North Houston Highway Improvement Project  
Segment 2: 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. Cap between Main and Cottage Streets*
2. Improve connectivity by adjusting ramp locations, adding over/under passes to avoid rail crossings*
3. Install pedestrian-oriented lighting
4. Restrict right turns on red
5. Reduce number of general purpose main lanes
6. Allow for trail crossings where the highway and feeder roads will cross bayous
7. All bus stops should be designed to allow installation of shelters

Residential and business displacement

8. When residential property is acquired, relocate residents within neighborhood*
9. Coordinate with COH and homeless services providers to assist in the relocation of homeless in a sensitive way*
**Pedestrian/bike connections**

10. Integrate pedestrian realm on all street crossings including wide sidewalk, bike lane and buffer zone*
11. Safer pedestrian and bicycle facilities on frontage roads*
12. Fully implement the highest comfort type of bike facilities shown in the Houston Bike Plan

**Noise and Air Quality**

13. Provide noise barriers and aesthetic walls adjacent to residential uses, parks, churches, schools and recreational areas*
14. Minimize construction noise through abatement measures such as work-hour controls and proper maintenance of muffler systems*
15. Coordinate with schools to avoid construction in the school vicinity during testing and other sensitive times.
16. Use longitudinally-tined pavement or ‘quiet pavement’*
17. Install HEPA quality air filtration in schools and community centers
18. Install air monitors so residents can be informed about air quality in the community
19. Use vegetation and physical barriers to reduce noise penetration
20. Sound walls: shorter 6’-8’ walls between main lanes and frontage roads may be sufficient.

**Drainage/Flooding**

21. Integrate construction noise mitigations options for qualifying residences such a window AC units, weather stripping, storm window/door installation, and utility bill assistance*
22. Pump stations will store and remove flood waters from below-ground level roadways for extreme events*
23. Reduce rain run-off by reducing concrete: fewer main lanes, narrower frontage roads, eliminate inside shoulder on the MAX lanes
24. Mitigate for rainfall events at the 500-year level
25. Design detention ponds that are open and unfenced, with native vegetation to filter pollutants in runoff.

**Aesthetics**

26. Minimize number of support columns for elevated portions of the road*
27. Use frontage roads only where necessary and keep them to two lanes, narrower than 12’
28. Consult community during final design to accommodate localized opinions about the look, views, and operational elements of the project
29. Relocate businesses and residents in their community

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