

City of Houston

BAC Infrastructure Subcommittee



PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT



May 22, 2024

Call to Order. Chair Joe Cutrufo began the meeting at 2:36pm.

Roll Call: (**bold** indicates present)

Joe Cutrufo, Chair

Tom Compson, BAC Chair

Alejandro Perez, BAC Vice Chair

Leah Chambers

Lisa Graiff

Trevor Reichman

Yuhayna Mahmud

Ben Drews

Amar Mohite

Mike VanDusen

Robin Holzer

Additional BAC Members Present:

Tracy Alexander

Yadira Estrada (attending for Kristine Anthony Miller)

Ex-Officio Members:

Jennifer Ostlind, Planning & Development

Ian Hlavacek, Houston Public Works

Patricc Fortiori, Parks & Recreation

Item 1: Director's Report. Jennifer Ostlind. No updates at this time.

Item 2: Chair's Report. Chair Joe Cutrufo gave the Chair's Report.

Bikeway projects funded for design and construction on pause. Houston has an obligation to build streets that are safe for everyone. The Shepherd/Durham project is in recent news, and has broad support from the public, elected officials, developers, etc. The project will install bike infrastructure at the highest standard.

More than 80 people have been killed while riding bicycles on Houston streets since 2017 when the Houston Bike Plan was adopted. None of these fatalities occurred on segments with bikeways separate from traffic. The work that has been coming through the BAC is saving lives and improving public safety.



City Council voted this morning to sell a piece of the White Oak Bayou Greenway to TxDOT as part of the North Houston Highway Improvement Project. We can expect detours during construction; I hope the City, Houston Parks Board, and TxDOT are working together to get people safely around this project. This isn't just a recreational bike trail: it's a high volume trail for bike commuters too.

Item 3: Public Comment.

No written comments were submitted prior to the meeting.

No spoken comments were received during the meeting.

Item 4: Bikeways Budget Overview.

Brian D. Smith II, Transportation Planner, Planning & Development, presented an overview of the Houston Bikeways budget as executed through the CIP.

Item 5: Bikeway Maintenance/Sweeper Updates.

Brian D. Smith II, Transportation Planner, Planning & Development, presented an update on the bikeways sweeping program. Unfortunately, the Space City Sweeper will sunset due to continuous breakdowns. HPW is currently exploring options for another sweeper. The 311 bikeway-specific maintenance category is online, but currently only on the website.

Item 6: Open Forum.

Alejandro Perez: response to selling of White Oak Bayou trail segment; focus on maintenance; shifting to off-street trails.

Tom Compson: request update on BAC appointments or reappointments.

Trevor Reichman: BAC's role as an advisory committee in lieu of the pause in projects.

Staff Update: Bikeways Mileage Data:

Total Bikeway Mileage: 432 miles

Completed in 2023: 26 miles (13 dedicated on-street, 2 shared on-street, 11 off-street)

Currently programmed: 112 miles (49 dedicated on-street, 7 shared on-street, 56 off-street)

Last year was the first year we built more on-street facilities than off-street.

City of Houston

BAC Infrastructure Subcommittee



PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT



Tom Compson: echoed focus on off-street; request update from Houston Parks Board on status of Brays Bayou between US59 and Beltway 8.

Alejandro Perez: any updates on Mayor's Office review of bikeways projects; strategic bikeways funds.

Joe Cutrufo: asked about status on original strategic bikeways projects.

Robin Holzer: asked about any contractual agreements/timelines for bikeways projects not completely owned by the City and done with partners.

Trevor Reichman: asked for more detail on who is reviewing the bikeways projects.

Tom Compson: asked for updates on the 11th street bikeway.

Alejandro Perez: asked on Bryan Dotson's behalf on leveraging Cullen Park Path/Piping Rock projects

Item 10: Announcements.

Upcoming Events

- FY25 Budget Workshops with City Council are ongoing.
- It's not too late to start riding for Bike Month!
- 5/31, BikeHouston Bike Home from Work Party, 4-7pm, Axlerad Beer Garden
- Opportunities to volunteer at iCanBike Houston all July [[Website](#)]

Next Meetings

- Education Subcommittee: June 26
- Bicycle Advisory Committee: July 24
- Infrastructure Subcommittee: August 28

Meeting Adjourned at 4:10pm.