Heights-area Street Safety Improvements

Woodland Heights Association Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Ian Hlavacek – HPW       Jennifer Ostlind – PDD       Lauren Grove - PDD
Studewood Safety Project
Schedule

- March 25: Conversion to Center Turn Lane (CTL)
Schedule

• April – July: Assessment and Feedback
  • Field observations
  • Traffic counts
  • Crash assessment for corridor
  • Community feedback
Schedule

• **Fall 2019**: Final Decision
  • Remove signal hardware
  • Determine refuge locations
  • Schedule refuge installations
- Pecore St
- 11th St
- Memorial Park
- Downtown
- Heights Hike and Bike Trail
- Heights Blvd
- Shepherd Dr
- Michaux St
- Heights River Bayou
659 crashes reported to HPD
Traffic safety requests submitted to 311
In May 2018...

Houston officials to find, fix most dangerous intersections after several fatal bike crashes

By Samantha Ketterer  Updated 4:15 pm CDT, Friday, May 18, 2018

The RSA Team

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Houston Public Works
- Houston Police Department
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
- Houston METRO
- BikeHouston
- LINK Houston
FHWA Recommendation

BEFORE

AFTER
SAFETY BENEFIT:

4-Lane → 3-Lane
Road Diet Conversions
19-47% Reduction in total crashes

Source: Evaluation of Lane Reduction “Road Diet” Measures on Crashes, FHWA-HRT-10-053.
FHWA Recommendation: Median/Pedestrian Refuge Island

Median Refuge Island
By 2027 Houston will be a Safer, More Accessible, Gold Level Bike-Friendly City

Goals

**Improve Safety**
To provide a safer bicycle network for people of all ages and abilities through improved facilities, education, and enforcement

**Increase Access**
To create a highly accessible, citywide network of comfortable bike facilities that connects neighborhoods to transit, jobs, and activity centers, including schools, universities, parks, and libraries

**Grow Ridership**
To exceed average ridership levels in peer cities by implementing policies and programs that enable more people to ride bicycles and encourage healthy, active transportation choice

**Develop & Maintain Facilities**
To develop and sustain a high-quality bicycle network, including both bikeways and end-of-trip facilities
Potential Street Section: N. Main and 11th
Next steps

- General Assessment & Feasibility
- **Public Engagement: Information Sharing & Input Gathering**
- Detailed Analysis & Design
- Public Engagement: Design Options & Trade-Offs
- Final Design, Contract, Construction
Contact Info and Resources

Houston Bikeways Program
Houstonbikeplan.org
832-395-2700
bikeways@houstontx.gov

Ian Hlavacek
Houston Public Works
ian.hlavacek@houstontx.gov
832-395-3002

Jennifer Ostlind
Planning and Development Department
Jennifer.ostlind@houstontx.gov
832-393-6569

Lauren Grove
Planning and Development Department
lauren.grove@houstontx.gov
832-393-6550

FHWA:
https://safety fhwa dot gov/provencountermeasures/

4 to 3 Basics:
https://youtu.be/Rs7jHvh7v-4

4 to 3 in Iowa:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naCbw7lwcVw