

LINK HOUSTON



Advocates for Transportation Equity, Accessibility, & Safety

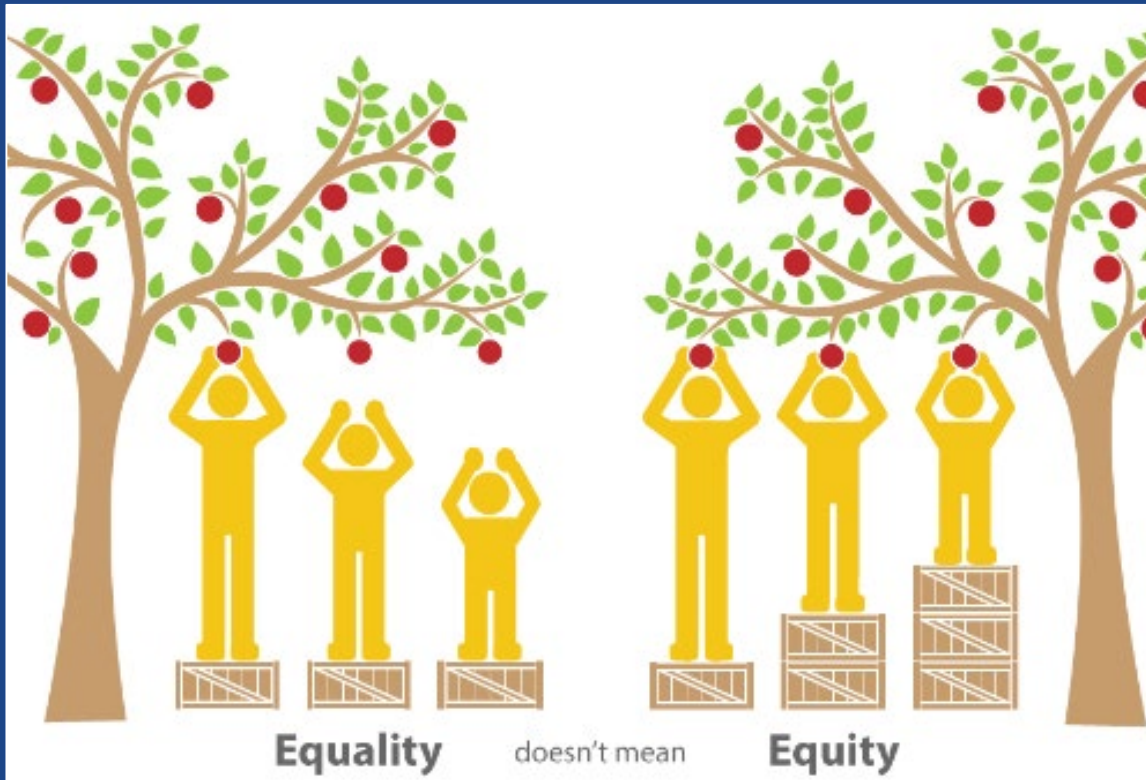
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@LINK_Houston

What is equity in transportation?

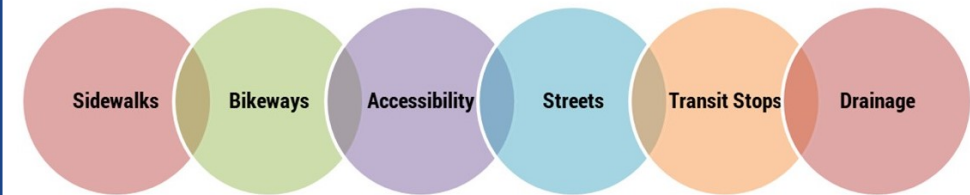


Personal Equity

Source: www.communityview.ca/infographic_SHR_health_equity.html

Built Environment Quality / Barriers

A community's infrastructure quality matters.



Distance to Needs / Opportunity



Community Equity

Source: LINK Houston

How is equity related to pursuing safer streets for **everyone**?

Houston context

- 329,000 people have one or more disabilities (**accessibility**)
- 220,000 households live in poverty (**need affordability**)
- 400,000 jobs pay less than \$15k per year
- 93,000 households have no vehicle (**only some by choice**)
- 131,000 single-parent female headed households with own children at home (**parent and/or child may need mobility**)

Who are we most especially trying to safely and equitably connect to opportunity by walking/rolling?

HOMES

DESTINATIONS

Local Bus
67% of ridership



Light Rail
22% of ridership



Park-and-Ride
11% of ridership

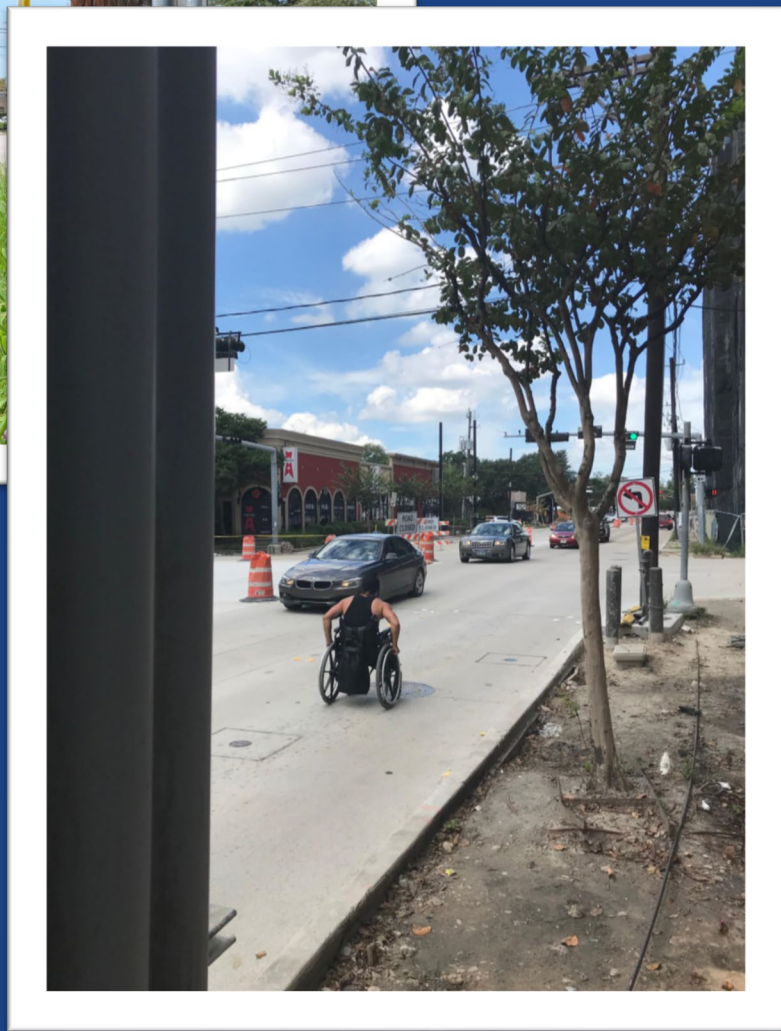


LINK Houston's Advocacy Focus

*Program 1 of 3:
Improve Pedestrian-Bike
Safety and Access*

Well-designed and well-implemented infrastructure connects people to jobs, schools, and services.

Unfortunately, in Houston people who walk, use a wheelchair, or bike are vulnerable because of non-existent, poor quality, or even dangerous infrastructure.



Let me tell you a story...

**Policy change happens suddenly,
but only after significant effort (months and years)
to create a supportive context.**

Once upon a time...in space city...



<https://www.visithoustontexas.com/blog/post/space-city-houston-hotels-and-experiences-to-book-now/>



Four Bicyclists Dead

**Four cyclists
killed**

**Captures
Officials
Attention**

Houston cyclists ride in silence to honor, raise awareness for those who've died

Staff Report, Houston Chronicle Published 10:33 pm CDT, Wednesday, May 16, 2018





Public Pressure Escalates

Officials lack awareness of scope of issue

Crashes all across Houston

People Incapacitated or Killed in a Traffic Crash in Houston, 2016-2017

3,984

The number of crashes impacting a pedestrian or bicyclist in 2016 and 2017—
about 5 crashes each day.



(Killed)

174 killed

160 Pedestrians
14 Bicyclists

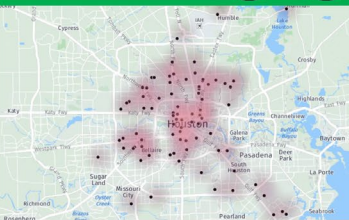


(Incapacitated)

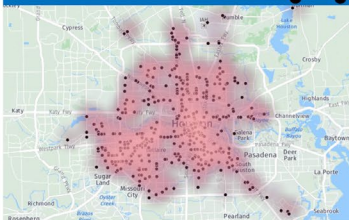
467 seriously injured

382 Pedestrians
85 Bicyclists

BIKE



WALK



85% Male
15% Female



(Female/Male)

33% White
31% Hispanic
30% Black
5% Asian
0% Other



(Race/Ethnicity)

19% 17 or under
71% 18 to 64
5% 65 or more
4% Unknown



(Age)

67% Male
33% Female

34% Black
33% Hispanic
28% White
4% Asian
1% Other

9% 17 or under
76% 18 to 64
11% 65 or more
4% Unknown

Created by

**LINK
HOUSTON**

LINK Houston advocates for a robust and equitable transportation network so that all people can reach opportunity.

Learn More: www.linkhouston.org

See More Maps: linkhouston.carto.com

Data source: Texas Department of Transportation Crash Records Information System. Maps created using CARTO with HERE Terrain Day basemap.



Informed Community Pressure

HIT COUNT

Your Map of Where Walkers and Bikers Have Been Run Over by Cars in Houston Over the Past 2 Years

MAP

LEGENDS

26 Comments

05/24/18 11:00am

Accidents, Bike Trails, Maps, Pedestrians

by Dan Singer

Like 370

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tumblr. +

Save 1

HERE'S THE RUNDOWN of all the locations where vehicles **injured** (purple) or **killed** (black) **cyclists and pedestrians** in 2016 and 2017. Transit-focused organization **LINK Houston** used TxDOT reports to create the map, which plots out 85 percent of all the **641** major walk-and-bike crashes that occurred within

Houston Council District	Cyclist		Pedestrian		TOTAL	
	Serious Injury	Death	Serious Injury	Death	Serious Injury	Death
A (Stardig)	8		26	6	34	6
B (Davis)	15	2	33	21	48	23
C (Cohen)	13	1	34	10	47	11
D (Boykins)	6	1	38	19	44	20
E (Martin)	9	3	6	3	15	6
F (Le)	4		27	15	31	15
G (Travis)	2		13	5	15	5
H (Cisneros)	9	1	34	24	43	25
I (Gallegos)	7		44	19	51	19
J (Laster)	1	3	34	14	35	17
K (vacant)	4	1	22	10	26	11
TOTAL	78	12	311	146	389	158

Note: Data from Texas Department of Transportation: Crash Records Information System and reflects 547 (85%) of 641 total crashes that resulted in an incapacitating injury or death to a pedestrian or cyclist in 2016 and 2017, the other 15% of crash records did not include geolocation information and could not be geocoded to a particular Houston City Council District.

<https://linkhouston.carto.com/builder/742b45e8-ab7a-4081-8a07-ab611282f048/embed>



Political Powers Respond



Sylvester Turner 
@SylvesterTurner

Following 

Today, I am announcing an expansion of an initiative called Safer Streets to improve bike and pedestrian safety across the city. Safer Streets has been a pilot project in the five Complete Communities neighborhoods. The concept is working. Now I am expanding it across the City.

9:27 AM - 18 May 2018

88 Retweets 347 Likes



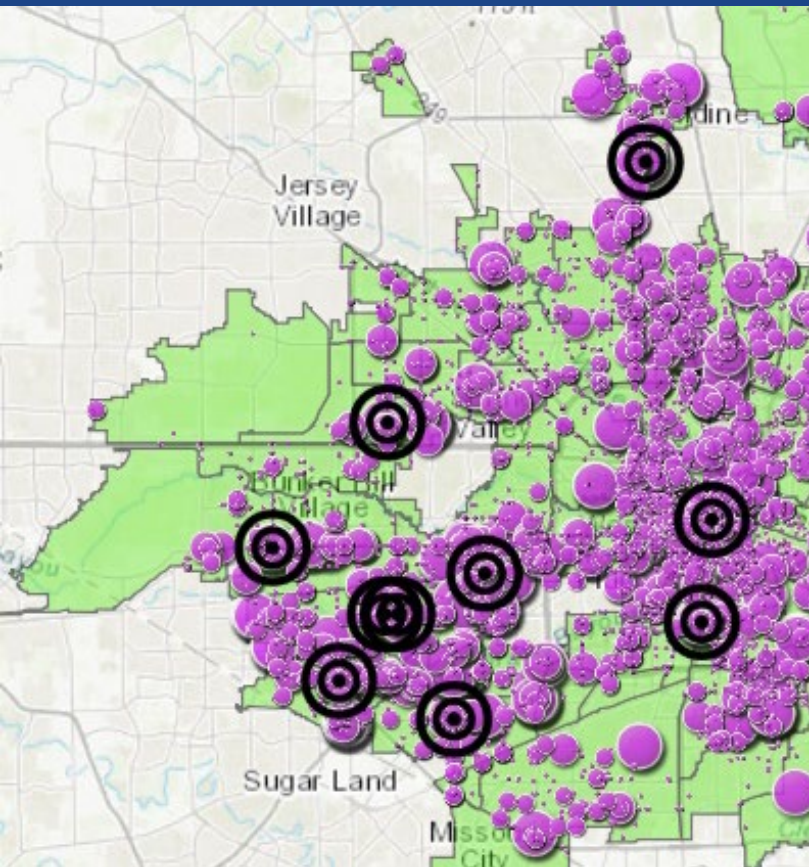
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**JUNE
2018**

Summer Education Fun



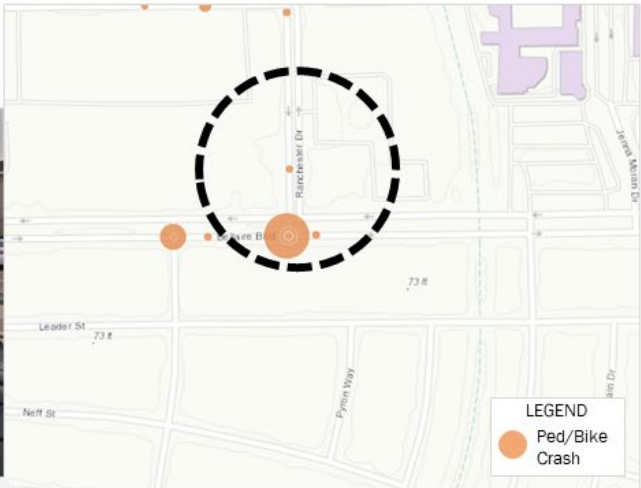
Advocates Report, Mayor Accepts



Safer Streets Priority Intersections for People Walking & Biking



Neighborhood	Sharpstown
# of crashes	11 (10 walking, 1 biking) 1 ped death
Value of prevention	\$18.5m
# population in tract ^a	5,967 48201433003
% HHs in poverty ^a	52%
% HHs with no vehicle ^a	23%
# jobs in proximity ^b	409
# schools within ¼-mile ^c	2
# transit stops adjacent ^d	2 (268 weekday boardings/alightings)



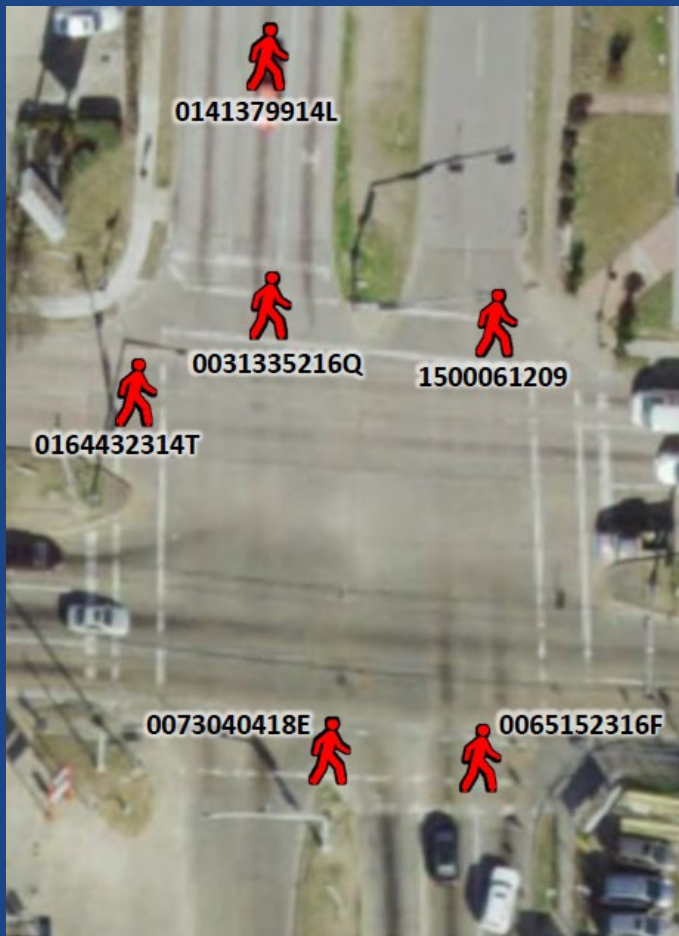
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RANCHESTER & BELLAIRE

Sources: A. [H-GAC Demographic Data Explorer](#), B. [H-GAC Activity-Connectivity Explorer](#), C. Google Maps, D. Houston METRO



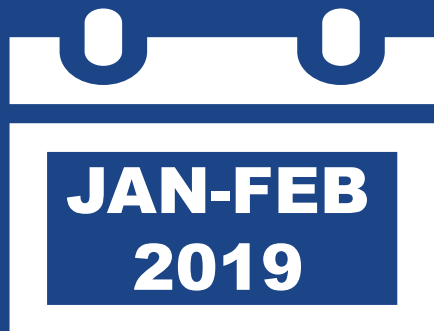
Road Safety Audits *(thanks FHWA)*





Summit: Curating Dialogue



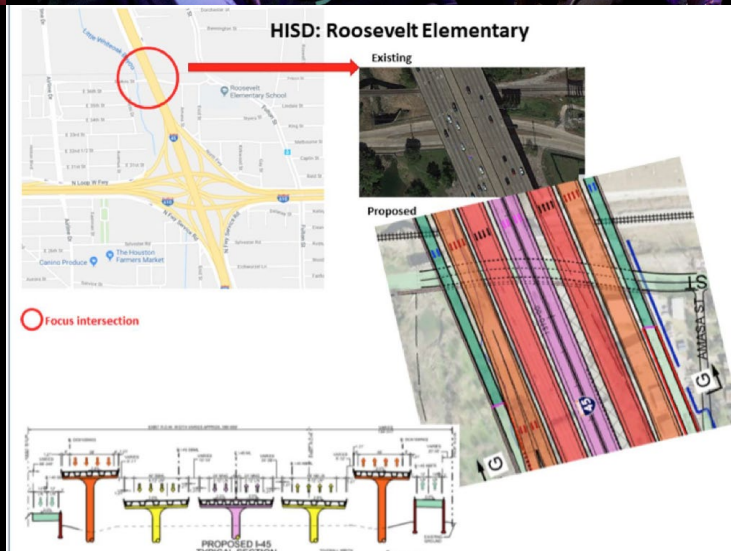


Expanding Dialogue



**WALKABLE CITY
RULES
AND I-45**

**KINDER INSTITUTE, HOUSTON
FEBRUARY 27, 2019
JEFF SPECK AICP CNU-A LEED-ND Hon. ASLA**



APRIL
2019

Argh! More Tragic Deaths



APR-JUL
2019

Expanding Commitment



HOUSTON
PUBLIC WORKS



**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**
































Hope, Watchfulness, Strategy, Resources



Who implements on a local level?

- **Regional – Council of Government, MPO**
- **City & County – Elected Officials, Departments**
- **Other Government – TxDOT, Transit Authority, Special Districts (TIRZs / Management Districts / MUDs)**


























Harris County's Roles in Transportation

	Safety	Disability Access	Sidewalks	Bikeways	Bus Rail	Roads	Bridges
 Engineering							
 Flood Control							
 Toll Road Authority							
 Harris County Transit							
 Sheriff's Office							
 Public Health							

Leadership Role 

Partner Role 

City of Houston's Roles in Transportation

	Safety	Disability Access	Sidewalks	Bikeways	Bus Rail	Roads	Bridges
 HOUSTON PUBLIC WORKS							
 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT							
 Houston Commission on Disabilities							
 Police Department							
 Housing Authority							

Leadership Role 

Partner Role 

Who else do we need in rooms like this?

- School districts (**hazardous area services**)
- Housing departments/sector (**facilities and counseling**)
- Transit authorities/districts (**services and coordination**)
- Forensic science entities (**data**)
- Non-profit entities (**community knowledge, other expertise**)
- Community leaders/organizers/engineers (**culture change**)
- Safety-conscious industry leaders (**i.e., energy or health sectors**)
- **???**

We activate people and communities; improve their capacity to be engaged; develop their trust in the process.

Don't let us down with poorly conceived policy and poorly implemented programs.

Rise to our high expectations.

What are the roles of non-profit advocates in improving safety for people walking and rolling?

How can policy and programs change culture, increasing empathy for roadway users dissimilar from oneself?

“No one gets hurt on my trip.”

Bryan Dotson, Houston Resident (Energy Executive)

Thank you for what YOU do.



<https://creolened.com/ambleside-park-where-they-thank-you-for-walking/>

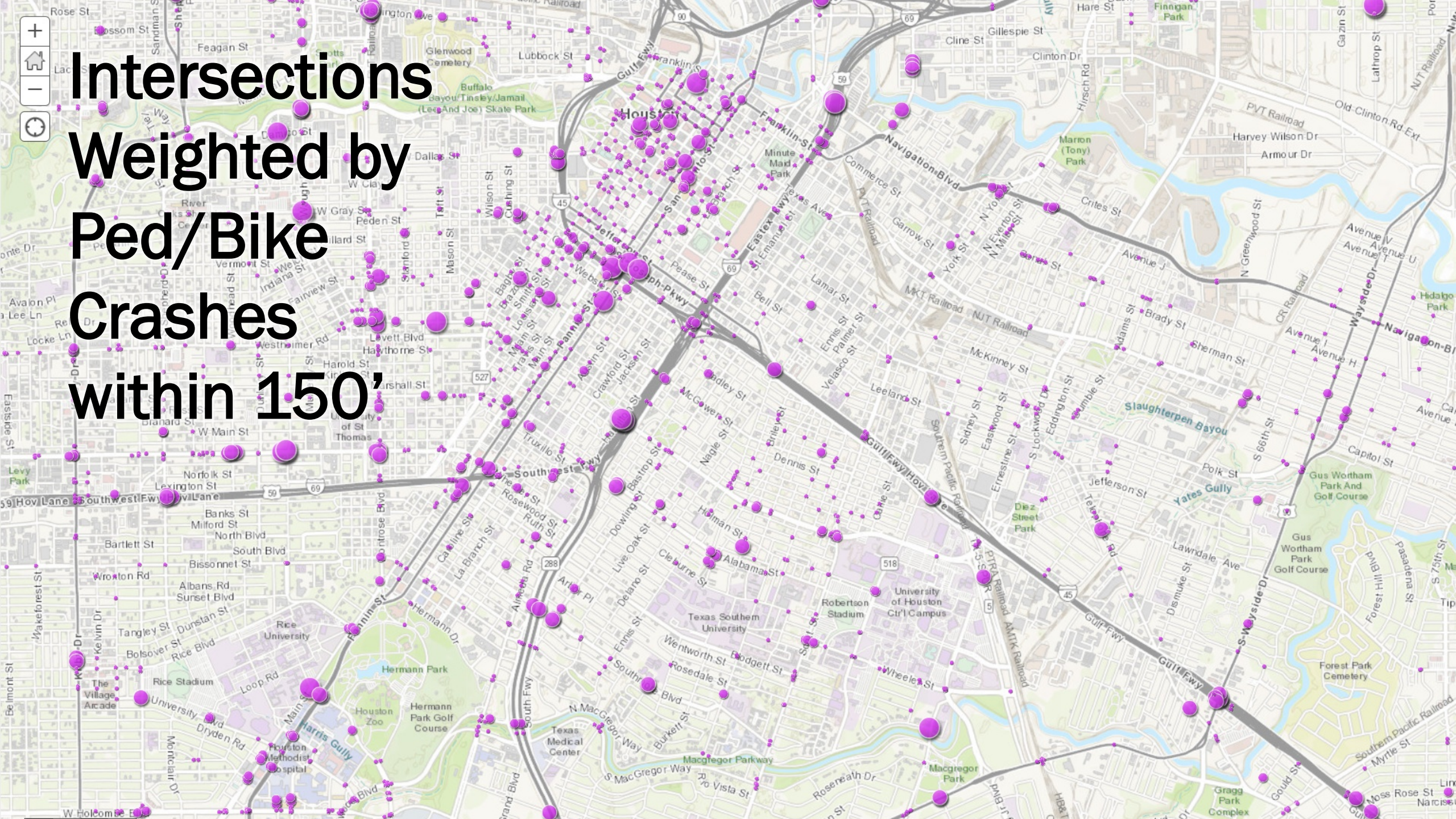


<https://www.ioby.org/blog/4-ways-to-make-crosswalks-better-in-your-neighborhood>

The following slides are time permitting, if I think they will add to the conversation as this session follows other sessions.



Intersections Weighted by Ped/Bike Crashes within 150'



A map of Houston, Texas, showing the locations of 3-1-1 service requests. The map is covered with numerous blue dots of varying sizes, representing the density of requests at different intersections. Major highways like I-10, I-45, and I-69 are visible, along with major streets such as Loop West, Loop East, and various boulevards. The dots are most concentrated in the central business district and surrounding urban areas.

Relevant 3-1-1 Service Requests within 150' of Intersection

Note

LINKHouston analyzed 2013-2017 3-1-1 data from the City of Houston.