Open House to be held on January 19, 2011 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the George Memorial Library, 1001 Golfview Drive, Richmond, TX 77469.** The City of Houston and Fort Bend County Engineering staff will be available at the Open House to answer questions.

Notification of the Public Hearing and Open House is being mailed to property owners adjacent to each amendment request. Included in this notification package is information about the

specific amendment which would be of potential interest to the respective property owner and answers to some frequently asked questions.

In addition to comments made at the Public Hearing, written comments received up to and including the date of the Public Hearing will also be taken into account by the Planning Commission before making a decision on amendment requests. Additionally, the Commission will weigh information provided by the Planning staff and other government agencies concerned about transportation in our region. Following the Public Hearing, on **February 24, 2011** staff will present its recommendation to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will vote on each amendment and forward its recommendations to City Council by September 1, 2011. Once amendments have been adopted by City Council in an ordinance, a new Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan will be prepared for use by the City and other agencies throughout the year. More information about the 2011 Special MTFPA and all proposed amendments is available on the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway website at www.houstonplanning.com (click the link under *Notice!*).

You can also contact the Planning & Development Department at 713-837-7950 or email amar.mohite@houstontx.gov. To contact Fort Bend County Engineering call 281-633-7506 or email jason.vaughn@co.fort-bend.tx.us.



2011 Special Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan Amendments

Frequently Asked Questions

Q *What is a Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan Amendment?*

A The City of Houston's Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan was first adopted by City Council in 1942. It is a long range plan that provides for a system of thoroughfares and collectors to support overall mobility. It does not deal with timing of right-of-way acquisition or road construction. The Plan is updated through an annual amendment process. Amendments generally delete, add or modify a portion of a planned thoroughfare or collector. Streets such as Beechnut, Clear Lake City, Fry, and Louetta are examples of planned major thoroughfares that have matured over the years. The Plan will continue to be modified in order to meet Houston's growing transportation needs.

Q *I received a letter from the City. Why? What does this have to do with me?*

A If you have received a notice in the mail from the City, it means that our records show you own property that may be impacted by a proposed amendment to the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan. Please read the enclosed report to learn more about the proposed amendment that may specifically impact you and your property.

Q *My property is located in the County, not within the City limits. Why is the City dealing with issues in the County?*

A The City of Houston's Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan covers not just the road network within the City limits, but also within the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). The City's ETJ extends into portions of Harris, Waller, Fort Bend, Liberty and Montgomery Counties. This allows transportation needs to be addressed on a regional basis.

Q *I am concerned about a proposed amendment. What can I do?*

A First, you can find out more about the amendment request in the following ways:

Read the report that was included in the mail out

Go on-line to review the application and letter of justification submitted by the applicant:

↳ www.houstonplanning.com – click *2011 Special MTFPA* under *Notice!*

Attend the public Open House to meet with the applicant, talk to City staff & fill out a comment form:

↳ *January 19, 2011 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the George Memorial Library, 1001 Golfview Drive, Richmond, TX 77469 (see map on reverse)*

Contact the city and/or the applicant

Then, if you would like to make your concerns known to the City you can:

Write an email, letter or fax to the City expressing your concerns

Attend the Public Hearing and speak directly to the Planning Commission

↳ *February 10, 2011; 2:30 p.m., City Hall Annex Council Chambers, 900 Bagby, Houston, 77002 (see map on reverse)*

Q *What is going to happen at the public Open House on June 24? (for location see map on reverse)*

A There will be displays and information about each amendment request. You can walk around and view the information and learn more about the amendment requests that are of interest to you. You will also be able to have one-to-one conversation with the applicants and City staff.

Q *What is going to happen at the Public Hearing on July 29? (for location see map on reverse)*

A The Planning Commission holds a Public Hearing to provide an opportunity for concerned citizens to make their views known. Written comments received up to and including the date of the Public Hearing will also be taken into account by the Planning Commission in making a decision on amendment requests. Additionally, the Commission will weigh information provided by the Planning staff and other government agencies concerned about transportation in our region.

Q: *Who decides what to do?*

A After the Public Hearing on February **10, 2011** staff will present its recommendation to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission votes on each amendment and forwards its recommendations to City Council by September 1, 2011. Once amendments have been adopted by City Council in an ordinance, a new Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan is prepared for use by the City and other agencies throughout the year.

City of Houston - Planning & Development Department

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1562 Houston Texas, 77251-1562

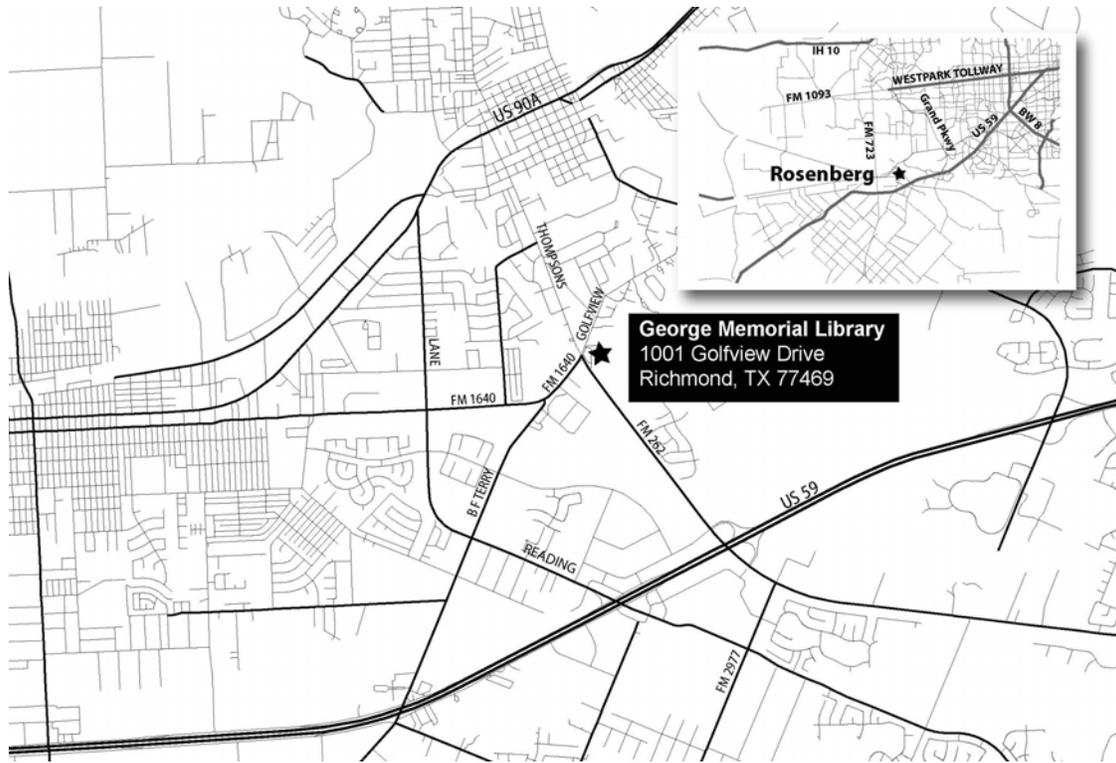
Physical address: 611 Walker, Houston Texas, 77002

Phone: 713-837-7950

Fax: 713-837-7996

Email: amar.mohite@houstontx.gov

Public Open House, Wednesday, January 19, 2011 (6 - 8 p.m.)



Public Hearing, Thursday, February 10, 2011 (2:30 p.m.)

