North Houston Highway Improvement Project
Segment 1 South: Opportunities for Improvement

What the City is doing:
This TxDOT project is planned to be one of the biggest infrastructure projects our community will see in a generation. It is important that, if funded, it meets the needs of residents and businesses along the corridor. We are listening to the people who live, work, go to school and play along the corridor. Your voices are very important.

Below are some ideas we’ve already heard to improve this TxDOT project. To add your ideas to the list, send your emails to: mobility.planning@houstontx.gov or write us a letter at:

City of Houston Planning & Development Department
P.O. Box 1562, Houston, TX 77251.

We will gather comments through September 2019. Then, we will take the list of ideas to Mayor Turner and his I-45 Steering Committee for review and consideration. This input will be included in discussions with TxDOT on improvements our community wants to see in the freeway design and construction.

For updates on the City’s public process, go to: houstontx.gov/planning/nhhip. For updates on the highway project, visit TxDOT’s website: ih45northandmore.com.

Suggestions we’ve heard:

Safety and connectivity
1. Access to and from the MaX lanes would be provided north and south of the I-45/610 interchange*
2. Coordinate with METRO to accommodate a planned extension of the Red Line*
3. Consider making West Little York and Parker crossing wide enough for potential light rail to cross and reach N. Shepherd
4. Shift I-45 alignment between I-610 and Parker to minimize business and residential impacts near Crosstimbers*
5. Evaluate how Airline, Victoria Drive and Northbound I-45 Intersection would operate safely and legibly to people traveling by any mode of travel
6. Remove METRO T-ramp between Airline Drive and the proposed MaX Lanes to reduce cut-through traffic through the neighborhoods*
7. Clarify Plan for Werner Street in northeast corner of Tidwell intersection with I-45
Residential and business displacement

8. When residential property is acquired, relocate residents within neighborhood*
9. Partner with City of Houston and affordable housing providers to identify opportunities to build affordable Housing and assist displaced residents with the relocation process*
10. Coordinate with City and homeless service providers to relocate homeless in a sensitive way*

Pedestrian/bike connections

11. Integrate the Houston Bike Plan*
12. Connections on Crosstimbers, Victoria/Lyerly, Tidwell Rd., Cortlandt /E. Withcher, Rosamond, West Parker Road, Rittenhouse, etc., should be designed with high comfort intersections for bicyclist and pedestrians
13. The intersections will be pedestrian-friendly and include bicycle design elements per the COH Bike plan*
14. I-45 is directly adjacent to the N. Shepherd Park and Ride, this intersection should be assessed to ensure that it is safely traversable by people walking
15. Provide an opening conducive to bicycle/pedestrian crossings at Little White Oak Bayou under I-45 just north of Patton Street and at I-610*
16. Integrate pedestrian realm on all street crossings*

Noise and Air Quality

17. Provide noise barriers and aesthetic walls adjacent to single and multifamily residences, parks, churches, schools and recreational areas*
18. Locate construction staging areas at least 500 feet from sensitive uses like schools, senior living
19. Minimize construction noise through abatement measures such as work-hour controls and proper maintenance of muffler systems*
20. Use longitudinally-tined pavement or ‘quiet pavement*
21. Install HEPA quality air filtration in schools and community centers
22. Consider opportunities for vegetative screens and air filtration as ways to minimize negative effects*
23. Integrate construction noise mitigation options for qualifying residences*

Drainage/Flooding

24. Flood reduction efforts are planned through a partnership with Harris County Flood Control District to effectively neutralize the rise in flood elevation*

Aesthetics

25. Design bridges to include visual aesthetics and minimize number of support columns for elevated roads*
26. Work with the community to integrate aesthetic enhancements*
27. Consider the physical and cultural landscape of the project site during detailed design, with the goal fitting the project into the adjacent landscape in a way that is complimentary to, and enhances, the existing landscape*
28. Work with the City of Houston and local groups to incorporate suggestions into final design*

Note: Items with a * are under consideration by TxDOT. Others were contributed through community discussions and/or through the DEIS process.