

# Appendix

PHASE I

# Appendix A

## Sustainability Survey Report

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# Houston Galveston Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

## Survey Final Report

June 2012



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## Survey Collection Methodology

The survey was conducted using the online survey system, Survey Monkey. The survey questions were prepared, reviewed and modified by representatives of the Houston-Galveston Area Council and the volunteer committee selected to oversee the process. The survey questions are included in Appendix A to this report.

The survey was opened for online response on February 9, 2012 and was closed on May 10, 2012 for online entry. Paper surveys received at public meetings were entered into the system until June 20, 2012.

### Survey Response Promotion Methods

Responses to the survey were promoted through the H-GAC's website and the special website for this planning process, [www.ourregion.org](http://www.ourregion.org). This link to the survey remained open throughout the process.

The survey was modified to include responses in Spanish and that link was released on February 13, 2012. The link to this survey was emailed to more than 1,000 persons whose email addresses had been collected into a master database by H-GAC and the consultant team. Other organizations in the region were asked to email links to the survey to their members. The total number of organizations and the total number of email links sent is not known.

In addition, participants in the community meetings were made aware of the online survey and were offered the option of completing the survey on paper and turning it in. The responses on those paper surveys were coded into a separate survey collector. A separate collector was necessary because the online survey was set up to require responses to most of the questions before they could proceed. With the paper survey data entry, that requirement was not possible as many people did not complete all of the survey questions.

### Survey Response

Overall, the total responses from the different collectors were:

<i>Survey / Collector</i>	<i>Number</i>
Original survey link	301
Survey Link w/Spanish	1,466
Paper Entry link	1,007
Total surveys	2,774

Of the 2,774 surveys, only about 2,150 completed the bulk of the questions in the survey (77.5%). This completion rate was typical for a survey of this type. The median time spent in the online survey was 5 minutes.

## Survey Respondent Information and Demographics

### Information on Residential and Work Location

#### Q1 - Zip Code of Residence

The respondents to this survey were distributed across the entire H-GAC 13-county region. A map of the home zip codes is being prepared separately. The list of zip codes of residences within the region is:

Zip	N	Zip	N	Zip	No	Zip	No	Zip	No.	Zip	No.
77002	7	77044	7	77088	9	77377	16	77465	13	77536	11
77003	13	77045	9	77089	9	77378	1	77466	7	77539	31
77004	43	77046	1	77090	5	77379	30	77469	12	77541	9
77005	31	77047	5	77091	6	77380	9	77471	8	77545	2
77006	46	77048	2	77092	7	77381	18	77474	11	77546	25
77007	49	77049	3	77094	8	77382	9	77477	8	77548	7
77008	51	77051	3	77095	29	77384	5	77478	24	77550	17
77009	46	77053	4	77096	27	77385	3	77479	36	77551	13
77010	1	77054	1	77098	29	77386	11	77480	3	77554	16
77011	11	77055	1	77099	7	77388	8	77481	1	77560	19
77012	2	77056	1	77266	1	77389	8	77482	1	77562	5
77013	1	77057	2	77301	9	77396	6	77484	12	77563	4
77014	2	77058	7	77302	5	77401	15	77485	5	77565	3
77015	7	77059	1	77303	3	77406	12	77486	2	77566	23
77016	1	77061	1	77304	7	77407	7	77488	22	77568	1
77017	2	77062	1	77306	1	77414	32	77489	12	77571	13
77018	20	77063	1	77316	2	77417	1	77493	12	77573	47
77019	30	77064	1	77318	3	77418	4	77494	25	77575	11
77020	1	77065	8	77320	17	77420	1	77498	4	77577	1
77021	12	77066	9	77327	5	77422	6	77502	3	77578	8
77022	7	77069	1	77328	3	77423	6	77503	1	77580	13
77023	15	77070	1	77334	1	77429	34	77504	2	77581	38
77024	19	77071	1	77336	1	77433	9	77505	4	77583	2
77025	29	77072	1	77338	3	77434	3	77506	1	77584	38
77026	3	77073	3	77339	23	77435	1	77510	9	77585	1
77027	8	77074	3	77340	15	77436	2	77511	9	77586	11
77029	2	77075	3	77345	10	77437	40	77514	23	77587	1
77030	13	77076	1	77346	17	77441	7	77515	25	77590	2
77031	3	77077	3	77351	1	77445	6	77517	4	77591	4
77033	5	77078	1	77354	18	77446	7	77518	2	77598	1
77034	1	77079	1	77355	15	77447	8	77520	16	77622	2
77035	14	77080	6	77356	10	77448	1	77521	15	77650	8
77036	23	77081	8	77357	7	77449	15	77523	60	77665	2
77037	1	77082	2	77362	2	77450	32	77530	1	77845	1
77038	1	77083	1	77365	6	77454	1	77531	6	77878	1
77040	10	77084	1	77367	7	77455	2	77532	4	77904	2
77041	6	77085	7	77372	7	77458	1	77533	1	78933	1
77042	13	77086	1	77373	7	77459	30	77534	1	78934	5
77043	7	77087	1	77375	22	77461	3	77535	23	78935	2
										78962	9

The summary for the Zip Code of residence responses is:

Answered	2,558
Missing	202
Out of region	14
	2,774

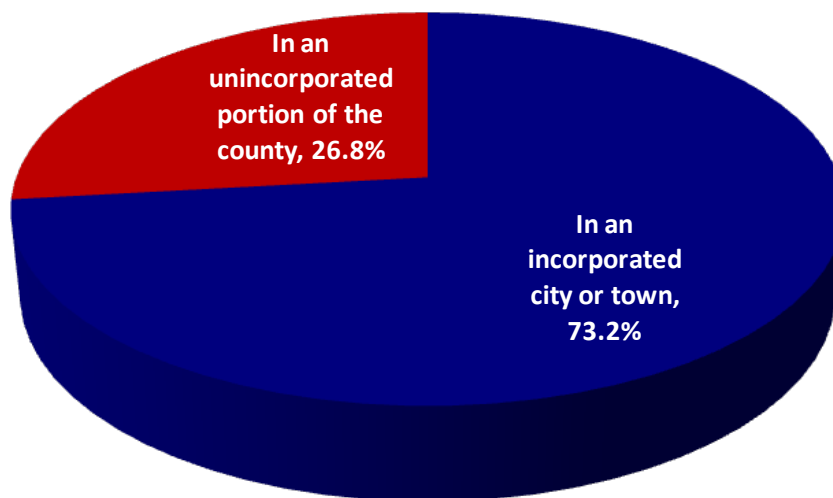
The zip codes of respondents from outside of the region are:

75232	1	Dallas, TX	78217	1	San Antonio
75835	1	Crockett, TX	78610	1	Buda, TX
77701	2	Beaumont, TX	78633	1	Georgetown, TX
77833	2	Brenham, TX	97060	1	Troutdale, OR
77868	2	Navasota, TX	98502	1	Olympia, WA
77940	1	Fayetteville, TX			

### Q2 - Residence in Incorporated or Unincorporated Area

In Question 2, the respondents were asked “Is your place of residence inside an incorporated city or town or is it in the county?” A large majority of the respondents (73.2%) live in an incorporated city or town.

### Q2 - Place of residence





### Q3 - Zip Code of Place of Employment

The respondents to this survey work locations were distributed across the entire H-GAC 13-county region and beyond. Approximately 84% of respondents listed a work location. A map of the work zip codes is being prepared separately. The list of Zip codes of work locations within the region are:

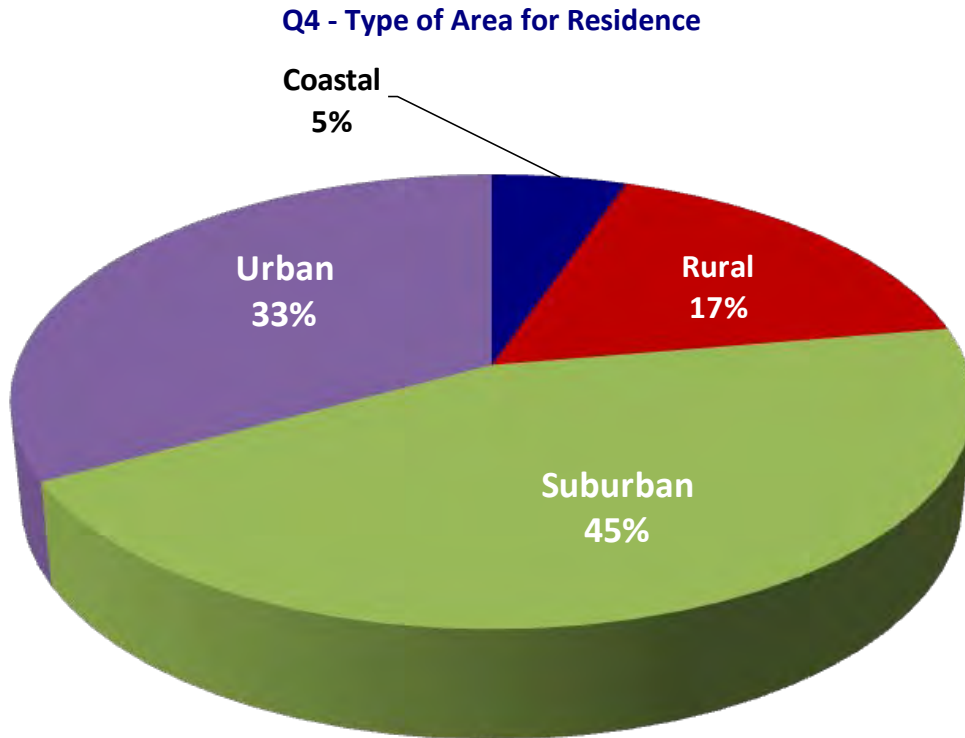
Zip	N	Zip	No.	Zip	No.	Zip	No.	Zip	No.	Zip	No.	Zip	No.
77001	4	77037	1	77073	2	77318	3	77396	3	77484	10	77551	4
77002	11	77038	2	77074	9	77320	6	77401	7	77486	2	77553	1
77003	6	77040	15	77075	2	77327	5	77406	4	77488	15	77554	7
77004	49	77041	7	77077	15	77328	2	77407	2	77489	11	77555	2
77005	20	77042	42	77078	1	77336	1	77414	19	77492	1	77562	1
77006	16	77043	8	77079	21	77338	7	77417	2	77493	5	77563	3
77007	30	77044	4	77080	4	77339	9	77418	4	77494	20	77565	3
77008	29	77045	3	77081	10	77340	15	77420	1	77502	2	77566	15
77009	14	77046	8	77082	1	77341	1	77422	5	77503	1	77568	2
77010	13	77047	2	77083	1	77345	3	77423	5	77504	1	77571	7
77011	5	77048	1	77084	8	77346	3	77429	14	77505	4	77573	22
77012	1	77049	1	77086	4	77347	1	77433	3	77506	6	77575	13
77013	1	77051	2	77087	6	77351	1	77434	3	77507	2	77578	3
77014	3	77052	3	77088	2	77354	12	77435	1	77510	2	77580	21
77015	9	77053	2	77089	1	77355	6	77436	1	77511	6	77581	30
77017	1	77054	24	77090	5	77356	4	77437	36	77514	15	77584	15
77018	6	77055	16	77091	2	77357	6	77441	1	77515	35	77586	4
77019	20	77056	39	77092	11	77362	1	77443	1	77516	2	77587	1
77020	4	77057	29	77094	3	77365	3	77445	4	77517	1	77590	4
77021	4	77058	30	77095	4	77367	2	77446	7	77520	59	77591	8
77022	5	77059	2	77096	4	77372	3	77449	4	77521	10	77598	10
77023	5	77060	10	77098	34	77373	1	77450	26	77522	9	77620	1
77024	35	77061	2	77099	5	77375	20	77458	1	77523	13	77665	6
77025	2	77062	7	77204	7	77377	9	77459	6	77531	2	77803	1
77026	2	77063	12	77227	4	77378	1	77465	13	77532	2	77832	1
77027	75	77064	4	77230	1	77379	30	77466	6	77535	13	77868	1
77028	1	77065	5	77251	1	77380	14	77469	4	77536	9	78934	3
77029	3	77066	2	77252	2	77381	13	77471	12	77539	21	78962	5
77030	41	77067	6	77301	14	77382	3	77474	7	77541	12		
77031	1	77068	4	77303	2	77384	2	77477	7	77542	1	<b>Answered</b>	<b>2,071</b>
77032	4	77069	7	77304	8	77385	5	77478	27	77545	1	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>690</b>
77034	2	77070	16	77305	1	77386	4	77479	25	77546	7	<b>Out of Reg.</b>	<b>13</b>
77035	4	77071	2	77306	2	77388	1	77480	1	77548	5	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,774</b>
77036	45	77072	14	77316	1	77389	1	77482	1	77550	11		

Those listing work locations outside of the region were

ZIP	No.	Place	ZIP	No.	Place
77701	1	Beaumont, TX	78217	1	San Antonio, TX
77702	1	Beaumont, TX	78633	1	Georgetown, TX
77703	1	Beaumont, TX	78731	1	Austin, TX
77705	1	Beaumont, TX	78744	1	Austin, TX
77904	1	Victoria, TX	97218	1	Portland, OR
77995	2	Yoakum, TX	98502	1	Olympia, WA

#### Q4 - Type of Area for Residence

In Question 4, the respondents were asked, “How would you describe the area that you live in? Almost one-half of the respondents stated that they live in a suburban area, while one-fourth live in an urban area.



## Demographics of Respondents Compared to H-GAC Regional Demographics

The survey respondents were asked questions about their personal and household characteristics to allow for analysis of the survey by these demographic parameters. In this section of the report, these demographic characteristics will be compared with the 2010 Census demographics for the H-GAC region to determine how the respondents differ from the overall regional population.

### Q14 - Gender

In Question 14, they were asked whether they were male or female. Of the respondents, 53.5% were female. In the H-GAC region 50.2% of the residents are female.

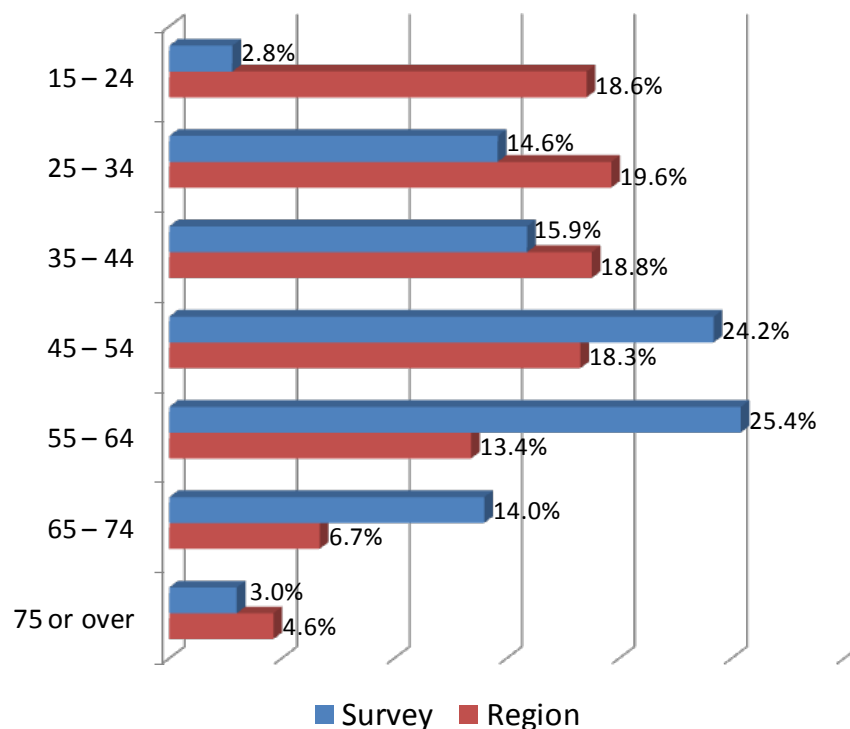
### Q15 - Age

In Question 15, the respondents were asked their age. The chart on the right illustrates the results of the survey in blue, as compared to the H-GAC region, in red.

The respondents to the survey were substantially older than the regional population as a whole with a median age of approximately 48 years old as compared to the regional median age of 39.

Survey respondents were weighted heavily to the “45 and over” age group which represented 66.7% of the sample, while the region proportion of “45+” is 43.0%.

Q15 - Age of Respondent



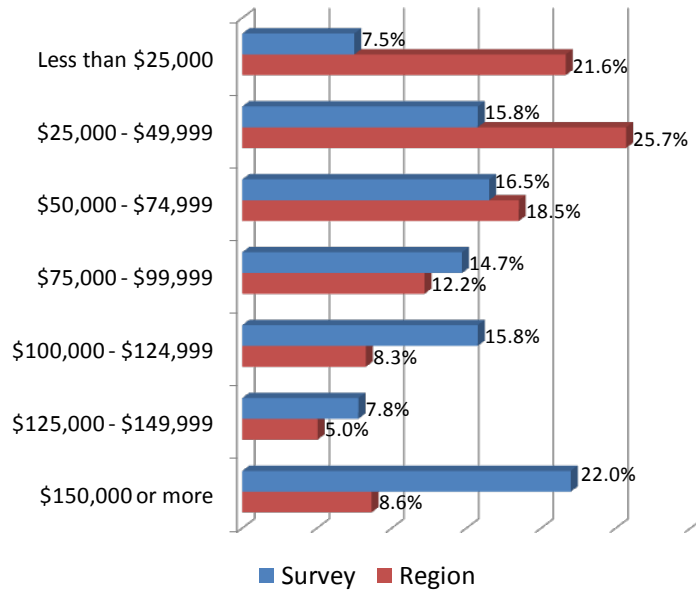
**Q16 - Household Income**

In Question 16, they were asked, “What is your total household income for 2011?” The survey respondents had substantially higher incomes than the households in the region, which to some extent is attributed to the age of the respondents.

The calculated median household income of the respondents was \$84,000, substantially higher than the median for the H-GAC region (\$53,598).

The respondents were disproportionately in the “\$75,000 and above” income groups with 60.3% in that income bracket. In the region, only 34.2% of the households have incomes of “\$75,000 and above.”

**Q16 - 2011 Household Income**



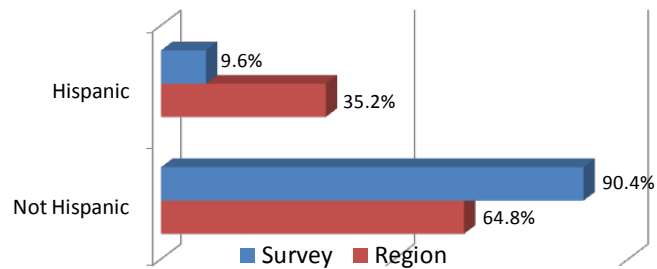
**Q17, Q18 - Race and Ethnicity**

In Questions 17 and 18, the respondents were asked about their ethnicity (Hispanic/Latino or Not Hispanic/Latino) and their race. The charts on the right illustrate the results.

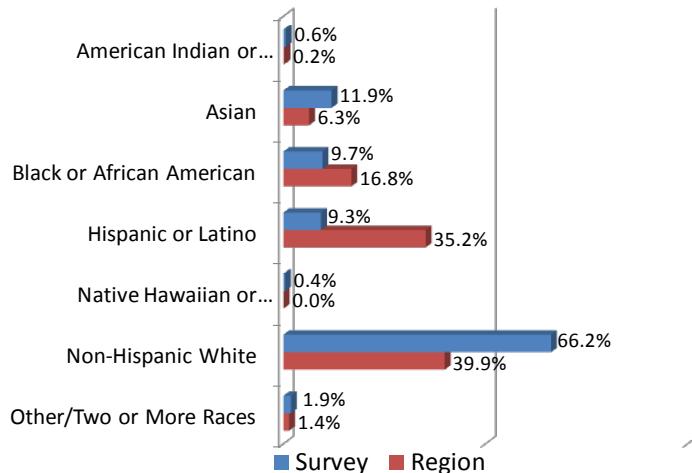
Only 9.3% of the respondents were Hispanic which under-represents that group which makes up 35.2% of the regional population.

Of the racial groups illustrated in the chart on the bottom, the “non-Hispanic- white” category is over-represented in the sample with 66.2% of the respondents, as compared to 39.9% in the region. Non-Hispanic “Black/African Americans and Asians are under-represented in the survey.

**Q17 - Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino?**



**Q18 - Racial Categories**



**Q19 - Educational Attainment**

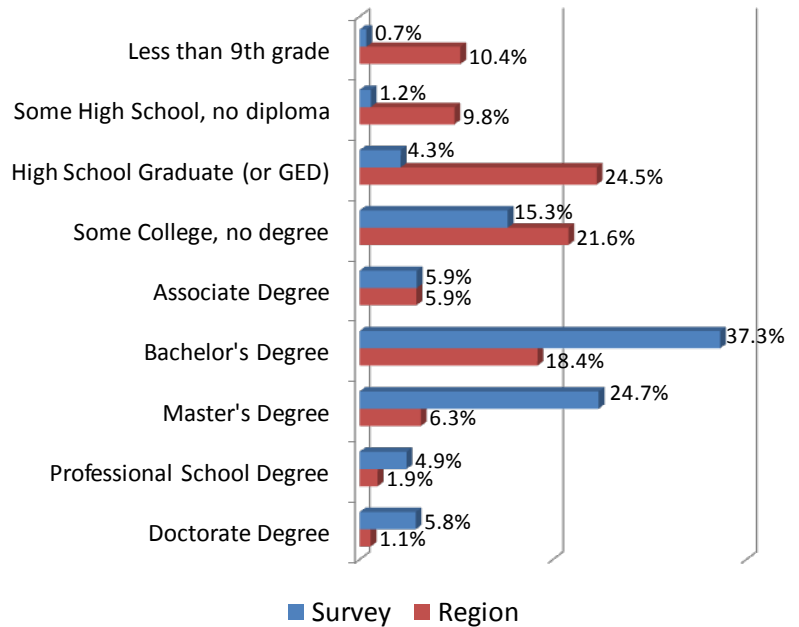
In Question 19, the respondents were asked “What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?”

Consistent with the income disparity between the survey respondents and the general population in the region, the survey respondents were substantially more highly educated than the regional residents overall.

The median education for the region’s residents overall is an “Associate Degree” while the median for the survey respondents is a “Bachelor’s Degree.”

An amazing 72.7% of the survey respondents had a “Bachelor’s Degree or above” as compared with the regional college degree percentage of 27.8%.

**Q19 – Educational Attainment**



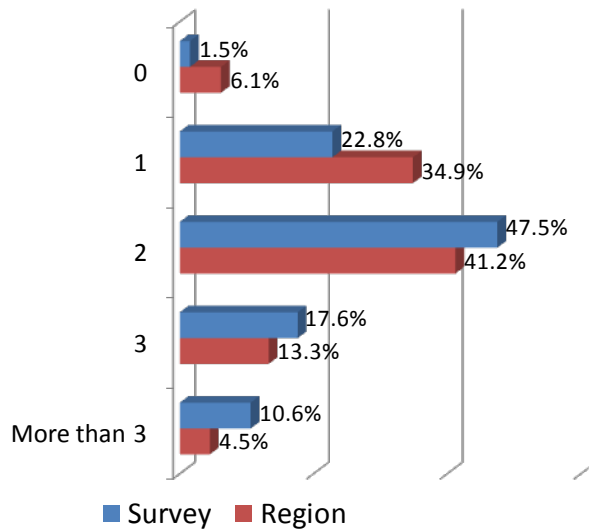
**Q20 - Vehicles in Household**

In the final question on the survey, the respondents were asked, “How many vehicles are in your household?”

Consistent with the affluence of the respondents to this survey, they reported more vehicles than the overall residents of the region. Overall, 75.7% of the respondents have “2 or more” vehicles as compared with 59.0% of households in the region with “2 or more” vehicles.

A calculated estimate for the average number of vehicles in the respondents’ households is 2.3 while the average in the region is approximately 1.8.

**Q20 – Number of Vehicles in Household**



## General View of Issues

### Community Views

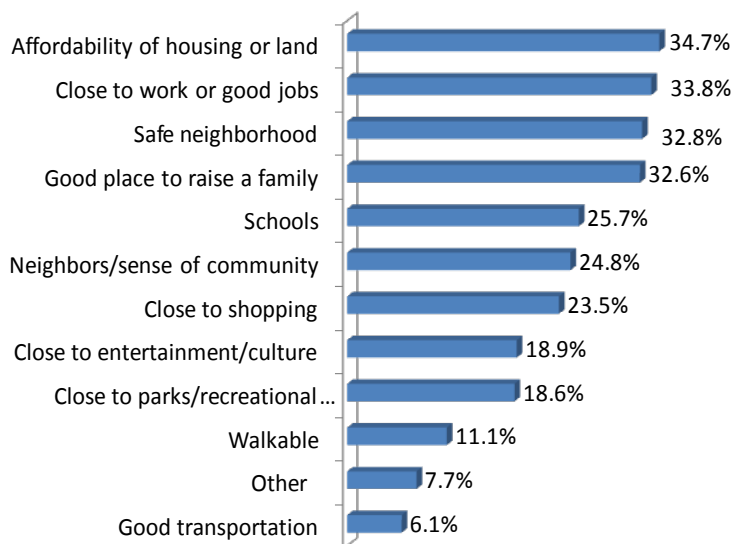
#### Q5 - Community Attributes

In Question 5, the respondents were asked, “What do you like about the community where you live?” They could list up to three attributes that they liked about their community. The chart on the right presents the results. The percentages in the chart present the percentage of the total responses where that attribute was selected.

The top rated attribute was “Affordability of housing or land” followed closely by “Close to work or good jobs,” “Safe neighborhood,” and “Good place to raise a family.”

The “Other” category was mentioned by 7.7% and those verbatim responses are included in Appendix B

#### Q5 - Key Community Attributes



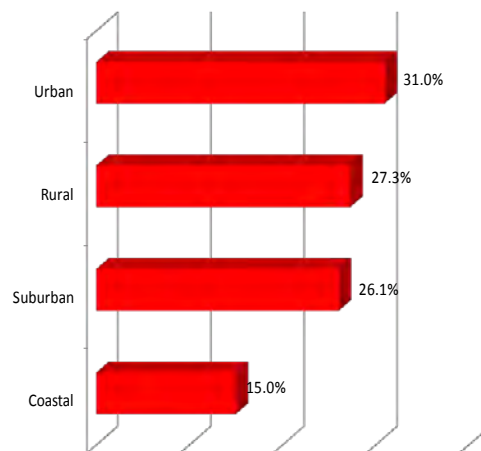
#### Q6 - Preference for Residence Location

The respondents were asked what location/type of community they would live in if they could live anywhere. The chart on the right presents the basic preferences. The top choice was “Urban,” closely followed by “Rural” and “Suburban.” “Coastal” was least preferred.

The table below right cross-tabulates where the respondents currently live against where they would prefer to live. In most cases they prefer their current location. The strongest preferences for their current location are rural residents where 74.2% would stay in a rural location. Suburbanites are least satisfied with their current location with less than a majority favoring their suburban location.

The strongest overall shift in preference was to rural and coastal locations – while 22.3% currently live in those locations, 42.3% prefer them.

#### Q6 - Living Location Preference



Currently live	Would prefer to live				Current
	Coastal	Rural	Suburban	Urban	
Coastal	67.2%	19.1%	5.3%	8.4%	5.3%
Rural	10.4%	74.2%	10.2%	5.2%	17.0%
Suburban	14.9%	22.0%	46.2%	17.0%	44.6%
Urban	9.1%	11.5%	12.2%	67.2%	33.1%
Total	15.0%	27.3%	26.7%	31.0%	100.0%

## Q7 - Major Community Issues

The respondents were asked, “What are the major issues in the community where you live?” They were asked to rate the level of each item’s importance on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the least important and 5 the most important. The chart on the right presents the average rating for each of the issues.

“Traffic congestion” was overall most important with a 3.14 average rating, just above a mid-point rating of 3.

Crime was the next highest rated issue for importance at 3.12.

**The “Other” verbatim responses to this question are listed in Appendix C.**

## Q7 - Major Issues in the Community

Traffic congestion	3.14
Crime	3.12
Lack of public transportation	2.88
Vulnerable to flooding disasters	2.87
Lack of jobs economic opportunities	2.76
Lack of walking or biking options	2.73
Poor air quality pollution	2.69
Lack of public green space parks	2.62
Too much growth	2.53
Poor water quality pollution	2.53
Lack of affordable housing near jobs	2.42
Lack of educational opportunities	2.38
Lack of access to health care	2.33
Not enough water supply	2.27
Lack of quality housing	2.27
Lack of access to fresh food	2.16
Lack of growth	2.04
Loss of farm land	2.02

## Regional Views

### Q8 - Major Regional Issues

When asked, “What are the major issues for the region overall?” the respondents rated the issue on an importance scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the least important and 5 most important.

In general, the respondents rated each item as more important on a regional scale than they did on a community level.

“Traffic congestion” was rated more important (3.77) than at a community level (3.14).

The top two rated issues were the same, both with higher important scores.

“Poor air quality” was fourth in the regional importance list, up from 7<sup>th</sup> in the community rankings.

**Respondents could enter “Other” verbatim responses and those are included in Appendix D.**

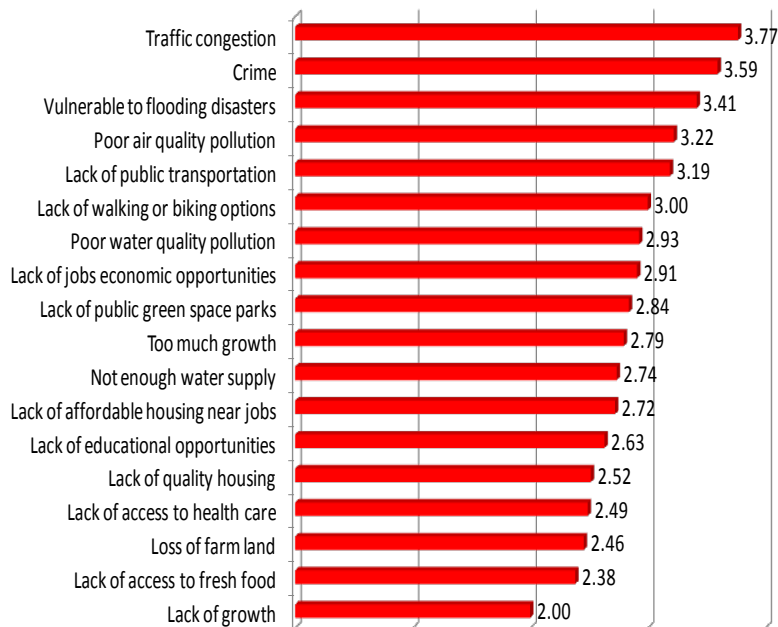
### Q9 - Traffic Congestion Solutions

In Question 9, those who rated “traffic congestion” as an important issue were asked, “If you gave traffic congestion a high level of importance on either of the last two questions, what do you think are the best possible solutions?” The offered solutions were also rated on a scale of 1 to 5 for importance.

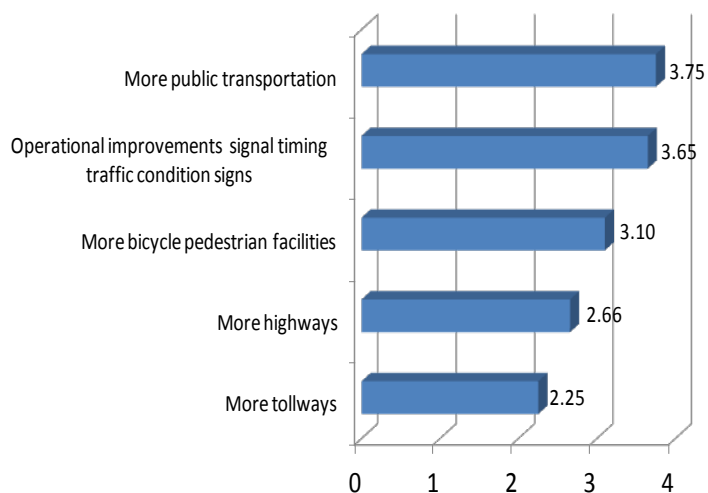
“More public transportation” leads the list of traffic congestion solutions with a score of 3.75 followed closely by “Operational improvements....”

**The “Other” verbatim responses to Question 9 are included in Appendix E.**

### Q8 - Major Issues in the Region Overall



### Q9 - Traffic Congestion Solutions





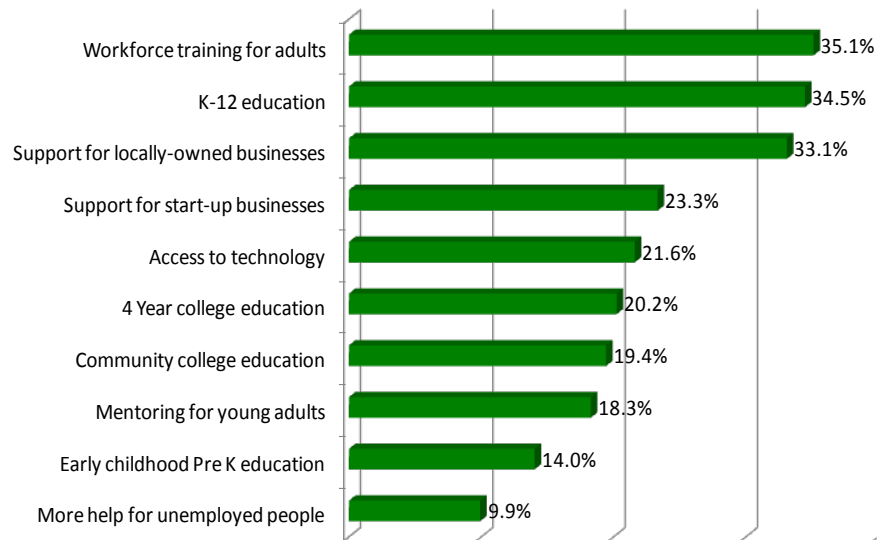
### Q11 - Economic Development Opportunities

In Question 11, the respondents were asked, “What kinds of opportunities do you think are most important for people to be part of positive economic development in the future?” The survey takers could select up to three items.

The results are shown in the chart on the right. The numbers in the chart are the percentages of total responses that selected that item. For example, over one third of the respondents selected “Workforce training for adults,” “K-12 education,” and “Support for locally owned businesses.”

**“Other” was selected by 4.7% and those verbatim responses are included in Appendix F.**

#### Q11 - Positive Economic Development Opportunities



## Goals and Sustainability

### Q10 - Plan Priorities

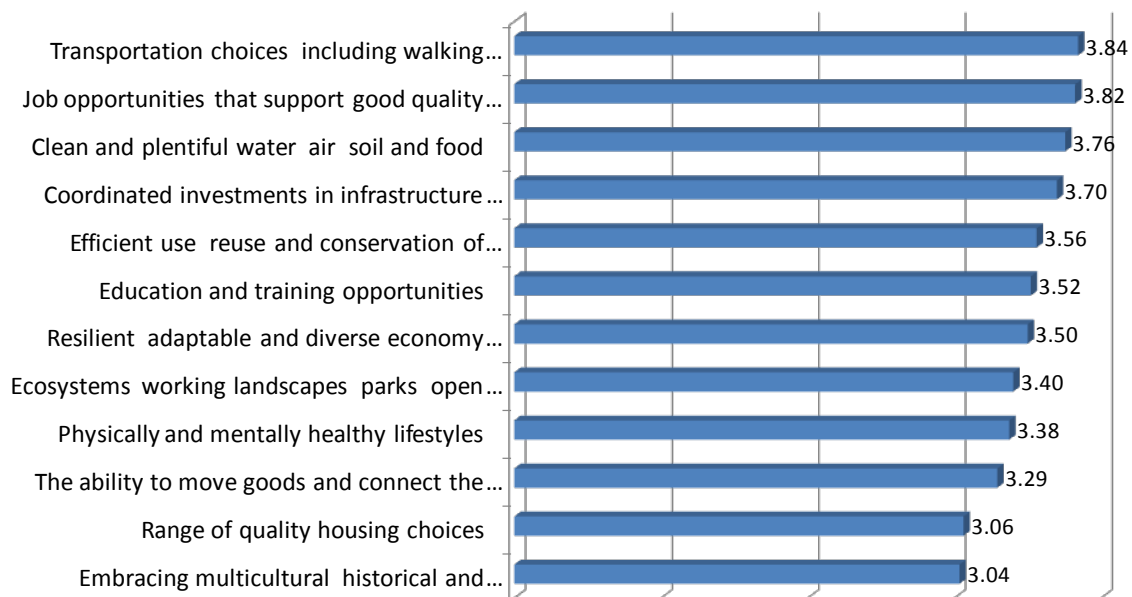
In Question 10, the respondents were asked, “What areas do you think the regional plan should focus most on?” They were asked to rate the level of each item’s importance on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the least important and 5, the most important.

The box on the right lists the complete statements of the priority options offered in the survey in the order that they were presented to the respondent.

The chart below presents the average rating for each of the stated priority options. Due to chart limitations, some of the answers were truncated (See the box on the top right).

- Education and training opportunities
- Transportation choices, including walking, biking, transit and driving
- Clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food
- Physically and mentally healthy lifestyles
- Coordinated investments in infrastructure, housing, and transportation
- Ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, open spaces
- Range of quality housing choices
- Efficient use, reuse and conservation of natural resources
- Resilient, adaptable and diverse economy and skilled workforce
- Job opportunities that support good quality of life
- The ability to move goods and connect the region to the global marketplace
- Embracing multicultural, historical and natural assets

### Q10 - Priorities for the Regional Plan



The highest rated priority was “Transportation choices....” followed closely by “Job opportunities...,” “Clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food,” and “... infrastructure...,”

## Q10 - Cross-tabulations

### Q10 - What areas do you think the regional plan should focus most on?

Cross tabulated with Q4, “How would you describe the area that you live in?”

Q10 - Plan Priorities ↓	Q4 - Type of Community - Average Scores				
	Coastal	Rural	Suburban	Urban	Total
Education and training opportunities	3.56	3.70	3.36	3.65	3.52
Transportation choices including walking biking transit and driving	3.10	3.31	3.92	4.12	3.84
Clean and plentiful water air soil and food	4.07	3.54	3.73	3.85	3.75
Physically and mentally healthy lifestyles	3.38	3.25	3.23	3.63	3.37
Coordinated investments in infrastructure housing and transportation	3.51	3.35	3.70	3.91	3.70
Ecosystems working landscapes parks open spaces	3.37	2.99	3.37	3.67	3.40
Range of quality housing choices	2.87	3.07	2.98	3.21	3.06
Efficient use reuse and conservation of natural resources	3.80	3.47	3.48	3.68	3.56
Resilient adaptable and diverse economy and skilled workforce	3.71	3.55	3.48	3.48	3.50
Job opportunities that support good quality of life	3.99	3.92	3.79	3.80	3.82
The ability to move goods and connect the region to the global marketplace	3.14	3.17	3.36	3.28	3.29
Embracing multicultural historical and natural assets	3.16	2.82	2.90	3.31	3.03

The red highlights the highest priority score for each type of community.

Those persons living in Coastal communities are somewhat more concerned about “Clean and plentiful water air, soil, and food”

“Transportation...” improvements seem to be the highest priority of Suburban and Urban residents.

Rural residents are more focused on “Job opportunities...”

Overall, Urban residents gave higher priority rankings.

**Q10 - What areas do you think the regional plan should focus most on?**

Cross tabulated with Q16, "What is your total household income for 2011?"

Q10 - Plan Priorities ↓	Q16 - 2011 Household Income								Total
	Less than \$25,000	\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$124,999	\$125,000 - \$149,999	\$150,000 or more	No Response	
Education and training opportunities	3.52	3.31	3.28	3.82	3.70	3.48	4.04	3.40	3.53
Transportation choices including walking biking transit and driving	3.96	3.89	3.84	3.85	3.81	3.90	4.03	3.67	3.84
Clean and plentiful water air soil and food	3.76	3.55	3.57	3.92	3.87	3.78	3.88	3.78	3.76
Physically and mentally healthy lifestyles	3.08	3.34	3.21	3.59	3.51	3.49	3.96	3.25	3.38
Coordinated investments in infrastructure housing and transportation	3.77	3.78	3.75	3.59	3.80	3.74	3.75	3.51	3.71
Ecosystems working landscapes parks open spaces	3.41	3.44	3.40	3.47	3.41	3.42	3.46	3.26	3.40
Range of quality housing choices	3.00	3.00	2.90	3.32	3.22	3.09	3.48	2.84	3.07
Efficient use reuse and conservation of natural resources	3.56	3.50	3.41	3.86	3.65	3.54	3.57	3.46	3.56
Resilient adaptable and diverse economy and skilled workforce	3.40	3.60	3.36	3.63	3.71	3.53	3.55	3.41	3.51
Job opportunities that support good quality of life	3.65	3.92	3.70	3.95	3.97	3.90	4.02	3.76	3.83
The ability to move goods and connect the region to the global marketplace	3.24	3.37	3.41	3.11	3.30	3.30	3.33	3.29	3.29
Embracing multicultural historical and natural assets	2.98	2.80	2.91	3.28	3.31	2.96	3.39	2.83	3.04

The "No response" column in the table above represents those persons who answered Question 10 but did not provide their income in question 16.

The lowest income group and the highest groups are focused on "Transportation ...." While the middle income groups rated "Job opportunities as the highest priority.

Q10 – “What areas do you think the regional plan should focus most on?” Cross tabulated with Q18, “What is your total household income for 2011?”

Q10 - Plan Priorities ↓	Q17 - Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic/Latino? And Q18 Select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself (These categories separated Hispanic from the racial groups)								
	American Indian or Native	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Native Hawaiian or Islander	Non-Hispanic White	Two or More Races	No Response	Total
Education and training opportunities	3.11	3.83	4.26	3.76	3.25	3.38	3.47	3.41	3.52
Transportation choices including walking biking transit and driving	3.70	4.09	4.01	4.13	4.25	3.82	4.18	3.50	3.84
Clean and plentiful water air soil and food	2.80	3.83	3.79	3.99	3.88	3.75	3.94	3.61	3.76
Physically and mentally healthy lifestyles	2.44	3.56	3.85	3.69	3.88	3.32	3.47	3.08	3.38
Coordinated investments in infrastructure housing and transportation	3.44	3.89	3.94	3.82	4.75	3.69	3.94	3.39	3.70
Ecosystems working landscapes parks open spaces	2.89	3.66	3.42	3.48	3.50	3.41	3.59	3.19	3.40
Range of quality housing choices	3.11	3.18	3.68	3.38	3.25	3.00	2.81	2.76	3.06
Efficient use reuse and conservation of natural	3.11	3.82	3.49	3.58	3.25	3.59	3.88	3.31	3.56
Resilient adaptable and diverse economy and skilled	3.45	3.74	3.58	4.00	3.51	3.50	3.30	3.50	3.45
Job opportunities that support good quality of life	4.00	3.81	4.18	3.93	4.50	3.79	3.94	3.65	3.82
The ability to move goods and connect the region to the global marketplace	3.25	3.22	3.42	3.47	3.63	3.27	3.26	3.26	3.29
Embracing multicultural historical and natural assets	2.63	3.51	3.57	3.35	3.75	2.92	3.22	2.80	3.04

The “No response” column in the table above represents those persons who answered Question 10 but did not provide their ethnicity and race in Questions 17 and 18.

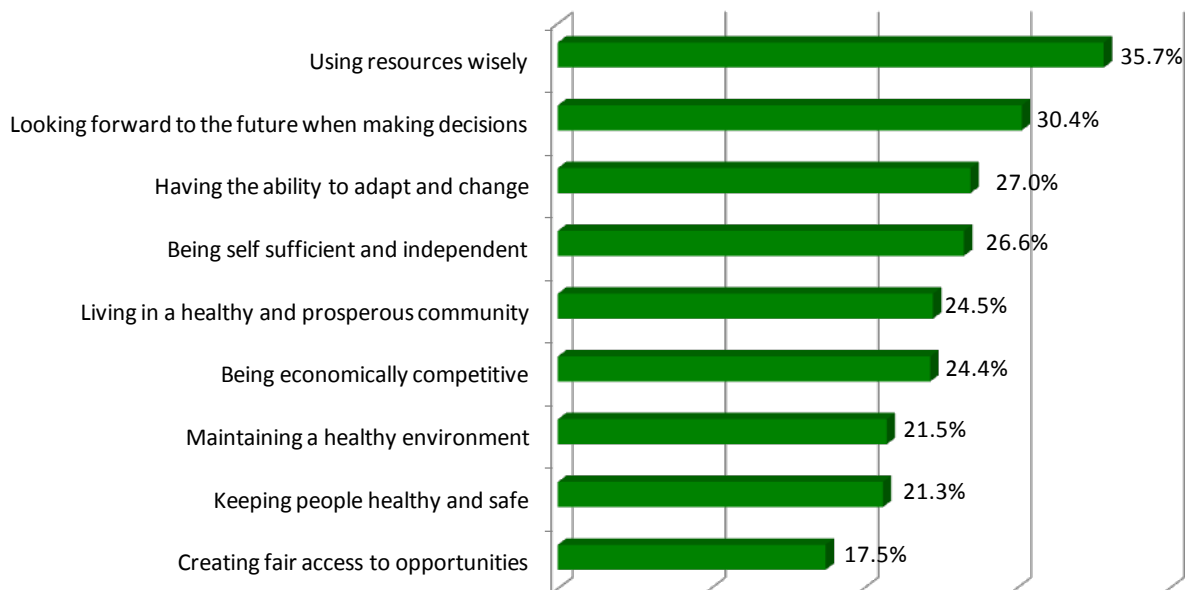
“Asians,” “Hispanics,” “Non-Hispanic Whites” and those of “Two or more races” were most focused on “Transportation ....” While the “Black/African American” respondents expressed the highest importance for “Education and Training....” “American Indian or Alaskan Natives” and “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander” respondents rated “Job opportunities...” as the highest priority.

## Sustainability Defined

### Q12 - Sustainability Qualities

In Question 12, the respondents were asked, “Sustainability has many different qualities. Which do you think are the most important?” Respondents could choose up to three of the offered statements. The chart below illustrates the results as the percentage of persons selecting each one of the statements. Therefore, the total response percentages add to more than 100%.

#### Q12 - Most Important Sustainability Qualities



More than one out of every three participants mentioned, “Using resources wisely” as an important quality of sustainability. The next most mentioned qualities were: “Looking forward....” “Having the ability to adapt and change” and “Being self-sufficient...” “Creating fair access to opportunities” was the least mentioned quality of sustainability by only 17.5% of the respondents.

**Respondents were offered the opportunity to add another statement. The “Other” sustainability statements verbatim responses are presented in Appendix G.**

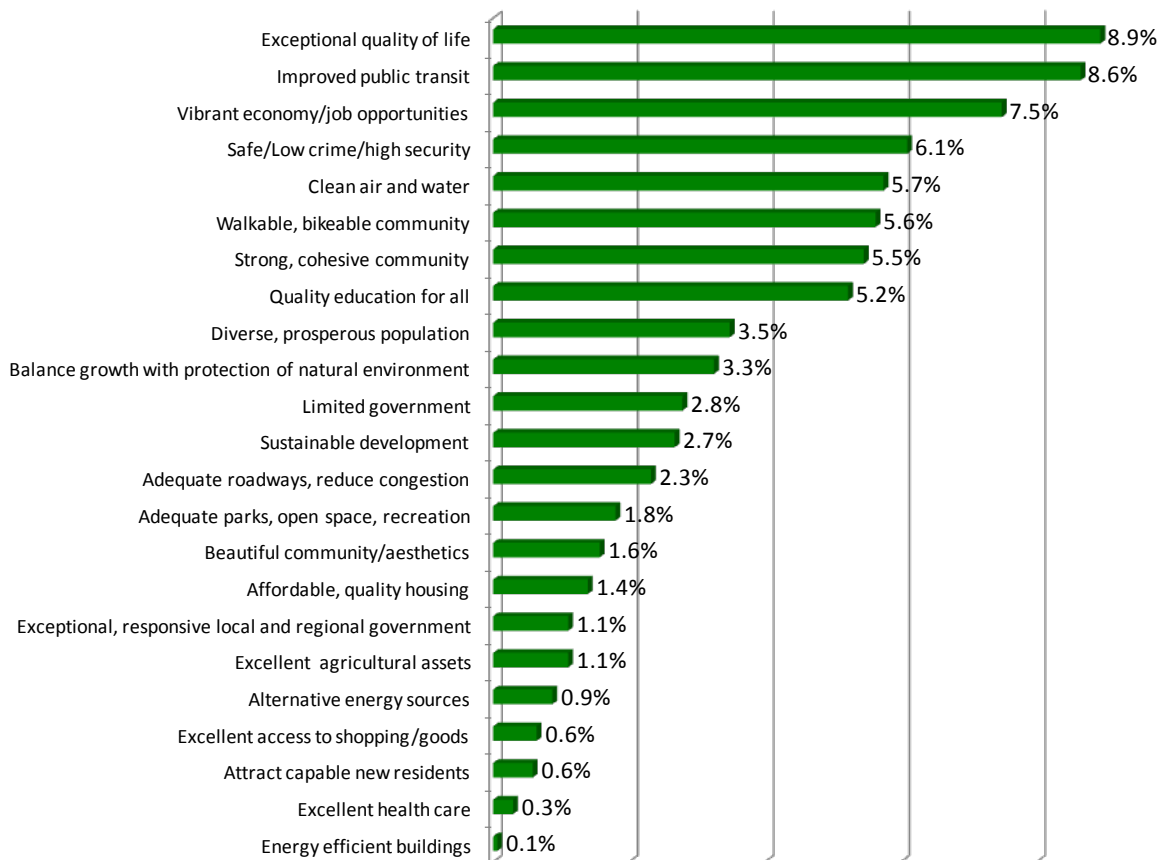
## Vision Statement

In Question 13, the respondents were asked to provide an open-ended response to, “Please share with us your hope for your community 30 years from now.”

There were 1,723 responses to this question (62.1% of the total survey responses).

For analysis purposes, these statements were coded to the categories listed in the in the chart below. The numbers in the chart are the percentages of the open-ended questions that were related to each of the selected categories. Unfortunately, coding such unlimited open-ended questions is difficult. In this case, the average comment included more than two distinct categories. Rather than double counting those statements, 308 of those with relevant comments were coded to an “other category” which constituted 17.9% of the total responses. Some of the comments that were not coded to the categories above were placed in another category, deemed “irrelevant” to the statements requested in the question. In total, 86 responses (5.0%) fit into that last, “irrelevant” category.

### Q13 – Vision Statement Categories



Because the coded categories only summarize the thoughts contained in the responses to Question 13, **it is important to review the verbatim responses to Question 13, included in Appendix H, in order to fully understand the opinions of the survey respondents.**

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## Appendix A - Survey Instrument

More than 6 million people now live in the 13-county region and as many as 10 million people could live in the area by 2040. The Houston Galveston Regional Plan for Sustainable Development is a two-year planning project that looks at questions such as “Where will those residents live?” and “How will they get around the region?” The plan, which is being led by a regional partnership working with the Houston-Galveston Area Council, will explore ways to improve our most important resources, including clean air and water, good jobs, safe and attractive neighborhoods, affordable housing, transportation choices, and open spaces and parks.

Your input on this survey will help to set goals and priorities for the plan and shape a vision for your community and the region. More information on the plan is available at [www.OurRegion.org](http://www.OurRegion.org). Please note that most of the questions will require an answer to proceed to the next question. Required questions are noted with asterisks. All of your responses will be held strictly confidential.

1. **In what ZIP code is your home located? (enter 5 digit ZIP code in the box below; for example, 77548)**
  
2. **Is your place of residence inside an incorporated city or town or is it in the county?**
  
3. **In what ZIP code is your place of work located? (enter 5 digit ZIP code. If you don't work outside the home, leave blank)**
  
4. **How would you describe the area that you live in? [Check  the one box that applies]**
  - Rural
  - Suburban
  - Urban
  - Coastal
  
5. **What do you like about the community where you live? [ Check the top three from the list below]**
  - Affordability of housing or land
  - Close to work or good jobs
  - Close to shopping
  - Schools
  - Close to entertainment/culture
  - Good transportation
  - Good place to raise a family
  - Safe neighborhood



- Close to parks/recreational areas/natural areas
- Neighbors/sense of community
- Walkable
- Other (please specify)

**6. If you could live anywhere, where would you live? [Check one]**

- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban
- Coastal

**7. What are the major issues IN THE COMMUNITY WHERE YOU LIVE? [Rate the level of importance for each item from 1 to 5 where 1=least important, 5=most important.]**

- Lack of affordable housing near jobs
- Loss of farm land
- Crime
- Lack of educational opportunities
- Lack of access to health care
- Lack of quality housing
- Lack of jobs/economic opportunities
- Lack of access to fresh food
- Vulnerable to flooding/disasters
- Traffic congestion
- Poor air quality/pollution
- Poor water quality/pollution
- Not enough water supply
- Lack of public transportation
- Lack of walking or biking options
- Too much growth
- Lack of growth
- Lack of public green space/parks
- Other priority issue for your community (please specify)

**8. What are the major issues FOR THE REGION OVERALL? [Rate the level of importance for each item from 1 to 5 where 1=least important, 5=most important.]**

- Lack of affordable housing near jobs

- 
- Loss of farm land
  - Crime
  - Lack of educational opportunities
  - Lack of access to health care
  - Lack of quality housing
  - Lack of jobs/economic opportunities
  - Lack of access to fresh food
  - Vulnerable to flooding/disasters
  - Traffic congestion
  - Poor air quality/pollution
  - Poor water quality/pollution
  - Not enough water supply
  - Lack of public transportation
  - Lack of walking or biking options
  - Too much growth
  - Lack of growth
  - Lack of public green space/parks
  - Other priority issue for your community (please specify)

**9. If you gave traffic congestion a high level of importance on either of the last two questions, what do you think are the best possible solutions? [Rate the level of importance of each item from 1 to 5 (1=least important, 5=most important)]** You may skip this question if traffic congestion was not of high importance on the previous questions.

- Operational improvements (signal timing, traffic condition signs)
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities
- More public transportation
- More tollways
- More highways
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. What areas do you think the regional plan should focus most on? [Rate the level of importance for each item from 1 to 5 where 1=least important, 5=most important]**

- Education and training opportunities
- Transportation choices, including walking, biking, transit and driving
- Clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food
- Physically and mentally healthy lifestyles
- Coordinated investments in infrastructure, housing, and transportation

- Ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, open spaces
- Range of quality housing choices
- Efficient use, reuse and conservation of natural resources
- Resilient, adaptable and diverse economy and skilled workforce
- Job opportunities that support good quality of life
- The ability to move goods and connect the region to the global marketplace
- Embracing multicultural, historical and natural assets

**11. What kinds of opportunities do you think are most important for people to be part of positive economic development in the future? [V Check the top three]**

- Workforce training for adults
- Early childhood/Pre-K education
- K-12 education
- Community college education
- 4 Year college education
- Access to technology
- Support for start-up businesses
- More help for unemployed people
- Support for locally-owned businesses
- Mentoring for young adults
- Other (please specify)

**12. Sustainability can be defined in many ways:**

**Example: Taking care of our needs today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.**

**Example: Thinking about what kind of place you would want your grandchildren to live in.**

**Sustainability has many different qualities. Which do you think are the most important? [V Check the top three]**

- Having the ability to adapt and change
- Creating fair access to opportunities
- Looking forward to the future when making decisions
- Being economically competitive
- Being self-sufficient and independent
- Using resources wisely
- Living in a healthy and prosperous community
- Keeping people healthy and safe
- Maintaining a healthy environment

- Other (please specify)

- 13. Please share with us your hope for YOUR COMMUNITY 30 years from now.**  
**Example: Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school.**  
**Example: Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them.**  
**Example: Our community will have more locally-owned businesses.**

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**DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS**

- 14. Are you male or female?**

- Male
- Female

- 15. What is your age?**

- 15 – 24
- 25 – 34
- 35 – 44
- 45 – 54
- 55 – 64
- 65 – 74
- 75 or over
- No Response

- 16. What is your total household income for 2011? [Check One]**

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$124,999
- \$125,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more
- No Response

**17. Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic/Latino?**

- Yes
- No
- No Response

**18. Select one or more of the following categories to describe yourself:**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- No Response

**19. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?**

- Less than 9th grade
- Some High School, no diploma
- High School Graduate (or GED)
- Some College, no degree
- Associate Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- Professional School Degree
- Doctorate Degree
- No Response

**20. How many vehicles are in your household?**

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- More than 3
- No Response

## Appendix B - Q5 - Verbatim Responses to "Other"

### Q5 - What do you like about the community where you live?

- Good restaurants nearby
- Great bike trails
- HUSBAND JOB
- Have acreage for horses
- Historic Neighborhood
- Historical neighborhood
- Homes are newer, bigger backyards
- I like how Mont Belvieu is a small town and rural.
- I like the country setting
- I live & grew up in MONTROSE
- I watch TV a lot
- I will be build vacation home
- I wish I could check the rest
- It is our home and has been for 100+ years.
- It is outside the city
- It is rural and undeveloped and like it that way
- It's just been home for 23 years
- Keep a rural atmosphere
- Large wooded lots
- Less Developed
- Like "close to work" I disagree with the others
- Live at the edge of town next to Cedar Bayou.
- Live oaks
- Lots of churches & parks
- Low Taxes
- Low taxes
- BORN HERE CAN NOT SELL HOME
- Natural environment
- Near my daughter/grandchildren w/in 10 miles
- New Homes
- New home community
- None
- None of the above
- Not near a big city
- Not too far...not as far as The Woodlands
- Not zoned
- Nothing No Where
- Nothing to do. Not good housing
- Nothing, it sucks. Forget the boxes checked
- Old attractive neighborhood
- On the bay
- Openess- since its a rural setting.
- Outside the city
- Overall quality of life
- PRIVACY
- Potential for sustainable agriculture.
- Private property
- Proximity to major highways
- Quiet neighborhood
- Quiet neighborhoods
- Raised in this area and am close to family
- Rural and Christian.
- Rural and not in a city jurisdiction.
- Safety has become a real issue since Katrina
- Schools for my daughter when I first moved there..
- Slower pace of life than the city
- Small town & country living
- Small town atmosphere
- Small town feel
- Small town feel & access to metro ammenities
- Small town feel, few national chain retailers
- TREES
- The feel of country, but close enough to Urban
- There are not three things I like!
- Trees
- Unique Galveston culture; liberal atmosphere
- Urban atmosphere and proximity to everything
- Walking and not being in the car.
- We live in the ETJ and own 10 acres
- We raise beef cattle which requires land.
- Where is it "safe"?
- affordability is my only reason.
- affordable
- agricultural opportunities
- all of the above
- all of the above & trees
- all of the above.
- away from everything
- beach
- beach, sunrise
- bus for Angleton Rec Ctr
- church
- close access to food
- close access to many major highways
- close to bicycle trails
- close to church
- close to education,med ctr, cultural attractions
- close to family
- close to family, the rest of it is not that great
- close to freeway
- close to golf course
- close to good medical
- close to grocery stores
- close to lots of open space and refuges
- close to main highways
- close to medical
- close to religion practice
- close to the beach
- convenient on a bicycle--i commute by bicycle
- country living
- diversity
- diversity; comp. planning; citizen partic.
- easy to get around no traffic problems
- excellent school district
- friends
- good commute to Houston. Min traffic congestion
- good medical care & hospitals
- good proximity
- has gym and resort pool-dog park coming, trails
- high elevation
- historic neighborhood
- housing resale value
- in the woods
- lakes and pleasant scenery
- large land plots
- less population than Montgomery & Harris county
- location to highways

- lot of space between me & my neighbors.
- love rural area
- low taxes
- many of these-internet access,jobs,entertainment
- natural resources, unique habitat
- nature and quite
- near wife's work FBISD teacher- I work n Tx City
- need all of the above
- neither
- nice neighborhood
- nice people live here (Walden)
- no HOA's to deal with
- no es un enlatado
- no flooding
- no zoning
- not much else- why #????????????????????
- not overcrowded
- nothing
- on the water (canals)
- opportunity to own land
- potential mixed use density enhance in grid areas
- proximity to downtown
- quiet - out of the way
- quiet and solitude
- really only like that it's close to work
- resaleable
- river
- safe bike lanes and walking trails
- school bus
- size of lot
- small town atmosphere and feeling
- small town atmosphere, uncongested
- the coast, sea wall coastal activities
- ther are no 3 reason list only chkd sch to complet
- theres nothing good about where I live
- this box will not even take 50 characters-
- too many illegals wandering all over the place
- trees
- unrestricted property
- very near bike M KT trail
- waterfront homes with canals
- we canoe on Dickinson bayou
- well managed
- where I grew up!

## Appendix C - Q7 - Verbatim Responses to “Other”

Q7 - What are the major issues in the community where you live?

- 7,000 vacant homes, slum conditions, high % of poverty
- A major increase in crime over the last 6 months.
- Bayport, trucks, noise - POHA is basically killing our town
- Beach erosion
- Better guest parking
- Better restaurants
- Better road conditions for pedestrians/cyclists
- Better walking, biking, bus/LRT access
- Biggest issue is negative perception of area (Alief)
- Citizens tend to be self-absorbed and not current on issues
- City Government
- City planning
- City planning appearance zoning-5
- Clearcutting of trees
- Condition of major roads. Flooding on streets with curbs and gutters vs. swales
- Confusing wording?
- Crime Prevention
- Crime is increasing because homeowners are viewed as well-to-do
- Crime is on the rise; street condition poor; all of Hou has poor air quality
- Crime, Gangs, Illegals, Tax funds going to non-citizens
- Declining Property Values
- Demolition of historic structures
- Development of infrastructure
- Do not want to lose small town feel - don't want government programs / interference
- Does this field even work? One on the previous page didn't....
- Dog park needed-5
- Drainage, new east west corridors, Green space between residential areas and industry, planning for future including utilities, transportation, et cetera
- Drainage-1
- Drug use / access
- Economic Development -5
- Economical accessible housing for seniors and people with disabilities
- Eminent domain issues, I.e., Centerpoint Energy's high voltage power lines.
- Fair taxing of our residential homes.
- Federal Government damaging to JOBS!!!!
- Fire Protection, building standards, quality of roads
- Funding for roads-5
- Galveston has too much low income housing in the township.
- Getting better but still lack social services; transp. & housing choices
- Getting the government out of our homes and businesses
- Govt policy on cats unfair to homeowners, environment.
- Great country living.
- Highways and county maintenance
- Horrible Public Schools-5
- Huge influx of illegal aliens, placing a huge burden on our schools and requiring actual Americans to be bilingual in order to obtain many local jobs.
- I don't think these should be addressed by controlling organization,
- I don't want gambling legalized
- I feel that our public leaders are making choices that are trying to make Mont Belvieu into something that it is not. This is not the Woodlands or Sugarland and we don't want to be.
- I have no complaints
- I love the community
- INFRASTRUCTURE UTILITIES
- Ike Dike
- Impervious cover near bayous
- Inadequate public transportation
- Infrastructure and street maintenance
- Jobs
- Keeping the rural lifestyle and small feel of community for our children is important to me. Having the opportunities to enjoy the outdoor lifestyle
- Lack of Coordination, Management & Urgency TXDOT Expedite & Complete Major Highway Projects
- Lack of GOOD grocery stores or household shopping
- Lack of Renewable Energy Sources - Windmills, Solar & Hydro - water power
- Lack of border protection. Gov intrusion. Smart meters
- Lack of broadband Internet
- Lack of community congregation point/center.
- Lack of community events
- Lack of economic development to create and simulate the economy
- Lack of entertainment opportunities
- Lack of ethnic diversity & strict regulations on homeowners.
- Lack of infrastructure to support light rail
- Lack of rail system -5
- Lack of shopping
- Lack of shopping. We have to drive to find quality clothing
- Lack of street lighting and Too much vehicular sound
- Lack of young leadership moving up within City Council and other community organizations
- Lack of zoning creates a Walmart in a historical area.
- Lake Conroe Level effecting marketplace
- Less of the ugly 4 and 6 lane intersections
- Little sidewalk connectivity, few bike paths, lacking sidewalks.
- Loss of trees
- Loss of trees due to drought/development
- Major streets deterioration



- Mantenimiento de las calles y avenidas
- More bike paths and lanes. More light rail everywhere. Make Houston a real city.
- More fishing piers and boat ramps.
- My area has everything
- NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
- Need NASA jobs
- Need better/stable service business. 3
- Need city park pool and recreation facilities
- Need community garden
- Need for land driving way.
- Need more economic development for area
- Need more funding for better teachers/better ed-5
- Need more good restaurants
- Need more sidewalks that can connect us to public transportation. Would like to have light rail go out west and travel into the medical center with minimal stops.
- No Metro
- No in City MUDS
- No major issues-5
- No regulations on what can go up in the area, quality suffers for profit
- No serious problem streets need repair
- No sidewalks
- Noise
- Not Sustainable-5
- Not enough curb cuts for wheelchair access.
- Not enough efforts on inviting "good" businesses to one side of the city due to the income level of the area... Also, no "important focus on one side of the city due to "income level"
- Not too much growth, too much unwanted growth
- Our airport is not considered a part of baycity's infra
- Our governments, city and county, are lazy and stupid
- Outrageous, oppressive taxation
- Overdevelopment
- POTHoles and UGLY POWER LINES
- Parking
- Parking and noise ordinance enforcement
- Political Perception-5
- Poor School System
- Poor road quality (potholes)
- Poverty at 80%
- Power distribution system is unreliable
- Prefer Spring to be zoned since it is expected to greatly grow with ExxonMobil, Sysco, etc. moving in...
- Property values due to undesirable businesses
- Public housing plans focused only on Island
- Public transportation, bike lanes, TNDs
- Quality of public education
- Quality of school Goose Greek ISD-5
- Quality of the infrastructure (poor roads and sidewalks)
- Road maintenance, localized management of comprehensive tax base
- Roads are in terrible condition and too many bums/beggars
- Safe sidewalks to walk on!
- Safety for pedestrians and bikes. More sidewalks.
- Schools not great
- Senoir activity facilities
- Side walks
- Side walks in the city/too many dilapidated homes in the city of Waller
- Speeding on main neighborhood thoroughfares
- Stay out of our community with your forced procedures
- Stemming progressive liberal influences
- Taxes & inefficent governements
- Taxes are collected but I see very little done with the money.
- Taxes-5
- The area I live in is extremely fine...the concerns listed are not concerns here because they are already addressed.
- The neighborhood does not have access to good public school
- The posted speed is 30 mph but drivers go 50 mph. As a pedestrian, I just hate that.
- There is no homeless shelter or community organization to help the few homeless that we do see. They live at/near empty businesses in town.
- There is too much prejudice against poverty in my community
- This sounds like an Obama survey. Stay out of our life!!!
- Threat of removing livestock from property by the City.
- Tons of walking traffic due to free clinics and Salvation Army. People are ill, criminals, or otherwise unpleasant to run into.
- Too far from urban areas-4
- Too many big-box and massive parking lot development
- Too many developmental restrictions in the city
- Too many low income apartment/housing
- Too much Government interference
- Too much federal control in the community
- Too much government regulation
- Too much government subsidized housing
- Too much govt regulation and developers who get away with everything.
- Too much vacant property, few stores
- Too spread out.
- Traffic
- Traffic Noise since Main Street Elevated
- Traffic issues
- Trash / garbage / litter in streets and parking lots
- Tree Preservation
- Truck traffic on local grid getting to freeways
- Unstable city government
- Urban Sprawl. No controlled growth.
- Urban renewal
- Way too many apartments
- We live on Chocolate Bayou we need help with flooding

- We really don't have any issues
- Wish we had more bike trails & Metrorail access to entertainment areas
- Zip code problem
- Zoning issues with too much poor quality commercial close by. County needs to clean up Hwy 6 of non-family oriented business.
- abandoned lots/homes
- access to other rec options
- access to recycling
- affordable housing, elderly housing
- affordable property insurance
- affordable quality child care
- after care school programs for working families
- aged or insufficient infrastructure -5
- all taxes too high
- an old building is unsafe and being held up by huge beams. It has been in this condition for over two years.
- answers could vary depending on income, e.g. affordable housing
- arterial roads destroyed by heavy trucks with no company responsibility
- arts/theatrical
- bad rating on high school
- bad streets and no sidewalks
- burned out mobile homes/trash on hwy/high tax-5
- bus connection to light rail at southern end
- busy streets
- city government of Brookshire is corrupt
- clean water and sewer
- comm support grp efforts to connect ppl socially
- community centers-5
- community police patrols
- competitive railroad market-4
- complete curb recycling
- complicated living in the city too many government issues and intrusions to privacy
- conflicting land uses incomp w/ residential neighbor-5
- corrupt voting rights, knowledge of what's going on in area
- cost of living
- crime
- crumbling infrastructure....we need smooth streets!
- decaying infrastructure-5
- demographic changes
- destroying of trees by developers with NO punishment, accountability, enforcement of replacing of trees when their projects fail, and no requirement for developers to replace trees they cut down - if any area NEEDS trees to clean the air ... it is HOUSTON!!!
- devaluation of property with rentals
- doesn't connect to public transportation-5
- downtown infrastructure outmoded
- eminent domain issues with power authorities, state of tx
- excessive Stray Dogs,
- excessive taxes-5
- fair local agriculture distribution system
- frivolous spending by city and school board, lack of attention to wants of the public, pro-heavy density housing position
- funding for public programs, eg law enforcement, roads
- funding for the fire service.
- gentrification-4
- government waste, corruption, and too many overpaid unproductive employees who are impossible to fire for any logical reason that the people who pay their salaries, exorbitant benefits, and pensions are subject to
- growth in racial tension, gangs, graffiti and litter
- having to compete w/larger neighboring cities w/fewer resources
- health care
- heavy rails that run through community attract blight - 5
- high property taxes
- high taxes
- high taxes and property value---major problem
- housing for homeless
- illegal immigrants
- illegal immigration
- illegal immigration-5
- improved transportation-5
- improving quality of ALL schools
- invasion of foreign nationals that don't assimilate into the community
- it's really really ugly and trashy looking; kids can't ride bikes
- jobs
- lack of city ordinances to define and protect our neighborhood community
- lack of community connecting
- lack of deed restrictions
- lack of economic dev
- lack of equality in job market-5
- lack of friends near by-4
- lack of integrity in local government/corruption
- lack of land use regulation
- lack of opportunities of job training
- lack of planning for traffic PRIOR to allowing excess development.
- lack of quality businesses.
- lack of quality retail development - derelict comm'l properties
- lack of recreational outlets such as beach, movies.
- lack of recycling prog-5
- lack of regulations-5
- lack of retail development
- lack of st built to code & missing bike lanes
- light pollution from parking garages, lack of sidewalks
- light rail is boosting equity but also increasing tax
- live downtown, large # of homeless-sad
- looks like trash....Terrible environment....
- loss of land due to delinquent taxes-5
- loss of community culture
- make pedestrians and cyclist a priority in driving a top protocol . mass transit - LRT
- money for ongoing street improvements for the future
- more transportation other than metro lift-5
- most of these impact health- health isn't just access to healthcare
- multiple families in residence
- need an airport for private planes

- need improvements in sidewalks to and from destinations, better marked on-street biking
- need jobs that pay a living wage
- need more grocery stores and restaurants
- need to improve cleanliness/roads/sidewalks=5
- need to improve mosquito control
- need traffic calming-5
- nicer looking homes in need-5
- no curbside recycling
- no future planning
- no political common vision, divisiveness, dysfunction
- no sewer too much light
- no transport options for senior citizen who can't drive
- non-handicap accessible-5
- not enough quality restaurants in my immediate area.
- not enough sustainable or resilient housing
- opportunities for owner to acquire help with deteriorating buildings
- over building of public housing
- over crowding
- over-development
- park & green space. Lack native plants-4
- planning for use of space
- planning needs to be far into the future 100-200 yrs
- poor drainage
- poor lighting
- poor road conditions, no paved place to rollerblade
- poor roads
- poor st conditions/more side walks
- poor used of developed land-5
- private property rights-5
- protection from crime
- protection of residential integrity in low income areas
- public debt
- recycling centers
- retail, restaurants, jobs-5
- safety-5
- school quality- 5
- schools always think they need more money
- seems as though there's a good ole boy attitude when it comes to progress
- seniors activities-5
- sewage system upgrades, subdivision roads in city
- sovietstyle unagenda21 smart growth schemes&overregulation
- start widening the Gulf Freeway!
- state funding levels--public schools
- stopping sustainability regulations
- storm sewer replacement,condition of streets
- streets need repaving-4
- the UN
- timing on lights on Hwy 6, more neighborhood patrols
- tolerance of others - welcoming community
- too many foreclosures thus plummeting home values; Alief ISD is a disaster
- too many people
- too many rentals not enough owner occupants
- too many taxes
- too many tea party assholes
- too much regulation-5
- traffic calming, support for pedestrians and cyclists
- traffic congestion
- traffic lights are a nightmare
- uncontrolled development
- unenforced allowance of unsafe living structures and trailers and allowance of unsafe and unsanitary trash and junk on properties. Illegal dumping of tires, trash, and animals is rampant.
- unusual noises
- upkeep of parks
- urban environ deteriorating (sidewalks,st etc)
- variety of housing choices - different types and prices
- walkable family activities
- walkway for runners is needed & bathrooms in ball fields need to be remodeled (same ones today as they were 50 years ago)
- water sports-5
- would like to see more private education campuses
- zip code problem
- zoning

## Appendix D - Q8 - Verbatim Responses to “Other”

Q8 - What are the major issues FOR THE REGION OVERALL? Other responses.

- 5- Horrible Public Schools
- Again, confusing wording?
- BIKE LANES
- Can't answer-don't know rest of region well enough
- Cars on street. noise level at night
- City Government
- Clearcutting trees on vacant property
- Community values w/ local religious institutions
- Commuter rail, BRT - not light rail
- Commute-5
- Comp. planning, educ. quality & affordability
- Crime; street conditions; city infrastructure
- Demolition of historic structures
- Don't address these by a Controlling Group.
- Failure to attract stores
- Federal Governmnet too pervasive!!!!
- Forest fire protection
- Get rid of you
- Getting the UN and Liberal Democrats out of power
- Grey water technology and use
- HGAC interference
- Happy 2 B where I M
- High taxes
- Highway improvements to keep up with growth
- Illegals taking jobs from Americans.
- Implement REAL zoning & planning.
- Impossible to walk around
- Improving the quality of public education
- In some sub
- Increased housing and building density
- Infrastructure and street maintenance
- It's a good area, leave it alone.
- Jobs
- Lack of -5
- Lack of broadband Internet
- Lack of city government assistance!!!!
- Lack of educated trainable workforce
- Lack of mixed-used development
- Lack of planned strategic growth/development
- Lack of planning PRIOR to development!
- Lack of planning and zoning
- Lack of walkable areas
- Lejos del freeway
- Loss of wetlands and natural habitat for animals.
- Major streets deterioration
- Medical
- Mega Hi rises in residential communities
- More Hiking/Nature Areas Needed
- More bike lanes, public transportation, TNDs
- More bike paths. More light rail.
- Need more grocery stores and restaurants
- No forced government programs
- Noise
- Not enough pedestrian-scaled retail.
- Not enough shelters for disabled/elderly
- Places that connect & seem complete
- Pollution and too little public transportation
- Poorly planned communities and roadway systems
- Prejudice against poverty
- Public transportation makes cities safer.
- Quality of life
- Racial and ethnic separation
- Replacing aging infrastructure (water, sewer)
- Rising cost of Fuel, Elect & Gasoline
- Road congestion on Hwy 146
- Slash govt spending by 50% 1st yr, 25% 2nd yr.
- Smarter planning/development
- Sprawl
- Stopping Sustainable regulations
- Strain on services by "sanctuary city" policies
- Taxes-5
- The Ike Dike should be a top priority.
- The region needs better transportation and parks
- Too many bandit signs all over trashing it up
- Too many high rise apt/condo
- Too many politicians
- Too much government regulation
- Too much growth in suburbs, too little in downtown
- Too much taxes.
- Too spread out, needs to be compact.
- Traffic
- UN Agnda 21
- Unmangaged Growth/Suburbanization
- Unmasking destructive plans of your group-think
- WE DO NOT HAVE A PROBLEM HERE IN THE HOUSTON AREA!
- Water drainage issues & lack of zoning
- We need light rail, bikes, fewer cars on the road!
- What area defines the "Region" - - adjoining subdivision grounds not maintained-4
- aged or insufficient infrastructure-5
- agriculture-5
- airport not properly utilized
- bad rhoads
- bike/pedestrian access
- build infrastructure for alt modes of transport
- bureaucratic waste-5
- business and private aircraft airport needed
- city government in Brookshire is coorrupt
- city planning appearance zoning -5

- codes for suburbs imposed on urban devpt
- connectivity, sprawl
- culture
- culture lack-4
- diversity appreciation-3
- dog park needed-5
- drought, heat, climate change
- economic disruption (jobs/business losses)
- foreign nationals won't assimilate into community
- greenspace saved, old Clear Lake golf course
- home owner assistance
- hurricanes
- illegal immigrants & liberal govnmnt in Houston
- illegal immigrants - too much emphasis on Spanish
- illegal immigration
- illegal immigration draining resources
- illegal immigration/allowing free market-5
- increasing quality of education for ALL
- infrastructure elect/sewer/streets
- infrastructure maintenance
- infrastructure to promote local economy
- invasive plants pushing out wildlife into urban-5
- it's really ugly
- jobs that pay living wages & health nenefits
- keep the rural environment small town atmosphere
- lack of LOCAL food production & Distribution
- lack of affordable educational opportunities
- lack of deed restrictions in many neighborhoods
- lack of friends nearby-4
- lack of interest in urban/public realm-5
- lack of land use regulation
- lack of planning,regulations-5
- lack of recreational outlets such as beaches
- lack of shopping
- lack of social meeting/civic places
- lack of sustainable renewable energy-5
- lack.of fresh good grocery
- land use conflicts-5
- light pollution
- light rail does not adequately serve the city
- litter control
- local knowledge, voting rights
- loss of natural resources-5
- loss of opportunity to farm/lack water-5
- mental health resources-3
- more bike paths to not ride on the road
- more esl options-4
- need evacuation plan
- need local parks a short walk from home
- need more clean industry for jobs
- need more prfessional jobs
- need to walk to avoid becoming whale-sized fat ass
- none
- not enough parking
- other recreational opportunity
- over-development
- park w/ gravel trail & trees to run>6mi
- pensions 5
- poor condition of roads
- poor drainage to the San Bernard River
- poorlandusecontrol,poor floodplan, lossofKatyPra
- private property rights-5
- property tax concern & congestion
- public transportation
- public transportation connectivity
- public transportation improvements
- quality growth, quality development
- quality of roads, building standards
- rail congestion, truck specific facilities/routes
- recycling & hazardous waste disposal sites
- repair streets/sidewalks OUTLAW cell phone in car
- rising sea levels and increased flooding
- safety and security
- shopping options are poor
- solar, wind, hydro dams, hydrogen, natural gas
- sovietstyle UNagenda21 smartgrowth schemes&overreg
- start widening I 45 South NOW
- state funding of public education insufficient
- street condition no good
- taxes too high
- tolerance of others - welcoming others
- too much FEMA money being invested inappropriately
- too much concrete noise-5
- too much public housing
- too much tax-5
- too spread out
- traffic, crime, pollution
- understanding of sustainability & what green is.
- uneducated bad drivers who don't use signals
- women are mean to us
- zip code uniformity
- zoning

## Appendix E - Q9 - Verbatim Responses to “Other”

Q9 - If you gave traffic congestion a high level of importance on either of the last two questions, what do you think are the best possible solutions? Other responses.

- 0 congestion/ rural rd lay access to highways
- 105 - dangerous road in Texas!!!!
- A building moritorium.
- Affordable transit-oriented development
- Alternate report to work times.
- Alternately Fueled Public Transportation
- BIKE LANES
- Better Road Maintenance-1
- Better options for commuters
- Better system of travel
- Better through fare & collector st planning -5
- Big trucks need own lanes-too many accidents
- CONCURRENCY
- Circulation-5
- Community Development of Work / Residential complexes....like in Europe, South America
- Commuter rail, BRT - not light rail
- Commuter train
- Commuter trains
- Companies move to suburbs.
- Construct MTP quicker- 3
- Construction is too slow!
- Convenience, Is it practical for professionals?
- DO NOT WIDEN RESIDENTIAL STREETS!!!!!!!
- Dear god, please no more highways
- Decentralized rail - Get people into twon on rail
- Deport illegals, relieve strain on infrastructure.
- Driver education would solve more than signals
- Elevated Rails-4
- Eliminate bicycle riders
- Eliminate toll fees so motorists will use the road
- Employers alternating work schedules
- Encouraging employers to increase telecommuting
- Expand Light-Rail
- Expansion of existing roadways, eg SH 146/Spur 330
- Expansion of non-highway roads
- Fast lanes/rail
- Finish new Hwy 35 (Mykawa)
- Fm 2920 needs to be widened to four lanes
- Get rid of HOV lanes
- Get rid of tollways
- Go to a mono rail system above the roads
- Grade separated rail transportation
- High speed rail
- High-speed rail service throughout the Region
- Highways distroy the beauty of Texas' landscape
- I didn't.
- I don't really know how to improve it
- I'm happy, OK?
- I-69 from Hwy 59
- Importance placed on repair of existing roads
- Infill development. Public trans.- spec.SPEED RAIL
- Infrastruture planning
- Integrated public transportation
- Land Use Controls
- Less highway construction and keep it on time!
- Light rail and heavy regional rail
- Light rail is a failure - it serves only a few.
- Light rail transit
- Light rail-1
- Lightrail from 77083 77080 to 77030 w/ few stops
- MONORAIL !
- Make the roads wider.
- Make urban roads one way
- Mass transit options
- Metro Train
- Metro, Light Railway above freeways, car pool
- More RAIL to suburbs, not 16 lane highways.
- More density in urban area
- More green space.
- More light rail for from the area to downtown
- More mixed-use pedestrian-accessible development.
- More opp for dense mixed use
- More privately owned mass transportation
- More rail from cities.
- More rail systems
- More roads-back roads as an option to the highway
- More streets/ped paths through large blocks
- More tollways- HELL NO
- More transport for elderly disabled door to door
- More transportation choices
- NO one wants more tollways or highways!
- Need local access/circulation; not just commute
- Need to start weaning ourselves of our cars
- No Grand Parkway
- Outer limit rail
- Passenger Commuter Rail
- R U kidding? Wait to walk until roads congested?
- RAIL
- RAIL!!!!!!!
- RAIL-5
- RAISE THE FUEL TAX--cease&desist tollways
- Rail
- Rail does NOT work; poor economic option.
- Rail on current POV lane instead of POV lanes
- Rail to airports

- Rail with good connections from stations.
- Reduce need for transit-2
- Regional transportation
- Reorganize Metro
- Requiring driver education!!!!
- Rip up the HOV lanes and put high speed rails.
- Road conditions on non-highways, ex. potholes
- Safety on Buses
- SmartGrowth/New Urbanism SmallerHouses DenserComm
- Smarter development to reduce need to drive
- Stopping Sustainable regulations
- Subsidize public transportation & improve quality
- Suburban rail to bus-Not the toy train.
- Texas/Region needs public rail systems
- Too many Houston people moving in
- Too many people moving here :(
- Traffic is the biggest issue.
- Traffic noise is really bad
- Traffic overpass at RR crossing-4
- Train track existed for metro, but was removed
- Trains...rail & other.
- Trains? Shuttles?
- Truck routes to separate container trucks and cars
- USER PAYS.POOR
- Use of Natural Gas for transportation
- Walkability, speedbumps, light rail, bikes
- Walkable communities.
- We need more light rail in the city.
- We need a comprehensive mass transit system.
- We need better light rail options like Dallas
- Widen where W Park Tollway ends/ potholes on 1463
- Widen roads to handle traffic
- Widn st on Bodreau btwn lgths @ 249 incld turn Lns
- Wiser setup and planning for public transportation
- You aren't interested in it if you limit to 50 ch
- a highway link to the West End of Galveston
- additional roads leading to school facilities
- affordable housing close to job centers
- airport
- better choice for public transportation - monorail
- better exit & entrances-4
- better highways
- better light rail options
- better public policy about subsidizing growth
- better public transport not just urbanization
- better regional planning for homes/commercial
- better roads/walkways-1
- bi-passes
- buss access, vehical consumption on small roads
- carpool incentives/flex work hrs-4
- carpooling
- change working hours to change traffic pattern
- commuter rail from the 'burbs-5
- commuter rail to Katy PLEASE
- commuter rail&traffic light true synchronization
- commuter rail-5
- complete light rail-5
- complete streets where practical
- concern: yellow arrows for turns-very dangerous
- connecting existing roadways, commuter rail
- connectivity of local streets.
- continuous center turn lane
- converting to complete st/making st more distinct
- coordinated multi modalism
- cops w/ speed traps-3
- double the gas tax
- efficient safe mass transit
- electric buses, metro rail bike design/usage.
- employers' work schedules
- end constant construction
- enforce Min speed limit; signalling
- expand rail system
- expand the highway and add a HOV lane (288)
- expanded rail options.-3
- flex schedules w. businesses
- flexible work schedules to reduce rush hour
- freeway lane direction variabilty for peak flow
- greater police presence-4
- having access/info to public transportation
- high speed rail
- high speed rail.
- high speed rail/commuter rail = 4
- higher density development
- higher speed limits
- hgwway design
- improve/widen current roadways
- improved approach to mass transit
- improved interchanges
- incentives for not driving-3
- increased lanes on hwy 290-5
- indecision about replacing public housing
- innovative intersections
- jobs closer to major activity center
- jobs to reduce commuting & expand secondary roads
- less construction
- less growth-5
- less lights-5
- less pay tolls, more light rail (i-10)
- less urban rail more expressways
- less vehicular traffic needed
- light rail or similar public transit
- light rail, commuter rail
- light rail-4
- light rails
- light rails-5
- lite rail-5
- local street expansion-4
- local through fares-5
- love light rail and I would use it to get to work
- making better use of what's already there
- manage demand in a smart way-4
- mass public transportation should be an option
- metro rail
- mixed use communities-2
- mixed use development
- mixed use livable centers to reduce vmt

- more alternative options before road expansions
- more bus routes connecting to light rail
- more curb cuts - better design
- more efficient public transport
- more entrance/exits to kingwood-5
- more free ways=5
- more jobs relocated to less populated areas
- more lanes in highways-5
- more light rail
- more mass transit options
- more metrorail in Houston and to the suburbs
- more opportunity to work from home-5
- more options for living close to job & downtown
- more public transport
- more roadways connecting to schools and I10
- more signage for autos of bike lanes ahead.
- more timely bus schedules during peak am hrs-3
- more trains in Richmond
- more transport from outskirts
- muchos accidentes
- narrow streets; need 1 way streets & guest parking
- need Houston-Galveston transit system
- need light rail from suburbs to urban hubs
- need train x Hou Dal Austin San Ant Leon
- not a commuting problem in San Leon
- open additional pathways/ roadway to the beltway
- planning in advance for growth
- pub trans opt. lightrail should above the hov lanes
- public transport urban dwellers not commuters
- public transportation decreases values
- public transportation hub FREE auto parking lot
- putting things close together
- rail
- rail and other mass transit.
- rail lines
- rail rapid transit...not more busses
- rail to suburbs
- rail transportation
- rail-5
- remove unlicensed drivers and illegals
- ride share opportunities
- round-a-bouts at key intersections
- safe public transportation not possible
- save ag land
- simpler less intrusive trans @ the community level
- smarter traffic signals; better utilization HOV
- stop funding boondoggle urban rail
- stop urban sprawl
- street options-5
- subway
- system that work together-4
- terrible sidewalks in Galveston
- traffic bypass for the Seabrook/Kemah area
- trains
- trains 290-5
- trains to downtown not other cities
- trollys for the Washington ave corridor
- urban metro trail-4
- use of light rail
- varying work schedules
- village type developments, TOD, HOT
- walk trails-5
- walkable commu w/ accessibility to jobs.homes
- walkways-5
- we need rapid mass transit like Dallas
- widen I 45
- widen,improve current roads-5
- widening of roads-1
- wider lanes w/ construction-5
- wider roads needed
- wider roads,more lanes on existing roads
- wider roads/more lanes/wrecks&delays



## Appendix F - Q11 - Verbatim Responses to “Other”

Q11 - What kinds of opportunities do you think are most important for people to be part of positive economic development in the future? Other responses:

- Afford. access to quality pre K-college educ.
- After School and Summer Programs for Children K-12
- All of the above
- All of the above are extremely important
- Apprentice programs for all trades
- Business supportive environment
- Career Resource, consultants/recruiters
- City Government
- Commitment to our Constitution and Free Markets
- Demographics
- Dense walkable urban livable job centers
- Early childhood development is key to improvement
- Education is important in this area.
- Eliminate illegals
- FAMILY VALUES TO BE THE TOP PRIORITY
- Fewer High School Dropouts
- Good public libraries
- Good trade schools for those w/no college
- Housing opportunities for the very poor
- I think HGAC needs to be abolished. Money suckers.
- Invest in our schools.
- Job Training & placement/Marketable workforce
- Keep out Wal Mart!
- LESS GOVERNMENT REGULATION
- Less Welfare-needs limits not lifetimes
- Less taxation for small business
- Lower Taxes on Businesses. Support Capitalism.
- Lower property taxes
- Lower taxes and less government regulation.
- Lower taxes on businesses and people
- Mentoring in IT, Robotics, math, science
- Mentoring young adults
- More Highways
- More support for the homeless
- No government intrusion
- Other
- Parenting training for Hispanics/gang crackdowns
- Public education system is an albatross/needs
- REDUCED TAXES
- Reduce taxes
- Required drug test for welfare
- Retraining
- Reverse entitlement attitudes
- SAFETY---all aspects, incl public medical issues
- Self-sufficiency vs. government care.
- Support to help large businesses expand
- Taxes, food, gas, ed too high!
- Teaching people to stand on their own feet
- Technical training for high school
- Training for blue collar not just college
- Training for the trades
- Voational Trailing to a Marketable Skill.
- Vocational Training, community farming initiatives
- access to money to start business
- all are excellent choices..difficult to pick 3
- all the above - all education is vital
- apprentice prog for all 11th & 12th grades
- better schooling needs 2 be left to ST & localcomm
- better schools is bad neighborhoods
- birth control for poor women
- bring industry tech business to jobs
- bringing light industry into our community
- cessation of childhood trauma
- change in laws- felons from being able to get jobs
- criminal justice lack recidivism
- cultural infrastructure to support immigrant
- education pre-k through college
- elimination of regulations
- family structure
- free market
- get control of the teachers' unions
- get government out of our lives
- going back to mexico or other countries of origin
- higher min wage
- industry/community college partnerships
- infrastructure impovement
- job specific training programs
- less regulation and government intervention...
- less regulation to allow business to prosper
- less taxes for this rural area
- longer sentences for drug dealers
- lower taxes
- lower taxes, less government
- need non college but technical skill development
- need parent involvement in child's education
- new industry coming in
- none
- not governments job to do these things
- opportunities for elderly
- private education
- public events that connect community
- quality education is imperative
- reduction of tax
- responsible Sexual / reproductive Health Education
- self reliance & entrepreneurship
- some 9-12 Educat. set as skills training
- stand on their own feet

- stop foreign aid & give away prog
- teach children to think for themselves
- too much government intervention in our lives
- transportation for physically challenged
- vocational education
- vocational training in the public schools
- well designed infrastructure to support people

## Appendix G - Q12 - Verbatim Responses to “Other”

Q12 - Sustainability can be defined in many ways:

Example: Taking care of our needs today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs

Example: Thinking about what kind of place you would want your grandchildren to live in

Sustainability has many different qualities. Which do you think are the most important? “Other” Responses are below:

- A place where we don't have so many welfare programs for people who can wk & LESS gov involvement
- Act of balancing prosperity and (minimal ) use of natural resources (including land use)
- Again, Education is what makes this work
- All of the above
- Being sustainable
- Better care for the mentally ill. Drug cure programs that families can afford. More free legal aid.
- City Government
- Comprehensive planning is a waste without economic incentives, including limited regulation.
- Don't mix health & safety. Safety (crime prevention) is the issue.
- Eliminate the dole - put people to work so they can contribute to the community not drain it!
- Ensuring private property rights
- Fiber optic network
- Forward thinking.
- Governments cannot be all things to all people---use YOUR resources carefully!
- How vague can you get?
- I really have no clue what sustainable development means.
- It's call America not some socialist philosophy. Do not dictate my choices
- KEEPING GOVERNMENT AND COLLECTIVIST PROGRESSIVES AWAY FROM US!
- LIMIT population--no government subsidy sans sterilization.
- Less federal control
- Living in a healthy, well-educated and prosperous community.
- Living wage for ALL to be > 2 X's the area poverty level
- Local community farming, reduce emissions, renewable energy sources
- Maintain balance between economic, social, and environmental focus areas
- Mandatory recycling of all plastics and metals and glass.
- Mobility
- Mont Belvieu is a community that was founded on rural values and it needs to stay that way.
- Not killing people (born or unborn)
- PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, LESS GOVT. HAND-OUTS
- Public Safety
- Retaining businesses and industries so there will be jobs in the future
- Stop focusing on "equality". "The best" should be able to prosper.
- The last three options for this question overlap with one another.
- This is such a liberal (whiney) survey. Biased to government programs, spending and taxes.
- This question is misleading. Brundtland Commission: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability>
- Using resources wisely (because I wasn't allowed to have 4)
- Using some term other than sustainability so people will know what you are talking about
- We need socialist policy in local government
- What would you like to inherit in your next life here?
- You REALLY gotta redo this survey. Poorly executed people. Call me I do this for a living :)
- Your description above is right out of Agenda 21.
- access to equitable political representation
- accessibility consequences of all choices.
- adjust to needs of aging baby boomers in home construction
- economic freedom
- empowering people to get involved in improvement - mentoring needs
- freedom from over regulation
- future generations
- get the govt out of our way!
- getting rid of the UN and other invasive, parasitic organizations like it
- keeping the cost of living low
- less government regulations
- limited government
- limited government interference
- making long term decisions
- maximizing use of natural resources
- more help or training in starting a new businesses.
- natural, built, social, econ. environ. support health and well-being

- no a la segregacion
- none
- reduced dependance on government assistance
- stable taxes
- to be free to live own life
- without clean air and water - NOTHING can be healthy or sustained.

## Appendix H - Q13 - Verbatim Responses

Q13 – Please share with us your hope for YOUR COMMUNITY 30 years from now Example Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school Example Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them Example Our community will have more locally owned businesses

- \*I hope for high speed mass rail transportation to move people from 5-8 corners of the area to support "in and out" commuting to the city as well as a support system to interconnect suburban areas to one another \*Effective use of green space centered around supporting residential and retail real estate usage \*A bike and hike trail system similar to Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota that allows and encourages transit via cycling over long distances
- - Every individual feels he is prosperous - When we have less distraction from nature - When we see frogs and butterflies in our surroundings - When I can walk to a store or to work and meet atleast five people on my way who will stop me to see "Hello
- 1) Sidewalks should be a staple next to every urban and suburban street which would encourage walking and biking thus conserving fuel and improving physical health. 2) Healthcare is available for every citizen and not dependent on employment. 3) Access to education and job opportunities without prejudice for every citizen. 4) Resources available to those who are physically or mentally incapable of taking care of themselves.
- 1) Will not have to spend 3 hours commuting in what should take only 30 to 45 minutes to make 2) Business opportunities and economy-base shifted to cleaner, greener, and less dependent on petrochemical industry 3) High-speed public transportation options that is cost efficient and connects the 13 Counties
- 1. Better Designed Mass Transportation System (ie. Local and Regional) 2. More Advanced Regional Planning 3. Cleaner Bayous and City Overall
- 1. Each subdivision has its own nearby fish farm, farm for vegetables and cattle. 2. More businesses must be local and produce local. 3. Renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydro powered dams, natural gas, hydrogen will reduce our dependence on Oil. 4. Kids have to be vocationally trained from a young age - a business trade rather than degrees. 5. Financial education for kids - how to handle finances, stock markets, banking, import, export etc. 6. Real estate values must be capped and reflect fair market values to prevent price gouging. 7. Fair and equal opportunities for all races. 4.
- 18 wheelers and Wal-Marts will not be allowed inside Loop 610. Trolley lines torn out in the 30's and 40's will be re-installed. No more stupid, boondoggling, business destroying heavy rail. (RIP, Main ST.)
- 30 years from now questionnaires will be designed so that I won't have to make up stupid vision statements!
- 95% safe neighborhood. We can drive, walk and go around without fear of being dead.
- : Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school.
- A PLACE WHERE FAMILIES CAN LIVE AND RAISE KIDS IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT, WITH ACCESS TO QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION. EASY RECYCLING OPPURTUNITIES. PUBLIC TRANSIT FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT, INDEED CONVENIENT ENOUGH THAT THOSE WHO COULD DRIVE CHOOSE IT BECAUSE OF LOWER COST, AND THE BENEFIT OF OVERALL LOWER RESOURCE USE. A VISION THAT EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE DIFFERENCES-WE ARE IN THIS TRIP AS A CITY, REGION, COUNTRY -TOGETHER.
- A chicken in every pot.
- A clean environment where EVERYONE can get out to enjoy nature either for entertainment purposes or simply while they commute (walking, biking, transit). We need more healthy options in this region to deal with all of the health issues and educational issues that children, adults and the elderly face.
- A clean environment with physically and emotionally healthy individuals working together with diversity in harmony and opportunity.
- A clean independent community with prosperous businesses that is safe, well planned with sufficient but not expensive growth
- A cleaner inviroment
- A cleaner, safer place to live
- A cohesive network of public transport, walking and cycling.
- A community that attracts a well trained, well educated population.
- A community that enables personal initiative.
- A community that has adapted to rapid changes in our world preserving and enhancing our current quality of life.
- A community that puts GOD 1st, Country 2nd, and family 3rd
- A community that supports the youth , helps them grow and then provide a work enviroment for the youth of the area return and grow within the same community.
- A community that works together to create students that are workforce ready.
- A community where people have good jobs and we are to live a life balanced between community ,family, and

- employment with a healthy and safe environment for everyone.
- A community with a low crime rate. A community with adequate roads consistent with availability of good public transportation. Good public transportation means the ability to easily get between common destinations without undue burden; the ability to get from one point in one community to one point in another community, is better than is now available, but not adequate on a long term basis. Or stated differently, getting between communities in minutes is of little value if it requires an hour or more to get from the public transportation destination to the ultimate user destination (in the destination community). With the current system I can get to Houston with public transportation in one hour or less, however to get to my destination in Houston it can require a total time of 2.5 hours, which is little incentive for me to not use my personal vehicle which requires much less time (generally) even with the current traffic.
  - A diverse and multicultural neighborhood sharing life without prejudice and racism Bi-lingual classes and education Free for public art instillation
  - A diverse community where all people share in daily life and opportunities in an equitable fashion.
  - A diverse, safe and healthy environments to promote prosperity and fairness
  - An entrepreneurial economy and public educational system that teaches future generations not to look for jobs but for ways to create them. Also, a more vibrant social experience in higher density communities/settings that are walkable and planned so that people can live, work, and play without having to travel extensive distances.
  - A family could go a week without a car.
  - A functional community that absorbs the population growth in a manner that increases the vibrancy of the community - all while maintaining a business friendly posture.
  - A great place for our children to raise a family
  - A greater sense of community among the area that includes transportation clear of emission, education and invested in local economy.
  - A growing diverse population that has sustainable job opportunities.
  - A growing, peaceful and adaptable community where there is equal opportunity to its residents to progress, access education and freedom.
  - A healthy clean environment. Ecologically advance environment. Using alternative energy
  - A high quality preparatory education will be available to all young children.
  - A hope that influx of industries over takes local neighborhoods to the point of having to move.
  - A library in the community . Wider streets in the neighborhood
  - A light rail system connecting all areas of town. Streets with fewer pot holes.
  - A livable, walkable, interesting, diverse place connected at every level with the metropolitan region.
  - A neighborhood community that provides a safe environment supportive and nurturing environment
  - A nice bedroom community with no crime or traffic.
  - A person could live in Houston without owning a car.
  - A person will be able to breath clean air
  - A place of liberty, freedom and prosperity
  - A place where our tax dollars are not spread over such a large area but can be invested in key priorities.
  - A place where people can live, work, play and have good clean connectivity beyond the city
  - A prosperous, vibrant community that retains its own identity and unique values that evokes success of everyone
  - A region that is affordable, has man made and natural icons and landscapes, and space, that is human scale prosperous and world- class.
  - A safe and good system for children s education
  - A safe and healthy community
  - A safe healthy community that is easy to play and work in.
  - A safe, peaceful place, with good environmental quality.
  - A safe, walkable diverse community with plenty of housing choices, good schools, nearby parks/public spaces, shopping and culture.
  - A secure and dynamic society with a variety of cultures.
  - A self sustaining area that is not dependent on Houston.
  - A significantly better quality of life, including improved health care with equitable access, clean air, clean and plentiful water,affordable housing, and well-paying jobs, will be available to all.
  - A true democracy (not a republic)=citizens approve all legislation in their region. A solar hydrogen economy
  - A very good metro system helping reduce traffic jam. Good drivers actually using lanes correctly and not hindering other people driving on the roads. Better school systems which try to improve student accountability and parent involvement. More electric and alternative fuel vehicles reducing emissions and pollution. Better roads that can drain seasonal flooding faster (don't want another Allison or Ike).
  - A viable safe public transportation system to ease congestion & pollution
  - A vibrant downtown shopping, recreation and entertainment center.
  - A workable solution to the increase in the number of cars on the road and traffic.
  - ALL OF THE ABOVE
  - Ability to bike on roads or trails; cleaner community without rundown delapidated apartment buildings and strip centers.
  - Ability to live close to work in affordable housing.
  - Ability to rely on alternate transportation; i.e biking, walking, public. Reduce personal vehicles use

- Access to a variety of shopping options.
- Access to better education. Increased walkability and access to local goods.
- Access to education including pre-k
- Access to good jobs. Each individual committed to do what they need to do to fully contribute to the community and be employable.
- Access to health care for everyone Feeling safe everywhere Everyone knowing about educational opportunities that exist and using them
- Access to light rail
- Access to quality, continuous care, Community focused with more green spaces and opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity. Improve behavioral health system with early intervention focus.
- Adequate health care and social growing
- Adults and children will be able to walk safely to and from all parts of the community. Government agencies do not have unfunded liabilities that will reck future tax payers lives.
- Affordable and enough water to meet our growth needs for the future
- Affordable housing in urban areas. Sustainable-livable communities in urban areas.
- Affordable housing safe from crime. Good neighborhood cooperation, safe and excellent schools.
- Ag will be supported while industry is welcome
- Air quality will improve to the extent that related illnesses will not hamper people's lifestyles Crime will decrease in order that the average citizen will not be afraid to leave home.
- Air will be clean. Fossil fuels on their way out.
- All 3 examples above plus natural drainage. No freeways cutting through city-keep neighborhoods connected and walkable or bikeable. More walkable urban neighborhoods with modern sustainable building codes & buildings. More density more community gardens which feed the homeless.
- All area waterways are clean enough to eat the fish I catch from them
- All children in the region regardless of socioeconomic background will have access to quality education.
- All children will be accepted into the college of their dreams, and financial situation will not affect their ability to attend.
- All citizens will have opportunity to prosper, live in healthy communities and be content with their level of accomplishments.
- All families will value education for both their sons and daughters as a means for becoming self-reliant and boosting self-esteem.
- All kids will have access to a good education. Houston will balance its quality of life efforts with its growth efforts.
- All of Houston's children will receive top notched early education, families will be able to walk places to shop, dine, and explore. And our community will have the ability to take public transportation to any place in Houston.
- All of Hwy. 146 in Baytown will become freeway. Baytown officials will better protect citizens in residential neighborhoods from air, water, noise pollution from over-industrialization of city.
- All of my needs are available within walking distance of my home, and I have many transportation choices available to get anywhere in the region WITHOUT A CAR.
- All of the above
- All of the above examples.
- All of the above sounds good maybe a utopia though. Implementing some back to the basic way of life, clean water, clean oceans instead of toxic oceans we currently have and fish free of pollution, growing gardens for the communities in safe soil not contaminated soil, safe air free of benzene and cancer causing substances and job training/university to stay abreast the global economy to compete and earn a living wage with health benefits. America to start manufacturing our goods like before the Reagen Era instead of shipping good jobs oversea like steel mills, oil and gas, textiles can't think of anymore America has a great lack of manufacturing. Americans to have a better quality of life like we had before the Reagen Era, and for government to be a government for the people, by the people and of the people, instead of our government creating jobs for themselves with great pay and great benefits on the back of taxpayers and we have none of the above and a government that works for the people instead of the fringe benefits they collect from special interest groups. A government working to better the quality of life for Americans. Employee owned Companies would make America Great
- All of the above will be nice. We need more Grocery store options and more local stores to shop
- All of the above. My greatest concern is for my children and grandchildren that they have a healthy and prosperous climate in which to live and work.
- All of the national liberals will despise us for our success!
- All our kids will have a college degree
- All residents will have a real choice when it comes to housing, shopping, transportation, recreation ec regardless of socio-economic level.
- All vacant/decrepit/abandoned properties restored and lived in.
- All will have ability to walk or bike to everyday destinations and the ability to have a healthy lifestyle
- Ample public transportation and walkability within the Inner Loop. Extensive light rail and bike lane system. Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Bayous clean and redeveloped as green spaces for public enjoyment.
- An economically, racially, and socially diverse society, that honors its past and its divergent cultures, while still maintaining responsible integrity in its future development.

- An efficient and safe public transportation system
- An infrastructure that is more biker and walker friendly. Clean air and promotion of healthy lifestyles including farmers markets and green space. Educational opportunities for all, thus empowering the underprivileged.
- An off-street, multi-purpose trail (bikeway) that connects Houston and the surrounding suburbs. As a parent, kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school.
- An unincorporated community that is safe and clean with education choices for children and adults.
- Any hard working adult can obtain a job earning a living wage.
- Area Identity- road naming etc
- Area focus on quality and not quantity. This area general appearance, especially to visitors is embarrassing. It is a slum compared to other major cities. Good place to work but not live.
- Area will remain residential with quality housing stock that remain affordable.
- Areas support growth in positive, eco friendly way and keeping subdivisions connected with residents with locally owned and major commercial development close by, in addition to large companies relocating - but not necessarily concentrated all in the same area. The Woodlands is a perfect example.
- As a number one tourist community on the coast of Texas
- Automobiles, as the main source of transportation, has been replaced with high speed rail and trails. Walking is an option for short trips. Beautification is part of every plan, including trees and low maintenance natural landscaping. Our schools prepare students for the future, either college or vocational training that leads to a good paying job.
- Average citizen will not be able to afford an average home :- (
- BAYOUS WILL BE CLEAN THAT I CAN EAT FISH.
- Balanced budget at all levels up to federal with no debt. Elimination of threat of smart meters. Reduce federal, state, and local regulations with fines imposed only after litigation by trial and jury. Education determined locally (ISD level) provided locally and funded by local (ISD) residents. Elimination or at least easing construction and license fees to small business start ups by city and county. Adoption of a schedule to reduce government oversight, planning, projects, and costs by two thirds over a five year period. Put all fees charged by governments up for citizen approval by vote with sunset clauses at every three years. There are many more however all are designed to allow grandchildren to grow up without a tyrannical government dictating standards that bureaucrats think are best for them.
- Balanced growth
- Bay City/ Matagorda county will be an electric power generating producer. We will have 4 reactors or more, clean coal, natural gas, generation stations. Which in turn will provide jobs, higher education and richer quality of life.
- Bayou changed to incorporate more nature, install mass transit system, more walking/biking friendly
- Bayou need to be banked and cleaner
- Bayous and natural parks will not be sacrificed for flood control and highways. Greener solutions to controlling flooding and traffic
- Bayous could be clean enough to fish or even kayak down them. Apartments not thrown up on every other block. Standards for strip center construction. Hike and bike trails to connect together when at all possible and get bikers off the street. Cars don't want them there and bikers don't want to be there!
- Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them
- Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them- Yes like when I was a boy (remove concrete) Be able to breathe fresh air Remove toxic chemicals from environment.
- Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them.
- Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish that I catch from them. Our community will have more locally owned businesses,
- Bayous will be clean enough that I can swim in them and eat the fish in them. Our community will have jobs and attractive, decent, affordable housing for all. Our community will provide recreational opportunities for canoeing and kayaking on the Green River, Dickinson and Gum bayous through CMP Grant Programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Our community will have more trees than currently. Education will focus on learning math, science, social studies, language arts including reading and writing and art rather than spending time and huge amounts of money taking practice state assessment tests. Parents will discipline their children at home for not showing respect to adults and each other and for not doing assignments as instructed. Our community will value healthy life styles including eating properly, exercising daily and refraining from smoking and drinking in excess. All fast food restaurants and meals will be a historic memory.
- Bayous will be clean enough to eat the fish, swim, ski etc
- Bayous will be clean enough to swim in, the neighborhood will have a grocery store and more mixed use buildings (housing and retail), the parks along the bayou will be extended and developed, and the cultural diversity and artist nature of the east end will be enhanced while involving additional development.
- Bayous will be clean that I can eat the fish I catch from them. Neighborhoods will be safer to live as a single adult woman. Homes will be affordable.
- Bayous will be clean. Crime will be on the decline. Jobs will be increased
- Bayous, Rivers & Bays clean enough I can eat what I catch . Local city gov't priorities highly- quality of life issue, safe,



- healthy and attractive and environmental issues. Less crime and gang activity- Kids could walk to school. Zoning responsive to residential protections.
- Bays and gulf will be clean and healthy
  - Be a place that my grandchildren would like to return to and raise their families
  - Be able to afford my current living standards. Have access to affordable health care. Have enough water.
  - Be able to live close to work, shopping and entertainment opportunities
  - Be able to run errands and commute by bicycle safely.
  - Be able to use public transportation to get to work.
  - Be able to walk to work
  - Be above sea level.
  - Become more walkable and livable community
  - Being able to commute to and from work without taking 2 to 3 hours.
  - Being able to see the future growth and estimate what or where the transportation needs to happen.
  - Being able to travel around Houston area without a car.
  - Being safe from storm surges.
  - Better air quality and transportation
  - Better education K-12 (Texas has the highest drop out rates) Additional green spaces Good economy from small businesses and corporations
  - Better infrastructure, good jobs, positive business growth, good housing opportunities.
  - Better jobs and housing will be available (opportunity for better lifestyle for citizens).
  - Better medical facilities and better job opportunities for young people.
  - Better protection from flooding, competitive prices for high-quality housing, top schools
  - Better rail system throughout the city, clean air, more education for changing demographic w/i the community.
  - Better roads, less flooding on streets More pedestrian friendly paths Better coordinate traffic lights
  - Better safe and economical mass transit that will help create a mobile city. A safe, thriving urban environment. Community support for locally owned and operated mom and pop operations. School systems that can prepare children to thrive.
  - Better schools for the future of our children.
  - Better street maintenance
  - Better streets near all schools
  - Better traffic control, without taking 5 years and spending 5 million dollars to figure out how to fix any given issue. Schools that provide a good education for our children, without having to make far too many exceptions for non-english speaking children. Should demand they speak English before allowed to come to school. Less dependence on public services (welfare, foodstamps, etc.)
  - Better transportation
  - Better transportation Affordable Housing
  - Better transportation and mobility
  - Better transportation w/ stronger educational curriculum. Focusing on: sustainability of sound economic principles, practical environmental methods, good personal healthy care, and strong community identity.
  - Bettering a building from St. Mary Baptist Church and finish the church on the inside
  - Big Government programs will secede from the area and the local community can govern itself, thank you very much!
  - Bike paths will connect all over the city and Houston dwellers will pedal more than drive. Trees will be planted, more trees, more shade! People will stop littering and our streets, waterways, and wooded areas will be clean.
  - Bikes and public transit will become major ways of commuting due to improved roads designed for more efficient community , road de congestion, and community health
  - Biking and walking become more prevalent. There is a wide diversity of trees and forests
  - Biking lifestyle and healthy
  - Black men will be valuable contribution to society.
  - Both adults (young and seniors) and children can live in a home that is affordable and where people can walk and ride their bicycles and not have to worry about crimes and where we have more open space and have easy accessibility t shop near home and not have to drive a good distance to get to purchase good quality products.
  - Business development will grow and jobs will be created by the business growth and the addition of jobs will add homes with a rural setting
  - Cars moving on the roads and not looking like a parking lot.
  - Cars will not be necessary to daily life for the average person.
  - Cars won't be necessary for more than 40% of the population in the region. Urban public schools will provide high-quality education. A network of off-street trails and buffered bike lanes will make biking a primary mode of transit for people. Everyone in urban and suburban areas in the region will live within 1/2 mile of a neighborhood park. Prairies and agricultural lands will be preserved and protected from development pressures. residential buildings will have solar panels and greywater/rainwater harvesting systems to greatly reduce or eliminate dependence on utility systems.
  - Cessation of childhood trauma that leads to long term functioning issues (response for question number 11- other)
  - Changes to the area will change the reputation of Houston & surrounding counties to reflect what is new - the prosperity we have now combined with wise land use, open spaces and trails, high speed rail transport, clear air, infill (for traffic reduction and lifestyle), and diverse nightlife.

- Cheaper Energy Better Public Transportation Lower Real Estate Taxes Friendlier Economic Climate for Small Businesses
- Cheaper, fresh food Better transportation services
- Children can walk or ride bicycle to school Encourage self support community Recycling in community.
- Children have happy childhood Adult can get their job Senior get appropriate healthcare.
- Children living in our community now will want to live in this community in 30 years. They will have good jobs and feel safe raising their children here.
- Children of today will have the knowledge and morals that school, parents, and churches instill in them to make our community prosper
- Children will have appropriate activities Community will have resources available for low income families Push for quality education.
- Children will be safe in school. There will still be trees, parks and greenspaces.
- Children will grow up in a safe, healthy community
- Children will have a safe and prosperous future
- Children will have a safe environment and good education. Safe housing. Opportunities for fresh food and good grocery stores.
- Children will still be able to walk/bike safely to school and enjoy abundant, inviting parks.
- Children would have a high school education when they graduate from high school.
- Citizens vote out the progressives and restore respect for the U.S constitution and we move away from the nanny-state where every citizen works to make American a better place for our next generation.
- City sidewalks, same quality of life.
- City will wake up and repeal zoning
- Clean & safe place to raise and educate children.
- Clean Air, Plentiful - Quality Water, Low Crime & Safety
- Clean Bayous
- Clean Cedar Bayou for recreation in addition to the industry that is imposing. And, safer ways for children and adults to wait on buses and get to school.
- Clean air an water
- Clean air and clean water become important to our politicians.
- Clean air and water Good.excellent public school High culture.
- Clean air and water resources. Preserved/protected eco system controlled growth (including population control) affordable and low income housing, a more diverse economy
- Clean air to breathe, Safe neighborhoods, quality public education, effective/efficient transportation
- Clean air, continued healthy neighborhood environment.
- Clean air, water, no traffic congestion, a world-class educated work force and opportunities to work in challenging jobs or to start your own business without undue regulations.
- Clean air, water, safe, and healthy community Job and education opportunity for all Teach geneology to students beginning with elementary students in an effort to appreciate their history to embrace their future. Could be crucial to education and communities
- Clean and manicured bayous.
- Clean bayous, bays and rivers with healthy waterways that will support wildlife. Cleaner roadways with stiffer fines for littering. More grocery stores and restaurants.
- Clean drinking water and water for agricultural and industrial use will still be available. And that quality public education (k-16) can still be financially feasible for everyone.
- Clean education opportunities, employment and quality of life
- Clean environment and to help the land in this area control flooding
- Clean growth from the petro-chemical business sector. Better planning, zoning and streets with controlled calculated growth. Raising the educational bar and opportunities.
- Clean parks and safe streets to continue for future generations
- Clean power supply Safety Public transportation
- Clean water and air without compromising industry that drives our economy. Small/local businesses are strongly supported by the community Low Crime.
- Clean water and sewer system for community Parks that emphasis the natural and historial aspects of our community. Clean air.
- Clean water, air and community where people are a responsible part of the solution.
- Clean, crime free, fast and efficient public transportation, less cars and the need for a car
- Clean, safe community where all people have access to quality housing, education, and lifestyles. Mixed-use, mixed income
- Clean, safe living conditions for my family and children. Better road condition for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Cleaner air and commuter train system.
- Cleaner air and water without sacrificing the industries that we have
- Cleaner air, more drinking water and kids can ride bikes to school.
- Cleaner and safer environments
- Clear Creek will be clean enough to eat fish from. Traffic congestion will be fixed. Neighborhoods will be as safe as they are now.

- Clustered livable centers where streets are safe for all users and a significant reduction in automobile dependency has been accomplished.
- Coastal community, You must realize when you arrive here it is 30-45 min to a larger town.
- Communities connected to each other and to parks and commercial areas by trails and quiet streets so it is not mandatory to have a car to get anywhere away from your residence.
- Communities will be connected within themselves and hold the values of integrity and love up high in non-violation of their neighboring communities and global suppliers of their goods. Our neighborhoods will be self-sufficient operating upon that which our nation was founded upon... faith, freedom and the pursuit of happiness versus hopelessness, bondage and pursuit of stuff.
- Communities will be linked by various modes of transportation, meaning I can hop on my bike, then take the bus or rail to my destination and return home in the same fashion.
- Communities will be safe for children to play outdoors. The economy will be more certain and people will have jobs that will support their families.
- Communities will join together and support one another, like it was way back when.
- Communities will support locally owned businesses that provide smart choices for consumers and co-operative vegetable and fruit markets. Children can safely ride bikes and walk to school. Community members can rely on each other and have the help of a well trained police force to keep themselves safe.
- Communities working together reaching common propurous goals.
- Community activities need to have Chinese translation Community safety is the important, strengthen the police patrol Healthy environment is very important The power company need to change street lights quickly, when street lights is damaged New technology or traffic to be more improved Health care should be given more information.
- Community and public institutions such as schools will be safe and clean. Trees will grow in forested areas as well as parks. Workplaces will be close to homes so commutes will be less.
- Community is sustainable environmentally, economiccally and is a bio-friendly place to live and work.
- Community members will have safe and economical overall accessibility to include public transportation.
- Community safety Convenient transportation.
- Community that would allow people to shop within a safe walk able (sidewalks) bike able area- Would encourage mom and pop business and zoning
- Community to be safe, family friendly.
- Community to help make the entire city more connective
- Community will be aesthetically beautiful and economically sound. There will be job opportunities and access to health care. The community would be safe and crime free.
- Community will be safe from crime, and have more restrictions regarding noise, and traffic.
- Community will continue to grow and continue to be a safe, forward looking community with locally owned businesses, and jobs for all.
- Community will have developed a strong sense of pride and commitment to education, strong infrastucture and respect of each memeber's civil rights.
- Community will have more access to district college education. Community have more locally owned businesses Community safety in area and at schools.
- Communties will create or enhance infrastructure which provides walking and efficienct transit options for residents to travel within their own communities or reach surrounding areas.
- Concentration on environmental quality and the job market (quit outsourcing so much to foreign countries), more locally owned small businesses, and encouragement in getting job training whether it's going to college or simple job training.
- Concern for adequate drinking water -- potential desalination facility?
- Connectivity - either by walking trails, transportation; and, educational resources for those living in the community.
- Conserving the farming industry and wide open spaces. Insuring safe environment and maintain reduced crime rates.
- Continual growth
- Continue to be prosperous and vibrant community.
- Continued focus on educational opportunities to compete in a global economy
- Continued growth in locally owned goods/service oriented business. Have those in Sheila Jackson Lee's district that think they will be taken care of to stand on their own two feet as there is ample help in our community.
- Continued neighborhood revitalization, college or mobile college offered for residents who wish to attend college to become better skilled, form a small business development group, diverse restaurants, development of local festivals, farmer's market for the future, major employment centers closeby.
- Continuted economic development
- Contiued quality education for kids, safe neighborhoods, cleaner rivers, bays and bayous, variety of restaurants, entertainment venues and quality shopping
- Contolled growth
- Controlled and planned growth, with safety and the environment kept in mind.
- Convert from an auto based transportation system to mass transit system.

- Cost of education reduced for all, so tomorrow leaders can begin their careers debt free and affordable health care of everyone!
- Country living close to all the bells and whistles Houston has to offer!
- Create environment for quality education; safe neighborhood with no crime; more parks and playgrounds.
- Created sufficient wealth to support the lifestyle desires of tomorrow and the tax base which it will require
- Creating a more urban environment with higher living density.
- Creation for adults & teenagers (bowling alley, basketball) Churches (GOD) Keeping community happy. Lower water bills More ergonomical houses and or solar homes. More self sufficient homes and people. Keeping pollution down. Cutting down less trees. Keeping the elderly taken care off always.
- Crime goes down- health coverage for all even if we live in City of Houston.
- Crime prevention/safe neighborhood; equal opportunity in terms of education, jobs; balanced, diverse community
- Crime stays low, increase in home values, taxes stay low, federal government not dictating to local government and mandating rules. Keeping Muslims from building mosques in the area.
- Crime under control.
- Crime will be at a minimum and children are receiving the education or services they need to graduate and become a productive, contributing individual to the community.
- Crime will be down 50%.
- Crime will be low Traffic will be less congested
- Crime will not be an issue
- Crimen a niveles muy bajos Educacion avanzada al alcance de todos Clima empresarial muy competitivo
- Crystal clear river without any contamination, community will become promised land
- Cut Taxes
- Cycling, walking and public transportation will be common, well funded and generally accepted alternatives to driving.
- Decentralized education, principals have power to hire and fire, 1930's testing values. Synchronize traffic lights to save fuel. Outlaw toll roads.
- Deed restrictions in developed neighborhoods will be enforced.
- Destination Tomball- walk or bike any where safely in the city limits Upscale great subdivisions with zoned business areas for industry, business Great looking MAIN from 4 corners to 2920/2978 so anyone driving through says-great town
- Develop balance between development and natural settings ( forests, park, creek etc)
- Developers will have been prevented from turning everything into concrete. More parks that people can use (natural areas that are off-limits to hiking, biking do not count as parks).
- Development of a mixed and diverse community
- Development will move back to the urban core to preserve farm lands
- Dilapidated buildings will be removed
- Disabled and elderly will have curb cuts and affordable homes that are built to be accessible with wider doors, safe baths, and ramps in and out
- Ditto the top example: to accomplish this requires sufficient neighborhood involvement with local law enforcement. My hope: that lifestyles then will reflect an overall achievement for everyone per the 1st Article of the Tx State Constitution....we are all entitled to the quiet and peaceable enjoyment of property.....
- Diverse transportation network that connects major activity centers, housing, schools and amenities.
- Don't take up existing green space for future housing.
- Durable housing Improved public infrastructure More local business (employeeing/generating \$)
- ECOFRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT WITH A COMPLIMENTARY BLEND OF LARGE AND SMALL BUSINESS. COMMUNITY LEADERS WITH VISION AND INTEGRITY. A COMMUNITY WITH DIVERSITY AND UNITY THROUGHOUT THE CITY.
- ELECT A NEW MAYOR THAT CARE FOR THE ELDER LIVING ON A FIXED INCOME
- ENGLISH MANDATORY for ALL school children & residents!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Easier to commute from A to B children enjoying developed open space/parks
- Easy and inexpensive transportation.
- Economic activity still fostered, and educational opportunities for young students and adults wishing to increase their skills are still available and under development. Mobility will always be a concern for Houston and ongoing refining of this is necessary.
- Economic development for clean industry and addressing the aging population
- Economic opportunities for all educational levels
- Economic parity will be achieved among all races and ethnicities.
- Economic stability and continued educational opportunities that reach all citizens
- Economically prosperous and my children are happy and healthy.
- Economically viable
- Economy vibrant enough to attract quality jobs
- Economic growth that will lead to people wanting to move to Wharton and Matagorda counties to raise families and support the community. Wharton and Matagorda counties are what seems to be Texas' best kept secret! Let start inviting business opportunities to the communities and

- showing them what we have to offer-rural/coastal living within a stones throw to the large metropolitan areas.
- Educated citizens who are self reliant and believe in the US constitution, limited government and GOD
  - Educated work force, Transit and Water is available to sustain healthy growth in Houston.
  - Education
  - Education for future generation. Housing affordable for everyone. Equal job opportunities for all. Safe city.
  - Education is strong. Our water supply is plentiful and safe. There will be a greater sense of community; people will know their neighbors and work together to maintain higher standards for their communities.
  - Education needs to be improved by family support and schools
  - Education of our Founding Principles will restore the United States to individual responsibility, hard work, and expose the destructive lies and code words and programs from subversive groups like yours trying to undermine our Constitution and our traditional American values!
  - Educational reforms will value our children from birth including quality child care and pride in vocational training for youth.
  - Educational systems are fair for rich and poor; residents can live close to work and commute without need of a car; ease of access to affordable health care for every resident; less public monies spent on automobile systems at the expense of pedestrians, native flora and fauna, and cyclists
  - Efficient, affordable and reliable public transportation available in all Houston communities.
  - Elected officials that know and work under the constitution and of the U.S learning states and local entities to govern. The federal govt would protect our borders.
  - Employment that provides jobs for those who want to work will be more plentiful
  - Encourage people to utilize natural gas in their homes to not only cook and heat, but to refuel their cars daily. It is the cleanest, abundant and economical fuel we have and give us the chance to be less dependent on foreign oil. Texas has more natural gas than any other state.
  - End childhood hunger
  - Enjoy the level of safety and green space we have now.
  - Environment will be clean and safe with plenty of resources.
  - Environment will be preserved! Retain small town feel but have increased job opportunities.
  - Equal access to high quality PK-12 education regardless of class status or neighborhood. More hike and bike path available.
  - Equitable society where everyone can thrive, succeed and grow.
  - Every citizen will have the ability to attain technical training or education through the college level with little or no cost to the individual.
  - Every street should have a sidewalk so that people can walk around our city. All of our of our streets should have a bicycle lane. Let's make this a bike friendly city!
  - Every trip/venture doesn't have to be via automobile. Bike, walk??
  - Everyone could live in a nice area with nice schools without a 1 hour commute each direction
  - Everyone that wants to work will be able to find a job and prosper.
  - Everyone who owns property can raise their family there without the local, state and federal government micromanaging everything they do. If you don't like MY COMMUNITY, get on the fastest track out of it. QUIT trying to place rules and regulations where they are NOT wanted.
  - Everyone will be able to walk every where safely.
  - Everyone will be treated fairly. Accessibility to parks, education, transportation & housing.
  - Everyone will drive cars much less. Houston will be more densely built so that people don't have to travel as far on a regular basis, so they will be able to walk or bicycle more-- and so that the city can support more public transportation.
  - Exceptional growth and support ability
  - Exemplary Schools- At all levels pre-school through college City development/planning
  - Expanded Infrastructure - Highways, Power plants, landfills, recycling.
  - Expansion of free markets with minimal governmental interference and maximum penalties for abuse of the public trust. This would extend to public and private officials. Free markets fail under unnecessary government burden and especially when people/companies are not held to account for their errors and/or crimes.
  - Extensive public transport opportunities
  - Extremely downsized government. Clean air and water. No illegal aliens. Swift, certain and severe prosecution of criminals in and out of government.
  - FREE ENTERPRISE THRIVES, NO MORE GOVT. HAND-OUTS
  - Fair and adequate education for all children.
  - Fair opportunities to all ethnic groups that are moving to this area. No profiling of people by police in this area. Treat all people the same.
  - Fair opportunity for our citizens to succeed or fail on their own initiative. Government limited to ensuring equal opportunity to fail or succeed.
  - Families live healthy, happy and wellness is a priority.
  - Families of all income levels will be able to afford living inside the loop and their kids will be able to attend public school & get the same level of education as kids in private schools or in Houston suburbs.
  - Families will have good, high quality education, food, healthcare and jobs. Bike lanes will be part of the urban fabric. Air will be clean. Neighborhood will be safe.

- Families will know how to grow their own vegetables and fruits. Children have strong neighborhood schools and leadership/values People have pay equality and opportunities to create job growth.
- Farm land will be restored for kids to have an opportunity to be able to raise an animal project for 4-H and FFA programs.
- Fast, frequent transit service will connect all the major activity centers in the region.
- Fewer Illegals, More Police, A bay flood protection wall, Cleaner Air & water, no toll roads, more natural environment less government rules and fares
- Fewer People- Population dictates resources and planning
- Fewer illegal aliens.
- Fewer suburbs....more public transportation inside the city...less air pollution.
- Financial management by all taxing entities- responsible transparent
- Flooding issues will be fixed along San Jacinto River. Major companies will offer jobs centers to use the educated work force here. Lake Houston and San Jacinto river will be clean
- Flooding will be well controlled
- For my community to stay small. To many people equal more crime, more welfare recipients, etc.
- For the Houston Metroplex to have a highly educated workforce to compete in the global economy. Education is the key!
- For the community to continue to thrive with the decline of the space industry, we will need to attract new industry to the area to support the community in job growth.
- For the kids that are in school today to NOT get on welfare just because the government makes it soooooo easy and for the government to stay out of peoples day to day lives. All the free housing and food, programs, etc... is bs. All but a very small % could work and support their families. All this is showing kids today is you don't have to work hard and you will still get everything you want.
- Fort Bend county will be home to a number of global/multinational companies--service sector and manufacturing.
- Free of crime and plenty of opportunities for work.
- Freedom from violent crime
- Freedom. Liberty. Self-reliance. Personal responsibility. Return to the foundation of this country - each of us possesses certain unalienable rights from our Creator, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Minimal government intrusion on me.
- Friendly neighbors, nice parks walk/bike safely in neighborhoods and parking lots. Clean water and air More local business support by community. SAFETY!
- Future generations will enjoy the same opportunities and freedoms that i have enjoyed.
- Future generations will have a safe and healthy community/environment in which to live and work.
- Future generations will have the same opportunities to improve their lifestyles and have the same economic opportunities as the current generation.
- GET RID OF BIG GOVERNMENT.....ON THE FEDERAL STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS.
- GREEN ENERGY SOLUTIONS WILL HAVE WIDESPREAD IMPLEMENTATION
- Galveston needs a decent blend of development and living with respect to the environment/beach.
- Getting back to the fundamentals that made this country great. FAITH BASED COMMUNITY!!!
- Globally competitive city with thriving business, education, and cultural sectors.
- Good education. Job opportunities and clean healthy neighborhoods
- Good environment work opportunities
- Good law and order
- Good paying jobs. Region wide access to natural and man made recreational facilities Affordable and decent, sanitary housing for all residents.
- Good safe place to raise children
- Good, sufficient water sources, low crime, economic opportunity (jobs), Housing
- Government that works for the people not people working for the Government. A safe environment, both physically and environmental. Excellent schools where the teachers are more concerned about their students education than their union.
- Government causes friction and racism when the gov't promotes segregation.(comment for question # 10) Little to no federal government intrusion.
- Government will be more efficient with public funds and not waste them on activities or projects that have no overall benefit to the region. Need to maintain high levels of law enforcement and punishment to keep criminals off the streets.
- Grand kids walk/bike to school Children and grand kids live near by
- Great Schools system that is on the Cutting edge with technology
- Great economic impact. Great higher education. natural resources preserved. Retail opportunities available.
- Great place for my great grand childs to live
- Great place to live and work
- Great place to raise a family; liveable forrest with excellent schools. Working and productive people with minimal public assistance.
- Great school, clean air, plenty of H2O and good jobs to allow people to line and support their families.
- Great schools for all kids Mass transit options.
- Greater access to public transport. More technical training options for local residents.

- Greater percentage of students gaining a degree and being a contribution not a burden on our region
- Green collar economy . See Van Jones, Larry Hill, Robert Builard on their strategic plans.
- Green space
- Green space, walking space, biking paths and right-aways, crime free
- Green, Quiet, Clean
- Green, no air condition, parks, easy to cross the street
- Groundwater remains clean and plentiful.
- Growing and prosperous community that embraces a pro business perspective that in turn promotes job growth and quality of life for its' residents. Without a strong business environment, strong education base, sensitivity to our environment, high residential standards through enforced covenants, safe residential and work environment, spiritual growth, culturally diverse with enlightened governance at all levels, a community cannot thrive in the long term. By being economically prosperous with a diverse population that embraces spiritual values, a community can help those not able to help themselves and in turn improve the overall quality of life for the community. Anything else is unacceptable.
- Gulf and Bay will be clean enough to eat all seafood. Natural resources preserved.
- Gulf, streams etc. will be clean enough to eat the fish caught in them.
- Have more access to public transportation and will be more sensitive toward cultural differences. More Spanish-speaking media such as newspapers, radios, etc
- Have a good place to live, clean. Share w/ people and help the people at telephone road.
- Have a local elementary school
- Have enough available jobs so that college graduates from this community have the opportunity to come back and raise a family here.
- Have frame works to make it possible to be successful in a locally owned business(small biz utility, rates, insurance, taxes)
- Have more locally owned business's.
- Having a diverse and dynamic business community
- Having and support for small business and kids education at a high level
- Having metro train
- Havng opens green spaces to enjoy, the ability to utilize human powered transportation safely and the ability watch a prospering local business community be successful.
- Health care is affordable to all small businesses and independent contractors We are no longer a welfare, socialist country giving everything away and people are rewarded for what they do vs. relying on the government for handouts
- Health is available to all at a reasonable cost. People can live in a safe environment free of crime.
- Healthy /self sustaining /compassionate economically viable/involved/diverse population living harmonically
- Healthy People, Healthy Environment, Good Education, Local Economy, Shared Prosperity
- Healthy and safe place to live
- Healthy and varied economy providing opportunities to diverse demographic of people.
- Healthy and well educated community that compete in global economy
- Healthy environment (preserving our planet) with healthy people (mentally & physically). SAFE...with more locally owned business...and more people OUTSIDE, in general!
- Healthy, balanced growth.
- Healthy, clean economic development
- Heritage Township A real college town. Public transportation.
- Herman Brown Park will be fully developed
- High quality early childhood education and k-12 schooling will be available to shape our future leaders, work force and citizenry.
- High speed public transport will be available integrating the region into an efficient sprawling metropolis.
- High speed rail- every where. No buses
- High speed transit, crime control, more jobs and opportunities supported
- Higher graduation rate and entrance into a jr college, community college, trade school or 4 year institution.
- Higher levels of education and well paying jobs that will lead to a stable community.
- Hike and bike trails at the side of city streets like Austin. More locally owned business.
- Home values maintained/increased. More local businesses - i.e. no Walmart near the Heights. Kids can safety walk to school.
- Homes will increase in value
- Homes will reflect equity in goods
- Hope that population growth will not out grow natural resources
- Hope to see a high job opportunity, low crime rate, air and water zero pollution; school, shopping mall, parks and medical facilities within one community.
- Hope to use resources wisely
- Households and communities that are safe, sanitary and secure
- Housing is affordable for everyone!!!!
- Houston NOT being known for crime. I hope that voters will feel their needs are represented and acted upon to provide a safe, healthy life and strong economy.
- Houston becomes a center for the industries of the future - clean/renewable energy, biotech., telecommunications, etc. This success is rooted in adherence to solid fundamentals -

good education system, wise investment in infrastructure development, diversity of (functioning!) transportation options, low government debt, conservation of natural resources, constant focus on pro-actively setting and making progress towards long-term, comprehensive goals for the community.

- Houston becomes more urbanized in its own way
- Houston becomes the new Silicon Valley of business and life style.
- Houston embraces rail and it is expanded beyond its current expansion. Builders start building quality housing along those routes that people making 25K to 50K can afford them.
- Houston is a place where I can enjoy a rich, fulfilling civic and cultural life with others and where people from other cities want to move.
- Houston is an international gateway city with quality, entertainment and recreational options. The region retains its position as the energy capital of the world, but it also becomes the clean energy capital of the world.
- Houston is in the top 10 places to work and raise a family because of its 1( educational system, 2) environmental assets in its bayous and superior air and water quality and 3) ease of moving around the region from home to work.
- Houston is located at the intersection of 4 ecoregions--I hope that in 40 years, people in Houston and outside of Houston know about our splendid outdoors. To me, that means that people are outside, walking to work and school, using bikes and transit, enjoying our bayous, eating locally grown foods--generally, revelling in all that makes us unique. We should not have to apologize for living here!
- Houston is the medical and technical (think silicon valley) capital of the world that draws diverse and well educated, highly skilled workers whose families live in a clean, eco-friendly environment that primarily use mass-transit light rail to travel to various suburban hubs for work and for play.
- Houston maintains its neighborhood feel and charm but each neighborhood has equal opportunity are connected to one another. And healthy health doesn't mean access to health care but an opportunity to live healthy.
- Houston will be a dense, urban city - less automobile dependent; more Houstonians will live, work, play, learn within a 3-mile radius (or less) rather than a 30-mile radius (or more); sustainability is learning how to live a richer experience with less (resources, space).
- Houston will be clean and healthy and children will have lots of safe places to play. Also, it won't have litter everywhere. People can bike/walk to their workplaces or schools as well as to shopping areas.
- Houston will be known for its bayou greenways rather than its freeways.
- Houston will be the ultimate mix of small businesses and big company with more diverse and educated people that want to make Houston greener and help with the quality of life.
- Houston will be world renowned for thinking ahead, finding innovative answers to problems, finding a balance between saving our past and building a beautiful city second to none while being clean and safe for everyone. A place that everyone would be proud to live.
- Houston will get away from being an oil and car city and become a trail bike and walk city. The "New York if the south"
- Houston will have a low high school drop out rate, a healthy economic climate where people of all education levels are employed, a recycling program that ensures a bright future for our children, and a transportation system that will be used by people to get around the city.
- Houston will have an integrated multi-modal transportation system providing safe, convenient access and facilities for all- Pedestrians, bicyclist and motorist- For commerce and recreation.
- Houston will no longer be known for its pollution
- Houston will stop its urban sprawl and continue to make downtown Houston livable. To have a transportation system that would allow the suburban residents easy access to cultural events in the center of Houston.
- Houston would be more like some of the great big cities with quality public transit (more light rail lines), better public education options, and have walkable/bikable communities with easy access to public parks.
- Houston would have a better transit system to the outskirts of the city.
- Houstonians not needing a car transportation for the city, more walkability mixed use dense city, good quality education within the city limits.
- Hwy 87 needs to be raised. The sand pits need to be filled in. So many of them that are close to the canal and gulf. STOP clearing the shrubs and scraping the land.
- I agree with all three of the examples. I believe we need to ask these national chains that move into our communities what are they going to do to support the local community around them. Many of them support national initiatives that bring no benefit to local communities at all. Good example is Lowes. Will not give a dime to a local volunteer organization but gives to Habitat for Humanity nationally. That is great, but local should get a chance to have some portion of their support. After all they kill the mom and pop hardware store that would give back locally. Hobby Lobby another good example. The family that owns that has decided to give to some causes and that is great, but again not a dime locally. Their should be some money available to the local organizations. Other stores do pretty good at this. Best Buy has a process you can go through to get a chance at a donation from them. It requires some work, including IRS documentation and some other documentation. It is work, but it at gives communities a chance to get support for their volunteer organizations locally. I hope less of our community is living off of the government in 30 years.



- I am 86 years old- I just left the symphony and I am taking the train back to my house 20 miles away. I feel safe. Houston is the home for the newly educated-High school completer are at 90% with college 75%
- I am hoping that my community will be even stronger in 30 years but lose its sense of identity and wide open spaces. The natural wild look of my area adds to its charm and relaxing atmosphere.
- I believe that a safe and healthy enviroment. I believe that growth and traffic congestion should be top priority!
- I can bike for my commute towork and for errands. I can kayak the bayous without concerns of acquiring disease. Better public transit, denser living areas with shopping and jobs close
- I can find someone that speaks English.
- I can go for a ride on my bike with my kids to anywhere in the city.
- I can walk to the edge of my neighborhood and catch an express bus to major city points of interest. Bayous are returned to a more natural state (concrete removed). Flood maps are redrawn to remove my neighborhood from the 100 year flood plain. People learn not to litter! On the weekend, I can walk to the end of my block (TC Jester Park), hop in a canoe and tour the bayou. I can ride my bike to the store and not be afraid of being run over by a car.
- I can walk with my neighbors to work/school/shopping SAFELY. A diverse economy with lots of talent such that we are buffered against economic turmoil elsewhere.
- I don't care because as soon as our kids get out of school, we will be leaving and they have no intentions of staying in this area.
- I hope all people help together.
- I hope for a multi modal environment that caters to all walks of life.
- I hope it is still a nice place to raise a family with a small town feeling.
- I hope it will continue to grow culturally and we will see economic prosperity return to this area
- I hope my children, grandchildren and I feel safe to walk our neighborhood at any hour.
- I hope my community will allow growth in jobs, a broad range of housing choices and improved public transportation. Persons of all backgrounds and income levels should be able to live here.
- I hope our community will be an active hub of local and regional business with good schools and neighborhoods.
- I hope our community will be one in which families, businesses and our environment are healthy, safe and prosperous. One that individuals will be educated on a variety of issues, child safety, environmental issues, healthy lifestyles through a diversified method of education including formal education, community outreach, access to technology, etc...
- I hope our public schools become a place that we actually want to send our kids. I hope they stop focusing on standardized testing and start focusing more on teaching valuable knowledge and life skills. I hope we have no crime and that our police and firefighters have the pay and support they need. I hope our city is fiscally responsible.
- I hope that Hwy 6 through Manvel does not develop like FM 518 in Pearland or FM 1960 and have one strip center after another. There needs to be planning.
- I hope that I'm not an indentured servant of the state, allowed to live in my own home with 50% yearly tax (according to an overvalued appraisal), to pay for pensions for retired gov't workers and firemen.
- I hope that crime has not taken over our community.
- I hope that one day we will be able to choose how we move around our area- in either our cars or via a safe, reliable, well-funded and connected transit and bicycle/pedestrian system. I would like to see a Complete Streets policy adopted for our region, and stop seeing our tax dollars wasted on ever-expanding highways designed to move taxpayers further and further from the urban core. I hope that my grandchildren will get to experience a rural Texas countryside, not see one giant suburban sprawl stretching from Houston to Dallas to San Antonio.
- I hope that our city will have developed a plan to keep all income levels near town and near job centers. I hope that our school system will produce adult workers whom are prepared for college and/or careers. I hope that we will have a more just and kind society.
- I hope that people will be less reliant on cars and that our air will be way cleaner.
- I hope that someone can stop the downward spiral of the community into what appears to be a decaying "ghetto" type environment.
- I hope that the community will actually be a community where individuals take responsibility to not only provide for themselves and their families but also where people help create a beautiful, clean, and healthy environment for future generations to enjoy.
- I hope that these programs dictated by the United Nations whole earth order are not in existence. I hope that America regain it's independence from these types of intrusions into our community.
- I hope that we can keep our beaches open to the public. Hope the penninsula can remain a good place for family vacations and everyone can feel safe while in our community.
- I hope that we will still live in a democracy, not a socialist country where we seem to be headed. Socialist countries control housing and educational opportunities. Close borders, preserve culture, speak English and unify the country. Speaking two major languages fosters division. Opportunities should be available to those who work for them (including Social Security, fee aid, etc.)

- I hope the Fed Government will back off the interference of the production of current energy sources. I hope the development of the alternative sources will be made viable and not impose a cost not more than the present cost of the present personal transportation. The present drive to alternative transportation which is still not ready for the above mentioned concerns. We have seemed to back up to all the alternative sources in the past 20 years, with no solutions. too many have been interested in "How can I benefit monetarily from these schemes" The Funds soon evaporate quickly.....where are the pioneers?
- I hope the air is clean and waters. So we can eat and drink from them. And not worry about Houston being a cancer pod.
- I hope the community will provide an environment where businesses can thrive, so there will be jobs for our children, the businesses and their employees can pay taxes to continue improving our community, and we can compete globally.
- I hope there are less people dependent on government for their existence. I want to get back to individual responsibility where the private sector works and the government is no longer "big". Life, liberty and the "pursuit" of happiness - no guarantees and life isn't always "fair".
- I hope to have better roads to drive on. Better water to drink. More houses for old people to live in because they still it faded
- I hope we are not in the Gulf of Mexico from beach erosion due to the diversion of the Brazos river.
- I hope we can still get anywhere in the region in less than 1 hour
- I hope we will maintain our rural, small town, easy going character. I want to maintain our pristine environment, and being in clean industry.
- I like to ride my bike places, but would be scared to ride on the street. More one of a kind local restaurants. Public recycling. In New York it is against the law not to recycle. You can be fined. Less fast food around. The correlation of number of fast food restaurants to overweight people is very high. Houston needs to get healthy.
- I live in Friendswood, so living in a town that continues to live up to its name.
- I live in a pretty good community that has a nice neighborhood, a real nice park nearby. I would put in better grocery stores and activities for single adults.
- I look forward to having more parks and bicycle trails and festivals.
- I love all three examples. Houston will continue to be the energy leader, but with renewable energy. We will have become a pioneer in creating new ways to use renewable energy and making Houston cleaner as a result.
- I moved to Waller to live in a natural surrounding environment, in 30 years I look to have a successful CSA offering organic foods to families in need, I hope my community will be a flourishing sustainable community built from natural or sustainable resources living as harmoniously with the land as possible, I hope that my community will be a shining example of how to repeat this lifestyle and a solid proof it can be done successfully with minimal impact on the surrounding ecology.
- I plan to move out of the area, so it's hard for me to say. I would like a better water source for my home community and better roads because in the county you don't have much of a choice and just have to deal with what you get. Have a nice grocery store with more fresh choices of meat and vegetables...maybe more from local grown areas. I did notice nothing was brought up on immigration...to sensitive of an issue? I feel tighter immigration laws will help our resources!!!! As well as help in other areas.
- I pray that the world will be cleaner, kinder, and friendlier for our children and grandchildren.
- I pray we still live in a free America where our rights to home ownership, practice our religion, bear arms, free speech, world's best military, and the right to pursue what makes us happy still exist with a smaller government leading our land with a true American who loves our country.
- I see no hope for our community unless we begin with a mass transit system that can move thousands of people in and out of city everyday. This metropolitan area can not sustain and oil embargo or a high price of fuel or a cut off of fuel because of war or anything else. We are not set up for a loss fuel.
- I see our community with jobs, things to do, places to live while continuing to live in a safe small town atmosphere.
- I w
- I want a community for my kids that is based on the principles of our Constitution and our Founding Fathers: a government that answers to the people (not vice versa) and committed to Life, Liberty, and Property rights
- I want a functioning community, where people recognize each other in the streets, where the business are owned and operated by people that know me and my family, and an environment that is healthy and can provide recreation and sustenance to the people.
- I want now: walk/bike/transit options that are efficient and safe; clean air and water access to healthy food
- I want our community to be safe and positive. I want our bay to be clean enough to fish, oyster, and shrimp in. I hope our schools are still top notch!!
- I want to feel safe in my neighborhood!
- I want to see true economic development return to the community which was abandon during my generation. I have seen the community struggling to bring or entice business to return to our community.
- I will be able to make a complete trip with my choice of transportation without worry about time lost , money and intermodal access.

- I will be retired and move from the area, but I want it to be a safe place for future generations to come.
- I will feel that living here is not a burden on the globe, but a way forward.
- I will live in a community that plans for the future. We will remove the low-lying refineries and chemical plants that are just waiting for a hurricane to pollute Galveston Bay and the whole coastline. We will stop suburban sprawl and make it possible for young people to go into farming.
- I will not need a car to get to work. I will have healthy options for food near my home and work.
- I wish taxes went down so that I could do repairs to my house so that it can look nice for the neighborhood. We don't have enough sidewalks for the kids to walk on when they're walking to the school bus. Not enough lights to dark at night. The neighborhood gets flooded with one rain drop.
- I won't have to leave my community to have the variety in shopping entertainment, etc
- I won't be a slave to my car, I will breathe clean air, my children will have numerous public parks in which to play, the public education system in the city will be well respected, housing options near transit stations will be varied in size, type and price
- I won't need a car to get around the city. Bayous will be clean, natural environment will be restored throughout the city. All people will have access to healthy, fresh foods. High school graduates will have plenty of opportunities to learn needed skills.
- I work in the Health Care Industry and see the need now for transportation for Sr and affordable health care. In less than 30yr I will be there too. Hope that will be taken care of before that.
- I would like a more pedestrian friendly city filled with local businesses. I would love for downtown Houston to be a destination, instead of a campground for the homeless; which can be achieved by turning the homeless into a workforce.
- I would like for my daughter to be able to ride her bike or walk (trails, sidewalks) to school, the neighborhood store, and park (need for a close park) safely (low crime) like I did when I was a child. I would like for her to be able to enjoy the natural environment (park/bayou area that isn't just sports fields or dog parks (waste of property) so she can learn about the different vegetation, wildlife, etc.
- I would like for my kids to be able to play outside safely. I would like access to more locally grown food. I would like to be able to walk to more retail/shopping (driving is my only option now in my neighborhood).
- I would like my community to maintain the heritage and history that makes it a nice place to live. Low income development and multifamily development drives the community down. I would like to see the county enforce building code standards in the county, and the county to make developers widen roads and install turn lanes when they create large neighborhoods on busy road ways. I think the county should also make big developers be responsible for more green space when they develop land. Houses are going up with little concern for green space and large parks, forcing home owners to travel to a place to let their children play.
- I would like the air quality to improve, seeing as how it dramatically affects mine and my family's day to day health. I would also like the city planners in my community (Pearland) to work on a plan for the increasing traffic problems. In Pearland, we also lack public transportation, which I feel is valuable to the members of my community.
- I would like to have an excellent pre k-12 educational system.
- I would like to have limited growth so as to not lose the small town environment.
- I would like to see Mont Belvieu to continue to grow at a steady rate. I would like to see continued growth in the business sector too but please no more "Dollar Stores". We also need to stay rural. We are not Sugarland or the Woodlands and we don't need to try to be these places. We are Mont Belvieu and we need to remember that.
- I would like to see a better range and type of housing, clean-up, restoration or removal of dilapidated housing, curing of flood issues, job opportunities, police presence and bus service to jobs in high employment areas outside of the community.
- I would like to see a future that has more civic, humane, inclusive political representation. The word community has to change.
- I would like to see a quite coordinated community with green space maintained and quality education.
- I would like to see green trails, bike paths, and parks. I would also like more restaurants, and a better shopping mall.
- I would like to see less dependence on vehicles and more efficient mass transit options as well as abilities to walk or bike and the ability to afford to live close to your work.
- I would like to see less government intervention.
- I would like to see more master planning in our community. Baytown is an example of no master planning and I would like to see the Mont Belvieu area more like a Kingwood or Woodlands.
- I would like to see more walkable communities. We need sidewalks in the neighborhoods and along main roads.
- I would like to see our community embrace an attitude of responsibility to look out for one another to improve quality of life, both socially and economically.
- I would like to see pot holes left behind construction in City and Highways properly repaired when the job is finished. I'd like to see street gutters in Galveston fitted with plastic mesh to keep trash from entering the drainage system. I'd like to see recycling picked up from my home and someone in this town to start a real recycle program, like other cities in our area already support. Last, it would be nice to have the people that work here also live here.

- I would like to see the city diversify - attract more tourism, hold on to big businesses (for example Continental Airlines or Exxon), put in high speed rail system to Dallas (other major metropolitan cities) or at the suburbs
- I would like to see us achieve the goals outlined in this plan with a minimum of government involvement. They are laudable goals and smart, good people have the ability to achieve them working together on the local level without mandate, regulation, selective incentivization or other governmental involvement.
- I would love for my grandchildren to know what it is to have livestock on their property. I want them to have the chance to see what open ranch and farm land looks like.
- I would really like to see the areas between 610 and Beltway 8 become nicer by getting rid of the dependency on the local government and building self-reliance. Protecting the area from illegal aliens considering it a sanctuary city would be nice. Pretty much anything Anise Parker is against, I am for and vice versa.
- I'd like to see a prosperous future, with low unemployment rate, clean environment, efficient transportation system, and lots of green space.
- I'd like to see sidewalks in new subdivision that are wide enough to promote biking or walking instead of using a car. I'd like to see a recycling program instituted instead of garbage pick up. Some way renewable energy being used, instead of fossil fuels.
- I'm a child's advocate pushing for enrichment and outreach to fix the education and availability of resources.
- I'm hoping that our downward spiral into becoming a third-world country will be stopped & reversed and that more jobs come to Liberty, Texas.
- Imagine
- Immigrants will have access to ESL classes Seniors/domestic violence will have access to shelters and counseling.
- Improve education of of minority population starting with Pre-K. Integrate them into system. Provide reading/writing/training for minority adults.
- Improve flow of traffic and public safety
- Improve highway 290 traffic, drinking water Community safety issues- no more break in, steal tires Children can play freely in community More green space, park around community
- Improve public transportation systems, to reduce HOA systems. Pay attention to racial discrimination issues.
- Improve traffic float on FM 518 toward Fwy 45.
- Improved local business choices rather than driving to an adjacent community. Sidewalks on Eagle Drive. More roads to divert traffic from Eagle Drive.
- Improved options for transportation. More opportunity to work, live and play in the community.
- Improved public education from K-12 and an increased help from governmental agencies to aid and support the small businesses that are vital to a community.
- Improved roads so kids & adults can bike or rollerblade safely to keep fit.
- Improved safety and ability to enjoy environment
- Improved urban forest More community based jobs, less massive transportation projects. More connections.
- Improving and maintaining infrastructure (fiber optic and water purification technology that is more efficient)
- In 30 years I hope that we have more job opportunities, especially for recent college graduates. More assistance with student loans. Less traffic more public transit (preferably a train of some sort). More locally owned and thriving businesses.
- Increase growth, passing both Chicago and LA in size. Attracting more companies to relocate within the USA and regional HQ for foreign multi-nationals. Expand both airports, both international. Make Houston a known international city. Expand the arts, more museums (don't have MFA take everything). Light rail that actually works, direct from suburban locations to downtown, none of this stop every 5 blocks (I would never bother if it ends up slower than driving) - for example, downtown to IAH should only have one stop (half way where a large parking structure would be built). Expand recreational and tourist activities, attract all major luxury hotels to build here. Promote Houston to wealthy foreign nationals as a place to live. Need to develop more luxury golf courses. Would love to see the bayou downtown more like a SA riverwalk - any way to get it less muddy?
- Increase employment opportunities, provide a growing sense of pride of the community for the currently low income areas. Attract business opportunities. Maintained green spaces for families to enjoy.
- Increased educational quality in urban areas. Increased flood planning to reduce floodplain areas and floodway areas. Increased numbers of small businesses and locally owned businesses. More focus on a healthy lifestyle with more recreational options. Houston is continually the "fattest city in America".
- Increased growth toward improving the private and public business sector along with pursuing advanced education opportunities.
- Increased public transportation.
- Individuals and our community will be conscious of the interconnections between our environmental resources and our economic prosperity. Awareness and consideration of our environmental resources will be part of daily life and conversation.
- Industry will come in and provide opportunities on our county through jobs and population growth.
- Industry will locate to Wharton County creating numerous jobs and citizens don't have to commute.
- Infrastructure supports clean, affordable, timely, plentiful public transportation. Options for commute to down town Houston and surrounding cities communication

- infrastructure to support telecommuting to relieve congestion and pollution and improve quality of family life.
- Integrated residential and commercial uses accessible by walking and biking. Lots of outdoor recreation options.
  - It can hold or handle the growth. In an event, there are too many people and not enough resources.
  - It is an American cohesive community made up of citizens who follow the laws and care about their fellow citizens.
  - It is my hope that our children will have pride in our community. That the kids will continue to learn how important it is to be an active part of the community by volunteering and participating in school projects.
  - It is possible to bike safely to the medical center, the museum district, public transit system is integrated. Assistance is provided for local community owned business.
  - It remains a diversified community and maintains its economic vibrancy.
  - It will be safe and interesting for families to spend time outside---parks w/facilities, bike trails, walk paths, running tracks
  - It will be second nature to recycle. Wastefulness will be a thing of the past. Our children will get a good education no matter what school they attend.
  - It won't be bulldozed for yet another shopping center.
  - It would not be too populated, yet would have locally owned businesses and maintain a family community "feeling."
  - It's noticeable that east end has been largely overlooked until recently; before metro improvements and extension of rail. Need more arts and speakers that enhance other mind sets instead of survival methods only! Continued education to address the frustration of the majority. I'd also like to see this area developed into something more than low income area. Being so close to the city should reflect sustainability and partnering up co-ops and challenging opportunities
  - JOBS AND WALKABILITY
  - Jails will not have revolving doors so that children will be able to walk or bike safely to school and if you'd like to fish at a bayou you aren't afraid of being mugged and thrown in.
  - Job opportunities will be distributed through the community.
  - Jobs available that allows good quality of life (housing, parks etc)
  - Jobs will be available for maintaining a decent standard of living for all citizens.
  - Jobs will be plentiful and the current environment will be in tact or improve
  - Jobs will increase Culture learning improves Libraries for all communities
  - Jobs, Job, Jobs Growth more than 9,000 by 2035
  - Just sitting back enjoying peace and quit, and not having to drive a hour to shop
  - Katy Texas has a heritage. Try to keep some of the old, the new, and the future in mind!
  - Katy will continue to be the best place in the Houston area to raise a family.
  - Keep a healthy clean environment Low pollution Low traffic Memorial is a ver stable community, but the business built around the area affects the nature and peace of the neighborhood.
  - Keep it clean
  - Keep the type of community we currently have in Old Sugar Land with great community involvement and embrace teconology to improve our daily living standards.
  - Kids able to walk or bike safely to school
  - Kids and adults could walk or bike safely without needing cars for every single trip.
  - Kids and adults will live close enough to quality schools, jobs, required shopping, and outdoor recreation via walking and biking trails.
  - Kids and their parents will be able to describe and then plan for lifetime learning.
  - Kids are able to live in great community
  - Kids are safe. Freedom from over regulaton from all forms of government. School choice (vouchers). Religious freedom. Conservation of resources through private initiative.
  - Kids being able to walk or bike safely to school.
  - Kids can walk or Bike to school. No construction on roads and buildings. Laid back neighborhood within walking distance to anything really needing to meet needs.
  - Kids have a great education and can there by walking or biking
  - Kids to feel safe playing outside
  - Kids will be able to eat the fish they catch.
  - Kids will be able to have safe communities better school districts in urban areas
  - Kids will be able to play outside and walk or bike to school safely. Less box stores and more locally owned businesses. A mass transportation sys. for all of Harris County.
  - Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school
  - Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school and understand the importance of the community in which they live.
  - Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school, if they choose. Parents will have options to get to work without sitting in traffic jams. All residents will have a nearby park they can enjoy. Bayous will be clean enough that we can eat the fish out of them and will also allow some recreational activity. Great educational opportunities will be available to everyone: all children and adults.
  - Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school.
  - Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them.
  - Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them. Our community will have more locally owned businesses. Cost of living will be manageable (affordable, housing)

- Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Our community will have more locally owned businesses.
- Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Stop new construction.
- Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them
- Kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school. Bayous will be clean enough that I can eat the fish I catch from them.
- Kids will be able to walk or bike to safely to school.
- Kids will be able to walk or bike to school like it was 30 years ago.
- Kids will be able to walk or bike to school safely. Educational opportunities for young adults, economic development for jobs/careers when a young adult finishes schooling. Healthy, clean environment in our community using natural resources.
- Kids will be able to walk to school and to parks safely and have easy access to open space to utilize natural resources
- Kids will be able to walk to school safely.
- Kids will be about to walk or bike to school. Families will continue to be able to move freely and safely in community
- Kids will be able to bike or walk to school safely, through diverse, historically-respectful neighborhoods.
- Kids will be safe and clean air for all.
- Kids will be safe and community will have healthy living conditions with good educational and economic opportunities
- Kids will be safe when going somewhere on foot or biking. Roads will be better.
- Kids will get a quality education that embraces the needs of the available work. State and Local taxes will not cripple the ability for families to thrive and business to grow.
- Kids will have an Exemplary high school available as well as Exemplary middle and primary schools.
- Kids will have mentors committed to them at an early age through college.
- Kids will have opportunity for good, affordable education, safety in neighborhoods and jobs available when they get out of school.
- Kids will have same and better education and economic opportunities as I have had. Communities will be safer, with less/no crime. People respect others for their real contributions, with no regard to background, color, appearance, etc.
- Kids will one day go to 4 year college.
- Kids will receive quality education, not separate but separate again. The better schools are outside their residential area. Expansion of public transportation to cover outlying areas and decrease the congestion on freeways for commuters. Affordable and better quality housing for families and elderly.
- Kids will still be able to get quality education and crime is kept to a minimum
- Kids will understand the importance of every choice and how our environment is impacted.
- Known as a community that has embraced diversity and with it a sense that it can be modeled across the state and the country showing that diversity works and people of all cultures can blend to create a healthy, happy and prosperous community.
- Large community garden and orchard in old Clear Lake Golf Course with local schools involved would benefit: education, health (we have no "Whole Foods"), community, and economy- supplying local restaurants AND SCHOOL CAFETERIAS with local organic produce, real estate value goes up for trend setter community, publicity! There are govt grants for community gardens.
- Las personas podemos tener "Trails" para caminar o andar en Bicy con seguridad!
- Leading the world in Education and Industry
- Less apartments being built. Kids will be able to walk or bike to school on sidewalks. Traffic lights will not create pollution and traffic jams.
- Less congestion on roadways and decrease in urban sprawl
- Less congestion on roadways and less concentration of commercial development in one area
- Less congestion. Less people in Harris County. More recreational boat ramps to Galveston Bay area (not enough for our population).
- Less congestion. Slow down growth in west Houston and Katy. More jobs at all levels of education and skill level. Cleaner air. Less flooding of our streets esp. in Houston.
- Less construction Less school zones
- Less crime
- Less crime and better education system
- Less crime, more recreational activities for youth, expanded job opportunities for young adults, additional housing, women/men shelter and food kitchen w/housing
- Less crime.
- Less dependence on carbon based fuels. More density in communities to allow for mixed use development and walkability and light rail.
- Less economic disparity. Better education for poor children more healthy food options
- Less government interference in our lives and businesses.
- Less government intervention.
- Less kids on free lunch/breakfast. More local job opportunities at decent salaries.
- Less tolerance for persons and things that would destroy our lives and values
- Less traffic congestion
- Less traffic congestion, good schools, better economy with plenty of jobs
- Less traffic congestion, more and better mobility. People have to have better and more efficient mobility in order to get to their jobs. Without jobs we have no communities.

- Less traffic- rail on telephone Rd. Near to health clinics- good sidewalks
- Let more people get educated and get Technic training to have more opportunity to get job.
- Light rail connecting our neighborhood to rest of city, kids playing outside, preserved old homes, not McMansions, Walmart gone and dead.
- Light rail will become less of a political football handled by a few shortsighted people and great progress with light rail particularly from Houston to Galveston, Hou-Katy, Hou - Woodlands, etc
- Limit growth, improve quality of life
- Live in a low crime area with other nice families where I can drive to work at the speed limit.
- Live in a safe community, our schools to have better administrators, on hands job training and mentors for our children and for the next generation to come.
- Live in a safe, prosperous, well-educated and opportunity based society
- Living in a cleaner city where education and state/gov agencies are well taken care of
- Living in a community where I can walk to all the , components of a rich and diverse life, that is healthy includes nature and food supply.
- Living in a healthy and safe environment
- Living in a safe environment
- Living in an economically stable community where housing is affordable, jobs are plentiful and the education of our children is a priority.
- Living/working in healthy, safe environment with opportunity for self advancement
- Local city government will be filled with honest hard working people that are holding offices because they care about the city and not just themselves.
- Locally owned business with support of credit availability. Care of our environment, clean water and air quality.
- Locally owned businesses
- Locally owned businesses and support for small local farmers, such as farmers markets
- Locally owned businesses are important. Help with some municipal governments such as Brookshire. Health and safety are important.
- Locally owned businesses are supported by people using efficient mass transportation (not busses) and people embrace a sustainable outlook because it feels good to take care of our community.
- Locally owned businesses with thrive- with support from the community AND CIRT GOVERNMENT! Residents will be less reliant on cars, reducing traffic and pollution.
- Los niños podrán caminar o ir en bicicleta a la escuela de manera segura.
- Low Unemployment
- Low crime
- Low crime and happy productive citizens
- Low crime environment
- Low crime, more independent business, Less government control, more job opportunities, better education. Keep the government from trying to fix everybody and every thing and let the economy naturally correct it self as it always has, no more \$\$ help to banks, auto industry etc. You all should be considering that it does not matter if I am white, black, yellow, red or green. Your next page is offensive to some one who sees people not color of skin or ethnic orig.
- Low income residents will have transportation.
- Low unemployment safe and crime free
- Lowest welfare hand-outs in the country.
- MORE EQUALITY
- Made a switch from petroleum based economy to solar. Self-contained and walk able communities. Clean air and water.
- Maintains the community aspect and does not get engulfed with the urban attitudes
- Make the city more attractive by clearing away the junk.
- Many new, profitable businesses
- Mass transit (i.e. - light rail, etc.) used to move people throughout the region. Kids can walk or bike safely to school. Recycling is so common it's almost an after-thought.
- Mass transit that does not interfere with traffic. More walkable vibrant downtown area. Cleaner environment Redevelopment and renewal of economically disadvantaged areas sustained and increased cultural opportunities.
- Mass transit via light rail will be expanded throughout the city and driving will not be necessary. Bicycling will be a much more convenient form of transit via well maintained bike lanes. Recycling and resource recovery will be a priority and curbside recycling programs will be expanded to everyone including commercial, multi-family, and in parks and on sidewalks.
- Matagorda county shall have a diverse, robust, and sustainable economy with opportunities for all who care to access them.
- Members of the community should be productive, working citizens who contribute in positive ways to making our neighborhoods a better place.
- Mentally and emotionally stable children and adults conscience/spiritually mindful (harmonies US attitude about our community) Service attitude- random kindness "We are one family/ I'm serving my brother"
- Min. wage > 2 x's the area poverty level. Quality of education in TEXAS, beginning with those ranking @ the social economic bottom @ age 3 to have been in the top 10% ranking for ALL the industrialized countries for the past 10 years. TEXAS TO WALK THE TALK to be # 1 in education quality.
- Minimal government intrusion in people's life.
- Minimize crime rate No flooding after heavy rain Working hours traffic is not crowded

- Minimizing growth in the area (already getting crowded) while maintaining good community support and provide safe living arrangements. Crime on the rise and poor stewardship of homes, the town, and the environment are things that would make me leave this area.
- Missouri City will adapt with time and provide a well rounded community for its diverse population. Well rounded would include affordable housing options, commercial growth that meets the demands of its population, varied transportation options that all ages and all capabilities to easily maneuver the community.
- Monorails, so traffic is above the roads. More bike paths, Safe neighborhoods.
- More Alternate building systems then just wood stick residential and commerical
- More Natural Green Space Safer (Less Crime) Quieter... Less Noise and Light Pollution Continue to be a place where neighbors know and help neighbors
- More affordable housing and more job opportunities
- More and better developed city infrastructure. Waterways/canals will be maintained for private watercraft use and provide eatable fish. More locally owned businesses
- More areas like Hermann Park/Fountain area Mass marketing on importance of recycling Make Houston more Green
- More bike routes
- More business Clean air & water
- More business and professionals in my neighborhood
- More business move into the area
- More businesses for everyday needs and education.
- More businesses will open in our community.
- More businesses, better education, reasons for young people to move back home instead of fleeing to urban areas
- More cabling will be run underground
- More centers of business requiring less commute time for workers.
- More concern for wise use of resources. More education (leading to increased awareness) of environmental issues.
- More connectivity to Houston through rapid transit and more within our community with trails.
- More corporate headquarters relocating here from other cities, expanding our freeway system, expanding our airport system, uninhibited growth.
- More curbside recycling, more locally owned businesses, and less trash on streets and bayous
- More education, less crime, less poverty, better informed & more active members of community, better air quality.
- More educational opportunities More shopping More cultural opportunities.
- More educational opportunities that are affordable.
- More efficient land use in order to preserve green space and raw land when ever practical.
- More emphasis will be given to the health and safety of human beings rather than to the profitability of mega corporations. For example, consider the effects of fracking on our lives, our homes, and our children.
- More emphasis will be placed on physical exercise for all, especially in the school programs.
- More families will own homes
- More green space safety
- More growth with entertainment and local university in my immediate community. For the region, better public transportation and reduction in crime.
- More health care for senior Doctors with multiple language ability.
- More individuals will have the education necessary to go into the workforce. Many in the country has never learned a trade or skill. We need to offer that training so they can be employed! (instead of turning to selling drugs)
- More job growth that supports all levels of education
- More job opportunities
- More jobs
- More local businesses
- More locally owned business
- More locally owned business, mass transit that works.
- More locally owned business.
- More locally owned business. More farmers markets. Safer communities. More parks. Less fast food locations. More abundance of healthier outdoor activities. Greater focus on developing children into independent, hard working, responsible adults. Less taxation on property and schools.
- More locally owned businesses
- More locally owned businesses access to education. Growth including , shopping, malls, restaurants, grocery stores.
- More locally owned businesses which are supported by local citizens with a sense of community loyalty
- More locally owned businesses, better roadways, better sewer system within the city, clean water and development of community plan to deal with disasters.
- More locally owned businesses. Less need to drive the freeways.
- More locally owned businesses. Crime will be low and families will be able to do more outdoor activities. Better air quality. Rail system to neighborhoods to free up roadways from toxic fumes from cars. Economic freedom from overseas dependence on manufactured goods and other commodities. More locally grown vegetables and cattle.
- More locally produced foods and goods, small businesses. More sense of small communities in each neighborhood
- More mass transit and commute options. Better air and water quality. A strong push ans standard for LID and sustainable development, sustainable use and allocation of resources.
- More mass transit that will allow individuals to access the opportunities in the region



- More mom and pop shops instead of big box retail. Recirculating money locally.
- More neighborhoods built with pedestrian access to goods and services. Freeway thoroughfares with no exits for several miles (ex., Austin) Re-institution of red light cameras - more people did obey the laws! More community gardens more sidewalks on major streets
- More of Village life style for the community, more depends on the public transportation, better policy for land use(gardening and edible landscaping in restricted subdivision and community vege garden), more community oriented activities, better job training and equal access to the health care.
- More parks and play grounds for kids in walking distance Safe neighborhood.
- More parks and walking/biking trails.
- More parks with walking/running trail, improved existing roadways condition and build more roadways to help the area growth.
- More pedestrian friendly community where I can walk or bike everywhere. More kids playing outdoors in parks and neighborhoods.
- More people being educated with college degrees.
- More people doing for themselves than government doing for people in the community
- More people employed. We have a lot of unemployed in our town. More motels and restaurants a miniature golf course.
- More public transportation
- More public transportation More green space Less energy, consumption sustainability
- More public transportation to reduce pollution and traffic congestion
- More senior apartments for low income senior Improve running water, let it can be safe Increase green space, more park Improve health care. Seniors are difficult to admit to hospital especially specialized doctor, waiting too long for appointment.
- More sidewalks on major corridors. Bikes racks at commercial centers. Recycling at near WWII levels. Broader opportunities occupationally. Technical and engineering skills are in high demand, but non technical skills do not seem to be.
- More sidewalks, public transportation, up-to-date infrastructure, and an economically stable community
- More small business which employ high paying blue collar workers.
- More support for locally owned businesses. More assistance, shelters, training programs for homeless-more quality education
- More transportation options, not Having to rely on cars
- More urban walkable areas.
- More vocational training in our schools and better school systems.
- More walking trails and easy access to public transportation
- More water
- More youth center
- More youthful and forward thinking population in decision making roles
- Moses lake will be dredged out so boats will be able to navigate. It is criminal to continue to let it be silted in and filled with dirt.
- Move ability - ability to move around the city safely by bike, more walkability as well
- Multicultural community with access to the arts, education and medical.
- My Grandchildren will be able to find a job and be prosperous in their lives.
- My area has sufficient handicap ramps from sidewalks to streets. However, I cannot get from my house to transit bus stop 2 blocks away. I use a power chair. Neither power chair now un-motorized wheelchair can get around. We have a lot of foot and bike traffic. However, sidewalk are in many places impassable. Further the streets have been patched so often that they round up in the middle. Cross section of street where it meets handicap ramp of sidewalk street ramp-Please note wheels get stuck in there. I would take bus almost every where but I can't get to stop.
- My children will be able to attend safe and quality neighborhood schools.
- My children will not be at a disadvantage (health, education, environmental respect) when they grow up.
- My community enforces deed restrictions, therefore, maintaining a clean and healthy environment. Taking ownership and pride in the area in which you live. Giving back to the community via volunteering. Jobs that pay one based on their education and experience. Having a balanced budget at the city, county state and federal level.
- My community is a great growing community. I see it being a great place for families, schools, etc
- My community will appreciate the rural lifestyle to offer a close knit small town atmosphere for children. I also want to see them have opportunities to raise livestock and poultry if they choose to learn more about agriculture.
- My community will be a safe, healthy place to live with adequate job opportunities and job training to fill those jobs.
- My community will be crime free. There will be better education opportunities.
- My community will be safe for children to play in w/o worrying
- My community will have a rehabed image with newer homes, improved infrastructure, and not be considered a bad place to live because of the continued growth of Hispanic/Latino Americans!!!
- My community will have more local businesses, which will provide opportunities for my neighbors
- My community will have more professional job opportunities and opportunities for the self-employed.

- My community will provide more choices
- My community would be more green and have more parks
- My community? I'll be in my 90's . i hope I even know what comm means :-)
- My community will have more affordable housing and more job openings.
- My grandchildren will be able to live and work in the Houston area in a healthy and safe environment. They will have access to good public transportation and be able to walk or bike to work, school, shopping, and recreational activities, and have easy access to affordable cultural venues.
- My grandchildren will have a safe neighborhood to live in and have the opportunity to be successful.
- My grandkids will be able to learn, live, play and grow in a safe and healthy housing and community
- My hope for our community is that we find a way to use our resources wisely and that we are able to solve the traffic issues that plague our city.
- My hope for the future is to move further away from degrading concepts such as legalized gambling, economic development, tourism, and suburban household development. We need to limit the availability of housing for ultra-wealthy, retirement, and affluent individuals and we need to increase housing and job opportunities for the ultra-poor, the downtrodden, the single moms, and especially the illegal immigrant population. I envision a community that is 75% at or below the poverty line but whose members live healthy, functional lives because of the social programs and the community "togetherness" found in Galveston. I envision a community where suburbia is non-existent, businesses are all locally owned, health care is free, churches are on every street corner, and quality public education is available to everyone! Do not ruin the community of Galveston with your economic development plans!
- My hope for this area, is to be competitive and attractive as a place to live and visit (Houston is boring to visitors and what little we have is so crowded because EVERYONE is trying to do it and get there. Put Gambling in Galveston (stop losing the money to Louisiana),
- My hope is for bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists can all share the road effectively and safely. Additionally, I hope for the preservation of natural resources when designing new areas of town (I.e. thinking green)
- My hope is our community will have the economic opportunities for those that have been educated in our local schools and universities. Reverse the tide of job opportunity outsourcing to other countries. Invest in our USA communities. Establish manufacturing businesses that will produce products that individuals without a college degree will be gainfully employed. All of us will not get a college degree, the majority of us will not so, invest in opportunities that will keep the majority productive.
- My hope is that City leaders will recognize the importance of maintaining City assets so that they might be enjoyed for ages to come. I hope my great, great grandchildren will have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, good and affordable education and the freedom to enjoy these things as well as the freedom to worship God, recognizing that He has provided us with these amenities to begin with.
- My hope is that local governments after last year's drought, will recognize how precious our resources are and how they have a direct impact on commerce and all local communities. If we don't have water or preserve the natural ecosystems that allows us to live in this region we won't be able to support or sustain growth!!! Therefore, it is absolutely necessary local officials work together regionally to create a comprehensive plan that takes into consideration the rapid growth Southeast Texas is facing and the potential impact this will have if we don't implement sustainability measures NOW! I would love for my grandchildren in 30 years to still be able to enjoy Lake Conroe and the Piney Woods as much as my husband and I do today.
- My hope is that more businesses would be available to people living in our community for work. Our community suffers due to being rural and our citizens have to travel long distances to obtain work. Gas is going up, so it's almost impossible for them to sustain themselves due to the lack of work, money and the inability to get gas to look for work. We need industry closer to our area. Our housing situation is not good as well. Prices to rent are extremely high and in the Liberty area utilities are EXTREMELY high leaving families unable to meet their bills each month. Employees are living pay check to pay check and are barely making it on that. The unemployment rate in our community is over 11%. We need solutions that will sustain quality living and meet the basic needs. Many are not able to do that now. Create JOBS!!!!
- My hope is that my community will be re-developed with a new stock of affordable homes, commercial structures and businesses, and updated educational facilities.
- My hope is that there will effective master planning applied and the area grows similar to master planned communities to the south and west of Houston. The east side of Houston is socio-economically below average by comparison.
- My hope is that this community will remain as vibrant, safe, and friendly as it is now even with the influx of people. In order to accomplish this, the public education system and the infrastructure need to be able to keep up with this growth.
- My hope is that we continue to steadily progress in terms of diversifying our transportation choices and local economy to withstand changing conditions outside of our control. I believe that if we can succeed at those two things, other things will fall into place.

- My hope is that we will have a shared definition of what community means and are working together to make it happen,
- My hope is that we will have a well-educated workforce and a clean and healthy environment for everyone.
- My kids won't be wasting their life away sitting in traffic.
- My nephews and their children will be able to walk or bike to locally owned and supplied grocery stores, farmers markets, school, libraries, local non-chain restaurants, pubs, parks, plazas, festivals, community centers, and other access to entertainment within a 15-minute walk/bike, or easy access to an efficient transit system that includes bus and/or rail that will expand their access to said amenities and entertainment. They will be able to save their money and time to enjoy family, friends, and good health instead of wasting money and stress on gas and traffic. People need to have easy affordable access to work, play, and education. Mixed-use development such as the new development near Kirby/West Alabama and Highway 59 is too expensive and exclusive. Mixed-use development and complete-street development that allows access for all social classes to education, technology, work, food, and recreation is necessary for the future of a prosperous economy. A happy healthy society is a more safe productive society.
- My nephews and their children will be able to walk or bike to locally owned grocery stores, farmers markets, school, libraries, local non-chain healthy restaurants, pubs, parks, plazas, festivals, and other access to entertainment within a 15 minute walk, or easy access to an efficient transit system (bus or rail) that will expand their access to said amenities and entertainment. They will be able to save their money and time to enjoy family, friends, and health instead of wasting money and stress on gas and traffic. A happier society is a more productive society.
- N/a
- NA
- Neighborhood safe for both children and elders. Prosperous community for business and residence.
- Neighborhoods diverse, vibrant, good, walkable w/ clean water, education for kids, recreation for us.
- Neighborhoods kept in good condition
- Neighborhoods will be crime-free, transportation will be accessible, sustainable resources will be required and small business will be encouraged.
- Neighborhoods will be preserved with greenways/bikeways to separate them from commercial areas.
- Neighborhoods will be walkable, safe, and enjoyable. We won't need a car to commute and get around in the City. Our community will have more locally owned businesses and mixed-use developments. High speed commuter rail will allow us to travel within the region without the need for a car. Freeways will not need to be expanded because of dramatically decreased car-use, so the resources that would normally go to adding more outlying freeways or widening them in urban areas would instead go to transportation infrastructure that accommodates pedestrian walk-ability and commuter rail systems.
- Neighbors would be more aware of community resources.
- Neighbors/people will have green areas and safe bike routes. We could go every where in a safe, fast public transportation.
- New developments will conserve as many trees as possible. Out community will have more trails and pedestrian friendly roads.
- New housing will have to have been built. Current housing stock needs rehabilitation assistance as population grows older and neighborhoods deteriorate. Streets and infrastructure will have been upgraded. More economic growth through businesses allowing for more local jobs and less travelling to Houston for jobs.
- New residents should pay for new infrastructure, limit building permits, put a \$30-50K fee on each residential building permit to pay for new roads, sewer, water supply, schools. Cut property tax to 1% of purchase price, limit escalations of assessed value and levy an income tax. HOV lanes should be both directions, what we have now is welfare for downtown property owners. Commuter rail should be a reality, start by connecting both airports and downtown, then west side and Greenspoint and The Woodlands. Rail in congested areas should be above grade so it's dependable during inclement weather and not a hazard to cars and pedestrians. Freeway onramps should be metered. Do more to get Texans out of their SUVs and pickup trucks. Undeveloped parts of Galveston Island should be condemned for parkland. Growth needs to be limited so that Texas doesn't need to kill its estuaries to supply water to more people. New freeway plans should include lots of park n ride spaces near every suburban onramp/offramp.
- New resources can be developed.
- Nice safe clean bedroom community with good schools.
- Nicely planned communities Beautiful building structures Safe and clean neighborhoods.
- No Answer
- No air, soil or water pollution. Neighborhoods and commercial areas that can coexist with nature and do not destroy existing ecosystems.
- No areas of economic blight allowed to develop.
- No child left behind--meaning NO CHILDREN for those who cannot support them and limits for those who can. The need to cork the population is acute if our kids/grandkids are to inherit a sustainable community.
- No crime, lower taxes, less government, less waste, less trash, better schools with more discipline.
- No criminal activity in communities, such as the thieves, kidnap, mailbox destruction Need community parks, green spaces, bike paths and other public facilities A clean living environment and abundant water supply Control traffic, pedestrians wouldn't be injured.

- No dropouts Good job growth overall smaller business growth/good quality of life
- No fear of crime or not having enough money to buy utilities, gas or food.
- No flooding!!! or Flood Plane
- No more outward growth that saps transportation funds from major population centers. Vertical and horizontal mixed uses (can be achieved without zoning if necessary, but we should require better greenery, biking, walking, and transit facilities).
- No more parent car pools to school, all kids must use the transportation provided by tax dollars. No more empty buses. A well thought out plan for community redevelopment, homes will be in dire need of renovation.
- No more property taxes, no more public debt, no more entitlement mentality, no more government interference.
- No one will receive biased surveys like this that are a waste of our kids time.
- No traffic Better public transportation system Clean water air and food No Criminal Affordable health care.
- No traffic congestion.
- Northside will continue to be able to make choices that propel it towards its goal for families, businesses and organizations greatest health
- Not enough places for youth activities.
- Not having to worry about the contents of our drinking water even though the harmful contents supposedly fall below the legal limits. Not having to worry about kids walking, or driving, for fear of crime and/or road rage.
- Not only plan for but also educate the general public on the importance of taking care of the garbage, trash, and litter because it makes our water cleaner. Water is going to become very expensive and scarce, and we need to really take care of it. Recycle and compost to keep stuff out of the landfill and having to be hauled around in fuel burning trucks. Saves roads and the air too.
- Numerous locally owned businesses thriving, community support for local agriculture, i.e. CSA programs, farmers' markets, etc.
- OUR COMMUNITY WILL HAVE MORE ACCESS TO BETTER SCHOOLS, EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE AREA.
- OUR COMMUNITY WILL HAVE MORE LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESSES.
- OUR COMMUNITY WORK AS A HOLD NOT THE HAVE AND HAVE NOT.
- Off the grid! Low Utilities! Smooth public rail transportation.
- Olympic swimming pool Speedy mass transportation Greener Parks Safe Environment
- One of my many hopes is that people can walk or bike to work safely, efficiently and use it as a VIABLE alternative to driving.
- Open space will be used for urban farming.
- Opportunities for all citizen. Jobs that pay and regulations in the work place for safety.
- Opportunity and hope for a better future. Education moving beyond "the test" and to supporting academics as well as vocational training and practical matters for our youth to become thriving adults.
- Opportunity for all to receive needed resources to meet their needs.
- Opportunity for senior citizens
- Opportunity will be available to all who work diligently to improve the social, economic environmental and political landscape.
- Orderly growth
- Organized, well planned, good development. Increase minimum standards so bad development doesn't happen
- Our City will have enough businesses so citizens can shop in our City instead of going out of town, and the City will be clean and safe.
- Our Community still has Christian values..
- Our Community will become more self sufficient
- Our air and water quality will be excellent and our economy will be much more diversified, allowing full employment of a diverse, educated, and culturally rich workforce.
- Our air will be clean enough to breath safely. Our city will get zoning in order to plan communities responsibly. Educational opportunities will be available to prepare people for the workforce. And health and safety will be ensured for all residents.
- Our area will attract new and better shopping outlets for consumers.
- Our area will be a much safer place to live with more accessibility to better markets and shopping and higher standards for new construction for homes/rentals
- Our bodies of water (Baytown is surrounded by 6 bodies of water) will be clean enough to each fish from them and recreate safely. More locally owned businesses, more green belts, established of habitat areas, green spaces, walking trails, hike and bike trails.
- Our children can be safe in their own yards of dangerous dogs that roam the neighborhood
- Our children to go to school and not be scared.
- Our children will be able to grow up in a safe environment with many educational and culturally enriching opportunities. Our area will have less traffic and a better means for public transportation.
- Our children will be able to live in freedom without undue interference (unconstitutional) from the federal government.
- Our children will be educated, have jobs, businesses will flourish, there will be economic growth in the community, and the area churches will have growth..
- Our children will pass on the lessons we have taught them about respecting our resources and each other.

- Our city's comprehensive plan will become a reality as opposed to it's current corruption to facilitate the prosperity of a minority.
- Our community will have an adequate water supply and a fully developed public transportation system.
- Our communities sustain us w/ goods and services throughout our lives from birth to the senior years
- Our communities will be more diverse and our children will be attending or have the ability to attend public schools with a high scoring/testing average.
- Our communities will have beautiful trails along heavy rails for the entire City to enjoy! Trails can help mitigate noise pollution and other environmental stressors and can act as green buffers between industrial areas and residential neighborhoods; exercise derived from recreational activities lessens health-related problems and subsequent health care costs; trails have been known to increase the revenues of their communities \$1.2 to \$1.8 million yearly by providing special equipment, clothing, shoes, food, drinks and lodging.
- Our community can build opportunities for greater economic advancement for all cultural groups and protect our protect our unique environmental and cultural heritage
- Our community have more out door resources; parks, lakes, biking trails. A safe and prosperous community where good job opportunities and potential for small business growth exists. A community with opportunities to get a good education.
- Our community is globally aware and regionally sustainable
- Our community to return to traditional Christian values and that this community swings back to conservative Christian morals.
- Our community will allow more businesses and companies to come and have affordable housing for those people who will be employed at the company.
- Our community will attract and retain a diverse population living together harmoniously in healthy communities where physical, social, psychological, and economic health is supported by a sensible built environment that connects people to one another, a healthy natural environment that sustains us, and a vibrant economy close to home. Our community will have preserved both the carrying capacity and the caring capacity necessary for optimal quality of life. That means we must remove incentives for building highways and sprawling planned developments, preserve farmlands and sensitive ecosystems, and continue to consider ways to increase the tax base without expansive growth.
- Our community will be a vibrant growing community leading Texas and Huntsville area in all areas of economic areas and growing- Good educated work force
- Our community will be a safe area without a lot of crime and the educational system will continue to grow.
- Our community will be a safe, clean & healthy area to live with access to jobs, health care, education & transportation.
- Our community will be a sage environment to live
- Our community will be able to choose an form of mobility
- Our community will be advanced in its ability to compete and educate our children, while still maintaining its rural atmosphere
- Our community will be ale to easily get around (not only in cars, but other modes) and have access to quality food, places, jobs and open spaces.
- Our community will be booming with both local and chain businesses. Offering many jobs which will result in a stronger self sufficient community.
- Our community will be clean and safe. Economic success/failure will be based on personal choice and not race because educational opportunities will be available to everyone. This includes mentoring.
- Our community will be clean, orderly and safe and retain its rural character.
- Our community will be healthy, safe and diverse. Students will have the chance for a quality education and locally owned businesses will prosper.
- Our community will be safe environment where families can raise their children, have excellent schools (K-12) education and where health and fitness are priorities.
- Our community will be safe from crime and political decisions that deter sustainability .
- Our community will be safe from crime, flooding and control of our lives beyond those necessary for good growth and citizenship.
- Our community will be safer than today, all kids have better schools, and nobody is unemployed. There will be lots of parks and recreational facilities and no traffic jams.
- Our community will be self sufficient in offering employment and education opportunities, health care and amenities.
- Our community will be self sufficient.
- Our community will be self sufficient. Energy conservation laws will be implemented in our homes, work and all other areas of our lives. Education will be valued more and our communities will be knowledgeable and educated in environmental issues/concerns.
- Our community will be served by a multi modal transportation system allowing several options for travel within the community.
- Our community will become a retirement community like Sun City, we have seashore, clean air (now) and could develop recreational opportunities. Think "A second Florida"
- Our community will become more stagnant if large capital projects do not come to our area.
- Our community will continue its revitalization, not only of private sector homes and businesses, but of public infrastructure to support our long term sustainability.
- Our community will continue the healthy development for many more years. With clean air and water to use, sustainable agriculture, which provide healthy food.

- Our community will continue to encourage independence and economic strength.
- Our community will continue to enhance the Texas spirit and work towards a viable community & state.
- Our community will continue to grow and prosper while maintaining a family-oriented environment.
- Our community will continue to have locally owned business. Children can walk and play outside safely.
- Our community will continue to prosper and grow stronger economically and educationally.
- Our community will encourage "clean industry" that works with permanent jobs as compared to contract jobs so people will want to work and stay here. Clean air & water is a must for our future generations as well as a college in close proximity due to cost of living spiraling out of sight. Expanding community colleges with more 4 year degree opportunities. This is cheaper for the families and more kids will be educated to enter the workforce at a lower cost and can still stay at home or close to home.
- Our community will have a balanced network of light and heavy passenger rail options
- Our community will have a premier education system that address the diverse community and eliminated the education gap and has elevated Houston as one of the desirable cities to live. (economic and quality of life)
- Our community will have a school.
- Our community will have a self-sufficient, educated, critically thinking population who are making a difference in the world.
- Our community will have a smaller and less powerful government.
- Our community will have better planning of development rather than bulldoze, build, and hope it all comes out ok. An overall master plan. I hope that we continue to have an environment that is favorable to business development and growth.
- Our community will have businesses that provide for all needs of a family so that we don't have to drive 30 minutes to an hour or more for basics.
- Our community will have clean air with abundant green space and pristine, well-stocked waterways, locally-sourced food free of chemicals/pesticides/hormones, and locally owned businesses sufficient to support the local people who can walk, bike, or take the bus to work. Educational opportunities abound as does easy access to technology.
- Our community will have enough clean water to drink.
- Our community will have established healthy and highly functioning solutions to our major issues (clean water and air, transportation, energy, crime and education)!
- Our community will have good jobs
- Our community will have high paying jobs
- Our community will have more access to local jobs that directly support my immediate area community. I live in East Montgomery and while economic developments have been promised for about the last 10 years and claims that businesses would move into the area, that has not occurred. The lack of commercial development has left property values relatively low.
- Our community will have more culture and shopping opportunity
- Our community will have more educated workers.
- Our community will have more housing options, and more locally owned businesses.
- Our community will have more job opportunities and places for shopping (groceries etc) businesses.
- Our community will have more large corporate campuses
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses and don't have any body unemployed
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses and fresh healthy food options i.e. top tier grocery chains, restaurants, farmers markets. Economically viable business models for start-up entrepreneurs will be available to encourage more people to start businesses in their community.
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses and we can keep crime down
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses that are thriving and self-sustaining, the air will be cleaner, police will be available to protect and serve ... not just look for old inspection stickers on cars.
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses with diverse offerings creating a self sufficient localized area in which to live work and consume.
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses, therefore we need to grow more.
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses.
- Our community will have more locally owned businesses. our community will still be growing
- Our community will have more mass transit.
- Our community will have more owner operated business.
- Our community will have more public transportation options and connections to the mainland.
- Our community will have more resources for those in true need...housing availability.
- Our community will have more support for locally owned businesses
- Our community will have quality water, air, and safety.
- Our community will have the look of a "planned community" with retail stores returning to our areas. Good schools and jobs. Affordable nice housing.
- Our community will have the same opportunities as communities with a higher level of income; healthy affordable food, better businesses, clean parks and more, healthy transportation and streets, etc...
- Our community will have up to 50% of residents using public transportation.

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- Our community will live harmony and peacefully.
  - Our community will not be dependent upon a car as the primary source of transportation.
  - Our community will not be destroyed by over-taxation, government intervention, out-of-control spending on socialism and globalism, private citizens will be allowed to choose where they live and work without some government agency forcing social engineering on the citizens, and my kids will not be forced into bankruptcy by ridiculous spending programs aimed at making illegal aliens feel better about where they get to buy their groceries and send their anchor babies to school for free and how far it is to the free bus stop and the free doctor- while my kids are losing their homes and jobs to higher and higher taxes and healthcare costs.
  - Our community will not be over run by Houston growth, and our community will not become like what I moved here to get away from.
  - Our community will not feel like they have been engulfed by sprawl.
  - Our community will offer more organic food choices from local farmers and will get our food supply locally with organic options.
  - Our community will provide efficient access to education, jobs, and health care.
  - Our community will provide quality jobs for an educated population.
  - Our community will share with each other. By raising some of their own food to share, being able to walk/bike to grocery stores and school, being smart and not wasteful. The community will be satisfied with what they enjoy and not concerned with wanting so much.
  - Our community will show case the growth and prosperity of the city as a whole.
  - Our community will still be a place tourists want to visit while at the same time there will be quality jobs and education for the families that live here.
  - Our community will still be diverse
  - Our community will still be the enclave of peace and quiet nestled in under the wing of the med center without being bulldozed or otherwise encroached upon.
  - Our community will still lead the nation in job opportunities.
  - Our community will thrive without government intervention.
  - Our community will work together to make better choices about the environment and the use of natural resources, conservation of materials and recycling are common practice, and our children are safe and have outdoor places to spend time.
  - Our community will have more businesses that leverage and reuse blighted commercial areas.
  - Our county will be developed with a mind toward planning environmental sensitivity energy water and food growing as well as the needs of the people while doing the best to adhere to planning rather than allowing "anything goes"
  - Our economy is vibrant, politicians are answerable to the people and our children and grandchildren all have an opportunity to grow in a healthy home & business environment.
  - Our environment and community will be clean, safe and prosperous
  - Our government will remain small and leave us alone.
  - Our grandchildren will be taken care off both economically and educationally. Additionally our children can afford a home located in a safe and affordable environment.
  - Our highways and tollways will not be constantly congested.
  - Our homes will increase substantially in value.
  - Our housing market will hold values steady, our community will bond and support one another, the adults will model behavior worth passing to future generations,
  - Our infrastructure overall will be so improved that sustainability will not be an issue and "shop local" initiatives in our community would be successful because we have a financial incentive to bring in new industry and business
  - Our locally owned businesses will be expanding and prospering and our community will be educated, trained and employed. People will be engaged in protecting all natural resources, walking and biking will have taken precedence over driving.
  - Our micro and macro community will be vibrant, more locally centered, radically less materially consumer driven, and radically less single-occupancy-vehicle centered.
  - Our mobility will be improved by more transportation infrastructure. Our quality of life will be improved by a better balance of work and home developmnet. Reduced commutes. Improvements in educational opprotunities.
  - Our neighborhoods will continue to reflect our rich diversity, be well-maintained, provide plenty of green space for all citizens and provide healthy living and working opportunities.
  - Our neighborhoods, jobs, and shopping are connected with biker/ped facilities
  - Our once small town will once again have that small feel but still welcome outsiders in.
  - Our people and places will connect and have true prosperity. Measured in terms of quality life. Mentally, spiritually, physically and financially and that we begin with that in mind to create things cradle to cradle.
  - Our region will be economically diverse supported by smart growth and using all forms of resources wisely
  - Our region will be fully accessible by public transportation. Local and regional trade and commerce, especially in agriculture, will be vibrant. There will be more fair and equitable access to healthcare, jobs, education and a safe, healthy living environment.
  - Our region will support technology innovators and create an independent society with zero government intervention or interference.
  - Our streets and communities will be safe and clean

- Our town will have more locally owned businesses with a resurgence of growth in the downtown; more parks/walking and biking path- Green Zones
- Our up and coming urban neighborhoods will be free from blight and that crime will be low.
- Our work force will be well trained and available to new businesses and industries. We have many new businesses around our county providing jobs and high tax base Completely upgraded streets and walks.
- Out community will become healthier while our economy continues to expand.
- Out reach center for St Mary
- Out reach center for St. Mary
- Out reach center for St. Mary Baptist Church
- PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE FEAR IN THEIR HOMES.
- Palacious needs a viable beach/recreational area. Current beach is unusable due to oyster and other hazards. We needs jobs.
- Parents can raise their children without being scared of letting them out of their sight. Recycling will have 100% participation. Public schools will be all about the children and not unions. No more government subsidized housing.
- Parents will have more time and education (moral and academic) to take care of their children and guide them to become productive citizens in our community.
- Peace and love for mankind and moral values and love of America and our neighbor
- Peaceful and healthy environment.
- Peaceful co-existence between Industry and residential areas (lots of green space), maintain safe and secure environment, develop infrastructure for continued, residential and industrial development.
- Pearland will an improved grid-like street pattern and some form of mass transit within the city. Streetscapes will be more refined and commercial development will not be so heavily concentrated on 288, SH 35 and FM 518. All roadways will have sidewalks and bike paths along with improved lighting.
- Pediatricians won't routinely say, "Well now you have asthma/allergies because you live around all these plants."
- People can get from one side of Houston to another without driving a car, biking, walking, or riding mass transit
- People can live here and have ready availability to good public transportation, reasonable commute options, healthy environment, close access to good parks/woods for biking, running, walking, etc., good education, and a safe living area.
- People can walk to the grocery store , school, etc and have no need for car in their daily lives.
- People enjoy growing and eating locally produced food. Not having to drive as much to grocery stores; not as many semi trailers on roads delivering foods in plastic wraps.
- People feel safe,happy and satisfied with their lifestyle.
- People from New York and San Francisco choose to move to Houston because of the natural beauty, urban stability, rich architecture, history and interesting quality of life
- People in general will be able to go to bed at night feeling safe in their homes.
- People in the city can send their kids to public school without worrying about their education. The city will have a city-wide rail system that connects the suburbs to downtown. Traffic will be manageable.
- People of all ages being able to walk and bike safely and motorists who respect them.
- People should be able to find a job that pays well enough that they can work near their home and provide what their family needs without traveling into the big cities
- People who own homes in areas being developed by heavy industry and ports will still be able to live peacefully in their homes without health, noise, and nuisance hazards.
- People will be able to get around our community without a car.
- People will be able to readily find good-paying jobs.
- People will be able to spend time outside without fear of safety, traffic will be reduced, and more public transportation available.
- People will be able to walk or bike safely around the community or more local transit will be available.
- People will be able to walk safely on existing, functional sidewalks to public transportation or in their daily lives. Bayous will be clean enough people can swim, canoe, etc. in them. More people will live near where they work, shop, and play rather than commute into or out of the city. Affordable, efficient public transportation will replace the car for transit needs. Urban houston will have large pockets of public parks and everyone will be withing walking distance of a park. Houston will be at the bottom of the "fattest cities" list due to our active daily lifestyles.
- People will be able to walk, bike, shop, bank and enjoy life safely.
- People will be empowered by unity
- People will be less dependent on government assistance
- People will be living moral and ethical lives, seeking to bring glory to Jesus Christ.
- People will be outdoors more -- walking, biking, gardening, visiting their neighbors, etc.
- People will be safe and food will be plentiful
- People will be safe from crime and able to support their families
- People will drive less while walking and biking more, and using real public transport like in a real world city. People will eat clean fresh food, and breath clean air free of the pollutants the Republicans want to poison us with. People will be better educated, more active, and will have access to more cultural and athletic opportunities.
- People will have decent, safe, sanitary, affordable homes All areas will be high opportunity areas (good housing, strong



- economy, public transportation, environmentally healthy, good schools, access to medical care, open green space)
- People will have more modal transportation choices to access their jobs (walking, bike, transit, car)
  - People will have more sidewalks, hiking trails, green space
  - People will have the opportunity to rise as high as they desire in their field of choice.
  - People will learn to be responsible and self-sufficient, take care of their families, and live in safe communities.
  - People will live in utopia
  - People will live, work, shop and play in the same communities. We are becoming able to bring our stores, businesses, etc to the people, and that will continue.
  - People will love to be outside, visiting with friends and neighbors, walking, running, playing, enjoying fresh air...fueled by locally grown, organic food that provides abundant energy for all that walking, running, playing outside! HOA's will be accepting of smaller yards planted with water-smart flowers and vegetables in a neat manner.
  - People will not destroy our wetlands and our beaches. Texans can respect each other's heritages and think to the future not just the present.
  - People will still care about the community and keep it on the leading edge.
  - People will take personal responsibility for decisions made and not look to others to take care of them. This principle is the primary message we make to our children.
  - People would be more educated and thus all other areas will improve
  - People's work is more valued so that they can earn more, work less, and get involved in family, and community activities to keep improving.
  - Planned and coordinated growth w/ cost of land continuing to appreciate so that urban deterioration doesn't appear.
  - Plenty of jobs nice infrastructure and opportunities for children in education
  - Politicians will start making decisions that support the people vs their re election possibilities, and fairness will be distributed evenly throughout the communities. If so all of the above will happen...
  - Population growth, economic growth, update infrastructure, update energy grid, access to global markets, deregulation of business, lower taxes, being more of a localized government, emphasis on education from PreK to college
  - Population will stabilize and wiser use of resources. Planning for future supplies of potable water.
  - Portland will look to Houston for best in class practices in sustainable communities
  - Powerlines will be buried, sidewalks will be smooth, I will be able to get to the airport without driving, and the park system will be connected with the street/sidewalks.
  - Prairie view will be a city with an identity, unique character, transitioning integrate, and order. A community with pluralistic interest.
  - Preservation of trees on all streets, more shady public parks in more places, and cleaner, more frequent, quieter, and more comprehensive public transportation.
  - Project further into the future.
  - Property taxes will be lowered to allow seniors and fixed incomes to stay in their homes
  - Property values are maintained. Kids will be safe in the schools as well as traveling to the schools. Crime is at a minimum. People will respect other people and their property.
  - Prosperity and high quality life. Preserve Rural
  - Prosperous and clean community where has high speed transit and with opportunity to all people.
  - Prosperous community with high quality businesses that are sustained by a prosperous community
  - Prosperous place for middle class.
  - Prosperous, eco friendly and more locally owned businesses.
  - Prosperous, safe, with good jobs & housing
  - Providing a safe, clean environment for our future families while maintaining the smaller rural community
  - Providing more resources for smaller communities. Ex- health care, public transportation.
  - Public schools will be attractive to potential residents. Safe neighborhoods/jobs/green space/access to river/improved infrastructure- Sanitary sewer/water supply/protect farm & ranch
  - Public spaces such as streets and parks will be positive places where people want to be and will interact socially with each other.
  - Public transportation for greater Houston metro area. Solar energy will be widely used Plastics will be biodegradable.
  - Public transportation that is good for short local trips, more connections between modes of transportation, more light rail lines, more walkability, more knowledge about how people's everyday lives have an impact on their environment.
  - Public transportation that works and people WANT to use.
  - Public transportation to surrounding areas, possibly by train.
  - Public transportation widely available to successfully decrease the amount of cars on the road, which will in turn decrease our carbon footprint.
  - Public transportation will be available to every neighborhood. Every neighborhood will have walking or biking access to a park. There will be no POT HOLE local streets or outdated sewer/water lines.
  - Public transportation, biking and walking areas including urban environment improvements. Take giant steps to improve public transportation so that necessary changes in life styles can be made including elimination of having cars, SUV, Trucks as modes of transportation.
  - Public transportation. walkable community with essential services that are acceptable by walking (shopping, food, entertainment, recreation) and or biking

- Public water will still be affordable for all after the surface water regulations have been in effect for a while.
- Quality education Interactive Community
- Quality education for all Quality and affordable housing. Increased access to healthcare.
- Quality housing; less crime; less traffic congestion.
- Quality of education improve- in comparison of education today. Give more opportunities for young adults and teens to be trained in a trade that will help make a living if not college bound.
- Quality of life for all family members are meet in schools and at work.
- Quality of life for all. Plentiful air. Diverse economy, adaptive transportation.
- Quit traffic problem
- Quite community, clean environment, reduce crime rate, increase police patrol
- Rail system connecting major suburbs to downtown (from all directions- North, South, East, and West)
- Rail systems/public transportation to get people to work and off the roads.
- Rapid Transportation to main work areas, while allowing families to remain in their suburban and coastal homes. We should have a Commuter train that makes it into downtown Houston from all 4 main areas, in 20 minutes.
- Rapid transit is common across the region.
- Readily available public transportation Walkable-bikeable community Employment close to home
- Real Public transportation options exist 1/3 of population. Huge increase in green space development to encourage healthy lifestyle. Significant improvement in quality of public education.
- Real working options for daily travel is my biggest hope - ie. METRO Rail doesn't go anywhere useful yet. Business centers must link to entertainment districts which must link to housing which must link to shopping. Availability of land to route the rail lines is obviously a huge hurdle and will continue to be, but where is the creative thinking that built this town? Somebody said "put a roof over a football field" once and we did it. Why isn't the METRO Rail project elevated so as not impede street traffic? Why doesn't it go through buildings downtown or have elevated platforms? Why didn't someone make the logical assumption that if the rail went through downtown near Louisiana instead of Main, then went down Washington Ave, instead of Richmond, then through Memorial Park and up Post Oak, then through the Galleria, then branch out to points south and southwest - that would have connected the major destination centers and linked the places that people live/work/play much more intelligently. Why doesn't some kind of rail service connect employment centers to the airports? We have to stop putting more transportation options on top of existing transportation - we're just bringing more people to the same spots and spines (see how well managed lanes isn't working - the use is minimal next to the cost). Yes, bike trails on the bayou spines is a terrific idea, but why not add METRO Rail next to those as well? The bayous go right through the heart of so many of Houston's neighborhoods. Think about how many subdivisions, shopping centers, recreation areas and businesses could be linked together if there was a rail line on White Oak from downtown heading northwest. And how cool is it to elevate the trains so that noise and street level traffic interruption is minimized? Ever been to Reliant Park at Rodeo or football? METRO Rail clogs the street and the frontage road crossings making traffic worse at intersections, not better. OK, I rambled, but we've got to VISION better and think about doing more than just what's possible - this city was forged by doing the impossible - we can solve the idea that everyone wants their car - we have to provide a truly viable alternative to get people out of cars.
- Realization that we are all dependent on each other and our environment
- Recycling and public transportation will be the norm.
- Reduce the amount of invasive plants in our area Children can learn to read Houston continues to be prosperous - wealth development
- Reduce traffic congestion via more public transportation options. Bus, HOV, light rail
- Reduced sprawl, more parks, more open spaces, less small scale strip malls.
- Regional mass transit connecting residents to jobs that includes expanded light rail, commuter rail, and commuter bus system. Less dependency on personal automobiles for local trips. Communities that are safe and accessible to pedestrians and cyclists. A neighborhood that I can live without a car and age in place.
- Regional transportation will be seamless, enabling. Greater economic opportunity for all.
- Regularly scheduled quality public transportation to health care, shopping, businesses, work etc
- Relatively crime-free environment that offers job opportunities that pay a fair salary/benefit package to allow a family to support themselves
- Relevant and globally competitive schooling for children. Locally grown produce. Clean and productive waterways.
- Remains a safe coastal environment
- Renewable energy will be the primary source of energy There will be much more coordination facilitating bike trails and alternative modes of transportation. More contribution and commitment to smaller businesses.
- Residential development will incorporate rain water catchment/use systems, native landscaping and bicycle-friendly streets.
- Residents in Baytown will be able to bike or walk safely to work, school and commercial. We will redevelop our older parts of the city in a fair and equitable way. Our schools will produce students ready for the real world (college, job

- markets) Access to 4 yr college education in E. Harris Co/Chambers Co (Baytown)
- Residents will be able to walk and or bike safely
  - Residents will be able to walk, bike or have good, reliable public transportation available so our community can be less reliant upon resources such as oil and gas.
  - Residents will not experience a reduced quality of life in spite of the expected population growth.
  - Residents working and helping each other to succeed.
  - Road and transit construction to relieve traffic congestion to sustain growth.
  - Roads in good conditions. Affordable housing. More public participation in government/planning
  - Roads will not flood after a thunderstorm. Metro rail will expand to other locations
  - Rural communities should have access to better jobs through better telecommunication technologies.
  - Safe Community for everyone with good educational opportunities promoting job growth
  - Safe adequate water supply structural, positive growth adequate security Public transportation Affordable housing and healthcare.
  - Safe and beautiful environment, good education, convenient transportation
  - Safe and clean community, more local businesses
  - Safe and clean walking / public transportation environments for day to day errands and school for kids.
  - Safe and convenient transportation and cohesive communities.
  - Safe and green bike/hike routes to work and commercial areas
  - Safe and healthy environment that allows people to develop family and skills, both for job skills and personal choice. I'd like to be able to hop a Metro express train here in Tomball and reach any place in Harris county within an hour, for shopping, entertainment, educational or job purposes.
  - Safe area free from crime
  - Safe bike lanes/trails across the city. Less cars on the road, less congestion. Carpooling happening. Public transportation as a good option for those commuting to work. More parks and community spaces to improve the quality of life and happiness in the community. As many home gardens and community gardens as possible. Supporting locally owned businesses is also very important. More people on bikes! Low-income neighborhoods getting resources to rebuild roads, have street lights, sidewalks, good drainage. A neighborhood that is run-down and neglected is a place where crime flourishes.
  - Safe bike, hiking trails clean water for fishing, recreation
  - Safe biking as the major mode of transportation
  - Safe clean and green
  - Safe communities Strong community values Slow and steady growth Excellent schools
  - Safe community Convenient transportation
  - Safe community where everyone works together to preserve a positive image for growth and sustainability
  - Safe community, clean air, environmental safe, access to excellent transportation - public, mass transportation street/roadways
  - Safe community, education is good, quality of air. 30 years from now I would like for my children to bring their kids to a safe environment.
  - Safe economically sound community.
  - Safe efficient public transportation where people work and live.
  - Safe environment with better public transportation and city wide bike paths
  - Safe environment. Family first.
  - Safe environment in our community for our children.
  - Safe environment to walk for pleasure, school, work, shopping.
  - Safe neighborhood
  - Safe neighborhood w/ good school system
  - Safe place to live, work and raise a family.
  - Safe place to live, work, and play. And an excellent place to do business.
  - Safe prosperous self producing community.
  - Safe subdivisions, lots of green spaces (free to use), Job opportunities, safe to walk or bike ride to parks, enough fire/police/EMT, adequate healthcare (hospitals) nearby, great schools with excellent teachers, free entertainment (ie @ parks and recreations)
  - Safe transport. more public transport
  - Safe walkable communities near jobs and quality housing.
  - Safe water to drink. Safe food to eat.
  - Safe, affordable, housing; easy for anyone who wants to live without a car; healthful environment with lots of green space. More focus on distinctive neighborhoods and locally owned small business shopping with less malls and mega stores. Less consumerism and more life together.
  - Safe, clean, good schools, plentiful jobs
  - Safe, harmonious community with opportunities to prosper
  - Safe, healthy and economically sound community.
  - Safe, productive, happy
  - Safe, rural, clean area w/ amenities and a quality of life for our area
  - Safe,clean,active,growing
  - Safer communities Better schools and more job opportunities.
  - Safer playgrounds - Do not use previous dumpsites for playgrounds Healthier environment - less pollution
  - Safer roads Safer schools
  - Safety and education.
  - Safety community, beautiful city, more education and job opportunity

- Safety for all. Jobs available for all. Maintain home ownership and standard of living.
- Safety for our children to and from schools. Too many people run stop signs near and around the schools.
- Safety for the public
- Safety is the important thing.
- Safety of drinking water, walking pathway, riding pathway.
- Safety of our bays, beach, and rivers. More employment opportunities.
- Safety, low crime, more access to bus, closer bus stops
- Safety- can walk in neighbor hood without being afraid of getting robbed More job opportunities and healthy food and water.
- School system will prepare ALL students for the future, whether the next step is university or a job.
- Schools safety for students, teachers, and staff
- Schools will all be exemplary, teachers paid like other professionals, kids safe, no more drugs.
- Schools will all be recognized We will have good quality and quality of jobs
- Self sufficient from Houston with transp, jobs, culture, healthy options
- Self-sustaining, mixed-use communities that that are linked by accessible multi-modal transportation
- Separate hgac from agenda 21
- Sidewalks and bike trails will allow people to ride bikes safely and allow people to walk safely.
- Single family affordable housing Historic preservation Multicultural
- Slow steady growth in population. Low crime economic stability. Bedroom community.
- Small business owners are the backbone of our society, I would like to see less government red tape on these people.
- Small, self contained community that caters to families. Traffic has been re-routed around the city.
- Solutions to 1. Traffic congestion on US 290 and other main arteries, 2. abandoned shopping centers, 3. insufficient number and variety of blue collar jobs
- Solve traffic congestion
- Stable healthy area for families to live.
- Stable taxes on real estate so my grand children can live here
- Start zoning now as the Spring area expands due to the growth of business and road ways coming into the area. Be smart about coordinating all now. Don't let it continue to become like the run-down mess inside the Beltway on I-45.
- Stay positive.
- Still a city apart from Galveston. Continue to replenish the fish population and support Tx. Parks and W in their efforts to do so. Have the City of Galveston repair infra structure and look to the future for jobs, ie gambling, etc.
- Still a community people take pride in, not abandoned as people move on to the next layer of sprawl.
- Still be country living lifestyle
- Still have farmland, community that is tight knit.
- Streets and homes will not flood if we receive a heavy rainfall. I don't want to be afraid to go out of my house because crime has been allowed to flourish.
- Streets will be maintained
- Strong connectivity throughout the city with trails for hiking and biking and more accessibility to Houston with Rapid transit.
- Support for locally owned businesses. A community safe for our children. City officials actually listening to the citizens before making decisions that affect our lives. Plenty clean air and water.
- Surface water retention for ultimate human use. We have a bayou system, should be easy to set up a retention system to gather all the surface water. This retention area would also provide a recreation area for fishing and other water sports.
- Sustain / Improve job opportunities - support for strong business sectors like petro-chemical, shipping/ transportation hub, etc. Improved climate/support for locally owned businesses. Less crime throughout the city. Healthy, vibrant, and diverse communities. A greater number of parks and recreation areas, improved condition of parks areas.
- Sustainability needs to be attained, not managed. Unsustainability is palpable and can be measured and reduced to rules and metrics. Thus, we focus on improving efficiency. We should assume that efficiency is a first step to ultimately the modern cultures that fuel the pump of consumption. Caring rather than needing will be the first step toward flourishing and an integrated nature and humanity.
- Sustainable fresh water supply. Good county wide mobility Good quality of life
- TO BE MORE RESPECTFUL OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES
- TO be completely self sufficient community with no internet competition
- Taxes and regulations won't drive people away
- Taxes will be low and all government entities will be living within their means. Criminals will be incarcerated and predators will be removed from our society. There will be fewer lawyers and no drug users.
- That Houston continues to be a thriving metropolis with world headquarters of thriving national and international companies, the best medical center in the world, a thriving port system, and plentiful jobs for everyone supporting those businesses.
- That Houston is the happiest, healthiest and prosperous city in the US
- That I can retire without going bankrupt paying county property taxes that support suburban roadbuilding. That I can do all the things I want to do without being forced to own a car (I have a Zipcar membership because cities I travel

to for work have transit and Zipcars, but not Houston). That everything I want is within 1/4 mile of my house so I don't ever really need to go anywhere (land use), but when I want to go somewhere, we have a decent transit network to use (mobility). And wouldn't it be nice to take the train to a nearby nature preserve. Or will I have to move to Salt Lake, Toronto, Vancouver, Portland, Seattle, Boston, or even New York to enjoy this kind of lifestyle?

- That Lee College and the City of Baytown will continue to grow and thrive. That there will be redevelopment and reinvestment in the older, historic parts of the City including the infrastructure improvements. That the City of Baytown is able to attract additional businesses, grow tourism, and improve the cleanliness and enhance the appeal and public usage of our many existing natural assets.
- That Mont Belvieu will slow down it's growth and try to stay a rural, small town. We moved to a rural community to live in a rural community. If you fill the rural community up with city amenities, then it is no longer a rural community.
- That all citizens have access to quality health care and education.
- That all income levels, races, religions, etc., can co-exist and enjoy one another.
- That economic opportunities allow anyone with ambition their chance for success.
- That efficient and easy-to-use public transportation open more cross-population opportunity, i.e. inner city dwellers able to work in outlying areas and suburbanites able to easily work in the inner city. That people are able to walk more.
- That every child get a quality education.
- That every persons capability is developed in a manner in which the community as a whole benefits
- That everyone in the North Channel Area would have obtained at lease a community college education. That there are good paying jobs available close to the area.
- That growth in the area has happened both commercially and residentially.
- That is will remain economically and culturally diverse. I hope that businesses in the area will flourish. Home-ownership will continue to exhibit pride of ownership.
- That it is a clean, liveable community that provides a range of transportation, educational, and vocational options to its residents.
- That it is still a wonderful community for educated families and hard-working business owners.
- That it is still here. It is a conservative, free community.
- That it maintains open space and space for agriculture.
- That it stops growing an farm land will come back.
- That it will be a community and not a container yard - but after the Army Corp of Engineers picked the site in the midst of a residential area when there were five others that were not - does honestly not give me much hope. The wording on the ballot said "to make environmental improvements to the Port of Houston" - it's destroying southeast Harris County - but folks making the money don't have to live there - so it's all good I guess. Thank you
- That it will be continue to be as nice 30 years from now.
- That it will be still largely rural and maintain farming and ranching.
- That it will grow, provide oportunites for my children and continue to welcome new people.
- That it will still be a desireable place to live for families who are seeking quality educational opportunities, jobs, housing and obtaining the resources they need (shopping).
- That my Grandchildren are able to attain a superior education without having to go to private schools while being taxed for the inferior school systems.
- That my children's children will be able to live on the land the that we purchased and use it as THEY themselves see fit. If they grow food, raise animals, or fish, they may be able to have the freedom to use these resources for themselves and not have any outside forces intervening in their lives.
- That my community will be a place proud to live with their families and neighbors. A friendly, safe, clean place. Our children will be able to walk and bike safely to school or nearby parks without fear of crimes being committed. We will have beautiful homes, landscapes, parks and schools, surrounded by churches and locally owned businesses.
- That my grandchildren and their children can safely breathe the air, drink the water, and stay healthy. I also hope my grandchildren will be living in a healthy economy.
- That our children - not live in a controled socialist society. That they have the freedom to fail and that they not be taxed more then we are today.
- That our children and grandchildren will be able to work and the their community they grow up in and have to move were there more opportunity.
- That our community have more access to affordable higher education.
- That our community remains small close knitt
- That our community will be a place that our children and grandchildren would be happy living in. That our home values would hold due to healthy, safe, and happy lifestyles with local job oportunities.
- That our community will be self sufficient with small business owners. That the history of the Island be preserved and flourish. That our natural resources be protected.
- That our community will be self sufficient, productive and prosperous and safe.
- That our community will stay safe and where we can raise our children to go to schools that can educate them for the future.
- That our community will still be a nice (healthy/safe) place to live. That there will continue to be development zoning in our communities. That our national economy will be better, which will have a direct impact on everything.

- That our decisions today will have anticipated continued growth and people who live here will enjoy the quality of life we are able to enjoy today - we know there will be many, many more people...we need to prepare for the traffic, water needs, resources for education, entertainment and protection of investments.
- That our family's will be safe and our community will have more locally owned businesses. Public transportation in the Suburban areas.
- That our grand kids will still have the opportunity to be living the same life style we currently have or better.
- That our grandchildren have acces to quality education
- That people 30 yrs from now will be able to say "This place is what is today thanks to the forethought and tough decision-making of those from 30yrs ago.
- That population growth will approach 0. Continuing population growth is the single greatest problem for this region and the world in general. Many problems, such as air and water pollution, are caused or aggravated by an unsustainable population.
- That public transportation will be available, possible train transportation, between Brazoria and Harris Co. That there will still be open space that has not be swallowed up by petroleum plants or subdivisions. That the empty buildings now standing will be utilized for businesses and not left to decay.
- That small town communities can co-exist and thrive next to large urban centers. That people will work closer to where they live and stop needless traffic congestion. That Houston will stop pushing farther and farther out, exacerbating the number of people who require transportation improvements just to accomodate their long commutes.
- That the City of Houston would help support our deed restrictions & city codes through the existing departments, so that in 30 years we will still have a good quality of life to raise future generations.
- That the children of tomorrow will live in a world that is fair to ALL cultures not just the minorities and that they will have opportunities as America had when our forefathrs lived and made the constitution.
- That the communities we build today will not be tommorrows slum, so children can be brought up in a communy that is safe, energy efficient, healthy and resilient.
- That the community will be as crime-free as humanly possible so that the residents will feel safe enough to walk or ride a bike without fear of assault. Traffic problems will be eliminated, possibly by car pooling or the use of public transportation.
- That the greater Houston area continues to grow at a manageable rate recognizing that equilibrium and decline are unacceptable and will quickly lead to a diminished quality of life for all within the region.
- That the island is still a great place to live.
- That the land, water,and air be clear enough to live healthy and that our resources are being used sustain-ably.
- That the sense of community will stay in place. That your neighbors are your friends
- That there will be more people able and willing to use alternate (other than automobile) sources to get around - mopeds, bicycles, walking, etc. and also, more public transportation options.
- That there would be more activities so I would not have to drive to have fun things to do or places to shop.
- That they stop trying to make people take the toy trains
- That this area is still thriving with great jobs, schools and housing. Very safe, good traffic flow.
- That we are a free people, free to worship God as we understand him, free to vote for our leaders, free to work and earn a living without being taxed to death!
- That we are not socialist
- That we can reach work, goods and services, and play via alternative methods 50 to 75% of the time so that so many resources are not spent expanding existing or creating new roadways.
- That we have an adequate water supply to sustain and grow the economy in Brazoria County.
- That we have enough jobs to pay our bills.
- That we keep crime low!
- That we will be utilizing concepts, principles and philosophies that are creative and situation specific to develop sustainable places to live and work. This should be an ongoing process that evolves as our communities change while always striving toward creating better communities.
- That we will have good neighborhood schools that our kids feel safe at with a great education and extra-curricular activities to get them ready for the future.
- That we will make conditions for development and business growth favorable, and not continue to handcuff ourselves.
- That we will not be living in a socialistic country where people have reverted to playing checkers with rocks in the sand because no one is working and we can no longer afford iPads.
- That we won't need to drive everywhere
- That: I can afford the property taxes. Economic opportunity is decentralized...thus reduction in commuting, more small businesses and less "big box"/strip development.
- The 3 examples would be a dream come true.
- The America I grew up in where you succeed or fail on your own merits, work ethic and character. Not the direction we are headed with Hyper inflation in the verge and restrictions to individuals rights.
- The Community will offer the same amenities I had when I was growing up.
- The Houston metro population is double what it is today with an educated workforce and we are able to compete

internationally to bring the best and the brightest to the area.

- The Houston region will be home to the happiest, healthiest, prosperous people in the nation.
- The Olympics will make it to the region
- The San Bernard will be cleaned and widen so all people can enjoy the benefits of the river, i.e. fishing, boating and swimming and so it will drain the localities in a timely manner.
- The Texas state legislature will remove restrictions on budgeting for public schools, which are currently at the 2006 level. Fund public education!
- The ability to walk or ride bike without a million cars
- The air and water will be clean and free of harsh pollutants
- The air will be clean and we will have much better government.
- The air will be clean enough to not cause everyone to have runny noses and allergic reactions.
- The air will be clean every day 80% of people have convenient access to mass transit and many use it.
- The air will be cleaner
- The area will grow but retain small community atmosphere.
- The area will develop with more green spaces that encourage those living here to foster a better sense of community, thus creating a better area to live in.
- The area will remain a safe place for children to be children, play, get a good education and have good memories of their childhood.
- The average level of income will be higher.
- The average literacy and education level of the area will be at a bachelors degree level.
- The bayous to be clean enough to boat, fish and maybe even swim in. Fixed public transportation that is easy to use, affordable and connects different communities around the city. Urban areas that are densely populated and utilize the space around them.
- The bus
- The city will be safe.
- The city will care for all the green spaces including medians by keeping up with Maintenance. Plant trees and then care for them. Bay area blvd is not maintained and is an eyesore. The areas between 45 to Red Bluff looks very bad and needs to be maintained so that visitors will come away with a positive feeling.
- The city will prosper while preserving it's past and guarding the environment.
- The city's population will be well educated and trained to build and sustain knowledge based economy jobs.
- The community I am going to be living in is 100+ acres. With my guns and trucks. Living off of my fresh vegetables and cow milk. Enjoying the Gods creation with out the federal government making my 80 year old butt walk around in your sustainable community or ride a bike. I am going to ride my gator around to the pond and mail box and do what ever I enjoy doing. HGAC needs to be abolished. You are all about applying for grant money from a government that is already 15,000,000,000,000 in debt to further implement the government agenda of "Sustainable Development" aka Agenda 21. Shame on you.
- The community is more walkable and we can go days without needing a car. We support local enterprises.
- The community is self sufficient and care for each other to maintain and enhance a high quality of life.
- The community needs a good transportation for the katy and Waller County to jobs and schools.
- The community needs to adapt as the population ages and new generations move in to Kingwood
- The community will be a highly educated and diverse (by different types of employment sectors) work force that efficiently uses natural resources to maintain a healthy and sustainable quality of life and environment.
- The community will be a safe place to live.
- The community will be better connected such that you do not have to own a car to live in Houston (I have had difficulty recruiting staff and also subletting apartments because the community had insufficient transit.). We will live in harmony with our natural environment - parks, nature preserves, outdoor activities like bike routes and canoeing, etc. More communities will be walkable (access to local businesses like restaurants, retail, and farmers' markets). My schools will be exemplary and really teach useful skills, not just teaching how to take a test.
- The community will be economically, educationally, socially and morally sound and safe
- The community will be less segregated (racially, ethnically, economically, etc), and the community as a whole will have developed an effective and holistic way to address the growing disparities among the haves and have-nots.
- The community will be more walkable, safer and with more local businesses.
- The community will be safe, you will not have to worry as much about the safety of your children. The community will be better kept up and clean, for a healthier lifestyle. Better educational opportunities.
- The community will be sustainable with limited governmental intervention: local food, local work, clean air, clean water.
- The community will continue to grow.
- The community will continue to strive in the atmosphere it currently is in and would have locally owned businesses that could compete with the big chains because they would be tied more to the community than the big conglomerates. That the integrity of the area is maintained and prospers while respecting and honoring our heritage.
- The community will grow and prosper as a result of to the companies/industries expanding.

- The community will have safe, decent housing. People are able to walk safely to and from shopping, schools and entertainment while enjoying clean fresh air/water supply.
- The community will support decent jobs for a decent wage
- The community will support locally owned businesses. Farming and agriculture will still exist. The school systems will improve.
- The community will have healthy, locally owned businesses, easy access to transportation, and a healthy outlook for future generations.
- The community won't be 100% paved over with shopping strips, parking lots, and roads. There will be a way to get around with a car (light rail, bike trails). There will be many trees to help mitigate Houston sometimes dismal climate.
- The community members with high sense of responsibility for the well being of society
- The disparity in access to resources will be overcome, and all communities will have access to basic necessities, including quality education, food, and health care.
- The diverse population will have a wide variety of opportunities.
- The economic engine that supports the ability to live a prosperous life will be maintained. This includes education and maintaining and expanding infrastructure.
- The economy will stabilize and our children can continue to prosper and flourish.
- The education system will continue to improve to a level that remedial education is not necessary
- The elderly people and children are better protected.
- The environment in the COMMUNITY will allow each resident to pursue and realize, unimpeded, his or her goals, be they intellectual, economic, physical or spiritual.
- The first impression of our town is pleasing and welcoming to tourists and individuals to want to visit our community
- The flooding problems will be solved. Limiting development, homes along bayous and adding more greenspace along the bayous.
- The future generations will have more natural resources to live a healthier lifestyle.
- The greater Houston area will continue to thrive economically and the education system will be improved to better educate our children.
- The growth will reach an end and the community will focus on developing business and parks and continue disapproval of the oversized neighboring industrial facilities.
- The majority of the population will no longer be automobile dependent since we have adequate/efficient public transit, people live near their jobs, and conveniently located community resources provide for their needs.
- The neighborhood will be safe that you can walk to the store, bus stop and not have to fear for your life.
- The next 30 years should focus on housing, health and services for the seniors who spent the last 30 years supporting the youth.
- The normal commute from home to work and back will not average 2 hrs. per day.
- The number of people with allergies related to population will decrease significantly.
- The people of the Houston region will be the healthiest, happiest, prosperous people in the nation.
- The region will be organized as clusters of communities, each of which provides quality education, job opportunities, access to resources (shopping, cultural, etc.). The communities will be vibrant and livable, encouraging movement and connection among community members. Our bayous, creeks, and rainwater management spaces will be healthy green space rather than concrete ditches. The region will have diverse communities, where differences will be celebrated (including gender). The region will be the envy of the country, offering a place for financial, physical, mental and spiritual prosperity, and the conversation about Houston shifts from the heat, the mosquitoes and the traffic to "What an amazing, vibrant place!"
- The region will be wholly connected via public transportation and trails
- The region will have a transparent and interdependent approach in the coordination of land use, transportation, and housing decisions-while looking to the future.
- The regional population will be happy and healthy with a stable economy
- The river that flows through our town will be usable for recreational purposes, not only for local residents, but to draw visitors who will then visit businesses in downtown area. Residents will work together to achieve shared visions for a healthy, welcoming community
- The storm sewers will stop smelling like sanitary sewers. Ozone levels will drop dramatically. Refineries and chemical plants will stop playing political games and act responsibly.
- The traffic issues will be resolved.
- The transportation system will be improved. This includes: improved control of traffic signals, satisfactory road condition, usable sidewalks, ADA accessible sidewalks and parking, workable pedestrian signals, readable signs, useable roads even if it rains 2 inches, bike lanes, etc.
- The urban sprawl will stop. No more Grand Parkways encouraging developers to go further and further out.
- The water and air will be safe for all living in the community and people can walk around in a safe environment.
- The water coming out of our taps is clean, clear, and free of harmful chemicals. Move to push our neighbors to keep their property clean and kept and encourage every one to go green. All help recycle P/U trash etc
- The water ways in and around Houston and Galveston should be clean enough that you can eat the fish you catch



from them and enjoy them without pollution, litter, and debris.

- The whole area become a safe neighbor concerned community of caring people working for all individuals
- There would be plenty of jobs available for everyone to work and get off of welfare/foodstamp/free housing.
- Thenhomeless housed, increased efforts to end disease, meds less damaging to the human body. More parenting education for youth and single parents.
- There are no safe walpaths to the schools for our children and yet CGCISD expect kids that live 2 miles away to walk there. I am sure this is not the only community where safe walk areas for our children is an big issue.
- There is a balance between industry and a healthy, beautiful environment with an emphasis on preserving nature, culture, history and the health and safety of the people living in the community. A peaceful place to be after a stressful day at work.
- There will be a transit system in place that will allow people to make their daily commute safely in a shorter period of time.
- There will be a true sense of community with neighbors with the knowledge that Houston is heading in the right direction with regards to economic development, education, and healthy lifestyles.
- There will be access to nature while preserving the native flora and fauna. Protect wildlife in the area and make sure they have access to their "homes". The watershed situation must be dealt with the keep our water clean and available. I wish we would get zoning in Houston.
- There will be additional light rail options. New technologies will be available by supporting development and not from subsidies artificially making them attractive and not by penalizing current technologies.
- There will be enough fresh water to support the community and future growth
- There will be enough water for my children to drink. That we can still walk to a locally owned grocery store, yet we will be able to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. That we will have high quality mixed income public/private housing.
- There will be less government intervention in the lives of people, so that starting a business is met with a barrage of government imposed barriers.
- There will be less traffic because people live near work and or work at home 3 or more daya week. Jobs will be available for all levels.
- There will be less traffic in our community and more businesses succeeding in the area.
- There will be many bicycles lanes that will allow more ease for bicyclist to have a fair space.
- There will be more affordable private school options.
- There will be more alternative transportation choices and infrastructure for individuals. Areas in the city will density and spend less time commuting to work. Jobs will be spread out throughout the city.
- There will be more transportation opportunities to cut down on pollution and congestion. There will be a diverse and more competitive economy There will be a variety of places for recreational activities for all age groups.
- There will be no more 100 Year Flood Control problems in the Houston area.
- There will be no pollution and flooding. The regional will have a multimodal transportation system that has very few or no gaps in service.
- There will be no sewer in the yards and ditches and no illegal dumping going on .
- There will be parks available within reasonable walking distance of everyone.
- There will be things that cost less more happy people more family time
- There will be very little government influence and control in the everyday lives of the citizens. Businesses will be able to fail if they're unprofitable and profitable ones will flourish, unburdened by excessive taxes and fees. There will be no over-reaching governmental agencies with programs trying to make everyone equal and equally dependent on the government to define their self-worth.
- There will still be enough land within the community to still classify the area as rural. That growth will occur with enough foresite to minimize the "urban footprint" that takes place when land is poorly developed. Baytown is a prime example of developing land poorly (N. Alexander, S. Garth Rd, San Jacinto Mall...) and leaving a vast space of concrete in place of woods when development fails. Finally, I hope my community has the wisdom to realize the importance of being a rural community and continues to allow its residents to farm and raise livestock on their own land.
- There will still be grass and forested areas where wildlife can live.
- Things will be like they were whe I was a kid. Kids were able to go outside without fear.
- Things will get so bad that people with brains and ethics will run for office and get elected. Only then can we move ahead. Otherwise we are stuck and spinning our wheels.
- Things will remain the same. No Mass transit such as buses and no outside governmental interference.
- This city addresses the terrible mass transit problem that has continued to stagnate for the past 50+ years.
- This is ridiculous
- This plan sounds very suspicious. Is obama behind this social plan?
- Thriving economy where families flourish
- Thriving public transportation like New York, Washington, D.C., or Chicago.
- Through planning and collaboration the business and governmental sectors will have heard the residents call to have safe neighborhoods and gainfully employed parents.

- To be able to enjoy the outdoors, and find oil free ways to sustain transportation
- To be able to walk, bike, or train from home to work, shopping areas, and local parks. To not worry about pollutants in our water and air.
- To be safe and economically sound
- To catch up with the rest of the world. Be prosperous and a place that my grand kids would want to live, work, play, and grow.
- To feel protected in the community and each person has a means to support their families by way of jobs that are made available or job training opportunities. No one should be left out.
- To have a healthy economy and economic growth in our community, State and Country.
- To have a safe environment for families to grow in. Keep locally owned businesses as a top priority while still attracting major corporations as well.
- To have a vibrant community that allows for walkability and access to all services.
- To have good affordable housing and be able to have reasonable taxation.
- To have our old America back. Jobs, liberty
- To have safer communities so that we can trust our neighbors and the strength of character of those around us.
- To have the government leave this community alone. Let the people who live here take care of themselves.
- To live in an active neighborhood community
- To provide additional opportunities for recreation-to increase vacationers. To provide additional opportunities for new businesses including franchise restaurants and shopping stores.
- To see the area with more business, greater training, better schools healthy families and marriages
- Tolerance and resilience.
- Tolerance to all multi-cultural society
- Tomball will be the hub for economic growth and development, technology while celebrating its rich heritage, managed growth and positive change,
- Town center revitalized with mass transit, multi use development, green space and connectivity with bike/bike trails to bayous. fewer apts but high quality construction.
- Traffic and transportation improves in our major city. Refineries improve the quality of air that we breathe.
- Traffic congestion will be a thing of the past multi level highways taking traffic over the city for crosstown access, double deck or even triple deck freeways to move more traffic to outlying areas. special lanes or even levels for big rigs, keeping big rigs off during peak driving hours 7 - 9a and 4 - 6p an economy that will allow one parent to stay home and care for children, no more latch key kids.
- Traffic during the office hours will be improved
- Traffic flow will improve and no more stupid no left turn signs coming out of Cross Creek Ranch--why go R to turn L???
- Traffic that isn't bumper to bumper because of bad roads, poor engineering, and congestion. Not to mention competition with 18 wheelers because our leaders have deemed it beneficial to move warehousing into the community (W. Chambers County). Decent parks. Mont Belvieu at has something now. But we need parks without a sports focus too. No crime.
- Transit across the region
- Transit options that prioritize walking, biking and public transit. A regional food supply system that supports basic food security by providing educating, training and incentives to local farmers, grocery stores and restaurants to provide fresh and affordable food. A well designed watershed system which insures water quality and replenished groundwater. A well designed utility system which retains and treats stormwater naturally and accounts for flooding issues. A redefined school system which adopts a true education formula to replace the current broken state system, this would include outdoor classrooms, true health and nutrition education, hands-on lesson plans, field trips, after-school programs and clubs and apprenticeship programs.
- Transportation (rail) from suburbs to Houston.
- Transportation and parking in the Houston area can be a challenge. I'd like to see Houston be more public transportation friendly, with easier access to the light rail, and light rail park & rides. Taking a more Texas-wide view - I'd love to be able to easily hop on a train to Galveston for the weekend, or to Dallas or Austin.
- Transportation by rail to and from suburban neighborhoods and airports/train stations so that our dependence on cars is greatly lessened.
- Transportation is available Leadership step up and held guide progress.
- Transportation to/from and within the area does not require single autos High speed commuter trains from Houston to Woodlands, Cypress, and Tomball.
- Transportation will be efficient and Washington will have its act together for us.
- Travel highways free of congestion
- True "community" engagement
- U hope that our rivers and lakes will be clean enough to enjoy. The area of town has better schools. The air is cleaner. The city and area I live looks cleaner. We need to take pride in our city, keep our roads clean in all areas not just the favorite areas. Channelview/Sheldon area has so much trash on the roads and easements that is very embarrassing to drive down. More architectural pride in our infrastructure.

- UN and their nasty hidden agendas will be eradicated. Less government meddling and more independent thinking as opposed to idiot think tanks like the club of rome
- Una comunidad de empleo entero, y educacion de alta clase (clase mundial).
- Unemployment at all time low
- Updated infrastructure to support growth.
- Urban area to be more dense more options for living downtown. Bayou parks to be developed. More public transportation more public spaces than wasteful parking lots.
- Use of more sustainable power sources like solar and wind. Better and SAFER public transportation. Texas needs better public schools.
- Value diversity/respect/Rights of all
- Very important over all
- Very limited free housing for underachieving individuals. Very limited or no mass transit to preserve the quality of life in this area. Limit public assistance to force individuals to get education and skills to be productive citizens.
- Viable transportation system.
- Viable transportation throughout region that does not only rely on cars (e.g. train from Galveston Island to the Mainland area, & including to Houston at 1x per day); Housing focusing on independence & stepwise improvement towards personal/professional growth instead of housing that promotes stagnation (e.g. not having "project" style housing); Cleaner air, water, environment; Incentives encouraging economic development while @ the same time being socially & environmentally responsible; walking communities; regulating low budget grocery stores so that they do not sell expired food (e.g. Food Town); regulation of low end housing so that building codes are followed; noise ordinances; locally owned businesses; fixing city/county utilities timely (e.g. fire hydrants that don't work are fixed; traffic lights are fixed; traffic lights are installed in areas that tend to have high frequency of car wrecks; drug testing of those who are receiving government benefits, & if they test positive, to require related treatment to decrease likelihood of multigenerational poverty; expand City of Houston gang task force to other areas within the region; expand senior citizen community education programs through out region; promote learning/non-alcohol related activites across generations & economic areas; limit number of marginable businesses allowed in areas (e.g. strip clubs, night clubs); disallow marginable business to be within certain proximity of schools; strongly encourage vaccinations of school age children to decrease spread of disease; regulation of group homes, day care centers, treatment facilities to increase likelihood of consistency of treatment/services provided; improve areas that tend to be "high flood zones" by fixing the infrastructure so that it is not a "high flood zone";
- Vibrant, clean, safe and full of active families walking to the ice cream shop, playing in parks, and enjoying trails along all the bayous. Good safe transportation options for everyone, but especially the very young and the very old.
  - Walk in
  - Walk to work, school, and entertainment. Public transportation network that includes different modes with strategic routes. Institutionalized integration of local planning, education, and business interests.
  - Walk ways Park Bayous will be clean
  - Walk-able, healthy places for people of all ages to work and live. Fish-able, Drinkable, swim-able water.
  - Walkable communities, clean air an water, a lot of green space, access to public trnsportation
  - Walkable...economical.
  - Walking
  - Walking and biking will be much more accepted as a daily means of transport. Food deserts, and remote subdivisions that force residents to drive to school, work, food, and entertainment will be replaced by self-sustaining communities.
  - Waller will grow and prosper.
  - Want young people to a better education and older people to be an example for young.
  - Water Resources will be managed in a way that provides abundant, high quality supplies that meet the community's needs for drinking water and recreational activities.
  - Water is clean for people and the ecosystem
  - Water quality
  - Water supply from tap cleaner than NYC. Local foods and shops low cost of living.
  - Water to drink that doesn't give you cancer & turn your tub brown in bath.
  - Water will be safe to drink and recycling will take on a genuine meaning.
  - Waterways (Lake Houston) clean enough to eat the fish caught n them.
  - Waterways will be clean ans protected jobs will be plentiful and rewarding
  - Waterways will be clean enough to eat the fish in them. Kids will be able to play outside without fear of harm. If someone chops down a tree he must plan another one either in his yard or somewhere else.
  - We Remain FREE We abide by THE Constitution of the United States We remove all Sustainable Development Programs in the Houston and Surrounding Areas
  - We can move around easily (good public transit & safe neighborhood routes) with more & better choices for food, entertainment, medical care.
  - We can rid our community of the people that fight progress so we can attract industry that will contribute to the tax base and attract productive workers instead of Section 8 housing people. Matagorda County is dying!
  - We can use public transportation (metro) to get to work

- We continue to have a high quality of education and sense of community
- We exceed all air and water quality measurements and have planned to ensure water and energy is renewable.
- We get integrity in and corruption out of our city government. We have kept Houston out of Austin County and maintained our way of live.
- We have a good traffic plan, more affordable housing, more business, more jobs available to less qualified people, better schools and more trade and craft training
- We have a well built and sustainable housing stock
- We have educated our children to their fullest potential
- We have found a balance between moving people and goods across our region and preserving our environment without impacting our economy in a negative way.
- We have the resources to make our environment aesthetically pleasing if not beautiful. Yet no planners seem to think that this is important to people's well being. We can't fix every poor or undereducated family or build inefficient public transportation, but we could give everyone a community to be proud of because it's beautiful. Dickinson Bayou, for example, is beautiful. Few take care of it but pour themselves into some project in Africa! Let's all make Texas Beautiful!
- We keep our sense of small-community and don't meld into Houston. Safe for our kids and that they receive the best possible education. Not be overrun with big-box stores but still remain affordable.
- We look out for one another.
- We must reduce the pollution in Houston stop burning fossil fuels, improve mass transit.
- We need an excellent public transportation system.
- We need to see our vacant buildings filled with businesses that serve the community with groceries, drug store, restaurants, ice cream shop, other services needed in a community and public buildings like a library and real community center.
- We shall be a diverse, opportunity laden county.
- We should have more bike friendly lanes and sidewalks. Houston needs to invest in mass transits to reach all areas. The city should stop spreading out and build up instead. Decrease suburban sprawl There should be more mixed-use buildings.
- We somehow figure out how to see our regional population grow without running out of clean water and clean air (!), and without having 24/7 traffic jams throughout the region. I'd also like the city to have plenty of bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly streets, and effective mass transit.
- We still have beaches to enjoy. Crime is minimal, we are all English speaking!
- We take advantage of our multicultural society and become the first community/region to embrace a dual language education for all so all children can graduate fluent in 2 languages.
- We value and respect education.
- We will be able to get around efficient w/out use of car.
- We will be breathing clean air, eating healthy, nutrient-rich local food, and walking and biking to more places.
- We will be resilient to natural and manmade hazards.
- We will be the economic corner stone for Houston
- We will have a community where 90% of the population has at graduated from High School or has a GED. 75% of the youth attend public schools because families have such confidence in the high quality of education earned at these institutions.
- We will have a first rate transit system to take more cars off the road. This would include all forms of transit, including commuter rail and a more efficient bus system.
- We will have a renewable food and energy system localized
- We will have a safe community, safe to cross the streets without being run over, safe to visit parks and go to school without being waylaid, safe to drink water, safe from flooding and a safe environment at home.
- We will have a safe environment for an educated population.
- We will have a sustainable urban forest.
- We will have a vibrant economy with opportunities for all
- We will have access to affordable, state of the art Internet infrastructure to attract business and connect them globally.
- We will have an effective and safe public transportation system
- We will have attracted clean industry and safe employment We will have a strong economic base, family oriented We will have attracted snowbirds "and developed activities for them"
- We will have built more energy-efficient buildings and made our infrastructure more energy-efficient, made conservation a part of daily life, and moved more toward solar and wind power.
- We will have clean air and plenty of water supply. Jobs will be plentiful
- We will have clean air and water for the future generations.
- We will have clean air, water and food
- We will have controlled economic developments and growth with safe streets and community working together.
- We will have created a city where pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit riders and other transportation modes exist in harmony.
- We will have fewer people on welfare and more people contributing to the community through hard work and volunteerism.
- We will have more horticulture environment with our work and office space (such as Bonsai Garden) in an office space.
- We will have more parks with extended gravel trails so that runners can go longer distances. Larger parks with trees can also be used for concerts, festivals, fairs and many other business ventures. I would like to see more light rail so that

- we can get to work without have to tax those who make less money with toll ways. The rich live near their work and don't have to take tollways. I would like there to be clean air and water. I would like to have more tourist attractions ie theme parks, big parks with large festivals (similar to acl fest in austin... elinor tinsley park is too small to reach the status of acl fest) Have a really great aquarium where children and learn and explore, have it be an extension of our natural history musuem... not just a restaurant called the aquarium, etc that can attract tourists. But we need more public transportation if we want to attract more tourists. I would like to see the standards at our schools raised and increase the fun learning opportunities for our children.
- We will have more stores (locally owned business) more agriculture as it is our best asset and safety
  - We will have protected ag lands that grow fresh organic produce in community gardens and on the edge of town. We will have a smaller population and less destructive development. We will have protected, restored, functioning natural ecosystem.
  - We will have safe water from the tap and clean air to breath...
  - We will have the freedoms our forefathers gave us.
  - We will have true multi-modal transit systems, cleaner air and cleaner water (to at swimming levels). Also, landscape systems less dependant on irrigated water.
  - We will live in a city where all communities have safe places to live and play easy access to a good public transportation system and from affordable healthy food.
  - We will love our diversity and celebrate it; we will all be at bilingual; we will be safe and healthy.
  - We will model some foreign countries, example: Sweden, for public education, medical and social consciousness, public spaces, childcare, etc.
  - We will no longer have an illegal problem - we will have citizens who care about the quality of life and work toward it - eliminating freebies
  - We will not be dependent on ground water. We will have a freeway system capable of handling the rush hour traffic. We will have an efficient well managed public education system. We will recycle glass. We will use natural gas for a significant portion of our transportation energy needs.
  - We will plan the development of our community, limit urban sprawl, and value and preserve our greenspaces and parks.
  - We will produce enough oil and natural gas to fully supply the United States. We will not be dependant on foreign. We will support our oil and gas producers and drill America.
  - We will reduce the rate of poverty significantly and we will create better access to healthcare and change the community condition of poor health and obesity.
  - We will retain a talented work force. An enhanced education system, Creative housing will embody the area a unique economic initiative.
  - We will still be able to walk and drive safely without fear of crime
  - We will still have low crime.
  - We will still live in a free America and our neighborhood and surrounding areas will still be here and a place where we can be with our families and work,play, and not depend on the government for our future!
  - We will use our cars less for transportation
  - We won't be taken over by Mexico or China
  - We won't depend on cars for transportation. Equal access to nutritious food and clean energy. Art and design will be integrated into infrastructure.
  - We wont have to drive to Beaumont or Baytown to get the things we need- more businesses (box stores), entertainment etc.
  - We would be able to own a house close to work, close to great schools, close to public parks and would be able to hop on a train to go to any part of the city.
  - We'll have a more sustainable balance of public/private transportation to allow us to significantly reduce our dependence on cars and our air pollution.
  - Well coordinated efforts to support infrastructure.
  - Well planned and maintained communities as well as low crime rate
  - Well rounded- opportunities for work- recreation- affordable housing- education.
  - Westberry will still be viable, safe community for people to raise their families and live their lives in a strong economically sound neighborhood- with trails and park and good schools
  - Wharton- Hope there is less poverty, fewer high school droupouts, more living wage jobs.
  - When I am 81 years old, I'd like to think I would stay in my home. I won't be able to do that if the region stays 100% car dependent. At some point, seniors stop being able to drive.
  - Will be a healthy and well educated comunity with opportunity for jobs.
  - Will maintain rural atmosphere with planning that encourages growth without urban sprawl. The FM 1488 and FM 2978 is well on its way to look like FM 1960, I do not want that sort of ugly congestion to spread to my community.
  - With have a network of light rail which can be used in lieu of cars for over 50% of the time.
  - Won't be stuck in traffic. Houston will be in the top ten industrial/commercial cities in the world. I'll live in a walkable neighborhood.
  - Work place, neighborhoods and parks link to where it encourages outdoor activity and personal interaction between people and the environment.
  - Work, live and enjoy the outdoors all in the same general area

- Workers will be able to take the daily train from the coast into Houston. We will use renewable energy.
- Working toward a self sufficient well planned community that is independent and spacious with safety and well planned infrastructure for traffic and public safety. Plans for Clean water capacity and sewer disposal and waste must be included to meet the future capacity.
- World class public transit network of park and trails
- Would like to have a better future
- Would like to have more local people to set up businesses and shops in community.
- Would want to see more transportation.
- You getting a lot of responses similar to the three examples you listed above? Not surprising, you are leading the question. Oh well... I would like to see more green spaces, wildlife access across the city, better flood control, ZONING would be nice, population leveling off, better education, and WAY more attention paid to the environment. A mature public transportation system is a must. We won't be using gasoline 30 years from now.
- Your neighbors will act neighborly
- Zero Crime with less congestion.
- Zero Waste
- a
- a community that values and preserves its natural habitats
- a fair unbiased local government that work with federal gov. too many good ole boys clubs
- a growing community where people can safely walk or ride a bicycle just about anywhere in town.
- a peaceful community that allows people to live w/ dignity and safety
- above 3 wil work
- access to a variety of mobility modes and a variety of housing types and densities providing greater choice.
- affordable housing for the middle class,bike/pedestrian paths,more recycling, a government that does something other than shooting down new ideas for growth that preserves our history on the island
- air pollution issue fixed and public transportation much improved
- all houses and properties maintained and clean streets and bayous. Accessible parks and walkways and lots of beautiful landscapes
- all of the above
- all people can have an equal opportunity to succeed
- all waterways will be clean enough to eat the fish in them and kids will be able to walk or bike safely to school and affordability in housing
- an education covering the constitution and the moral arguments framing it.
- an increase in local jobs to keep our young people here and not feel a need to move away
- aq n area with clean air and water, visually attractive and well maintained residential, commercial, and industrial areas.
- bayous will be clean enough that i can eat the fish i catch from them
- better education and a more comprehensive public transportation
- better infrastructure for cycling and . more green space. better education. support local businesses. stop increasing prop tax in inner city..
- better job opportunities for young adults
- better parks and trials for a healthier life style
- better transportation for the region instead of a hit and liss system. Need to think out of the box
- bike trails connected to other areas
- clean bayous, good access for bikes, multi transportation options, neighborhood protect, pro growth government for job creation. a good balance with sensisable growth
- clean safe community to raise a family close to good jobs, housing,health care, schools, and retail shopping choices.
- clean water.... clean air...good schools..good teachers....good life
- cleaner air and less incidences of cancer
- combined planning in local communities development, roads, shopping close by more of self contained community
- community that is attractive and has quality walkable neighborhoods and natural areas.
- community will be a measuring stick on which other parts of the country look to and use as a model for making changes for the good
- community will be able to Have their own hospital and more locally own businesses.
- community will have more AMERICAN owned businesses
- community with job opportunity
- conserve the natural riparian habitats we have and return some of our drainageways back to a more natural condition - good water quality is the sign of a healthy community.
- control growth, care for the marginalized
- crime will be reduced
- density enhancement that will accomodate those moving here. better geographical mix of employment and housing proximity to reduce trip demand. clean air and water. local programs to reduce earth damge...
- drugs and crime will decrease
- each person takes responsibility for their actions.
- education and business opportunities...
- eliminate crime
- environmental factors will not effect our heath, happiness or welfare (and considering where we live, I am not so certain that all can be achieved)
- excellent public schools via better and higher paid teachers, putting power lines underground and out of tree canopies.

- More and improved sidewalks and bike trails, less suburban sprawl and more urban density and open space.
- extensive system aimed at youth aftercare, sport complex, beach clean ups and enhancements. More SBA or funding presence for small business.
  - fist class city, world renowned, other then the heat
  - freedom to lice and make choices without government interference.
  - good rapid tranpo. Clean landscapes and water...No trash and litter. local businesses
  - growth in eco friendly businesses and a transportation system that allows easy access to these businesses.
  - h
  - have good environment and reduce the unemployment rate.
  - having my family be able to live in the same manner as i do
  - head start
  - help with the traffic congestion in Houston - clean water and air and important dealing with the flooding issues in Houston
  - hi
  - hope it hasn't been swallowed by houston
  - hopefully the impact of natural disasters can be reduced more by pre-planning in the future
  - i don't know!
  - i dont know
  - it would be very nice if the state agencys wound not put such a burden on the society that they are in, ie: be able to pay taxes just like the ones that live and stay here, all other buisnesses have to do it why should the state not pay.
  - just like it is today
  - keep your hands out of my pocket and your nose out of my business
  - kid will alway have a great school
  - kokok
  - less crime
  - less crime public transportation
  - less government
  - less traffic, more green spaces, a clean bayou!!
  - libertad
  - limited government, low taxes, free market
  - local owned business
  - local, healthy, organic food choices; large public spaces for overnight camping/recreation; better public transit options (extensive light rail network, etc)
  - locally owned businesses
  - locally owned businesses to create jobs
  - locally owned businesses; more local job opportunities; controls over building to retain natural beauty; more green space, parks and hike and bike trails for transportation rather than only recreation; litter-free; connectlon to major urban areas via mass transit (especially Houston); clean waterways
  - lower percentage of apartments. More local businesses
  - making the region a desirable place to be and healthy communities i.e- pollution free, job opportunities, ease to get around town
  - minor traffic congestion, clean and abundant water, quality education
  - more employment
  - more locally owned businesses
  - more locally owned businesses and more business opportunities for growing our town
  - more locally owned businesses, clean water and job opportunities and training
  - more parks, more local transportation, better air quality
  - more recreation and green space for use of citizens more police protection
  - more tolerance and accepting of people from different cultures and backgrounds. Texas and other southern states are getting a bad reputation for discriminating against others. (Latinos in particular). I was born and raised in Houston, and am proud to say Houston is and should be known for accepting all walks of life, and works toward a successful community.
  - more walkable activities in my neighborhood
  - my hope is that our community grows with more housing developmment better schools and more job opportunites with commercial development to help support our local economy
  - n/a
  - na
  - neighborhoods will be well-planed with educational and recreational amenities included. Drainage and utilities will be installed before streets are laid so constant destruction and reconstruction is eliminated. Recycling will be easily available (mandatory).
  - no
  - no comment
  - no crime, fear free, stress free living
  - none to share
  - our community MUST acknowledge the need for change, and embrace it with cooperative approaches designed to prepare and benefit a changing demographic make up from a growth surge from our east
  - our community wil have refined the ability to have a dialogue about key issues and coordinate responses that reflect the values and ideas of the collective region
  - our community will be armed and safe from crime
  - our community will be safer and have low crime rate
  - our community will be safer from flooding from hurricane/storms
  - our community will have more locally owned businesses.
  - our community will have no crime
  - our community will oprovide more fair access to opportunities for education, jobs, and small business entry.
  - our community will respect more in cultural diversity.

- our community will support more locally owned businesses as well as other national businesses, thereby creating more jobs and a more stable community
- our kids will have better access to affordable education and not have to mortgage the first twenty years of their careers paying off school debt
- people have high education, have more locally owned businesses, have good jobs and have healthy and safe lives.
- people will be able to live- high quality of life within this neighborhood, and be connected to other communities within the region
- plenty of water and clean air.
- promote more farmers markets in the bay area, promote home gardens and hopefully cleaner air with no pollution
- proper balance between development and infrastructure and zoning
- public transportation grid to get people from far flung suburbs to city centers for work and recreation.
- public transportation has completely replaced the need to drive. People use public transportation as well as walk and ride bikes to where they want to go. Every area has a farmers market with local produce and goods. Walmart will be out of business - replaced by smaller, local businesses. Everyone volunteers to clean up their area because they understand the importance. Decisions are based on what the people need rather than what politician believe will get them reelected and what will line the pockets of their buddies.
- public transportation throughout the whole city
- qqqqq
- quiet, clean, safe, a place a person would love to live
- reduce rush hour traffic
- remain country setting
- roadways are better and the road congestion lessens.
- safe and prosperous
- safe places together- community places.
- safe, environmentally responsible, productive place to live and grow
- safer environment to walk in after night fall
- safety of children in all aspects reduce flooding to zero reduce fraud in healthcare
- see
- see first 2 above
- self employed people will be happy again
- ship the low life's who can work but seek unemployemnt benefits to Mexico and strip them of their US citizenship forever!
- stop growing
- street flooding will be corrected and programs to prevent crime are expanded
- substained growth for housing and businesses
- support locally owned businesses and have more in the community
- sustainable air, water, soil, and food
- sustainable fresh water supply for agriculture, industry, municipalities, economic development and my farm.
- that it remains as-is for the part; just maintained well
- that nice affordable housing will not be a problem. It is a huge problem currently
- that our community will be able to grow at a level we decide on without government intervention.
- that the area bayous and streams will remain accessible to wildlife and people to enjoy
- that we can maintain some green space for our community/families
- that we still be a viable safe neighborhood where people can live, work and raise their families and that businesses will have moved back into our neighborhood..grocery, pharmacy, restaurants, & quality retail
- that we will return to a nation that accepts responsibility for their actions, and understands that nothing is free, that we all have to work and save to get what we want. That we cannot blame others for what we do not have, and that we need to be grateful for what we have in this country and appologize to no one.
- that we will still be part of or closely associated with the United States .....
- the ability to rely on public transportation to efficiently move around our city, region and community while being economically sustainable in our region.
- the choices of some won't dictate the choices of others...
- the community will be safe, clean and low crime.
- the community will implement the vision that it chooses. of the issues were identified 20 years ago but little has been done to achieve these goals
- the job markets will sustain our kids
- think globally act locally -- in other words we are part of the larger community but we are also self contained, with local businesses and restaurants and schools.
- to have an environment where our community can thrive and business will want to locate here to serve our needs, and create free market jobs, with out government intervention.
- to have a more involved, outgoing community with shared activities in place for all.
- to have a sparkle park in the area between scott and wheeler and elgin to fwy.
- to have competitive educational system for all students.
- too many parents are NOT involved in their children's school work and, in fact, their children's lives..I hope our society's ethics will become more conservative so we can survive: entitlements cannot last!
- traffic will flow better
- transportation, tollways,bike paths are very important Education is the key to prosperity
- everyone in th eworlforce will be able to work close to their home.



- vvvvvv
- water quality -bayous and bays
- water will be clean enough to NOT need water softener
- water will be safe to drink and air will be safe to drink and ample job opportunities
- waterways have path ways to allow people to enjoy them and are connected by other trails. Waterway are clear enough to allow fishing.
- we will continue to see local business thrive and eith easy access via energy efficient public transportation
- we will welcome the stranger and value the diversity of our city and provide a fair playing field for all
- with the growth in this area, It is my hope that it keeps the integrity and position it deserves,and does not become over crowded and over built, which I fear is happening.

## Appendix I - County Demographics Addendum

### “Coding to County” Methodology

Because the survey respondents were not asked to report their county of residence, but rather their zip code of residence, it was necessary to create a table of zip to county equivalency. Because zip codes extend into multiple counties, zip code does not precisely identify the county of residence. The technique used for the equivalency table was to use ArcGIS to and assign the zip code to the county which contained the zip code’s centroid.

Once this equivalency table was built, a new “County” variable was created in the survey which contained the County that matched the stated zip code. The number of respondents by county is shown in the following table with a calculated response rate, in responses per 1,000 households, which were represented in the survey.

<b>County</b>	<b>2010 Census Households</b>	<b>Survey Responses</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
Austin	10,837	17	1.57
Brazoria	106,589	150	1.41
Chambers	11,952	52	4.35
Colorado	8,182	18	2.20
Fort Bend	187,384	149	0.80
Galveston	108,969	156	1.43
Harris	1,435,155	1,244	0.87
Liberty	25,073	31	1.24
Matagorda	13,894	49	3.53
Montgomery	162,530	121	0.74
Walker	20,969	29	1.38
Waller	14,040	21	1.50
Wharton	15,132	59	3.90
<b>H-GAC region</b>	<b>2,120,706</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>0.99</b>
Other county zip code		21	
Total with zip code		2,117	
Missing zip code		657	
<b>Total Survey</b>		<b>2,774</b>	

## Demographics of Respondents by County

The following sections describe the survey demographics by the County of residence of the respondent.

### Gender

The table on the right represents the gender of the respondents by county. The column, “no response” means that the respondent chose not to disclose their gender.

Of those who answered, 52.2% were female.

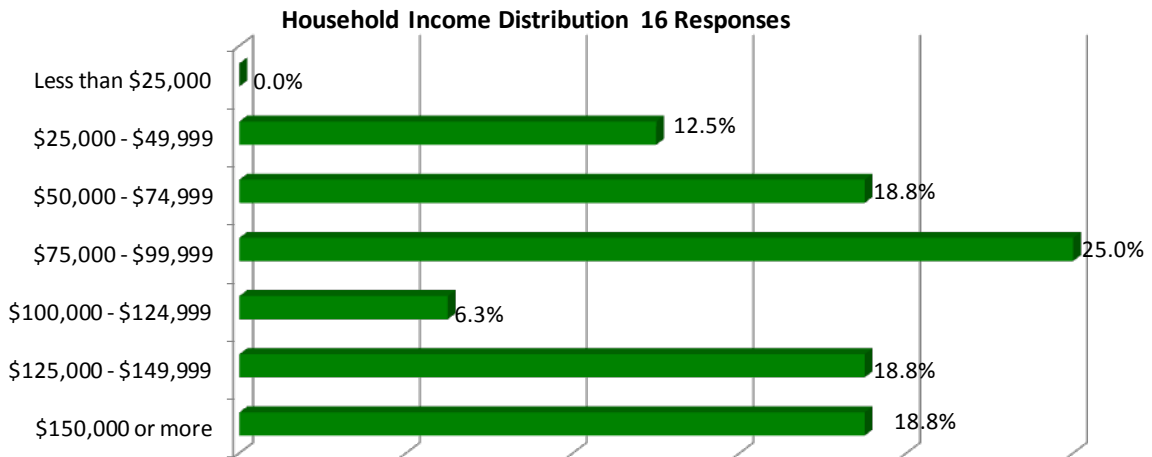
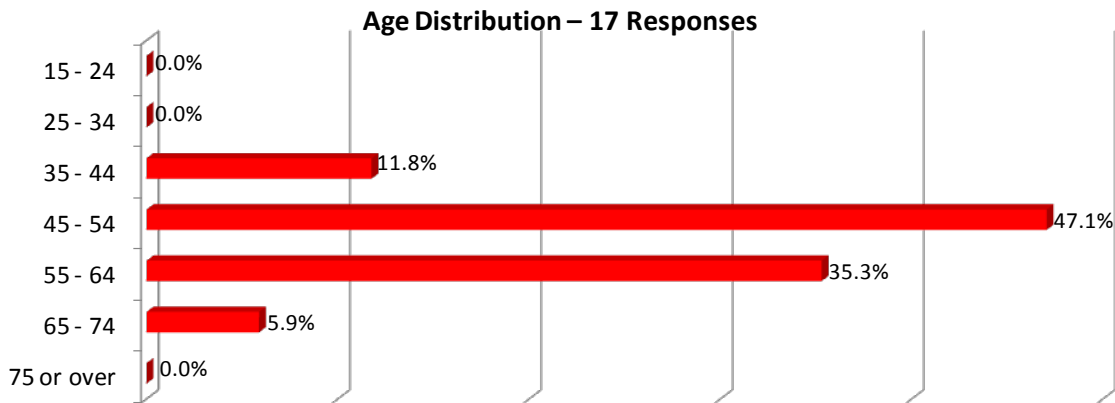
### Gender by County

	Female	Male	No Response	Total
Austin	9	8		17
Brazoria	84	65	1	150
Chambers	24	27	1	52
Colorado	7	10	1	18
Fort Bend	83	65	1	149
Galveston	95	59	2	156
Harris	645	571	28	1244
Liberty	16	15		31
Matagorda	28	19	2	49
Montgomery	58	56	7	121
Walker	11	16	2	29
Waller	11	9	1	21
Wharton	23	33	3	59
H-GAC Region	1,094	953	49	2,096
Other County	10	9	2	21

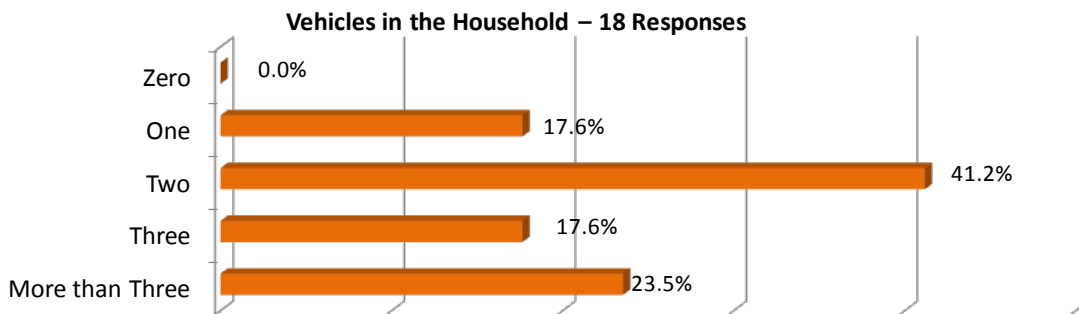
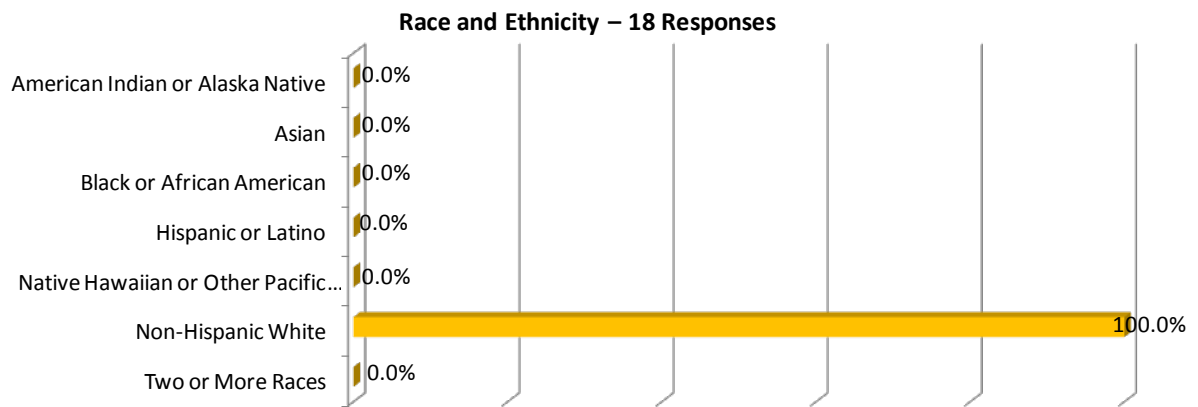
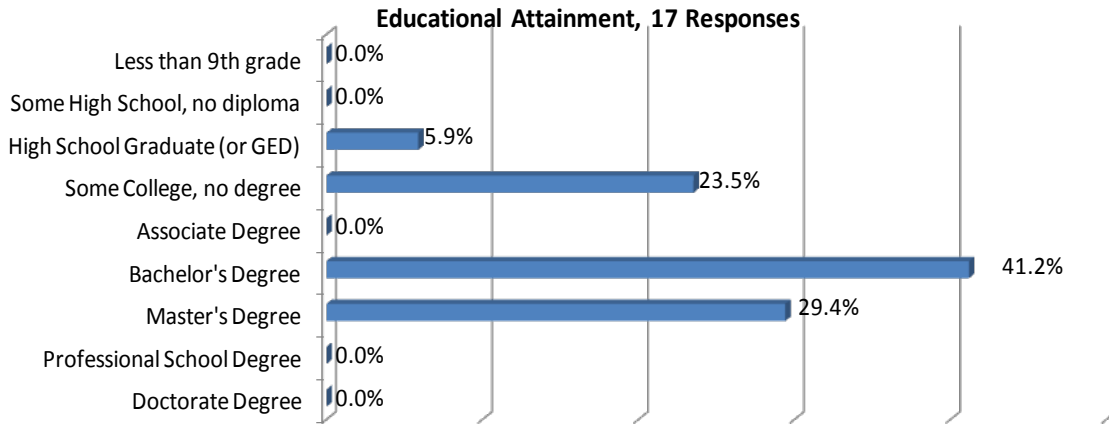
### Austin County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Austin County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Austin County - Age and Income of Respondents



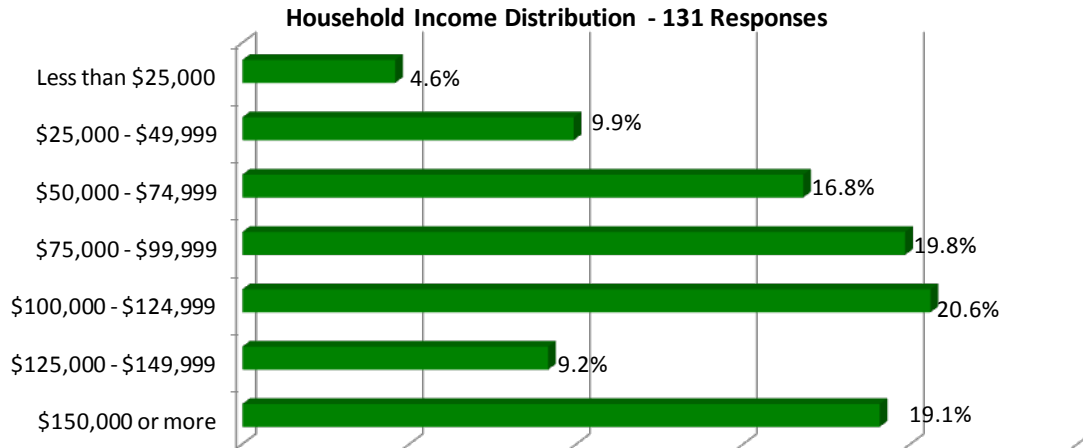
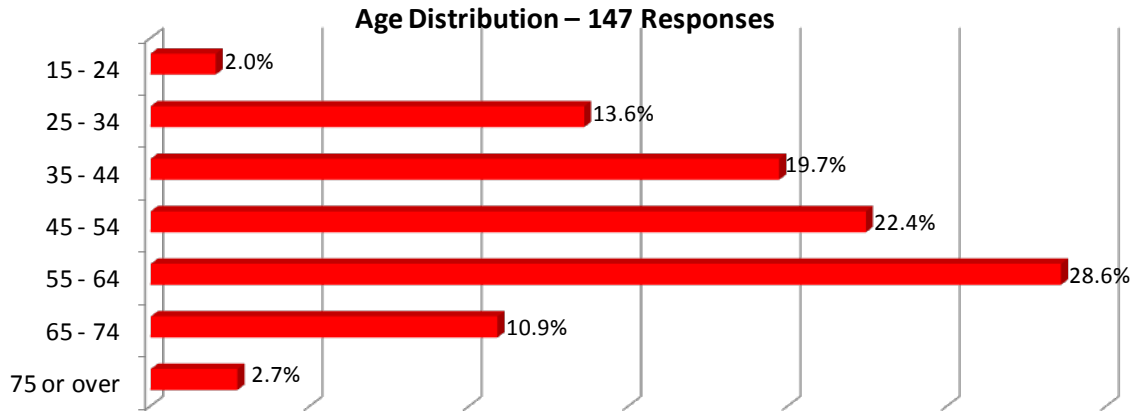
**Austin County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



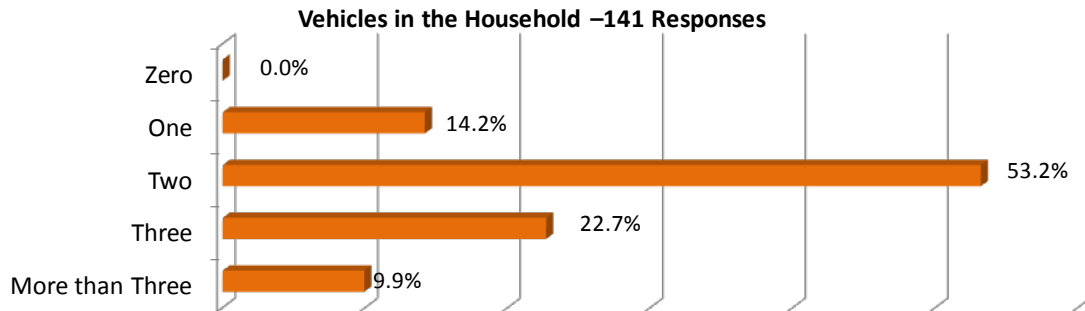
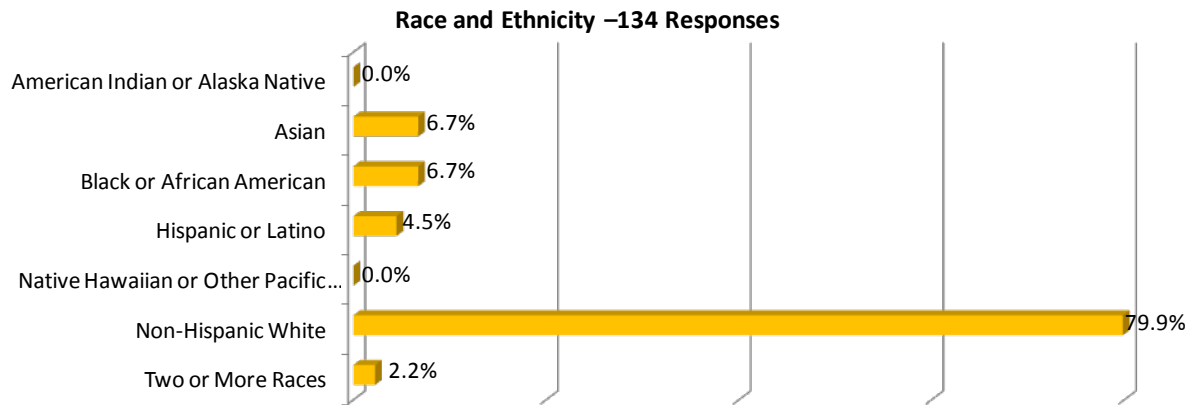
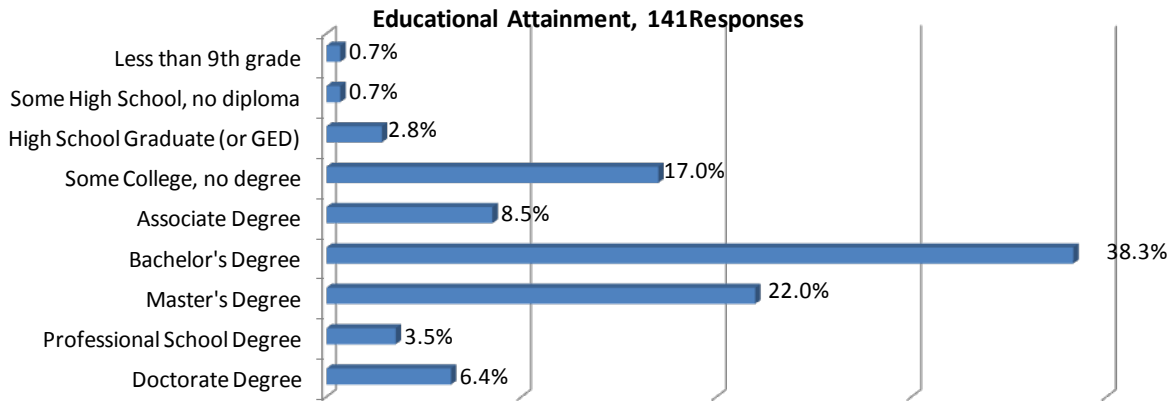
### Brazoria County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Brazoria County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Brazoria County - Age and Income of Respondents



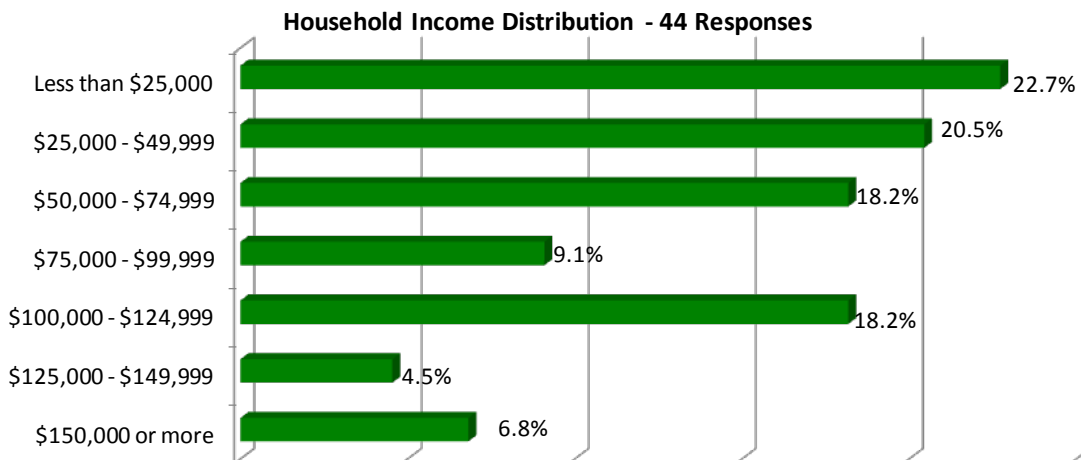
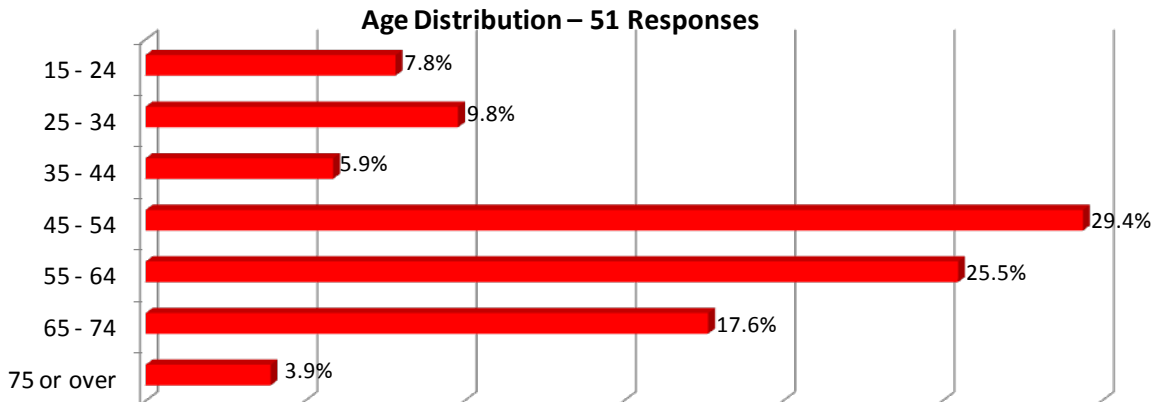
**Brazoria County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



### Chambers County Demographics

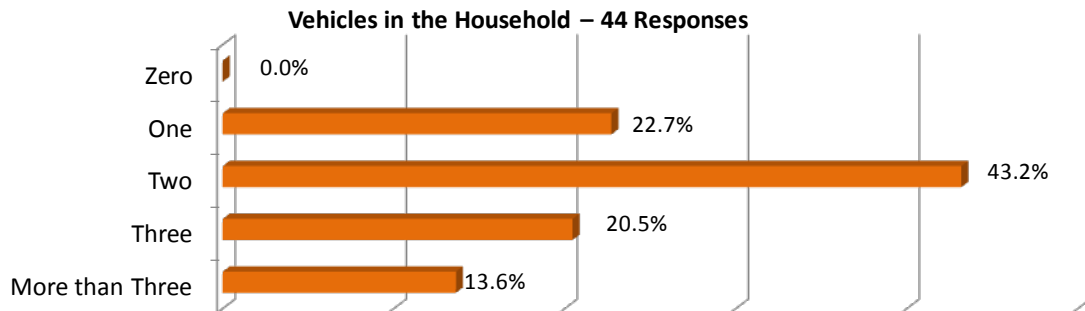
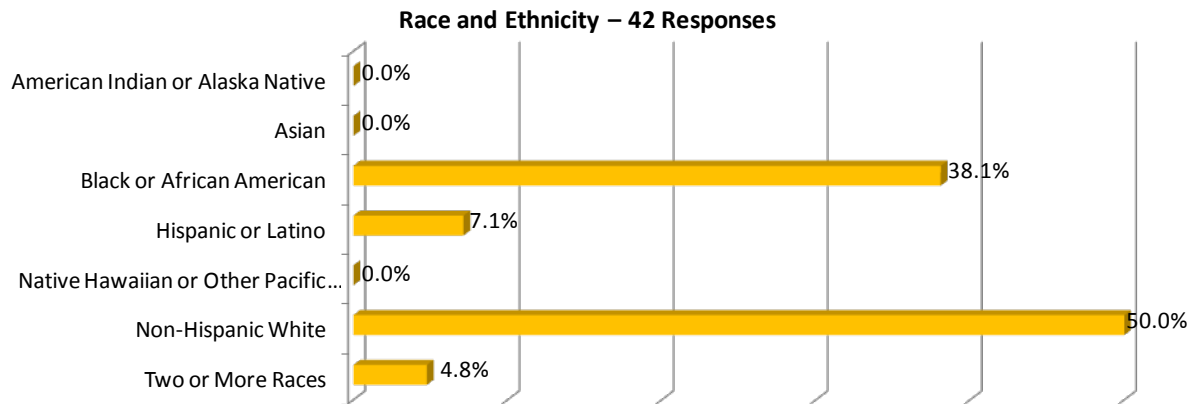
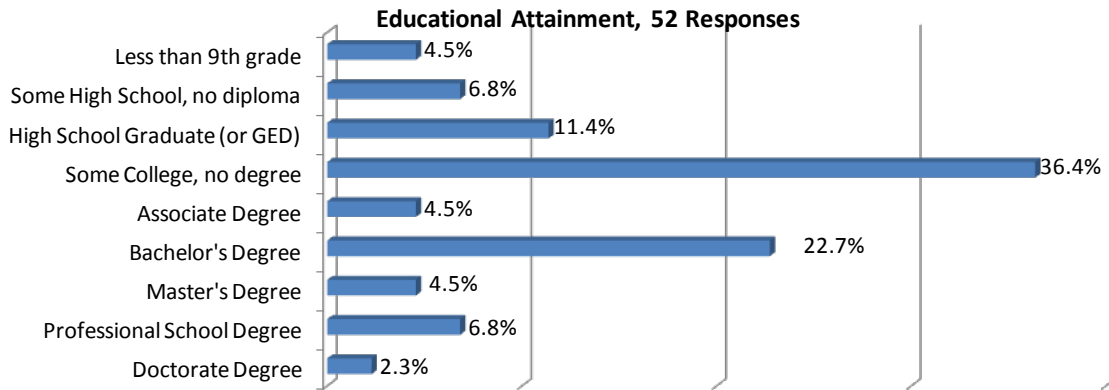
Following are the demographics of the Chambers County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Chambers County - Age and Income of Respondents





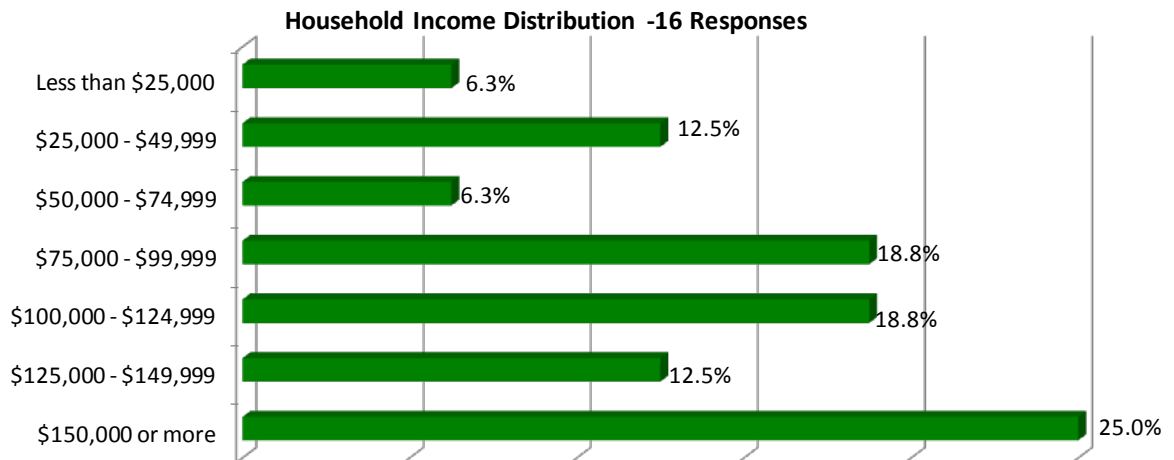
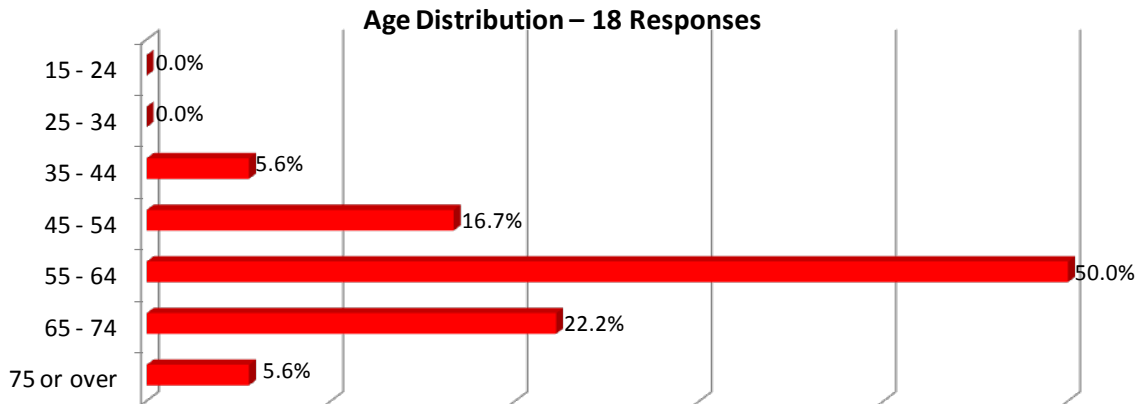
**Chambers County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



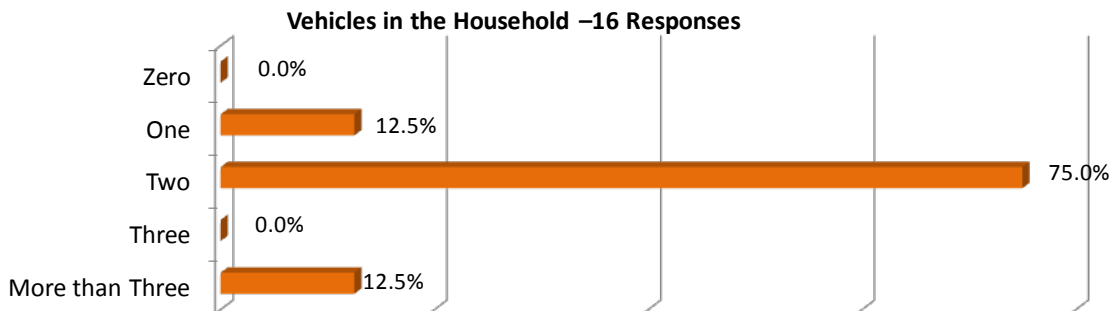
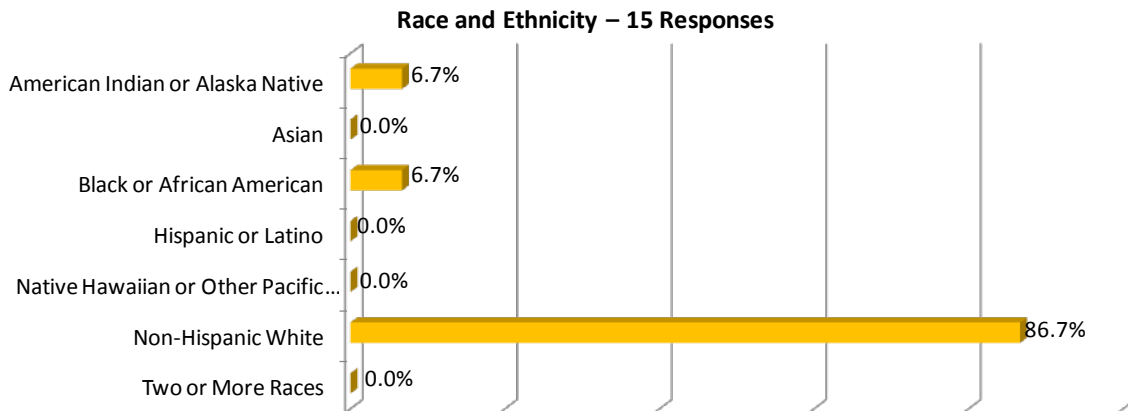
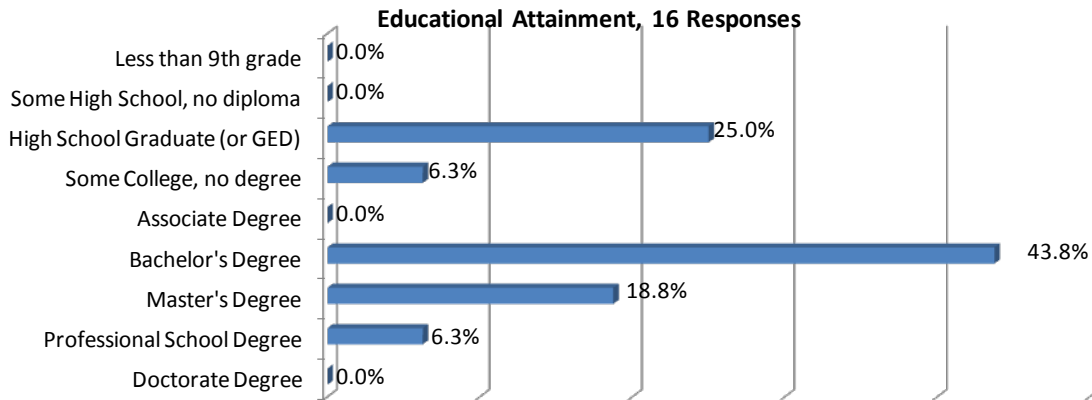
### Colorado County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Colorado County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Colorado County - Age and Income of Respondents



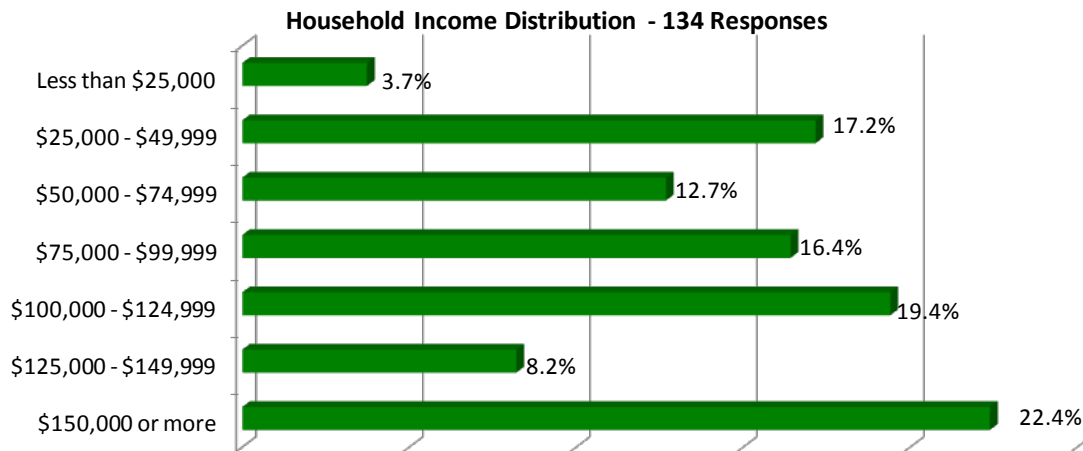
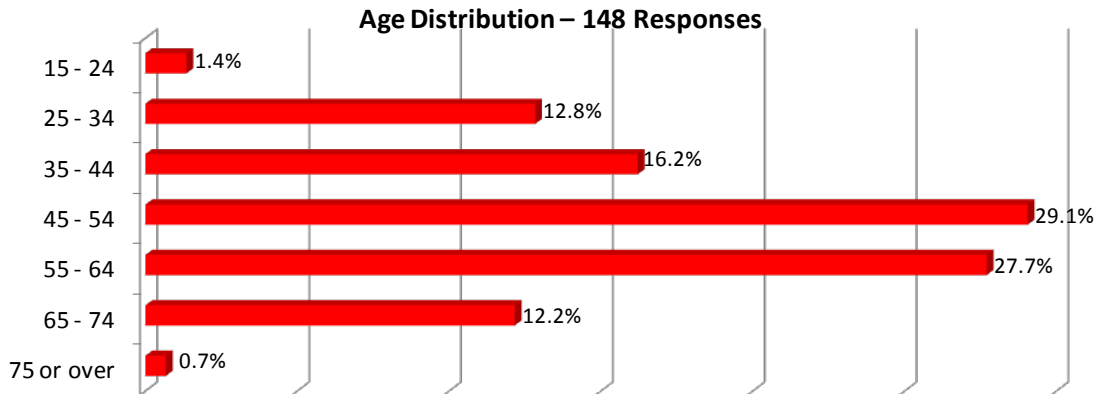
**Colorado County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



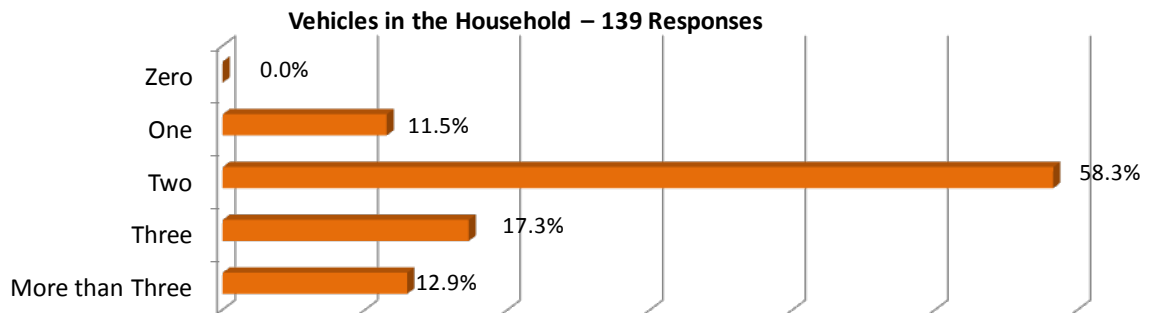
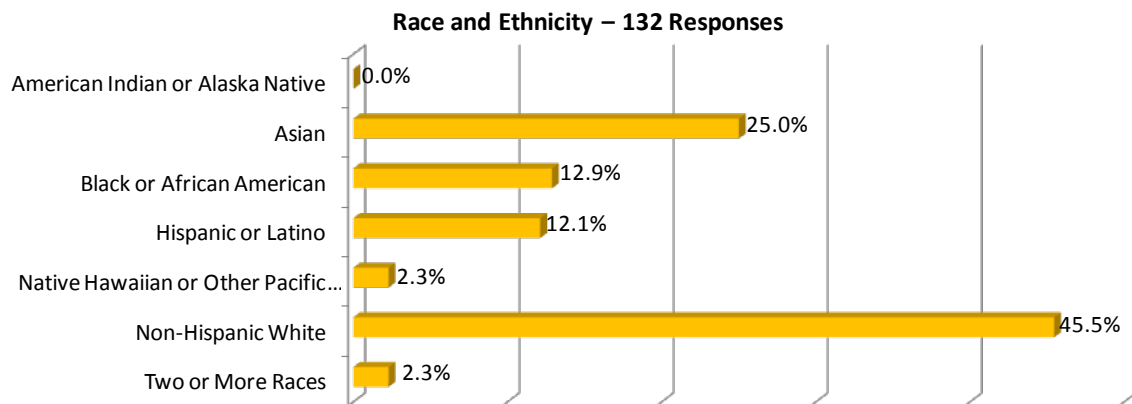
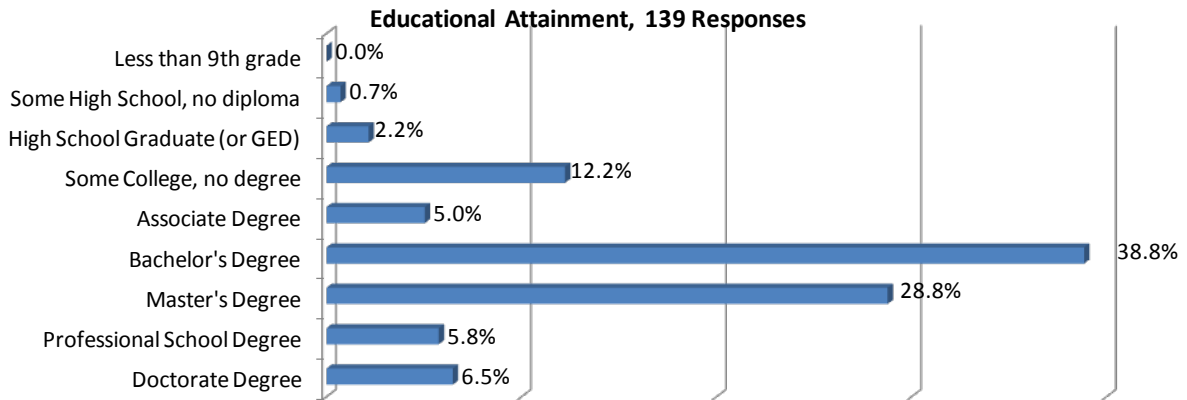
### Fort Bend County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Fort Bend County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Fort Bend County - Age and Income of Respondents



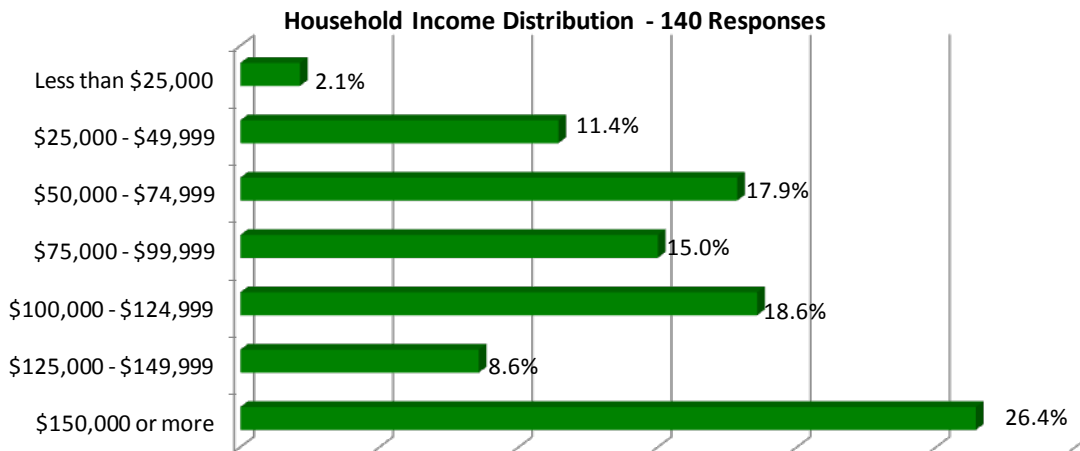
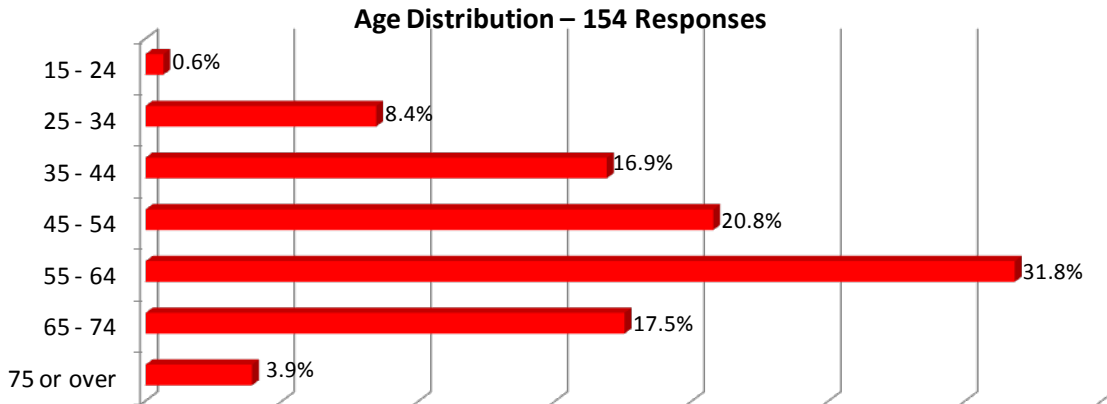
**Fort Bend County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



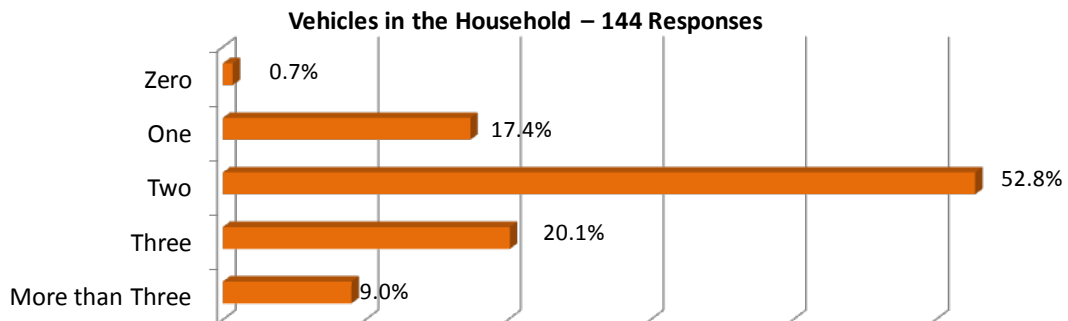
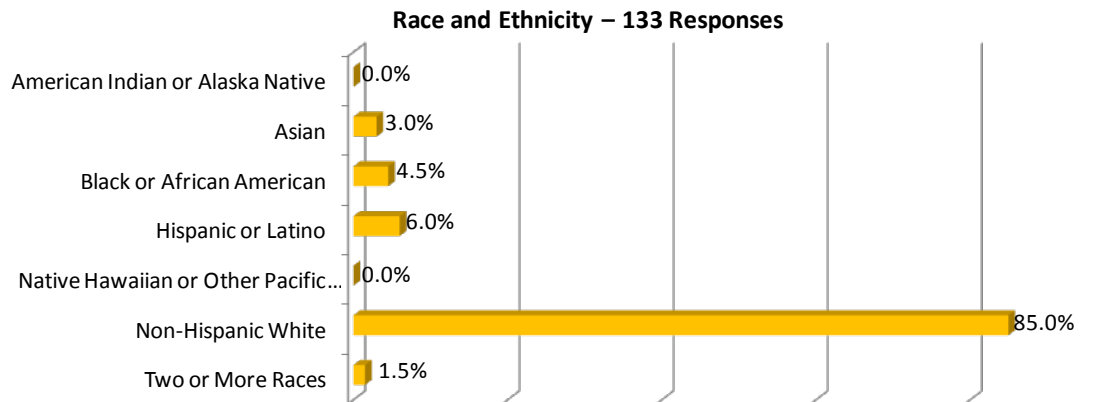
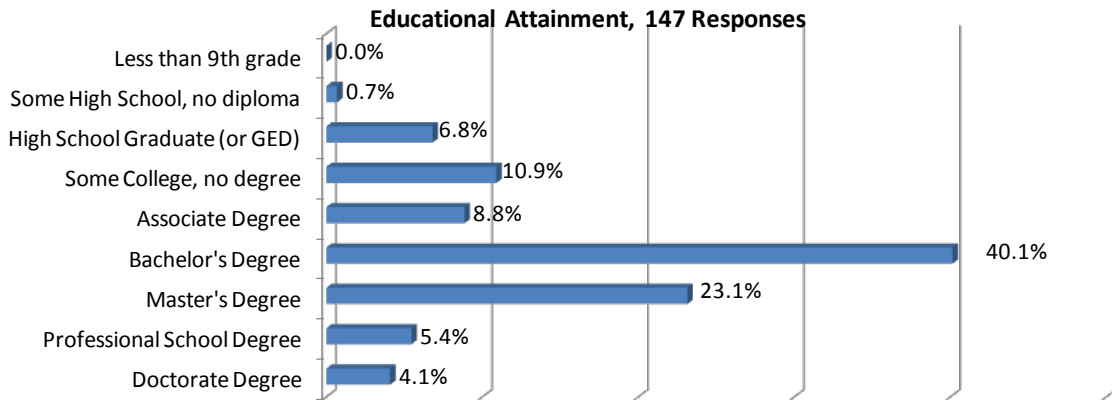
**Galveston County Demographics**

Following are the demographics of the Galveston County residents who responded to the Survey:

**Galveston County - Age and Income of Respondents**



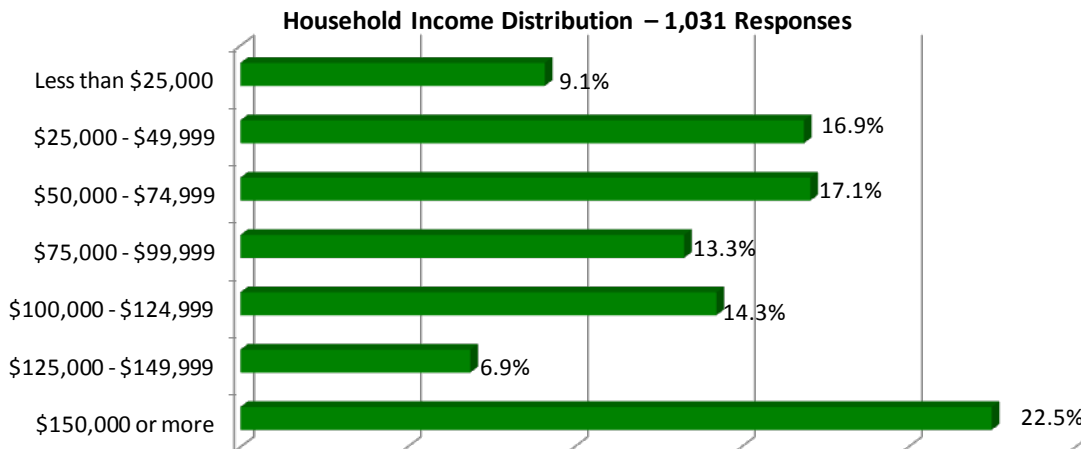
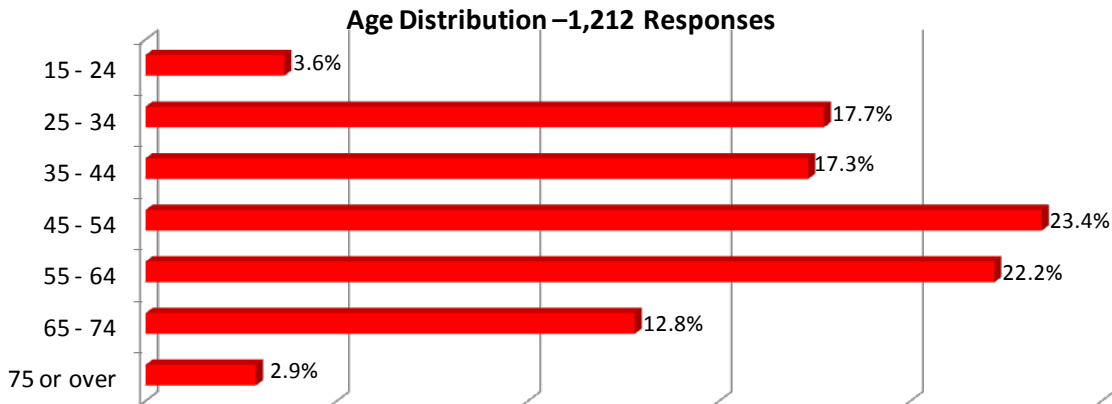
**Galveston County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



### Harris County Demographics

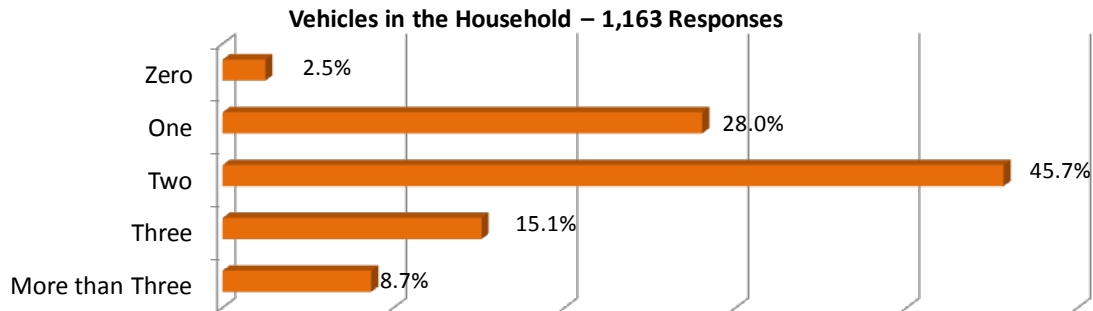
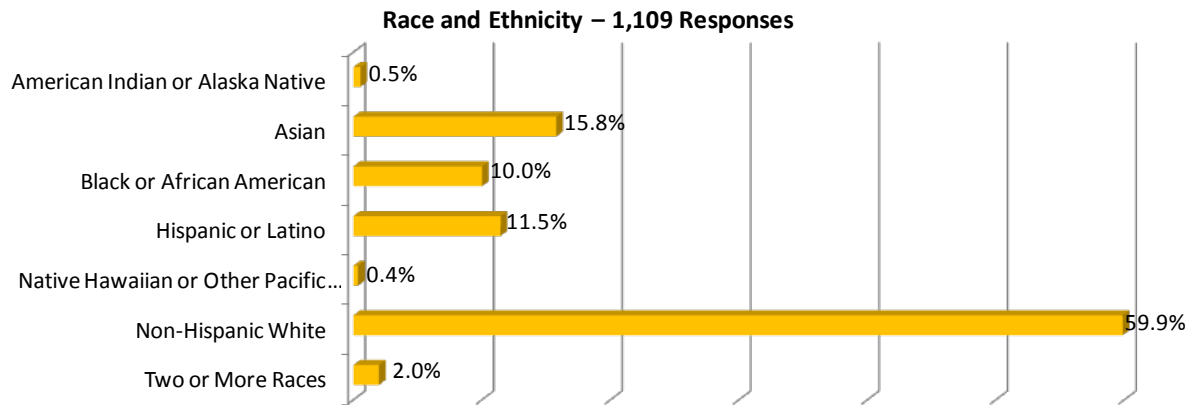
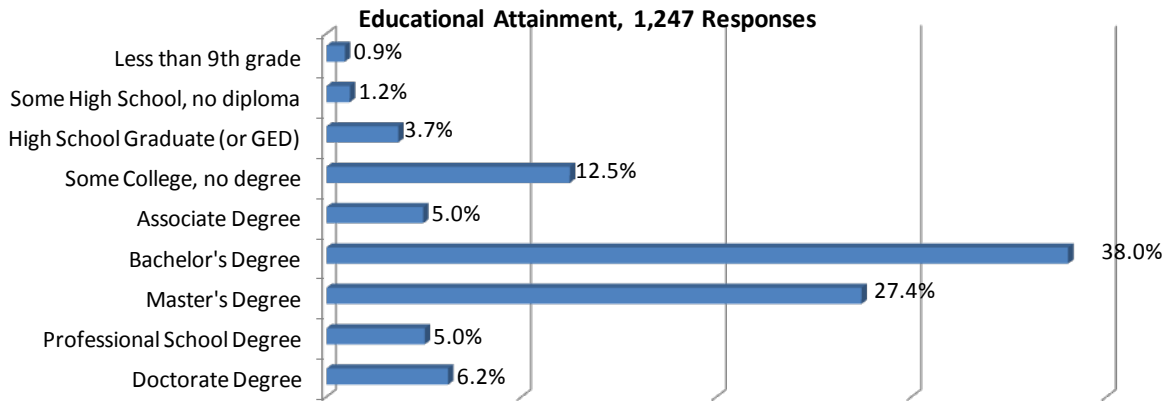
Following are the demographics of the Harris County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Harris County - Age and Income of Respondents





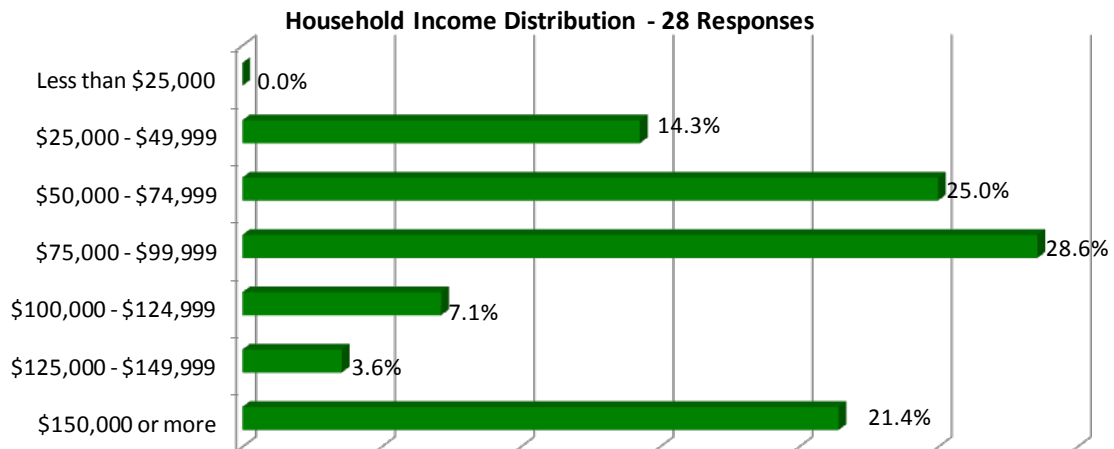
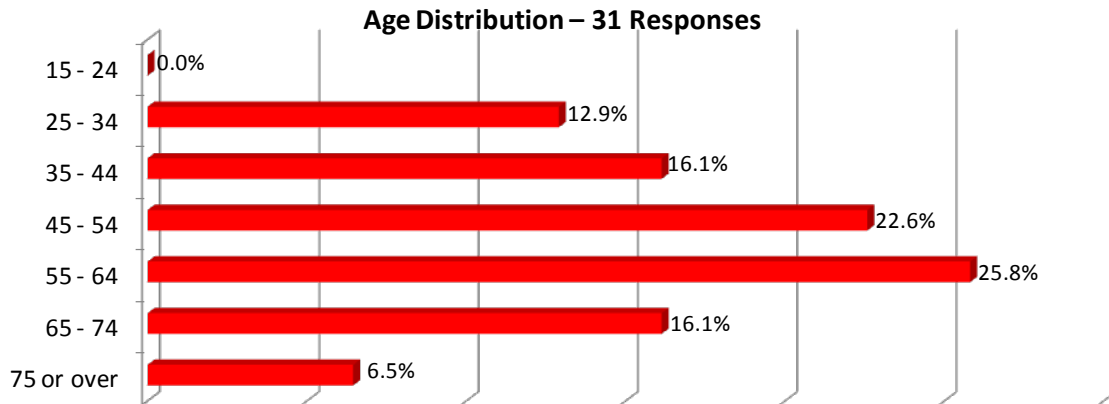
**Harris County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



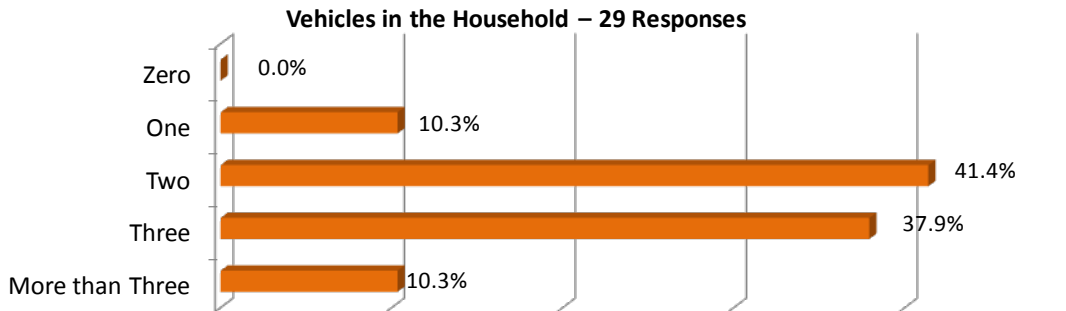
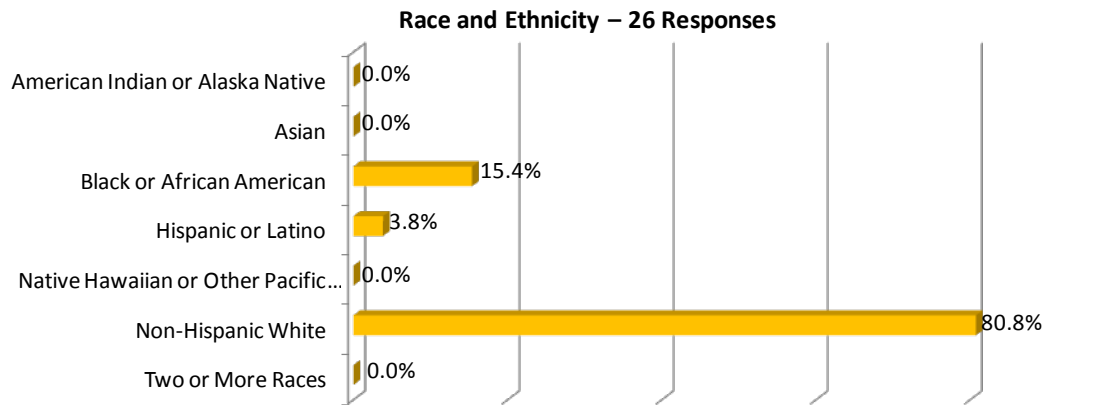
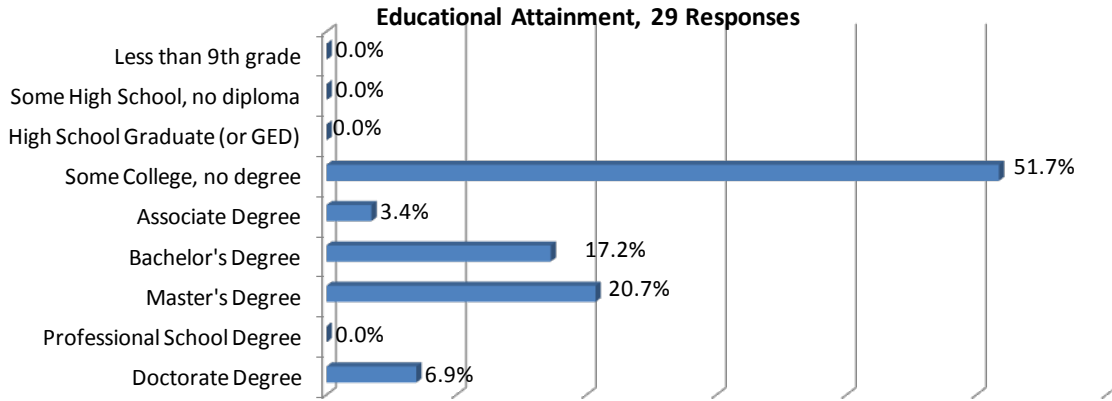
### Liberty County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Liberty County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Liberty County - Age and Income of Respondents



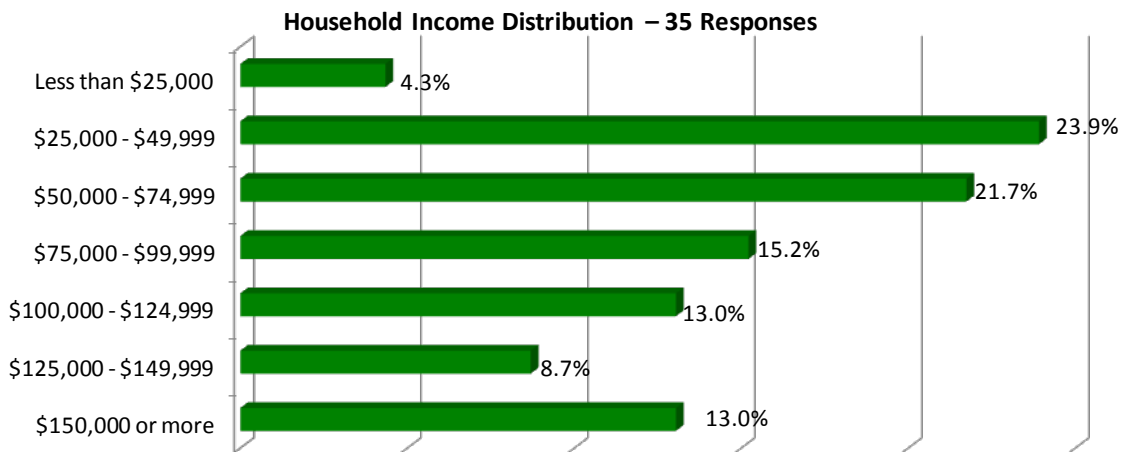
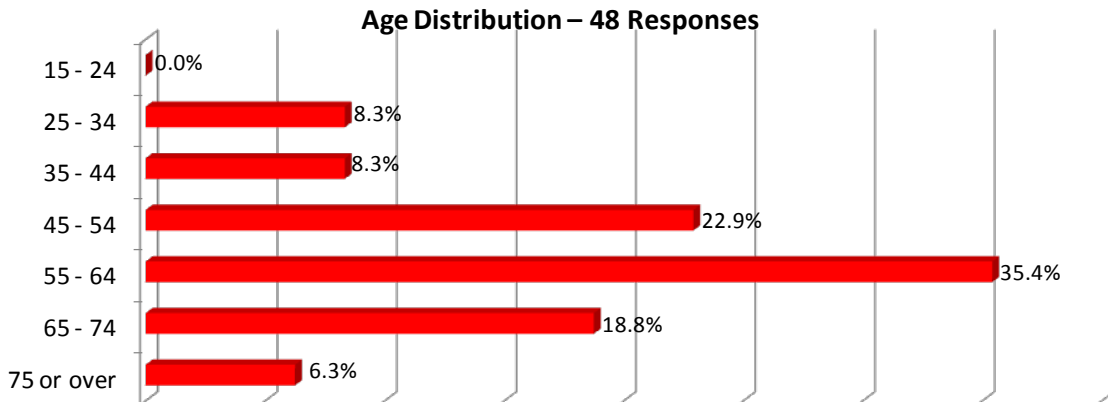
**Liberty County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



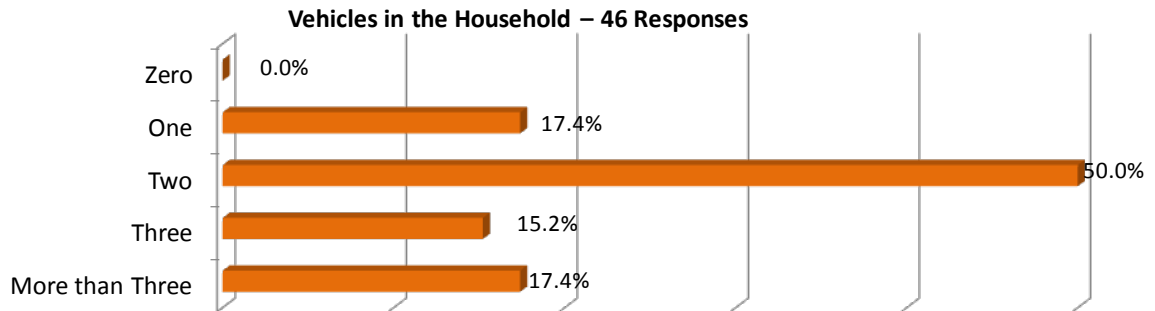
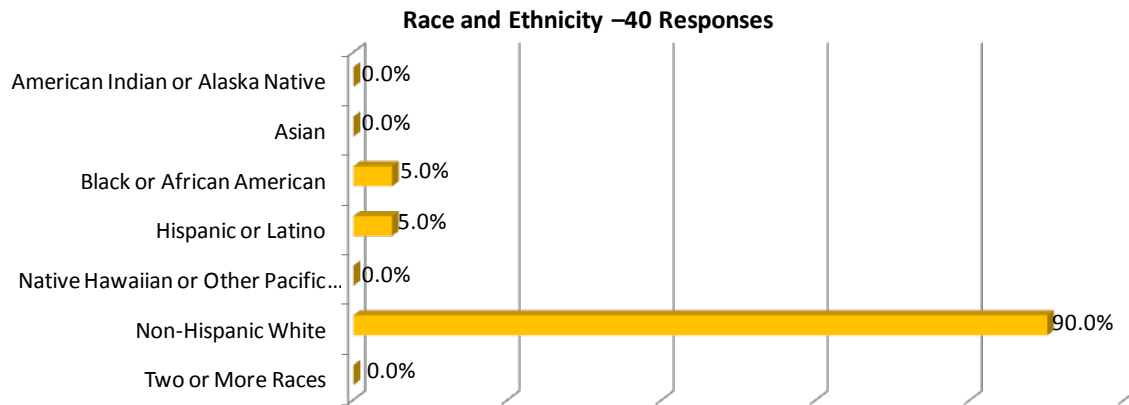
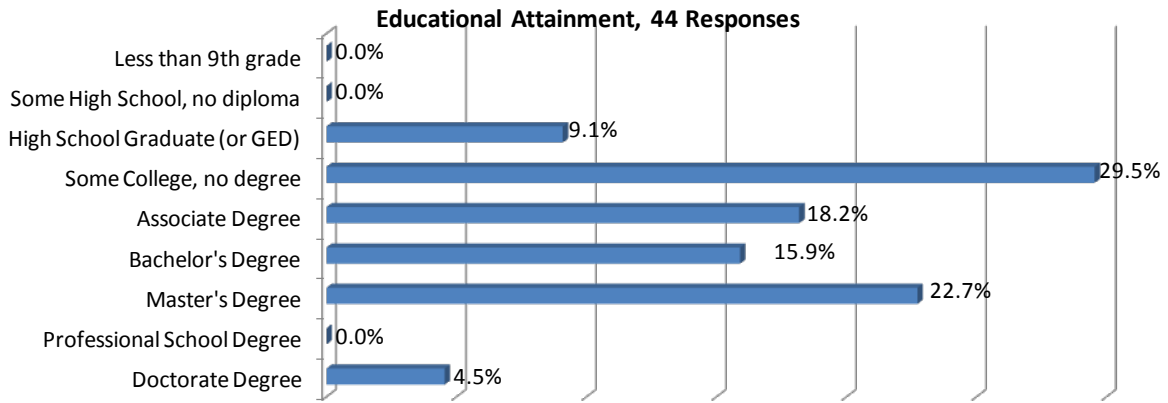
### Matagorda County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Matagorda County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Matagorda County - Age and Income of Respondents



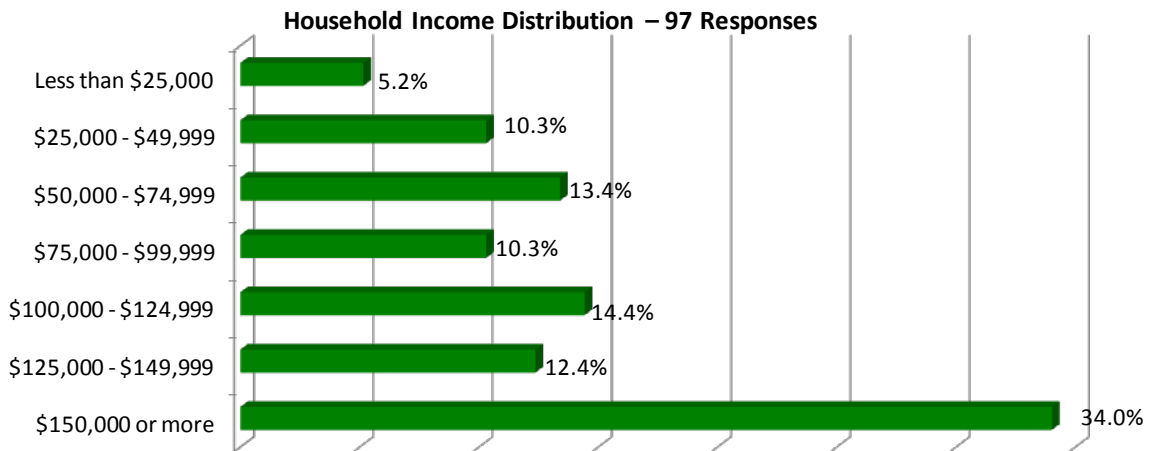
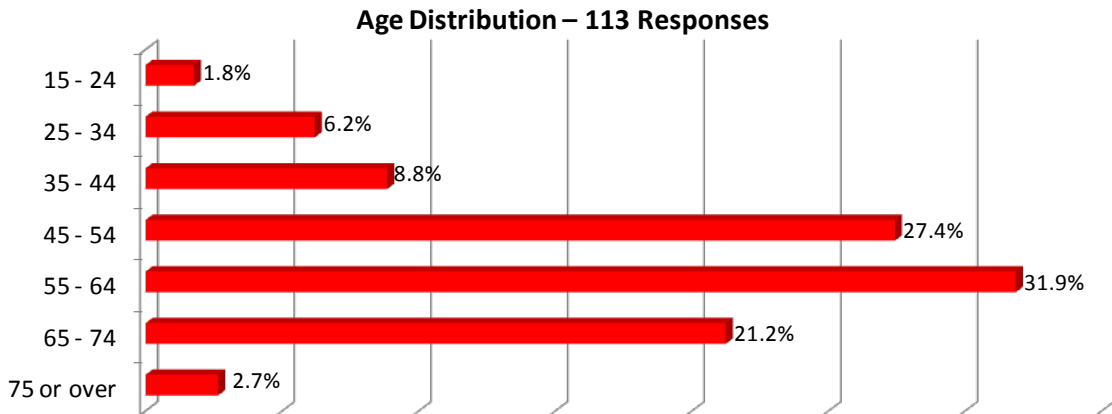
**Matagorda County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



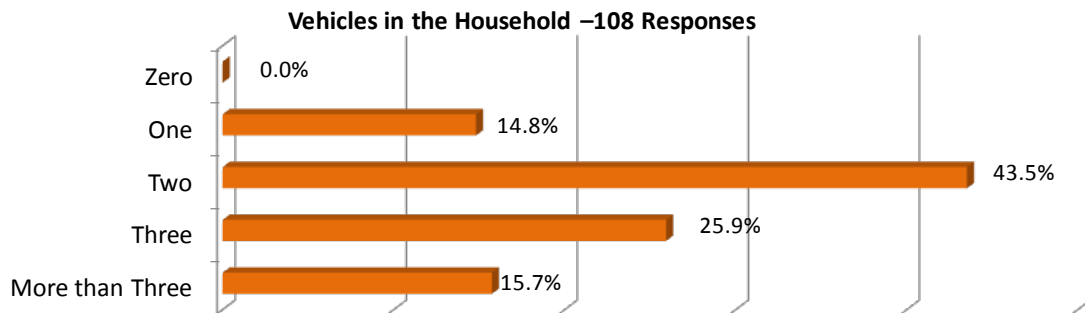
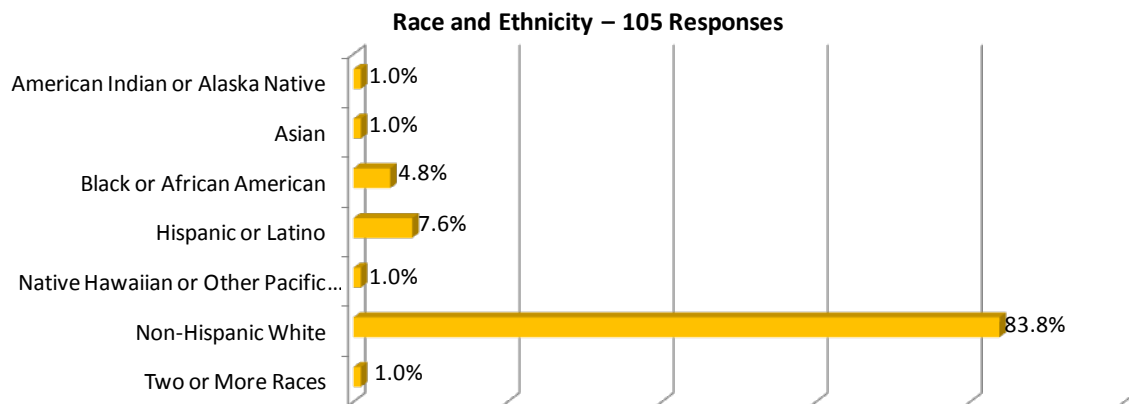
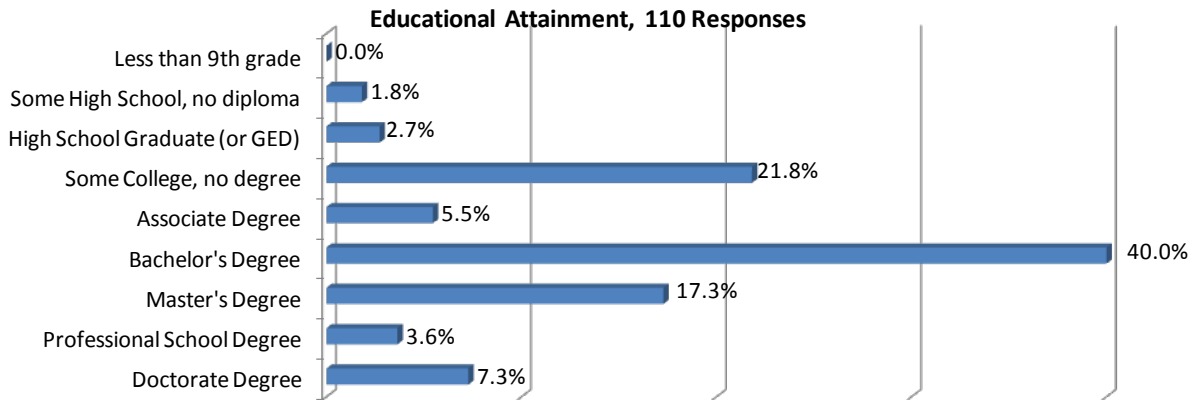
### Montgomery County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Montgomery County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Montgomery County - Age and Income of Respondents



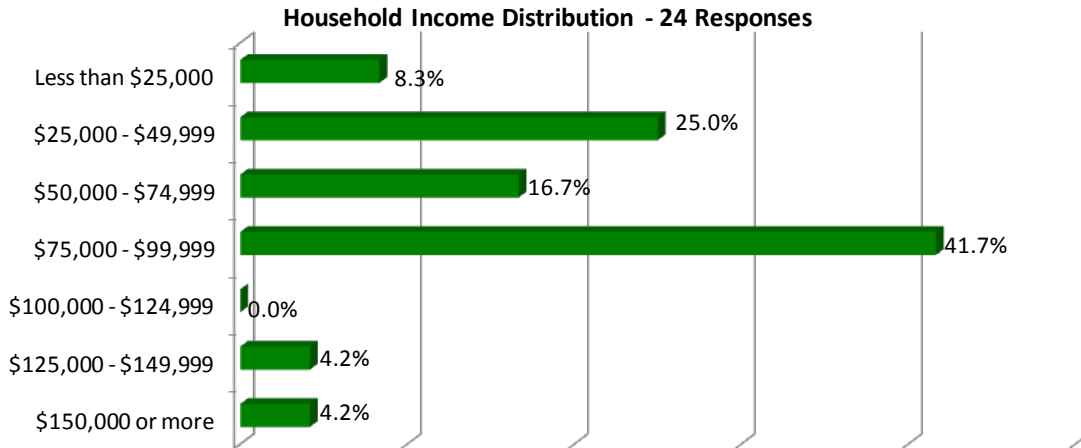
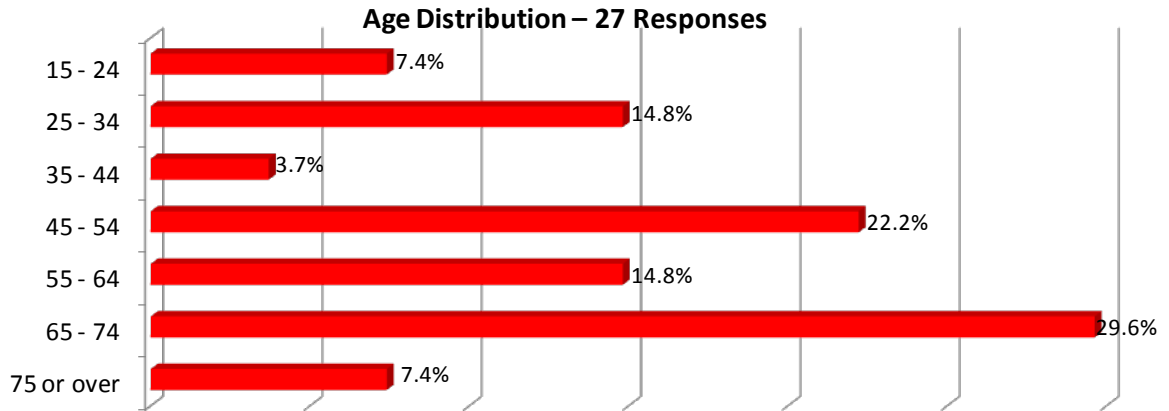
**Montgomery County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



### Walker County Demographics

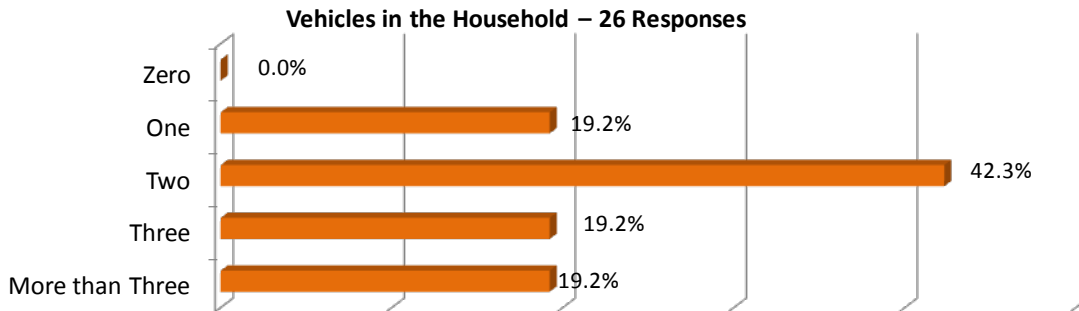
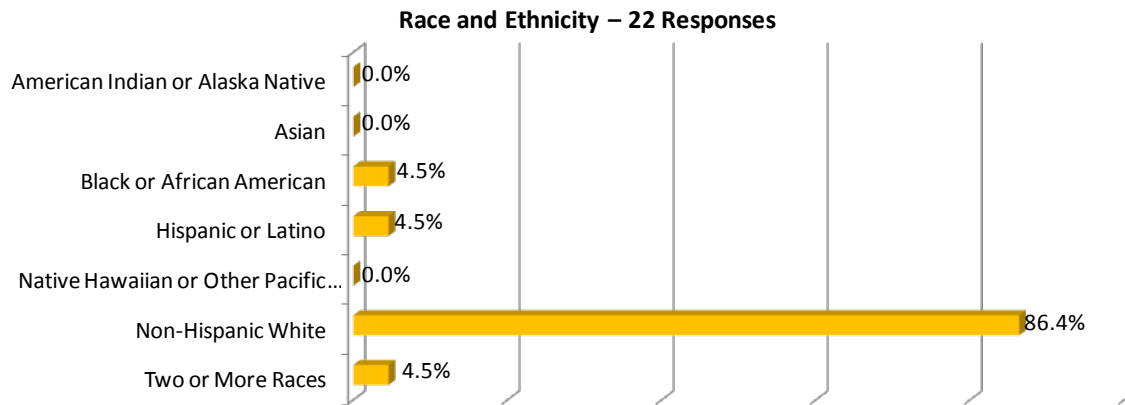
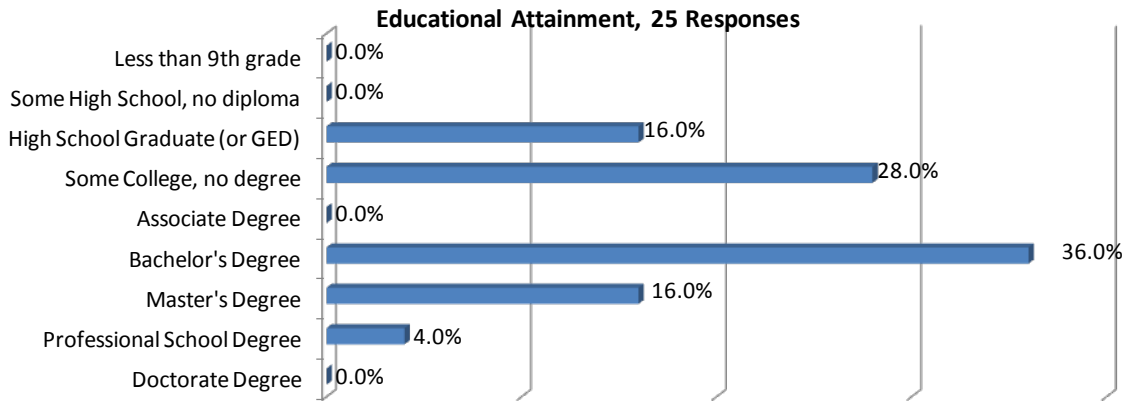
Following are the demographics of the Walker County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Walker County - Age and Income of Respondents





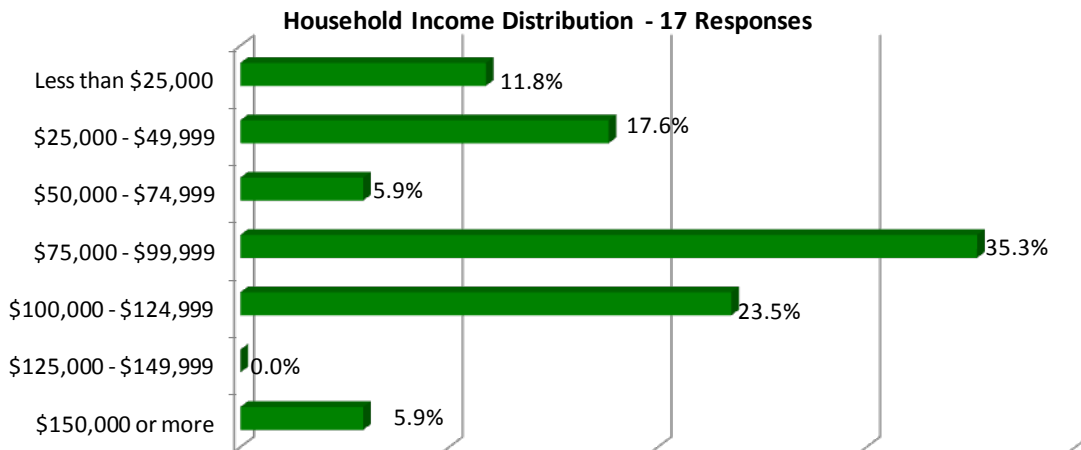
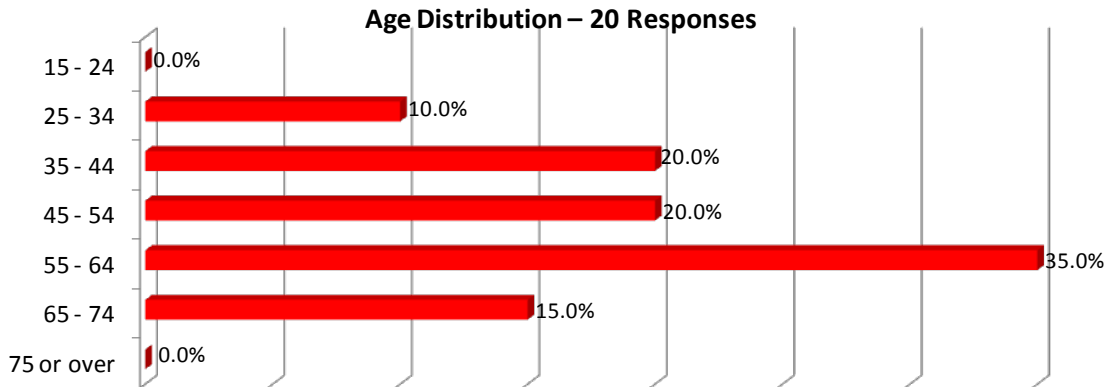
**Walker County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



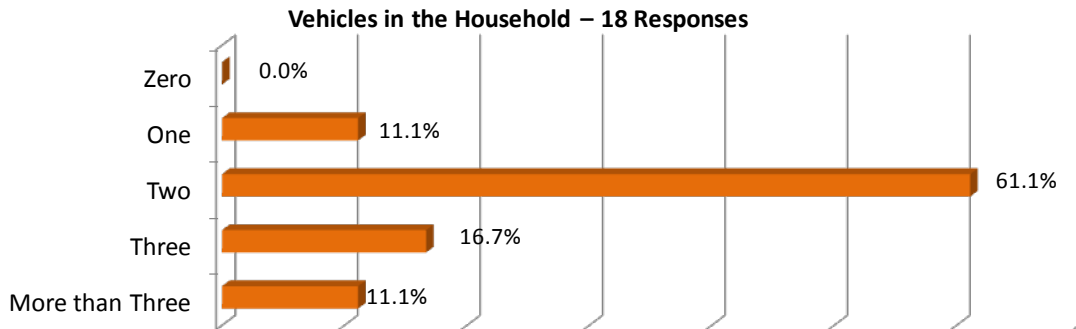
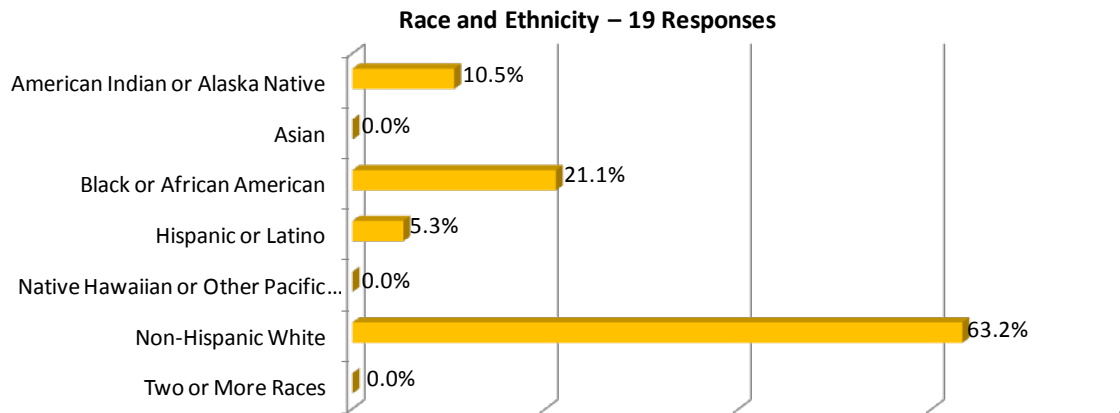
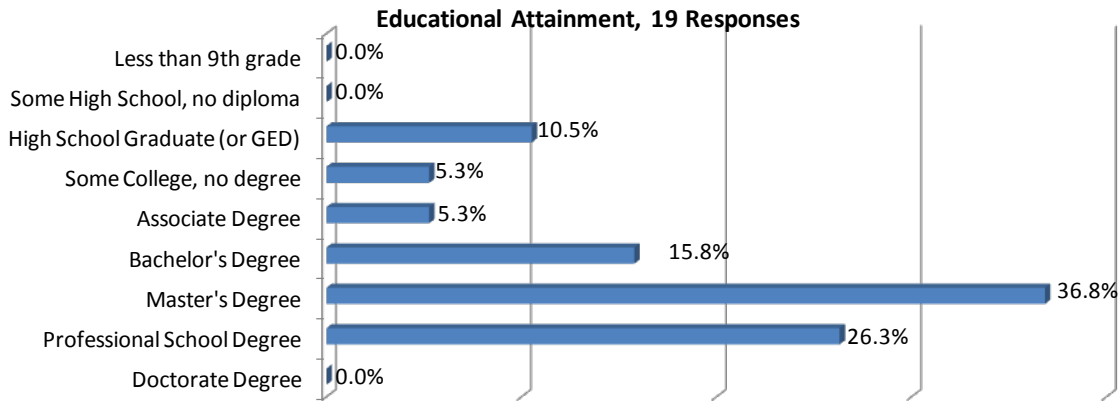
### Waller County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Waller County residents who responded to the Survey:

#### Waller County - Age and Income of Respondents



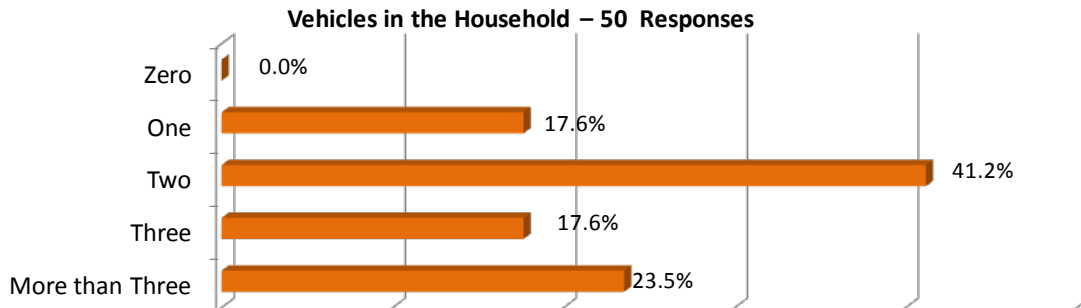
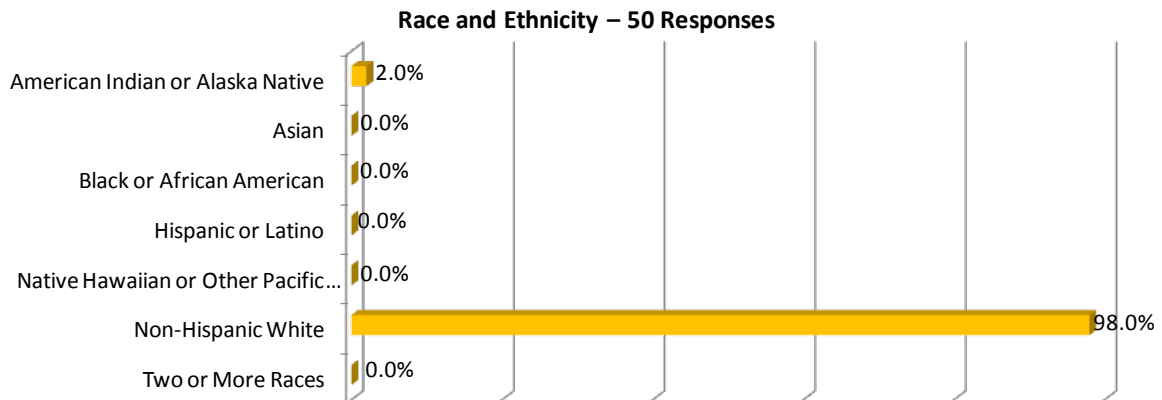
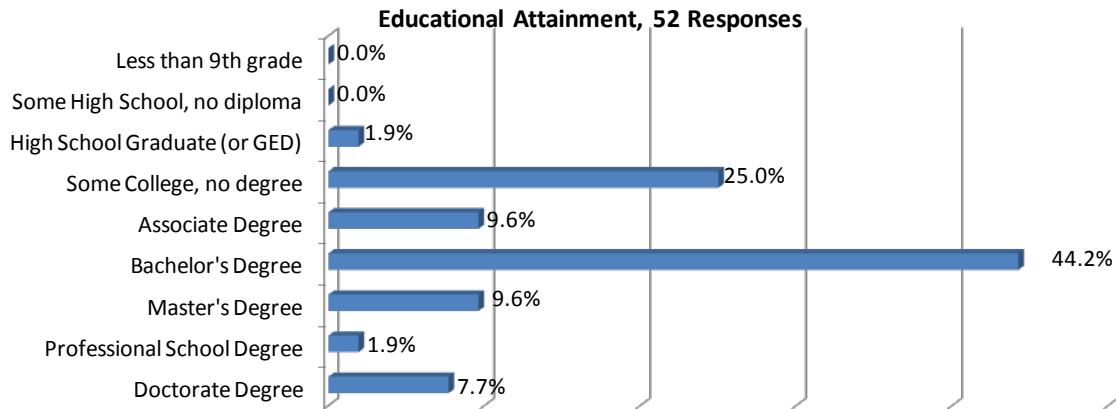
**Waller County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles**



## Wharton County Demographics

Following are the demographics of the Wharton County residents who responded to the Survey:

### Wharton County – Education, Race & Ethnicity, Vehicles



**Home to Work by County**

The following table is a cross tabulation of the residence zip code (Home County) and the work zip code (Work County).

Home County ↓	Work County														
	Austin	Brazoria	Chambers	Colorado	Fort Bend	Galveston	Harris	Liberty	Matagorda	Montgomery	Walker	Waller	Wharton	H-GAC Region	Other
Austin	10				2		1							13	0
Brazoria		110			3	2	39	1						155	2
Chambers			23				6	2						31	3
Colorado	1			11			2							14	0
Fort Bend		6			81	1	64			1		1		154	0
Galveston		6	3		3	85	46			1				144	0
Harris		22	46	1	28	9	1105	6	1	13		8		1239	11
Liberty		4	2				5	21		2				34	0
Matagorda		2				1	1		36					40	0
Montgomery					2		28	1		91	2			124	1
Walker										1	19			20	0
Waller							4		1			16		21	0
Wharton					1		3		2				54	60	0
<b>Total H-GAC</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1304</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>2049</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Other Counties</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>

# Appendix B

## Community Meeting Summaries

## GROUP SESSIONS

### Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and 2040 Regional Transportation Plan

#### Meeting Summary

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	April 11, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Telephone Road Public Housing Development 6000 Telephone Road Houston, Texas
<b>Number in attendance:</b>	16

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Roberta Burroughs presented the concise version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**. After the presentation, individuals in attendance participated in a “dot democracy” exercise. Each individual was given enough dots to select a ranking for the priority goals, including transportation. These dots were placed on large sheets that displayed the draft priority goals

Fifteen surveys were completed. The “word for sustainability” exercise was not conducted.

Sheets from the interactive exercise are being transmitted to H-GAC Community & Environmental staff.

A summary of transportation results is transmitted herewith.

Goal Priority Exercise - General Results  
 Telephone Road Housing Development Meeting  
 April 11, 2012  
 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

PEOPLE					
	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?					14
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?					13
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					14
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?				1	12



PLACES					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?	1			1	12
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?			2	2	8
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?					12
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?				1	13

PROSPERITY					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?				3	11
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?	1	1	1	3	12
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?			2	1	12
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?			1	3	12

On this sheet, Please write other goals that you would add, if any?

- Be able to have access to health clinics.
- Driving lane on freeway for seniors.
- Mobility chairs adaptable for outdoor transportation, for those without personal transportation availability.

Which goal(s) do you think would be most challenging to implement?

- Improving and sustaining infrastructure.
- Maintaining services for roads and freeways.

Goal Priority Exercise - Transportation Results  
 Telephone Road Housing Development Meeting  
 April 11, 2012  
 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to your community are more pedestrian/bicycle facilities?	3	2	3	3	9
How important to your community are more toll roads?	11				4
How important to your community are more METRO HOT lanes?	3		2	1	6
How important to your community is more public transportation, such as buses, rail, van pools, shuttle buses?				1	15
How important to your community are more highways?			2	1	14
How important to your community are more surface streets?	1	2	1	1	13
How important to your community are operational improvements, such as the timing of traffic signals and traffic signs?	1	1		2	11

Are there transportation improvements that are not listed that are important to your community? If so, please use the space below to list desired transportation improvements.

- Rail down Telephone Road.
- Mono Rail system.
- More transportation for seniors other than METRO Lift.
- METRO Lift needs to be on time.
- The need for personal transportation for seniors is very great. Some are using the home hover rounds to make needed trips to grocery stores in our area that help us stretch our meager finances. Some places that offer these home wheels are pushing the too large machines that have some people having serious accidents.
- Need safe transportation for seniors to travel or walk.

## GROUP SESSIONS

### Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and 2040 Regional Transportation Plan

#### Meeting Summary

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	April 10, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Third Ward Multi-Service Center 3611 Ennis Street Houston, Texas
<b>Number in attendance:</b>	52

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Fifty-two participants engaged in an interactive session. The session featured a “dot democracy” exercise, wherein each individual was given enough dots to select a ranking for the priority goals, including transportation. At three intervals, Roberta Burroughs presented the abbreviated version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**.

The session was attended by students from Texas Southern University and Prairie View A & M University, civic club leaders from throughout southeast Houston, human service providers, and college professors.

Forty-six surveys were completed and fourteen individuals participated in the “word for sustainability” exercise. Sheets from the interactive exercise, as well as the words gathered in the “word for sustainability” exercise are being transmitted to H-GAC Community & Environmental staff.

A summary of transportation results is transmitted herewith.

**Goal Priority Exercise – General**  
**Third Ward Multi-Service Center Open House**  
**April 10, 2012**  
**2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

PEOPLE					
	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?				2	45
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?			1	7	36
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					43
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?			3	10	31

PLACES					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?		1	3	3	38
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?		2	4	9	34
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?		2	10	5	31
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?				9	24



PROSPERITY					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?			4	6	37
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?				4	34
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?		3	3	8	21
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?		1	3	4	27

On this sheet, Please write other goals that you would add, if any?

- Use part of the Toll Fee to help intercity elders to keep up homes.
- We do not need more toll roads.
- Eliminate the stereotype that Third Ward is not safe.
- Opportunities for fresh and healthy foods i.e. eliminate food deserts.
- Youth orientated activities that engage and embrace them.
- Access to health (physical/mental) systems within the community.
- Additional parks.
- Additional venues for cultural arts (visual and performing).
- Quality schools/after school programs.
- Resources for seniors (housing/medical/activities).
- Support for existing community assets/CBOs.
- Community gardens.
- Support for the people who already live/have history in consideration of this neighborhood.
- Commercial/Economic/Entertainment destination within the community that serves residents/guest/visitors/employees and potential residents.
- Support the people who do not receive benefits as someone who is disabled or a senior. There are no readily available resources to meet their needs.

- Sustainability.
- Better resources for seniors and those not having support. Also, more community activities in Third Ward.
- Do/should we automatically infer that infrastructure means grocery stores/businesses/services and support etc?
- Coordinated investments in infrastructure, housing, transportation and solid waste management with more minority business participation in achieving these goals.

Which goal(s) do you think would be most challenging to implement?

- Pedestrian walkways due to lack of sidewalks.
- Anything/goal that values/prioritizes pedestrians and alternative transportation modalities will be a challenge to implement - but worth it in the long run!
- City ordinance requiring retail - merchandise businesses (objects under 5kg) be required to have Bicycle parking equivalent to one automobile parking space (with a "rack") per 25 automobile spaces.
- PSAs reminding motorists of cyclists' right-to-the-road.
- Warning signs (for the motorists) where diagonal railroad crossings intersect the roadway.
- Long term safety concerns in regard to changing neighborhood missed usage.
- Establishing multi-use walkable communities.
- Economic support from the city!
- Getting transportation financing.

- Equitable execution of existing ordinances and standards.
- Job promotion and financial issue.
- Political will!

**Goal Priority Exercise – Transportation**  
**Third Ward Multi-Service Center Open House**  
**April 10, 2012**  
**2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to your community are more pedestrian/bicycle facilities?	1	4	3	7	22
How important to your community are more toll roads?	30	7	4	1	0
How important to your community are more METRO HOT lanes?	12	9	11	6	2
How important to your community is more public transportation, such as buses, rail, van pools, shuttle buses?	1	2	8	4	29
How important to your community are more highways?	20	9	6	5	3
How important to your community are more surface streets?	10	1	5	3	23
How important to your community are operational improvements, such as the timing of traffic signals and traffic signs?	4	5	8	11	15

Are there transportation improvements that are not listed that are important to your community? If so, please use the space below to list desired transportation improvements.

- Bus lines that cross the community.
- Bus lines that go directly to other areas of town where the jobs are more prevalent.
- Subways should be considered.
- Electric railway to connect surrounding areas to the inner city.
- More light railway lines are needed.
- Cross the city rails!
- Pedestrian w/ safety focus.
- Walkable spaces.
- More private cars and minibuses to supplement poor service areas.
- Trail for children to safely commute to school.
- Public transportation throughout the region.
- No rails. Only put more buses in low income areas.
- Street grid connectivity.
- No power lines in sidewalk.
- Subway system.
- Regional rail (commuter).
- Hi-speed rail to NOCA, D/FW, Austin, San Antonio, S. Padre, Monterey.

## BRAZORIA COUNTY - LA MARQUE/TEXAS CITY SMALL GROUP SESSION

### Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and 2040 RTP Visioning

#### Meeting Summary

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Thursday, April 26, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Greater Barbour's Chapel Baptist Church 7420 FM 1765 Texas City, Texas
<b>Number in Attendance:</b>	8
<b>Surveys Completed:</b>	7

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Roberta Burroughs presented the abbreviated version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**. Then participants engaged in a "dot democracy" exercise, wherein each individual was given enough dots to select a ranking for the priority goals, which was followed by a discussion facilitated by Roberta Burroughs.

The session was attended by the present and immediate past president of the Mainland Branch of the NAACP, civic club association members, a Galveston County commissioner, and leaders in the public education sector. (The sign-in sheet appears at the end of this document.)

A summary of the facilitated discussion, along with goal priority results follows.

### **Sustainability Wordule**

- Maintain what you have while plotting and preparing for the future, and also paying (for what is needed)
- There has to be preparation to get from “A” to “B” and have to have the resources to move forward.
- Making the necessary adjustment to preserve a satisfactory level of quality of life
- Consistency in education – lack of preparation, low performance has to be addressed if the area is to be competitive; losing dollars to other areas, as a result of flight from local schools

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Medical care
- More recreational facilities for youths, especially in summer (existing facilities are insufficient or nonexistent; two Boys & Girls Club sites closed. There is a void because the economy does not support these types of services and municipalities do not provide them.
- Galveston County has an aging population; a goal that targets seniors is needed.
- The Lamar School District needs extra help; it’s below standard, with greater needs.
- We are losing African-Americans to the drug trade. There is an inability to fill jobs because of the drug problem. We want a goal directed toward alleviating this situation; everything would be better if males were not medicated or locked up.
- Greater opportunities for cultural enrichment needed; there is nothing between Houston and Galveston.

### **Which Goals Would Likely be Hardest to Implement**

- Stemming the loss of African-American males to the drug trade (would be the hardest goal to implement). This is a top priority; it impacts the community the most.



- The redistribution of educational resources based on need would be the second hardest to implement.
- Rail that reaches Galveston County and goes to Houston and vice versa
- Have to get cars off the road.
- Commuter rail
- Drainage will be an issue as the area grows; will need detention and can put bike trails around the detention.
- Texas City and Dickinson have some fixed route services; it' a start, but could be improved. Want services to come to the college and services that take seniors to the mall.
- There are some demand-response services and there is a park and ride that takes bus riders to Houston; will have a new park and ride from League City to Galveston.
- Streets in La Marque need resurfacing.
- The Grand Parkway alignment is undecided; would like at connection at FM 1764.

<b>PEOPLE</b>					
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?					8
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?			1	3	4
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					8
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?				4	4

<b>PLACES</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?				4	4
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?			1	4	3
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?				3	5
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?			2	1	5

<b>PROSPERITY</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?	1			1	6
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?	1			1	6
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?				4	4
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?				3	5



2

## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

Meeting: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

Location: Greater Barbour's Chapel Baptist Church  
7420 FM 1765  
Texas City, Texas

Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sign up to stay informed on what's going on with the Houston Galveston Regional Plan! **PLEASE PRINT**

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1)	Stella L. Bryant		2335 Ave. L Santa Fe, Tx	77510	
(2)	Estel Shelton		4314 Hickory T. C	77591	
(3)	Dr. Jones	NAACP (Mainland)	2335 Ave L, S.E., TX	77510	DJones@com.edu
(4)	Roosevelt Harrison		577 E. Woodrow <sup>TX</sup> City	77591	
(5)	Stephen Holmes	Galveston County	2516 Texas Ave, <sup>Texas</sup> City	77592	
(6)	Juanita Jackson		6610 Woodrow <sup>T.C.</sup>	77591	
(7)	Travis Weatherspoon	Premier Learning Academy	5130 Casey Street Lamarque, TX 77568		<del>tdw@premierlearningacademy.org</del> tdw@premierlearningacademy.org
(8)	Tillie Henson	NAACP (Mainland)	1402 Appomattox Texas City, Tx 77591	77591	tillie7@gmail.com

**REGIONAL PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
BRAZORIA COUNTY/PEARLAND SMALL GROUP SESSION**

**Meeting Summary**

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Tuesday, May 8, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Glenda Dawson High School - Cafeteria 2050 Cullen Boulevard Pearland, Texas
<b>Number in Attendance:</b>	16
<b>Surveys Completed:</b>	17 (including 6 surveys completed at Pearland Neighborhood Forum)

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The session was attended by members of the community, Dawson High School students, a middle school student, and parents of Dawson High School students. (Sign-in sheets are included herein.)

Attendees participated in the goal priority exercise, using dots to select priority goals. Roberta Burroughs provided a summary of the information included in the slide presentation (no facilities were available for a slide show), then facilitated a group discussion.

At 11:30 a.m. on May 8<sup>th</sup>, Darnetta Nelson attended a forum at the Pearland Neighborhood Center and secured six completed surveys; these surveys are included in the total.

A summary of the facilitated discussions and goal priority results follows.

### **Things Participants Like About Their Community**

- Small town atmosphere
- Not much traffic compared to Houston
- Free access to the parks
- Clean
- Live and work close to each other
- Shops and everything are nearby and accessible
- Green space
- Safe to walk and lots of places to walk
- Public facilities and services are nearby.
- Good police, EMS, and fire protection and good response times
- Hospitals are nearby.
- Convenience with respect to shopping and entertainment e.g. concerts in park and movie theaters
- Good schools
- Parks and recreation

### **Sustainability Wordle**

- Housing
- Employment
- Traffic and roadways
- Shopping

- Comprehensive public transportation (all over and would like to be able to get a train to SH288 into Downtown Houston; have to do it above ground now)
- Tighter zoning restrictions and zone open areas for housing and commercial
- Restrict apartments; want only single-family dwellings
- Limit high density; limit high-rises; use zoning to do that
- Want whole city to look same; east side/west side homogeneity; don't want such an abrupt change --- on SH518, you can see the change.
- Buildings in older neighborhoods need facelift.

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Maintaining roads and schools and other infrastructure
- Quality education (with influx, this will be a challenge)
- Relief of traffic congestion through traffic improvements
- Want single-family because believe this results in a more equitable tax situation ' apartments pay less property tax
- Ensure a balance of 1-bedroom and 2/3bedroom apartments to provide a diversity of choices for balance
- Provide limited affordable housing with a balance, so that workers don't have to be bussed in. Want to avoid a situation like in Boerne, Texas, where workers had to be bussed in.
- Like low density
- Police force does not reflect the ethnic diversity of the city; harassment is an issue. Went to court and 90 percent of violators appeared to be African-American.
- There are lots of new police officers on the force and it is diverse.
- Want police to have diversity training.



### **Which Goals Would Likely be Hardest to Implement**

- Public transportation; i.e. high speed rail, due to the car culture in Texas and the cost factor
- Relief of traffic congestion through traffic improvements
- High speed rail for the region, state, and country, to save on pollution
- Zoning changes
- Infrastructure
- Means of getting water as we grow

**Draft Priority Goal Results**

PEOPLE					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?	1		1	3	10
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?		1	3	3	7
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					14
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?		1	1	3	10

PLACES					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?			3	1	10
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?	1	1	3	1	9
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?		3	4	2	6
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?					15

PROSPERITY					
Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important	1	2	3	4	5
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?		1	1	9	5
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?			1	2	12
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?	1	4	5	2	5
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?	2	1	2	2	9



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

**Meeting:** Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

**Location:** Glenda Dawson High School - Cafeteria  
2050 Cullen Boulevard  
Pearland, Texas

**Date:** Tuesday, May 8, 2012

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

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	NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1)	Ivy walls		1314 Kingfisher courts. Pearland Texas	77584	ivy.walls@yahoo.com
(2)	Sean Wolff				rseanwolff@gmail.com
(3)	Jacob Irby			77584	irbydj@comcast.net
(4)	Aiden Farinacci		3041 Greenlee dr	77581	
(5)	Tex Bradx		1919 Lazy Creek Ln	77581	
(6)	Michele Munkhaugen				
(7)	Asian Bright			77584	girlpower9414@yahoo.com
(8)	Farinacci		3041 Green Lee Drive	77584	deidre12002@yahoo.



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

**Meeting:** Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

**Location:** Glenda Dawson High School - Cafeteria  
2050 Cullen Boulevard  
Pearland, Texas

**Date:** Tuesday, May 8, 2012

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

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NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) Andre' Roper	The Roper Law Firm	4114 Flamingo Ct. Pearland	77584	andreroper@theroperlawfirm.com
(2) <del>DANNA CHAWON</del>		3311 Churchill Pearland	77581	
(3) LIVIA TORRES		3318 Churchill Pearland	77581	
(4) Pat Wiley		3405 Fox Ct, Pearland	77581	
(5) Elynda McGinnis	parent	1210 Sandpiper Ct N Pearland TX	77584	nairymac@sbcglobal.net
(6) Stephanie Meeks	parent	8123 Sterlingfield Dr Pearland TX	77584	smeeks5@gmail.com
(7) Titilayo Odoris	The Damali Group	6520 Broadway St #1112 Pearland, TX	7758	titilayo@thedamaligroup.com
(8)				



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

**Meeting:** Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

**Location:** Glenda Dawson High School - Cafeteria  
2050 Cullen Boulevard  
Pearland, Texas

**Date:** Tuesday, May 8, 2012

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sign up to stay informed on what's going on with the Houston Galveston Regional Plan! **PLEASE PRINT**

NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) Julian Suarez		2760 Sunshade Ct.	77584	Juarez.Julian@rocketmail.com
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
(5)				
(6)				
(7)				
(8)				

## GROUP SESSIONS

### Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and 2040 Regional Transportation Plan

#### Meeting Summary

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	April 12, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Houston Commission on Disabilities 1475 West Gray Houston, Texas
<b>Meeting Type:</b>	Standing monthly board meeting
<b>Number in attendance:</b>	20

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Ruth Henshall presented the concise version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**. After the presentation, individuals in attendance participated in a “draft goal priority” exercise. Each individual was given an exercise worksheet to select a ranking for the priority goals ranked from 1 (being least important) to 5 (being most important). The goals/questions were read out loud so that sight-impaired attendees could complete participate in the exercise. Of the total 20 attendees, 14 completed the draft goals exercise sheets. The community visioning survey was distributed to all attendees and completed by two individuals.

A tally of the draft goals exercise follows. After completing the exercise, board members offered these additional comments:

- Would like to pass our contact information on to other community groups that may be interested in a presentation.
- Would prefer to see METROLift as a separate transportation mode in future surveys, because it has such a different user group.
- For the questions about walking and biking, please add accessibility.

After the Regional Plan presentation, the board covered an agenda that included a lengthy discussion of METROLift issues, indicating that this group would be an excellent resource for future input on the transportation needs of the region’s disabled community. This discussion also brought to light ideas for encouraging participation by the disabled community in any survey, including these options — Braille, email, audio and the ability to take information over the phone.



<b>PEOPLE</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?				3	11
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?		1		2	11
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?		1		2	11
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?			1	1	12
<b>PLACES</b>					
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?	1		2	3	8
8How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?	1		2	4	7
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?		1	1	4	8
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?		1	2	1	10
<b>PROSPERITY</b>					
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?			2		12
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?			1	1	12
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and		1	1	4	8

infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?					
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?		1	1	1	11
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>					
How important to your community are operational improvements, such as the timing of traffic signals and traffic signs?		1	2	3	8
How important to your community are more pedestrian/bicycle facilities?	1	1	2	4	6
How important to your community are more toll roads?	4	4	2	2	2
How important to your community are more METRO HOT lanes?	3	2	4	2	3
How important to your community is more public transportation, such as buses, rail, van pools, and shuttle buses?	1		1	1	11
How important to your community are more highways?	2	2	7	2	1
How important to your community are more surface streets?		1	6	3	4

Are there transportation improvements that are not listed that are important to your community? If so, please use the space below to list desired transportation improvements.

- Fewer potholes and curb cuts for accessibility issue for people using assessable transportation.
- Repair current roads and fix potholes.
- Do not want more toll roads.
- Accessible operational improvements and better sidewalks.
- Fix potholes and install turn bays.
- Would really love to see a commuter rail system from Spring/Woodlands to Downtown.
- A train from The Woodlands to the City of Houston.
- More programs for audible street crossing signals.
- Options for solar cars and alternate energy.
- Timelines of METRO Lift.
- Street Crossings.

ZIP CODES	Urban	Suburban
77099	X	
77571		X
77489 *(2)		X
77396	X	
77045		X
77008	X	
77002	X	
77043		X
77373		X
77381		X
77006	X	
77025	X	
77086		X

\*(2): denotes two of the same zip codes were recorded.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Monthly Meeting



**Houston Commission on Disabilities**  
**Thursday, April 12, 2012** □ **1475 W. Gray, Houston, TX**

**4:00 PM to 6:00 PM**

- I. Call to order**
- II. Roll Call** – Ellen Goudeau
- III. Public Comments**
- IV. Meeting minutes to be approved** – March 8, 2012
- V. Rise School** – Ashley Kress, Developmental Director
- VI. “Our Region, The Houston Galveston Regional Plan”** – Ruth Henshall, President, The Lentz Group, appearing on behalf of the Houston-Galveston Area Council. A presentation and informal survey on the needs of the disabled community.
- VII. Committee Updates**
  - a. COH Policy Evaluation & Improvement**
    - 1. Deafness and Hard of Hearing** – Kathy Walters, Chair
  - b. Emergency Preparedness** – Deborah Nowinski, Chair
  - c. Employment** - Buddy Osborne, Chair
  - d. Parks & Accessibility** – Krupa Parikh, Chair
  - e. Metro/Transportation/Parking** – José Ramirez, Chair
  - f. HARP** – Jane Cummins, Chair
  - g. Marketing** – Shital Patel, Chair
- VIII. Metropolitan MSC update** – Chuck French
- IX. ADA update** - Matt Russell, COH ADA Coordinator
- X. MOPD update** – Elaine Roberts, Division Manager
- XI. Commissioners' comments**
- XII. Adjourn 6:00 p.m.**

If you will be unable to attend, please notify Katie Tracy at [Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov](mailto:Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting so an alternate can be appointed.

Captioning Provided

If you require other accommodations, please contact [Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov](mailto:Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov) at least 48 hours in advance

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77099
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

People

How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

Places

How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

Prosperity

How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5

More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5

More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5

More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5

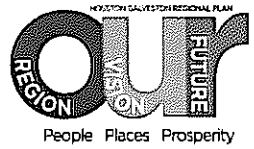
More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5

More highways 1 2 3 4 5

More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77571
2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) ~~77439~~ 77439
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban ~~Coastal~~
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.
  - Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
  - More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
  - More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
  - More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
  - More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
  - More highways 1 2 3 4 5
  - More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77396
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_



# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77045
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural (Suburban) Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

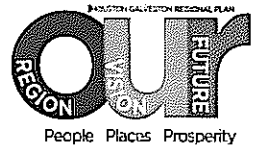
- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 (5)
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 (5)
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 (5)

What other goals would you add? Inclusion of persons with disabilities & different abilities in all the above listed concerns

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.
  - Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - More toll roads 1 2 3 (4) 5
  - More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 (4) 5
  - More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - More highways 1 2 3 4 (5)
  - More surface streets 1 2 3 4 (5)

Other transportation improvements please specify: Fewer restrooms and curb cuts for accessibility issue for people using assistive transportation

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77008
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

**People**

How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

**Places**

How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

**Prosperity**

How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? Accessibility for people with disabilities is important

## 4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5

More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5

More toll roads DO NOT WANT 1 2 3 4 5

More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5

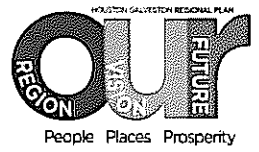
More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5

More highways 1 2 3 4 5

More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: REPAIR CURRENT ROADS AND FIX POTHOLES

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77002

2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban **Urban** Coastal

3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 **4** 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 **5**
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 **4** 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 **5**

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 **3** 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 **3** 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 **5**
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 **4** 5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 **5**
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 **5**
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 **3** 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 **5**

What other goals would you add? accessibility in new + old businesses

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 **5**
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 **4** 5
- More toll roads 1 **2** 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 **4** 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 **5**
- More highways 1 **2** 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 **3** 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: accessible operational improvements + sidewalks

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77043
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? Increase property values, Enforce local codes

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Fix potholes! Install turn bays

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77373
2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Would really love to see a Commuter rail from Spring/Woodlands to downtown.

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77381
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

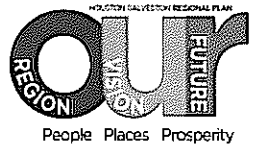
- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? Emergency management programs which are effective and include the needs of persons with disabilities

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.
  - Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
  - More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
  - More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
  - More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
  - More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
  - More highways 1 2 3 4 5
  - More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Train from Woodlands to COH; More programs for audible street crossing signals

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77006
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Options for solar cars and alternate energy

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77425
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? Health services, behavioral health, reduction in crime

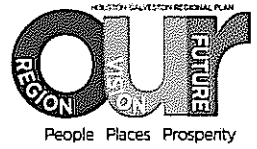
- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Timeliness of METRO lift



# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77086
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

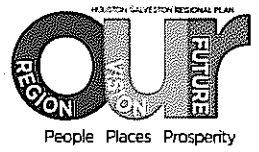
What other goals would you add? accessibility for all/sidewalks-crossways

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: street crossings

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77489
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
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  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	ADDRESS
1 Mari Ramos	Mari Estro Ramos		
2 Francisca M. Rendon	Mari Estro Ramos		
3 Cruz Delgado	Petra Vallegos		
4 Maria Bustamante	Riquel O Patino		
5 Virginia A. Amador	Lee Lopez		
6 Juana Gonzalez	Paul Lopez		
7 Maria Espartero	Alfredo Espinosa		
8 Yohana Suarez	EMERSON		
9 Rose Estrada			
10 Silvia Cruz			
11 Pamela Quintana			
12 Patry Malame			

**REGIONAL PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
FORT BEND COUNTY/MISSOURI CITY SMALL GROUP SESSION**

**Meeting Summary**

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Tuesday, April 24, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Missouri City Annex 307 Texas Parkway, Suite 204 Missouri City, Texas
<b>Number in attendance:</b>	26
<b>Surveys Completed:</b>	12

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Roberta Burroughs presented the abbreviated version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**. Then participants were divided into two groups; one group was facilitated by Roberta Burroughs and the other group was facilitated by Darnetta Nelson. Each group engaged in a “dot democracy” exercise, wherein each individual was given enough dots to select a ranking for the priority goals.

The session was attended by the Fort Bend County Commissioner for Precinct 2, Fort Bend County and Missouri City appointed officials, civic club and homeowners association representatives, small business owners, non-profit organizations, a representative from Congressman Al Green’s office, and other members of the community. (The sign-in sheets appear at the end of this document.)

A summary of the facilitated discussions, along with goal priority results are included herein.

### **Things Participants Like About the Community**

- Quietness
- Drainage in Hunters Glen II
- Size (Estates of Waterford)
- Neighbors
- Accessibility to main arteries (i. e. Texas Parkway, Cartwright Road)
- Safety (Quail Valley)

### **Sustainability Wordule**

- Ongoing
- Endurance
- Maintenance of quality
- Diversity
- Operate, making it work right
- Permanence
- Livable
- Life
- Sustain = spend, the opposite of conserve

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Senior activities
- Better drainage

- Widen roads; in West Ford Bend County there are no shoulders and no lights
- Use solar lighting
- Renewable energy sources; less/no utility bills, i.e. geothermal, fuel cell, wind
- Control litter
- Control of pet waste
- Education – services to promote better education and more sources of information
- More transportation for seniors
- Better roads in rural areas and better signage
- County input/improved communication
- Goal that addresses public services like police, fire, medical, and emergency services
- Recreation for youth
- Social services; opportunities to interact as relates to diversity at a community center
- Wellness – how to stay well; healthy exercises
- Opportunity to age in place
- Senior services

**Summary of dialogue that transpired with specific reference to transportation**

- Light rail
- No light rail; it's cheaper to build another lane of highway
- Intra-suburban transportation
- Like lack of public transportation; community is safer
- Bike trails

- Want overpass from Texas Parkway to Gessner Street so that trains don't catch you.
- Overcome UP reluctance to give access for US90A commuter rail.

**Which Goals Would Likely be Hardest to Implement**

- Rail
- Anything that costs money
- Transportation goals because of cost
- Seniors are out of touch; they lack information about community improvements.

### Draft Goal Priority Exercise Results

<b>PEOPLE</b>					
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?			1	1	18
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?			1	4	16
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					20
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?			1	2	16



<b>PLACES</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?			2	4	14
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?			2	5	13
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?		1	1		18
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?		1		2	17

<b>PROSPERITY</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?			1	3	16
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?				2	18
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?			1	9	10
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?			1	5	14



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## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

Meeting: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

Location: Missouri City Annex  
 307 Texas Parkway, Suite 204  
 Missouri City, Texas

Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) Kandice Gremillion	Beasley	2927 Marick RD Rosenberg TX 77471		
(2) John L. Herrington	Missouri City	1610 Mustang Crossing Mo City, TX 77459	77459	
(3) Stelisa D. King	Architect for Life, PC	2450 Louisiana Street #400-233 Houston, TX 77006	77006	
(4) Gary W. Smith	Missouri City	1522 Texas Parkway Missouri City	77489	
(5) Charles Adaway	Missouri City		77459	
(6) Gary Hamilton	Missouri City		77459	
(7) Randy Woods	Missouri City	2610 Lazy Springs Ct.	77489	RCHW44@AOL.COM
(8) Loveless MITCHELL	Missouri City	1703 THORNBROOK	77489	LOVELESS.MITCHELL@SEWATEX.STATE.TX.US



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

**Meeting:** Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

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307 Texas Parkway, Suite 204  
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**Date:** Tuesday, April 24, 2012

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NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) LISA FOX	Quail Valley FUND	2511 Glenn Lakes	77459	woolfolk2@aol.com
(2) ROY GILBERT	THUNDERBOLT WEST HOA	3307 W. CREEK CLUBS	77459	WINDIO@COMCAST.NET
(3) TON WERT	TTC CHAIRMAN	2827 PANORAMA DR.	77459	
(4) Hugh Brightwell	Pg 7 MC Quail Valley Acc	2219 Masters Lane MC. TX 77459	77459	hugh.brightwell@att.net
(5) Annie M Banks	Ridgemont Civic		77053	
(6) Brenda R. Long	Ridgemont		77053	
(7) Jennifer Thomas	City of Missouri City	1522 Texas PKWY MC TX	77489	jthomas@missouricitytx.gov
(8) Sharon Kingford	WFBMD	2005 Meadowlane Richmond, TX 770	77469	skwcountry@aol.com



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

Meeting: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

Location: Missouri City Annex  
307 Texas Parkway, Suite 204  
Missouri City, Texas

Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2012

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NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) CARENE HOLLIDAY	AL GREEN off-cc of Congressman	2440 TEXAS PARKWAY #115	77489	
(2) CAROL JOHNSON		606 STEPHANIE DR MO CITY	77489	JJohnsonCW42@hstman.com
(3) BARBARA RAMIREZ	City of Missouri City	1522 TEXAS PARKWAY	<del>77489</del>	bramirez@missouri-city.gov
(4) IKE WATKINS JR	FBC - Pet. 2	303 TEXAS PARKWAY	77459	WATKISA@co.fort-bend.tx.us
(5) JAYL L. SMITH	Jayl Smith Constable	2500 STILLWALL ST MO. CITY	77489	
(6) RACHEL STEELE	West Ft. Bend MMD	PO BOX 1688 RICHMOND	77469	rsteele@wfbmd.org
(7) SHIRLEY SEWELL	Shir-Ray Enterprise	2228 WATERFORD VILLAGE BLVD. M.C. 77459 →		
(8) SONYA SANTEE	FBC			Sonya.Santee@co.fort-bend.tx.us SanteeS@gnail.com



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

**Meeting:** Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

**Location:** Missouri City Annex  
307 Texas Parkway, Suite 204  
Missouri City, Texas

**Date:** Tuesday, April 24, 2012

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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	NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1)	Dee Trice	Sisters Network <sup>Mo City</sup> Chptr	P.O. Box 1204	77459	trid7@att.net
(2)	Annie M. Banks	Ridgemont Civic <sup>to</sup> Club	4838 Raven Ridge Houston 77053	77053	anniembanks@comcast.net
(3)					
(4)					
(5)					
(6)					
(7)					
(8)					

## GROUP SESSIONS

### Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and 2040 Regional Transportation Plan

#### Meeting Summary

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	May 3, 2012
<b>Time of Meeting:</b>	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Montgomery Housing Authority 1500 North Frazier, Suite 101 Conroe, Texas 77301
<b>Audience Type:</b>	Underserved (Section 8 housing clients)
<b>Format:</b>	Small Group Meeting
<b>Number in attendance:</b>	9

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Ruth Henshall presented the concise version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**. After the presentation, individuals in attendance participated in the draft goal priority exercise. Each individual was given an exercise worksheet to select a ranking for the priority goals ranked from 1 (being least important) to 5 (being most important). The goals/questions were read out loud so that attendees could complete participate in the exercise. Of the total 9 attendees, 9 completed the draft goals exercise sheets. The community visioning survey was distributed to all attendees and completed by 8 individuals.

A tally of the draft goals exercise follows. After completing the exercise, attendees offered these additional comments:

- Transportation is the biggest challenge for Montgomery County – getting from home, to school and to jobs.
- Montgomery County needs more transportation options because it's too spread out.
- Cabs are too expensive from The Woodlands to Conroe, its \$50.00.
- After-school activities are limited to students because of limited transportation options.
- Ecosystems focus seems to be all about The Woodlands and it needs more focus on preservation areas east of IH 45.
- ExxonMobil – concerns about increased traffic.

- East/west divide in Montgomery County (bisected by IH45) impacts education and affordable housing. The West side has better schools even though they are in the same school district.
- The Park & Ride is not accessible by pedestrians.



<b>PEOPLE</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?					9
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?			1		8
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					9
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?				3	6
<b>PLACES</b>					
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?				2	7
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?				3	6
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?					9
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?				2	7
<b>PROSPERITY</b>					
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?					9
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?					9

How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?				3	6
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?				1	8

Are there other goals that you would add?

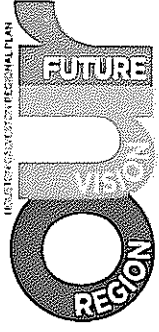
- Make environments friendlier to all cultures and low income residents.

TRANSPORTATION					
How important to your community are operational improvements, such as the timing of traffic signals and traffic signs?				1	8
How important to your community are more pedestrian/bicycle facilities?			4	1	4
How important to your community are more toll roads?	2		3	1	3
How important to your community are more METRO HOT lanes?	3		2	2	2
How important to your community is more public transportation, such as buses, rail, van pools, and shuttle buses?		2	1		6
How important to your community are more highways?	3		3	1	2
How important to your community are more surface streets?	2	1	1		5

Are there transportation improvements that are not listed that are important to your community? If so, please use the space below to list desired transportation improvements.

- Make it more affordable and available for those who don't have transportation.
- Public transportation is needed in our area.

ZIP CODES	Urban	Suburban	Coastal	Rural
77386		x		
77301		xx		xx
77386			x	
77357		x		
77316				x
77378				x



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	NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	ADDRESS
1	<i>Laura Hoff</i>			77386	29011 Richards Rd #210
2	<i>Danaher Stone</i>			77386	24011 Richards Ln #203
3	<i>Gene Berry</i>			77301	500 Hickerson St Apt 203
4	<i>Eric Colquhoun</i>			77357	20040 Fm 1485 Rd #137
5	<i>Cathy Vallabon</i>			77301	1611 Hazelwood A
6	<i>Dianna</i>			77301	5572 Leburne Ln
7	<i>Whirey Green</i>			77301	509 Everett Conroe
8	<i>Kimberly Dae Land</i>			77378	13507 Fm 2432 Willis, TX
9	<i>JC Caddick-Watts</i>			77301	1706-1 Langview St, Conroe TX 77301
10					
11					
12					

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77386
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 ~~4~~ 5
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 ~~3~~ 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77301
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: off road 4 wheelers horses &

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77386

2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal

3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? ←

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5

More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5

More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5

More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5

More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5

More highways 1 2 3 4 5

More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Yes

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77357

2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal

3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

**People**  
 How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 **5**

**Places**  
 How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 **5**

**Prosperity**  
 How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 **5**

How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 **5**

What other goals would you add? Make environments more friendly to all cultures and low income residents.

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 **5**

More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 **5**

More toll roads **1** 2 3 4 5

More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 **5**

More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 **5**

More highways 1 2 **3** 4 5

More surface streets 1 2 3 **4** 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: make it more affordable & available for those who don't have

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77301
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5
  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5
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- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
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  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_



# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77016

2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal

3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5

## Places

How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 5

## Prosperity

How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 5

How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5

More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5

More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5

More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5

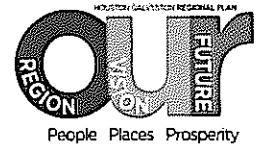
More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5

More highways 1 2 3 4 5

More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 71378
2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one)    Rural    Suburban    Urban    Coastal
3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

## People

- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?      1   2   3   4   5

## Places

- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?      1   2   3   4   5

## Prosperity

- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?      1   2   3   4   5
- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?      1   2   3   4   5

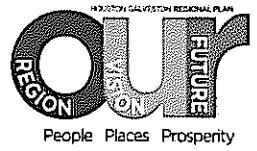
What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs)      1   2   3   4   5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities      1   2   3   4   5
- More toll roads      1   2   3   4   5
- More METRO HOT lanes      1   2   3   4   5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles)      1   2   3   4   5
- More highways      1   2   3   4   5
- More surface streets      1   2   3   4   5

Other transportation improvements please specify: Public transportation is needed in our area.

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



1. In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77301
2. How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
3. Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 5
- Places**
- How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated? 1 2 3 4 5
- How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community? 1 2 3 4 5
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- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 5
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- How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 5

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 5
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 5
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- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 5
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft Goal Priority Exercise Worksheet



- In what zip code is your home located? (enter 5-digit ZIP code) 77301
- How would you describe the area that you live in? (Circle one) Rural Suburban Urban Coastal
- Draft Goal Exercise

Rate the level of importance for each goal for your community from 1 to 5, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- People**
- How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities? 1 2 3 4 **5**
  - How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving? 1 2 3 4 **5**
  - How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food? 1 2 3 4 **5**
  - How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles? 1 2 3 4 **5**
- Places**
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  - How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved? 1 2 3 4 **5**
- Prosperity**
- How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy? 1 2 3 4 **5**
  - How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability? 1 2 3 4 **5**
  - How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations? 1 2 3 4 **5**
  - How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets? 1 2 3 4 **5**

What other goals would you add? \_\_\_\_\_

- Transportation - Rate the importance of each transportation improvement, where 1 = least important; 5 = most important.

- Operational improvements (the timing of traffic signals, traffic signs) 1 2 3 4 **5**
- More bicycle/pedestrian facilities 1 2 3 4 **5**
- More toll roads 1 2 3 4 5
- More METRO HOT lanes 1 2 3 4 5
- More public transportation (buses, rail, van pools, shuttles) 1 2 3 4 **5**
- More highways 1 2 3 4 5
- More surface streets 1 2 3 4 5

Other transportation improvements please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGIONAL PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
WALLER COUNTY/PRAIRIE VIEW SMALL GROUP SESSION**

**Meeting Summary**

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, April 26, 2012

**Time of Meeting:** 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Meeting Location:** Prairie View City Hall / City Chambers  
44500 US290 Business  
Prairie View, Texas

**Number in attendance:** 22

**Surveys Completed:** 14

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Roberta Burroughs presented the abbreviated version of the slide show developed by AECOM for the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development**. Then participants were divided into two groups; one group was facilitated by Roberta Burroughs and the other group was facilitated by Darnetta Nelson. Each group engaged in a “dot democracy” exercise, wherein each individual was given enough dots to select a ranking for the priority goals.

The session was attended by the Mayor of Prairie View and other Prairie View city government officials, homeowners association representatives, Prairie View A&M University professors, Prairie View A&M University students, and community business owners. (The sign-in sheets are attached.) A summary of the facilitated discussions and goal priority results follows.

### **Things Participants Like About Their Community**

- Sense of community
- Quiet (in some areas)
- Potential to walk a lot of places
- Landscape/trees
- Enjoy riding 3-wheeler
- Some areas have livestock
- Diversity in types of communities
- People know their neighbors and look out for each other.
- Safe
- Good place to raise a family
- Quiet
- Safe for seniors

## **Sustainability Wordule**

- Lasting
- Durable
- Committed
- Generational
- Planned/Healthy maintenance
- Control
- Upkeep
- Long term
- Infrastructure
- Smart growth, i.e. growth that is managed well; strategically planned, and grounded
- Growth standards
- Goal-oriented

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Senior services; better opportunities for seniors to be served
- Post office with a Prairie View zip code; want postmark to say Prairie View
- Something for children
- Community center that serves youths and adults (have centers that are inactive currently)
- A more uniform shopping district with appealing shops that are a draw
- City codes and ordinances enforced (lots are uncut and there are dangerous houses/structures)
- New houses and renovated houses
- Revitalized neighborhoods
- Theme: identify parklike theme that is a bridge between environment and open space
- Local bank/community bank
- METRO to Houston
- Economic and community development, e.g. regulate gas station positioning with driveway placements that bring people into the community



- Public transportation/green buses
- Park & Ride
- Don't want the proposed landfill
- Want grocery store and retail establishments
- Heritage tourism
- Growth
- Parking is a problem i.e., street/lot/garages
- Property maintenance
- Beautification
- Improved facilities
- More activities/buildings for seniors
- More eating places/shopping/grocery stores
- Public transportation (all types) to sustain community
- Banks

- Community supported economy
- Organized recreation
- Joint campus/community activities
- Health facility
- More access points/roads in and out of community
- Improve and strengthen law enforcement
- More traffic and street lighting
- Development around neighborhoods
- Maintain rural community, but on a higher level
- Control housing developments to come to neighborhoods
- Updated infrastructure
- Lights at James Muse Parkway
- Street signs

### **Which Goals Would Likely be Most Challenging to Implement**

- Park & Ride
- Transportation in general
- Bank maybe
- Retail/grocery store
- Zip code for Prairie View
- Heritage tourism (accommodations and amenities would have to be put in place)
- Community/economic development because of competition between Prairie View, Waller, and Hempstead
- Laxity is an obstacle.
- Aging leadership, information and things needed to do come from the older generation who are tired of fighting.
- Development
- Infrastructure
- Lights at James Muse Parkway
- The ones that cost (will be a challenge).

### Draft Goal Priority Exercise Results

<b>PEOPLE</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it for your community to have education and training opportunities?			1	1	18
How important to you is it for your community to have transportation options including walking, biking, transit, and driving?			1	4	16
How important to you is it for your community to have clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food?					20
How important to you is it that people in your community are able to lead physically and mentally healthy lifestyles?			1	2	16

<b>PLACES</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it that infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in your community are coordinated?			2	4	14
How important to you is it that ecosystems, working landscapes, parks, and open spaces are preserved in your community?			2	5	13
How important to you is it that your community has a range of quality housing choices that meet the needs and preferences of all residents?		1	1		18
How important to you is it that natural resources in your community are efficiently used, reused and conserved?		1		2	17

<b>PROSPERITY</b>					
<b>Rate: 1 = least important; 5 = most important</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
How important to you is it that your community has a skilled workforce and an adaptable, resilient, and diverse economy?			1	3	16
How important to you is it that your community has job opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability?				2	18
How important to you is it that your community's transportation and infrastructure can move goods and connect the region to other global destinations?			1	9	10
How important to you is it that your community retains its unique character by embracing its multicultural, historical and natural assets?			1	5	14



## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

**Meeting:** Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

**Location:** Prairie View City Hall / City Chambers  
44500 US290 Business  
Prairie View, Texas

**Date:** Thursday, April 26, 2012

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sign up to stay informed on what's going on with the Houston Galveston Regional Plan! **PLEASE PRINT**

NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) Marie Kuzee		P.O. Box 1123 Waller TX <sup>77484</sup>	77484	CALKZZ@OAL
(2) Sharon Stafford Tisdell		P.O. Box 1201 Waller, Tx	77484-1201	tisdellsharon@ <sup>yahoo.</sup> com
(3) Brian Rowland	city council Por #1	PO Box 5046 Prairie View	77446	browlandpv@gmail.com
(4) Helen A. Bayer		P.O. Box 2995 Prairie View, Tex 77446	77446	helenbayer@sbcglobal.net
(5) Yvonne Good	Alta Vista Homeowners Assoc.	P.O. Box 904 Prairie View, TX 77446	77446	ymgood@sbcglobal.net
(6) Joyce K. Thornton		P.O. Box 2246 Prairie View, TX <del>77446</del>	77446	joyce.thornton@sbcglobal.net
(7) Terise C. Armstrong	City of PV Econ Dev Corp 4B	P.O. Box 729 Prairie View, TX	77446	amistadbookplace@earthlink.net
(8) William H. Chapman	Alta Vista Homeowners Assoc	P.O. Box 2257 Prairie View, TX	77446	wilchap@sbcglobal.net



# REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

Meeting: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development  
 Location: Prairie View City Hall / City Chambers  
 44500 US290 Business  
 Prairie View, Texas  
 Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012  
 Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sign up to stay informed on what's going on with the Houston Galveston Regional Plan! **PLEASE PRINT**

NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
(1) JACKIE HOYER	Federal Reserve Bank - Houston Branch	1801 Allen Parkway Houston 77019	77019	jackie.hoyer@dal.frb.org
(2) Henry P. Kemp	Retired TV Citizen	P.O. Box 2692 Prairie View, TX 77446		~
(3) Ruth Smith	Drew Franklin Health Center Prairie View A&M University	P.O. Box 2611 Prairie View, TX 77446	77446	ruth.m.smith@sbcglobal.net
(4) Clara C. Herndon		P.O. Box 548 Prairie View, TX	77446	
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## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

Meeting: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

Location: Prairie View City Hall / City Chambers  
44500 US290 Business  
Prairie View, Texas

Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sign up to stay informed on what's going on with the Houston Galveston Regional Plan! **PLEASE PRINT**

NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
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## REGISTRATION and SIGN-IN

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NAME	ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	EMAIL
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(6)				
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(8)				

## Sombreros Goals Discussion

### People

- Work on drop-out rate in Latino area
- Access to community
- Connect community to resources
- Embrace diverse groups in the region and raise availability to work together
- Give a second chance to people that have been incarcerated (prison)

### Places

- Has to be a coordinated effort
- Inter-change and coordinate among each other
- City –county-other entities have to work together and not duplicate their efforts
- Eliminate the fear of public transportation
- Public transportation
  - ?? area
  - Jersey Village
  - Needs buses, METRO, or taxi service
- Minimize use of personal car

### Prosperity

- Hire local
- Elevated rail – less expensive and more successful than the current system
- Local business has to find connection for opportunities for small business
- Procurement process does not go to small business
- Hard to get contracts at **low ??** level
- Focus should be on how people can be a productive workforce
- Huge disconnect between employer and employee
- Life skills and preparing to be a key!
- Lack of access to capital for Latino businesses
- Funds for start-up business for Hispanics
- Take advantage of resources available to start business
- Disseminate information to people and provide opportunity
- Economic development – jobs for people that live in Houston!
- Requirements for starting a business has too much red tape
- Transitive funds
- Lack of institutional trust
- Need to be more educated/aggressive/pro-active in applying for loans, etc.
- Take advantage of monies available for small business loans

## General

- [win@salazarlawfirm.com](mailto:win@salazarlawfirm.com)
- Seems leaders cannot grasp concept

## **Prairie View Draft Goals Discussion**

### **Things Participants Like About Their Community**

- Sense of community
- Quiet (in some areas)
- Potential to walk a lot of places
- Landscape/trees
- Enjoy riding 3-wheeler
- Some areas have livestock
- Diversity in types of communities
- People know their neighbors and look out for each other.
- Safe
- Good place to raise a family
- Quiet
- Safe for seniors

### **Sustainability Words**

- Lasting
- Durable
- Committed
- Generational
- Planned/Healthy maintenance
- Control
- Upkeep
- Long term
- Infrastructure
- Smart growth, i.e. growth that is managed well; strategically planned, and grounded
- Growth standards
- Goal-oriented

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Senior services; better opportunities for seniors to be served
- Post office with a Prairie View zip code; want postmark to say Prairie View
- Something for children
- Community center that serves youths and adults (have centers that are inactive currently)
- A more uniform shopping district with appealing shops that are a draw
- City codes and ordinances enforced (lots are uncut and there are dangerous houses/structures)
- New houses and renovated houses
- Revitalized neighborhoods

- Theme: identify parklike theme that is a bridge between environment and open space
- Local bank/community bank
- METRO to Houston
- Economic and community development, e.g. regulate gas station positioning with driveway placements that bring people into the community
- Public transportation/green buses
- Park & Ride
- Don't want the proposed landfill
- Want grocery store and retail establishments
- Heritage tourism
- Growth
- Parking is a problem i.e., street/lot/garages
- Property maintenance
- Beautification
- Improved facilities
- More activities/buildings for seniors
- More eating places/shopping/grocery stores
- Public transportation (all types) to sustain community
- Banks
- Community supported economy
- Organized recreation
- Joint campus/community activities
- Health facility
- More access points/roads in and out of community
- Improve and strengthen law enforcement
- More traffic and street lighting
- Development around neighborhoods
- Maintain rural community, but on a higher level
- Control housing developments to come to neighborhoods
- Updated infrastructure
- Lights at James Muse Parkway
- Street signs

#### **Which Goals Would Likely be Most Challenging to Implement**

- Park & Ride
- Transportation in general
- Bank maybe
- Retail/grocery store
- Zip code for Prairie View
- Heritage tourism (accommodations and amenities would have to be put in place)

- Community/economic development because of competition between Prairie View, Waller, and Hempstead
- Laxity is an obstacle.
- Aging leadership, information and things needed to do come from the older generation who are tired of fighting.
- Development
- Infrastructure
- Lights at James Muse Parkway
- The ones that cost (will be a challenge).

## Montgomery Housing Authority Draft Goals Discussion

- Transportation is the biggest challenge for Montgomery County – getting from home, to school and to jobs.
- Montgomery County needs more transportation options because it's too spread out.
- Cabs are too expensive from The Woodlands to Conroe, its \$50.00.
- After-school activities are limited to students because of limited transportation options.
- Ecosystems focus seems to be all about The Woodlands and it needs more focus on preservation areas east of IH 45.
- ExxonMobil – concerns about increased traffic.
- East/west divide in Montgomery County (bisected by IH45) impacts education and affordable housing. The West side has better schools even though they are in the same school district.
- The Park & Ride is not accessible by pedestrians.



## **Missouri City Annex Draft Goals Discussion**

### **Things Participants Like About the Community**

- Quietness
- Drainage in Hunters Glen II
- Size (Estates of Waterford)
- Neighbors
- Accessibility to main arteries (i. e. Texas Parkway, Cartwright Road)
- Safety (Quail Valley)

### **Sustainability Words**

- Ongoing
- Endurance
- Maintenance of quality
- Diversity
- Operate, making it work right
- Permanence
- Livable
- Life
- Sustain = spend, the opposite of conserve

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Senior activities
- Better drainage
- Widen roads; in West Ford Bend County there are no shoulders and no lights
- Use solar lighting
- Renewable energy sources; less/no utility bills, i.e. geothermal, fuel cell, wind
- Control litter
- Control of pet waste
- Education – services to promote better education and more sources of information
- More transportation for seniors
- Better roads in rural areas and better signage
- County input/improved communication
- Goal that addresses public services like police, fire, medical, and emergency services
- Recreation for youth
- Social services; opportunities to interact as relates to diversity at a community center
- Wellness – how to stay well; healthy exercises
- Opportunity to age in place
- Senior services

## **Transportation**

- Light rail
- No light rail; it's cheaper to build another lane of highway
- Intra-suburban transportation
- Like lack of public transportation; community is safer
- Bike trails
- Want overpass from Texas Parkway to Gessner Street so that trains don't catch you.
- Overcome UP reluctance to give access for US90A commuter rail.

## **Which Goals Would Likely be Hardest to Implement**

- Rail
- Anything that costs money
- Transportation goals because of cost
- Seniors are out of touch; they lack information about community improvements.

## **Lindale Park Association/Civic Club**

### Definition of Sustainability

- Continuing to live the way you currently live
- Equitable
- Act in a way to leave resources for generations to come

### Likes

- Close to work, centrally located
- Convenient
- Good neighbors, sense of community
- Walk able
- Safe community
- Economic diversity

### Wants

- New trees, need a large planning
- To protect the integrity of the neighborhood
- More community spaces
- Excited about new rail line but taking too long to build and wishes it took them to more options (major work centers, airport, shopping centers, etc.)
- Lack of quality retail, grocery in area
- Issues with current deed restrictions to attract commercial development
- Need designated bike lanes/paths because they currently do not have any and cars do not respect cyclist and pedestrians in the area
- Do not want the community to turn into the Heights with values becoming so high that it pushes out the economic diversity, ethnic diversity
- Need more park space as younger families come into the areas; closest park is Moody Park
- Great, accessible elementary schools, good option of high schools, but must travel; however, middle schools are poor quality
- Education is an issue, but it is a state and federal issue versus a community or ISD issue for K through 12
- Would like to see neighborhood, locally owned retail, coffee shops, and not chain businesses
- Would like to have a more diverse option or restaurants other than Mexican

Latino/Gulfton

May 9, 2012

Service Providers Meeting

Goals

- Housing, food, transportation in this sw area
- Met basic needs – not guidance
- Improve quality of life
- Produce resources within community for growth
- Recreation for young people
- Health education
- Teach community to help themselves
- Not enough services for community
- Funds needed to sustain community
- Education – teach to ??
- Housing – huge problem – people live 15 people in one apartment. Need shelters and ways to find housing
- Domestic violence shelters are needed
- Transportation – issue for people, ie, going to medical appointments
- Move routes for buses – and have new options
- Have better schools for our children
- Bring services to the communities who cannot come into town and/or lack transportation
- Adult workshops to learn new skills in order to advance in the workplace

## **La Marque and Texas City Draft Goals Discussion**

### **Sustainability Words**

- Maintain what you have while plotting and preparing for the future, and also paying (for what is needed)
- There has to be preparation to get from “A” to “B” and have to have the resources to move forward.
- Making the necessary adjustment to preserve a satisfactory level of quality of life
- Consistency in education – lack of preparation, low performance has to be addressed if the area is to be competitive; losing dollars to other areas, as a result of flight from local schools

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Medical care
- More recreational facilities for youths, especially in summer (existing facilities are insufficient or nonexistent; two Boys & Girls Club sites closed. There is a void because the economy does not support these types of services and municipalities do not provide them.
- Galveston County has an aging population; a goal that targets seniors is needed.
- The Lamar School District needs extra help; it’s below standard, with greater needs.
- We are losing African-Americans to the drug trade. There is an inability to fill jobs because of the drug problem. We want a goal directed toward alleviating this situation; everything would be better if males were not medicated or locked up.
- Greater opportunities for cultural enrichment needed; there is nothing between
- Houston and Galveston.

### **Which Goals Would Likely be Hardest to Implement**

- Stemming the loss of African-American males to the drug trade (would be the hardest goal to implement). This is a top priority; it impacts the community the most.
- The redistribution of educational resources based on need would be the second hardest to implement.
- Rail that reaches Galveston County and goes to Houston and vice versa
- Have to get cars off the road.
- Commuter rail
- Drainage will be an issue as the area grows; will need detention and can put bike trails around the detention.
- Texas City and Dickinson have some fixed route services; it’ a start, but could be improved. Want services to come to the college and services that take seniors to the mall.
- There are some demand-response services and there is a park and ride that takes bus riders to Houston; will have a new park and ride from League City to Galveston.
- Streets in La Marque need resurfacing.
- The Grand Parkway alignment is undecided; would like at connection at FM 1764.

Korean CC

May 9, 2012

## Goals

- Keep school boundaries within the neighborhoods
- Orderly way to ?? school districts
- Crime and safety – becomes a big issue as communities get larger
- Transit options –
- Rail from Katy to downtown. Too much ?? for small routes of light rail
- Quality services for staffing agency. Prepare people to fulfill jobs
- Mobility aspect - study avenues for growth and build transit in these areas
- Have program in place for immigrants to learn English
- Growth will mean Hispanics will need to be ???
- Prioritized resources for immigrants to learn English will help all communities as a hold
- Mentoring – will assist in assimilation and developing good citizens
- Increasing awareness of support and resources for small business
- Develop programs and strategy to invest within one community for sma
- Theme park for areas in community entertainment attractions
- High speed rail
- High speed rail from suburbs to downtown
- Communications – has to be channeled down to 1<sup>st</sup> generation immigrants
- From top lever to bottom level leaders need to get word out to the community
- Expand more routes (bus) within metro
- Neighborhood safety – reinforce safety and crime ?? to HPD
- Need boarding schools in Houston to bring students to study – great opportunity for Korean, Chinese, Indian communities`

## Kingwood Super Neighborhood Goals Discussion

### People

- Electricity – daily surges due to one grid for entire area. During summer, surges more due to high demand
- Continue to plan and project for the future to make sure children can exceed
- Currently feel education is adequate so did not feel it was as important
- Feel like METRO has changed some older communities, but would like a METRO lift for aging populations
- Community needs to be better defined
- Has there been any effort to look into declining neighborhoods to see where new residents have come from

### Places

- They would like to see connectivity to port, airport, etc. just not necessarily in their community
- Loosing capacity in Lake Houston and need more water for better recreation
- Need more routes in and out of community
- Have park and ride but need a bus route to the airport since so many work at IAH
- Need transit to major shopping areas and medical centers
- Believe market will take care of different housing issues
- Due to growth, need to retain what they have because no new areas to build
- All parks are private so no tax \$'s
- Have not expanded or built new parks in years, but population has grown
- Would like to see more connection of trails to other parks and trails
- Parks and trails define the area and help maintain property values
- Did not feel that housing choices was a high importance because they have it but since housing options are getting older, it is important to keep the quality
- Need to dredge Lake Houston due to the silt
- A majority of the residents are oil and gas as well as airport so they work outside the community, but live here because they like the parks, green belts, and do not want large industry in the community

### Prosperity

### New Goals

- Believe public safety should be added as a goal
- Need goals on economic development and crime prevention

## General

- Think of this as a 2 tier exercise because certain goals they would like to see in their community and others in their region



## John Gudrey Senior Homes Goals Discussion

### People

- Affordable health centers
- Health and fitness centers
- 24-hour local clinic
- Affordable ambulance
- 24-hour gossip music station (gospel??)
- Need more activities for seniors
- Need accessible bus to travel to get goods. METRO lift has limited service and takes a while
- Need more street lights in the area
- Education – community has to recommend ?? high school; eliminate GED
- Moderate priced men's/women's clothes, especially ?? cloth
- Adult education – affordable and ????
- Affordable bible college
- Security factor – need to feel more ??
- Teen activities
- Something to facilitate the homeless
- Church Garden Christ ???
- Libraries to facilitate longer hours
- Affordable daycare assistance
- Police sub-station
- Emergency centers
- Drug stores
- Cafeteria for food
- Café – coffee shop
- Gyms
- No more pollution; clean air/allergy issues
- More cultural activities at least once a month
- Cultural interaction and events to clean mind
- Public youth center
- More vigilance – ambulances that are good
- School for adults to learn new skills-jobs and to socialize
- Safety and security at center and neighborhood, especially at night

### Places

- Want casino trips for fun
- Need a Wal-Mart nearby
- Need more parks and less cantina's

- Need more washerteria's ??
- Movie theatre/entertainment
- Grocery store in the local community
- Better public transportation
- Bridge over train rails
- Bakery
- Variety of restaurants
- Transportation

#### Prosperity

- Sector to create more jobs
- Local retail centers

## Jewish Community Center

### Definition of Sustainability:

- Survival

### Likes

- Neighborhood feeling (knows the neighbors)
- People look out for each other
- Sense of security – safe
- Established trees
- Willow water hole
- Lots of options for groceries and retail

### Problems

- Burglars/break-ins
- Vandalism
- Traffic noise has increased
- Light pollution (residential flood lights)

### Future Vision

- Sound barrier (especially along Main Street)
- More parks (continue planning for parks)
- Deal with homeless people better that stand on street corner and address situation versus ignoring it
- Love the Katy toll lanes/HOV lanes and willing to pay to drive if more lanes/freeways where available
- Improvements along the Bayou is getting better but it still needs work
- Need to bring back more public opportunities such as head start in school systems
- People in the neighborhood need to take back their own schools. A majority of the students are bused in because the neighborhood children to private school because they do not feel safe. (race and religion)
- They have the options of good private schools but they are very expensive (tuition starting around \$15,000/year)
- Need zoning in Houston to eliminate apartments on top of single-family neighborhood on top of convenient stores
- Need better public transit that is more convenient and takes you places that people actually go such as major shopping centers and medical and workforce without getting on 5+ buses
- Willing to have taxes increased for more rail
- Only issue is do not feel safe at a bus stop at night

- Want more places for hiking/nature trails along Bayous

## Houston Tomorrow

Efficient

Efficient

Efficient

Longevity

Longevity

Environment (al)

Environment (al)

Future

Inclusive

health

Low energy

green

Smart

quality

Education

livable

Survival

Survival

enjoyment

Timesaving

iconic

Connected

## Houston Tomorrow Goal Discussions

- Missing gates
- Flood control
- City codes coordinated with plan goals
- Surprises
- Breakout cultural assets, etc.
- Sustainability of the built environment
- Patterns of physical development should be sustainable
- Access (physically) to all city assets/ag. ?? to all ages/generations
- Multi-generational

## Hardest to Achieve

- Coordination of infrastructure and housing and transportation; vested interests
- Transportation options
- Geography – distance between L. centers
- Safety of alternative transportation options
- Housing diversity (lack of); nimby ?? non-traditional households

## Chinese Community Center Goals Discussion

### People

- Safety – high rate of theft/burglary
- Neighborhood revival/cleanliness
- Improved education
- Education ?? going down
- Now moving to suburbs – better schools – why?
- Should have better inner-city schools
- Education influences where people live
- K-12 is very important
- Expand community college – make more available – especially technology classes
- Need classes to teach for high tech labor
- Safety – too much crime/burglary/cars stolen/breaking in cars

### Places

- Improve public transportation
- More efficient and faster transportation
- More buses
- Rail not cost effective; not enough connections
- Consider double deck buses to carry more passengers
- Traffic congestion a challenge
- Housing – more apartments middle class low income poor housing conditions
- Retail – improved interior/exterior grocery stores/variety/standards/quality
- Public transportation similar to other cities in the US
- Does not want to rely on cars
- Pollution
- Bus takes too long
- Monorail
- Rail system!
- Light rail has to be expanded, not long enough
- More buses might work since does not think monorail will work
- Not enough connections on light rail
- Not efficient
- How light rail looks like a toy train
- Get serious about getting a real train
- Get a double-decker bus for all the people
- Housing
  - middle class housing is needed

- clean, well-maintained apartments
- city should inspect housing so that it doesn't become low income places
- landlords have to take care of apartment complexes
- Need to have sense of community in retail outlets
- Cleanliness is businesses that sell to people
- City needs to enforce laws to upkeep building standards and landscapes
- Enforce customer service and cleanliness
- Standards that are good
- Clean and safety at stores
- Houston overall must be clean; stores, all areas
- Proximity of stores to neighborhoods
- Wants to walk to stores, supermarkets, etc.
- **Walkability** issues
- Have employer go and build their business where there is a workforce  
Less traffic ↓

#### Prosperity

- More community colleges/technology
- Manufacturing skills training available
- Business development closer commute

#### General

- Government accountability
- Sharing visioning/goals with government



## **Brazoria/Pearland Glenda Dawson High School Draft Goals Discussion**

### **Things Participants Like About Their Community**

- Small town atmosphere
- Not much traffic compared to Houston
- Free access to the parks
- Clean
- Live and work close to each other
- Shops and everything are nearby and accessible
- Green space
- Safe to walk and lots of places to walk
- Public facilities and services are nearby.
- Good police, EMS, and fire protection and good response times
- Hospitals are nearby.
- Convenience with respect to shopping and entertainment e.g. concerts in park and movie theaters
- Good schools
- Parks and recreation

### **Sustainability Words**

- Housing
- Employment
- Traffic and roadways
- Shopping
- Comprehensive public transportation (all over and would like to be able to get a train to SH288 into Downtown Houston; have to do it above ground now)
- Tighter zoning restrictions and zone open areas for housing and commercial
- Restrict apartments; want only single-family dwellings
- Limit high density; limit high-rises; use zoning to do that
- Want whole city to look same; east side/west side homogeneity; don't want such an abrupt change --- on SH518, you can see the change.
- Buildings in older neighborhoods need facelift.

### **Desired Additions to Goals**

- Maintaining roads and schools and other infrastructure
- Quality education (with influx, this will be a challenge)
- Relief of traffic congestion through traffic improvements
- Want single-family because believe this results in a more equitable tax situation ' apartments pay less property tax

- Ensure a balance of 1-bedroom and 2/3bedroom apartments to provide a diversity of choices for balance
- Provide limited affordable housing with a balance, so that workers don't have to be bussed in. Want to avoid a situation like in Boerne, Texas, where workers had to be bussed in.
- Like low density
- Police force does not reflect the ethnic diversity of the city; harassment is an issue.
- Went to court and 90 percent of violators appeared to be African-American.
- There are lots of new police officers on the force and it is diverse.
- Want police to have diversity training.

#### **Which Goals Would Likely be Hardest to Implement**

- Public transportation; i.e. high speed rail, due to the car culture in Texas and the cost factor
- Relief of traffic congestion through traffic improvements
- High speed rail for the region, state, and country, to save on pollution
- Zoning changes
- Infrastructure
- Means of getting water as we grow

## New Goals

- Senior services; better opportunities for seniors to be served
- Post office with a Prairie View zip code; want postmark to say Prairie View
- Something for children
- Community center that serves youths and adults (have centers that are inactive currently)
- A more uniform shopping district with appealing shops that are a draw
- City codes and ordinances enforced (lots are uncut and there are dangerous houses/structures)
- New houses and renovated houses
- Revitalized neighborhoods
- Theme: identify park like theme that is a bridge between environment and open space
- Local bank/community bank
- METRO to Houston
- Economic and community development, e.g. regulate gas station positioning with driveway placements that bring people into the community
- Public transportation/green buses
- Park & Ride
- Don't want the proposed landfill
- Want grocery store and retail establishments
- Heritage tourism
- Growth
- Parking is a problem i.e., street/lot/garages
- Property maintenance
- Beautification
- Improved facilities
- More activities/buildings for seniors
- More eating places/shopping/grocery stores
- Public transportation (all types) to sustain community
- Banks
- Community supported economy
- Organized recreation
- Joint campus/community activities
- Health facility
- More access points/roads in and out of community
- Improve and strengthen law enforcement
- More traffic and street lighting
- Development around neighborhoods
- Maintain rural community, but on a higher level
- Control housing developments to come to neighborhoods
- Updated infrastructure
- Lights at James Muse Parkway

- Street signs
- Senior activities
- Better drainage
- Widen roads; in West Ford Bend County there are no shoulders and no lights
- Use solar lighting
- Renewable energy sources; less/no utility bills, i.e. geothermal, fuel cell, wind
- Control litter
- Control of pet waste
- Education – services to promote better education and more sources of information
- More transportation for seniors
- Better roads in rural areas and better signage
- County input/improved communication
- Goal that addresses public services like police, fire, medical, and emergency services
- Recreation for youth
- Social services; opportunities to interact as relates to diversity at a community center
- Wellness – how to stay well; healthy exercises
- Opportunity to age in place
- Senior services
- Medical care
- More recreational facilities for youths, especially in summer (existing facilities are insufficient or nonexistent; two Boys & Girls Club sites closed. There is a void because the economy does not support these types of services and municipalities do not provide them.
- Galveston County has an aging population; a goal that targets seniors is needed.
- The Lamar School District needs extra help; it's below standard, with greater needs.
- We are losing African-Americans to the drug trade. There is an inability to fill jobs because of the drug problem. We want a goal directed toward alleviating this situation; everything would be better if males were not medicated or locked up.
- Greater opportunities for cultural enrichment needed; there is nothing between Houston and Galveston.
- Believe public safety should be added as a goal
- Need goals on economic development and crime prevention
- Maintaining roads and schools and other infrastructure
- Quality education (with influx, this will be a challenge)
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- Want single-family because believe this results in a more equitable tax situation ' apartments pay less property tax
- Ensure a balance of 1-bedroom and 2/3bedroom apartments to provide a diversity of choices for balance
- Provide limited affordable housing with a balance, so that workers don't have to be bussed in. Want to avoid a situation like in Boerne, Texas, where workers had to be bussed in.

- Like low density
- Police force does not reflect the ethnic diversity of the city; harassment is an issue.
- Went to court and 90 percent of violators appeared to be African-American.
- There are lots of new police officers on the force and it is diverse.
- Want police to have diversity training.
- Better drainage system
- Better kept streets
- Maintain affordability of housing while investing in infrastructure
- Better drainage in flood districts/plains
- Health and wellness
- We need a library
- Neighborhood streets are too narrow
- Flood and drainage
- Youth services center
- Urban agriculture
- Better high and middle schools and charter and elementary
- Better metro improvement accessibility
- Affordable homes
- Recycling
- Recycling
- Improve streets- pave them fix potholes

## Synopsis

Community facilities and services—access to shopping, banks, post-offices, libraries, healthcare, community centers, and cultural resources

Youth recreation and resources center

Senior mobility and services- transportation, health

Transportation- roads, parking, maintenance, transit

### **Third Ward Multi-Service Center Transportation Discussions**

- Bus lines that cross the community.
- Bus lines that go directly to other areas of town where the jobs are more prevalent.
- Subways should be considered.
- Electric railway to connect surrounding areas to the inner city.
- More light railway lines are needed.
- Cross the city rails!
- Pedestrian w/ safety focus.
- Walkable spaces.
- More private cars and minibuses to supplement poor service areas.
- Trail for children to safely commute to school.
- Public transportation throughout the region.
- No rails. Only put more buses in low income areas.
- Street grid connectivity.
- No power lines in sidewalk.
- Subway system.
- Regional rail (commuter).
- Hi-speed rail to NOCA, D/FW, Austin, San Antonio, S. Padre, Monterey.

## Telephone Road Housing Transportation Discussion

- Rail down Telephone Road.
- Mono Rail system.
- More transportation for seniors other than METRO Lift.
- METRO Lift needs to be on time.
- The need for personal transportation for seniors is very great. Some are using the home hover rounds to make needed trips to grocery stores in our area that help us stretch our meager finances. Some places that offer these home wheels are pushing the too large machines that have some people having serious accidents.
- Need safe transportation for seniors to travel or walk.

## **Houston Commission on Disabilities Transportation Discussions**

- Fewer potholes and curb cuts for accessibility issue for people using assessable transportation.
- Repair current roads and fix potholes.
- Do not want more toll roads.
- Accessible operational improvements and better sidewalks.
- Fix potholes and install turn bays.
- Would really love to see a commuter rail system from Spring/Woodlands to Downtown.
- A train from The Woodlands to the City of Houston.
- More programs for audible street crossing signals.
- Options for solar cars and alternate energy.
- Timelines of METRO Lift.
- Street Crossings.



# Appendix C

MindMixer User and Idea Overview  
and Report



## **Topic Name: Focus of Regional Plan**

### **Idea Title: Ecosystems, working landscapes, parks and open spaces**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on ecosystems, working landscapes, parks and open spaces.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 32

Number of Comments 17

Comment 1: I am new to this forum. What is open space? Can you give me an example of this? What is wilderness? | By Sally B

Comment 2: I'm all for good ideas and conservation as long as it does not interfere with my own property rights. This is all UN agenda 21 non sense. Get the UN OUT of the United States of America. no one in the UN needs to be telling Americans how to live, what to drive, or where to live. | By Judy C

Comment 3: I know you won't believe that the UN has absolutely nothing to do with this, or that the sustainability movement began decades before sovereign member nations of the UN endorsed the idea. This project in Houston is about free citizens having the right to gather to redress grievances against our various governments, to set goals for those governments that reflect the views and aspirations of individuals living in a large number of diverse communities. The last thing it would ever be about is government telling anybody where to live, what to drive, or how to live. In all the thousands of discussions, as far as I know, no one has ever suggested any of those things. Join us in trying to conserve the values we all care about and fix the things we're all worried about. | By David C

Comment 4: Use bio swales to filter water in bayous and small creeks and absorb flood waters. Stop concreting the bayous, which only lets soils and nutrients run off into the bay. | By Christy H

Comment 5: I seconded this focus area since I did not have the option to make a suggestion. This is a good focus area. My question is why are we developing metrics before the Regional Plan components are complete? Does that mean that the indicators will not be used as performance metrics for the Regional Plan and they will be more like background data? Shouldn't we be developing the plan first and then finding suitable metrics after? | By lester K



Comment 6: All these ideas are great. It would also be important to put some focus on the remaining natural areas at the edge of the region. If you look at the Grand Parkway plan on top of the Houston Wilderness ecosystem map, you see 6 of the 11 fantastic ecoregions being severely damaged or destroyed. When did we vote for that destruction? | By David C

Comment 7: Keeping in mind that stewardship of open spaces, ecosystems etc leads to cleaner water, fresh air, healthy living choices ... good work everyone! | By Pia J

Comment 8: Pia, What do you mean by "healthy living choices"? I love the ideas but need specifics | By Sally B

Comment 9: There are many ambitious plans under discussion, but we also need to have a focus on the smaller local parks and open spaces which directly serve communities and neighborhoods. Discovery Green and the planned Buffalo Bayou improvements are great, but meanwhile local trails and parks are too often run-down or lack programs to make them as good as they should be. | By Cindy C

Comment 10: I think there is a real opportunity to have something special here in the greater Houston area with the work being done to create usable greenspace and connected trails along the major bayous that run throughout the area. There are several groups currently working on this, including Greens Bayou corridor coalition, Cypress Creek Greenway project, Buffalo Bayou partnership. This is currently a long-term project because of the need to get several different entities to come together and work towards this common goal. My hope is that this movement continues to gather steam and become a reality more quickly as word continues to spread about this golden opportunity and it is taken more seriously by public officials and community leaders get behind it with both money and influence. Several quality scenic pocket trails already exist along the creeks and bayous, and once they become more and more connected this also improves the usability for these trails as a means of getting around. | By Mike G

Comment 11: I've been riding my bike around Houston for almost 2 years now and discovered some glaring awful truths; I, and most bicyclists, rarely use designated bike trails, they aren't scenic enough for casual riding or direct enough to get where we want to go. The best scenic trails are forbidden fruit, public golf courses. The only places in Houston that have bike racks are Schools and libraries. All Drivers and most bicyclists do not know bicyclists legal rights to public streets. Houston's initiative to aid bicyclists mobility is a disastrous failure at best, a PR stunt to procure fed dollars for public bike projects that will rarely be used. 97% of bicyclists ride only within their own neighborhoods. Sidewalks are restricted to pedestrians. Bicyclists have legal rights to freeways. Never ride your bike without pepper spray or an AirZound horn. | By Vincent R



Comment 12: I share your concerns and frustrations, but what do you want the plan to focus on to alleviate the problems you cite? Building bike-friendly golf courses? More "direct" bike routes? How do you define "direct"; do you have examples? Where should more bike racks be installed? How should we educate residents on the legal rights of cyclists and promote a culture of respect on the roadways? | By Dax G

Comment 13: Marked or special bike-only lanes on all major streets that are built or rebuilt would be a good start. I'd like to feel safe going the 1.5 miles to the grocery store, that would also provide bike racks for shoppers. | By Christy H

Comment 14: Make four lane streets into two-lane streets, plus a bike lane and parking on each side. Washington Ave is a good example of a place where this could be done. Also 11th and 6th in the Heights would be excellent places. | By Christy H

Comment 15: Think urban gardens, restored habitat and shaded hardscapes -- "working landscapes" is a good word for it. Think of densifying housing so that we can afford more beautiful public parks and open spaces. Discovery Green, Herman and Memorial parks are a joy -- used in so many ways by so many people. I second Dax G's idea of parks surrounded by patio restaurants where parents can watch their kids play. | By Polly L

Comment 16: Could densified housing promote more community as people could live right next to each other instead of farther apart in the suburbs? | By Sally B

Comment 17: Commerical Development with a Community Focus: As a father of two young children, a good Saturday afternoon consists of play at a park, dinner at a casual restaurant and dessert at a local ice cream, yogurt or cupcake venue. The idea is to combine all three at one location and make it a great Saturday afternoon. Imagine a park surrounded by outdoor patio restaurants and dessert shops where parents can actually enjoy a meal and easily watch while their kids play. There are already great examples in Texas. My family enjoyed The Grove (<http://www.shopsouthparkmeadows.com/About/TheGrove/Index.htm//Index.htm>) while living in Austin, Texas and has found no replacement in League City, TX. Investments and incentives must be made to promote such commerical development instead of just the same unappealing strip centers. Let us build and improve the idea of the park and make it an open space for the entire family to enjoy. | By Dax G

**Idea Title: Safe communities with transportation choices**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on safe communities with transportation choices.

Idea Author: Nathan P



Number of Seconds 27

Number of Comments 17

Comment 1: I have been riding the bus to work everyday for the past 5 years - it has never been an issue for me. I talk to people about my bus riding experiences and encourage them to give it a try. From those conversations, I most often hear concerns about "convenience". When I talk to people some more, it actually seems to boil down to the ability to accomodate work/life balance - things like being able to get home mid-day in time for a child's school event, etc. Flexible public transportation options are needed. In addition, improved road design to slow traffic down and allow walkers and bikers to safely share the road systems with autos Our roads currently seem to be designed to let cars move as fast as they can and anything else is at your own risk. | By Cynthia R

Comment 2: "Safe communities" to include systems designed to detect and inform on such new world realities as high radiation and toxic air from nuclear power, industry, chemtrails. People need to know when to protect themselves and their children while moving about communities. | By Pia J

Comment 3: Work done by BikeHouston in 2008, a white paper on developing cycling in Harris County: <http://bit.ly/yWXHxe> | By Peter W

Comment 4: Not having transportation choices is also not entirely an engineering problem. It's a behavioral problem. We have the worst rates of intoxicated, reckless, inattentive driving in the Nation. We have bicyclists who run red lights and stop signs in the presence of other vehicles at intersections (!), and who ride at night with no lights and no reflectors (required by Texas law). We have pedestrians running across freeways, and who could save their lives at night if they carried a flashlight, for example. But people in this region just aren't safety-minded. I travel a lot, and I see in Norway, where it's dark much of the year, parents put reflective vests on their kids, so the drivers can see their precious little ones. You can get a good vest at Home Depot for \$5. Is that too geeky? Well maybe, but kids aren't getting run over and killed in Norway like here.

I submit that if drivers were KIND, and cyclists and were WISE, people wouldn't complain as much about no places to bike. | By Peter W

Comment 5: Chico, CA and other cities in nor cal have some great, already invented, cycling examples... bike and walking paths off main roads, add ons to bridges, over passes with access 4 bikes... connecting paths between cities (i.e. Sebastopol to Santa Rosa, CA), and - mostly - education. Community workshops with traffic offenders invited to sit with cyclists discussing transportation... | By Pia J



Comment 6: Why is safety lumped together transportation? It doesn't belong here. The focus in transportation should not be on providing "choices", rather on directly reducing auto-dependency via developing world-class public transit service and ped-bike facilities. | By D M

Comment 7: No one wants to use an unsafe transportation system. | By Peter W

Comment 8: The dominant transportation system in the Houston region is driving cars, and car crashes are the number one killer of people under 34. But people don't really have a choice. So it seems pretty obvious what many people want is a safer choice. Certainly a smart public transit system is part of the answer, so are land use policies that allow walking and biking. Auto dependency is not as much an issue of the transportation system as it is of land use policies that prevent walkable urbanism, a key component of a world class transit system. | By David C

Comment 9: If we are going to double in size in the next 30 years, my grandchildren would arrive in Galveston from Houston by foot faster than by vehicle. I've been going to Galveston from Houston for recreation for over 30 years and each year the traffic is getting worse. Unless something changes real soon, I won't be going there any longer. Seriously, it's 2012 and still no viable public transportation to and from Galveston and Houston? | By Vincent R

Comment 10: Somehow: tax credits or other incentives for using alternative transport, share rides, develop relationship with business for work at home peeps to thrive (take them off the commuter roads)... | By Pia J

Comment 11: How much wider can our highways expand? This is the 4th largest city in the nation. We need a better option for transportation going forward. When the metrorail was under original discussion, I remember reading about the "Aerobus". It was less invasive than a rail system, cheaper to install, is run on electricity, and could be a viable alternative for our expanding population. I do not work for Aerobus, but I was impressed with it. Regardless of whatever is chosen, something needs to be done. | By Emily H

Comment 12: Emphasizing Local Inter-Community Public Transportation Projects: The Greater Houston Area is a sprawling metropolitan area, grandiose initiatives to parallel or replace the vast network of roads and freeways with public transportation such as buses and trains are often too expensive to meet public expectations and destinations. Our network of interstates and roads have set high standards for daily commuters. Instead, start small and bring public transportation projects directly to people who live, work and play within their local communities. Areas such as Galveston, Clear Lake, Woodlands, and Katy come to mind. The smaller scope will connect more people directly from their homes to work, local events and businesses for a reasonable taxpayer price. Imagine taking the bus or the light rail from your home to your local mall or park. In addition, such projects will reinforce and directly meet a real need for easy



access to proposed regional high-occupancy transportation projects. | By Dax G

Comment 13: Most of the communities in Galveston County have this "mini busing" system in place both within and between the communities. This would be a good place to review for both cost effectiveness and usage as you have people of many different economic and demographic ranges in this area. | By Joe C

Comment 14: I agree with you that we should start small. I think what would be great is to improve transportation within small local areas and then link those areas together. | By Caroline B

Comment 15: Be sure to watch California's work on high occupancy transport ideas - high speed trains have their unique problems - see the coalition [http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/route\\_decisions.aspx](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/route_decisions.aspx) then the judges decision <http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2011/11/11/judge-rejects-northern-california-route-for-high-speed-rail/> Lots to think on | By Pia J

Comment 16: Re: "Connectors" - check how many neighborhoods have "closed" tract home roads - in and out one road - create pathways between homes to other streets - less driving to parks and shopping if one can walk or bike more direct routes instead of going all the way out of and around a neighborhood just to end up on the other side of their house.... small and very impacting change. | By Pia J

Comment 17: The problem with this approach, which Dallas has taken, is that you have to have very long, expensive busways or rails, which you pay for by the mile, to serve very few people, relatively speaking. Where people are clustered in residences and jobs is where the transit system has to start. The 7-mile Main Street line has 35,000 boardings a day at a cost of \$350 million. The Dallas system has 10 times as many miles but only a little more than twice as many boardings. And it cost billions, not millions. So we have to start, as we are doing, where people are clustered, and then move out over time. Even then, we have to move to places where there is some density, particularly of jobs. Fortunately, almost all of the top 25 job centers are inside the Metro service area. | By David C

**Idea Title: Investments in infrastructure, housing, and transportation**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on coordinated investments in infrastructure, housing, and transportation.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 26



Number of Comments 25

Comment 1: I also believe that light rail and bus rapid transit (buses on "dedicated" lanes acting similar to light-rail) connections to major activity centers such as airports, Galleria, all sporting venues, parks, universities, transit centers, and etc. will be critical in the future of the region. I think that we will eventually see intercity rail in Texas, especially as our airports are space/capacity constrained they will be looking to do away with short flights which rail could accommodate in similar travel time (taking into acct drive to airport, check-in, security, wait, loading, flight, etc). Rail is not more expensive than roadways (I don't think). We all know we cannot do subways here, without great expense and frequent flooding | By Jonathan B

Comment 2: Well said-

Light-rail is what is needed here in the Houston Metro, very badly. Elevated, high-speed, trains which travel from Katy and Humble to Downtown Houston and then to Galveston should be considered for the conversation as well. The economic benefits to Galveston, would boom with the simple ease of walking to the nearest train stop, knowing that for say.. \$10 from Downtown Houston to Galveston and back would save you time, energy and give people time with their kids instead of sitting in traffic or avoiding going outside at all.

Subways, while nice because they are not a part of the immediate landscape, won't work because of the flood factor... but, well... at least someone else has their head on their shoulders correctly. ;-) | By Myles B

Comment 3: We definitely need to maintain, reconstruct many of our roadways (currently). Also, we will need to renovate roadways in the future. Houston, surrounding cities, and TxDOT could work to ensure that new/redeveloped roadways incorporate pedestrian, bike, automotive, and transit facilities designed for those specific user groups. Take Westheimer between 610 and beltway; 4+ lanes each direction; sidewalks on both sides (more like extended curbs); no bike lanes; no dedicated transit facilities (besides sheltered bus stops). What if there were one less lane each way at a lower DESIGN speed (posted makes no difference if roadway looks like highway it drives like highway), greenery for cooling effect and traffic calming, shorter crossing distances on colored or textured crosswalks, bike infrastructure on Richmond ave (parallel alternate route), and smaller parking lots (behind bldgs)? At 35 mph more cars fit on a road, its quieter, easier to accelerate/decelerate-- everybody wins. | By Jonathan B

Comment 4: I second this idea, Jonathan. Wish we could second replies even more than the original idea. | By Christy H





Comment 5: Jonathan, if you run for office you've totally got my vote. :) I would decrease the 35 mph to 30, however; my experience driving on Shepherd 3x/week is that 35 = 45; I notice the same phenomenon at Richmond when it's not congested during rush hour. Fortunately large parts of Richmond must be traveled at posted speeds because it's so bumpy/full of potholes. | By Joyce A

Comment 6: Joyce, you have my whole-hearted agreement. Same goes for 11th Street in the Heights. | By Christy H

Comment 7: Why would you want to slow down the speeds and remove a lane? It seems you want to reduce people driving in cars. I would widen the highway. I would also increase the parking spaces. | By Sally B

Comment 8: I think in order to improve infrastructure and also be more sustainable at the same time would be to replace existing roads that are in bad condition with permeable surfaces. This would help the region save money on stormwater management and allow more water to percolate back into the groundwater. There are so many bad roads in our region that really need to be updated. We need more transportation choices as well. I know I would love to walk and bike more but there is nowhere close enough for me to be able to do that. We need to diversify our housing as well. More low-income housing would be great, and I think pocket neighborhoods (See Ross Chapin) would be a great way of implementing that. It would encourage a more active community life as well. | By Caroline B

Comment 9: Sorry, that should be "we should replace existing..." | By Caroline B

Comment 10: Much better mass transit for students, the elderly and people who can't afford one or more cars for everyone in the family to get where they need to go. Safe and well connected bike lanes so young people (and everyone else) have options other than being driven around by parents or driving themselves. Limit surface parking so that our streets are walkable -- ie walking in our urban areas should not be hot and mind-numbing treks through and by acres of parking. (The expansive parking for the new HEB on Dunlavy is an example of what should never be allowed to happen.) | By Polly L

Comment 11: If we could expand metro bus service beyond the city limits and into the metropolitan area, this would make it easier on those you mentioned Polly L. There are many service providers ( I work for one) that could provide assistance to more people if public transportation was available. | By Joe C

Comment 12: Polly, I totally agree about the HEB--that parking lot is yuck.

Also agree that we need bike options for \*everyone\*, especially very safe options for the younger and older who need to travel slowly and/or out of traffic. | By Joyce



A

Comment 13: Polly, I agree. HEB had the opportunity to increase walkability and accessibility, and failed to take it. Same for the new Whole Foods on Waugh. Store entrance could have fronted on the street, with parking to the rear or in a garage. | By Christy H

Comment 14: Local municipalities and the region's planning organizations have done a decent job trying to foster "city center" and light retail type developments along major transportation corridors.

The trend in the price of oil (gasoline) is most likely going to continue to rise so what are the thoughts on continueing efforts to encourage the development of light rail along major corridors like Hwy 45, Hwy 59, and I-10?

Also, what are the thoughts on a set of new heavy rail lines from Houston to San Antonio, Houston to Austin, and Houston to Dallas that could carry both goods and people? This could spur both jobs and more development in our outlying suburbs. | By Robert L

Comment 15: Mass transit - light rail everywhere so we can leave our cars home. High speed rail to nearby cities. I want fast, clean transit that enables me to get from door to door easily. (Think San Francisco, Chicago, New York...) | By Holly E

Comment 16: Education would have to be a key part of this though. While it is obvious that most on these forums agree that transit is the key to most of our desires for the future of the area, We have to convince the remaining 4 million plus people that giving up thier auto (and some of that independence) to be on a schedule will be a better way of life. | By Joe C

Comment 17: In general, a consumer makes a choice based on quality and cost with respect to their own preferences/values and a choosing a method of transportation is no different. Education and promotion services will be an important but limited tool in moving people from automobiles to mass transit systems. Instead, building a high quality, low cost infrastructure will inevitably lead to the adoption of mass transit and must be the focus of any transportation development. | By Dax G

Comment 18: I would LOVE to be able to visit my parents in San Antonio or travel the opposite way to the beach without dealing with the danger, tedium, and unsustainability of travelling by car . . . | By Joyce A

Comment 19: We also have to think about the walkability of the destination.



Galveston is anything but walkable, except right downtown. It's the last 1/4 mile issue. | By Christy H

Comment 20: Infrastructure and transportation are key issues that will help Houston become an attractive option in the future for businesses and residents. | By Buddy G

Comment 21: What infrastructure and transportation projects do you recommend that will make Houston an attractive option for businesses and residents in the future? | By Dax G

Comment 22: I agree with Holly E. The current light rail plan is exactly what this city needs. We need to make sure that we continue the efforts to create the last two lines of the master light rail plan. I also believe we should be looking into commuter rail. Commuter rail on 290 would ease lots of congestion on that highway. Also I-45 south to Galveston would ease traffic congestion and also create an easier way to visit the island.

Once mass transit is in place we need to think about travel around the destination area, such as bike rentals or smart cars that can be rented to travel from one place to another. | By Buddy G

Comment 23: I agree with Buddy G. Viable public transportation from Houston to Galveston would be a great 21st century improvement for both cities. I remember there was talk about rail or train to the island... what happened to that great idea? | By Vincent R

Comment 24: So much business travel in Texas is between SA, Austin, DFWA, and Houston. Why don't we create a travel option which is less hassle than flying and allows for non-car rental access to businesses in urban centers (and along major transit corridors)? Think convenience, wi-fi access, cell phone use, meet around table with co-workers on train preparing for clients. So much travel time is lost time due to driving or flying to get somewhere. Maybe we can quantify that savings . . . ? | By Jonathan B

Comment 25: We have to plan so that when we have light rail, or high-speed intracity rail, that it connects to other modes of transportation right at the same stops. Right now it seems that bus, pedestrian, commercial development, housing development and road planning are all done separately. They need to see the big picture of what they are creating. | By Christy H

**Idea Title: Efficiently using, reusing and conserving natural resources**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on efficiently using, reusing and conserving natural



resources.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 23

Number of Comments 21

Comment 1: About 4 years ago, I put solar panels on my house. I sized the system to cover my entire electrical usage during the winter months. When I did this, I did it not because I expected any swift return on investment but because I felt that I'd better put my money where my mouth is. During the process I discovered that the Houston area in general has very limited support for energy efficiency/energy conservation as compared to Austin and San Antonio. I think we need to provide better and more support for energy efficiency and conservation programs in addition to any new endeavors. When people see a positive impact at a personal level, I think they will be able to understand and support larger community/government efforts. | By Cynthia R

Comment 2: What kind of support do you mean, Cynthia? Financial support from the city, in the form of a tax rebate? More support from solar energy clubs? | By Joyce A

Comment 3: Financial support mostly. That seems to be the big barrier when I talk to people - for everything from light bulbs to appliances to solar panels. So government tax rebates (doesn't matter to me if it is city, county, state or federal - but there are probably people who understand tax implications better and could weigh in on that), manufacturer rebates, legislation to not just allow, but encourage Home Owner's Associations to accept solar panels, etc. | By Cynthia R

Comment 4: Gotcha. (Some HOA's still don't allow solar panels? Holy moly!) | By Joyce A

Comment 5: Why should other taxpayers compensate people who buy solar panels which are a very inefficient power generation source? Why don't people use grid power from nuclear, coal and natural gas? It is much less expensive. Solar panels would not be a prudent investment due to their high cost | By Sally B

Comment 6: Actually, I think that there was a legislation passed where HOAs could not deny any residences solar panels. | By Emily H

Comment 7: There should be no government involvement! | By Stephenie W



Comment 8: How about restoring our bayous and encouraging permeable sidewalks, driveways, parking lots so that we can mitigate our flooding problem without loading the bay with dirty runoff or adding even more concrete bayous and ditches to our city? | By Joyce A

Comment 9: Yes, let the water go to all these beautiful, thirsty trees we have instead of sending it down the drain! | By Alice M

Comment 10: Build in places other than freshwater wetlands and other important ecological places. There is very little left in tact. We need to leave existing prairie and freshwater wetlands in tact so that they can do their job of filtering and absorbing water. They also provide beautiful places for people to visit (try Heron Park, Pinebrook Wetlands, Dudney Park in League City and Armand BAYou Nature Center. We need to build denser, so that we drive less and walk to visit friends, cafes and shops. | By Charlotte W

Comment 11: Doing so also preserves our local biodiversity--a diverse ecosystem is more resilient. | By Joyce A

Comment 12: I would require that all home sales require an energy audit. There are two reasons, first it will make new homeowners aware of what can be done to improve the efficiency of their new home and provide the incentive and means to reduce energy waste. Second, an audit provides information on the cost of ownership. Having a better understanding of cost of ownership will reduce the likelihood of individuals purchasing homes that they cannot afford. | By Gavin D

Comment 13: To mandate people to do things is socialist. Why would it matter how much energy a home uses? Why is energy efficiency a big deal? | By Sally B

Comment 14: I would also suggest harvesting rainwater with every available opportunity in support of this. Having proper filtration would mean that not only could we use it for irrigation, flushing and washing, but for potable use as well. This will help with flooding throughout the city, provide extra support when there is a drought, and reduce our demand on local freshwater facilities. I would guess it would be a lot cheaper to filter rainwater than saltwater. | By Emily H

Comment 15: Are you suggesting personal rainwater harvesting, where each home, apartment, business would build and maintain their own collection and filtration system? If so, such an initiative may be incredibly expensive on the part of the region with or without large government incentives. We may be interested in constructing and maintaining our own rainwater systems in our own spare time, but the greater public may not. | By Dax G



Comment 16: I hope this means recycling everything, everywhere. Wherever you put a trash can, put a recycle bin next to it. Every office, park, mall, restaurant, etc should be able to recycle plastic, paper, aluminum, and more, not to mention curbside pickup at home (all homes, whether apartment, condo, or single-family). Houston is far behind other U.S. cities in terms of our recycle rates - let's get with the program! | By Holly E

Comment 17: Particularly by strategically infilling our most efficient and competitive existing communities with a denser development pattern that can supply all daily needs for most inhabitants within a five minute walk radius. | By Paul S

Comment 18: I like that! Maybe using something like the Walkscore as a metric; communities should have a walkscore of at least, say, 80? | By Joyce A

Comment 19: Paul, I'd like to see that too. But we need to revise the building codes, which today require "suburban" types of roads, parking, etc. That's why we get strip mall conditions all along Washington Ave instead of a walkable urban commercial area. Restaurants should be built on the street with a wide sidewalk and parking in the rear. Same for stores. | By Christy H

Comment 20: Why is do you want to push people into the cities into "dense development areas"? I think we should move people out to the urban areas where they can have their own homes and yards. I suggest we widen the highways and streets and build more denser parking garages so we will not limit people's freedoms by trying to put people into pack and stack buildings. | By Sally B

Comment 21: I meant to say to move people to the suburban areas instead of the urban areas | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Resilient economy and a skilled workforce**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on a resilient economy and a skilled workforce.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 15

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: The world is changing and our economy and workforce needs to change with the



times. The rest of the country knows this and are investing in new modes of transportation and infrastructure. We are told that jobs are dependent on goods movement and the petrochemical industry instead of looking at the trends of building smaller, efficient, homes and working from the home. With our 'economic downturn' we have seen renewed interest in doing things locally and that is good for the local jobs and the local economy. Why send your money to another country when the Houston region has so much to offer. | By Charlotte W

Comment 2: Agreed, Charlotte. We could do a lot more and would create more local businesses if we had more sustainable urban development. | By Christy H

Comment 3: I think governments do a lousy job of planning economies. This plan should not be in the business of picking winners and losers. We should provide a good environment for businesses generally, but not drive anyone's particular agenda. | By Peter W

Comment 4: Play to our strengths and the future. Intentionally discuss/negotiate with the oil industry to anticipate old refinery shutdowns, cleanups and workforce upcycling, and to move the industry into new, closed loop and cogenerating petroleum and former waste processing facilities for a more valuable petrochemical future. If possible, retain the manned space industry by recruiting firms to a completely new employment/living center, perhaps on the Astroworld/Astrodome property. Continue and expand the port's bulk shipping importance using new third then fourth generation nuclear power modules to repower large vessels (and the port too when they are docked) for China/Arctic/Europe/Africa trade missions. | By Paul S

Comment 5: Why would you recruit aerospace firms to a new employment/living center and why the Astroworld/Astrodome property? | By Dax G

**Idea Title: Education and training opportunities**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on education and training opportunities.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 13

Number of Comments 8

Comment 1: The Department of Education needs to be dissolved. The money that currently comes out of our property taxes to pay for education should be credited back to the family in the form of a voucher or, in the case of homeschooling families, in the form of cash so that they can afford to school their own children instead of being forced to pay for the education of others in addition to their own. Schools should all be privatized, and have to compete for our



money by showing that they can provide an exemplary education product for our students. |  
By John W

Comment 2: How is education defined for this idea? The range of education options is very small for those with limited income, even with the charter school option most are bogged down by the same restrictions unless one can afford private school. | By Tamika C

Comment 3: The Houston region has so many quality educational opportunities. Our educational focus should be on supporting those that will help the region sustain its vitality and educate a generation for jobs in the future. And I am not talking about everyone going to college, our region needs qualified service providers in all of the trades and skilled professions. | By Robert S

Comment 4: An educated workforce is able to make better decisions for the future. | By Charlotte W

Comment 5: I am sorry, but this suggestion just does not fit with the intent of this website. Go to the front page: "We are looking for practical ideas about how we can improve the region's most significant resources, including clean air and water, good jobs, safe and attractive neighborhoods, affordable housing, transportation choices, and open spaces and parks."

This is not the place to discuss and plan for at-risk children. That's a very worthy project, and there are plenty of places to do that other than Ourregion.org Every school district, and the State and Federal Departments of Education focus on at-risk children.  
| By Peter W

Comment 6: As someone who is involved in hiring and workforce development as part of my job, I completely disagree that government and central planning can know what industrial needs are. I don't think this plan should spend time on this topic. It's out of scope. | By Peter W

Comment 7: The suggestion is addressing at risk children. Houston needs better philanthropic collaboration. One good example to model is the Strive Partnership, developed in Cincinnati, Ohio, and northern Kentucky. see <http://www.strivetogether.org/> Other cities are adopting the Strive framework, see Grand Rapids Herald-Review article at <http://t.co/YSyHoU9E> | By Edmund L

Comment 8: More and more youth today find themselves without social supports, adequate nurturing from parents, or the ability to function in school settings. As the size of our at-risk population grows due to industrialization and urbanization, as well as the disappearing family unit and community social structures, we are laying the groundwork for a future generation of stagnation.

There are many forces and resources seeking to improve the situation for our youth. Yet so





many of them have the vantage point of adults--better parenting, better schools, better communities. To me, our city (our society) should determine the many individual needs and target areas of an adolescent and find new ways to deliver them. With modern technology it seems that an online website and/or an app to support youth is the direction to head. Something to help empower each and every child. A Youth Support Network.

| By Edmund L

**Idea Title: Clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on clean and plentiful water, air, soil and food.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 13

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: How did plentiful get in there? Clean environment, organic food--certainly. But plentiful? With respect to water, plentiful means cheap, and cheap means we can afford to waste it. So I would reformulate this goal as "Achieve highest environmental standards for air, water, and food" | By D M

Comment 2: That's a good aspiration, to achieve high standard air water and food, but I'd like our region to stand out as having an overflowing abundance too. Given the scarcity of descent basic resources, especially of water in the future, a region with a lot of good to offer will be able to sustain improvement while others decline. I would also like generally to move us away from the classical economic point of view focused on scarcity and competition toward instead a focus on abundance and community, which bodes well for future sharing and equanimity. After all, there will be no shortage of future humans in Houston or the world, but of humanity who can say? | By Paul S

Comment 3: No brainer! We need clean water, air and soil for a healthy life. | By Charlotte W

Comment 4: Focus on widespread neighborhood urban agriculture using rainwater harvesting and storage, xeriscaping, drought and heat resistance, expanding and safeguarding regional surface fresh water supplies by 2017; continued attention to reducing fugitive industrial emissions and reducing regional flaring, including offshore, transition to electric and human powered vehicles for local travel. | By Paul S

**Idea Title: Access to good job opportunities**



Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on access to good job opportunities.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 10

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: I think this plan should focus on access to good and NEARBY job opportunities. How to do? Planning our land use with teeth and incentives for compliance is a necessary prerequisite. Then bundle our best housing (newest green-built, approaching net-zero carbon) with our best jobs (Robert's biotech, nanotech, medical, research, plus closed-loop petro-chem processing with electrical co-generation, and human space flight industry - OK, we can try applying our arts by making movies too) if you like. | By Paul S

Comment 2: You may have heard people talking about Sustainable Development – in public meetings, on television and on the radio. Consultants talk about it, university professors lecture on it, and at all levels of government, it is now being mandated. But what is Sustainable Development? That is precisely the question this guide is intended to address. In the following pages, you will read of the origins of Sustainable Development, its theoretical underpinnings, its major programs, and how it is implemented.

When you have finished reading this document, you will have the knowledge necessary to begin identifying the vast array of Sustainable Development programs that exist and continue to arise.

Please recognize this document for what it is: a unique opportunity to learn more about Sustainable Development. Then you can make a difference in your community by supporting present and future actions that restore and protect the rights and well-being of you, your family, and your fellow citizens.

More information on the nature and consequences of Sustainable Development is available from Freedom Advocates. (<http://www.FreedomAdvocates.org>)

– 1 – | By Ginger R

Comment 3: Simply put, Houston has one of the greatest, if not the greatest medical centers in



the world. It also happens to have an international airport, a major shipping port, and some leading universities like Rice and UH. Take these facts and couple it with an aging baby boom population and the trend for biotechnology and nanotechnology pharmaceutical research is a great bet for our region. Why not have the Greater Houston Partnership, Rice and UH technology schools, along with representatives from the Medical Center sit down at H-GAC and talk about ways to encourage more biotechnology and nanotechnology businesses for the region? | By Robert L

Comment 4: How would we do this? Have politicians and business leaders lure up and coming industries? Better tech/skill training in high school or trade schools? Incentives to keep current business here? | By Joe C

Comment 5: You may have heard people talking about Sustainable Development – in public meetings, on television and on the radio. Consultants talk about it, university professors lecture on it, and at all levels of government, it is now being mandated. But what is Sustainable Development? That is precisely the question this guide is intended to address. In the following pages, you will read of the origins of Sustainable Development, its theoretical underpinnings, its major programs, and how it is implemented.

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– 1 – | By Ginger R

Comment 6: Our Governor already does this. Mayors should already be doing it and if they are not trying to entice business of all kinds they should not be in the position they are in. I think you don't really know the resources we have in the Harris/Galveston and other areas. I don't know about Houston but I do know most cities outside of Houston already have Tech in high school. Have for years. We



have many Jr and community colleges in the area. We also have Tech schools such as Remington, Phoenix and others. Get government out of business and get the business leaders together to find ways to improve and bring in more businesses. TX already does a good job at this and can easily continue to do so without the government madating things. | By Stephenie W

**Idea Title: Ability to move goods and connect the region to the world**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on the ability to move goods and connect the region to the world.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Movemnt of goods through the Houston region is being compromised every day by growing congestion on highways and rail ways. The plan needs to address infrastructure improvements to support goods movement. | By Robert S

Comment 2: But we have this already. We only have to keep up. We don't have to break out of a rut. Houston is already a major world player. I fly all over the world from IAH. I don't see the gap. | By Peter W

Comment 3: Helping Houston become a world player is critical to creating a long-lasting and successful city. | By Buddy G

**Idea Title: Multicultural, historical and natural assets**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on multicultural, historical and natural assets.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Strengthen protections for historic districts and buildings to prevent destruction of historic buildings and help with their revival. | By Christy H



**Idea Title: Range of quality housing choices**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on a range of quality housing choices.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 5

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: I support increasing density of housing, with a range of housing choices. There should not be areas that exclude mixed use, and have only one type of housing. We also need more focus on making re-habbing a good choice. Baltimore under former Mayor Schaeffer was enticing rehabbers downtown to townhouses for a \$1.00 purchase and a commitment to spend a minimum amount in rehabilitating/renovating the structure for residential use. Worked wonders to revitalize the downtown.

| By Christy H

Comment 2: The plan needs to address how this variety of housing choices can be provided in a market environment. Developers will only provide housing that fits a business model that makes sense, profits, for them. This plan needs to introduce development strategies that make sense from both a sustainability and market perspective. | By Robert S

Comment 3: I think it all depends on what one thinks of as "quality". I can afford a house in Katy but I don't want to commute 60 to 80 minutes each way. The houses I can afford inside the loop are in need of so much repair that they are hardly worth buying. | By Martin K

Comment 4: There is a vast area between the Loop and Katy where some compromise might be possible. But I think it's possible to take issue with your assertion that there are no affordable houses inside the loop worth buying. First, inside the loop is increasingly going to be about something other than "houses," particularly in the most convenient and walkable places. Second, if we could ever get a richer transit system, many more people could live with only one or even no cars, and that's a huge financial savings, enabling a much larger mortgage payment. Third, my son did a pretty extensive analysis of the areas around the coming light rail stations and found a lot of houses that had already been nicely rehabbed and were going for \$90,000-\$150,000. But it's true you have to be something of an urban pioneer to settle in some of those places. Still, they're going to change fast. | By David C

Comment 5: I believe that right now this is something that the Houston area already has going for it. You have plenty of choices from \$100k to \$1 million. The biggest problem is that these



choices spread out in every direction away from the principle business/work districts. There is not a lack of affordable or quality housing in this area, just people who can qualify for it. A progressive revitalization of housing areas as they age will allow for this trend to continue. | By Joe C

**Idea Title: Physically and mentally healthy lifestyles**

Idea Detail: I think this plan should focus on physically and mentally healthy lifestyles.

Idea Author: Nathan P

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: If we had physically active transportation options (biking, walking) then I think people would be healthier overall. | By Peter W



## Topic Name: Local Challenges

### Idea Title: Lack of land use planning

Idea Detail: The development patterns on the edges of the metropolitan area are very shortsighted. Current land use patterns reduce the ecological resources severely while endangering water quality and flood avoidance. These development patterns contribute to wasting of energy and added air emissions. We should be talking about implementing policies for strong regional land use planning.

Idea Author: Jim L

Number of Seconds 13

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: The framework for urban development in the Houston area seems to be established in unincorporated areas that have almost no (public) planning. Attention is largely constrained within the property boundaries and connections with the future and surrounding development are minimal at best. This is particularly true outside of Harris County, and the lack of county planning or development controls pretty much ensures that development patterns are incremental and inefficient. Unincorporated areas need at least the same level (if not more) of planning and development controls areas as within incorporated areas. | By David H

Comment 2: I have always found it funny that in Houston (actual city of Houston) where I live big-box stores each build enough parking lot capacity for themselves despite sharing parking lots with multiple other big boxes. Case in point, Walmart on Dunvale Rd (between Westheimer and Richmond): three big parking generators adjacent and site design ended in 3x amount of parking because no sharing was planned (at least it looks that way to me). Why not re-orient buildings to face one parking lot (with ped/bike facilities) and use freed half of the property for other stores, or better yet, horizontal/vertical mixed-use development? | By Jonathan B

Comment 3: We have these really nice bayous that run through Cy-Fair, and no plan to capitalize on them as area assets. May I remind you... San Antonio's Riverwalk area, decades ago, used to be something like a forgotten sewer. | By Peter W

Comment 4: Could you provide an example of a policy you would enact that would change development patterns and improve at least one of the four problems you cite: water quality, flood avoidance, energy waste or air emissions? | By Dax G



Comment 5: There are several plans in existence to create linear parks and natural areas along the bayous. Some of these can be accomplished with buy-out money from FEMA after a flood, but it would be better for municipalities to invest proactively in purchasing floodplain properties. Green zones around water bodies filter run-off and improve water quality. The farther property is set back from the waterway, the lower flood damage will be. If the green zone contains trees, then there are benefits for ground level air pollution. | By Jim L

Comment 6: Change ordinances or laws that mandate X amount of parking for a store, and stop the use of suburban codes for urban or more urbanizing/densifying areas. Encourage densification rather than sprawl. | By Christy H

**Idea Title: Lack of good alternative transportation**

Idea Detail: Our road network is overburdened every day. There must be a way of providing easy, reliable, frequent and safe methods of getting into and out of the city which folks would use. An integrated network of busses and rail perhaps

Idea Author: Karin W

Number of Seconds 12

Number of Comments 12

Comment 1: Making it easier to get AROUND in the city, not just in and out of it. Those who live inside the loop find it difficult to get from one area inside the loop to another without riding 2-3 or more busses. I've lived in Boston and Toronto, where it's easy to live without a car. Also getting around by bike is dangerous on streets. Every busy street should be reformed to include bike lanes and safe sidewalks for walking to and from local stores. | By Christy H

Comment 2: Do you ride your bike in the winter time in Boston and Toronto? If not, what transportation would you use? | By Sally B

Comment 3: When not walking or biking in Toronto and Boston, one can hop on public transportation which gives everyone a choice about whether to own a car. I look forward to a time when all of us have the freedom to choose our mode of transportation and not be restricted by the lack of access to bike lanes and transit. | By Geri W

Comment 4: Strongly support a regional emphasis on non-auto travel modes, including a much





stronger commitment to cycling and walking as a primary transportation mode. Our current system seems to force us to own and operate one or more vehicles; and cycling and walking are viewed somehow as aberrant, specialized options. Current interest in "complete streets" is a good opportunity for identifying a way forward. | By David H

Comment 5: A second for Complete Streets! Also, regarding Karin's comment about getting IN and OUT of the city: if more of us lived close to where we worked and went to school, we wouldn't need to worry about getting in our out--we'd already be where we needed to be! Some people must travel 30 miles or more to get home; if we could live closer to what is important for us, we could just walk or ride and reduce the commute by a tenth. Incentives may be important in getting this kind of development and emmigration from the suburbs, since at the moment the open land in our exurbs is still pretty cheap. | By Joyce A

Comment 6: BikeHouston wrote a white paper in 2008, "Developing Cycling In Harris County". Here is the link to it: <http://bit.ly/yWXHxe> | By Peter W

Comment 7: Not having transportation choices is also not entirely an engineering problem. It's a behavioral problem. We have the worst rates of intoxicated, reckless, inattentive driving in the Nation. We have bicyclists who run red lights and stop signs in the presence of other vehicles at intersections (!), and who ride at night with no lights and no reflectors (required by Texas law). We have pedestrians running across freeways, and who could save their lives at night if they carried a flashlight, for example. But people in this region just aren't safety-minded. I travel a lot, and I see in Norway, where it's dark much of the year, parents put reflective vests on their kids, so the drivers can see their precious little ones. You can get a good vest at Home Depot for \$5. Is that too geeky? Well maybe, but kids aren't getting run over and killed in Norway like here.

I submit that if drivers were KIND, and cyclists were WISE, people wouldn't complain as much about no places to ride or walk. | By Peter W

Comment 8: Politicians are not valuing transportation choice. This has to change. Salt is a substance which is not valued very much... you can buy a lot of it for little money. But if you OMIT THE SALT from the \$100 a plate gourmet meal, the meal is wrecked. We're in the same situation in HGAC... many of us perceive that our lives are "missing the salt", but the politicians don't get it.

It's highly instructive that people pushing for transportation choices often have lived in places in the past where there was transportation choice. People who have never left the sunbelt are less likely to be aware of the advantages. | By Peter W

Comment 9: Really good comments, Peter. I also like how you used the salt



analogy--salt is a flavor, after all, and don't our lives have more flavor when we can move around a city without being confined to the bland cage of a car all the time? |

By Joyce A

Comment 10: Politicians are not valuing transportation choice. This has to change. Salt is a substance which is not valued very much... you can buy a lot of it for little money. But if you OMIT THE SALT from the \$100 a plate gourmet meal, the meal is wrecked. We're in the same situation in HGAC... many of us perceive that our lives are "missing the salt", but the politicians don't get it.

It's highly instructive that people pushing for transportation hoices often have lived in places in the past where there was transportation choice. People who have never left the sunbelt are less likely to be aware of the advantages. | By Peter W

Comment 11: I believe that more flexible alternatives need to be considered in lieu of rail, especially for the commute from the suburbs. For example, bus rapid transit. Especially with increasing improvements in fuel economy with alternative fuel sources such as natural gas, and in the future possibly electrically powered buses, I believe that creating dedicated bus lanes instead of light rail track should be studied and considered. This method should be able to take advantage of these future improvements in the means of transportation without the physical limitation of rails. And it should be able to be implemented in more areas than rail, and be expanded cheaper and quicker without the disruptions required when installing rail. |

By Mike G

Comment 12: As a resident of Sugar Land, I concur that flexible alternatives are needed now, and using the HOV lane on the Southwest Freeway into Houston for Bus Rapid Transit is a viable option, particularly until light rail extends to Fort Bend County. Fort Bend County currently has limited public transportation service into Greenway and the Med Center but none yet to downtown directly! But I cannot emphasize enough that not all potential users have only one destination in town on a given day. For those of us who need to get around the city once there, the light rail system inside the Loop is a critical element of the interconnected system, because the time required for bus connections is too extensive to be viable. | By Geri W

### **Idea Title: Retrofit Suburban Strip Shopping Centers**

Idea Detail: Once centers of vitality with many locally owned businesses on the corners of key intersections throughout the city, several strip shopping centers in Sugar Land, like in so many suburban communities, are becoming relics of the past and struggling with empty storefronts since the economic recession. Yet with every new development more such centers are installed with huge parking lots that distance them from the street.



Rather than assuming the economic recovery will address the issue, we must recognize that the day of the strip shopping center is over. If we think imaginatively and establish the financing structures we can retrofit these properties for other uses or convert them to mixed use centers with walkability from surrounding neighborhoods. For example, those in Sugar Land along Highway 6 can be developed as Transit Oriented Developments (TODs), serviced initially by bus or even intra-city trolleys.

Because a more sustainable economy is one supported by locally owned businesses, an important element will be figuring out how to retain the small, locally owned business focus rather than resorting to chain stores that seem to offer greater promise of stability for investors.

This will require building collaborative community alliances for the public good and educating residents about the positive implications of retrofitting suburbia for the future (see the accompanying video and article).

Idea Author: Geri W

Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: Developing ways to reuse existing infrastructure is a great idea. As a society we need to learn how to adapt and reuse these resources. That may require some sort of incentive for developers to want to do that. | By Robert S

Comment 2: Retro-fit to create more "walk-able" spaces so that you can't drive down them. E.g., in many european cities everyone walks because the roads aren't large enough for cars... just people and bikes.

Bike Lanes!! | By Heidi A

Comment 3: People are not as wealthy in Europe due to their socialist economy. Most Europeans would love to have a car and wider streets. | By Sally B

Comment 4: Very good. Thanks for sharing Geri! I like the words collaborative and education. | By Jing C

**Idea Title: No Town Square: lack of places for all ages to hang out**

Idea Detail: ffluentWe don't have Town Squares here. We jump in our cars and drive from



point to point to buy things. There's no place in Cy-Fair to just go and be with other people, like a Town Square, or a San Antonio Riverwalk. Woodlands and Sugar Land are pursuing some good ideas. The Centerra property in Katy is pretty nice for just hanging out. There needs to be much, much more instead of this ugly strip-center development. How unimaginative and cheap.

By the way, a town plaza does not have to be restricted to a high-dollar place where mostly affluent folks live and work. I think this is a good concept across the economic spectrum.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 5

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: This lack is felt especially strong in my family because we live on both sides of the border. Here in Mexico the plaza is a common feature of almost every town or city, although many older people would say that they aren't as vital as they were in the past. In my husband's neighborhood in Monterrey (he is here because his legal immigration petition is being held for further review) the nearest plaza has been replanted with native plants and trees and is principally a series of playgrounds in a greenscape that feels lush against the Mexican drought. Having taken our kids there this morning, and checked out the small independent cybercafe and brightly painted schools around it, I am really inspired to second this idea. | By Alice M

Comment 2: allot of towns and areas are planning these, Baytown just started it's revitalization of old downtown into and arts and entertainment district, I'm sure there is someone in Cy-Fair planning something. | By Jacob W

Comment 3: No one is planning in Cy-Fair, because Cy-Fair is unincorporated Harris County. We don't have a planning authority, other than the County, have neither the resources nor the mission to go out and do this. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: Pollution**

Idea Detail: Whether it is legacy pollution or ongoing polluting activities, too many of our neighborhoods are unhealthy, undesirable places to live regardless of amenities or transportation options offered.

Idea Author: Matthew T



Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: We are encouraging people to plant gardens and use local farmers . . . but the soil may be contaminated with lead and arsenic. We are encouraging our children to play in the dirt, but it may have lead, a host of heavy metals (and a bunch of other nasties, to boot). We want our children to run and play outside . . . but the air may make them prone to asthma or cancer or lung disease or obesity. We tell everyone to leave the soda at the store and drink water, but it may not be clean. We need to protect the health of our city, especially its future citizens, by facing our pollution problems and dealing with them head-on. | By Joyce A

Comment 2: We need to clean up the existing pollution and demand a goal of zero emissions (Water, soil and air) from industry. Where there is housing next to heavy industry, industry should create green zones by offering the homeowners a fair market price for their home and funding and assistance for relocating. When a person wants to stay, industry should provide that alternative. Once the land is purchased, the land should remain open space... not to be 'cleaned up and sold again". | By Charlotte W

Comment 3: Charlotte, you sound like you are speaking of eminent domain. We need to respect private property rights. I also do not believe we should put mandates on industry. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Poorly maintained infrastructure**

Idea Detail: Poorly maintained roads

Idea Author: D M

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: And maintaining infrastructure does not include building new freeways or widening existing ones! | By Christy H

Comment 2: Deferred maintenance for our public infrastructure will be an issue for more than just the roadway network. As with an automobile, putting off preventative maintenance will just mean larger investments in the future to rehabilitate failed infrastructure. As a society we need to invest in maintaining our public assests. | By Robert S



**Idea Title: Localize infill to our neighborhood, reducing auto dependency**

Idea Detail: My Westbury neighborhood enjoys great comraderie, but we are almost completely gasoline automobile dependent for daily needs and work commutes. I'd like to see a better array of daily goods and services businesses and other neighborhood amenities all within a five minute walk (any more than 5 minutes and, most of the year, you'd melt). I'd like to see a concerted effort to upgrade workforce skills, home telecommunications and some local office facilities to allow most of us to telecommute most of the time. I'd like to see that when we do need to take our big or small, safe, dependable car somewhere in town that it runs noiselessly on an electric charge it downloaded overnight from the grid-connected home battery pool which continuously sops up excess neighborhood solar, wind and stream power. Every house would strive for net zero energy useage, particularly by rooftop and driveway solar PV and hot water collection, and by using a neighborhood geothermal well array to help chill the houses in our area almost for free.

Idea Author: Paul S

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: The big issue with community retail is that retailers can't make their businesses work with only clients that can walk to their business. Our city was built to serve low density development based on private auto travel.

To change this will require sustantial changes in how we live. Our choices about where we live and shop may change over time as the pirce of commuting, housing and fuel rise. But until then, we need to maintain the infrastructure that supports our curent life style, that means more roads and better bus based transit. | By Robert S

Comment 2: We have the same problem in Cy-Fair, but worse! I don't expect METRO to run a bus through a local street in a low density area, but I do expect them to cover major "super-arterials" like State Highway 6. I also expect to have a safe place to walk and bicycle, so I can pick up a loaf of bread and go to the ATM machine without firing up the 4000 pound gasoline chariot. | By Peter W

Comment 3: This is a great idea that really should be looked at, especially where I live. All that is in my area are acreage subdivisions, nothing but large homes on 1-5 acres. We don't have any businesses, we have to drive everywhere. we have a ton of open countryside between our subdivisions where more similar ones are planned, at this point I've excepted that the land will be developed but, there aren't any businesses planed at all, no grocery stores, no parks, not even a gas station! | By Jacob W



**Idea Title: Code violations and vacant properties**

Idea Detail: In older areas, some property owners do not maintain buildings and vacant lots. There are problems with vacant buildings that are a haven for mischief and criminal activities. There are rental units lacking basic repairs to sanitary facilities. Eyesores bring down surrounding property values, and discourage others in the area from keeping up their properties.

Idea Author: Pat V

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: Stop trying to waste money you don't have on all this other crap and start enforcing the laws. Also there are plenty of drug houses and dumps in the areas that the cities have responsibility for. Clean the trash out and sell that city property to someone who will rehab it. We don't need the government to tax us more so they can take the money and do something totally different with it (as usually happens). | By Stephenie W

Comment 2: How about the City selling some of these houses for \$1 with the proviso that the new owner put a minimum of \$20,000 into rehabbing and living in the house for 2 years. Baltimore found this a grand way to get people back into downtown neighborhoods. | By Christy H

Comment 3: I live just north of downtown but the majority of the homes in my area are vacant and dilapidated, the lots are overgrown and criminal mischief is on the rise. This is a prime area for redevelopment just 5 minutes from downtown and the new north metro line and yet nothing has been done to clean up this area or spark development. There needs to be a plan to help develop areas like mine that are close to jobs and still affordable but are just being ignored and neglected. | By Debbie S

Comment 4: Debbie,  
California has outlawed redevelopment areas. This is usually done with public-private partnerships. The taxpayers are usually the losers. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Congestion Reduction**

Idea Detail: Congestion on the regions roadways limits opportunity and decreases area resident quality of life. Steps must continue to address growing congestion through improvements to the regions roadway and transit systems. The answer to the issue of



congestion is not an either-or but both. Both systems need continued enhancement.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 8

Comment 1: The reason that people are choosing to move to the exurban areas has nothing to do with the County governments or TxDOT. County and TxDOT officials and staff don't have the sort of power and authority to make people move anywhere. They move there because they want to live there.

Now let's discuss why they move there and how to motivate them to move into more dense residential development that is more efficiently served by non-auto based transportation.

| By Robert S

Comment 2: But the reason the exurban developments exist is because the County and TxDOT pour billions of dollars into creating roads and parks that will entice developers and builders. At the same time, no one pours billions into making existing places better, particularly with more transit. Further, creating the kind of places that people who want to live in walkable urbanism- which we know is the vast majority of people who live in the City of Houston, for instance - is very difficult because the City makes regulations to slow it down or prevent it. It's a very uneven playing field. | By David C

Comment 3: We can reduce congestion by leaving our freeways alone, and instead focusing on bringing people close to their work and school, and providing infrastructure for transit AND walking AND cycling. Think of all the opportunity then! To know your city, know your neighbors, get some exercise, get cleaner air! Then the freeways can be for primarily long hauls, truck transport, etc. Anyway, \*nothing\* is going to replace petroleum; when gas prices rise even further because we've started to run plum out, no one is going to be able to afford to use those freshly-widened freeways, anyway. | By Joyce A

Comment 4: I don't quite agree. Giving people more opportunities to live closer to work and school plus infrastructure for transit and walking and cycling will give large numbers of people the choice to do that, yes. But as they are able to stop using the freeway, others will rush to fill in the new vacancies. It's a well proven dynamic: in a healthy economy, when road space is free, people will fill the free space to a certain point of discomfort. But if you're among the ones who choose not to participate in the sprawl/commute chaos, then you just don't care about congestion. The choice to get out of it is what people want, but elected officials are always trying to encourage people to new development at the edge so they also





work to deny those choices. Obviously, that's a generalization, but I know of very few elected officials who don't believe our growth should occur at the edge. | By David C

Comment 5: I'm trying to be positive, David. :) Our elected officials NEED to understand that by allowing growth at the edge, we're concreting farmland, ecosystems, flood mitigation, increasing transportation costs, etc. How do we help them take realistic long-term views? Do they really think we're going to engineer ourselves out of every problem? Do they expect nuclear fusion to save our day anytime soon, or ever? Do they expect the middle class folk stranded in the 'burbs will always be able to pay for \$\$\$ gas and food trucked in from far away? Sigh. Thank you for doing what you do to help us all see the light. | By Joyce A

Comment 6: Being positive is hard, I know. I don't think elected officials misunderstand the dynamics of congestion. The research on congestion has been so widely dispersed over the last ten years that you'd have to have been in a coma not to know you can't reduce it (except by charging for it). You have to follow the money. County officials are trying to grow the unincorporated parts of the counties and that means sprawl. All the things you mention aren't interesting to anyone who's trying to develop exurban land, including TxDOT officials. That's why 71% of the region's growth over the last decade was in unincorporated county areas and so many of our towns and cities lost population. 66% of us still live in towns and cities, but I'd expect that number, at the end of the next census, to be under 60% as the money flows to the Grand Parkway and 290 and 288 and so on, to enable distant commuting. | By David C

Comment 7: There is no way to reduce congestion on free roadways. The number of cars will fill the space and then people who feel crowded out will find other solutions: moving, transit, carpooling, etc. Widening a road induces more congestion. See I-10, which seemed like a dream for about 6 months and now is right back where it was before the massive construction project. So all that is possible is providing more choices (which can include congestion pricing in toll lanes). Roadway expansion is simply about providing work for engineers and others and about enabling sprawl. | By David C

Comment 8: The where, when, and why of congestion can inform us about what is needed. Hopefully the choices are more vibrant than either roadways (more concrete?) or transit (more frequent buses?). | By David H

**Idea Title: Scooters**

Idea Detail: In many world class cities, motor scooters are a major source of individual transportation. They are relatively cheap to buy, emissions free, inexpensive to operate, and



parking allows for 3-4 per auto space. The problem with Houston is they are unsafe to drive because of Houston drivers. Perhaps scooters could use bus lanes and bicycle lanes or have streets dedicated for scooter/ bicycle use during rush hour traffic. Maybe the City could provide special deals through auto dealers for purchases. It might be fun to see Vespas in downtown.

Idea Author: Lorraine D

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: It is not so much a question of liability as it is pricing the service correctly. Also, like car-sharing (which is a successful and growing service), you screen who you allow to rent (i.e. membership). Scooter-share would target a different clientele and therefore operate differently. Anyways, you know who rented and can therefore implicate them in any criminal act perpetrated during a rental period. | By Jonathan B

Comment 2: NO WAY should scooters use bicycle infrastructure. I don't even think it's legal under State Law. It's such a bad idea on so many levels... where do I start? No, no, and no. Having scooters weave in and out amongst buses? Brrrrr.....

"City should provide special deals through auto dealers"... huh? I'm sorry, I don't follow that one. That looks like it would hurt current scooter and motorcycle dealers; auto dealers wouldn't want to touch it, because they want to sell cars. And the City has big pot of gold to subsidize this activity?

Don't get me wrong, I like scooters and motorcycles. I just don't think there needs to be any state sponsored encouragement for people to use them. | By Peter W

Comment 3: I think scooters are great too. But they do emit some emissions so don't push this idea based on that premise. Scooters operate just about like motorcycles in many respects, but cannot safely utilize highways. Motorcycle, bike, and scooter parking should be provided/allowed so Houstonians can choose to use one of these alternate modes. P.S. Maybe a "scooter share" program would work better in Houston than a bike share potentially would? Typical travel distances, even for tourists, make bike sharing a tough sale, but scooters may work. | By Jonathan B

Comment 4: Scooter share would not work

(1) high capital cost of scooter related to bike. If a rental bike gets stolen, it's bad, but... life goes on. If a motorized scooter gets stolen, ouch, it can torch the project



(2) LIABILITY INSURANCE COST | By Peter W

**Idea Title: Equal Access to Healthy Food**

Idea Detail: Create a regional food sustainability policy that outlines the need for infrastructure in fresh food distribution to all areas including food deserts. Create grants and programs to educate entrepreneurial types in the creation of outlets that work for their neighborhood to receive affordable, fresh food. Coordinate with nutrition education programs that enable them to live healthy lifestyles.

Idea Author: MaDiana D

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Education and Training**

Idea Detail: Houston is a major employment center for persons with advanced training or education. Many residents lack the training or education to fill these well-paying jobs.

Idea Author: Cindy C

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: put the 10 commandments back in the halls of schools teach personal responsibility | By ray A

Comment 2: There are branches of government at multiple levels that are supposed to improve education. The purpose of this Plan is to focus attention on aspects of our community that are going sideways that don't already have lots of resources and entire branches of government devoted to them. That's why I say these comments, while good, are out-of-scope for this Plan. | By Peter W

Comment 3: Schools are going backwards, my high school just cut College Prep classes out because neighboring schools don't offer it. It was a perfect level not too easy, not too hard that prepared you for college but it was cut for reportedly selfish reasons by the school board. The state, the city, and the Schools need to wake up and realize, the answer is better education not



less education. | By Jacob W

Comment 4: Reduce transportation costs related to education. Make use of local high school facilities by encouraging more dual credit courses (high school/ college) and long-distance learning during or after the regular school day. Consider co-siting community colleges on or adjacent to high school properties. | By Cindy C

Comment 5: A good idea, but out-of-scope for this plan. | By Peter W

Comment 6: It is important to provide all levels of education in communities in order to reduce the expense of travel costs which account for 31% of Houstonian's income. | By kat G

**Idea Title: More Career Vocational Classes in High School**

Idea Detail: High School students need skills after they graduate from high school.

Idea Author: cheryl S

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: College is not for everyone and the development of technical schools that teach trade skills is a much needed addition to our secondary education system. Years ago this sort of education was offered and a generation benefitted from it. Now it seems the focus is on preparing everyone for college entrance. This focus is short sighted. | By Robert S

Comment 2: Not everyone can go from high school to full time college right away. Not everyone even wants to, and not everyone should. We should help our students value themselves and what they have to offer by letting them learn some skills. The skills can also help the students achieve their long-term goals faster. | By Joyce A

**Idea Title: Train Noise**

Idea Detail: Train Noise in Westbury

Find which train company run along Westbury. Launch a formal complaint.

Idea Author: cheryl S

Number of Seconds 1



Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: I would privatize the trains. I would not have any government incentives. The business needs to be fiscally sustainable. Most public transit systems are subsidized by tax payers. | By Sally B

Comment 2: There's not much you can do for train noise, the rail lines are already there and they won't be moved. The noise you hear in some cases is for your safety (i.e. the whistles and horns). All that can be done, at this point, is a cement wall like you see along freeways & that can cost millions and may not work. You could also see if the rail company would be interested in elevating the rail lines over roads or see if the city will do the opposite. If there aren't any reasons for the train to blow its whistle or honk its horn there will be less noise. | By Jacob W

Comment 3: Trains mean commerce, commerce means jobs, jobs elevate standard of living.

Trains mean large volumes moved with less pollution less pollution means better quality of life. Chances are the tracks were there and in use long before whatever the noise is affecting was in its location. See no problems | By Joe C

**Idea Title: Vissioning as a start to land use planning**

Idea Detail: Because Houston does not have zoning, implemtation of new land use development strategies will have to be done on a voluntary basis.

This plan needs to advocate for new thinking and a different vision for residential and commercail building. The plan should show how livable centers might work rather than the historical trends in development. A compelling agrument for change will be the only way to see developers try new development models.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Developers build what the market demands. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: THE DANGERS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Idea Detail: It has become more obvious that H-GAC and their sustainable development department are about implementing the United Nations Agenda 21. It is all about govt control and the removal of private property rights and social "equity". The redistribution of wealth.



What probably started out as a great thing with the regional planning has become a corrupt organization that citizens need to watch out for.

Idea Author: Ginger R

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Those are pretty big charges, Ginger, and as usual you have no evidence at all to support them. We are individual, free citizens working hard to reform government to stop using our taxes and public policies to destroy farmland and natural resources in order to impose a lifestyle that an increasingly small minority of moneyed interests wants. You have it completely backward about what's going on. | By David C

**Idea Title: Lack of Job Opportunities**

Idea Detail: Southeast Montgomery county has a very large lack of job opportunities, particularly along US59 and it's immediate communities, unless you want to flip burgers at a fast food restaurant or work in the local Walmart. Most people have to drive to Houston or the Woodlands in order to have jobs that pay enough to support their families. Economic development has been promised for over 10 years in our area and it has yet to appear. Many properties have been zoned as commercial; however, have been sitting up for sale for several years. The local improvement district and elected officials need to provide incentives to bring in more businesses. Property on this side of the county is already less expensive then in the Woodlands. This would improve our abilities to support our families, but also reduce commuting.

Idea Author: Lisa D

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Stop zoning separation of commercial, residential, etc. which complicates or prevents mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods. Make zoning for mixed-use the norm. | By Christy H

**Idea Title: Extend the Hwy. 146 Baytown Freeway-18-wheeler Traffic Nightmare**



Idea Detail: Hwy. 146 in Baytown, (the ground-level section between Elvinta Street north out to Mont Belvieu) is a traffic nightmare. That's how Hwy. 146 was described in the April 2011 Port Stakeholder's Report commissioned by Baytown's Planning Department for the Baytown 2025 Mobility Plan Update. The recently announced multi-billion dollar industrial expansion at Chevron's Baytown Chemical Plant will add vast amounts of heavy truck traffic on Hwy. 146. The City of Baytown recently approved huge tracts of land near Hwy. 146 and FM 565 for industrial development which will create even more truck traffic on Hwy. 146, (see link below.) This development will be known as the Bay 10 Business Park, (see link below). Another major industrial facility near Hwy. 146 is called Ameriport, (see link below). The Port of Houston has expanded into Baytown bringing even more 18-wheeler truck traffic to Hwy. 146. There WERE 2 proposed TxDOT Hwy. 146 projects on the books for over 30 years to extend the Baytown Hwy. 146 freeway out to Mont Belvieu and alleviate stop-and-start congestion with all the truck traffic ground-level noise and ozone pollution. One project, (#0389-13-039) will extend the Hwy. 146 freeway north from Elvinta Street in Baytown to approximately Massey-Tompkins, but it still remains unfunded after 30 years. The 2nd TxDOT project to extend the Hwy. 146 freeway from Massey Tompkins out to Mont Belvieu was removed from the H-GAC 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. The ground level section of Hwy. 146 between Elvinta Street north out to Mont Belvieu was nick-named "Hwy. 146-feet under" due to numerous fatalities from auto crashes. How can we get Project #0389-13-039 funded immediately? How can we get that 2nd TxDOT project put back on the list and funded so Hwy. 146 in Baytown will become a complete freeway to handle excessive amounts of current and future industrial truck traffic?

Idea Author: alan H

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Though I do agree with your idea 100%+, there are a few points I would like to add...

well first, Bay 10 is on TX-99 at I-10, truck traffic on the ground section of 146 will be lightly effected because of 99's connection to 146 in southern Baytown.

second, there, at one time, were plans to do this that were scraped.

and third, you forgot the Walmart rumor that one will be built at I-10 & 146.

This construction on 146 may be done soon (5-10) years) because of the recent push to get other parts of 146 ready to be taken over by 99 (south of Baytown). On the other hands, the only reason that 146 is a nightmare is overdevelopment and poor planning, there is very little room in some areas for the type of expansions that are needed (basically from Ferry Road to FM 1405). | By Jacob W



**Idea Title: Industrial Encouragement in Residential Areas**

Idea Detail: ConocoPhillips and Dow Chemical through its joint venture Freeport LNG, proposes to build a pre-treatment facility in a residential district destroying the quality of life for its residents and endangering its residents and the nearby wild life preserve. If this is allow to happen in our neighborhood, then your neighborhood is not safe from the economic and political power of multinational corporations. Of all of the LNG facilities around the world, none are closer than 7KM from a residential area except in Quintana, TX. Now they want to add Oyster Creek, TX and the communities along CR792 to the list. What does this say about our city, state, and national politicians?

Idea Author: Rob C

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: That's been happening in West Chambers County for years, the fact that it's just starting in your area only means it's spreading. In West Chambers, the entire city of Mont Belvieu had to move itself back when the salt dome was drilled out and there are now industrial developments planned and building right up against subdivisions up and down the new Tx-99 (Grand Pkwy) corridor. This is just how Houston works and honestly it needs to change. | By Jacob W

Comment 2: This is fantastic that the free market is at work. Multinational corporations making workers and the surrounding community wealthy. High paying American jobs. Let build more LNG plants. Natural gas is definitely a big part of our prosperous future. I can't wait until we extract more minerals from the Eagle Ford shale. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Avoiding suburban-style development in the city**

Idea Detail: Acres of parking lots, even in my more walkable area of the city, hurt citizens' desire and ability to walk/bike, contributing to making the city feel intolerably hot by those who do not have their A/C blasting, and \*don't\* help the city's looks. As we look to encourage pedi-, bike, and transit-friendly development in the city's core and in "edge cities" throughout, we need to think beyond the suburban strip mall and put the pedestrian first, rather than the car. My neighborhood is still growing by leaps and bounds, yet the most dominant feature of our Montrose HEB isn't the store itself, it's the massive parking lot.





Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 12

Comment 1: I live in the small city of Clear Lake Shores where we have adopted an overlay for our Town Center that calls for mixed use, shared city provided public parking and requires all new buildings include wide sidewalks. Our EDC will be proving pedestrain fiendly sidewalks, landscape, hardscape and lighting where the city has enough right of way and paving the public parking area in an eco friendly manner with an attractive design that isn't just all concrete. Golf cart parking will also be incorporated. | By RONNIE R

Comment 2: I'd like to see that, Ronnie. (I can't figure out the golf carts, though. Wouldn't a bike be even easier and just as zippy?) | By Joyce A

Comment 3: The owner of the property has the right to determine what type of parking will be offered their customers. You do not have the right to tell the owner how to run their business or build on their property | By Larry W

Comment 4: This is just to clarify that in COH businesses do have \*minimums\* that they must meet, according to the type and size of the business. Many businesses have large parking lots primarily to satisfy these minimum requirements. COH just changed its parking ordinances and made some cool improvements, but I am quite sure that were the minimums reduced even further, particularly in areas that are trending high-density, the size of many parking lots would be reduced even further as well. | By Joyce A

Comment 5: Retail structures should be accessible to pedestrians without the need for them to walk trough a parking lot. | By Richard M

Comment 6: They should start building stores with front and rear entrances. That way way the store could be street front and the parking lot hidden in the back. Pearland Town Center would be a good example of this concept except for the fact that it is still set up in a mall style. | By Jacob W

Comment 7: It is unfortunate that planners and architects can't seem to grasp the idea that a large parking lot in front of the store really doesn't entice anyone to shop. Why not bring the store front up and place the parking behind? I suspect the number of parking spaces is determined by building codes that the developer must adhere to for plat approval. | By Robert S



Comment 8: Yes, we hate this form out in the suburbs, why should city dwellers have to suffer with it? (hint... it's cheap, easy, and unimaginative bankers won't loans as readily on plans that differ from "what (they perceive) works") | By Peter W

Comment 9: So change the urban building codes and ordinances, so they are compatible with walkable urbanism's tenets. This is one place that Houston is failing today.  
| By Christy H

Comment 10: We have seen some improvement in our parking ordinances recently, but it feels like progress in general is still very slow in coming. | By Joyce A

Comment 11: Christy, We don't we eliminate zoning. We can let private developers bid on the land and develop the land the way they would see as most profitable. This would be the free market at work. No subsidies. No planed development. No redevelopment areas where a government can dictate what would be built. Absolutely, no private/public partnerships which would be codespeak for socialism/communitarianism. | By Sally B

Comment 12: Agree wholeheartedly. I live in the Heights, and most of the commercial development, other than a small section of 19th street, is not very walkable, though it is all connected (complete) streets. So the potential is there, as it is in Montrose. But suburban codes are imposed by the City, so many parking spaces, no requirement for bike or pedestrian accessibility, no requirements for form-based codes or building along the sidewalk rather than within a huge parking lot. | By Christy H

### **Idea Title: Mitigating street flooding**

Idea Detail: When my part of Montrose receives a good downpour, the streets act as unintentional detention ponds. Cars parked on the street flood, as well, and even float. Sidewalks become submerged; traffic snarls for hours and pedestrians are forced to wade through filthy water to get home or to work. Beyond the network of pumps, culverts, and drains that help our city deal with rain, I would like to see a push toward the use of more permeable surfaces (e.g., driveways, parking lots), rain catchment systems, and/or landscaped on-site detention ponds on new development, including residential development. None of us should mind a little rain, but residential and mixed-use neighborhoods in the Inner Loop shouldn't have to look like monsoon season in Mumbai on a regular basis.

A positive side effect of this would be increased green spaces in the city (detention ponds could be landscaped with appropriate native plants, for instance), and cleaner water hitting the bayous and bay.



Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Need traffic calming measures for walkability/bikeability**

Idea Detail: My kids and I are supposed to be walking/biking/using transit, right? It's good for our health, good for our environment, and takes one more car off the road.

BUT it can be hard to do that when you walk out of your front step and cars whoosh by your residential street at 40 mph. It can be hard to do that when there are no crosswalks to indicate pedestrians might be crossing. It can be hard to do that when grandma is crossing the street and the signal turns before she's reached the other side. It can be hard to do that when there are no sidewalks, or the sidewalks are start-and-stop, or the sidewalks have no curb cuts. It can be hard to do that when there is nothing to slow cars down (four-way stops, speed humps) and roads are built overly wide (e.g. room for four cars side-by-side, with room to spare). And how fast is too fast, anyway? Even 30 mph is too fast in a dense residential neighborhood--why not make 20mph the new 30mph? That's a speed more friendly to pedestrians, which is why we use it at school zones.

My family and I walk anyway, because we're committed to showing our children a more sustainable way, or maybe we're just nuts. But seriously, if we want people to leave the car in the garage--or in the dealership altogether--and create a safe, vibrant pedestrian, cycling, and transit culture, we need to start thinking about infrastructure for those users, and not the cars.

Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: A lot of Montrose is very walkable, yet along Westheimer is not friendly for biking. How about traffic calming and bike lanes along there? | By Christy H

Comment 2: A good example of frustrating biking: Heights Boulevard now has marked bike lanes, and this now extends under I-10 all the way to Washington, when it comes to a halt. It's connected to a widened part of Waugh that I could use to get to the new Whole Foods, yet NO bike lanes exist south of Washington. In fact, I could then bike all the way to Westheimer,



except it does not feel safe.

I'd like also to be able to go all the way down Studewood to Montrose and all the way to the Museum of Fine Arts. But we need bike lanes and bike racks everywhere firts. | By Christy H

**Idea Title: More reliable funding sources**

Idea Detail: Ours is a growing community with new residents moving to the area every day. To accommodate this growth, the regions infrastructure needs to be maintained and enhanced to provide additional capacity.

Currently the sources of funds to manintain and improve our infrastrcture are not adequate to keep up with the needs.

If we aren't careful we will choke on our own success. We need to develop better funding sources.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The Future**

Idea Detail: Regional Plan- Houston has not dealt with traffic problems on the freeways or streets nor for the electricity usage during peak times: therefore, we need a quoto allowance for current residents, so DO NOT EXPECT we can do this for future residents.

The crime rate shows either our police/justice system is inadequate or we need more intelligent police and a more intelligent justice system and that includes a more intelligent forensic department!!!!

P.S. THAT STUPID METRO RAIL THAT RUNS IN FRONT OF THE MEDICAL CENTER HAS GOT TO BE THE MOST INSANE IDEA OF THE MOST INSANE FOOL EVER TO CONVINCEN YOU STUPID CITY POLITICIANS. it ties up traffic, it makes us idiots that have to clock at the precise time late, but I guess you City Hall politicians don't have to worry about that.

Idea Author: Vera B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1



Comment 1: I agree with the Metro idea. It is a huge waste of taxpayer money as most public transit systems are. As for electricity I suggest we build more generation plants. This would eliminate rationing of electricity. I do not believe CO2 causes global warming. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Living in Westbury**

Idea Detail: I have lived in Parkwest Section 2, a part of the Westbury subdivision for 19 years. The trains have been blasting their horns in the middle of the night, keeping residents who can't afford double-thick window panes awake at night and it has gone on for about 11 years. I have complained to no resolution. I have spent hours of restless nights, hundreds of hours with a pillow over my ears so I could drown out the train blasts. I have a sleep disorder thanks to your trains.

So what has the Westbury Association accomplished? Nothing but promises for resolution.

I am telling you--- this is NOT good enough. Fancy promises for resolving this in maybe one or two years>? Good Lord, this has been 12 years. What kind of heartless bastards are you in city government? YOU come over here and live with me and see how long it would be before you go crazy trying to sleep with this INSANELY LOUD,hooooooooooooooooooooooooonk TRAIN NOISE.

Idea Author: Vera B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0



## Topic Name: Regional Challenges

### Idea Title: Transportation

Idea Detail: As the population continues to expand outward from a central work location in downtown Houston, these issues will continue to get worse. Particularly as each of the communities outside the beltway focus on a particular lifestyle to draw in residents. Galveston, and its island lifestyle, or the Woodlands, and its natural lifestyle, are two examples. The pollution and traffic as it stands, will not encourage people to want this to continue. This in turn will lead to more sprawl. If we can set up dedicated lines of high occupancy transportation that the bulk of the population has easy access to, rather than having to drive half way to their destination before it becomes available, people will be more likely to use them

Idea Author: Joe C

Number of Seconds 9

Number of Comments 10

Comment 1: The easy answer, after living in the bay area, seattle and NYC for long periods of time, is simply to introduce LARGE CAPACITY rail lines. While the smaller arterial trains are fine for quick little trips, I believe that the Houston Metro area need to seriously consider a 200+ passenger high-speed train along the I-10 corridor from Katy all the way down to galveston, with stops every 1-3 miles, including the galleria, rice, downtown and the u of h. There should be another line from Conroe to Freeport.

This would benefit the community in multiple ways. Small businesses would start to form around the train depots, tax revenue would go up from ease of use, people wouldn't have to sit in traffic all evening after work, the environment would benefit, and Galveston's \$60M boardwalk park might actually stand a chance at surfing the first 3 years of operation because people can just get dropped off right in front, by train. No traffic, better mobility, increased tax revenue and growth. | By Myles B

Comment 2: Allowing seconds on the comments, rather than on the original submission. I would second several of the comments below, about living, liveable neighborhoods. | By Christy H

Comment 3: I agree that better transportation infrastructure is hugely important, but we have to explore options based on their sustainability. So focusing on how to enable people to travel greater distances easier should not be a public policy goal. Transportation policy should first be about land use and creating the kind of "living neighborhoods" Edmund talks about, where



larger and larger shares of daily needs can be addressed on foot or by bicycle and only occasional trips are needed by transit, and car trips are rare. Most (overwhelmingly) of the jobs in the region are in Harris County, clustered around 25 or so job centers, all ripe for sustainable development. Transportation policy should encourage such livable centers that are not great distances from each other and should not encourage distant development that requires a lot of driving. | By David C

Comment 4: David, I have read many of your works. I include this link as I think you have a lot of great points. I hope others on the website will read them and make their own conclusions. I would love to meet you and some of the people you work with from HUD. I have a few concerns, though. The word "sustainable development" is based on global warming and ultimately leads to communitarianism/socialism. I believe global warming is a hoax. I also do not believe using additional land you call "wilderness" for human habitation is harmful to future generations. You can not convince me of that. We will have to disagree on that point.

<http://www.livablehouston.com/crossley/crossleylist.html> | By Sally B

Comment 5: Sally, thanks for putting up that link. I haven't looked at that site for a long time and am glad someone is reading it.

I'm sorry, but you have your calendar about sustainable development and its origins pretty confused. The term was created in the early 1970s, long before the UN got involved or anyone was worrying about global warming. If you believe global warming is a hoax, you are also saying you don't believe in science, right? If there's nothing I can do to convince you that loss of wilderness is harmful for my kids and grandkids, then there's no point in talking, is there? | By David C

Comment 6: Please take a read of this document.

<http://www.globalweathercycles.com/GWGCNCF/index.htm>

I am not sure if you have your science straight. The Goddard Institute is under fire at NASA for making claims on global warming. 49 astronauts have signed on against NASA making claims. The ideas you have on open space have some merit as I see it. I also read the piece on your tomorrow website. I enjoy the woods and see value in some preservation. I am very against taking most areas off limits to humans as the EPA is currently pursuing. I also have questions for you on form based in Houston. | By Sally B

Comment 7: David, I have seen some of the plans you have set forth from your tomorrow group. Do you believe if you were given a square mile of land in downtown Houston would you be able to build mixed use development without any public private partnerships. Do you also believe that a private company could come into Houston and build/operate rail/bus transit without any taxpayer



subsidies. Most public transit systems always have to be subsidized by taxpayers which to me is truly unsustainable. | By Sally B

Comment 8: We aren't developers, but it would be relatively easy to develop a downtown block if you have the financing. The free market pretty much prevails in the Central Business District, but that's the only place in the City where that's true; everything else is tightly regulated. I do not believe a private company could operate transit successfully without public subsidy. But neither are highways every built by private companies and drivers are massively subsidized by taxpayers. There are a lot of things we do as a community that can't produce profit - research is one important one - that we do together as a community. Roads, water, sewers, libraries, and so on. Why is that unsustainable? | By David C

Comment 9: Addressing traffic congestion is important. Over time transform Houston into pockets of self-sufficient "living neighborhoods." For sake of discussion imagine \$50 per gallon gasoline (not a prediction; a frame of reference) and revitalize neighborhoods accordingly. How would you design the perfect neighborhood? What if you could tear down and start over? For example, look at Stapleton, Colorado <http://www.stapletondenver.com/>. Answers for Houston might surface toward developing centrally-located retail clusters. Having office buildings within residential areas. Life around Houston can become more than trading money and time to fuel and drive a powerful machine. #42k | By Edmund L

Comment 10: I generally agree with these ideas, except for the statement that addressing congestion is important. Congestion is usually a sign of economic success, and in local instances, congestion in front of businesses is a positive in terms of people actually seeing the business, as opposed to situations in which people simply speed past the business. Congestion is about people choosing to be in the same place at the same time as large numbers of other people and cannot be reduced. All that is possible is to provide people with more choices in order to avoid congestion. It is critical to understand that congestion is caused by elected officials, so any attempt to reduce it will fly in the face of their goals. | By David C

**Idea Title: transit**

Idea Detail: we lack connectivity, and we continue to be hostages of the four-wheeled beast...the automobile!

Idea Author: kat G

Number of Seconds 7

Number of Comments 1





Comment 1: The article articulates socialist thought. Social engineering. Who wants to go to the grocery store every day? I would rather take my car and go to the grocery store every week or two. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Preserve the countryside**

Idea Detail: Houston needs to grow, but it's growing in a way that isn't appealing. The cookie cutter clone subdivisions are an eyesore. yes, alone each one is nice but when you pile 30+ side by side they become irritating. They cause traffic problems as they expand outward, building off roads that cannot support populations of that size, forcing upgrades of roads that are extremely costly and sometimes over done. I believe Houston and it's suburbs should focus on improving what they have and in some cases building up towards the sky , because if we don't fix this problem soon, there won't be any quiet countryside to drive out to and enjoy. There will only be a sea of cloned houses stretching out in all directions from the city, that provide little more than a small house on a small lot that shares a half acre park with 100+ other houses, that opens on a 4 lane avenue that is squeezed through a right of way that is almost too small for sidewalks or bike paths.

Idea Author: Jacob W

Number of Seconds 5

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Outside of the fact that our countryside can be pretty, the problem with paving over our forests, wetlands, and prairies is that in doing so we worsen flooding, decrease biodiversity (which helps make our natural environment stronger and more resilient), and cover up land that we need for agriculture (since getting all our produce from MX and CA is not sustainable and will become very expensive when gas prices go up. | By Joyce A

Comment 2: Joyce, Please define the word "resilient". | By Sally B

Comment 3: Ask people why they moved to or stay in Houston and most often you hear comments about the low cost of living in the Houston area. One of the major components of this low cost is the affordability of housing. The driving reason for this cheap housing is the low cost of land and development costs in the suburban areas.

I happen to live in a high rise condo inside the loop and paid a substantial premium for that privilege. Not everyone that lives in Houston is an empty nester with the resources to afford the higher cost of housing in urban areas.

I recommend that rather than curse the suburban development our planners should be examining ways to assist these developments in building more pedestrian and bicycle friendly,



planning to accommodate future trends in telecommuting and diversified work places. Lets work with what made Houston the third largest metropolitan area in the country and not condemn trends that have been driving a enviable economy.

| By Robert S

Comment 4: Not to mention that in 30 yrs cost of transportation may be much higher and look very different than today. May impact long-term affordability and value of homes on exurban fringe. Some of those distant subdivisions may very likely end up as low-value blight in distant future (i.e. who wants to maintain/renovate an old home way out of town where land is not worth much more than when originally purchased?). | By Jonathan B

Comment 5: Jonathon, Land values generally follow the cost of inflation over the long term. The only way the land will become blighted is if we follow Agenda 21 and allow the EPA to put unnecessary environmental regulations on how we can use the land. Blight is a common tactic used to enforce the sustainability principles of UN Agenda 21. Many people live in the suburbs because they want larger houses for their families. High rise condos (pack and stack) housing is not desirable for most people who have children. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Climate change, drought, heat**

Idea Detail: Nothing else we do will matter if we don't come to grips with the changing climate in the Houston region.

Idea Author: David C

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Global warming is a hoax. The central lie is that we are experiencing a known human-caused climate crisis, a claim based on speculative theories, contrived data and totally unproven modeling predictions. And the evidence? Much is revealed by politically corrupted processes and agenda-driven report conclusions rendered by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which are trumpeted in the media as authoritative gospel. In addition, 49 astronauts recently signed a letter asking NASA to stop typing climate chang to carbon dioxide. | By Sally B

Comment 2: Sally, I'd be willing to set aside our differences about WHY we are experiencing climate changes or intense climate events like the devastating fires, drought, tornadoes, hurricanes and floods and work with you and others across the region to consider best and worse case scenarios so we are prepared for both. Are



you willing to set aside your differences and suspend judgement so that we can get to work on a plan for the region that is inclusive of your sensibilities as well as mine? | By Geri W

Comment 3: I concur. 'Coming to grips' with climate change will mean that we as a region move beyond public differences about whether the science is accurate and plan appropriate responses for best and worse case scenarios. 'Coming to grips' will also mean that a sense of urgency is needed if we want sensible climate adaptation options; if not, we will be left only with choices for mitigation. Are we, the citizens, willing to do nothing to adapt our region for a new climate reality and instead merely try to reduce the potential impacts of climate events as devastating as those in New Orleans and in Joplin? Are we willing to come together to develop plans worthy of the fourth largest metropolis in America? | By Geri W

Comment 4: We do need to prepare for climate change because, it brings many problems. These problems include but are not limited to:  
power plant failures during heat waves  
sea level rise  
and summer temperatures of 100+ becoming the norm. | By Jacob W

Comment 5: Not to mention long periods without water, then periods with too much water, resulting in an agricultural system that doesn't know what to do, and hundreds of growers give up. Rational people would work to slow down greenhouse gas emissions thus slowing the growth of climate change, would work on large-scale plans to mitigate the effects of climate change which is already here and certain to last many decades, and adapt to the new realities. But I know of no public leaders who are openly dealing with any of those. Additionally the Agenda 21 people are showing up to stop any citizen attempt to deal with those issues. It will be up to individuals and small groups to figure out how to survive. | By David C

**Idea Title: The built environment is not designed for people, but for cars**

Idea Detail: If you were an alien who dropped in from the Andromeda Galaxy, you'd think that the living creatures in Harris County were cars, and the humans were just parasitic creatures with whom they had a symbiotic relationship... because you'd observe that the preponderance of public investment is all about the car.

We need to build for people and our needs first, cars second.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 4



Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: Getting TXDOT to listen to what people actually want and responding to that. | By Christy H

Comment 2: Building for transportation without cars is hugely important. Changing workplace culture is also important. Employers should encourage bus usage and riding bikes to work. Putting more bike paths around the city would be a great first step. | By Timothy M

Comment 3: Around the city, and \*through\* the city; the cars have 59, 45, 10, 610, 8, 99, 290, 249 . . . cyclists need more than just the bayou trails to get to work, school, etc. | By Joyce A

Comment 4: Whether you like the way Houston has developed or not, the fact is that our region was developed during the reign of the automobile transportation. The region has a massive infrastructure that must be maintained and expanded as. Planning to alter this development trend will be needed to support sustainable communities but we just can't forsake the roadway network and the automobile.

Sustainable communities will be an important part of the regions future development. This plan needs to develop ideas for how that works in Houston. | By Robert S

Comment 5: Your point is well taken that our region has a massive infrastructure built on auto dependency. Understandably it will take time to transition to more sustainable and healthy alternative options. But we do not have to 'forsake' the roadway network. Instead we should be looking for innovative ways to use the current roadways to increase mobility, such as using highways for Bus Rapid Transit, converting HOV lanes on freeways for commuter rail, converting some interior roads for pedestrian and bike use, connecting the multiple mobility choices to enable access to activity centers. By doing such things, we will accommodate the growth through alternative options and reduce the need for developing more roads. Another major strategy to accelerate this transition is to focus on redevelopment and infill development rather than offering incentives and permits for more housing developments in unincorporated areas of our counties with no land use plans or restrictions. | By Geri W

Comment 6: The people who have lived in Houston before I have done us the favor of paving an awful lot of it. We can work to use the paved ROW for wider walkways and separated bike paths. If we can get more cars off the road we will have better air, healthier citizens, and a chance for a more vibrant, connected community as well. | By Joyce A



**Idea Title: Right Size Governance**

Idea Detail: Having a say in how our communities develop is a key piece to long term sustainability. But many if not most of us feel disenfranchised. Money seems to govern who gets access.

Part of the problem is little representation down at the neighborhood level, the level that Dewey considered the main arena for democracy. If you live in the city of Houston, your lowest representative elected official represents perhaps at least 100,000 people, maybe more. That is too many for real democracy to work.

We need to push as many decisions as we can down to the lowest community level. At the same time, there are issues that require a larger regional approach--water for example, and transportation among others. We need to think about right-sizing our governance structure. Does it make sense at the regional level to have a fractured system? Shouldn't the City and the County be combined? This merger would perhaps be less threatening if some kind of neighborhood level representative governance structure were in place.

Idea Author: John J

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 7

Comment 1: I concur with your problem statement. I believe an appropriate response to 'right-sizing governance' is balancing the citizen voice at the neighborhood level with appropriate integration and collaboration at the regional level. The value of a well-executed regional planning process is helping neighbors connect their particular concerns and issues to the concerns and issues they share with others across the region. In order to accomplish this, many communities in democracies across the globe ( including Australia, Canada and Denmark) are experimenting with 'citizen deliberative councils,' small and temporary groups of localized citizens who reflect deeply on a matter of public interest and raise the quality of dialogue with their neighbors and public officials (see National Coalition on Dialogue and Deliberation for a discussion of this at <http://ncdd.org/rc/item/1482>). We CAN restore true democracy. The question to ask ourselves is 'why as citizens are we settling for less' ? | By Geri W

Comment 2: Consider this... In unincorporated Harris County, you have ZERO representation. The precinct commissioner rules like a king, until he or she gets into legal trouble and becomes a convict.

| By Peter W



Comment 3: Having all of your important neighborhood infrastructure decisions made by one County Commissioner, a "committee of one" who presides over several hundred thousand people, and he or she is an unassailable incumbent with a campaign war chest of millions of dollars, and all of the local developers pour money into that war chest... I mean, that's a bad or worse than UN Agenda 21, or living under Communist Chinese rule. But, no names here. I'm not mentioning any names. It could be any County certainly, not only Harris. Take your pick of the 8 in this region. | By Peter W

Comment 4: Regional planning needs to keep in mind the needs of the entire region not just local communities. Community interests are important but for this effort they should be expressed as policy statements applied across the region.

Neighborhood issues should be addressed at the neighborhood level not in a regional plan. | By Robert S

Comment 5: Yes--this is a regional plan. But within the regional plan governance is perhaps one of the most important things. I think it unlikely to be addressed in any form in this plan, in part because it is a difficult issue, and that in fact could even require structural changes.

As a matter of principle, we should try to push the decision process to as low a level as possible. That should be a REGIONAL principle. We value first and foremost the ability to plan at a neighborhood level. That is an important statement that we value local participation. To me, a regional plan is somewhat hollow without that. It doesn't mean that we figure out what folks should be doing at the neighborhood level, only that the local level is given its due. I assure you that I am not an Agenda21er, but many of these folks react negatively to the idea that decisions are taken away from them. I react negatively to that as well. | By John J

Comment 6: I ran out of space..

If the regional plan were actually to consider issues of regional and local governance, then perhaps we could make a list. Which issues should be addressed only at the regional level? Which only at the local level? Which could be both or are difficult to place? Not that hard. And not any more unlikely to be addressable in actuality than much of the rest of what is going to come out of this plan. | By John J

Comment 7: Read the below comments in reverse order--this next one is the tack on to the one below because of space. | By John J



**Idea Title: A major issue is that Harris County hasn't bought in yet**

Idea Detail: People who live in Unincorporated Harris County really get nothing in the way of services that could be called "sustainable" by anyone. The County has built a basic network of cars-only roads. There are very poor sidewalks. Bike accommodations on the County roads? Zero.

METRO happily takes our tax dollars but we get no local service; not even demand-response METROLift for the handicapped.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I wonder how we can provide city services to unincorporated residents? In this, the county's hands are pretty severely tied. The City of Houston has no land use control, but Harris County can have none, by State law (or lack thereof). County taxes are geared toward the support of rural living on productive lands, while people in the City of Houston pay a combined City/County rate 2.6 times greater and receive actual city services for it. Of course, long gone are the days when the city limits ended at the farmer's field. Most of us would be hard pressed to distinguish by sight houses built within the city and those built in an unincorporated area. The 2010 Census population of Harris County was split very nearly 50/50 between Houston and non-Houston residents. From this data it can be projected that non-Houston residents surpassed Houston residents in 2011. Unincorporated land in Harris County will contain more population than the City of Houston around 2016. Consolidate? | By Paul S

Comment 2: Both parties will fight consolidation, to the detriment of both. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: Funding for Infrastructure**

Idea Detail: The region's funding for infrastructure is inadequate to meet the needs of a growing population. The region should create a Regional Authority with the ability to collect taxes from participating jurisdictions that can be used to fund roadway, transit, water, wastewater, and drainage construction.

Idea Author: Charlie S



Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 12

Comment 1: These comments show the difficulties of a regional authority. Suburban vs. inner city, Harris Co. vs. surrounding areas, etc. I think for a regional authority to work, it must have a very specific mission so we don't need to go through these arguments about what the regional authority is supposed to do. If the mission is vague, everyone will naturally try to use it for their own interests, which creates conflict and confusion. If the authority has to solve a multitude of problems, then no single problem will get solved adequately. | By David S

Comment 2: Rather than create a regional authority, which would give more power to the counties and TxDOT, why not (1) democratize the Metropolitan Planning Organization (H-GAC) so it represents the people of the region instead of the unincorporated counties (which have only 34% of the population, but growing thanks to H-GAC and TxDOT) and (2) support federal efforts to give more money and power to that MPO and less to the top officials of the State, who are totally about increasing sprawl and highways, and (3) encourage our town and city officials - especially in the City of Houston - to reclaim the regional leadership they have lost. | By David C

Comment 3: OK, I did not know that might be a possibility - making MPO more representative. How can we do that? | By Christy H

Comment 4: I'm not sure that could happen. The election could wind up stripping MPOs of whatever small authority they have now and the dynamic in the region is that the unincorporated counties are gaining power. It would have to be a lawsuit and it's hard to see the towns and cities defending themselves. But the only thing that will lead in that direction is a growing number of towns and cities working to regain power. | By David C

Comment 5: Give H-GAC more authority to bring various entities together on planning and setting aside funding for sustainable development. | By Christy H

Comment 6: Might want to think twice about that. H-GAC's board is largely rural and suburban interests, and the Transportation Policy Council has been responsible for the decades-long expansion into all the wilderness and farm areas at the expense of our cities and towns. Several of the H-GAC board members are opposed to sustainable development. In the last year or so, the TPC has taken money away from sustainable development (Livable Centers, bikeways, etc). Best to focus on your mayors and city councils to grow the places where sustainable development is possible. | By David C





Comment 7: We already have so many special districts with policy and/or taxing authorities. I don't necessarily support creating another one. However, I do support increased taxation IF it means higher-quality, longer-lasting infrastructure. Cheaper is almost never better and probably won't last as long either. | By Jonathan B

Comment 8: Less money allocated to Highways, and more to other infrastructure would probably resolve the funding issues. | By Christy H

Comment 9: I have questions regarding the creation of another layer of taxing authority. While I agree that more focus should be brought to maintaining and enhancing the regions infrastructure I think the existing government and agencies should take the responsibility. | By Robert S

Comment 10: While I like the overall idea of one pool of money to be used by each and everybody equally, the idea of a tax (another one) is not really the answer. Who would be happy with more taxes....

How about asking for the moneys that are already available as a region and having it shared by all, not just Metro taking everything that is to be had and using it for their pet projects that are located in the city. Make Metro truly a metropolitan organization of several counties, not just in Harris County. And use it to connect every part of the region. | By Joe C

Comment 11: If you look at Houston Tomorrow's map of the top 25 job centers (<http://houstontomorrow/upload/center-with-Metro.pdf>) you'll see that the Metro service area essentially encompasses the vast majority of people and jobs in the region. (The beige area is the Metro service area) Metro is taking money only from this area and providing service in this area, plus a few more isolated places outside the area where they're working with Harris County. Harris County has way more population and jobs than the other 12 counties combined, so the obvious efficient strategy is to serve the greatest number of people. That some people choose to live outside this area but still want to be provided service without paying taxes or fees for it is simply unreasonable. And don't forget that Metro is forced to give up 1/4 of its sales tax receipts to towns and cities for their own purposes, which rarely have anything to do with transit and often are simply used to reduce property tax rates. | By David C

Comment 12: I think that the moneys for the rail system are being received from outside this area if I am not mistaken. Since they are federal moneys, they are really everyone's taxes. Also we are looking into the future with this as I understand it. If they are projecting a doubling of population, they are not all moving inside the beltway and there is very little land for the city to annex, so this growth will be in those other counties. | By Joe C



**Idea Title: Sustainable Buildings**

Idea Detail: We can never have a sustainable region - or city/town within the region - unless or until we have sustainable buildings. Up until about 1950, most of the buildings constructed here were built of very materials that would last a long time and for the most part withstand the ravages that the environment presented. That is no longer the case. Anything built out of locally-available lumber today will not withstand the test of time; the lumber just does not have sufficient strength. Fortunately, there are other building systems that will work, systems that have been used for decades in other parts of the world and are available here - materials like solid masonry, AAC, ICF, SIP, straw bale, and others.

Idea Author: Daniel B

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Start first with sustainability built into residential and commercial building codes, then extend to densification in urban centers, supported by transportation alternatives. | By Christy H

Comment 2: This is absolutely correct, and yet we continue to ignore it. Look at what happened in the Dallas area yesterday as a result of the tornados. Stick-built house are turned into toothpicks. That would not happen with any of the building methods mentioned in the original comment. And, in the long term, those systems cost less than conventional building - not much more to build, less to maintain, less to insure, less to heat and cool. | By Daniel B

Comment 3: Yes, however, we can build sustainable buildings and still have an unsustainable city or suburb or town. It's all of a piece, and must be addressed from big picture to small, and from small to big. | By Christy H

**Idea Title: Smart Meters**

Idea Detail: I believe we should have choices in what is done to our property and private lives. I do not believe that we should be forced to install Smart Meters in our homes to measure electricity usage. The electric company will be able to know what is going on in our homes at any time of the day and it is possible that other information may also be discovered using these meters. There is also some question about causing physical problems to persons living in the home.

Idea Author: Bernelle G



Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: I am furious over these "smart meters" They are only smart for the utility companies, while we get the shaft. They are inaccurate make us pay more. I have one vacant residence with only two porch lights ( the florescent type) and one 5 amp pump to pump water. My bill is \$ 390.00 I want my old meter back. I am being cheated while the utility company saves all this money by getting to lay off all their meter readers and we pay the same. Beside that, All that rf radiation. I don't want it near me. | By Judy C

Comment 2: Wow! I haven't gotten a bill since they installed ours, with many complaints from us. We sent a letter to Center Point that we wouldn't approve it. They ended up sending 4 different people out to "talk" to us, then said we don't have a choice, they have the authority and will install where ever and when ever they want. They installed one at my daughter's home while she was gone. They would have here but my husband caught the man as he was going to change it out. Our 912 group signed a petition and took it to Austin. I am writing a letter to the committee today about it because they denied our petition. | By Bernelle G

Comment 3: Smart meters on the outside of the house are the first step. The next step will be a router in your house that will be connected to your thermostat. Since coal plants are being incentivised in TX to not run due to "renewable energy credits", there will be less power production. When this happens Centerpoint will shut off your thermostat until demand subsides. Eventually, the urban hubs that are part of this Agenda 21 that this website is about will get power and the rural and sprawl areas(suburbs) will get rolling blackouts and power shutoffs. This will be part of the incentive to move to the urban hubs. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Poverty, homelessness, neighborhood decline**

Idea Detail: We have poverty, homelessness and concentrated neighborhood deterioration issues in Houston. (Yes, this also occurs in most major cities...) Since these places make up a significant part of the region we need to address some of these and related problems. The "fluffy" ideas always get the most attention while the other things continue to decline.

Idea Author: Dionne B

Number of Seconds 1



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: To be truly sustainable, development must integrate the environmental, economic AND SOCIAL requirements for healthy communities. We must ask ourselves, 'what social capacities must we develop in our neighborhoods and communities that will support economic and environmental health, and what economic and environmental conditions must we put in place to support healthy social development?' | By Geri W

**Idea Title: Move focus from Deed Restrictions to Neighborhood Plans**

Idea Detail: Many residents do not realise that through Deed Restrictions they can regulate land use. Cities across the region can develop form based codes suitable for different types of neighborhoods. Codes can preserve the integrity of deed restrictions and go beyond, since they add aesthetic value to neighborhoods. Cities should then be able to aggregate collections of these neighborhood codes to develop community plans. Then aggregate community plans to create subarea plans. The regional sustainability plan should identify, where each community or neighborhood falls within the transect. Whether rural, suburban, urban for sure and with a little more detail such as a range between urban and suburban with a few derivations between each.

Idea Author: lester K

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: "Sustainable Development" aka United Nations Agenda 21**

Idea Detail: You may have heard people talking about Sustainable Development – in public meetings, on television and on the radio. Consultants talk about it, university professors lecture on it, and at all levels of government, it is now being mandated. But what is Sustainable Development? That is precisely the question this guide is intended to address. In the following pages, you will read of the origins of Sustainable Development, its theoretical underpinnings, its major programs, and how it is implemented.

When you have finished reading this document, you will have the knowledge necessary to begin identifying the vast array of Sustainable Development programs that exist and continue to arise.



Please recognize this document for what it is: a unique opportunity to learn more about Sustainable Development. Then you can make a difference in your community by supporting present and future actions that restore and protect the rights and well-being of you, your family, and your fellow citizens.

More information on the nature and consequences of Sustainable Development is available from Freedom Advocates. (<http://www.FreedomAdvocates.org>)

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Idea Author: Ginger R

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I agree with Paul S3. | By Christy H

Comment 2: Listen, Ginger, this is not a politicized forum where we each grandstand on the implementation methods we find acceptable or reprehensible, such as the development of a market, public administration through bureaucracy, or some kind of combination. This is a forum where we investigate common ground thinking where we can all agree action should center - whatever form that action may take. If you believe a major issue of our Houston-centered area is resistance to or support for UN development goals, I guess I don't get why you might consider this a major issue facing our region's future population that will affect the suitability of their environment, workplaces, schools and playfields. Perhaps the discussion of whether the Brundland report and Agenda 21 ideas belong in our region's vision of a sustainable future belongs more in the "How would you define sustainability" section? You could bring up your concerns with the idea of intergenerational/international equity there? | By Paul S

**Idea Title: Multimode transportation**

Idea Detail: develop a transportation network that is more efficient than the current auto dominated one, with expanded bus and rail systems and accommodating pedestrians,

Idea Author: Richard M

Number of Seconds 1



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Further improve air quality**

Idea Detail: In Houston, we lose productivity and health care dollars to air pollution, including but not limited to ozone, fine particulates, and VOC's.

We also discourage our citizens from walking, cycling, and using transit (decreasing congestion and further pollution) when getting to work assaults the nose or brings on an asthma attack.

Expecting more from our manufacturing sector and improving walk/bike/transit options will help push us to a healthier, more vibrant community.

Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: More walk/bike/transit to relieve/avoid congestion & pollution.**

Idea Detail: In some parts of the city, like Montrose, there is some infrastructure in place that allows some walking, cycling, and use of transit. But it is not enough, and large swaths of the city, however, has very little, or none at all. How can we expect people to exercise, walk/ride/bus to work if they feel it is dangerous or cumbersome to do so?

Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The built environment is not designed for people, but for cars**

Idea Detail: If you were an alien who dropped in from the Andromeda Galaxy, you'd think that the living creatures in Harris County were cars, and the humans were just parasitic creatures with whom they had a symbiotic relationship... because you'd observe that the preponderance of public investment is all about the car.



We need to build for people and our needs first, cars second.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Maintenance of regional mobility**

Idea Detail: The efficient flow of goods, services and people through the regional is critical to its economic well being and the well being of those who live here. There needs to be a multi-modal approach to maintenance of the existing transportation network including plans for additional roadway capacity and transit services.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Decreasing to almost zero the funds allocated to widening highways or building new highways, and put that money into other modes of transportation and for accessing job centers. | By Christy H

**Idea Title: Maintain vitality of suburban commercial centers**

Idea Detail: Suburban commercial centers have provided a platform for the Houston regions continued growth in spite of increasing congestion. Plans for improvement to the region's transportation systems need to recognize the value of these developments and search for ways to foster their growth.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Decreasing the area devoted to parking lots and build infill residential development closer to the stores. | By Christy H



Comment 2: The comment was not intended to address shopping centers or malls but rather the mixed use regional centers that have grown up around Houston such as the Galleria, Greenway Plaza, Westchase or the Energy Corridor. | By Robert S

Comment 3: Thanks for clarifying. Clearly, the transit system needs to interconnect these regional centers, and stop being so Downtown-centric. | By Peter W

Comment 4: Use the mostly vacant parking (except during Christmas!) in these lots as park & ride parking assets. Offer "towing amnesty" for anyone who wants to park and then carpool, carpool, walk, bike, or use transit. | By Peter W

Comment 5: Use the mostly vacant parking in these lots are park & ride parking. Offer "towing amnesty" for anyone who wants to park and then carpool, carpool, walk, bike, or use transit. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: issues of this region**

Idea Detail: Houston is not equipped to deal with traffic issues nor increased housing so WHY ARE YOU IDIOTS TRYING TO ATTRACT MORE out of state fools??

We get this crap about brown-outs during the heavy electricity-usage months. And you idiots want to let more people into Houston?

Ms. big shot Mayor- get a reality grip on it-

We don't need Houston to increase its populace.

We need more to get the beggars off the interstate intersections. I'm sick of these homeless beggars. Why don't you get the police to take them off the streets? Why don't you put them into the millionaires homes as servants?

Idea Author: Vera B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: No more toll roads**

Idea Detail: Instead of building more toll roads, why not put rail in their place? Rail could go down the middle of I-10, 288, etc.

Idea Author: L H

Number of Seconds 0





Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I agree. However, no public private partnership to get the rail done. It would need to stand on its own without any subsidies or govt assistance. If a private business would want to take this project up without public assistance, it would be a truly sustainable endeavor.  
| By Sally B

**Idea Title: Mass transit improvement - reduction of traffic**

Idea Detail: While Houston is very new to the "trains-for-mass-transit" idea, my observation of the implementation of trains to get from point A to point B is somewhat disappointed.

I think that if the Houston-metro area were to really benefit from mass transit and light rail, I'd propose that there be an implementation of a high-speed light rail system which travels from Katy, TX to Galveston as well as Humble to downtown Houston. There would be a need for easy access to the Galleria area, and other shopping centers around town.

Studies have shown that where other cities have incorporated mass-transit in the form of designated bus-only lanes and light-rail has BOOSTED small business sales, while also reducing the amount of traffic on the roads.

That all said, why would an INCREASE in business development as an off-set from the implementation of a light-rail system which allows people to become more mobile, more easily be perceived as a bad thing?

Houston is known as the "Energy Capital" of the US right now. Wouldn't it be great if we could demonstrate to the rest of the US that we can also reduce the amount of energy consumption from vehicles and traffic congestion by improving the mass transit system?

I certainly think it's a reasonable and realistic approach to the ever-increasing population, which will benefit businesses and host communities alike.

I've included a link below from Youtube which speaks about the economic benefits of mass transit while also asking necessary questions about the ever widening of roadways, rather than simply purchasing another train to pick up the overload- if it's needed.

Idea Author: Myles B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1



Comment 1: Nice idea. Can it stand on its own without subsidies? I would favor this idea if it was a private enterprise. I would not want a public private partnership. Most mass transit is subsidized. Chicago's Metra system is a good example of subsidized transportation. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Reduce zoning and eminent domain**

Idea Detail: Do not allow NGO's that follow the "Vision" plan on the website to influence local governments. Speak out at all meetings and notify your city and local councils. Reject Federal Government handouts that always have strings attached. Houston is a great city due to minimal zoning laws. It unleashes the entrepreneurial spirit and drives our economy. Freedom from Agenda 21 is "Sustainable". Keep it the way it is.

Idea Author: Sally B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: This comment begs the question of the need for Sustainable Development and its objectives presented in Agenda 21. Do we need sustainable development? Can we continue development as we are presently doing? If we don't adopt sustainable development what other prescription for development would we adopt? | By lester K

Comment 2: Sustainable Development is driven by the belief in the global warming hoax. Please see my definition of "sustainable development". Let the free market decide. Let free people make their own decisions. 49 NASA astronauts disagree with NASA making the false claims about increased carbon dioxide causing global warming. Check out this link. Read the letter. Anyone who follows NASA will recognize these signatures.

<http://lubbockonline.com/interact/blog-post/may/2012-04-12/astronauts-and-scientists-condemn-nasa-participation-global> | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Poverty**

Idea Detail: sustainable jobs are needed!

Idea Author: Sam F

Number of Seconds 0



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Public transportation**

Idea Detail: We all drive too much, too far. Investing in public transportation creates jobs, reduces smog and encourages compact development.

Idea Author: Sam F

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Transportation, drainage, and recreation**

Idea Detail: I think these three aspects of public infrastructure are the most challenging in an area without zoning. Working with land developers, public interest groups, and public agencies to develop a consensus regarding these three aspects will set the basic framework for how the community and region will function. Also, keep in mind that these three types of infrastructure are interrelated (e.g. a drainage feature can enhance recreation and transportation).

Idea Author: David S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Definition of Sustainability**

### **Idea Title: Minimalist, practical, and diverse**

Idea Detail: Sustainability, to me, is practical. We shouldn't use more than what is needed for activities or manufacturing. Sustainability is diverse - mixed-use land development, a range of transportation choices, and working with the local ecosystem. Xeriscaping and native plants should be used in place of nonnative plants that are water-intensive. We should be more efficient in our water-usage and energy usage. Sustainability strives to minimize or even eliminate waste.

Idea Author: Caroline B

Number of Seconds 9

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Mixed use land development!!! Yes! A way to de incentivize the construction of parking lots would help with encouraging more prudent land use. It's empty land most of the time and it currently just is an invitation for people to ride their cars everywhere. We also need to allow higher density living everywhere, but in a way that is less polluting. | By Timothy M

Comment 2: I moved this idea of mine here: "Why is it that there are only three natural gas vehicle refueling stations open to the public in Houston? None of them are close to Cy-Fair. We're the energy capital of the world, and most private citizens can't run a NG vehicle here."

Natural Gas is a much more "local fuel" than gasoline. We get our local gasoline feedstock from the Gulf of Mexico, but also Canada, North Dakota, Mexico, Venezuela, and Nigeria. The Natural gas comes from the Gulf of Mexico, and onshore TX, LA, AR, OK.

Natural gas is cheap. Natural gas is clean, even the CO2 emitted is half that of coal.

So fueling a vehicle on a local fuel is minimalist (by not using energy from far-off sometimes unstable places), practical, and diverse (diversifying energy source is a good thing). | By Peter W

### **Idea Title: Ways of Thinking**

Idea Detail: To me, sustainability stands on a foundation of rational logic. It involves two patterns of thinking. One that enables us to use our imagination to look into the future to see the good and the bad which may develop. The other permits us to relate an event or activity to



its outcome, a cause to its effect. The ability to plan ahead gives us the opportunity to take action today against negative events of tomorrow. The capacity to see, explain, and agree on a cause and its effects gives us a chance to set aside irrelevant, confusing information. Combining these two ways of thinking enable us to survive, flourish, and maintain a true measure of control over possible troubles ahead. Such thinking will enable a group of people to take an active hand in shaping its future. #42k

Idea Author: Edmund L

Number of Seconds 5

Number of Comments 30

Comment 1: Recently I have had the good fortune of visiting several cities that were original signatories to Agenda 21. Barcelona, London, Paris, Siena - cities that truly embodied a sense of place, where people seemed to have more choices regarding how they lived, how they travelled to work, how they spent their time. In these cities there was this sense of exuberance and pride, people were happy walking places - to the grocery store to buy what they were going to eat that night, to the river to enjoy a bottle of wine with their friends. Parks and plazas were teeming with people, happy to be outside, enjoying the weather, free from automobiles and traffic. As some of you have suggested, sustainability is about having choices. My office is two miles from my house. I have the freedom of choice to either ride my bike to work, drive my car or take the bus. I bet everyone would value this freedom. I think this is why George HW Bush signed agenda 21. So people can have more choices in how they live. | By Aaron T

Comment 2: If it's not broke, don't fix it IS a smart way to go about things. Especially when you cannot afford these ideas. This is why America is BROKE(don't see many people trying to fix that). STOP immediately the wasteful unneeded spending and do what it takes to get our childrens country back on a safe and profitable track.

\*\*\* America is broke because banks made and continue to make speculative, low-quality, ugly sprawl real estate loans to develop rural areas. When the loans, collected into toxic tranches, went belly-up, WE THE PEOPLE transferred billions and billions to "socialize the risk", allowing banking executives to continue to reap their bonuses. This is not capitalism, this is theft. Both politican parties carry the water for these people. They have been hoodwinked.

For me, this website is about thinking about new ways to develop the region in a HIGH QUALITY manner that generates real long-term value for residents and businesses like, not what we've been doing. | By Peter W

Comment 3: Peter, government started this mess with the banks and loans because of the Community Reinvestment Act. The CRA gave people loans that



could not pay them back. You would know this if you were truly a Constitutional conservative. Ron Paul is against Agenda 21, redevelopment and central planning. Are you against this? Are you against public private partnerships? | By Sally B

Comment 4: Peter, this website is skewed towards all ideas to promote agenda 21. The RNC, Ron Paul, Ted Cruz and the state of Tennessee are against Agenda 21. When all the Agenda 21 ideas are pushed on the towns in the 13 county area please advise how we will pay for this? Will it be redevelopment areas with property taxpayers footing the bill? Will it be Federal Grants payed for by other taxpayers in the US? Will the ideas be implemented with public private partnerships? | By Sally B

Comment 5: EPA and conservancy groups are also taking a lot of land and restricting what can be done on the land. Basically, this is a big property grab to take private land off limits to move people into cities.

\*\*\* If you move people off of their land, and push them into the cities, the vacant land will have no value (except for farming). Why would any "conspiracy" want to make a grab to destroy value? That's non-sensical. Oh, maybe they want to grow illegal drugs, maybe? To benefit Queen Elizabeth? | By Peter W

Comment 6: Peter, your answer is nonsensical. Nice try to redirect the conversation. | By Sally B

Comment 7: Peter, Why is the EPA and conservancy groups restricting land use? | By Sally B

Comment 8: I don't believe any of the "people" posting in here are regular citizens. These NGO's are all over the country. They are one leg of the socialist movement.

\*\*\* Sorry, petroleum geophysicist here, working for the largest oilfield services company in the world, in Houston since 1984, both kids born here, been living in the same home in Cy-Fair for 20 years, and former GOP Precinct Chair and Election Judge. You're wrong. And I just voted for Ron Paul. | By Peter W

Comment 9: Are the NGO's that push Agenda 21 all over the country conservative? Why does the RNC have a resolution against Agenda 21? Please directly answer this question. Ron Paul has come out and said he is against Agenda 21. I notice how careful you are to avoid comments on socialism and Marxist thought. | By Sally B



Comment 10: We need to think as individuals. This "collective" thought is Marxist. Get rid of any subsidies. Let all businesses stand on their own without government incentive. That would be true sustainability. There is no global warming or cooling due to increase CO2 levels. Three mile island was contained. All the vegetation and wildlife has returned to Chernobyl. The Japanese will be restarting the reactors soon. The nuclear reactors will save lives as people will be assured "sustainable" electricity. (Electricity that is cheap and reliable.) Wind and solar are not sustainable. They are not available nearly 100% of the time. | By Sally B

Comment 11: AMEN! | By Stephenie W

Comment 12: Sally, I agree that we each need to be thinking critically about the choices we make as individuals. But I also believe we need to be thinking together about creating the future you and I share. For example, I do not have all the answers myself about how to protect our region from climate events we continue to experience like drought and hurricanes and I suspect you don't either; but if you and I come together with many of our neighbors throughout the region, we can learn more from each other and respond with new and perhaps innovative ideas for how to assure our own safety, protect our homes and businesses from flooding and preserve enough fresh water for all the population growth we will experience. We need each other- building a dam together makes more sense than each of us creating a moat around our own homes for example! We don't have to fend for ourselves entirely because we have each other. Let's make the most of it by sharing our thinking (together collectively so we don't leave people out). That way we have the benefit from all the ideas and creativity we can muster! There is nothing to fear about learning the implications of different paths we might take, exchanging ideas about ways we can respond to our needs, and getting creative together so we can plan ahead rather than being faced with a dilemma we could have together avoided. So I am interested in your views. You have stated what you think is not sustainable. Could you please share with us what you suggest instead to assure our basic needs are met as our region's population grows and we use up more of the area's water and land? | By Geri W

Comment 13: YES, rationality is a significant human gift that enables us to imagine and to reason. But we humans also have another gift that we seldom use effectively and that is critical to achieving sustainability. It is our awareness-of ourselves in relation to others and to the larger system in which we live. If we can take another's perspective (social awareness or empathy) or another vantage point from within the larger system (context awareness), we build our capacity to meaningfully connect with one another and understand in ways that unleash collective consciousness and innovation. TOGETHER, we can address the complex challenges none of us could alone, if only we are willing to see through another's eyes. | By Geri W



Comment 14: Well said, Kerry W. | By Christy H

Comment 15: Well said, Geri. | By Christy H

Comment 16: All I can say right now Geri is SO WELL SAID!!!! | By Egima E

Comment 17: my last comment did not show the link  
<http://www.umweltethik.at/download.php?id=386> | By Alice M

Comment 18: I recommend this essay on the Technocratic paradigm versus a new Planetary Person paradigm which will help us to address the troubles ahead through adaptation to natural rhythms of which we are inevitably a part rather than through a control model.

"To learn to fit ourselves into this ongoing harmony requires attention and agility... If we are attuned to our world in this way, control is no longer an issue. That is to say, we realize we do not have to try to manage everything else. We can then learn to approach things on a smaller, more decentralized scale, based on subtle understanding. We can learn to ride with the natural processes rather than against them. We will trust nature because we will trust ourselves appropriately to improvise as the need arises, rather than trying to follow some rigid plan that we impose on every thing else, and even on ourselves." | By Alice M

Comment 19: Houston has one of the worst repetitive floodplain damage claim records in the country. per Houston video <http://vimeo.com/36105945>  
| By Edmund L

Comment 20: A sustainable community should be better able to manage catastrophic risks. There are SO many examples of organizations turning a blind eye to improbable risks, but then suddenly the Fates lined up all the improbables, the lock tumblers fell, the key turned, the wind blew the door open, and disaster.

- \* MACONDO
- \* FUKUSHIMA
- \* NEW ORLEANS levee failure

Possibles in our area -

- \* Addick / Barker levee failure risk
- \* Exposure to climate change
  - W end Galveston development...
  - like New Orleans, ignore the geologists,
  - what do they know, stupid rock-huggers!





- Downtown only 50 ft above sea level, W

If the alarm goes off in my house in the middle of the night, I'm not going to be obsessed with "proving" that it's a burglar, I'm going to dial 911 and figure it out later. Likewise with climate change. It's OK to have a false alarm from time to time. But being in denial about risk and not going to the doctor for a checkup because you think everything's OK? | By Peter W

Comment 21: FUKUSHIMA also. | By Peter W

Comment 22: Fukushima is another example. | By Peter W

Comment 23: The Japanese nuclear disaster is another example. | By Peter W

Comment 24: The Dutch have a very constructive attitude about climate change. They don't care if it's proven or not; if it's real, and they don't engineer solutions, the sea is going to drown them. Death has a way of focusing the mind that we haven't gotten to yet in the USA, because lots of people here think that the coming of the ecological End Times is a good thing, somehow. | By Peter W

Comment 25: A sustainable community is continuously learning, based on changing science, changing evidence, and changing conditions. Like any good private enterprise, a public enterprise can never stay static. Do we want the HGAC area to be like 3M or like Kodak? If we continue the "if it's not broken, don't fix it" mentality, which morphs into "it's only broken a little bit, we can tolerate it", which morphs into "Let's kick this can down the road", which morphs into "ignore or deny the problem, then point fingers of blame at everyone but yourself" then we won't get where we want to be. | By Peter W

Comment 26: If there were not idiot ideological people who insist their way is the right way and that they know the best for everyone on the planet we would be able to use the technologies that are feasible in the ways that fiscally work and not the ones that are fantasy that must be pushed on people with regulations and free money (haha). "Kicking the can down the road" is sometimes a better idea than wasting money and time on things that are not feasible fiscally or technologically. If it's not broke, don't fix it IS a smart way to go about things. Especially when you cannot afford these ideas. This is why America is BROKE(don't see many people trying to fix that). STOP immediately the wasteful unneeded spending and do what it takes to get our childrens country back on a safe and profitable track. Besides, if we are to believe the eco idiot Al Gore, our Country is doomed to die out in less than 3 yrs because of our horrible climate issues. Ummm yeah, right. | By Stephenie W

Comment 27: Stephanie, Great post. This website is a propaganda tool



influenced by people to push Agenda 21. This group, HGAC, is pushing socialist ideas. The group running this will then go to different city councils and claim most citizens agree that we need to save the environment. They are funded by a grant from HUD. The city councils then will take their word and begin to implement the rubbish in Agenda 21. I don't believe any of the "people" posting in here are regular citizens. These NGO's are all over the country. They are one leg of the socialist movement. EPA and conservancy groups are also taking a lot of land and restricting what can be done on the land. Basically, this is a big property grab to take private land off limits to move people into cities. | By Sally B

Comment 28: Sally, are you suggesting that you are a citizen who does not join the rest of us in wanting to "save the environment"? Surely you must have misspoken! I am sure you appreciate that you have air, water, food, and medicines (from plants) and some protective shelter to survive and some connection to others in your community enabling you to thrive. That constitutes our environment and if we don't save it, you and I perish along with all other living species. I appreciate that perhaps you have a different perspective about how to create a positive future and I want to believe that our common needs as human beings to survive and to thrive is incentive enough for us to listen to one another, to try to understand our differences and how we can work together to improve our region. We're just two citizens expressing our views in a public forum designed for that purpose. I am ready to listen to any ideas you may have and why you | By Geri W

Comment 29: Sally, are you suggesting that you are a citizen who does not join the rest of us in wanting to "save the environment"? Surely you must have misspoken! I am sure, like me, you appreciate that you have air, water, food, and medicines (from plants) and some protective shelter to survive and some connection to others in your community enabling you to thrive. That constitutes our environment and if we don't save it, you and I perish along with all other living species. I appreciate that perhaps you have a different perspective about how to create a positive future and I want to believe that our common needs as human beings to survive and to thrive is incentive enough for us to listen to one another, to try to understand our differences and how we can work together to improve our region. We're just two citizens expressing our views in a public forum designed for that purpose. I am ready to listen to your ideas and what you see the impact to be. I think we can have a respectful exchange of views here if we honor each others' right to express a different view without making assumptions about one another. Can't we? | By Geri W

Comment 30: Geri, I don't believe we will perish if we don't change our ways. The facts I stated are true. Does saving the environment mean a communitarian lifestyle without automobiles with most people living in pack and stack high rise



buildings? Were the meetings to gain consensus on Agenda 21 respectful to the people that attended them? | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Walking is a human right**

Idea Detail: This idea is tailor-made for our region, which is very politically conservative place. It's based on the US Constitution, and the original intent of the Founding Fathers.

2nd Amendment - "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Therefore, if the Government constructs obstacles to you owning a gun or ammunition, your civil rights are being violated. The US Supreme Court has recently been overturning gun laws in Washington DC and Chicago based exactly on this principle.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

If the Government establishes obstacles to you possessing the holy scripture of your choice, or to you building a church, they are violating your rights. If the Government establishes obstacles to you owning a printing press, they are violating your rights.

Now let's look at "the right of the people peaceably to assemble".

What if the government establishes obstacles to you "assembling" with other citizens in your community? Remember, the technology of the 18th century for "assembling" was WALKING. Could it be construed that the Government is violating this basic human right of yours?

I claim that the ability to walk in your community and to assemble peaceably with other citizens is a basic human right, and I claim that our local Governments are in some sense violating this right. At least they not are allowing it to be expressed fully.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: I think this interpretation is a bit far fetched, but I completely agree that our right to walk around places is being infringed upon. Sidewalks in every neighborhood would great. I think if we restricted the use of cars during certain days/hours we could free up more space for



walking. I've heard that this is done in Paris and in Bogota. Plus, more space for walking and more people walking is inherently more environmentally friendly than driving cars and/or sitting at home with the ac running. Also, more people outside would be good for community spirit, I think. | By Timothy M

Comment 2: Timothy, they're called Ciclovias, and they look like tons of fun. I also like your point about community spirit--it's really hard to get to know your neighbors when you're both surrounded by a steel cage and glass! | By Joyce A

Comment 3: I'd posit that the voters in our region are like most of the nation split between those who emphasize the wish to conserve and those who emphasize the wish to progress...but I do think your interpretation of the 1st amendment is brilliant! A right to come together. To move toward one another. To ambulate. Or as our region is 12,500 square miles with more than 6 million people (167 miles as the crow flies through the middle), perhaps locally this provides a right to ride the rails or at least longer range electric vehicles to get together! | By Paul S

**Idea Title: Each leaves the Earth better for passing through**

Idea Detail: "Better" must encompass a real possibility for the creation of healthy living ecosystems, communities and individuals at least seven generations beyond those we occupy now. So I have been taught was a Native American's way of thinking.

Idea Author: Paul S

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Replacing Materialism and Waste with Contentment**

Idea Detail: The Earth's resources are finite and will never be enough to satisfy the inherent acquisitiveness of a materialistic, disposable society. Sustainability means that people are satisfied with "enough" and do not waste material so that "enough" can be provided to the poor and future generations. Achieving sustainability will require replacing wealth as the prime goal with fulfillment or satisfaction as that goal.

Idea Author: Jim L

Number of Seconds 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: One community**

Idea Detail: One integrated business and residential community with a common balanced approach to the environment, social needs and economic progress which provides benefit to all.

Idea Author: Karin W

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: We are not one community. Houston has been identified as the most diverse city in the nation. Our plans need to understand the diversity of our region and plan to accommodate and enhance opportunity. | By Robert S

Comment 2: Elegantly stated in one sentence.

Since "Dunbar's number" may form an upper limit of 150 persons who can practicably cooperate in a commons, when it comes to community development does "e pluribus unum" inform sustainability? | By Paul S

**Idea Title: Livable Centers promote sustainable communities**

Idea Detail: Livable centers balance work and home locations into areas that promote short commutes and more local focus for transportation. A more local focus includes programs that support walking and biking.

Our planners need to examine ways to create Liveable Centers for the Houston region and demonstrate to the development community the viability of these from a market perspective.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: This is already being explored in Houston. There is also the possibility of supporting these centers with our transportation dollars, to enable people to work, live and play in a smaller segment of the city/county than currently is possible. | By Christy H



Comment 2: Christy, Are you suggesting "public-private" partnerships to create livable center as per Agenda 21? | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Brundtland Definition**

Idea Detail: Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Idea Author: lester K

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: If a previous farm turns into a desert, changing the land use would not be against the brundtland definition. Through the impementation of sustainability indicators we can take steps towards gauging our generation's development (takings). Paul you are right in that we should be monitoring resource availability today and resource availability in the future. | By lester K

Comment 2: Hi Lester,

I do of course wholeheartedly agree with the definition above. I'm also sensitive to the Freedom Movement that is kicking against the chains of the old usurous growth economy and an old guard that may or may not wish to see substantial changes in capital-labor-rent-profit distribution. The Brundland deginition becomes complicated in an unpredictibly and rapidly changing environment. What if the ability of future generations will already be compromised by ongoing desertification of the former breadbaskets of the world? How shall we gage our own generation's takings (within an existing built infrastructure and out of a relatively steady-state world) against the much harder tasks in the world to come? | By Paul S

Comment 3: Paul, Everything on this website is a way of changing thinking to convince people to beleive that socialism is the way to go. I'm appalled an NGO like HGAC would try to force Marxism on the American people. Man made global warming does not exist. Farming does not change land into deserts. Agenda 21 is a front to push Marxism into the United States. This is being done at a local level through NGOs such as this. Agenda 21 is not "new thinking". It is old Leninist materialism. The world ecosystem was spawned by marxists. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Survival, health, happiness, prosperity**



Idea Detail: To have a life at all, it should be obvious we need to survive, which means at absolute bare minimum to have air, water, and food, preferably of high quality. And we want to leave that survival ability to future generations. But beyond that we want shelter, mobility - and beauty. So sustainability has to be about keeping the things we need and love available for our children and grandchildren and many generations beyond.

Idea Author: David C

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Sorry, I would improve this idea by changing "lover" to "love" in the last sentence. Whoops. | By David C

**Idea Title: W. McDonough's definition**

Idea Detail: Caring for the children of all earth's species, for all time.

Idea Author: Victoria H

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: This is a really dumb idea and counter to the laws of nature. I don't mind others trying to do this so long as it does not impact me, my family, our property, and our way of life, | By David D

Comment 2: Everything all of us do impacts everybody else and their families and way of life. The freeways are only congested because you and your family and friends are always driving on them, so people who want to drive alone on the freeway are prevented from exercising that freedom because of you. And your family and so forth. I do agree that McDonough's statement is probably counter to the laws of nature. After all, the 6.7 billion of us eat whatever of the earth's species we can get our hands on, and all the species eat other ones. I suppose McDonough could have said "loving the children of all earth's species" and we might be okay. Many indigenous people love the things they just killed before they actually eat them. | By David C

**Idea Title: Stopping unsustainable games & schemes**



Idea Detail: Apparently Harris County "assumed" that the City of Houston was going to eventually annex unincorporated areas, thereby releasing the County from the liability of maintaining roads it had built, and freeing the County up to serve up more roads for new exurban real estate developments. Well, this machine has broken down, because the City is in no condition to annex anything. The County is left holding the bag.

Folks, we can't play this game any longer. We have to have a plan for maintaining everything we build. If we can't reasonably expect to maintain it, we should not build it.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I agree with the idea that if you don't intend to maintain infrastructure then you should not build it. I just hope that area residents understand the implications of not adding infrasture to a growing area.

We seem to want our cake and eat it to. | By Robert S

**Idea Title: self-sufficient sustainability**

Idea Detail: In order to plan for Houston 2040, we need to address the cost of rising oil and commuter costs and plan our current communities by concentrating development locally in urban centers in order to cut down on infrastructure maintenance and habitat destruction. Developing where development exists allows for sustainability of wetlands, historical preservation, and land conservation.

Idea Author: kat G

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The Marriage of our Ecosystem with Development**

Idea Detail: We should endeavor to leave a better quality of life for our children but at the same time understand that our children could be working in a more urbanized environment in the future. We may not be able to do away with urban sprawl but we can try to encourage more ecological development. Balances between our urban and ecological systems need to be





encouraged by municipal agencies such as roof-top green space, environmentally friendly buildings, etc.

Idea Author: Robert L

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I think we can retrofit suburbia to some degree to be more sustainable, less auto dependent. I think we're going to have to, just because the Baby Boomers are getting older, and someday they (we) won't be able to drive any longer. We'll be prisoners in our subdivision homes. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: Clean air/water, local food, minimal waste, green transportation**

Idea Detail: For me a sustainable Houston offers:

Clean air & water: Healthier for all of us, & a signal we're doing something right.

Local food: The more we can feed ourselves from within our region, the more resilient we are to transport pricing and other supply issues.

Minimal waste: H-GAC would not only support recycling, but also supporting ways to prevent waste from being generated in the first place (restaurants use dishes/silverware instead of plastic & paper; encouraging recycled containers for bulk items at grocery, etc.). H-GAC would help develop closed loops featuring composting of vegetable matter and brush. In dense areas like mine, each neighborhood could have a small compost/brush center for waste that can help build our soil for gardening.

Green transportation: Going to transit, bike, or by foot use a minimal amount of fuels and generate a minimum amount of pollution; this is especially true for travelling by bike and foot. A sustainable Houston area would have plenty of safe transport options for travelling by bike and foot, with denser developments that permit residents to live close to school/shopping/work.

Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Sustainability is government intrusion**

Idea Detail: Sustainability is the intrusion of government entities into the lives of citizens. Excessive spending by government agencies for the cause of sustainability at the expense of repairing streets, ensuring adequate police protection, equipping fire fighters, etc. is absolutely wrong. Conservation is a good thing and should be practiced, not forcing sustainability on those who oppose it.

Idea Author: David D

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Sustainability means "survival" and "keep going," so it's astonishing that you're opposed to that. Sustainability is also the opposite of "the intrusion of government agencies into the lives of citizens." Instead, it's the frustration and fears of millions of individuals because government agencies appear to have no interest in the desires of the citizens for health, happiness, and prosperity. You should meet some of the people who are involved in this. In fact, I'll buy you lunch if you'd like to talk about it. | By David C

Comment 2: David, I would love to meet some of the people and discuss this. I sincerely mean this. You mentioned you worked with a lot of the folks at HUD. I would enjoy hearing their perspective. | By Sally B

Comment 3: Sally, I'd like to meet with you and we could also meet with some local folks. The HUD people are in Washington, so that's probably hard, although they come here sometimes and I could keep an eye out. How about some of the folks in the Houston region who are working on the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development? | By David C

**Idea Title: Our ability to sustain - to survive, to thrive, to prosper**

Idea Detail: Our ability to sustain, to believe in a future, to participate culturally, to acknowledge our very humanness make it a challenge to look much farther (further?) than our current set of fears. Sustainability gets defined through discussions like this to include (and exclude) what we want to sustain, and what (or how) we want to embrace (or ignore) various futures. In the context of fear, it's far easier to think in terms of unsustainability which seems to define what we oppose rather than what we support.

Idea Author: David H



Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Conservative Underpinnings for Sustainability (part 2)**

Idea Detail: 4. Whatever happened to conservation as being a conservative principle? Virtues like Thrift? (I guess it went the way of Chastity, Temperance, Reverence, and Modesty in the last 50 years). "A penny saved is a penny earned". What about those values?

The oil, gas, minerals, air, water of the USA belong to WE THE PEOPLE, if we run through them heedlessly and wastefully, who is going to bail us out with a spare America for us? With a spare Planet Earth? China going to bail us out on this one, like with our Federal debt? I think not.

I'm in the oil business, and I hear people talk about shale being a growth area for the next 20 years. Oh really? I'll only be 71 by the time that ends, my son will be 41, and I expect to have grandkids. What will we leave them to LIVE ON after we burn through the Bakken as quickly as we can? And for what... so we can cruise to get doughnuts in a 4,000 lb. vehicle? So we can drive on unwalkable roads to get to our obesity surgery? Does that kind of thinking and behavior honor God's creation in any way? Including that most sublime creation of all; our incarnate physical selves?

I think the "Drill Baby Drill" people are just another manifestation of the Yuppie, Baby Boomer, "Do it if it feels good" "Me generation" "Enjoyment without consequences" crowd. Everyone born after 1945 is at risk of this type of thinking... especially if you turn your brain off and don't bother to think.

If you really think you're a conservative Republican, take your cues from one of the only manly men of the bunch, Teddy Roosevelt, who had enough vision and spent enough time in the wilds that he was inspired to establish the US National Parks. Nixon and Ford did a lot (while kicking and screaming) to help the environment. Nixon signed the Clean Air Act, after all.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Peter, I work in the Energy Industry just as you do. We will not run out of hydrocarbon based fuels for the next 200 years at least. You and I will not "ruin" the planet if



we drive the 4000 lb vehicle to buy a donut. The donut may kill you. The CO2 won't. Walking or not walking does not cause obesity in most people. Diet is the cause of most obesity. Teddy Roosevelt was a pragmatist. He was not a true Constitutional conservative. Pragmatists tend to be more socialist in nature. God gave us hydrocarbons to use. We are honoring him by using the resoucrs God gave us. | By Sally B

Comment 2: We keep pushing Peak Oil back with our innovation, but at some point we will run out of easily extractable hydrocarbons. As you know, the Bakken shuts in below \$70 a barrel, but we keep behaving like we're still in the Spindletop days. What's next after shale? After oil sands? You call it honor the creator by using the resources given to us, I call it waste. | By Peter W

### **Idea Title: 'Sustainability' has been kidnapped**

Idea Detail: The term sustainability has been kidnapped by the global progressive-socialist movement as an means for growing government control of our lives. The Houston Galveston Regional Plan is an excellent example. It seeks to control our property and resources through non elected government officials, who are funded by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. All in the name of 'Sustainability'

Idea Author: Larry W

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Larry, I think you and at least one other commenter on this board have been taken away by the conspiracy theorists. Once you come out and make accusations, you poison the well, you divide everyone into camps, even if there were no camps to begin with. Please stop doing that. I can search on the Internet and find "proof" for every kind of conspiracy, most of which are BS. Please step away from the computer and go talk to your neighbors in person. Most of us want the same thing, but we have different ways of evaluating and expressing what we want, and we don't want the exact same thing as Europe, but we don't want to closed-off to good ideas from outside either.. Sincerely, Peter Wang, formerly Harris County Pct 651 GOP Precinct Chair, and I did vote for Ron Paul by the way. | By Peter W

Comment 2: And by the way, here is the Pope's interpretation of the relationship between the Creator and ourselves as guardians of his creation:

[www.un.org/webcast/pdfs/climatechangesummit/holysee.pdf](http://www.un.org/webcast/pdfs/climatechangesummit/holysee.pdf). Is the Pope evil because he thinks this way? | By David C

Comment 3: Almost everyone I know who's involved in the sustainability initiative - and I've



been involved with thousands of those people since 1992 - spends most of their time trying to get governments to honor free markets and not to engage in social engineering, which they've been doing everywhere in the US since the 1940s. If you knew the people in HUD's sustainability office and understood their commitment to freedom and choices, you wouldn't make such a statement. The Tea Party in Congress is working to shut down all programs that give citizens the right to redress government for their grievances, and I'm sorry to suggest to you that you are seeing exactly the opposite of what's really going on. | By David C

Comment 4: Here is a good explanation of the objectives of 'Sustainability' as described by those who are pushing it:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dBg9SEdPo&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dBg9SEdPo&feature=player_embedded) | By Larry W

Comment 5: So there is someone just explaining in a rational way that infinite physical growth is impossible. Do you dispute that? Sustainability is about better development, not bigger development, about quality instead of quantity. What's wrong with that? You can quarrel with his solutions and that's fine, but isn't this what human discourse is all about? Why is somebody expressing their opinion "evil" as all the commenters say under that movie. And by the way, I've been involved in the Smart Growth movement at the local and national levels since 1998, and in all that time I've argued that the "growth" part of Smart Growth was just impossible. But I can guarantee you that the Smart Growth movement is about growth and not degrowth. I'm sorry that's so, but it's so. | By David C

**Idea Title: Improving the quality of life for everyone, regardless of income**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I want to be able to refuel a natural gas vehicle**

Idea Detail: Why is it that there are only three natural gas vehicle refueling stations open to the public in Houston? None of them are close to Cy-Fair. We're the energy capital of the world, and most private citizens can't run a NG vehicle here.



Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: Compressed Natural Gas stations are going up gangbusters in other states. In Houston CNG stations are limited and prices are high. Maybe the energy capital of the world can wake up and catch up. In the Red River Shootout of CNG, the Oklahoma team is kicking Texas team. see <http://www.cngnow.com/stations> | By Edmund L

Comment 2: We have an amazing "not invented here" syndrome, which seems to also apply to things that we did invent here. | By Peter W

Comment 3: IT would be great if one or more major gas station companies opened at least one natural gas or electric refueling station at all Houston locations. Houston is a car dominant city, nothing will change that, we need smarted cars so we need smarter fuels. | By Jacob W

Comment 4: A hybrid car powered by a tiny natural gas turbine would be unbelievable. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: Avoiding the boom and bust cycle**

Idea Detail: A sustainable concept just keeps on delivering satisfaction, value, enjoyment, profits to all stakeholders. There is a timelessness about sustainability. The old can seem brand new.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Conservative underpinnings for sustainability**

Idea Detail: 1. People, not Corporations, "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Therefore, the needs of 75000+ actual human people in Cy-Fair for immediate US290 relief outweigh the needs of General Growth Properties to to "bailed out" by WE THE PEOPLE and



"realize value" in it's Bridgeland holdings. Also, as we have seen with the Eversole case, the corrupting influences of developer contributions to get public money spent to generate value for particular private hands is a clear and present danger to democracy at the County level. Which Commissioner is going to jail next? Enough with "pay for play".

2. Users pay - Judge Emmett has said "there is no asphalt fairy". Wiser words were never spoken. We have to stop with activities that do not add value to society being subsidized at a loss. When some people say this, they target passenger rail, but I aim this attack without prejudice at every kind of non-value adding project. Whatever the infrastructure project, it should compete side-by-side on a cost-benefit basis with others... and we have to make sure that our value measures are not prejudiced. We also have to recognize that environmental liabilities do not show up on anyone's balance sheet, but the losses are real, and have to go into the cost-benefit equation; ask anyone who used to run a fishing business on the Louisiana Coast before Macondo.

3. Global Warming - I'm OK with temporarily putting one type of pollutant aside so long as we focus like a laser beam on others, like ground-level ozone. Having family members with asthma, who have had to go to the ER, I know that the threat to human health is real and severe. Let's focus obsessively on ozone... all other air pollutants can be expected to follow.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 8

Comment 1: I agree that the free market needs to support our infrastructure development. However, parochialism does come into play. We all want what we want where we want it. There has to be someone seeking to maintain a vision for the region not just one particular corridor or area.

In an ideal world people would only be asked to pay for what benefits them directly. Sometimes it is difficult to measure what benefits us so that we can glad pay. Sustaining infrastructure on a regional platform benefits everyone in that region. It is difficult to measure or assign those benefits but a healthy economy benefits everyone in the community.

Our tendency to look over the fence and see that our neighbor might have benefited more directly from a community improvement is shortsighted. Let's all think globally and support regional planning. It will benefit us all in the end.

| By Robert S

Comment 2: Peter, going back to my earlier comment that this website isn't about citizens having a real discussion. This website is an organization of people pushing agenda 21 using the Delphi technique to drive consensus. Most of what I read on this website is planned



propaganda to push a socialist plan known as Agenda 21. In another note I understand David C's comments on social engineering to build the I-10. The I-10 should have been built with private funds. The private investors could have then make a profit by collecting tolls. In fact, we can do this with all projects. How about tolls for bike riders that use bike lanes to pay for the infrastructure. Why not let a private company build and own the bike trails and charge a fee to use them. I would like to see private companies build and own rail. No taxpayer assistance. If the project is worthwhile the private money will come. Similar to user fees in national parks.

| By Sally B

Comment 3: I have been reading about Judge Emmitt. Seems like a big central planner using taxpayer funds to get things accomplished. His way with me and you footing the bill. | By Sally B

Comment 4: "How should the projects get funded? A true conservative would let the free market decide without central planning."

Agreed, but I don't think decisions made by a cabal of deep-pocketed campaign contributors who have bought influence with elected-officials-for-life (due to unassailable war chests) is a "free market" by any stretch. That's how free markets work in Sub Saharan Africa. The "market" is in who is for sale, I fear. | By Peter W

Comment 5: BP came up with close to 20 billion dollars to pay for the Macondo incident. I agree the fisherman may deserve more than they were given. | By Sally B

Comment 6: Peter, just to confirm. You are against taxpayers funding public projects as well as being against public private partnerships that are funded by taxpayers. | By Sally B

Comment 7: Sorry, whatever hook you've thrown out there, I'm not biting on it. | By Peter W

Comment 8: How should the projects get funded? A true conservative would let the free market decide without central planning. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Sustainable works today to avoid problems tomorrow.**

Idea Detail: Beyond the Brundtland definition of a compact between generations, the simple definition above came out of a radio interview I heard this morning.

Idea Author: Paul S





Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Avoid Utopia - Encourage Innovation**

Idea Detail: Utopians do not work. It requires coercive central planning. They stress one size for all. Most of the plans I have seen have these attributes. None discuss bad scenarios and how these unfavorable outcomes can be mitigated.

Central planning should be limited to guidance (expertise) and encourage private investment and local decision making.

Having projects that benefit which do not break the public budget are the only sustainable ones. Poorly governmental managed projects are not sustainable.

Idea Author: Mike B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: David, the terms you use are very vague. The devil is always in the details of what you say. This generic ideas sound you mention are socialist buzzwords. Very similar to the type of verbage used by marxists. The agenda here is to ask questions like "Do you want clean air?" Who wouldn't say "yes" to that. Then this group who runs this website guided by the principles in Agenda 21 tell towns and counties to vote for generic clean air regulations. They then leave the details to organizations like HGAC. HGAC then makes rules to implement this by imposing zoning and reduced lanes for cars, etc. and increased bike baths. HGAC will claim this is "cleaning the air" with the ultimate goal of moving people into "human habitat areas" that are outlined in Agenda 21. Please read the Vision documents on this website. Very socialist in nature. | By Sally B

Comment 2: Allow  
| By Sally B

Comment 3: When you say "Utopians do not work," I assume you do not mean that people who think of themselves as Utopians are people who don't work. Kind of moot, since I doubt



there are any people who think of themselves as Utopians. Probably you mean Utopian ideas do not work. But you say that with no proof, since Utopian ideas are never allowed to work, primarily kept in check by governments and the moneyed people who basically own them. Most ideas I can think of that might be seen as Utopian are sustainability ideas like "allow choices," and "preserve the things we love" and "allow each person the opportunity to realize his or her full potential." These are not possible while government works to shape people's circumstances to their ideas about consumerism.

Most plans I'm aware of explore bad scenarios and I'm sure everybody will have an idea about which of the scenarios that come out of this process are bad.

I agree with the rest. | By David C

Comment 4: We still live in a capitalistic society that works best when innovation, creativity and hard work drive the future. Planning should serve as a form for these and not some absolute rule where one size fits all. Sustainability can only work when development occurs in an atmosphere of innovation and creativity where new ideas find ways to make the community and our lives better. | By Robert S

Comment 5: Basically, you're right, I think. But what we have now is "one size fits all" in government policies. That's partly what this process is about changing. | By David C

#### **Idea Title: Sustainability is government control**

Idea Detail: The term sustainability has been kidnapped by the global progressive-socialist movement as an means for growing government control of our lives. The Houston Galveston Regional Plan is an excellent example. It seeks to control our property and resources through non elected government officials, who are funded by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. All in the name of 'Sustainability'

Idea Author: Larry W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 10

Comment 1: I am still need to know why emissions should be reduced...The hottest decade since 1860 was 1930. Do you want anyone's children to only have the choice of growing up in a urban setting in a 700 square foot flat that is mixed use? Humans are living longer every year. This comes as emissions have increased. Why would we want to limit our use of power plants that use coal, nuclear and natural gas. Sustainability from the "Vision" document on



your website is Agenda 21. The end game is to move people into urban hubs. | By Sally B

Comment 2: Actually, the hottest decade on record was the last one (<http://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/temp-analysis-2009.html>). I want my children and grandchildren to have the choice of living in an urban setting, which they want now, and when they're young I want them to have the opportunity for a 700-ft apartment that they can afford. Right now that is very difficult because government massively subsidizes development out at the fringes of the region and the City of Houston makes urbanism generally illegal.

We would want to limit emissions from power plants first because we have such huge incidence of asthma in children because of their emissions and second because those emissions are slowly driving the temperature up and making the water cycle unreliable and sometimes dangerous.

Agenda 21 does indeed seek sustainability, which means durability, responsibility, and survival. It has nothing whatsoever to do with UN or other government control. | By David C

Comment 3: David, Please take a look at this link.

<http://www.c3headlines.com/2011/01/noaa-confirms-recent-global-temperature-change-is-historically-small-warming-is-decelerating.html>. Please enlarge the graphs. This data is from NOAA. The graphs show virtually no global temperature change over the last 100 years. As atmospheric CO2 increases temperature does not. These two graphs show there is no correlation between temperature change and CO2 increases. | By Sally B

Comment 4: I respect your point on the opportunity for people to live in mixed use developments. Freedom is what I think we need. I also concur we should not have government subsidizing in any type of development. I do agree that zoning makes it difficult to build high density building in the city. In fact, I can't substantiate it but I believe you can not build tall buildings in the suburbs. I see this as social engineering. I think we should be able to have the opportunity to build the way the free market decides. I must say that I completely disagree with the public/private partnership that are pushed as part of Agenda 21. I believe we need to minimize zoning laws as well as planned communities. I don't see the correlation with asthma from power plant emissions. I have also shown there is no link between CO2 and global temperature increases or decreases. Additionally, if the water cycle has variability, we can build desalination plants and run them with nuclear power. I enjoy our dialogue. I just do not like collectivism where a government can dictate where and what people can and can not do. | By Sally B

Comment 5: First, I went to the link you provided and with the help of a couple of



scientists looked at the data. If you download the first data set cited under the chart, it doesn't match the numbers in the chart at all. So the only conclusion you can reach is that the author, who is clearly not a scientist but an ideologue, made up the numbers and then used the citation assuming no one would look it up. I would agree with your contention that not allowing tall buildings in the suburbs would be social engineering, but the City and counties don't go that far. There are dozens of very tall buildings in the suburbs.

Why should we minimize planned communities, like the Woodlands and Cinco Ranch and so forth? That's all private with essentially no government control and people choose to live there (or not). The correlation of asthma and other respiratory problems with emissions is very clear and very well understood, as is the link between CO<sub>2</sub> and global temperature. | By David C

Comment 6: I don't like government dictating where people can live or not and just as much I don't like government spending our tax money to subsidize one set of places and hold down other places. That's what's happening now in the Houston region, and one of the purposes of this planning process, in my opinion, is to stop that and balance the tables. | By David C

Comment 7: Why are you repeating the exact same idea in multiple places? So I'll repeat my response from another place: Almost everyone I know who's involved in the sustainability initiative - and I've been involved with thousands of those people since 1992 - spends most of their time trying to get governments to honor free markets and not to engage in social engineering, which they've been doing everywhere in the US since the 1940s. If you knew the people in HUD's sustainability office and understood their commitment to freedom and choices, you wouldn't make such a statement. The Tea Party in Congress is working to shut down all programs that give citizens the right to redress government for their grievances, and I'm sorry to suggest to you that you are seeing exactly the opposite of what's really going on. | By David C

Comment 8: David, Many times the money from HUD comes with strings attached. Why is reducing emissions important? It seems this gets extra points from HUD. I respectfully disagree on this point and do see this as social engineering. | By Sally B

Comment 9: Sally, are you serious in asking why reducing emissions is important? Do you breathe? Do you have children?

The greatest project of social engineering in our history is in fact the government program, now mostly local, to create sprawl and make it hard to live in urban areas and so on. We're trying to end that and could use your help. | By David C



Comment 10: Which government program is making it hard to live in urban areas?  
I do breathe and have children. I need you to tell me why reducing emissions is important. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Caring, supporting and remembering to improve life for everyone!**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I don't think the concept of sustainability has anything to do with personal income.  
| By Robert S

**Idea Title: A healthy life for all, regardless of income...**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Forget income to remember that everyone matters...**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all. Every grocery store should have more healthier choices without high prices. It is important for each individual, from the low income to the high income, to know that there is a better way to living and that they have access to it.

Idea Author: Egima E



Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Forget income, remember living for all**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all. Every grocery store should have more healthier choices without high prices. It is important for each individual, from the low income to the high income, to know that there is a better way to living and that they have access to it.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Forget income**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all. Every grocery store should have more healthier choices without high prices. It is important for each individual, from the low income to the high income, to know that there is a better way to living and that they have access to it.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Sustainability means that a strategy will stand the test of time. It has nothing to do with income. | By Robert S

**Idea Title: Healthy foods in grocery stores of all areas**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only



the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all. Every grocery store should have more healthier choices without high prices. It is important for each individual, from the low income to the high income, to know that there is a better way to living and that they have access to it.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Rememeber today**

Idea Detail: Remembering that a healthy and "rich" life needs to improve for everyone, not only the rich by the world's standards... The income of humans should have nothing to do with providing and supporting a healthy life by all means for all. Every grocery store should have more healthier choices without high prices. It is important for each individual, from the low income to the high income, to know that there is a better way to living and that they have access to it.

Idea Author: Egima E

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sustainability in simpler terms...**

Idea Detail: The definition of sustainability must very concisely fit within both a small scale definition, and also be applicable to large scale populations in order to begin drawing ties between ideas and what will benefit the majority, for the longer term.

One example that I would like to make is through my personal outlook on matters within my home, as a member of the Houston community at large.

Each month, I balance my personal budget. This is a process by which I review what I have taken in as income, and measure it against what I need to spend it on as well as what I have spent it on. It doesn't include exercise, or environment due to limitation on words here.

My spending is kept track of in order of personal priority, which follows this order: house, food



and health, car, bills (electric/water/gas/insurance), monthly-necessities (such as clothing, toilet paper, etc), taxes, savings, entertainment and vacation.

In order for me to "sustain" the my current lifestyle, it is important for me to make sure that money is channeled into appropriate portions of my bank statement- or else, the budget is broken, and the lifestyle I have gained will begin to suffer in some way or another.

Now, the same can be said about sustainability in the community.

We, as a community, all have the same needs as I've listed above, only... they can be modified in to larger categories: Housing, Transportation, Energy, Public Health and Economical viability for future prosperity.

Creating a system which keeps in-check what we are spending on each of those things can have a large outcome on what Houston-metro area will be like in the future ultimately comes down to a few basic things which fulfill my personal definition of "sustainability":

- 1) Responsibility - Actions have consequences.
- 2) Balance- Needs versus wants.
- 3) Succession - We live here and now- not 200 years from now. Let's not mess up the earth for future generations to have t deal with. (see responsibility).

Idea Author: Myles B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Myles, I disagree with the "collectivism" you are implying. Since global warming is not caused by burning fossil fuels cars are not ruining any "livability" for future generations. Please check out this article on global warming. It seems other planets and moons in our solar system heat up and cool down to the irradiation of the sun. It is not due to burning fossil fuels. I bring up this point since I believe this is what you may be implying about "responsibility" as the propaganda you are posting due to your belief in Agenda 21 and its inherent socialism. |  
By Sally B

Comment 2: Here is the article.

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/07/the\\_global\\_warming\\_hoax\\_how\\_soon\\_w\\_e\\_forget.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/07/the_global_warming_hoax_how_soon_w_e_forget.html) | By Sally B

**Idea Title: The step by step abolition of private property**





Idea Detail: The setting aside of State lands for the international Wildlands Project; the irrational expansion of burdensome EPA regulations to inhibit our rational economic development; the systematic collectivization of human populations into high density housing settlements located in designated urban areas, under the restrictive policies of smart growth cities in order to depopulate the suburban neighborhoods and the rural areas to be declared unsustainable communities

Idea Author: Sally B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Let's grow together as individuals**

Idea Detail: We need to expand and grow our highways and roadways to accomdate the growth we will see. Cars and big suburban homes are freedom and part of the American individuality. We need to recognize we are individuals and are unique. We need to build and expand our neighborhoods and grow as individuals.

Idea Author: Sally B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Vision of Community in 30 Years**

### **Idea Title: Long term solution to water supply**

Idea Detail: This area needs to have a long term solution to where our water is coming from. With the drought this year, we have seen what can happen when we do not get rain. We can not continue to count on water being taken from the inland water sources we are already depleting, particularly as our population and usage grows. The obvious choice would be to build a desalination plant. Tampa is a prime example of this at work.

Idea Author: Joe C

Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 13

Comment 1: I'm surprised that there are 7 seconds for this idea. I'd think long and hard before going down the desperate path of desalinization and all that implies. We have plenty of water falling on the Texas Triangle and particularly on the eastern side where we are. We just need to figure out how to use it while allowing water in the rivers to reach the estuaries. | By David C

Comment 2: David, The Texas Triangle???? You are definitely promoting Agenda 21. You said earlier the is not about the UN. It is completely about the UN and communitarianism. The Texas Triangle is part of the UN Agenda 21 death map on the internet. | By Sally B

Comment 3: What? The Texas Triangle is just a geographic reality in which San Antonio, Austin, Dallas/Ft Worth, and Houston form a triangle in which the economies are linked and water is shared. What's a death map? Yes, by the way, I am always promoting Agenda 21, but I have no connection to the UN or really any interest in that. What are you talking about? How does the Texas Triangle's actual existence have anything to do with your concerns? | By David C

Comment 4: Building more houses that can re-use "graywater" from sinks, tubs and washing appliances to flush toilets, we can stop using drinking water for toilets. Graywater can also be used to water landscaping other than vegetables. Encourage builders to include these features as well as rainwater collection systems in their buildings. | By Christy H

Comment 5: Agree that we need to vastly decrease the over-valuing of green grass lawns. El Paso has been enormously successful in getting people to not have "green" grass lawns by encouraging plantings that are more suited to the local climate. Houston needs to do that too,



by considering what plants will let us be green, while not using water to keep it that way.  
| By Christy H

Comment 6: Promote rainwater and air-conditioner condensate water collection for use in gardens, yards and for public spaces. Promote efficiency in water use. Use more rain gardens and bio-swales instead of drainage ditches and concreted bayous which encourage runoff. Mandate new building standards that require permeable driveway and parking lot surfaces, more trees for shade around both residential and commercial buildings. Mandate more water efficient appliances and fixtures in buildings. | By Christy H

Comment 7: Desalination plant would not be a good long term solution if we can not figure out a proper way to deal with the byproducts like salt from the treatment process. Because putting it back in the bay will just increase the salinity of the water around the dumping site and cause harmful effects in that ecosystem. I agree with David that we need to look more into long term smart water usage and public education. | By Jin Y

Comment 8: I'm not so sure desalination is a road to go down. It implies desperation and a willingness to hugely impact the natural order of things. Most of the reports I'm seeing about climate change indicate there will be more water in the atmosphere, but while this would imply more heavy rains and flooding, it is also probable that we will see more droughts in between. The trick is to capture the water that falls in excess and save it for when it's needed. It's also true that the region uses more water for irrigation than any other use. Lawns are fantastic wasters of water and some cities are beginning to ban watering grass. We have to use a lot less water, and when you compare use in sprawl areas to use in more compact urban areas you see the problem. So to pursue a desperate, draconian path in order to support more sprawl is something we ought to be thinking about hard. | By David C

Comment 9: I could certainly support solutions that favor rethinking use first rather than expensive technological answers. But that may be an intermediate solution; at some point, if the rainfall diminishes and population increases, just conservation won't be enough. We'll have to find other water sources, and desalination would be an obvious, and perhaps only, choice. At that point, where we put the salt that is removed would be the least of our problems. But it makes good sense not to use the shotgun of expensive capital investment when the flyswatter of conservation and prioritizing use is still available. | By Wayne D H

Comment 10: SE Texas uses a huge amount of air-conditioning to remove humidity from indoor air. Educate and encourage residents and businesses to recover the recovered water from the dehumidification process and then to re-use it. This recovered water can be used to water plants or to maintain soil moisture at a more constant level to keep building foundations stable. | By Cindy C



Comment 11: nice. As we move HVAC loads to renewables, we can attempt to better capture and direct condensation and so dilute and replenish a polluted and diminished near-the-surface ground water supply. | By Paul S

Comment 12: We just had our air conditioners checked out for the season and the guy mentioned to me that our system, running all day, would be producing about 25 gallons of water. Turns out it's all in a sealed system that just goes into the sewer lines and out to the septic tank, completely wasted.(Well, maybe not quite because we have a substantial garden planted over the field drains. Still...) | By David C

Comment 13: Desalinization is the right long-term solution, but costly. It will need to be done, and our proximity to the Gulf is a huge plus for that idea. In the meantime, let's not forget that the other way to fill the "water use gap" that costs nothing is to have a sustained and effective public information campaign that emphasizes water conservation. We've seen how much communities can conserve when it is necessary, and still not seriously impact health or basic water services. Industrial use that is a HUGE consumer of water needs to be part of this dialog. We can no longer afford to treat clean, fresh water as if it is inexhaustible and cheap...it is not. While we're working on the long-term desalinization plan, let's make sure we're slowing our use intelligently at the same time. | By Wayne D H

**Idea Title: Visitors should get a better visual impression of area**

Idea Detail: When visitors arrive to SE Texas, whether by air or automobile, they see too much ugliness. Even though the views are somewhat better than even a few years ago, it would be wonderful if the highway corridors and airport and cruiseport corridors had a concerted project to improve the looks to visitors. More art. More landscaping. Less rundown strip centers. Less trash.

Idea Author: Cindy C

Number of Seconds 6

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: The IAH airport exits already look much better due to the extensive planting of trees in the median (also reduces mowing costs) and the trees planted at the feeder ramps to the highway. Could the idea be extended to plant trees (where feasible) along the outside margins of roadways? This would reduce mowing costs and also improve the views. | By Cindy C

Comment 2: Redevelopment of these "blighted" areas needs to be supported by vissioning



and planning to show developers how they can benefit from removing or remodeling these abandoned or under utilized buildings.

The private sector will not likely take a chance on these areas until someone shows how they can benefit from a change in development trends. | By Robert S

Comment 3: A lot can change over such a long-period of time. The blight-like strip malls Cindy is referring to probably were intentionally built cheap and with poor styling because the developer only planned on getting stores in for 20 year leases and then dropping the property on the suckers who actually live around the place. I don't mean to sound too pessimistic, just that most 1-2 story commercial buildings are not styled or use materials to last more than 20-30 years. Therefore, the question really is how do we fund/encourage redevelopment or removal? | By Jonathan B

Comment 4: We need to put more electrical utilities underground. We did that on SH6 in Copperfield, and it looks great. Someone had the foresight and spent the \$\$\$ (Friendswood Development Corp, I guess). | By Peter W

Comment 5: I agree with you but have you considered how much Right of Way that could require for interstates, to add beautification? or how hard it would be to get the eyesores like the old strip malls removed? This is something that takes years and money, lots and lots of money, to fix. IT may not be worth it in the long run in some areas but in others it would defiantly be a good start. | By Jacob W

Comment 6: I think you'd do it gradually, over time. It might take 20-30 years. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: Every street or road will be a Complete Street candidate**

Idea Detail: Every street or road will be a Complete Street candidate, and many will be built that way, especially the major arterials.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 5

Number of Comments 7

Comment 1: If the lanes on a street are wider than 10 feet, then there's probably room to do some degree of Complete Streets treatment. And certainly sidewalks should be a priority. | By David C



Comment 2: That's why I used the word "Candidate". I'd just like to see us move off of the current paradigm of mono-modal transportation. | By Peter W

Comment 3: A good regional transportation plan is characterized by a heirachy of streets. Application of the complete street concept should be where it serves a need. | By Robert S

Comment 4: All surface streets should be candidates, yes; but like what Jacob W said below, some streets just cannot (easily) be reconstructed as complete streets. | By Jonathan B

Comment 5: you have to take into account that not every street cannot do this, the existing streets in some areas have such little right of way that it can't be done. There could be more right of way added in some places, but in others buildings almost touch the pavement leaving little to no room to expand and ad bike lanes & sidewalks. | By Jacob W

Comment 6: It has to be taken up on a case-by-case basis. But we could also try a concept done successfully elsewhere, called a "Road Diet".  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Road\\_diet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Road_diet) | By Peter W

Comment 7: Rather than making the ROW wider, in some places we can take traffic lanes and repurpose them, right? If a large proportion of the population is walking/riding/using transit, we won't \*need\* as many traffic lanes. | By Joyce A

**Idea Title: In 30 years, I want there to be places for outdoor recreation**

Idea Detail: When I'm 81 years old, I want to be able to go on a slow bike ride or walk with my grandkids. I don't want us to live in a concrete hive. If the region keeps going in that dire direction, I'm leaving when I can retire from the oil & gas industry and taking my chips with me, and I'll play in a prettier sandbox until I expire.

This is really important. Time outdoors with family creates precious cornerstone memories that last a lifetime. This defines the very quality of our lives.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Interestingly enough Houston ranks third in total park acreage and eighteenth in acres per person, according to the Trust for Public Land Center. So it appears that we do have park space available it may be that we just aren't using it very effectively. Maybe what we need



is just a more proactive approach to managing the parks and developing plans for more effective use. | By Robert S

**Idea Title: Livable Centers**

Idea Detail: I would like to see a variety of Livable Centers develop accross the region. These would enhance the efficiency of our current infrastructure and promote more of a community feel to the regions new development and re-development.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Robert, you are suggesting communitariansim which is a socialist society. Redevelopment is a scam to push socialism on people. Please read view this link. It spells out why Agenda 21 (planned development, smart growth, livable centers, sustainability) is government control to push people off the land and into pack and stack high rise building. Redevelopment has been outlawed in California. Please read this website. <http://www.democratsagainstunagenda21.com/>. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Chemical plant future**

Idea Detail: As a former northern, I have seen what happens when areas that focus on one large industry, suddenly no longer have that to rely upon. An example would be when Pittsburgh lost the steel mills, or as Detroit is doing now with the auto plant, what do you do with all the abandoned buildings and contaminated land?

What will happen if all of these “green” movements make oil or gasoline a thing of the past? What are the plans for the chemical companies, should this happen? Do they foresee or plan on having other uses for their real estate? The job sector may just move people from one company to another. But what will we do with all of the land, which would become some of most prime real estate in the area, since it is mostly waterfront?

While I have no knowledge of where the chemical industry is going, nor what changes may be required in the future that require a reduction in their land use, I believe that there needs to be a plan in place for the potential cleanup and reuse of this large chunk of our area. This would need to be a constant work in process and we would not want to get ahead of ourselves, but we don't want to be Pittsburgh or Detroit when 2050 rolls around.

Idea Author: Joe C



Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: This is a tall order no matter how you slice it. I would dearly like to see the wealth of local industry plowed back vigorously into incrementally closing the loop on plant processes, eliminating emissions and fractioning, combusting, reusing or safely storing the minimized wastes...all we need is the energy to accomplish this. Transitioning to closed loop systems, if successful, could allow much safer exploitation of remaining fossil organics and hopefully lead to a material future without the concept of waste, as McDonough has written.

We might yet take fossil organics for the gemstuff that it is, and rightly value the magic it possesses. Consider the socioeconomic value of a tree felled from a managed forest for processing into dimensional lumber against the value of a tree felled a century ago for firewood or simply to clear land.

If closed loop processing is not feasible, then certainly we must commit to realistically planning and implementing recovery and conversion. | By Paul S

Comment 2: That's a great point, Joe. Whatever you think of the "'green' movement", at some point we're not going to have the volume of petroleum coming through our region to justify keeping all of these plants and refineries open; they'll have to be upgraded (for biofuels, for instance) or closed. We should have a plan in place so that when they are taken off line they don't wind up fouling our environment. | By Joyce A

**Idea Title: Easier Access to Regional Mass Transportation**

- Idea Detail: 1. Easier access to HOV Lanes;  
2. More lanes for HOV Lanes;  
3. More area coverage of light rails.

Idea Author: Jin Y

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: Focus our limited development dollars on getting more people where they want to go by alternative modes such as light rail, bus, inner-city rail transit, and higher speed rail for between centers of jobs and activities.





Stop spending on making it ever easier for more cars to do more things that cars do, and focus on making city life about people, not cars. | By Christy H

Comment 2: good idea but in some areas like 290 & 146, we have to make it easier for cars because build alternative modes out to those areas at this time is too costly and would take too long to build when help is need now. | By Jacob W

Comment 3: HOVs are good, design them in the future with cars or buses in mind (current lanes were for buses only). Light rail connections to airports, major centers of activity, transit centers, inter-city rail station (leverage facilities of George Bush airport(?) and have high volume/direct light-rail to downtown or other transit center). | By Jonathan B

Comment 4: your idea is great but, it needs to be expanded, there need to be more direct bus lines to outer suburbs that connect into multiple rail lines that all inter connect in a way that someone could travel from Katy to Baytown or Spring to Webster with using a car or taxi. HOVs need to run to the very edge of the area and should be expanded to mimic the Katy Freeway's system or HOV/Toll down the middle of the Highway. All of these systems need to work perfectly to connect every vital business in the city wether it be the colleges, the shopping malls, the business centers, or the suburbs. | By Jacob W

**Idea Title: Beauty, community-scale business, broadband, well families**

Idea Detail: We have amazing natural landscapes which could make the region's quality of life much better than in many Metroplexes where there is little to no open space. Imagine neighborhoods surrounded by green beauty, supported by and supporting small businesses and people who work through their broadband connections. Imagine families of all varieties who are able to care well for children, prepared-- in terms of financial, emotional,intellectual,spiritual resources-- to guide them as they learn and grow.

Imagine getting here by a thorough shift in our approach to living; moving from a paradigm characterized by technocratic identification of problems and disjointed attempts to address these "problems" in isolation, towards a new way of thinking which considers the whole planetary picture. Can we get to beauty, sustainability, family health, and happiness without making this fundamental shift, as a people?

Idea Author: Alice M

Number of Seconds 3

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: Not only will such a paradigm shift involve thinking holistically, it will also require



us to think 'relationally', that is, to see ourselves in relation to others and to the larger system. We can and should act individually and locally to 'be the change we want in the world' (Gandhi), but while collective actions will have an impact on those things we know, we must also be willing to address what we do not know by coming out of our isolation to work collaboratively across the boundaries of our differences to discover, understand, and innovate in ways we could not alone. Together we can make a difference. This is our challenge! | By Geri W

Comment 2: Thank you for the idea Alice. My guess is you're a working mom ;- ) I love the concept of creating a holistic environment within which we effectively provide for our children, our families and to serve our communities. Yes, we can get to beauty, sustainability, family health and happiness without putting the whole world on our shoulders. We do that one at a time - one smile, one handshake, one sappling planted, one paint stroke, one precious moment shared with our loved ones, one laborious effort to improve something... May many of these ones weighted in by many one individuals tip the holistic balance of the world towards a future in which our children can continue to build onto and be proud of. | By Jing C

Comment 3: What you say reminds me a lot of the "Human Revolution" concept expressed by the Soka Gakkai Buddhists | By Alice M

Comment 4: Interesting, I'll have to look that one up! I'm a working mom and love your profile pic! | By Jing C

**Idea Title: Elderly people won't have to leave their homes**

Idea Detail: Elderly people won't have to leave their homes because they can't drive any longer.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: My experience suggests that elderly people may want to leave the responsibility of a single family house and move to communities that catering to a life style that embraces the elderly. Walkability, convenient services and shopping and medical care are all particular needs for the elderly.

My recommendation is that we focus on liveable centers that could cater to the elderly.  
| By Robert S



**Idea Title: Provision for Alternative Fuel Vehicles**

Idea Detail: Houston is an auto based region and with autos being an important part of regional mobility for some time to come. Alternative fuel vehicles could be an important part of providing for automobile travel in the most environmentally sensitive way. All electric, hybrid or natural gas are alternatives. Currently, one limiting factor for all electric or natural gas powered vehicles is the lack of readily available refueling stations.

Transportation plans for the future should include alternative fuels and refueling stations.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Under 18**

Idea Detail: children and young adults are in a city that values play and authentic, positive connection with their community.

Ex. 1) There is a safe place to ride bikes in all communities and bike sharing program in all neighborhoods.

Ex. 2) Parents can find quality creative and play-centered activities all their nearby multi service centers

Idea Author: Tamika C

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Energy descent action plan: made & in use**

Idea Detail: Cheap oil won't last forever, even in Houston. Biofuels will never replace petroleum barrel to barrel. I hope 30 years from now the city will have established and put into action a plan to cut energy use drastically so that we can still function as a city without entering crisis mode.

Idea Author: Joyce A

Number of Seconds 1



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Government is smaller and communities are self governing**

Idea Detail: We don't need a government organization that "tells" the communities how they should act. They don't need to be spending money where they think it should be spent, taking from one community and spending in another is unjust. We need to practice conservation, not sustainability. Very big difference.

Idea Author: David D

Number of Seconds 1

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: One person's "stealing money from the collective" is another person's "vital infrastructure project". If we look to the history of where the money has been flowing, it flows like a tidal wave from settled neighborhoods where the infrastructure has been built already, to speculative projects like Grand Parkway.

So if we follow your logic, the Grand Parkway should not be built. I'm fine with that. Good comment. | By Peter W

Comment 2: Actively sharing what is yours is never unjust, so try to think of resource transfers in that light. Many examples of this are found in our nation, states and schools; social security and medicaid are two that few people argue over giving or receiving - and even these treasured programs appear unsustainable sans major adjustments.

Conservation is an agreed prerequisite wherever humans exceed the carrying capacity of their environment. However, I believe that sustainability, or assuring future generations' viable choices for extending the many endeavors of civilization, calls us to plan to conserve and innovate at a level quite beyond living as we have during our lifetimes thus far.

Of course the most efficient governance is least and closest to home - if we all lived in self-sufficient communes of 50 to 150 like-minded people, it's likely that the ideal of a stateless society might be attainable. But we do not and won't. Balanced mutual coercion toward global good? Polity | By Paul S

Comment 3: Keep government at the lowest local level possible. Conservation is great but emphasize more water supply. Desalination is a great proven way to get more water if the aquifers become low. Look for ways to extract more energy from public land. | By Sally B



Comment 4: Sally, we don't have any public land to speak of in the Region. It's all in private hands. | By Peter W

**Idea Title: I want a place to bike riding & walking with my grandkids**

Idea Detail: In 30 years, I want there to be places for outdoor recreation with my grandchildren close to my house. I don't want to have to go an hour or more away to find such a place.

Idea Author: Peter W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: "Full Use" Live-Workspaces**

Idea Detail: As difficult as it is to envision local conditions around 2040, I would like to attend to the need for people to live healthfully, learn constantly and work fruitfully in very close proximity, sometimes in the very same structure (though then I worry about boredom, noise and cleanliness).

The only idea I can come up with to maximize conditioned air utilization is to make sure that occupied spaces are utilized to the fullest, perhaps 90%. Will we sleep in shifts and massively store sunlight to actually daylight work spaces? Will sleeping spaces double as work spaces in some abodes?

Will whole block groups erect tall eco-walls all round for vertical agriculture, noise attenuation and to impound ground level cooled air and shaded water? Might such walls be topped with transit lines that zip people from neighborhood to neighborhood, while zero-emission moving sidewalks, bikes, trikes and, as necessary, cars and trucks provide intraneighborhood mobility?

Another direction to explore may follow the fascinating Foreclosed: Rehousing the American Dream exhibition that followed the Buell Hypothesis ([http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2012/foreclosed/buell\\_hypothesis](http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2012/foreclosed/buell_hypothesis)) which states that changing the dream will change our living arrangements. I was taken by several teams' proposals (<http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2012/foreclosed/>), but The Oranges, NJ offering by MOS titled "Thoughts on a Walking City" started me thinking about how we could keep out of the heat, get up and exercise year-round and reduce emissions. The central point of their display was to retain good buildings and infill former public rights of way with new, adaptable and vibrant structures that can accommodate walking population+ & economy+



without actually expanding the city. W/"Solid" development within 1/2 mile of transit stations, people riding the rails to "connect the dots" in Houston could visit a myriad of diverse spaces & enjoy each other in tru-eco-mfort.

Idea Author: Paul S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: New vision for the Houston Region**

Idea Detail: As the Houston region grows to a mega region as forecast, there needs to be a new vision for the development style employed. In addition to focus on the urban area and CBD there needs to be new thought given to how we can make a region of 30 million residents stay vibrant and desirable. That will include ways to make suburban development sustainable.

Planners and developers need to give alternative development models thought and plan a way to help the region be the best it can be.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Encourage Efficiency**

Idea Detail: Our infrastructure systems need to encourage efficiency and discourage waste. Managed lanes on freeways and tollways encourage more efficient use of roadways. More efficient building practices for homes and commercial buildings will help with efficiencies in energy consumption, water consumption and use of building materials. More energy efficient means of transportation, alternative fuel cars and more use of transit in all forms.

Idea Author: Robert S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I would not want mandated fuel efficiency for cars. This will lead to more "mixed



use" housing of the "pack and stack" variety We should try more desalination plants so we can consume more water if we wish. Sometimes I enjoy taking a hot shower for a 1/2 hour. I don't want to conserve water as it is and endless infinite resource. I also enjoy my suburban swimming pool. I don't want to give up my freedom. | By Sally B

**Idea Title: Transportation Choice**

Idea Detail: I hope that within 30 years, we will have real choices in transportation mode throughout Houston -- rail, bus, bicycle, walking, as well as automobile.

Idea Author: Richard M

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Larger houses, more lanes on roads. Less urbanization**

Idea Detail: I would like to see more people in the suburbs. Urbanization leads to a communitarian lifestyle which is similar to Europe. (700 sq ft apartments, no cars and common laundry areas, etc.). I want freedom that private property gives me.

Idea Author: Sally B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: The market is pricing the suburbs very attractively. There are no barriers to people moving there; I've lived in the same house in the suburbs for 20 years. Therefore, there is no need to consider how to get more large suburban homes built. Cross that task off the list as "done". The point of the regional plan is to focus the mind on how to do things differently, and better. | By Peter W

Comment 2: How free were all the farmers who were required by the State of Texas or Harris County to give up their property to build those gigantic roads? Those of us who want to live in walkable urban places should be allowed to. | By David C

Comment 3: I think the important thing is to keep choices available. Some people, like Sally B. may prefer living further away from the places they work, shop, eat, and play at, and having no choice but to drive a car to run daily errands. But not everyone is of the same opinion.



As much as I don't agree with Sally B., and have my own views about the environmental costs of suburban lifestyles, I must remind myself: not everyone is of the same opinion. Sally B can go buy herself some private property and live far away all she wants. | By Matt D

Comment 4: home ownership is not restricted to single family detached housing. One can own a townhouse, an apartmmt in a garden apartment development, or an apartment in a high rise - condominiums.. | By Richard M





### **Topic Name: Life in Our Region**

#### **Idea Title: Getting an Educational Degree or Training**

Idea Detail: If you had an opportunity to get a degree or training in an field what would it be? Is it available in your area? What keeps you from pursuing it?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

#### **Idea Title: Running Weekend Errands**

Idea Detail: If you could make weekend errands without having to get in your car would you? If so, what kinds of things would that be and what would be your preferred way of getting around? If not, why?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

#### **Idea Title: Grocery Shopping**

Idea Detail: At what kinds of places do you shop for your groceries? Examples: grocery store, big box multipurpose store, farmers market. What makes you go there?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

#### **Idea Title: Gardening and Yard Plantings**

Idea Detail: What types of plantings do you have in your yard or garden? Are any of them native to this region? Would you add more native plants to your garden if you knew more



about them or where to get them?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Places for Outdoor Physical Activities**

Idea Detail: Do you have access to places to do outdoor physical activity? Examples: sidewalks, trails, parks, basketball courts, soccer fields. If so, what kinds of places and activities and where?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Volunteering in Your Community**

Idea Detail: Have you ever participated in a community planning or improvement effort? If so, what was the activity and the outcome? Example: neighborhood association involvement, public meeting attendee or Make a Difference Day.

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recycling**

Idea Detail: Do you have recycling services at your residence? If yes, what have you noticed about your trash levels? If no, would you use it if it was available?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Participating in Cultural Activities**

Idea Detail: The region is known for its diverse cultural activities. What are some of your favorites and why?

Idea Author: Michael L

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0



There are 266 Participants in this Project

User Name	Name	Date Joined	Status	Points	Zip
Elizabeth C	Elizabeth C	Jul 06, 2012	Active	0	20852
Margaret I	Margaret I	Jul 03, 2012	Active	0	12180
C Douglas B	C Douglas B	Jun 13, 2012	Inactive	50	77009
David S7	David S	Jun 05, 2012	Active	76	77098
Sam F	Sam F	Jun 03, 2012	Active	70	80304
Elaine A1	Elaine A	May 31, 2012	Active	50	77076
Lauren B1	Lauren B	May 31, 2012	Active	56	77007
Michael L7	Michael L	May 25, 2012	Active	0	68164
Shepard T	Shepard T	May 17, 2012	Active	0	74101
Sally B	Sally B	May 15, 2012	Active	210	77079
Lisa B6	Lisa B	May 10, 2012	Active	52	77096
Liz H1	Liz H	May 08, 2012	Active	0	68106
Benjamin C	Benjamin C	May 07, 2012	Active	50	77028
Cynthia R	Cynthia R	May 07, 2012	Active	66	77002
Myles B	Myles B	May 06, 2012	Active	84	77098
L H1	L H	May 04, 2012	Active	60	77021
Phillip A	Phillip A	May 03, 2012	Active	50	77022
Matt D	Matt D	May 03, 2012	Active	66	77004
Andrea R1	Andrea R	May 03, 2012	Active	50	77082
Carolyn L	Carolyn L	May 02, 2012	Active	50	77393
Ron M5	Ron M	May 01, 2012	Active	0	78717
John W5	John W	Apr 30, 2012	Active	52	77429
Ginger G	Ginger G	Apr 30, 2012	Active	50	77539
David D3	David D	Apr 28, 2012	Active	102	77539
Judy C	Judy C	Apr 28, 2012	Active	54	77389
Bernelle G	Bernelle G	Apr 27, 2012	Active	82	77339-3222
Stephenie W	Stephenie W	Apr 27, 2012	Active	64	77536
Michelle G4	Michelle G	Apr 27, 2012	Active	50	77388
Egima E	Egima E	Apr 26, 2012	Active	152	77489
Larry W2	Larry W	Apr 18, 2012	Active	90	77060
Karen B2	Karen B	Apr 18, 2012	Active	50	77088
Jones J	Jones J	Apr 17, 2012	Inactive	50	77040
Joyce A	Joyce A	Apr 14, 2012	Active	290	77098
Warren W1	Warren W	Apr 12, 2012	Active	0	68132
Tamika C	Tamika C	Apr 11, 2012	Active	74	77004
Michael P7	Michael P	Apr 09, 2012	Active	50	77004
Rachelle H	Rachelle H	Apr 08, 2012	Active	50	77070
Turner H	Turner H	Apr 05, 2012	Active	0	77004
Shaida L	Shaida L	Apr 03, 2012	Active	56	77379
Mike B4	Mike B	Apr 02, 2012	Active	0	68069
Natalie A	Natalie A	Apr 02, 2012	Inactive	50	77573
Veronique S	Veronique S	Apr 01, 2012	Active	50	77006
Reini U	Reini U	Mar 31, 2012	Active	52	77027
Curtis D	Curtis D	Mar 29, 2012	Active	50	77083
Melanie V	Melanie V	Mar 29, 2012	Inactive	50	77004



Lori C1	Lori C	Mar 29, 2012	Inactive	50	77027
Jeremy C1	Jeremy C	Mar 27, 2012	Active	60	77030
Cliff H	Cliff H	Mar 23, 2012	Active	52	77098
Michael K2	Michael K	Mar 23, 2012	Active	50	77054
Christy H	Christy H	Mar 21, 2012	Active	240	77009
david S3	david S	Mar 20, 2012	Active	50	77404
Jim P3	Jim P	Mar 19, 2012	Active	50	77006
Marc G	Marc G	Mar 19, 2012	Active	50	77024
Rob C1	Rob C	Mar 18, 2012	Active	70	77540
Heidi A	Heidi A	Mar 18, 2012	Active	58	77584
Geri W	Geri W	Mar 15, 2012	Active	150	77479
Timothy M2	Timothy M	Mar 14, 2012	Active	60	77077
Amy W2	Amy W	Mar 12, 2012	Active	50	77546
Mike B3	Mike B	Mar 09, 2012	Active	60	77031
Shawn A	Shawn A	Mar 08, 2012	Active	50	77069
alan H1	alan H	Mar 07, 2012	Active	70	77520
Sylvia C1	Sylvia C	Mar 07, 2012	Inactive	50	77009
Ross J1	Ross J	Mar 07, 2012	Active	50	77521
Larry A1	Larry A	Mar 06, 2012	Active	50	77356
Betty M1	Betty M	Mar 06, 2012	Inactive	50	77096
Stacey O	Stacey O	Mar 05, 2012	Active	50	77571
Glor R	Glor R	Mar 05, 2012	Inactive	50	77445
Vera B	Vera B	Mar 03, 2012	Active	80	77096
Jing C	Jing C	Mar 02, 2012	Active	60	77036
Chandra S	Chandra S	Mar 02, 2012	Inactive	50	77340
Brian Y	Brian Y	Mar 01, 2012	Active	50	77459
Jack R	Jack R	Mar 01, 2012	Active	50	77079
Laura M3	Laura M	Mar 01, 2012	Active	50	77006
ff P	ff P	Mar 01, 2012	Active	68	77002
Pia J	Pia J	Mar 01, 2012	Active	72	11111
Shrub K	Shrub K	Mar 01, 2012	Active	50	77553
Richard M1	Richard M	Mar 01, 2012	Active	88	77339
Debbie S1	Debbie S	Feb 29, 2012	Active	54	77026
Laura W4	Laura W	Feb 29, 2012	Active	50	77535
Tracy Y	Tracy Y	Feb 28, 2012	Active	50	77377
Jean-Monique M	Jean-Monique M	Feb 27, 2012	Active	50	77023
Fergus G	Fergus G	Feb 27, 2012	Active	58	77449
MaDiana D	MaDiana D	Feb 25, 2012	Active	82	77004
Allen P	Allen P	Feb 23, 2012	Inactive	50	77573
Daniel B1	Daniel B	Feb 21, 2012	Active	82	77004
Pat V	Pat V	Feb 20, 2012	Active	96	77506
Lisa D1	Lisa D	Feb 19, 2012	Active	70	77365
Lorraine D	Lorraine D	Feb 18, 2012	Active	80	77024
Alice M	Alice M	Feb 17, 2012	Active	122	77547
Kathy S1	Kathy S	Feb 17, 2012	Active	62	77575
Ginger R	Ginger R	Feb 17, 2012	Active	94	77354
Chuck D	Chuck D	Feb 17, 2012	Active	50	77080
D M1	D M	Feb 17, 2012	Active	116	77077



Glennnda H	Glennnda H	Feb 17, 2012	Active	50	77575
Laurie F	Laurie F	Feb 16, 2012	Active	50	77016
Meredith D	Meredith D	Feb 16, 2012	Active	50	77025
lester K	lester K	Feb 16, 2012	Active	124	77096
Tori C	Tori C	Feb 16, 2012	Active	50	77015
Bob P2	Bob P	Feb 16, 2012	Active	50	77545
Robert S5	Robert S	Feb 16, 2012	Active	334	77007
Jonathan B1	Jonathan B	Feb 16, 2012	Active	100	77063
Mary K1	Mary K	Feb 16, 2012	Active	50	77025
cheryl S1	cheryl S	Feb 15, 2012	Active	96	77015
John J1	John J	Feb 15, 2012	Active	114	77062
Neha D	Neha D	Feb 15, 2012	Active	52	77025
bruce C	bruce C	Feb 14, 2012	Active	50	77380
Amy B2	Amy B	Feb 14, 2012	Active	68	77009
Gerhard H	Gerhard H	Feb 14, 2012	Active	50	77539
ray A	ray A	Feb 14, 2012	Active	52	77372
Carla C	Carla C	Feb 13, 2012	Active	50	77006
Caitlin H1	Caitlin H	Feb 13, 2012	Active	50	77550
Monique W1	Monique W	Feb 13, 2012	Active	50	77004
Charlotte W	Charlotte W	Feb 11, 2012	Active	70	77571
Caroline B	Caroline B	Feb 11, 2012	Active	166	77055
becky E	becky E	Feb 11, 2012	Inactive	50	77096
Jordan S2	Jordan S	Feb 11, 2012	Inactive	50	77006
Troy M	Troy M	Feb 11, 2012	Inactive	50	77088
Thomas G	Thomas G	Feb 11, 2012	Inactive	50	77008
Jerri A	Jerri A	Feb 10, 2012	Active	50	77027
Rusty S	Rusty S	Feb 09, 2012	Active	50	77523
Jacob W1	Jacob W	Feb 09, 2012	Active	146	77523
Cathy H	Cathy H	Feb 09, 2012	Active	50	77006
Jeanne F1	Jeanne F	Feb 09, 2012	Active	50	77099
Carolyn T1	Carolyn T	Feb 08, 2012	Inactive	50	77414
Kelly C1	Kelly C	Feb 08, 2012	Inactive	50	77074
Rosalia G	Rosalia G	Feb 08, 2012	Active	50	77025
Vincent R	Vincent R	Feb 07, 2012	Active	60	77023
YH M	YH M	Feb 07, 2012	Active	50	77018
Steve M1	Steve M	Feb 07, 2012	Active	0	68516
Gavin D	Gavin D	Feb 07, 2012	Active	56	77077
Valicia H	Valicia H	Feb 07, 2012	Active	50	77026
VASTENE O	VASTENE O	Feb 07, 2012	Active	50	78934
Polly L	Polly L	Feb 07, 2012	Active	58	77005
Paula S	Paula S	Feb 06, 2012	Inactive	50	77515
Dana D	Dana D	Feb 06, 2012	Inactive	50	77098
Martin K	Martin K	Feb 06, 2012	Active	54	77004
S C	S C	Feb 06, 2012	Active	50	77459
Cindy C1	Cindy C	Feb 04, 2012	Active	154	77096
Brian S3	Brian S	Feb 03, 2012	Active	50	77339
Phil B1	Phil B	Feb 02, 2012	Active	0	80020
Robert L2	Robert L	Feb 02, 2012	Active	88	77057



Matthew P	Matthew P	Feb 01, 2012	Active	0	50314
Ole A	Ole A	Feb 01, 2012	Active	50	14850
Karin W	Karin W	Feb 01, 2012	Active	234	77381
Matthew T	Matthew T	Jan 31, 2012	Active	110	77003
Thomas O	Thomas O	Jan 31, 2012	Active	66	77551
Patricia W	Patricia W	Jan 31, 2012	Active	62	77429
gregory S	gregory S	Jan 31, 2012	Inactive	50	77053
Linda T1	Linda T	Jan 30, 2012	Active	50	77320
Emily H	Emily H	Jan 30, 2012	Active	60	77009
Angela M1	Angela M	Jan 30, 2012	Active	50	77024
Gareth Y	Gareth Y	Jan 30, 2012	Active	50	77346
Grace R	Grace R	Jan 30, 2012	Active	60	77019
Christian S	Christian S	Jan 30, 2012	Inactive	50	77040
Holly E	Holly E	Jan 30, 2012	Active	64	77063
Tyson M	Tyson M	Jan 30, 2012	Active	0	50311
Jin Y	Jin Y	Jan 30, 2012	Active	94	77573
Kenneth S1	Kenneth S	Jan 30, 2012	Active	50	77055
Jim L1	Jim L	Jan 29, 2012	Active	232	77301
Christina H1	Christina H	Jan 27, 2012	Active	50	77027
Paul S3	Paul S	Jan 27, 2012	Active	198	77035
Theola P	Theola P	Jan 27, 2012	Active	50	77004
Pat J	Pat J	Jan 27, 2012	Active	50	77488
Michael B3	Michael B	Jan 27, 2012	Active	50	77077
Robert M1	Robert M	Jan 26, 2012	Active	50	77021
Risa M	Risa M	Jan 26, 2012	Active	50	70806
Charlie S	Charlie S	Jan 26, 2012	Active	86	77079
Chris B3	Chris B	Jan 25, 2012	Active	0	68106
Alan W2	Alan W	Jan 25, 2012	Active	50	77004
Magda H1	Magda H	Jan 25, 2012	Active	50	77042
kat G	kat G	Jan 24, 2012	Active	162	77406
Michelle G2	Michelle G	Jan 24, 2012	Active	50	77054
Lorraine W	Lorraine W	Jan 24, 2012	Active	50	77002
Wayne D H	Wayne D H	Jan 24, 2012	Active	62	77550
Andrea T	Andrea T	Jan 24, 2012	Active	52	77539
Amanda T2	Amanda T	Jan 23, 2012	Active	50	77092
Dax G	Dax G	Jan 23, 2012	Active	74	77573
Peter W	Peter W	Jan 21, 2012	Active	552	77095
Aaron T2	Aaron T	Jan 20, 2012	Active	52	77007
Lisa G2	Lisa G	Jan 20, 2012	Active	50	77381
Deanna S	Deanna S	Jan 20, 2012	Active	50	77062
Edmund L	Edmund L	Jan 19, 2012	Active	124	77074
Nancy C	Nancy C	Jan 19, 2012	Active	50	77009
Amanda T1	Amanda T	Jan 19, 2012	Active	52	77092
Chelsea Y	Chelsea Y	Jan 19, 2012	Active	50	77008
Chris Y	Chris Y	Jan 18, 2012	Active	50	77056
Bethany W	Bethany W	Jan 18, 2012	Active	0	50312
Mike G1	Mike G	Jan 17, 2012	Active	62	77429
Buddy G	Buddy G	Jan 17, 2012	Active	93	77054



Tulsi P	Tulsi P	Jan 17, 2012	Active	50	77396
Dionne B	Dionne B	Jan 17, 2012	Active	70	77379
Kiri C	Kiri C	Jan 17, 2012	Active	50	77384
Joe C1	Joe C	Jan 17, 2012	Active	288	77591
RONNIE R	RONNIE R	Jan 17, 2012	Active	52	77565
Phillip W	Phillip W	Jan 17, 2012	Active	50	77546
Rockingham County	Rockingham County C	Jan 12, 2012	Active	0	27409
Marlisa B	Marlisa B	Jan 12, 2012	Active	50	77304
Mike L2	Mike L	Jan 04, 2012	Active	0	68164
Katy A	Katy A	Dec 14, 2011	Active	52	77007
Cheryl M1	Cheryl M	Dec 12, 2011	Active	50	77057
Jeff T3	Jeff T	Dec 09, 2011	Active	58	77025
Liz D1	Liz D	Dec 08, 2011	Active	220	30064
Anna S	Anna S	Dec 07, 2011	Active	52	77070
Victoria H1	Victoria H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	88	77055
Liz D	Liz D	Nov 18, 2011	Active	0	00000
Ellen H	Ellen H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
David C1	David C	Nov 18, 2011	Active	248	77006
Vince Y	Vince Y	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Stefani L	Stefani L	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Laura S1	Laura S	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Carol L1	Carol L	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Dennis B1	Dennis B	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Ann H1	Ann H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Joanne C	Joanne C	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Clint H	Clint H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Curtis M	Curtis M	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	77007
Aston H	Aston H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Emiliano H	Emiliano H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Cynthia V	Cynthia V	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Mike H1	Mike H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Monique W	Monique W	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Magda H	Magda H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Amanda T	Amanda T	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Richard C1	Richard C	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Victoria H	Victoria H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Jeff T1	Jeff T	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Cheryl M	Cheryl M	Nov 18, 2011	Active	62	00000
Mayra B	Mayra B	Nov 18, 2011	Active	52	00000
Kelly O	Kelly O	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	77030
Christy L	Christy L	Nov 18, 2011	Active	54	00000
Jennifer R1	Jennifer R	Nov 18, 2011	Active	52	00000
David H1	David H	Nov 18, 2011	Active	80	77381
Chuck W	Chuck W	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Toy W	Toy W	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Maggie Y	Maggie Y	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Diana P1	Diana P	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000





Amar M1	Amar M	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Ron D2	Ron D	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Sherry M	Sherry M	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	77340
Mike K2	Mike K	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	77054
Lori S1	Lori S	Nov 18, 2011	Active	54	00000
DC D	DC D	Nov 18, 2011	Active	68	00000
Sarah C2	Sarah C	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Mary Ruth R	Mary Ruth R	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Donna R	Donna R	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Martha M1	Martha M	Nov 18, 2011	Active	50	00000
Joe W1	Joe W	Nov 18, 2011	Active	60	77098
Maxim K	Maxim K	Nov 18, 2011	Active	0	12345
Amar M	Amar M	Nov 17, 2011	Active	114	77004
Katie C	Katie C	Nov 01, 2011	Active	0	68106
Jane C	Jane C	Oct 27, 2011	Active	0	90012
Lori R	Lori R	Sep 14, 2011	Active	0	68131
Mike Snyder, Partnership Manager	Mike S	Aug 01, 2011	Banned	0	68108
Emily Johnson	Emily J	Jul 29, 2011	Active	0	68102
Sally Johnson	Sally J	May 01, 2011	Active	0	68102
Michelle K	Michelle K	May 01, 2011	Active	0	68102
Bob S	Bob S	May 01, 2011	Active	0	68102
Justin Kemerling	Justin K	Apr 21, 2011	Active	0	68114
Home Place	Lori R	Apr 21, 2011	Active	0	68131
Mike S1	Mike S	Apr 20, 2011	Active	0	68108
Nick Bowden, Co-founder and CEO	Nick B	Apr 19, 2011	Active	0	68131
David Arnold, Account Manager	David A	Apr 13, 2011	Active	0	68104
Ethan P	Ethan P	Apr 13, 2011	Active	0	68102
Steve M	Steve M	Apr 06, 2011	Active	0	68516
MindMixer Admin	Nathan P	Apr 04, 2011	Active	0	68102
support	Support M	Mar 03, 2011	Active	0	90401



Management

Reports

Hello Liz D! Account Help Logout

DASHBOARD

USER OVERVIEW

USER REPORT

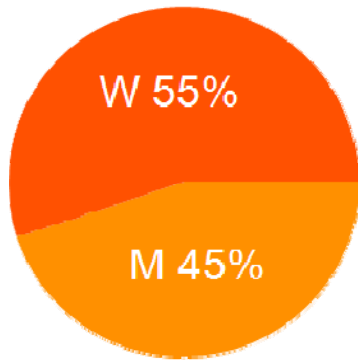
IDEA OVERVIEW

IDEA REPORT

# Welcome to Houston Galveston Regional Plan's Reporting Interface

The Reporting Interface displays all of the activity from your project.

There are **245 Participants** in this Project



# 44.2

Code	Count	14-17	18-24	25-34	45-54	55-64	65+
00000			36		85		
11111	1						
12180	1						
12345	1						
14850	1						
20852	1						
27409	1						
30064	1						
50311	1						
50312	1						
50314	1			42		43	
68069	1						
68102	6						33
68104	1						
68106	3						
68108	1						23
68114	1						
68131	3			17			
68132	1						
68164	2						
68516	2						
70806	1			2			
74101	1						
77002	3						

77003	1		
77004		11	
77005	1		35-44
77006		6	
77007		5	
77008	1		
77009		4	
77015	2		
77016	1		
77018	1		
77019	1		
77021	2		
77022	1		
77023	2		
77024	3		
77025		5	
77026	2		
77027	3		
77028	1		
77030	2		
77031	1		
77035	1		
77036	1		
77042	1		
77054		4	
77055		3	
77056	1		
77057	2		
77060	1		
77062	2		
77063	2		
77069	1		
77070	2		
77074	1		
77076	1		
77077		4	
77079		3	
77080	1		
77082	1		
77083	1		
77088	1		
77092	2		
77095	1		
77096		4	
77098		5	
77099	1		
77301	1		
77304	1		
77320	1		
77339	2		
77339-3222	1		
77340	1		
77346	1		
77354	1		
77356	1		
77365	1		
77372	1		
77377	1		
77379	2		
77380	1		
77381		3	
77384	1		
77388	1		
77389	1		
77393	1		
77396	1		
77404	1		

77406	1
77429	3
77449	1
77459	2
77479	1
77488	1
77489	1
77506	1
77520	1
77521	1
77523	2
77535	1
77536	1
77539	4
77540	1
77545	1
77546	2
77547	1
77550	2
77551	1
77553	1
77565	1
77571	2
77573	2
77575	2
77584	1
77591	1
78717	1
78934	1
80020	1
80304	1
90012	1
90401	1

Note: This is an optional field for users

# Appendix

PHASE II

# Appendix A

Phase II On-line Survey

1. From where you live, how difficult/easy is it for you to get to the places you want to go?		
<input type="radio"/>	Very difficult	(Go to question number 2.)
<input type="radio"/>	Difficult	(Go to question number 2.)
<input type="radio"/>	Not that difficult	(Go to question number 3.)
<input type="radio"/>	Easy	(Go to question number 3.)
<input type="radio"/>	Very easy	

2. What makes it difficult or very difficult?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have to drive long distances
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have to drive in congested conditions
<input type="checkbox"/>	I do not have reliable transportation
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is a lack of sidewalks and/or bicycle paths
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transit options are limited or unavailable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: <input type="text"/>

3. From where you live, how much time does it usually take for you to reach the following destinations?						
	<i>Less than 10 minutes</i>	<i>10 to 30 minutes</i>	<i>30 to 45 minutes</i>	<i>45 to 60 minutes</i>	<i>More than 60 minutes</i>	<i>I don't go there</i>
Entertainment/Dining	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shopping/errands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Park/natural area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Place of worship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bus or light rail stop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. From where you live, which of the following could you reach in 10 minutes or less comfortably by bicycling or walking?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I cannot bike or walk to any of the listed locations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shopping/errands
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus or light rail stop
<input type="checkbox"/>	Park/natural area
<input type="checkbox"/>	Place of worship
<input type="checkbox"/>	Entertainment/dining
<input type="checkbox"/>	School
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work

5. If you could live anywhere in the region, which of the following would be the most important factor in your decision?	
<input type="radio"/>	Close to activities (walking/bicycling distance)
<input type="radio"/>	Size of house I can afford
<input type="radio"/>	Open space
<input type="radio"/>	Close to employment
<input type="radio"/>	Quality of schools
<input type="radio"/>	Safety
<input type="radio"/>	Other:
	<input type="text"/>



6. As our region continues to grow, which of the following would you like to see in the area where you live?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	None. It's fine the way it is
<input type="checkbox"/>	More jobs
<input type="checkbox"/>	More housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	More retail

7. Do you think it will be easier or more difficult in the year 2040 for people to reach the places they want to go than it is today?	
<input type="radio"/>	A lot more difficult
<input type="radio"/>	More difficult
<input type="radio"/>	About the same
<input type="radio"/>	Easier
<input type="radio"/>	A lot easier

8. By the year 2040, our region will need to build new housing, shops, and workplaces for more than 3.5 million additional residents. Which would be the best way to accommodate that growth?	
<input type="radio"/>	Build new suburban areas on the edge of existing suburbs where new streets and services would be needed
<input type="radio"/>	Redevelop existing cities and towns to build the new housing and shops where streets and city services already exist
<input type="radio"/>	Redevelop some cities and towns and also build some new suburban areas
<input type="radio"/>	No opinion/I don't know

9. How do you think the quality of the region's air, water and natural areas will be in the year 2040 compared to today?	
<input type="radio"/>	A lot better
<input type="radio"/>	A little better
<input type="radio"/>	About the same
<input type="radio"/>	A little worse
<input type="radio"/>	A lot worse
<input type="radio"/>	No opinion/I don't know

10. As we grow, steps should be taken to preserve our region's wetlands, forests, prairies and shorelines.		
<input type="radio"/>	Agree	(Go to question number 11.)
<input type="radio"/>	Disagree	(Go to question number 12.)

11. To you, the most important reason to step up efforts to preserve our region's wetlands, forests and prairies is because they:	
<input type="radio"/>	Make our region a more attractive destination for businesses, skilled workers, and tourists
<input type="radio"/>	Provide recreation opportunities such as hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, and water sports
<input type="radio"/>	Store flood waters and filter pollutants from the water and air
<input type="radio"/>	Provide habitat for plants, animals and fish
<input type="radio"/>	Other:
	<input type="text"/>

12. Rate your level of agreement with the following statements about strategies for preserving the region's wetlands, forests, prairies and shorelines:					
	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
Preserving these areas is not a high priority for me. We don't need to do anything	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would support stricter regulations to prevent development in these areas, even if it meant there would be less land available for new housing and businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We can do a good job preserving these areas through voluntary actions and contributions to conservation groups—we don't need any more public spending, regulations or policies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I don't support stricter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

regulations on private land, but would support limiting public investments , such as road construction , in these areas					
I would support the use of public funds to buy and preserve these areas for public use, even if it meant higher taxes or fees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



13. Rate your level of agreement with the following strategies for cleaning up our region's air and water:					
	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
Cleaning up the region's air and water are not high priorities for me, we don't need to do anything	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We can do a good job through voluntary education and incentive programs for businesses and residents to reduce pollution—we don't need stricter rules or enforcement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We need to have a balanced approach that includes voluntary measures and some regulations—as long as the costs are not too high	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We need	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

stricter rules and enforcement on air emissions, wastewater discharges, and runoff pollution, even if they would result in higher costs to residents and businesses					
---	--	--	--	--	--

14. I think the opportunities for getting a good education in my community are:	
<input type="radio"/>	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	Good
<input type="radio"/>	Fair
<input type="radio"/>	Poor

15. Are there factors in your community besides the quality of the schools that make it a poor environment for getting a good education?	
<input type="radio"/>	Yes (Go to question number 16.)
<input type="radio"/>	No (Go to question number 17.)
<input type="radio"/>	I don't know/No Opinion (Go to question number 17.)

16. Which factors in your community (besides the quality of the schools) make it a poor environment for getting a good education?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Substandard housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crime and safety
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of high speed Internet access
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of libraries
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unhealthy environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of reliable transportation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

17. Of the following services not currently available in your community, which would be your top priority to add?	
<input type="radio"/>	None
<input type="radio"/>	English language skills training
<input type="radio"/>	Vocational training
<input type="radio"/>	After school tutoring/mentoring programs
<input type="radio"/>	Affordable pre-school education
<input type="radio"/>	Other: <input type="text"/>
<input type="radio"/>	N/A - All of the listed services are available in my community



18. Do you have an interest in learning a new skill that will improve your job prospects and earning potential?		
<input type="radio"/>	Yes	(Go to question number 19.)
<input type="radio"/>	Maybe	(Go to question number 19.)
<input type="radio"/>	No	(Go to question number 21.)

19. How would you rate the opportunities for learning new job skills where you live?		
<input type="radio"/>	Excellent	(Go to question number 21.)
<input type="radio"/>	Good	(Go to question number 21.)
<input type="radio"/>	Fair	(Go to question number 20.)
<input type="radio"/>	Poor	(Go to question number 20.)

20. Why do you think your opportunities for learning new job skills are fair or poor?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Training programs are not available near where I live	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs are available but I can't afford them	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs are available but not at convenient times	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs don't teach the skills I'm looking for	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	
	<input type="text"/>	

21. Do you currently have or have you considered starting a small business?		
<input type="radio"/>	Yes	(Go to question number 22.)
<input type="radio"/>	No	(Go to question number 0.)

22. How would you rate the opportunities available where you live to get training and support to make your business successful?		
<input type="radio"/>	Excellent	(Go to question number 0.)
<input type="radio"/>	Good	(Go to question number 0.)
<input type="radio"/>	Fair	(Go to question number 23.)
<input type="radio"/>	Poor	(Go to question number 23.)

23. What improvements would you like to see in the opportunities available to get training and support to make your business successful?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small business development assistance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Office space/support services	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Opportunities for networking and mentoring	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Financing	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assistance with marketing	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	
	<input type="text"/>	

Alternative Future - Less Time on the Road
<p>Imagine that the year is 2040, our region is experiencing anticipated growth, yet residents are spending less time on the road as a result of more public transportation options, more and improved bicycle and pedestrian paths and housing developments located closer to employment opportunities. This decrease in time spent on the road boosts the economy since residents are now spending less of their incomes on annual transportation costs. Our region is also healthier as air pollution has decreased significantly over the past 30 years.</p>

24. For this future to become a reality, which of the following would you and future generations be willing to support?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nothing, I do not support this alternative future
<input type="checkbox"/>	Live in a smaller house to live closer to the places you want to go
<input type="checkbox"/>	Take public transportation to get to the places you want to go
<input type="checkbox"/>	More transportation funding going toward improving public transportation and bicycling/pedestrian pathways
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased public transportation options even if you have to pay a fee or more taxes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Participating in carpooling, vanpooling or park and ride programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moving closer to your job or seek a job closer to where you live or work from home
<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning by local governments to better coordinate new development with transportation investments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Alternative Future - Greener Region
<p>Imagine that the year is 2040, our region is experiencing anticipated growth, while still preserving and protecting our natural resources and improving air and water quality. This has been achieved through decreased development in lands that are not only prone to flooding but are also ideal habitats for the region's wildlife. More residents are making an effort to reduce their waste through recycling efforts. Our economy is stronger because we are spending less time and money re-building areas after natural disasters and are attracting businesses, residents, and tourists interested in enjoying natural areas. Plus, we are also healthier as a result of the decreased water and air quality issues over the past 30 years.</p>

<p>25. For this future to become a reality, I would support the following, even if it means paying higher taxes or fees.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	None. I do not support this alternative future.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs that reduce energy use, air and water pollution and solid waste disposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Curbside recycling programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Collection or drop-off centers for household hazardous wastes and electronics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electric vehicle charging stations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preserve wetlands, forests, prairies and shorelines
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input type="text"/>

<p>26. For this future to become a reality, I would support the following, only if it was accomplished using existing funds or through volunteer investments.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	None. I do not support this alternative future.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs that reduce energy use, air and water pollution and solid waste disposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Curbside recycling programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Collection or drop-off centers for household hazardous wastes and electronics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electric vehicle charging stations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preserve wetlands, forests, prairies and shorelines
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input type="text"/>

Alternative Future - Competitive Workforce	
<p>Imagine that the year is 2040, our region is experiencing anticipated growth and one of the strongest economies we've ever seen. More residents are educated and are maintaining higher paying jobs. More companies are looking to the region as a place to do business and hire local workers. Businesses have flourished and the skilled workforce has become the envy of the nation over the past 30 years.</p>	

<p>27. For this future to become a reality, I would support improving the following, even if it means paying higher taxes or fees.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	None. I do not support this alternative future.
<input type="checkbox"/>	K-12 teachers and schools
<input type="checkbox"/>	Daycare, pre-school, mentoring and tutoring programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neighborhoods
<input type="checkbox"/>	Job training
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Developing the infrastructure needed for high-speed Internet to be available throughout the region
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

<p>28. For this future to become a reality, I would support improving the following, only if it was accomplished using existing funds or through volunteer investments.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	None. I do not support this alternative future.
<input type="checkbox"/>	K-12 teachers and schools
<input type="checkbox"/>	Daycare, pre-school, mentoring and tutoring programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neighborhoods
<input type="checkbox"/>	Job training
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Developing the infrastructure needed for high-speed Internet to be available throughout the region
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

29. If you had \$100 to spend on improving the region's transportation how would you allocate the funding?	
Building new roads and highways:	<input type="text"/>
Fixing existing roads and highways:	<input type="text"/>
Sidewalks and bikeways:	<input type="text"/>
Public transportation:	<input type="text"/>
Planning and coordination:	<input type="text"/>
Improving design and safety:	<input type="text"/>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>

30. If you had \$100 to spend on improving the region's environment how would you allocate the funding?	
Conserving wetlands, prairies, forests (purchasing land):	<input type="text"/>
Education about the environment:	<input type="text"/>
Expanding recycling programs and centers:	<input type="text"/>
Weatherizing homes to improve energy efficiency:	<input type="text"/>
Water quality planning:	<input type="text"/>
Air quality initiatives (telecommuting, engine replacement, etc.):	<input type="text"/>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>

31. If you had \$100 to spend on improving community factors that impact the region's education and training opportunities, how would you allocate the funding?	
Improving housing conditions:	<input type="text"/>
Improving safety/crime:	<input type="text"/>
Libraries and community centers:	<input type="text"/>
Educational enrichment programs:	<input type="text"/>
Improving Internet access:	<input type="text"/>
Improving transportation access:	<input type="text"/>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>More Information</b>
These questions will help us understand if we are reaching a broad representation of our region's residents

<b>32. How long have you lived in the region?</b>	
<input type="radio"/>	< 2 years
<input type="radio"/>	2 - 4 years
<input type="radio"/>	5 - 10 years
<input type="radio"/>	> 10 years
<input type="radio"/>	I don't live in the region

<b>33. What is your ZIP Code?</b>	
	*Home: <input style="width: 60%;" type="text"/>
	Work: <input style="width: 60%;" type="text"/>

<b>34. Do you live in an incorporated city/town or an unincorporated area?</b>	
<input type="radio"/>	Incorporated city/town
<input type="radio"/>	Unincorporated area
<input type="radio"/>	I don't know

<b>35. Do you live in an urban, suburban, rural or coastal area?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suburban
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coastal

<b>36. Are you male or female?</b>	
<input type="radio"/>	Male
<input type="radio"/>	Female



37. What is your age range?	
<input type="radio"/>	< 15
<input type="radio"/>	15 - 24
<input type="radio"/>	25 - 34
<input type="radio"/>	35 - 44
<input type="radio"/>	45 - 54
<input type="radio"/>	55 - 64
<input type="radio"/>	65 - 74
<input type="radio"/>	75 or older
<input type="radio"/>	No Response

38. What is the range of your household income?	
<input type="radio"/>	Less than \$25,000
<input type="radio"/>	\$25,000 - \$49,999
<input type="radio"/>	\$50,000 - \$74,999
<input type="radio"/>	\$75,000 - \$99,999
<input type="radio"/>	\$100,000 - \$124,999
<input type="radio"/>	\$125,000 - \$149,000
<input type="radio"/>	\$150,000 or more
<input type="radio"/>	No Response

39. What is your race/ethnicity?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	American Indian or Alaska Native
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or African American
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hispanic or Latino
<input type="checkbox"/>	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
<input type="checkbox"/>	White
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Response
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
	<input type="text"/>

40. How many people live in your household?	
<input type="text"/>	

41. What is your highest degree of education?	
<input type="radio"/>	9th grade or less
<input type="radio"/>	Some High School No Diploma
<input type="radio"/>	High School Graduate or GED
<input type="radio"/>	Some College No Degree
<input type="radio"/>	Associate Degree
<input type="radio"/>	Bachelor's Degree
<input type="radio"/>	Master's Degree
<input type="radio"/>	Professional School Degree
<input type="radio"/>	Doctorate Degree
<input type="radio"/>	No Response

42. What is your primary mode of transportation?	
<input type="radio"/>	Driving/Car
<input type="radio"/>	Walking (Go to question number 43.)
<input type="radio"/>	Bicycling (Go to question number 43.)
<input type="radio"/>	Transit/Bus/Rail (Go to question number 43.)
<input type="radio"/>	Other: (Go to question number 43.)
	<input type="text"/>
<input type="radio"/>	No response (Go to question number 43.)

43. Does your household have a vehicle?	
<input type="radio"/>	Yes
<input type="radio"/>	No
<input type="radio"/>	No Response

44. OPTIONAL: Would you like to receive more information about Our Region's plan? Please provide your e-mail address.	
<input type="text"/>	



# Appendix B

Strategic Partners and Database of Survey  
Contacts

<b>Strategic Partners</b>	
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Audience Type</b>
Greater Houston Partnership	Business
NHPO - National Hispanic Professional Organization	Professional/Underserved
Academy	Private Employer
Anadarko	Private Employer
Christus St. Joseph Hospital	Private Employer
Clear Channel Outdoor	Private Employer
Cooper Industries	Private Employer
Dupont	Private Employer
HEB	Private Employer
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	Private Employer
McKeeson Specialty Health	Private Employer
MD Anderson	Private Employer
Shell Oil Usa	Private Employer
Siemens Corporation	Private Employer
Devon Energy	Private Employer
Ernst & Young	Private Employer
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System	Private Employer
Fullbright & Jaworski, LLP	Private Employer
ConocoPhillips	Private Employer
LyondellBasell	Private Employer
KPMG	Private Employer
Hess Corp.	Private Employer
Waste Management, Inc.	Private Employer
Reliant Energy	Private Employer
Marathon Oil	Private Employer
KBR	Private Employer
Transocean	Private Employer
Chevron	Private Employer
CenterPoint Energy	Private Employer
Amegy Bank	Private Employer

BP Energy	Private Employer
Houston ISD	Educational
Rice University	University/College
University of Houston	University/College
Texas Southern University	University/College
Houston Area Urban League	Non-Profit/Underserved
United Way	Non-profit/Underserved
Neighborhood Centers Inc	Non-profit/Underserved
COH CitizensNet	LISTSERV
Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	Business/Underserved
APA Houston Section	Professional
Greater Houston Chinese Business Alliance	Business/Underserved
LULAC	Associations/Underserved
Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston	Faith-based
Indo-American COC	Chamber/Underserved
Asian American Business Council	Associations/Underserved
Leadership Houston	Association
Houston Citizens Chamber of Commerce	Business/Underserved
Hines	Developers
Trammell Crow Co	Developers
Greater Sharpstown Management District	Management Districts
East Aldine Management District	Management Districts
Baylor University Medical Center	Medical
Vinson & Elkins LLP	Law Firm
Bracewell & Giuliani LLP	Law Firm
Andrews Kurth LLP	Law Firm
Lock Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP	Law Firm
Harris County Medical Society	Trade & Professional Org
Greater Houston Builders Association	Trade & Professional Org
HCA Gulf Coast Divison	Hospital System
Technip USA Inc	Energy Enginnering Firms
URS Corp	Energy Enginnering Firms
S&B Engineers and Constructors LTD	Energy Enginnering Firms
Mustang Engineering	Energy Enginnering Firms
Fugro Consultants	Civil and Structural Engineering
LJA Engineering	Civil and Structural Engineering

Walter P. Moore	Civil and Structural Engineering
Prudential Gary Greene Realtors	Real Estate Brokerage Firms
Coldwell Banker United Realtors	Real Estate Brokerage Firms
Martha Turner Properties	Real Estate Brokerage Firms
FMC Technologies	Technology
Comcast	Technology
BMC Software	Technology
Houston Community College	University/College
Texas A&M University at Galveston	University/College
Neighborhood Centers Inc	Non-Profit
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo	Non-Profit
Houston Musuem of Natural Science	Non-Profit
Houston Symphony Society	Non-Profit
Theatre Under the Stars INC	Non-Profit
Houston Parks Board INC	Non-Profit
Jacobs Technology	Technology
Barrios Technology	Technology
Oceaneering International INC Space Systems Division	Technology
Houston Downtown Management District	Management Districts
Westchase District	Management Districts
Spring Branch Management District	Management Districts
Greenspoint District	Management Districts
Energy Corridor District	Management Districts
Hobby Area Management District	Management Districts
Upper Kirby Management District	Management Districts
East Aldine Management District	Management Districts
South Montgomery County Woodlands COC	Chamber
Fort Bend COC	Chamber
Baylor College of Medicine - Houston	Medical
Clay Development & Construction Inc	Developers
Baker Botts LLP	Law Firm

Houston Apartment Association	Trade & Professional Org
Houston Association of Realtors	Trade & Professional Org
Houston Bar Association	Trade & Professional Org
Houston CPA Society	Trade & Professional Org
AIA Houston	Trade & Professional Org
Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau	Trade & Professional Org
The Methodist Hospital System	Hospital System
St. Lukes Episcopal Health System	Hospital System
Lone Star College System	University/College
San Jacinto College System	University/College
University of St. Thomas	University/College
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston	Non-Profit
Eagle Lake COC	Chamber
Columbus COC	Chamber
Weimar COC	Chamber
Sealy COC	Chamber
Hempstead COC	Chamber
Katy COC	Chamber
West I-10 COC	Chamber
Dayton COC	Chamber
Cleveland COC	Chamber
Anahuac COC	Chamber
West Chambers County COC	Chamber
Weimer Lions Club	Association
El Campo Rotary Club	Association



Sealy Lion's Club	Association
Community Empowerment Center - Columbus, TX	Association
Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe COC	Chamber
Columbus-EDC	EDC
Sealy- EDC	EDC
Wharton EDC	EDC
E. Montgomery County Improvement Dist - New Caney	EDC
Rotary Club of Wharton	Association
Bellville Lions Club	Association
Wharton COC	COC

## Civic Organizations

### Organization

Austin County-TX agrilife ext

Bellville Lions Club

Charity's Animal Shelter & Rescue

Christmas Wish Foundation

Friends of Virgil & Josephine Gordon- Memorial Library

Habitat for Humanity - Bellville

Heaven's Open Door

Knights of Columbus

P.U.P.S

Sealy Area Historical Society

Sealy Christian Food

Sealy Community Foundation

Sealy Eastside Foundation

Sealy Lion's Club

Sealy Vomunteer Fire Dept

Brazoria County Agrilife Extension Service & 4H

Brazoria County Habitat for Humanity

Brazoria County Work Activity Center

Elks Lodge Brazosport

Gulf Coast Bird Observatory

Lake Jackson Optimist Club

Pearland Elks

Anahuac Vol Fire Dept

Barbers Hill Lions Club

Barbers Hill Sports Assoc

Baytown Optimist

Beach City Vol Fire Dept

Chambers County Historical Commission

Chambers County Library-Friends of the Library

Chambers County-Tx Agrilife Extension Service & 4H

Friends of Anahuac Refuge

Hankamer Volunteer Fire Dept

Mont Belvieu Musuem

Mount Belvieu Vol Fire Dept

Oak Island/Double Bayou Vol Fire Dept.

Old River Winfree Vol Fire Dept

Texas National Wildlife Refuge

Wallisville Heritage Park

Waterhouse Education Center

Wellness Center

Winnie- Stowell Noon Optimist

Colorado County Fair Assoc., Inc.

Colorado County Yough & Family Services

Columbus Historical & Preservatoin Trust

Community Empowerment Center

Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club

Eagle Lake Preservation Alliance

Revitalize Eagle Lake

Weimar Veterans Organization

Alief Lions

Caring Handz of Texas

Cinco Ranch Charities

Elks Lodge 151

Experience Works

First Colony Community Service Assoc

Fort Bend Optimist Club

HPPA

Needville Lions Club

Ridgegate Community Improvement

Kemah Elks Lodge
A Way In The Wilderness
Bay Area Habitat for Humanity
Bolivar Eagles Club
Bolivar Peninsula Community Outreach
Bolivar Peninsula Cultural Foundation
Bolivar Small Business Coalition
Clean Galveston
Crystal Beach Vol Fire Rescue
Dickinson Optimist
Elks Lodge Galveston 0126
Friends of Rosenberg Library
Galveston Bay Foundation
Galveston Bay Foundation
Galveston College Foundation
Galveston County Tx Agrilife Extension Service & 4H.
Galveston Food Bank
Galveston Historical Foundation
Galveston Island Tree Conservancy
Galveston Noon Club
Galveston Park Board of Trustees
Galveston Seafarers Center
Galveston Island Humane Society
Harris & Eliza Kempner Fund
Junior League of Galveston County
Mainland / TX City Optimist
NOAA
Santa Fe Education Foundation
The Children's Center
The Jesse Tree

The Surfriders Foundation
Aldine Optimist
AOPA
Asian Pacific American Heritage Association
Associated General Contractors
Baytown Habitat for Humanity
Baytown Lions
Bellaire Optimist
Beltway Lions Club
Better Houston Association
Central Houston, INC.
Crosby Lions Club
Crosby Volunteer Fire Dept
Cy-Fair Kiwanis
Cy-Fair Optimist
Downtown Optimist
Galveston Bay Foundation
Grand Parkway Association
Highlands Volunteer Fire Dept
Houston Audobon Docents
Houston Audobon Docents
Houston Food Bank
Houston Habitat
Houston Memorial Optimist
Houston South End Optimist
Houston Viet Info Network
Humble Optimist
Kiwanis of Greater North Houston
Kiwanis of Pasadena

La Porte Optimist  
Lions Club International  
Lions Club International Dist-2  
Lobbyist  
Odd Fellows Houston Heights  
Pasadena Optimist  
Pilots Club Houston  
Scenic Houston  
Taiwanese American Citizens League  
Vietnamese Culture and Science Association  
Cleveland Historical Society  
Cleveland Lions Club  
Cleveland Rotary Club  
Dayton Band Boosters Club  
Dayton Historical Society  
Dayton Lions Club  
Dayton Volunteer Fire Dept  
Dayton Youth Sports  
Liberty Elks 2019  
Liberty Lions Club  
Mossbluff Volunteer Fire Dept  
Tarkington Volunteer Fire Dept  
VFW Post 1839  
VFW Post 1839/Cleveland  
Westlake Volunteer Fire Dept  
Woodpecker Volunteer Fire Dept  
Art League of Matagorda County  
Bay City Lions Club  
Bay City Pilots Club  
Bay City/Wharton Area Red Cross  
Boys & Girls Club  
Economic Action Committee of the Gulf Coast.

Literacy Volunteers of America Matagorda County

American Legion Post 442

Boys & Girls Club

Conroe Optimist

East Montgomery Co. Historical Society

East Montgomery County Historical Society

East Montgomery Rodeo Assoc

East Montgomery Sports Associations

Habitat for Humanity

Junior League

Junior League of North Harris & South Montgomery

Keep Montgomery County Beautiful

Lake Conroe Communities Network

Lions Club

Montgomery County Beautification Assoc

New Caney Fire Dept

Twin Cities Lion Club

VFW Aux Post 5601

American Legion Post 95

CASA of Walker County

Huntsville Elks

Huntsville Kiwanis Club

Huntsville Kiwanis Club

Huntsville Lion's Club

Huntsville Optimist

Rotary Club of Huntsville

Sam Houston State Univ Optimist Club

American Legion 459 Hempstead/Waller

American Red Cross- Greater Houston Chapter

Brookshire/Pattison Lions Club

Citizens Against the Landfill in Hempstead

Emailed American Legion Post 459
Fort Bend, Senior Citizens Center Covering Brookshire, Hempstead, Pattison, Prairie View, Pine Island, and Waller
Hempstead Lions Club
Hempstead Lions Club
Katy Elks Lodge
Katy Lions Club
Rotary Club of Waller County
Waller County Business
Waller County Trail
Waller Lions Club
Beautify El Campo
Beautify El Campo Extension
Boys & Girls Club
Boys & Girls Club El Campo
Casa of Wharton County
El Campo American Legion
El Campo Art Association
El Campo Knights of Columbus
El Campo Volunteer Fire Dept
Elks Club- El Campo
Elks Lodge El Campo 1749.
Galveston Community Action
Glen Flora Volunteer Fire Dept
Habitat for Humanity- Wharton
Markham Community Center
Pilots Club of Wharton
Ricebird Athletic Boosters
Texas Agrilife
The Women's Club of El Campo
WC Retired Teachers Association
WCJC Alumni Association
Wharton Business & Professional Women



Wharton County Community Action
Wharton County SPOT
Wharton Lions
Women's Club of El Campo
Pearland- Rotary
Weimer Rotary
Dickinson Rotary
Dickinson Rotary
Friendswood Rotary
Galveston Rotary
League City Rotary
Santa Fe/Hitch Cock Rotary
Rotary Club of Texas City
Rotary Club of the Mainland, La Marque
Hillshire- Civic Club
Huntsville Rotary
Waller Rotary
Wharton Rotary
Artists Boat

## COC's and Business Associations

### Organization

Bellville Chamber of Commerce

Sealy-COC

Alvin-Manvel COC

Angleton COC

Brazoria County Hispanic COC

Brazosport Area COC

Pearland -COC

West Columbia COC

Anahuac COC

West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce

Winnie Chamber of Commerce

Columbus COC

Eagle Lake - COC

Weimar-Chamber

Fort Bend-COC

Needville Area C of C

Rosenberg-Richmond COC

Katy C.O.C

Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

Friendswood Chamber of Commerce

Galveston- COC

League City Chamber of Commerce

North Galveston County Chamber of Commerce

Texas City- COC

Baytown COC

Clear Lake Area COC

Cy-Fair Houston COC

Deer Park COC

East End Chamber

Galleria Chamber of Commerce

GreaterTomball Area - COC

Houston Asian Junior COC

Houston Intercontinental COC

Houston West COC

Indo-American COC

Laporte-Bayshore COC

North Channel Area COC

Northwest Houston COC

Pakistan Chamber-USA

Pasadena-COC

The Lake Houston COC

Cleveland COC

Dayton-COC

Liberty-Dayton Chamber

Palacios C.O.C

East Montgomery County-COC

Greater Conroe COC

Kingwood COC

South Montgomery County-Woodlands COC

Huntsville COC

Huntsville-Walker County COC

Hempstead C.O.C

Katy C.O.C

Waller COC

West I-10 COC

City of East Bernard COC

El Campo COC

Wharton COC

Galveston Economic Dev Partnership

Greater Houston Chinese Business Alliance

Greater Houston Partnership

North Houston Association

West Houston Association

Westchase District

Women's Business Enterprise Alliance

Economic Action Committee of the Gulf Coast

Economic Alliance

Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Historic Downtown Strand Seaport Partnership

Asian American Business Council

Houston Citizens Chamber of Commerce

<b>Colleges and Universities</b>	
<b>Organization</b>	
	Houston Community College
	UTMB
	Prairie View A&M
	Rice University
	University of Houston
	Texas Southern University
	Sam Houston State
	Lone Star Community College
	San Jacinto College District
	Blinn College
	Alvin Comm College
	Brazosport College Foundation
	Lee College
	Bay Ridge College
	Houston Comm College SW, Missouri City, Stafford
	UofH Sugarland
	Wharton County Jr College, Sugarland & Ft. Bend Tech Center, Richmond
	Galveston College
	Texas A & M Univ
	University of Texas, Medical Branch
	College of the Mainland
	Houston Baptist Univ
	Houston Community College
	Lone Star Community College/North Harris
	Rice University
	San Jacinto College
	Texas Southern Univ
	University of Houston
	University of St Thomas
	Wharton County Jr College, Bay City

Lone Star College System

Lone Star College, Montgomery

Sam Houston State Univ, Div of Univ Advancement

Houston Community College, Katy

Prairie View A & M Univ

Wharton County Comm College

## EDCs and Special Districts

### Organization

Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation

Greater East End Management District

East Downtown Management District (EaDo)

Houston Downtown Management District/Redevelopment Authority

Greater Northside Management District

East Aldine Management District / Public Improvement District

Greater Greenspoint Management District

Airline Public Improvement District

Near Northwest Management District

Memorial City Management District / TIRZ 17

Upper Kirby Public Improvement District / TIRZ 19 / HCID 3

Energy Corridor Management District / HCID 4

Westchase Management District

Sharpstown Management District / Public Improvement District

Brays Oaks Management District

Midtown Management District / Redevelopment Authority / TIRZ 2

Uptown Houston Management District / Development Authority / TIRZ 16

Lamar Terrace Public Improvement District

Greater Southeast Management District / TIRZ 7

HCID 9

Baybrook Management District

East Montgomery County Improvement District

TIRZ 1 – St. George Place

TIRZ 3 – Market Square Area

TIRZ 4 – Village Enclaves

TIRZ 5 – Memorial Heights

TIRZ 8 – Gulfgate Area

TIRZ 9 – South Post Oak

TIRZ 10 – Lake Houston

TIRZ 11 – Greater Greenspoint Area

TIRZ 12 – City Park Area

TIRZ 13 – Old Sixth Ward Area

TIRZ 14 – Fourth Ward

TIRZ 15 – East Downtown / East Downtown Redevelopment Authority

TIRZ 18 – Fifth Ward

TIRZ 20 – Southwest Houston

TIRZ 21 – Hardy / Near Northside Zone

TIRZ 22 – Leland Woods

TIRZ 23 – Harrisburg Zone

Sealy-EDC

Alvin-EDC

Angleton-EDC

City of Alvin

City of Freeport

Economic DevAlliance of Brazoria County

Pearland - EDC

Sweeny- EDC

Chambers County EDC

Columbus-EDC

Weimar -EDC

Fort Bend-EDC

Kendleton EDC

Missouri City-EDC

Needville-EDC

Orchard-EDC

Rosenburg-EDC

Sugarland-EDC

Friendswood-EDC

Galveston-EDC

La Marque-EDC

League City-EDC

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership

Baytown West Chambers County Eco Dev Foundation

City of Houston



Deer Park- EDC

Economic Alliance Houston Port Region

Houston-Galveston Area Council

La Porte- EDC

Pasadena- EDC

Seabrook- EDC

Tomball-EDC

Webster-EDC

Cleveland EDC

Bay City-EDC

City of Palacios- EDC

Matagorda County EDC

E. Montgomery County Improvement Dist

Greater Conroe EDC

North Cleveland-EDC

Huntsville EDC

Brookshire EDC

Hempstead EDC

Katy EDC

Waller EDC

Waller County EDP

El Campo CDC

Wharton EDC

Greenspoint Management District

Gulf Coast Rail District

Harris County Improvement Dist 1

Houston Uptown Assoc

## Faith Based Organizations

### Organization

Catholic Charities

Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston

All Around Cowboy Church

Allen AME Church

First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church- Sealy

First United Methodist

Immaculate Conception Catholic

Industry Brethren Church

St. John's Episcopal

St. Johns Lutheran

Trinity Lutheran Church

West End Baptist

Anahuac Assembly of God

Anahuac Full Gospel Tabernacle

Cornerstone Church

First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church- Mont Belvieu

First Missionary Baptist

Firt United Methodist

Landmark Global Outreach Ministries

Lilly of the Valley

Middleton Memorial Methodist Church

New Covenant Fellowship Church

Our Lady of Light Catholic Church

St. Paul United Methodist

Sweet Home Baptist Church

Trinity Episcopal Church

White Horse & Bikers Revival Church.

White Park Congregation

Calvary Baptist Church

Faith Lutheran Church

Faith Lutheran Church

First United Methodist Church of Weimar

Trinity Evangelial Lutheran Church

Trinity Evangelial Lutheran Church

Weimar United Church of Christ

Calvary Baptist Church

Church of Christ

Dayton Cowboy Church

Eastgate Church

First United Methodist Church

New Life Church

Trinity Baptist

Allendale Baptist Church

Ark Church

Ark Church

Dacus Baptist Church

First Baptist Church

First Pres Church

First United Methodist Church

Grace Lutheran

Living Savior Lutheran Church

Living Word

Sacred Heart

Vineyard Church

West Conroe Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Church

First United Methodist Church

Hope AME Church

Mt. Zion Apostolic Baptized Church of Jesus Christ

St Francis Episcopal

St. John's Lutheran

Waller Baptist Church

Waller Church of Christ

Waller Seventh-Day Adventist

Caney Creek Church

Covenant Love Christian Ministries

Faith Lutheran Church

First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church of El Campo

First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church

First United Methodist Church

FUMC

Grace Community Fellowship

Holy Family Catholic Church

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

St. Phillip The Apostle Catholic Church

St. Thomas Episcopal

Wharton County Interfaith Coalition

Annual Ministers Conference

ISDs
Organization
Houston ISD
Magnolia ISD
Bellville ISD
Brazos ISD
Columbus ISD
Sealy ISD
Alvin ISD
Angleton ISD
Brazosport ISD
Columbia-Brazoria ISD
Danbury ISD
Damon ISD (K-8)
Pearland ISD
Sweeny ISD
Goose Creek CISD
Barbers Hill ISD
Anahuac ISD
East Chambers ISD
Fort Bend ISD
Katy ISD
Lamar Consolidated ISD
Needville ISD
Stafford Municipal School District
Clear Creek ISD
Dickinson ISD
Friendswood ISD
Galveston ISD
High Island ISD
Hitchcock ISD
La Marque ISD

Santa Fe ISD

Texas City ISD

Aldine ISD

Alief ISD

Channelview ISD

Crosby ISD

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Dayton ISD

Deer Park ISD

Galena Park ISD

Humble ISD

Klein ISD

La Porte ISD

North Forest ISD

Pasadena ISD

Sheldon ISD

Spring ISD

Spring Branch ISD

Tomball ISD

Waller ISD

Liberty ISD

Cleveland ISD

Tarkington ISD

Hardin ISD

Hull-Daisetta ISD

Devers ISD

Bay City ISD

Matagorda ISD

Palacios ISD

Tidehaven ISD

Van Vleck ISD

Boling ISD

Conroe ISD

Montgomery ISD
New Caney ISD
Richards ISD
Splendora ISD
Willis ISD
Huntsville ISD
New Waverly ISD
Trinity ISD
Hempstead ISD
Royal ISD

<b>Medical</b>
<b>Organization</b>
Galv County Health Dept United Board of Health
Galveston County Hosp Dist
Mainland Medical Center
Univ Texas Med Branch, Galv
UT Medical Branch
Bayshore Medical Center/Hosp
Clear Lake Regional Medical Center/Hosp
Harris County Hospital District
Houston N.W Medical Center/Hosp
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System
Methodist Hospital System
Michael E. DeBakery VA Medical Center
Shriners Hosp for Children & Burns Inst
St Joseph Medical Center
St Luke's Episcopal Health System
Texas Children's Hospital
Texas Heart Institute
Texas Medical Center
The MD Anderson Cancer Center
Tomball Regional Medical Center/Hosp
Conroe Regional Med Center
Memorial Hermann Hosp, The Woodlands
Montgomery County Hosp Dist
St Luke's Community Med Center, The Woodlands
St Luke's Lakeside
Texas Childrens Health Center, The Woodlands
Huntsville Memorial Hermann Hosp
Walker County Hosp Dist
El Campo Memorial Hosp
Gulf Coast Medical Center



Bellville Gen Hosp  
Angelton Danbury Gen Hosp  
Brazosport Health Foundation  
Sweeny Hospital  
Bayside Community Hospital  
Chambers County Public Hosp Dist  
Winnie Community Hospital  
Colorado-Fayette Med Center  
Columbus Community Hosp  
Rice Medical Center  
Fort Bend County Indigent Health Care  
Kindred Hospital SW  
Memorial Hermann Hosp Sugarland  
Methodist Hosp Sugarland  
Oak Bend Med Ctr  
Oak Bend Med Ctr  
St. Lukes Hosp Sugarland  
Sugarland Surgical Hosp  
Texas Childrens Health Center Sugarland  
Cleveland Regional Med Center  
Indigent Health Care Prog  
Liberty County Hospital Dist.  
Matagorda Regional Med Center  
Palacios Comm Med Center

## Neighborhood Association Listserv

### Organization

Downtown Super Neighborhood Council

COH CitizensNet

Super Neighborhood 63 - 2nd Ward

Super Neighborhood 64 & 88 - Eastwood, Idylwood, County Club Estates, Lawndale/Wayside

Eastwood Civic Association

Oaklawn/Fullerton Place Civic Association

Galveston Alliance of Island Neighborhoods

South Main Center Association

Galveston Housing Authority

West Galveston Island Property Owners Assoc

San Jacinto Neighborhood Assoc

Gilcrest Community Assoc

Planned Community Management, Inc

East End Historical District Assoc

Greater OST/South Union Super Neighborhood Council

Houston Super Neighborhoods Alliance

Acres Homes Super Neighborhood Council

Fifth Ward Super Neighborhood Council

South East Civic Coalition

## Neighborhood Organizations

### Organization

Houston Area Urban League

United Way

Neighborhood Centers Inc

LULAC

ACT-SO-Houston NAACP

Leadership Houston

Private Sector	
Organization	
Academy	
Anadarko	
Christus St. Joseph Hospital	
Clear Channel Outdoor	
Cooper Industries	
Dupont	
HEB	
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	
McKeeson Specialty Health	
MD Anderson	
Shell Oil Usa	
Siemens Corporation	
Devon Energy	
Ernst & Young	
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System	
Fullbright & Jaworski, LLP	
ConocoPhillips	
LyondellBasell	
KPMG	
Hess Corp.	
Waste Management, Inc.	
Reliant Energy	
Marathon Oil	
KBR	
Transocean	
Chevron	
CenterPoint Energy	
Amegy Bank	
BP Energy	
Port Freeport	

Port of Galveston Wharves Board

Port of Houston Authority

Port of Texas City

## Professional Associations

### Organization

Hispanic Contractors Assoc

Houston Apartment Association

Houston Area Realtors

Houston Association of Realtors

National Association of Minority Contractors

North Houston Association

BetterHouston

OneVoice Texas

Buffalo Bayou Partnership

APA Houston Section

Urban Land Institute Houston

U.S. Green Building Council-Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

CNU-Houston

Houston Transportation Professional Association

NHPO - National Hispanic Professional Organization

US Green Building Council



# Appendix C

MindMixer Report



Topic Name	<i>Sustainability Examples</i>
<b>Idea Title</b>	Transit Makeover
<b>Idea Detail</b>	I am new to Houston, and I have yet to be exposed to what Houston transit has to offer. Granted anyone can do the research as to what Transit has to offer, but to the nonchalant it may never cross their mind. Better promotion can help plant seeds in people's mind.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Louis E
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	3
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Idea Title</b>	My Future, Our Future
<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>In 2003 the Houston -Galveston Area Council predicted that the regions population would grow to 7.6 million people by the year 2025, the population at the time was some 4.6 million people. The most current census I could find (2010) has the population of the whole region currently at a bit over 6 million people. Needless to say, I envision the Galveston area to become a bit more crowded over the next ten or so years. Of course, population growth isnt necessarily a negative thing, the more people we have the more cultural diversity, political influence, economic stimulus we'll see in our area. I would like to see the residents, new and old, of Galveston and Houston to become more environmentally friendly. Hopefully in the near future well see an increased use of wind, water, solar and other renewable resources to power our homes and cities. If we dont prepare for the future then the swelling population will quickly overwhelm our area and deplete the natural resources we all depend on.</p> <p>One of these very precious natural resources is water. Humans can't go more than three days without it, it's essential to life, without water there can be no human advancement. This is why the 2011 drought is recorded as one of the most devastating droughts ever to have plagued Texas in recorded history. This drought probably couldn't have hit at a more inappropriate time, what with the swiftly increasing population occurring. Extended drought may affect the price and availability of electrical power in Texas, due both to the demand for summer air conditioning and the fact that most power plants use large amounts of water for cooling. The Galveston area needs to take advantage of the rain that it does get through rain harvesting (the practice of collecting rainwater in large bins or tanks and purifying it into potable water) and thoroughly cleanse used water for reuse.</p> <p>While Houston might not get as much rain as we do on the island both places get plenty of one</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Elyse A
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	3
<b>Number of Points</b>	0

<b>Number of Comments</b>	4
<b>Comment 1</b>	<p>thing annually, sun. Galveston sees about 226 days of sun a year and Houston about 204 days. Solar power is a major untapped resource and a potential job market, which could be crucial to the Houston/Galveston area's growing economy. The clean energy that we would get from solar power would drastically reduce the carbon foot print the 7.6 million people living here will surely produce. Another clean energy we can utilize is wind. There have been a few attempts on the island to create a wind farm, but an optimum location for these large turbines would be a good distance off shore where the wind is steadier. The ones proposed by Jerry Patterson (Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office), Harold Schoeffler, and Herman Schellestede (Founders of the Wind Energy Systems Technologies) are able withstand hurricanes and still generate electricity cheap enough to compete with oil. These wind turbines can also produce enough electricity to provide power to about 40,000 homes, in comparison it takes about 20.7 million barrels of oil to come close to that. The down sides to these new developments are the immediate costs of installation and the fact that we are totally dependent on what Mother Nature dishes out, so no sun or wind equals no lights. Even if we can create a system where the Houston Galveston area uses half solar and wind and half fossil fuels then the air quality in the air will improve and we can be a healthier place to live.   By Elyse A</p>
<b>Comment 2</b>	<p>In the next ten years a lot is going to happen to our area and the only thing we can do is make sure we have the knowledge and resources we need to face our future and current hardships. I want to see this area to utilize its natural resources, this isnt only about the environment; its about doing whats smart and efficient. To be able to compete in todays world we can no longer depend upon unstable countries in the Middle East, we must look to ourselves and use what we have at home to help fuel the future of the region. This isnt just what I want to see happen to the area, this is what has to happen to ensure our survival in the area.   By Elyse A</p>
<b>Comment 3</b>	<p>In the next ten years a lot is going to happen to our area and the only thing we can do is make sure we have the knowledge and resources we need to face our future and current hardships. I want to see this area to utilize its natural resources, this isnt only about the environment; its about doing whats smart and efficient. To be able to compete in todays world we can no longer depend upon unstable countries in the Middle East, we must look to ourselves and use what we have at home to help fuel the future of the region. This isnt just what I want to see happen to the area, this is what has to happen to ensure our survival in the area.   By Elyse A</p>

<b>Comment 4</b>	<p>thing annually, sun. Galveston sees about 226 days of sun a year and Houston about 204 days. Solar power is a major untapped resource and a potential job market, which could be crucial to the Houston/Galveston area's growing economy. The clean energy that we would get from solar power would drastically reduce the carbon foot print the 7.6 million people living here will surely produce. Another clean energy we can utilize is wind. There have been a few attempts on the island to create a wind farm, but an optimum location for these large turbines would be a good distance off shore where the wind is steadier. The ones proposed by Jerry Patterson (Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office), Harold Schoeffler, and Herman Schellestede (Founders of the Wind Energy Systems Technologies) are able withstand hurricanes and still generate electricity cheap enough to compete with oil. These wind turbines can also produce enough electricity to provide power to about 40,000 homes, in comparison it takes about 20.7 million barrels of oil to come close to that. The down sides to these new developments are the immediate costs of installation and the fact that we are totally dependent on what Mother Nature dishes out, so no sun or wind equals no lights. Even if we can create a system where the Houston Galveston area uses half solar and wind and half fossil fuels then the air quality in the air will improve and we can be a healthier place to live.   By Elyse A</p>
<b>Idea Title</b>	Alternative Fuels
<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>Alternative fuels are one more sustainability option for an automobile based economy. Electric recharging and natural gas refueling stations could be promoted as ways to better use resources that are more plentiful. While electric vehicles are available their public acceptance has not been great. One issue could be the scarcity of charging stations. Local cities could promote the installation of recharging stations as part of the building code. Use of natural gas as a fuel has also not received much attention from the public. Limited numbers of private enterprise and local governments have used natural gas as a fuel. Their experience needs to be shared with the public to understand better the advantages and disadvantages. Here again, local governments could help promote natural gas refueling stations as part of the building code. Fueling station operators and the public need to be incentivized to promote and use alternative fuels. While not a solution to increased vehicle miles of travel it is a strategy for better utilization of scarce resources.</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Robert S
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	2
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	3
<b>Comment 1</b>	<p>I am intrigued by the idea of garage-based battery banks storing and sharing home-made electricity from solar or wind resources, especially for charging electric vehicles whenever they might pull in. Perhaps such banks could be built up from re-used electric auto battery packs whenever those fall below spec required for automotive use. The "old Tesla" battery slab should still have plenty (70%?) deep-cycle power capacity to allow integration with renewable</p>

energy home collectors. | By Paul S

**Comment 2** I think CNG deserves more research, study, and pilot projects. But I would hate the government to start bending its muscle to force business and consumers to an alternative that maybe isn't that good for them. It's OK for some uses, but CNG is not really a gasoline substitute. | By Peter W

**Comment 3** CNG seems to be well-suited for fleet use on somewhat short-distance fixed-route services. That's because the energy density of CNG is much lower than liquid gasoline, the vehicles have to fuel frequently, therefore they always have to run back to base. Therefore, the use-case is about like that of electric cars, except electric cars are MUCH easier and cheaper to charge, though slower to charge (hours) vs. CNG (15-20 min?). Gasoline takes 2 min to fill. You can charge e-cars overnight at home, you can't fill CNG cars at home. The retail equipment for CNG stations is breathtakingly expensive (10x more). The advantages and disadvantages are well understood, and there are good reasons why it's not used for private purposes. But, if you are lucky enough as an individual to find a place to fill, at \$2.50 per MCF, the fuel cost of driving a CNG car is really cheap, for now. Low prices in the oil and gas industry are always temporary. So are high prices. | By Peter W

**Idea Title** Aluminum foil

**Idea Detail** I just purchased aluminum foil from Reynolds that is made from 100% recycled aluminum. We need more products like this!

**Idea Author** Christy H

**Number of Seconds** 1

**Number of Points** 0

**Number of** 0

**Comments**

**Idea Title** Affordable Housing

**Idea Detail** When will Houtson downtown and small surrounding area, embrace affordable housing that nice looking and new.

**Idea Author** Peggy A

**Number of Seconds** 1

**Number of Points** 0

**Number of** 0

**Comments**

**Idea Title** Built-in Re-usability

**Idea Detail** Why can't we design in the possibility of re-use when we create the fairly permanent structures and infrastructures of our communities? This could take the form of recyclable materials, and/or re-useable components, modular/moveable assemblies and/or flexible building forms and programs associated with more permanent structures. Sometimes I think we psych ourselves into belief that doing more with less virgin land/material is the only or best kind of efficiency achievable.

<b>Idea Author</b>	Paul S
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Idea Title</b>	Galveston Restoration
<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>There is no telling what Galveston may look like in ten years as it faces many challenges. Nothing inhibits progressive change more than a natural disaster. Though I've only been a resident of Galveston for a few years, I still consider it my home. One of the worst things a person can experience is seeing their home take considerable and devastating damage. Hurricanes are a major challenge to the progression of Galveston as they damage the homes of thousands if not millions of people and numerous local businesses. By investing in the protection of our home, we invest in our ability to quickly recover after a devastating storm, such as the most current storm Ike, and to not only continue to live our daily lives but to build on and improve them.</p> <p>As Galvestonians already know the 1900 Storm, also known as the Great Storm, compelled the citizens of Galveston to make major improvements to the city to prevent such catastrophic damage from future storms. The city was raised 17ft above its previous elevation and a 3-mile and 17ft high seawall was built to protect part of the city. This investment proved to be beneficial when it was put to test in 1915 when a storm of similar strength struck Galveston. For over a century the seawall has protected, endured, and persevered through numerous storms but as the most recent storm, Ike, has proved the famed Seawall is just not enough anymore.</p> <p>According to the National Climatic Data Center, the estimated cost in damages for hurricane Ike exceeded \$30 billion making it the third costliest storm to land on U.S. soil. The initial cost to build the seawall was \$1.6 million which today would be \$41.4 million dollars. The seawall has proven its worth time after time. If a fraction of the total damages amount from Ike would have been granted to not only Galveston but to other cities along the gulf coast, the city could have used the money to make much needed repairs to the seawall and possibly invest in other projects that would benefit</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Arturo P
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	2
<b>Comment 1</b>	<p>A popular proposal that was conceived by Dr. William Merrell to prevent damage to Galveston and surrounding areas calls for the construction of a coastal barrier, the Ike Dike, which adds to the existing seawall. The construction of massive flood gates and surge barriers will be seen all around the Galveston coast. The surge barriers will not only protect our homes and businesses but create a tourist attraction to bring revenue into the island. With the construction of the Ike Dike, Galveston will lead the way in to the future as engineers harness the capability of modern technology to create this grand barrier to protect on of the most vital ports to the U.S. economy.</p>

The road to recovery is long after a devastating natural disaster. Galveston residents that stayed after the havoc that was wreaked by countless hurricanes, will continue to undoubtedly persevere and rebuild what was lost. | By Arturo P

**Comment 2**

The seawater that flooded many parts of Galveston not only destroyed thousands of homes but the green life as well. In future years many of our trees that were uprooted due to the powerful winds of Ike will be replanted. Coming back after the hurricane and seeing all the lifeless trees was such a sad and heart-rending sight. The Galveston Island Tree Conservancy is currently undertaking a regional campaign to replant over 40,000 trees that were lost due to hurricane Ike. There is no doubt that in the future the streets of Galveston will be greener than ever and our Live Oaks and Magnolias come back from the salt water and greet both residents tourists returning to the island. All the efforts to restore life to our island will be pointless unless we are able to undergo city developments that will protect and preserve everything that has been rebuilt.

| By Arturo P

**Idea Title**

Galveston in the next 10 years

**Idea Detail**

Galveston County has come a long way since its past storms. Galveston in 2012 is in an excellent touristy position and gradually increases by the seasons. I envision Galveston in ten years to be more than a third of fourth choice tourist spot, of Texas. Galveston already attracts many families and also an older generation due to the historical past of this town. What about the middle group of couples, newlyweds starting families, and adventurous people?

There are many ways to expand the clientele that Galveston can attract. Texas has enough hype of being the Lonestar state, but what about the old historic town where everything literally started? Galveston should seek a train of thought for increasing tourism even more. Not only will up us, Galvestonians, doing so. Well our community can build off of the tourism more than we do now. For example, our community can build a free parking area, preferably a multi-levelled parking garage, to concentrate tourists parking in a general area. There will be tourists that still want to park and pay on the seawall, but having another option, and it being free, is a good alternative. Not to mention it will decrease traffic volume displacing Seawall Boulevard. Typically this parking garage will be located in the downtown historic area for people who dont want to ride any sort of transportation. This can also coincide with cruise parking or other events.

A good addition to this parking garage would be the upcoming tram to have a station running through the middle. Instead of riding a shuttle bus across town, you can have the option to catch the train. For this new envision of transportation and regulating traffic, the trams tracks will need to be extended throughout Galveston to different parts of the town. An additional option to the tram would be a shuttle or some other mode of transportation to satisfy

needs of people not wanting to ride the tram along its specific route.

**Idea Author** Stephen L

**Number of Seconds** 0

**Number of Points** 0

**Number of** 1

**Comments**

**Comment 1**

This would be similar to the island transportation.

Galveston needs its old beautification factors added to this town. In ten years the oleanders should be more abundant. Our beach should be added with natural shade from trees that can live in sand and saltwater conditions. There may have to be an out source for a specific species of trees. Across the towns beaches, make or build tiki huts with eating or picnic areas. Place hammocks in these areas, which will be covered by dried leaves for shade.

Another envision I have is having an adversely used HOV lane for Galveston. Texas uses HOV lanes in larger cities for families to bypass the workers traffic; therefore, Galveston needs one for residents to bypass touristy traffic. It could be named GAR lane, Galveston appreciates residents lane.

In ten years Galveston should be the first place of the modern era to legalize gambling in Texas. Lottery is already a form of gambling and Galveston is where everything started, so there is no better place to begin gambling sites. This will increase tourism and increase money spent in Galveston and in Texas. That is what I think and envision Galveston to be in ten years. There should be a focus on our residents, increasing tourism revenue, and bringing gambling back from the past.

| By Stephen L

**Idea Title** Galveston's Future

**Idea Detail**

What I want Galveston to be like in 10 years is a tough question honestly I can come up with more answers than one. Ill start off by saying Galveston has a ton of potential to become a thriving city in Texas considering it is located right off of the Gulf. Galveston is a close destination for most major cities in Texas and brings in a lot of people each year being mainly being Summer of course, and during special holidays. If in 10 years (speaking if gambling is legal by then) Galveston would be great for a Casino. Being right across the street from the Ocean at the Convention Center would be a perfect location. Casinos bring in so many more people that it would probably double if not triple the amount of people who visit Galveston. Also a casino would employ a lot of out of work people so that would be great for the community as well.

As for the Jettys and the Seawall that was built 17ft high and 3 miles across, Galveston already has a great amount of protection from Hurricanes than it obviously did in 1900 when a Category 4 hit the city. A proposal that was made by Dr. William Merrell to prevent damage to Galveston and surrounding areas is means for the construction of a coastal barrier, the Ike Dike. This would add to the already existing seawall and the construction of the massive flood gates and surge barriers will be seen all around the Galveston coast line. The surge barriers will not only protect our homes and businesses but with the construction of the Ike Dike, its protecting some of the most vital ports in the

	<p>U.S. economy. Thus being such a great way to keep Galveston safe, I think that Dr. William Merrells idea is a very great way to spend the money towards the area. If the idea makes good, we could then later try and maximize Galvestons growth in more businesses and homes once there is a safe backboard that will keep them in service from hurricanes.</p> <p>Make a difference and voice your opinion to be heard. Thankyou for your time</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Colton T
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Idea Title</b>	Time for Transit growth is right now
<b>Idea Detail</b>	The light rail transit is a nice start for transit and the new lines thats being extended, yet its time for transit lines to extend far out.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Peggy A
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Idea Title</b>	Solar-powered trash compactors
<b>Idea Detail</b>	The problem of dealing with trash is a basic principle of sustainability planning because the world painted by the Disney movie Wall-e is not something we should strive towards. Solar-powered trash compactors are a simple solution used by many other cities across the US that can bring sustainability to a new level in Houston. The initial cost of the trash cans will be balanced by the longevity of a trash reducing solution: less personnel are needed to regularly empty the trash cans, less landfill rental needed, etc. These trash-cans can be utilized in Hermann Park first for testing and then expanded for use around the city.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Jamie B
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Topic Name</b>	<b><i>Grocery Shopping</i></b>
<b>Idea Title</b>	Farmers market promotion



**Idea Detail**

While I use grocery stores for my current food needs, I would like to see farmers markets promoted--and supported--much more. The idea of developing strong local food production goes far to assist in energy savings in transportation, economic vitality for extended communities, healthier foods that are ripened naturally, and the spread of farming expertise nearby for a future that may not have transcontinental or international food distribution choices available.

Along the same lines, healthy organic and raw milk producers should be allowed to provide their products with only reasonable regulation to assure health standards while avoiding the type of punishment that is often seen when "non-commercial" producers attempt to compete.

I want the freshest, healthiest food and dairy choices and I want to make the decision about where I get them from, not have government working hand-in-glove with big agriculture to stymie these alternative sources of food.

**Topic Name** *Sustainability Examples*

**Idea Title** Transit Makeover

**Idea Detail** I am new to Houston, and I have yet to be exposed to what Houston transit has to offer. Granted anyone can do the research as to what Transit has to offer, but to the nonchalant it may never cross their mind. Better promotion can help plant seeds in people's mind.

**Idea Author** Louis E

**Number of Seconds** -2

**Number of Points** -3.5

**Number of Comments** -5

**Idea Title** My Future, Our Future

**Idea Detail** In 2003 the Houston -Galveston Area Council predicted that the regions population would grow to 7.6 million people by the year 2025, the population at the time was some 4.6 million people. The most current census I could find (2010) has the population of the whole region currently at a bit over 6 million people. Needless to say, I envision the Galveston area to become a bit more crowded over the next ten or so years. Of course, population growth isnt necessarily a negative thing, the more people we have the more cultural diversity, political influence, economic stimulus we'll see in our area. I would like to see the residents, new and old, of Galveston and Houston to become more environmentally friendly. Hopefully in the near future well see an increased use of wind, water, solar and other renewable resources to power our homes and cities. If we dont prepare for the future then the swelling population will quickly overwhelm our area and deplete the natural resources we all depend on.

One of these very precious natural resources is water. Humans can't go more than three days without it, it's essential to life, without water there can be no human advancement. This is why the 2011 drought is recorded as one of the

most devastating droughts ever to have plagued Texas in recorded history. This drought probably couldn't have hit at a more inappropriate time, what with the swiftly increasing population occurring. Extended drought may affect the price and availability of electrical power in Texas, due both to the demand for summer air conditioning and the fact that most power plants use large amounts of water for cooling. The Galveston area needs to take advantage of the rain that it does get through rain harvesting (the practice of collecting rainwater in large bins or tanks and purifying it into potable water) and thoroughly cleanse used water for reuse.

While Houston might not get as much rain as we do on the island both places get plenty of one

**Idea Author** Elyse A  
**Number of Seconds** 3.33333333  
**Number of Points** 3.83333333  
**Number of Comments** 4.33333333

**Comment 5**

thing annually, sun. Galveston sees about 226 days of sun a year and Houston about 204 days. Solar power is a major untapped resource and a potential job market, which could be crucial to the Houston/Galveston area's growing economy. The clean energy that we would get from solar power would drastically reduce the carbon foot print the 7.6 million people living here will surely produce. Another clean energy we can utilize is wind. There have been a few attempts on the island to create a wind farm, but an optimum location for these large turbines would be a good distance off shore where the wind is steadier. The ones proposed by Jerry Patterson (Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office), Harold Schoeffler, and Herman Schellestede (Founders of the Wind Energy Systems Technologies) are able withstand hurricanes and still generate electricity cheap enough to compete with oil. These wind turbines can also produce enough electricity to provide power to about 40,000 homes, in comparison it takes about 20.7 million barrels of oil to come close to that. The down sides to these new developments are the immediate costs of installation and the fact that we are totally dependent on what Mother Nature dishes out, so no sun or wind equals no lights. Even if we can create a system where the Houston Galveston area uses half solar and wind and half fossil fuels then the air quality in the air will improve and we can be a healthier place to live. | By Elyse A

**Comment 6**

In the next ten years a lot is going to happen to our area and the only thing we can do is make sure we have the knowledge and resources we need to face our future and current hardships. I want to see this area to utilize its natural resources, this isnt only about the environment; its about doing whats smart and efficient. To be able to compete in todays world we can no longer depend upon unstable countries in the Middle East, we must look to ourselves and use what we have at home to help fuel the future of the region. This isnt just what I want to see happen to the area, this is what has to happen to ensure our survival in the area.

| By Elyse A

**Comment 7**

In the next ten years a lot is going to happen to our area and the only thing we can do is make sure we have the knowledge and resources we need to face our future and current hardships. I want to see this area to utilize its natural resources, this isnt only about the environment; its about doing whats smart and efficient. To be able to compete in todays world we can no longer depend upon unstable countries in the Middle East, we must look to ourselves and use what we have at home to help fuel the future of the region. This isnt just what I want to see happen to the area, this is what has to happen to ensure our survival in the area.

| By Elyse A

**Comment 8**

thing annually, sun. Galveston sees about 226 days of sun a year and Houston about 204 days. Solar power is a major untapped resource and a potential job market, which could be crucial to the Houston/Galveston area's growing economy. The clean energy that we would get from solar power would drastically reduce the carbon foot print the 7.6 million people living here will surely produce. Another clean energy we can utilize is wind. There have been a few attempts on the island to create a wind farm, but an optimum location for these large turbines would be a good distance off shore where the wind is steadier. The ones proposed by Jerry Patterson (Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office), Harold Schoeffler, and Herman Schellestede (Founders of the Wind Energy Systems Technologies) are able withstand hurricanes and still generate electricity cheap enough to compete with oil. These wind turbines can also produce enough electricity to provide power to about 40,000 homes, in comparison it takes about 20.7 million barrels of oil to come close to that. The down sides to these new developments are the immediate costs of installation and the fact that we are totally dependent on what Mother Nature dishes out, so no sun or wind equals no lights. Even if we can create a system where the Houston Galveston area uses half solar and wind and half fossil fuels then the air quality in the air will improve and we can be a healthier place to live. | By Elyse A

**Idea Title**

Alternative Fuels

<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>Alternative fuels are one more sustainability option for an automobile based economy. Electric recharging and natural gas refueling stations could be promoted as ways to better use resources that are more plentiful. While electric vehicles are available their public acceptance has not been great. One issue could be the scarcity of charging stations. Local cities could promote the installation of recharging stations as part of the building code.</p> <p>Use of natural gas as a fuel has also not received much attention from the public. Limited numbers of private enterprise and local governments have used natural gas as a fuel. Their experience needs to be shared with the public to understand better the advantages and disadvantages. Here again, local governments could help promote natural gas refueling stations as part of the building code.</p> <p>Fueling station operators and the public need to be incentivized to promote and use alternative fuels. While not a solution to increased vehicle miles of travel it is a strategy for better utilization of scarce resources.</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Robert S
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	2.666666667
<b>Number of Points</b>	3.166666667
<b>Number of Comments</b>	3.666666667
<b>Comment 4</b>	I am intrigued by the idea of garage-based battery banks storing and sharing home-made electricity from solar or wind resources, especially for charging electric vehicles whenever they might pull in. Perhaps such banks could be built up from re-used electric auto battery packs whenever those fall below spec required for automotive use. The "old Tesla" battery slab should still have plenty (70%?) deep-cycle power capacity to allow integration with renewable energy home collectors.   By Paul S
<b>Comment 5</b>	I think CNG deserves more research, study, and pilot projects. But I would hate the government to start bending its muscle to force business and consumers to an alternative that maybe isn't that good for them. It's OK for some uses, but CNG is not really a gasoline substitute.   By Peter W
<b>Comment 6</b>	CNG seems to be well-suited for fleet use on somewhat short-distance fixed-route services. That's because the energy density of CNG is much lower than liquid gasoline, the vehicles have to fuel frequently, therefore they always have to run back to base. Therefore, the use-case is about like that of electric cars, except electric cars are MUCH easier and cheaper to charge, though slower to charge (hours) vs. CNG (15-20 min?). Gasoline takes 2 min to fill. You can charge e-cars overnight at home, you can't fill CNG cars at home. The retail equipment for CNG stations is breathtakingly expensive (10x more). The advantages and disadvantages are well understood, and there are good reasons why it's not used for private purposes. But, if you are lucky enough as an individual to find a place to fill, at \$2.50 per MCF, the fuel cost of driving a CNG car is really cheap, for now. Low prices in the oil and gas industry al always temporary. So are high prices.   By Peter W
<b>Idea Title</b>	Aluminum foil
<b>Idea Detail</b>	I just purchased aluminum foil from Reynolds that is made from 100% recycled aluminum. We need more products like this!

<b>Idea Author</b>	Christy H
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	-0.666666667
<b>Number of Points</b>	-1.166666667
<b>Number of Comments</b>	-1.666666667
<b>Idea Title</b>	Affordable Housing
<b>Idea Detail</b>	When will Houtson downtown and small surrounding area, embrace affordable housing that nice lookng and new.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Peggy A
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	-0.666666667
<b>Number of Points</b>	-1.166666667
<b>Number of Comments</b>	-1.666666667
<b>Idea Title</b>	Built-in Re-usability
<b>Idea Detail</b>	Why can't we design in the possibility of re-use when we create the fairly permanent structures and infrastructures of our communities? This could take the form of recyclable materials, and/or re-useable components, modular/moveable assemblies and/or flexible building forms and programs associated with more permanent structures. Sometimes I think we psych ourselves into belief that doing more with less virgin land/material is the only or best kind of efficiency achievable.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Paul S
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Idea Title</b>	Galveston Restoration
<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>There is no telling what Galveston may look like in ten years as it faces many challenges. Nothing inhibits progressive change more than a natural disaster. Though Ive only been a resident of Galveston for a few years, I still consider it my home. One of the worst things a person can experience is seeing their home take considerable and devastating damage. Hurricanes are a major challenge to the progression of Galveston as they damage the homes of thousands if not millions of people and numerous local businesses. By investing in the protection of our home, we invest in our ability to quickly recover after a devastating storm, such as the most current storm Ike, and to not only continue to live our daily lives but to build on and improve them.</p> <p>As Galvestonians already know the 1900 Storm, also known as the Great Storm, compelled the citizens of Galveston to make major improvements to the city to prevent such catastrophic damage from future storms. The city was raised 17ft above its previous elevation and a 3-mile and 17ft high seawall was built to protect part of the city. This investment proved to be beneficial when it was put to test in 1915 when a storm of similar strength struck Galveston. For over a century the seawall has protected, endured, and persevered through numerous storms but as the most recent storm, Ike, has proved the famed Seawall is just not enough anymore.</p>

According to the National Climatic Data Center, the estimated cost in damages for hurricane Ike exceeded \$30 billion making it the third costliest storm to land on U.S. soil. The initial cost to build the seawall was \$1.6 million which today would be \$41.4 million dollars. The seawall has proven its worth time after time. If a fraction of the total damages amount from Ike would have been granted to not only Galveston but to other cities along the gulf coast, the city could have used the money to make much needed repairs to the seawall and possibly invest in other projects that would benefit

**Idea Author**

Arturo P

**Number of Seconds**

2.666666667

**Number of Points**

3.666666667

**Number of Comments**

4.666666667

**Comment 3**

A popular proposal that was conceived by Dr. William Merrell to prevent damage to Galveston and surrounding areas calls for the construction of a coastal barrier, the Ike Dike, which adds to the existing seawall. The construction of massive flood gates and surge barriers will be seen all around the Galveston coast. The surge barriers will not only protect our homes and businesses but create a tourist attraction to bring revenue into the island. With the construction of the Ike Dike, Galveston will lead the way in to the future as engineers harness the capability of modern technology to create this grand barrier to protect on of the most vital ports to the U.S. economy. The road to recovery is long after a devastating natural disaster. Galveston residents that stayed after the havoc that was wreaked by countless hurricanes, will continue to undoubtedly persevere and rebuild what was lost. | By Arturo P

**Comment 4**

The seawater that flooded many parts of Galveston not only destroyed thousands of homes but the green life as well. In future years many of our trees that were uprooted due to the powerful winds of Ike will be replanted. Coming back after the hurricane and seeing all the lifeless trees was such a sad and heart-rending sight. The Galveston Island Tree Conservancy is currently undertaking a regional campaign to replant over 40,000 trees that were lost due to hurricane Ike. There is no doubt that in the future the streets of Galveston will be greener than ever and our Live Oaks and Magnolias come back from the salt water and greet both residents tourists returning to the island. All the efforts to restore life to our island will be pointless unless we are able to undergo city developments that will protect and preserve everything that has been rebuilt. | By Arturo P

**Idea Title**

Galveston in the next 10 years

<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>Galveston County has come a long way since its past storms. Galveston in 2012 is in an excellent touristy position and gradually increases by the seasons. I envision Galveston in ten years to be more than a third of fourth choice tourist spot, of Texas. Galveston already attracts many families and also an older generation due to the historical past of this town. What about the middle group of couples, newlyweds starting families, and adventurous people?</p> <p>There are many ways to expand the clientele that Galveston can attract. Texas has enough hype of being the Lonestar state, but what about the old historic town where everything literally started? Galveston should seek a train of thought for increasing tourism even more. Not only will up us, Galvestonians, doing so. Well our community can build off of the tourism more than we do now. For example, our community can build a free parking area, preferably a multi-leveled parking garage, to concentrate tourists parking in a general area. There will be tourists that still want to park and pay on the seawall, but having another option, and it being free, is a good alternative. Not to mention it will decrease traffic volume displacing Seawall Boulevard. Typically this parking garage will be located in the downtown historic area for people who dont want to ride any sort of transportation. This can also coincide with cruise parking or other events.</p> <p>A good addition to this parking garage would be the upcoming tram to have a station running through the middle. Instead of riding a shuttle bus across town, you can have the option to catch the train. For this new envision of transportation and regulating traffic, the trams tracks will need to be extended throughout Galveston to different parts of the town. An additional option to the tram would be a shuttle or some other mode of transportation to satisfy needs of people not wanting to ride the tram along its specific route.</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Stephen L
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	1.33333333
<b>Number of Points</b>	1.83333333
<b>Number of Comments</b>	2.33333333
<b>Comment 2</b>	<p>This would be similar to the island transportation.</p> <p>Galveston needs its old beautification factors added to this town. In ten years the oleanders should be more abundant. Our beach should be added with natural shade from trees that can live in sand and saltwater conditions. There may have to be an out source for a specific species of trees. Across the towns beaches, make or build tiki huts with eating or picnic areas. Place hammocks in these areas, which will be covered by dried leaves for shade.</p> <p>Another envision I have is having an adversely used HOV lane for Galveston. Texas uses HOV lanes in larger cities for families to bypass the workers traffic; therefore, Galveston needs one for residents to bypass touristy traffic. It could be named GAR lane, Galveston appreciates residents lane.</p> <p>In ten years Galveston should be the first place of the modern era to legalize gambling in Texas. Lottery is already a form of gambling and Galveston is where everything started, so there is no better place to begin gambling sites. This will increase tourism and increase money spent in Galveston and in Texas. That is what I think and envision Galveston to be in ten years. There should be a focus</p>

on our residents, increasing tourism revenue, and bringing gambling back from the past.

| By Stephen L

**Idea Title**

Galveston's Future

**Idea Detail**

What I want Galveston to be like in 10 years is a tough question honestly I can come up with more answers than one. Ill start off by saying Galveston has a ton of potential to become a thriving city in Texas considering it is located right off of the Gulf. Galveston is a close destination for most major cities in Texas and brings in a lot of people each year being mainly being Summer of course, and during special holidays. If in 10 years (speaking if gambling is legal by then) Galveston would be great for a Casino. Being right across the street from the Ocean at the Convention Center would be a perfect location. Casinos bring in so many more people that it would probably double if not triple the amount of people who visit Galveston. Also a casino would employ a lot of out of work people so that would be great for the community as well.

As for the Jettys and the Seawall that was built 17ft high and 3 miles across, Galveston already has a great amount of protection from Hurricanes than it obviously did in 1900 when a Category 4 hit the city. A proposal that was made by Dr. William Merrell to prevent damage to Galveston and surrounding areas is means for the construction of a coastal barrier, the Ike Dike. This would add to the already existing seawall and the construction of the massive flood gates and surge barriers will be seen all around the Galveston coast line. The surge barriers will not only protect our homes and businesses but with the construction of the Ike Dike, its protecting some of the most vital ports in the U.S. economy. Thus being such a great way to keep Galveston safe, I think that Dr. William Merrells idea is a very great way to spend the money towards the area. If the idea makes good, we could then later try and maximize Galvestons growth in more businesses and homes once there is a safe backboard that will keep them in service from hurricanes.

**Idea Author**

Make a difference and voice your opinion to be heard. Thankyou for your time  
Colton T

**Number of Seconds**

0

**Number of Points**

0

**Number of  
Comments**

0

**Idea Title**

Time for Transit growth is right now

**Idea Detail**

The light rail transit is a nice start for transit and the new lines thats being extended, yet its time for transit lines to extend far out.

**Idea Author**

Peggy A

**Number of Seconds**

0

**Number of Points**

0

**Number of  
Comments**

0



<b>Idea Title</b>	Solar-powered trash compactors
<b>Idea Detail</b>	The problem of dealing with trash is a basic principle of sustainability planning because the world painted by the Disney movie Wall-e is not something we should strive towards. Solar-powered trash compactors are a simple solution used by many other cities across the US that can bring sustainability to a new level in Houston. The initial cost of the trash cans will be balanced by the longevity of a trash reducing solution: less personnel are needed to regularly empty the trash cans, less landfill rental needed, etc. These trash-cans can be utilized in Hermann Park first for testing and then expanded for use around the city.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Jamie B
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	0
<b>Number of Points</b>	0
<b>Number of Comments</b>	0
<b>Topic Name</b>	<i>Grocery Shopping</i>
<b>Idea Title</b>	Farmers market promotion
<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>While I use grocery stores for my current food needs, I would like to see farmers markets promoted--and supported--much more. The idea of developing strong local food production goes far to assist in energy savings in transportation, economic vitality for extended communities, healthier foods that are ripened naturally, and the spread of farming expertise nearby for a future that may not have transcontinental or international food distribution choices available.</p> <p>Along the same lines, healthy organic and raw milk producers should be allowed to provide their products with only reasonable regulation to assure health standards while avoiding the type of punishment that is often seen when "non-commercial" producers attempt to compete.</p> <p>I want the freshest, healthiest food and dairy choices and I want to make the decision about where I get them from, not have government working hand-in-glove with big agriculture to stymie these alternative sources of food.</p>
<b>Topic Name</b>	<i>Sustainability Examples</i>
<b>Idea Title</b>	Transit Makeover
<b>Idea Detail</b>	I am new to Houston, and I have yet to be exposed to what Houston transit has to offer. Granted anyone can do the research as to what Transit has to offer, but to the nonchalant it may never cross their mind. Better promotion can help plant seeds in people's mind.
<b>Idea Author</b>	Louis E
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	-6.5
<b>Number of Points</b>	-8
<b>Number of Comments</b>	-9.5
<b>Idea Title</b>	My Future, Our Future

**Idea Detail**

In 2003 the Houston -Galveston Area Council predicted that the regions population would grow to 7.6 million people by the year 2025, the population at the time was some 4.6 million people. The most current census I could find (2010) has the population of the whole region currently at a bit over 6 million people. Needless to say, I envision the Galveston area to become a bit more crowded over the next ten or so years. Of course, population growth isnt necessarily a negative thing, the more people we have the more cultural diversity, political influence, economic stimulus we'll see in our area. I would like to see the residents, new and old, of Galveston and Houston to become more environmentally friendly. Hopefully in the near future well see an increased use of wind, water, solar and other renewable resources to power our homes and cities. If we dont prepare for the future then the swelling population will quickly overwhelm our area and deplete the natural resources we all depend on.

One of these very precious natural resources is water. Humans can't go more than three days without it, it's essential to life, without water there can be no human advancement. This is why the 2011 drought is recorded as one of the most devastating droughts ever to have plagued Texas in recorded history. This drought probably couldn't have hit at a more inappropriate time, what with the swiftly increasing population occurring. Extended drought may affect the price and availability of electrical power in Texas, due both to the demand for summer air conditioning and the fact that most power plants use large amounts of water for cooling. The Galveston area needs to take advantage of the rain that it does get through rain harvesting (the practice of collecting rainwater in large bins or tanks and purifying it into potable water) and thoroughly cleanse used water for reuse.

While Houston might not get as much rain as we do on the island both places get plenty of one

**Idea Author**

Elyse A

**Number of Seconds**

4.833333333

**Number of Points**

5.333333333

**Number of**

5.833333333

**Comments**

**Comment 9**

thing annually, sun. Galveston sees about 226 days of sun a year and Houston about 204 days. Solar power is a major untapped resource and a potential job market, which could be crucial to the Houston/Galveston area's growing economy. The clean energy that we would get from solar power would drastically reduce the carbon foot print the 7.6 million people living here will surely produce. Another clean energy we can utilize is wind. There have been a few attempts on the island to create a wind farm, but an optimum location for these large turbines would be a good distance off shore where the wind is steadier. The ones proposed by Jerry Patterson (Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office), Harold Schoeffler, and Herman Schellestede (Founders of the Wind Energy Systems Technologies) are able withstand hurricanes and still generate electricity cheap enough to compete with oil. These wind turbines can also produce enough electricity to provide power to about 40,000 homes, in comparison it takes about 20.7 million barrels of oil to come close to that. The down sides to these new developments are the immediate costs of installation and the fact that we are totally dependent on what Mother Nature dishes out, so no sun or wind equals no lights. Even if we can create a system where the Houston Galveston area uses half solar and wind and half fossil fuels then the air quality in the air will improve and we can be a healthier place to live. | By Elyse A

**Comment 10**

In the next ten years a lot is going to happen to our area and the only thing we can do is make sure we have the knowledge and resources we need to face our future and current hardships. I want to see this area to utilize its natural resources, this isnt only about the environment; its about doing whats smart and efficient. To be able to compete in todays world we can no longer depend upon unstable countries in the Middle East, we must look to ourselves and use what we have at home to help fuel the future of the region. This isnt just what I want to see happen to the area, this is what has to happen to ensure our survival in the area.

| By Elyse A

**Comment 11**

In the next ten years a lot is going to happen to our area and the only thing we can do is make sure we have the knowledge and resources we need to face our future and current hardships. I want to see this area to utilize its natural resources, this isnt only about the environment; its about doing whats smart and efficient. To be able to compete in todays world we can no longer depend upon unstable countries in the Middle East, we must look to ourselves and use what we have at home to help fuel the future of the region. This isnt just what I want to see happen to the area, this is what has to happen to ensure our survival in the area.

| By Elyse A

<b>Comment 12</b>	<p>thing annually, sun. Galveston sees about 226 days of sun a year and Houston about 204 days. Solar power is a major untapped resource and a potential job market, which could be crucial to the Houston/Galveston area's growing economy. The clean energy that we would get from solar power would drastically reduce the carbon foot print the 7.6 million people living here will surely produce. Another clean energy we can utilize is wind. There have been a few attempts on the island to create a wind farm, but an optimum location for these large turbines would be a good distance off shore where the wind is steadier. The ones proposed by Jerry Patterson (Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office), Harold Schoeffler, and Herman Schellestede (Founders of the Wind Energy Systems Technologies) are able withstand hurricanes and still generate electricity cheap enough to compete with oil. These wind turbines can also produce enough electricity to provide power to about 40,000 homes, in comparison it takes about 20.7 million barrels of oil to come close to that. The down sides to these new developments are the immediate costs of installation and the fact that we are totally dependent on what Mother Nature dishes out, so no sun or wind equals no lights. Even if we can create a system where the Houston Galveston area uses half solar and wind and half fossil fuels then the air quality in the air will improve and we can be a healthier place to live.   By Elyse A</p>
<b>Idea Title</b>	Alternative Fuels
<b>Idea Detail</b>	<p>Alternative fuels are one more sustainability option for an automobile based economy. Electric recharging and natural gas refueling stations could be promoted as ways to better use resources that are more plentiful. While electric vehicles are available their public acceptance has not been great. One issue could be the scarcity of charging stations. Local cities could promote the installation of recharging stations as part of the building code. Use of natural gas as a fuel has also not received much attention from the public. Limited numbers of private enterprise and local governments have used natural gas as a fuel. Their experience needs to be shared with the public to understand better the advantages and disadvantages. Here again, local governments could help promote natural gas refueling stations as part of the building code. Fueling station operators and the public need to be incentivized to promote and use alternative fuels. While not a solution to increased vehicle miles of travel it is a strategy for better utilization of scarce resources.</p>
<b>Idea Author</b>	Robert S
<b>Number of Seconds</b>	4.16666667
<b>Number of Points</b>	4.66666667
<b>Number of Comments</b>	5.16666667
<b>Comment 7</b>	<p>I am intrigued by the idea of garage-based battery banks storing and sharing home-made electricity from solar or wind resources, especially for charging electric vehicles whenever they might pull in. Perhaps such banks could be built up from re-used electric auto battery packs whenever those fall below spec required for automotive use. The "old Tesla" battery slab should still have plenty (70%?) deep-cycle power capacity to allow integration with renewable</p>

energy home collectors. | By Paul S

# Appendix D

Community Ambassador Team Presentation

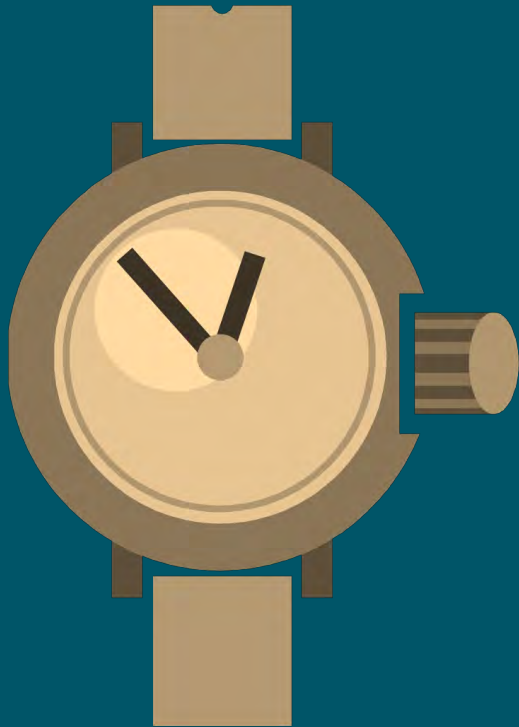
## HOUSTON GALVESTON REGIONAL PLAN



Community Training

August 6-9, 2012

# Agenda



- Welcome
- Public Participation
- Effective Involvement Tools
- Getting Input: Identifying Strengths and Projects
- Putting Input to Use
- Getting Started
- Next Steps



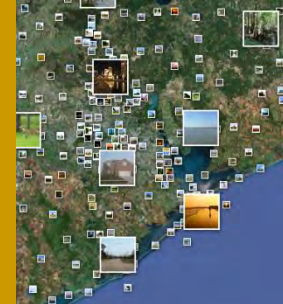
# OurRegion

- The region is among the fastest growing and most diverse in the nation
- Today about 6 million residents live here
- By 2040 as many as 10 million residents could live in the region
- Houston-Galveston Area Council is the regional Council of Government
- H-GAC and a Coordinating Committee for the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development are hosting tonight's training



# Public Participation

## A Way of Life



# Goal of Today's Training

- To ensure that community groups and leaders are effectively involved in the planning process and are offered information that is useful in other planning processes as well (i.e. neighborhood, local etc.)



# What Interest do you represent?

1. Civic Association or Neighborhood Group
2. Resident
3. Faith-Based Organization
4. Non-Profit Sector / “NGO”
5. Public/Government Sector
6. Private Entrepreneur/  
Business

# Who is in the room?

1. Organization or Club Member	0%
2. Business Leader	0%
3. Executive Director	0%
4. Interested Individual	0%
5. None of the above	0%

# How would you rate yourself as a public engager?

1. Effective
2. Somewhat effective
3. Depends
4. Somewhat ineffective
5. Ineffective

# What is your primary communications tool?

1. Social Media (i.e. Twitter, Facebook, etc.)
2. Newsletter / flyers
3. Phone calls / phone tree
4. Public gatherings / organizational meetings
5. Other

# How do you primarily get information from people today?

1. Telephone and Email
2. Face to Face Conversations (F2F)
3. Small Group Meetings
4. Questionnaires or Surveys



# Identify your primary method of collecting data below:

1. Surveys, Polls (paper or online)
2. Data Mapping
3. Individual Interviews
4. Phone Log
5. Other
6. I Don't Collect Data

# Effective Involvement

“The public is most often viewed as an audience to educate, or a problem to manage”

Disingenuine involvement vs. real involvement

Genuine involvement is ongoing

## Aim of Involvement

To create a culture where citizens and leaders share responsibility in approaching and solving problems of common concern, and to build effective two-way communications

# Common Approaches



## 1. Executive Committee

- Streamlines efficiency
- Reduces effective dialogue
- Model isn't the best to receive input from people

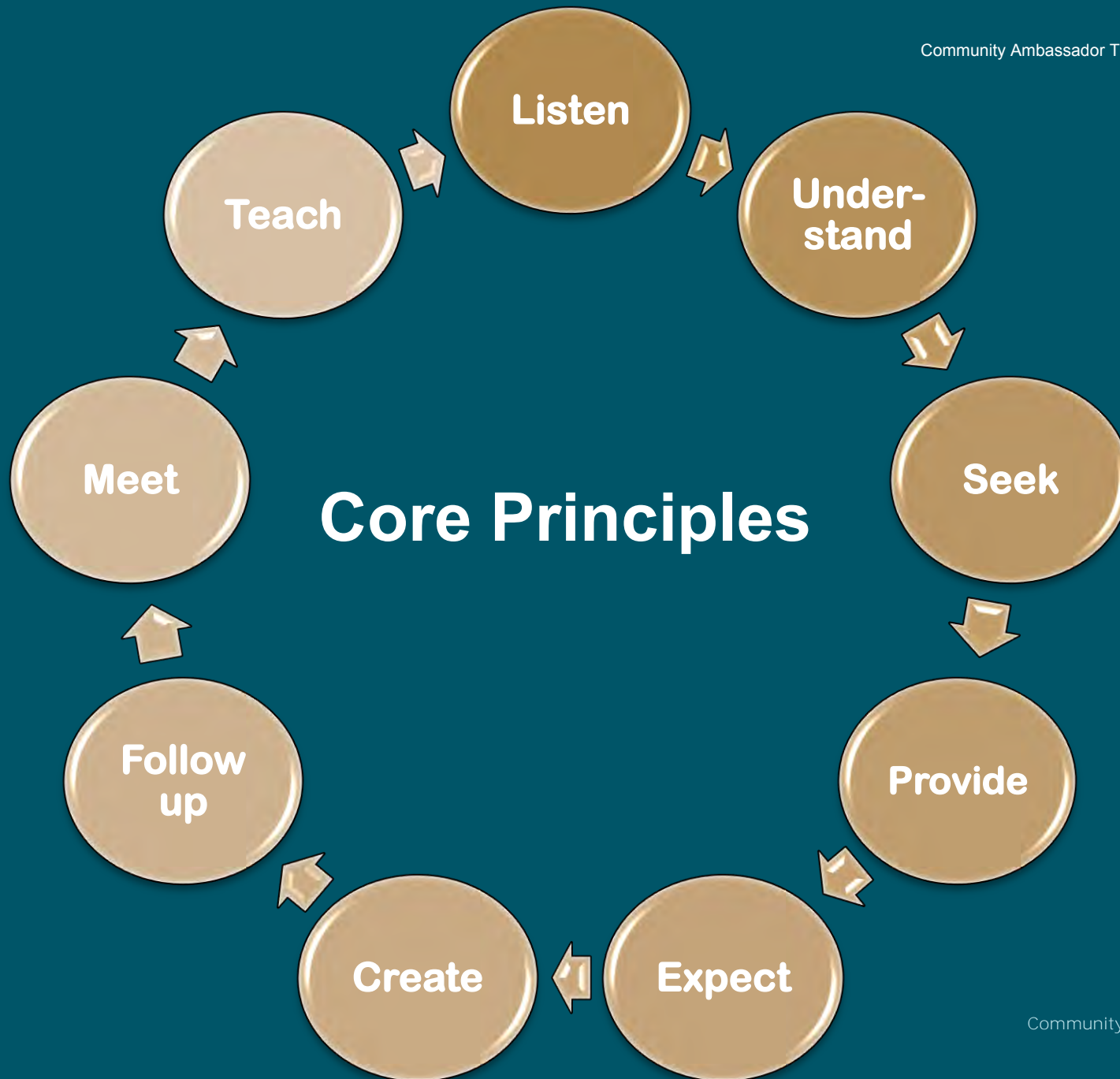


## 2. Large Group Meeting

- Offers consistency of message
- Loudest voices receive lion's share of attention
- Requires a great deal of pre and post organization

# Goals of Effective Involvement

1. To increase opportunities for **two-way** communication to occur
2. To create a process which allows **all voices** to be heard
3. To stay committed to a **process**, not to a predetermined outcome
4. To become **vulnerable**, which produces more comprehensive solutions



# Uncommon but Effective Approaches

Using technology

Trusted advisors

Understanding  
perspectives

Familiar venues

Creative mapping

Culturally specific

# Meeting Etiquette

- “Be prepared”
  - Know the pro and con issues on the subject matter
  - Have subject matter experts available
- Pre-event interactions
  - One-on-one conversations
  - Provide education about topics to be covered
- Use plain language and an open tone in a transparent process
- At beginning of meeting, let attendees know processes of interaction
  - Have all speakers, including community speakers, identify themselves

# Involvement Techniques

---





# Today's Toolkit

## What's in your packet?

**ELEVATOR CHALLENGE:**  
Creating a Case Statement

What is your communication goal?

Message Point #1

Message Point #2

Message Point #3

**NOTES**

**Do It Yourself! Civic Engagement Tools**

Name	Website	Focus on		Type	Cost	Notes
		Problems	Assets			
Mobile Polling	ipolls.org			Audience Response	\$	Gather audience feedback via Cell Phone.
Communications	www.councilofthorpeffs.org/resources/communications-planning			Communications	Free	
Appreciative Inquiry Commons	http://apicollab@inquiry.case.edu		X	Community Character	Free	
Walkability Audit	www.walkinfo.org/problems/audit.cfm			Community Character	Free	
Gliffy	www.gliffy.com/less-ract-analysis-software/	X	X	Community Engagement	Free/\$	SWOT and other charts. \$ free, then purchase
-SWOT	www.-swot.com	X	X	Community Engagement	Free	Not truly a web 2.0 app. Limited to single session.
Service Leader	http://www.servicelider.org/leaders/engaging			Community Engagement	Free	UT Austin resources
Community Tool Box	http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tabcontent/chapter_1006.aspx			Community Involvement	Free	Offers wide range of resources
SurveyMonkey	www.surveymonkey.com			Data Collection	Free*	Depending on needs, base level free
Event Brite	www.eventbrite.com			Event Registration	Free	Tracks event attendance and couples with mobile app for stats and check-in on the go
Flyers	http://file.microwork.com/en-us/templates/CTE_0144261.aspx			Flyers	Free	
Flyers	www.flyeremplates.org			Flyers	Free	
Flyers	www.potrableyemplates.net			Flyers	Free	
Mind Mixer Forum	www.mindmixer.com	X	X	Forum	\$\$	
Neighbors Forum	www.neighborforum.org	X	X	Forum	Free	
Open Town Hall	www.opentownhall.com	X	X	Forum	\$\$	
Engaging Plans	www.engagingplans.com			Forum	\$\$	
IdeaScale	www.ideascale.com	X	X	Forum	\$\$	\$250 for public forum
Crowdwrite	www.crowdwrite.com			Forum	\$	Free for users to comment
Community Almanac	www.communityalmanac.org		X	Forum	Free	Essentially a blog always text and photos to be tagged to a place
See Click Fix	http://seedclick.com/users	X		Forum	Free	Need based
Community Tool Box	http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tabcontent/tools_k_content_page_235.aspx			Influencing Policy Development	Free	Offers wide range of resources
Panoramio Photo Sharing	www.panoramio.com	X	X	Locative media	Free	http://www.panoramio.com/help/groups

**Do It Yourself!**

**Mapping Community Assets**


**Technique #1 - SWOT Analysis**

**PURPOSE:** To combine needs-based connector approaches with appreciative inquiry techniques resulting in a balanced, community-wide discovery of strengths and weaknesses.

**TIME:** The following instructions describe the full process for a SWOT analysis. In practice it takes at least 45 minutes: 10 minutes for each category and five minutes for wrap-up.

**TASKS:**

1. Ensure attendees know what S.W.O.T. means; that Strengths and Weaknesses are from within their community, and that Opportunities and Threats come from outside their community.
2. Distribute a supply of four (4) colors of index cards or Post-It notes to each attendee. (The card color doesn't matter, just ensure there are four noticeably different colors.) We recommend:
  - a. Green = Strengths
  - b. Red/Pink = Weaknesses
  - c. Yellow = Opportunities
  - d. Violet/Purple = Threats
3. Ask attendees to legibly write down what they think of as "strengths" within their community; one per card or Post-It. If the strength has a physical location, ask them to include the address or at minimum, descriptive location characteristics.
4. Repeat this process three more times - once each for Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.
5. On a large sheet of paper or poster board, draw two lines in the form of a box, dividing the page into four quadrants. Write the words Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats in each of the boxes, respectively.
6. Ask attendees to stick or tape their written comments into the appropriate box: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.
7. In round-table discussion format, read through each of the Strengths and encourage attendees to comment on these. Do this for each of the four categories. Try to arrive at a consensus of the comments in each category that are the most significant.



Type	Best Use	Pros	Cons
SWOT Flip Chart	small group or room	•highly participatory •everyone gets to speak •incorporates non place-specific data	•limited to those attending. •Some persons opinions may be influenced by others speaking first.
SWOT Index Cards/Post-It Notes	larger group	•"Everyone gets to write down their thoughts, and everyone gets to see/hear others' thoughts at the end. •Incorporates non place-specific data.	•"Sometimes handwriting is illegible. •Sometimes challenging to analyze the information."
SWOT Website	online, size unlimited	•"Everyone gets to contribute their thoughts." •Automated reporting/data analysis. •Capacity to handle large populations. •Incorporates non place-specific data.	•"Some lack online access or computer skills. •Impersonal."
Google Fusion Tables	individual site manager or formal organization	•"Easy to import data managed in Excel." •Can handle large data sets. •Account owner has control of data. •Advanced effects possible, but require programming.	•"Single individual serves as the "data guru." Not collaborative. •Map icons limited to 5 colors and 2 shapes, (so, can display only 5 categories) •Officially, it's a "beta" service. •Focus is limited to place-specific data."
Google Panoramio	online audience	•"Can accommodate very large user group and large collection of photo contributions." •Allows classification of photos into categories using "tags." •Account owner restricts who can "join" and is allowed to post. •Direct integration with Google Earth.	•"Impractical for meetings; accept to display results. •Focus is limited to place-specific data." •Google Earth option requires software install. •No automated data analysis or reporting. •Participation limited to computer-savvy persons."

# WHAT

- Determine needed outputs
  - Identification of an issue?
  - Clarity on stakeholder needs?
  - Action?
- Clarify message
  - Creating your case statement or “elevator speech”



• **Challenge: Two Minutes or Less**





# Elevator Speech Challenge

**What is your goal?**

Message Point #1

Message Point #2

Message Point #3



# Sample Points

## What is your goal?

Create a civic association

### Message Point #1

We don't have a way to effectively communicate with each other as a neighborhood.

### Message Point #2

We need a network to find out existing needs and assets.

### Message Point #3

We don't have a way to effectively convey our needs to decision-makers.



# Elevator Speech Examples

## Typical Community Concerns

Clean up a neighborhood park, playground or vacant lot

Increase membership in our civic association

Organize a neighborhood block party

Improve safety for our kids on Halloween

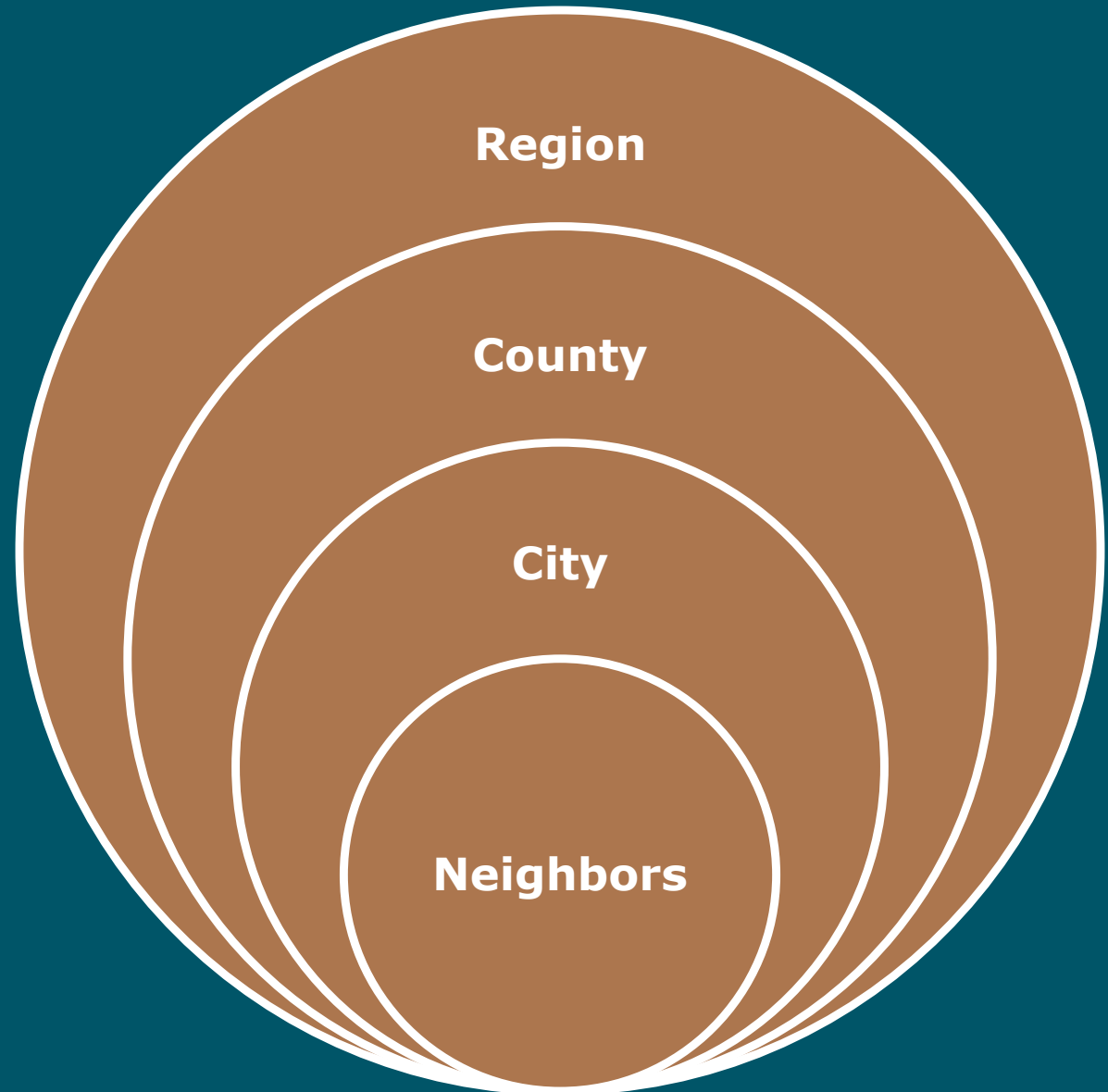
Slow traffic on a neighborhood street

Increase parental involvement at the elementary school

Organize assistance for a homebound neighbor

# WHO

- Residents
- Businesses
- Organizations
- Media
- Elected Officials



# HOW

F2F

- One on One
- Small Groups
- Large Groups

Social

- Targeted Groups
- Broad Approach

Phone

- One on One
- Phone Tree
- Recorded Calls

Email

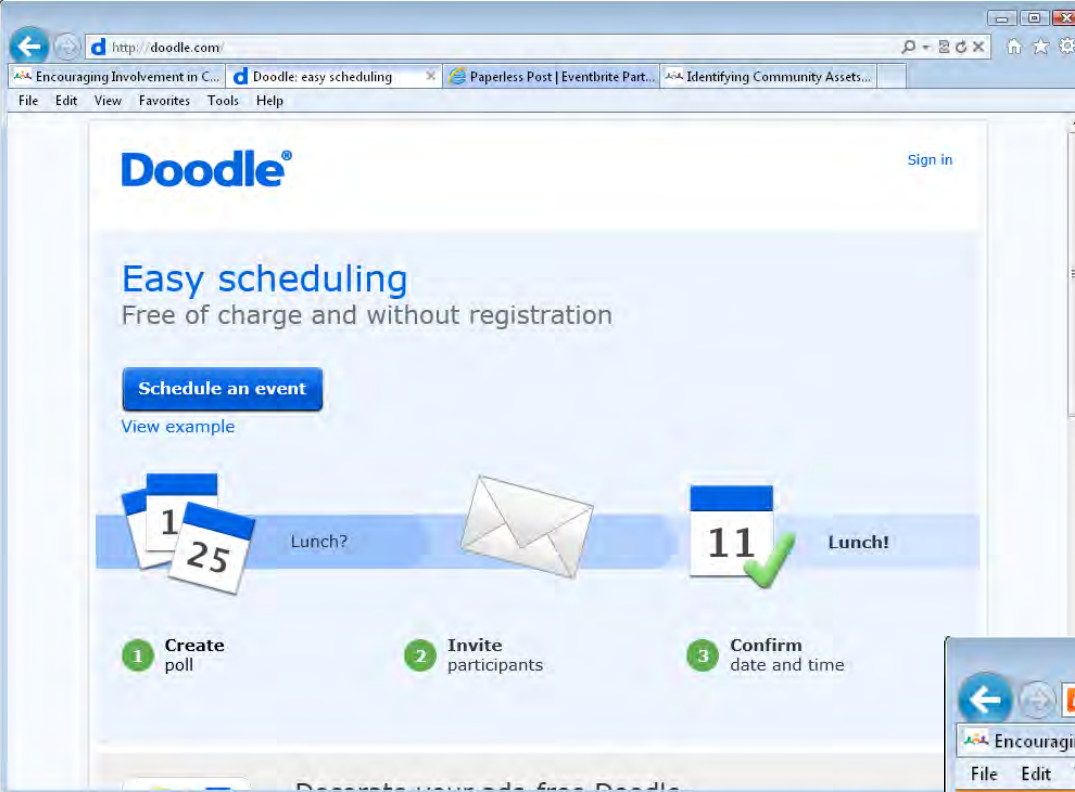
- Targeted Groups
- Mass Emails

Mail

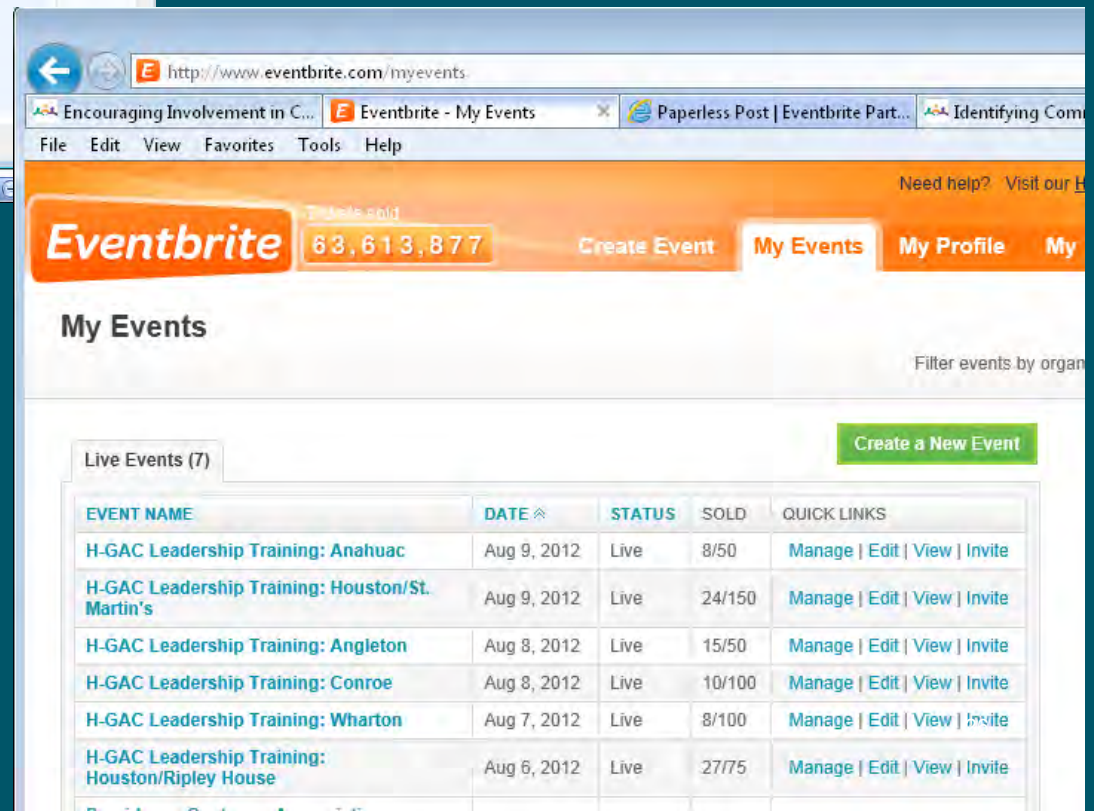
- Letters
- Flyers

Video

- Targeted Groups
- Broad Approach



Slide 6 of 6 "Office Theme" 62%





# HOW

F2F

- One on One
- Small Groups
- Large Groups

Social

- Targeted Groups
- Broad Approach

Phone

- One on One
- Phone Trees
- Recorded Calls

Email

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- Flyers

Video

- Targeted Groups
- Broad Approach



# HOW

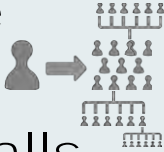
F2F

- One on One
- Small Groups
- Large Groups

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- Targeted Groups
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- Flyers

Video

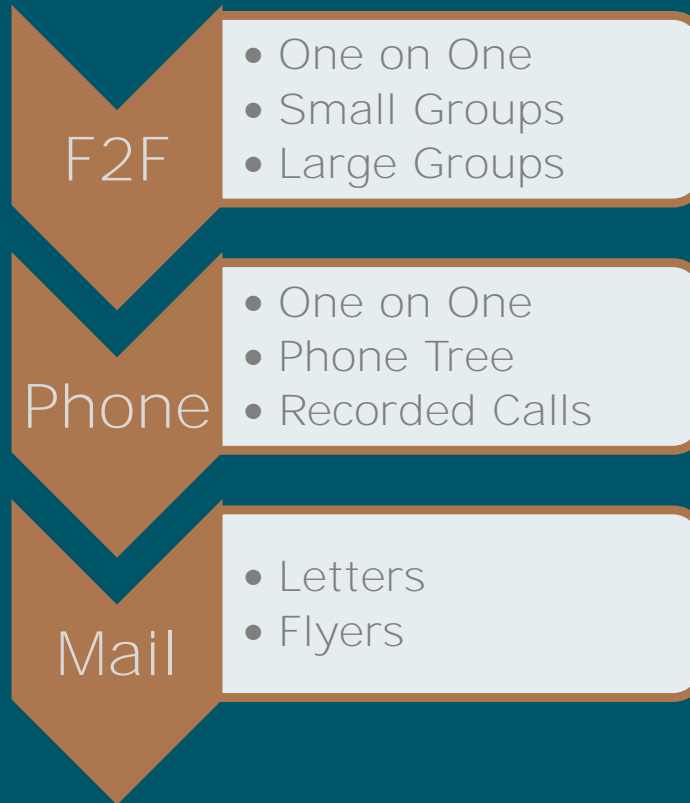
- Targeted Groups
- Broad Approach

# Flyers

- Use templates when possible
- Send visually by email to save time and money
  - Offer online registration (ex. Eventbrite.com)
- Will still need hard copies
  - Use QR codes on printed materials to tie to online registration processes (ex. Qrcode.kaywa.com)

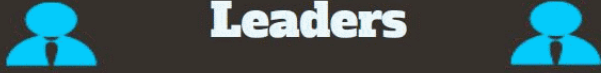


# HOW

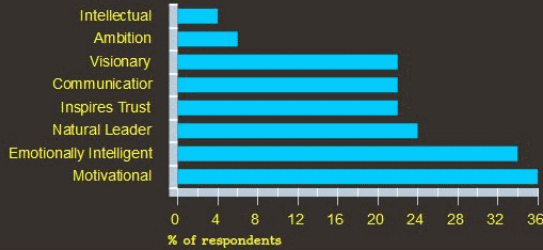




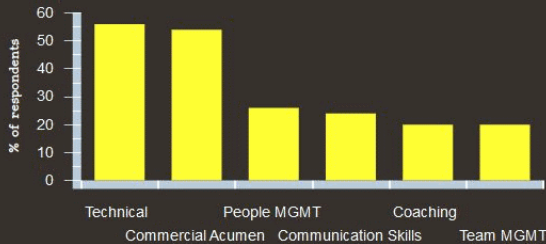
# The Anatomy of Leaders



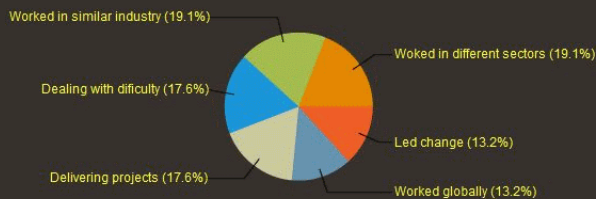
## What Qualities Define A Leader



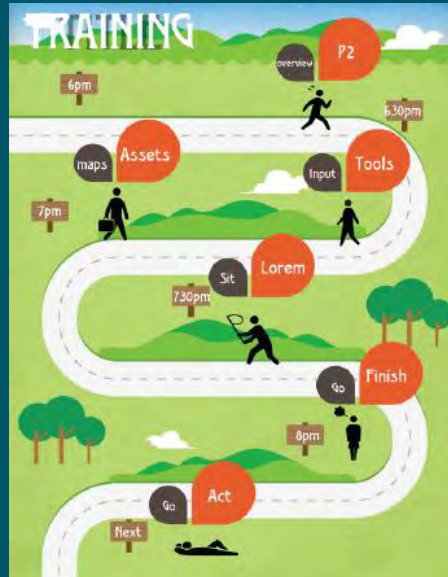
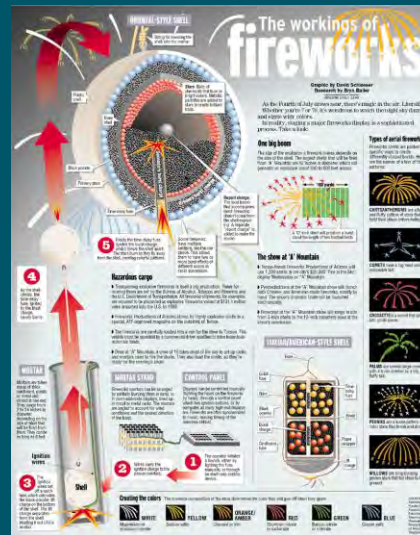
## Key Leadership Skills



## The Experiences That Build Leaders



ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT



Visual.ly or Easel.ly

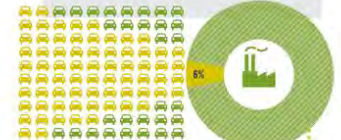
# LIGHTING THE CLEAN REVOLUTION

LEDS ARE BRINGING A LIGHTING REVOLUTION TO OUR CITIES NOT SEEN SINCE THE DAYS OF THOMAS EDISON. THE TECHNOLOGY REPRESENTS AS MUCH OF A STEP CHANGE AS THE MOVE FROM CANDLES TO INCANDESCENT LAMPS IN THE 19TH CENTURY.

LIGHTING ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 20% OF THE WORLD'S ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION.



THE 6% OF GLOBAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS ATTRIBUTED TO LIGHTING IS EQUIVALENT TO 70% OF THE EMISSIONS FROM THE WORLD'S PASSENGER VEHICLES



THE 'LIGHTSAVERS' TRIAL: 12 MAJOR CITIES, 15 TRIALS, 27 PRODUCTS, 500+ LIGHTS

WE LEARNED THAT LEDS ACHIEVE THE EXPECTED 50% TO 70% ENERGY SAVINGS, AND REACH UP TO 80% SAVINGS WHEN COUPLED WITH SMART CONTROLS.



LED PENETRATION INTO THE GENERAL LIGHTING MARKET IS EXPECTED TO RISE FROM 7% TODAY TO 64% BY 2020, REACHING AT LEAST US\$70 BILLION IN VALUE PER YEAR



LED PRICES ARE SET TO FALL BY MORE THAN 80% BY 2020. SOON IT WILL SAVE BILLIONS IN ENERGY AND MAINTENANCE COSTS ACROSS THE GLOBE.



IF AN AVERAGE OF JUST 40% ENERGY SAVINGS WERE UNLOCKED BY LEDS ACROSS THE WORLD, IT WOULD SAVE...

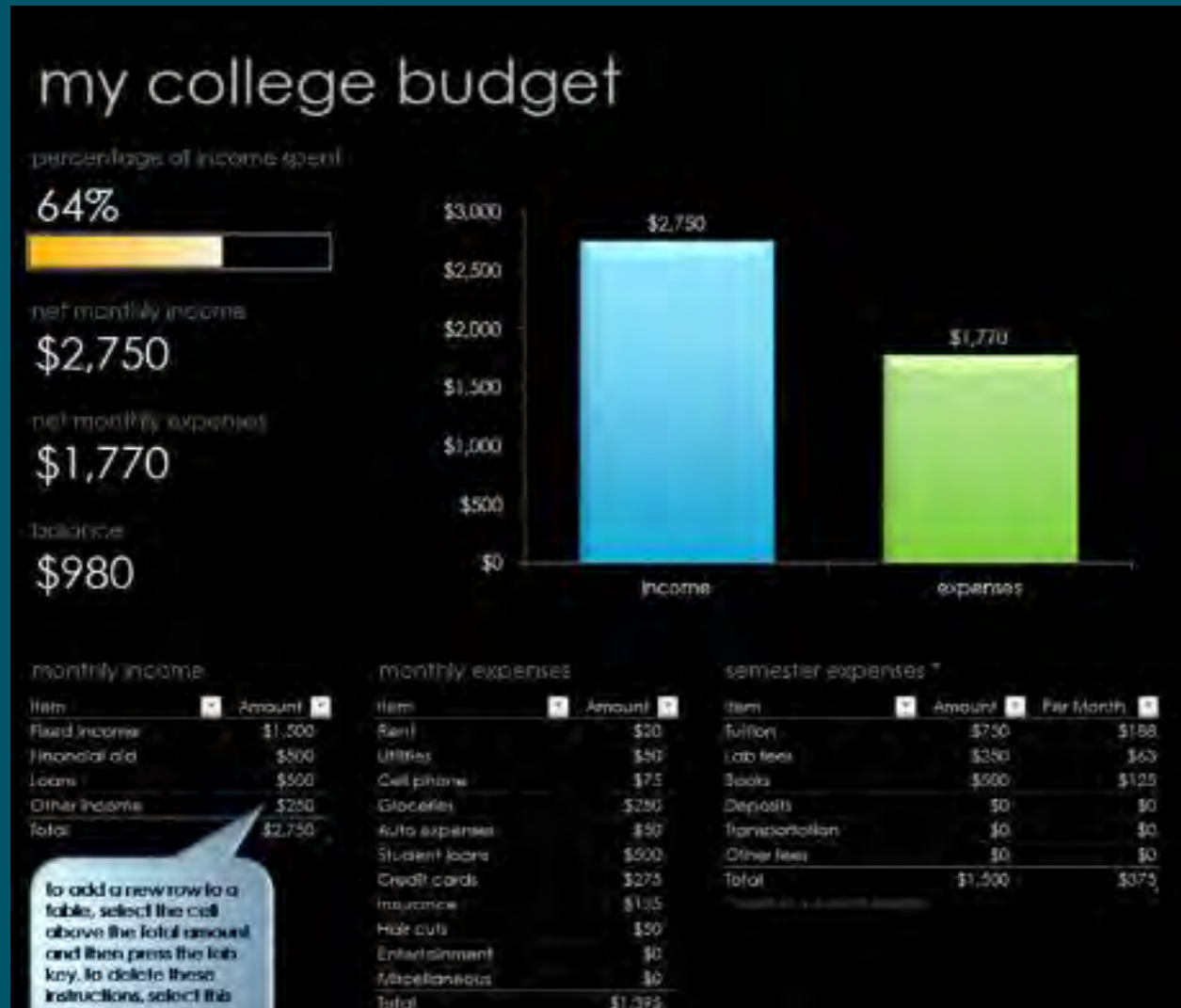


\$129 BILLION IN ELECTRICITY COST, THE TOTAL GLOBAL WIND AND PHOTOVOLTAIC MARKETS COMBINED

AND



IF LEDS REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL, THEY COULD ALMOST SINGLE-HANDEDLY ELIMINATE LIGHTING AS A MAJOR SOURCE OF GLOBAL EMISSIONS

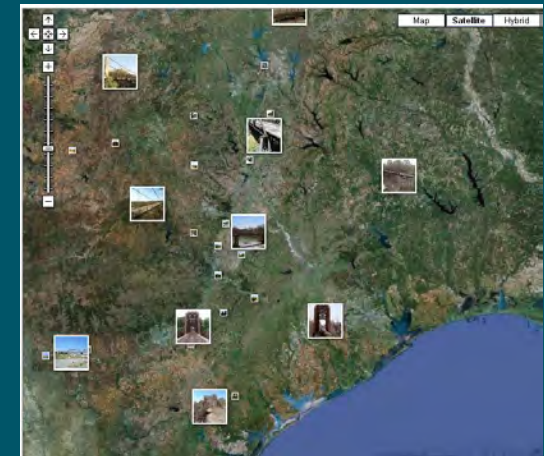


Microsoft  
Excel



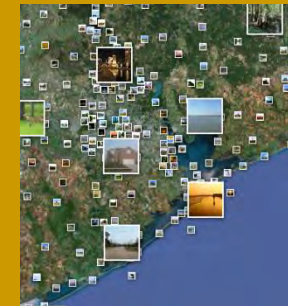
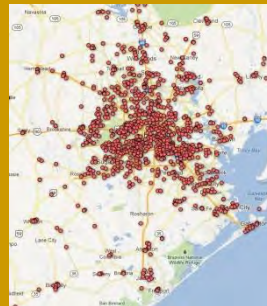
# Choosing the Right Data Illustration Tool

- Charts and graphs
  - Show numbers – quantitative data
  
- Location-based mapping
  - Visually shows information within an area



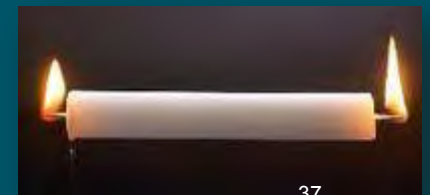
# Tools You Can Use

## Free Technology Tools Available To You



# Community Building

- Physical Redevelopment → Buildings
- Social Justice & Social Services → People
- Environmental Protection / Conservation → The Land
  
- Needs based vs. Assets based approaches to change
  - Some argue that needs based approaches create dependency
  - Asset-based approaches “build on your strengths”
    - Focus on the positive
  
- Real success requires that you address both



**FREE**

## Lineup:

- SWOT Analysis (5 min.)
- Asset Mapping (5 min.)
- Visitor Employed Photography (8 min.)

**Ready, Set, Go!**



# 1: SWOT Analysis

A strategic planning tool borrowed from business

- **S**trengths = Assets
- **W**eaknesses = Problems or Disadvantages
- **O**pportunities = External Resources Potentially Available
- **T**hreats = External Forces that may Hinder Success



# SWOT Analysis Methods

- **Low Tech** – Use a **flip chart** to record audience statements
- **Medium Tech** – Use **post-it notes** or **index cards**.
- **High Tech** – Use online SWOT tools: **l-swot.com**, **gliffy.com**, etc. These may reach a wider audience.





# DIY SWOT: Medium-Tech Method

- STRENGTH = **GREEN**
- WEAKNESS = **PINK**
- OPPORTUNITY = **YELLOW**
- THREAT = **BLUE**
- Describe the asset and its location
- Post onto SWOT Analysis Sheet at your tables in the corresponding block.



# Example SWOT

<b>STRENGTHS</b>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nice park or playground</li><li>• Strong membership in organization</li><li>• Good schools</li><li>• Vibrant shopping district</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overgrown, vacant lots</li><li>• Lack of youth involved in organization</li><li>• No active civic association</li><li>• Speeding cut-through traffic</li></ul>
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<b>THREATS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nearby road being resurfaced</li><li>• New industry moving into town</li><li>• Church outreach program nearby</li><li>• Flood control project strengthening levees</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Banks are tight with loans</li><li>• Large regional employer is closing</li><li>• Perception of crime in nearby neighborhoods</li><li>• Tropical storm season</li></ul>



# 2: Google Fusion Tables

## FREE

# What is it?

- Quickly maps spreadsheet data where one field contains location information.
- [google.com/fusiontables](http://google.com/fusiontables)

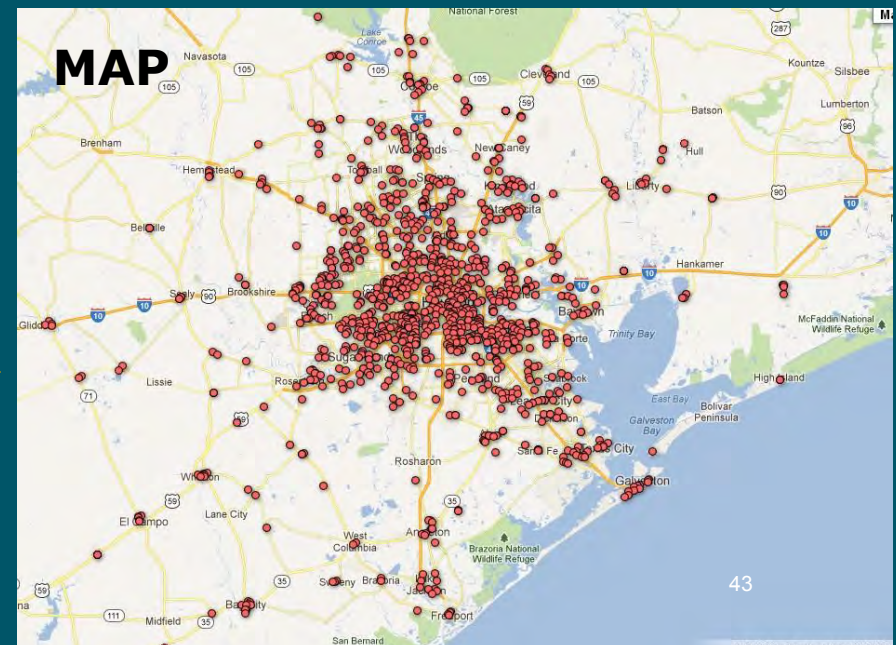
HGAC Schools GHAC GIS

File View Edit Visualize Merge Experiment

Showing all rows [options](#)

### SPREADSHEET

CAMPNAME +	ADDRESS +	ZIP +	COUNTY +	REGION	GRADERANGE +
HARDIN J H	41 BERRY RD, HARDIN, TX	77561-0030	LIBERTY COUNTY	04	6-6
NORTHBROOK H S	41 RAIDER CIR, HOUSTON, TX	77030-3595	HARRIS COUNTY	04	9-12
WHARTON H S	41 TIGER AVE, WHARTON, TX	77486-3146	WHARTON COUNTY	03	9-12
DUEITT MIDDLE	1 EARLE CROSSING, SPRING, TX	77373-7595	HARRIS COUNTY	04	6-8
RANCHO ISABELLA EL	100 CORRAL LOOP, ANGLETON, TX	77515-3706	BRAZORIA COUNTY	04	KG-4
MONTGOMERY EL	100 E EVA, MONTGOMERY, TX	77366-4481	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	06	EE-3
GLADYS POLK EL	100 GLEN FOREST DR, RICHWOOD, TX	77531-0699	BRAZORIA COUNTY	04	EE-5
TRAVIS EL	100 ROBIN RD, BAYTOWN, TX	77520-1348	HARRIS COUNTY	04	EE-5
PALACIOS H S	100 SHARK DR, PALACIOS, TX	77465-3699	MATAGORDA COUNTY	03	9-12
LANTRIP EL	100 TELEPHONE RD, HOUSTON, TX	77023-1899	HARRIS COUNTY	04	EE-6
COMMUNITY CTR	1000 E STADIUM DR, ROSENBERG, TX	77471-9999	FORT BEND COUNTY	04	EE-12
GALENA PARK H S	1000 HEBBLE, GALENA PARK, TX	77547-3099	HARRIS COUNTY	04	9-12
SPRING BRANCH MIDDLE	1000 FINNEY POINT, HOUSTON, TX	77024-2796	HARRIS COUNTY	04	6-8
BESS CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY	1000 SHADOW BEND DR, SUGAR LAND, TX	77479	FORT BEND COUNTY	04	EE-5
ANAHUAC H S	1000 WILCOX, ANAHUAC, TX	77514-1600	CHAMBERS COUNTY	04	9-12
BEST EL	1000 CENTRE PKWY, HOUSTON, TX	77036-8200	HARRIS COUNTY	04	PK-4
ROBERT P BRAEBHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL	1000 EMBOLD, WILLIS, TX	77316	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	06	06-07-08
JENNIE REID EL	1001 W FAIRMONT PKWY, LA PORTE, TX	77571-6496	HARRIS COUNTY	04	KG-5
CENTRAL EL	1001 5TH ST, PALACIOS, TX	77465-4307	MATAGORDA COUNTY	03	EE-3
T L PINK EL	1001 COLLINS RD, RICHMOND, TX	77469-2756	FORT BEND COUNTY	04	EE-5
NORTHSIDE EL	1001 RIDGECREST DR, ANGLETON, TX	77515-3699	BRAZORIA COUNTY	04	EE-12



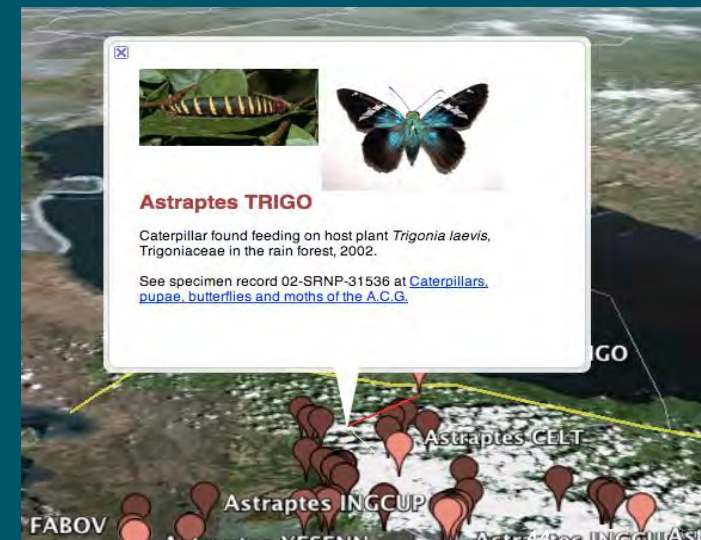
# Google Fusion Tables

# How to...

- Have a list of your community's assets?  
Map it! Then share it.

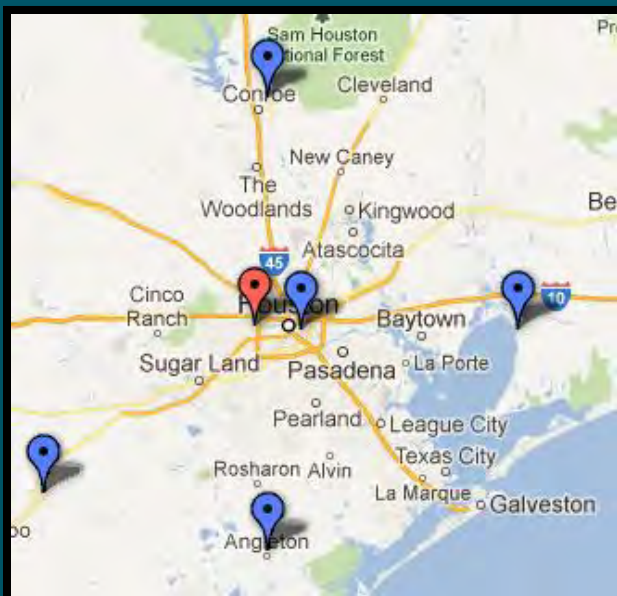
Name	Location	Attribute	Category
Site 1	Houston, TX	3 acres	Open land
Site 2	Galveston, TX	2,300 SQFT	Commercial space
Site 3	Corpus Christi, TX	96 acres	Open Land

- One person handles the data
  - Reduces collaboration of ideas
  - Increases control of data



# HGAC Training Venues Example

Venue	Address	date	time	icon
<b>Ripley House – East Houston</b>	4410 Navigation Blvd Houston TX 77003	8/6/2012	8:00 PM	large_blue
<b>Wharton</b>	1924 N Fulton St Wharton TX 77488	8/7/2012	6:00 PM	large_blue
<b>Angleton</b>	1601 N Valderas St Angleton TX 77515	8/8/2012	6:00 PM	large_blue
<b>Conroe</b>	9055 Airport Rd Conroe TX 77303	8/8/2012	6:00 PM	large_blue
<b>St. Martin’s – West Houston</b>	717 Sage Rd Houston TX 77056	8/9/2012	10:00 AM	large_red
<b>Anahuac</b>	1704 S Main St Anahuac TX 77514	8/9/2012	6:00 PM	large_blue



↑

**Categories:**

- 5 colors
- 2 sizes

# 3: Community Photo Album

What is it?

- **Visitor Employed Photography**

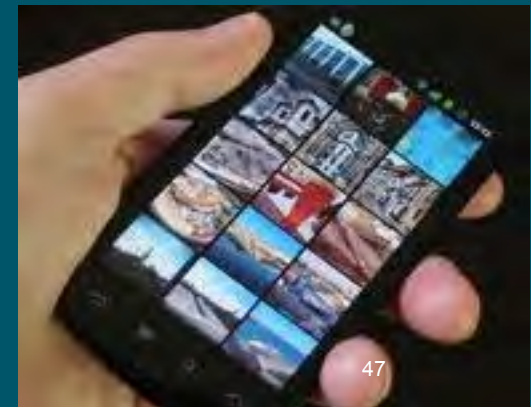
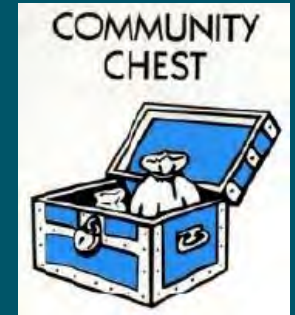
- 1) Asked visitors to take photos with disposable cameras
  - 2) Locations analyzed for most striking: either positive or negative
- Today's use easier with camera phones



# Creating Your Own **FREE**

Ask residents to take photos with their phones and share them online:

1. Make sure the phone's GPS is on
2. Upload their photos to a "Group" on Google's Panoramio service
3. Identify them:
  - Name the scene
  - Add Tags:  
Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat
  - Add comments



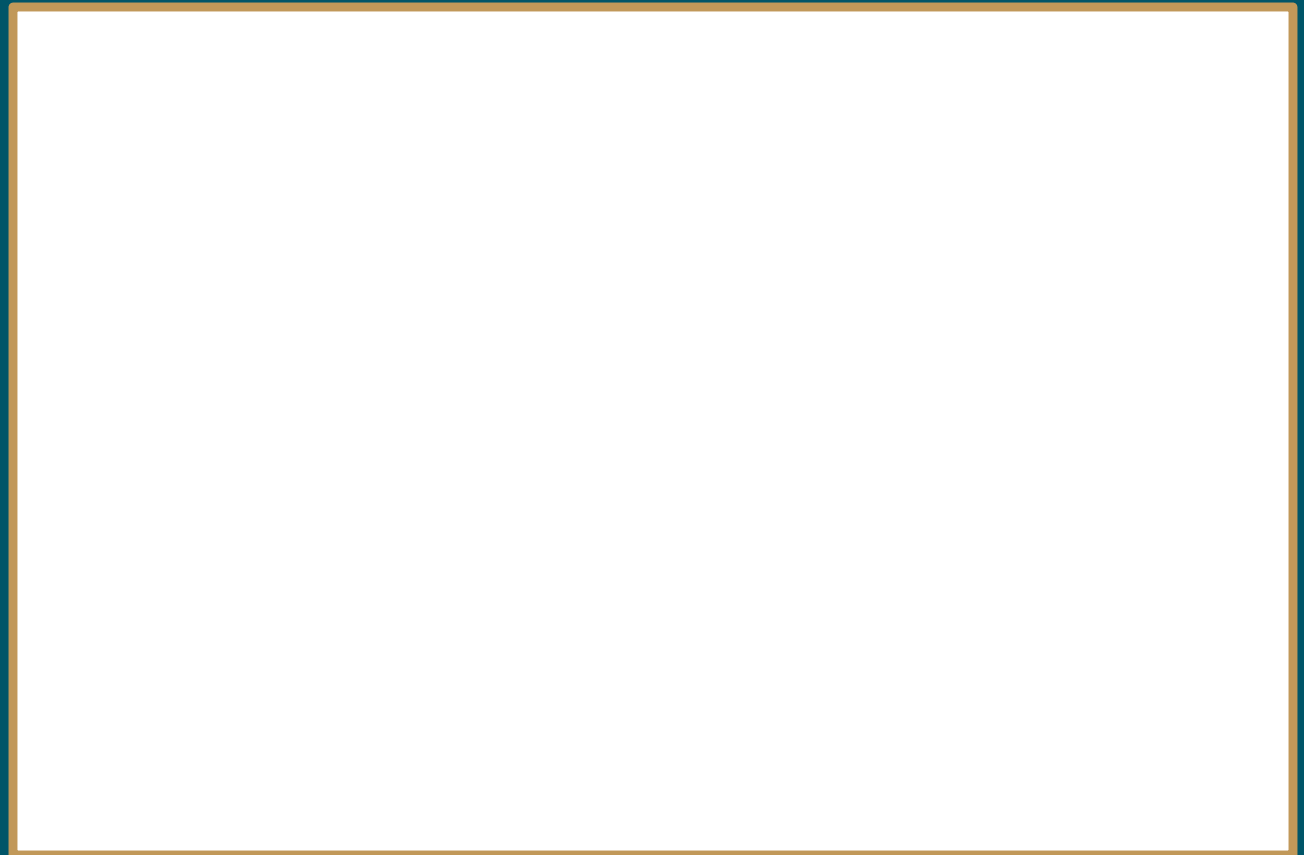
# Community Photo Album Example

The screenshot displays a Panoramio community photo album titled "Texas Historic Bridges Group". The interface includes a search bar with the text "Search for a place" and a magnifying glass icon. Navigation tabs at the top include "Your photos", "Explore", "Community", and "Upload". Below these are sub-tabs for "Popular", "Recent", "Places", "Indoor", "Your photos", and "texas hist...". The main content area is split into two sections: a grid of 20 photo thumbnails on the left and a large satellite map on the right. The map features a vertical scale bar on the left and "Map", "Satellite", and "Hybrid" view options on the right. Numerous photo thumbnails are pinned to the map, showing various historic bridges. At the bottom left, there is a link to "texas hist..." in Google Earth. At the bottom center, there are navigation buttons for "Previous" and "Next". At the bottom right, the page number "48" is displayed.

# Community Photo Album

- A demonstration from your community...

Venues
Ripley House – East Houston
Wharton
Angleton
Conroe
St. Martin's – West Houston
Anahuac



# How Can You Use This?

## Create a favorites album

- “I love this about my neighborhood...”
- “These are restaurants I like...”
- “When out-of-town guests visit I show them this...”

## Make a mapped to-do list

- Mow or clean up properties
- Flooding or poor drainage areas
- Sidewalk problems



# How Can You Use This?

## Plan activities

- Centrally locate social gatherings for easy access
- Distribute meetings throughout your neighborhood
- Plan a tour of homes/restaurants/activities

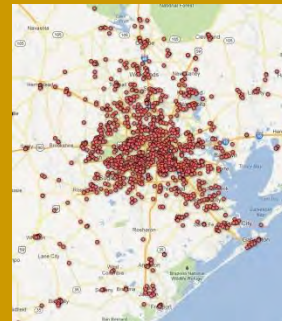
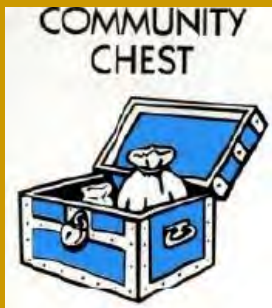
## Show opportunity sites for neighborhood change

- A community garden
- A new or expanded park
- Places for new housing
- A bike path or jogging trail
- A coffee shop or convenience store/grocery

Type	Best Use	Pros	Cons
<b>SWOT Flip Chart</b>	small group or room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly participatory</li> <li>• Everyone gets to speak</li> <li>• Incorporates non place-specific data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• limited to those attending.</li> <li>• Some persons opinions may be influenced by others speaking first.</li> </ul>
<b>SWOT Index Cards/ Post-It Notes</b>	larger group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone gets to write down their thoughts, and</li> <li>• Everyone gets to see/hear others' thoughts at the end.</li> <li>• Incorporates non place-specific data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sometimes handwriting is illegible.</li> <li>• Sometimes challenging to analyze the information.</li> </ul>
<b>SWOT Website</b>	online, size unlimited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone gets to contribute their thoughts.</li> <li>• Automated reporting/analysis.</li> <li>• Capacity to handle large populations.</li> <li>• Incorporates non place-specific data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some people lack online access or computer skills.</li> <li>• Impersonal.</li> </ul>
<b>Google Fusion Tables</b>	individual site manager or formal organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy to import data managed in Excel or other spreadsheet.</li> <li>• Can handle large data sets.</li> <li>• Account owner has control of data.</li> <li>• Advanced effects possible, but require programming.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single individual serves as the "data <b>guru.</b>" Not collaborative.</li> <li>• Map icons limited to 5 colors and 2 shapes. (so, can display only 5 categories)</li> <li>• Officially, it's a "beta" service.</li> <li>• Focus is limited to place-specific data.</li> </ul>
<b>Google Panoramio</b>	online audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can accommodate very large user group and large collection of photo contributions.</li> <li>• Allows classification of photos into categories using "<b>tags.</b>"</li> <li>• Account owner restricts who can "join" and is allowed to post.</li> <li>• Integration with Google Earth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impractical for meetings; except to display results.</li> <li>• Focus on place-specific data.</li> <li>• No automated data analysis or reporting.</li> <li>• Participation limited to computer-savvy persons.</li> <li>• Google Earth requires software install.</li> </ul>

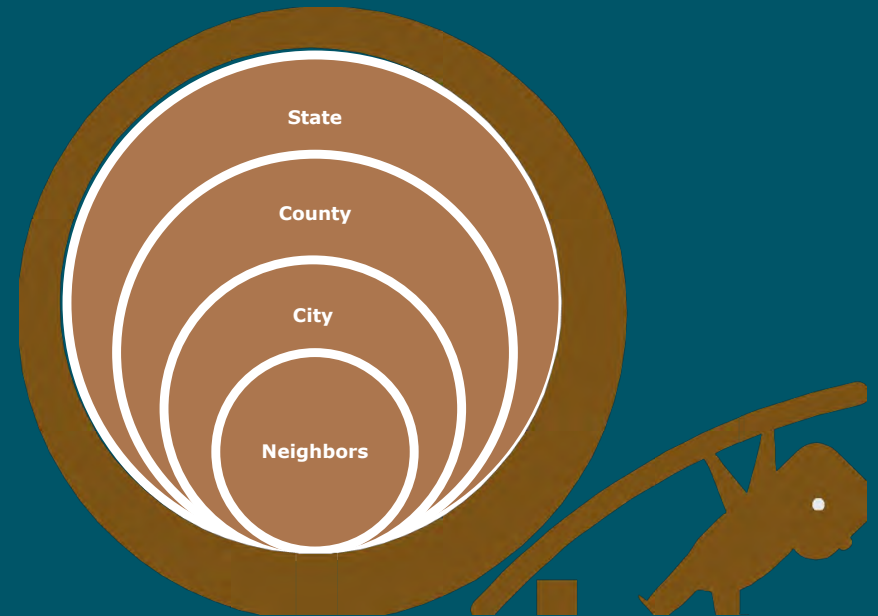
# Putting Your Data to Use

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# Putting your Data to Use

- Refine your message based on data
- Develop clear objectives and recommendations
- Find the right audience
  - Block Captain
  - Civic Association
  - Council Representative
  - County Commissioner
  - Mayor/County Judge
  - Legislator
  - Media



# Advocacy Tools

<http://ctb.ku.edu/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Community Tool Box website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the site's logo, "The Community Tool Box", and the mission statement: "Our Mission: Promoting community health and development by connecting people, ideas and resources". A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar, there are several main content areas. On the left, there is a "Donate" button and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn. In the center, there are four large, colorful buttons representing different resource categories: "How-to Guidance", "Toolkits", "Troubleshooting", and "Evidence-Based Practices". To the right of these buttons, there is a section titled "Community Innovators" with a list of featured stories, including "Healthcare and Community Empowerment Programme" and "Providing Access to Fitness Facilities". Below this, there is a section titled "From the Field..." with sub-sections for "Social media - shifting the way we interact" and "A Global University for Community Development?". At the bottom, there is a section titled "Taking Action In Your Community" with a simple model diagram showing the steps: "Assess", "Plan", and "Sustain".

ctb.ku.edu/en/default.aspx

English | Español

Search the CTB

Go

Table of Contents | Do the Work | Solve a Problem | Use Promising Approaches | Connect with Others | Services | Workstation Sign-In

471

## The Community Tool Box

Our Mission  
Promoting community health and development by connecting people, ideas and resources

### What's inside the Community Tool Box: Practical resources for your work

- How-to Guidance
- Toolkits
- Troubleshooting
- Evidence-Based Practices

### Community Innovators

View stories of those taking action to improve community health and well-being.

- Healthcare and Community Empowerment Programme
- Providing Access to Fitness Facilities

### From the Field...

#### Social media – shifting the way we interact

Five years ago, if someone mentioned tweeting, you might have envisioned a spring day with birds chirping cheerily, or perhaps Tweety Bird, if you grew up watching the Looney Tunes. But now, if someone...

#### A Global University for Community Development?

The Community Tool Box has been thinking about a new initiative in global community development – one that would expand online learning in community skills, and possibly lead to the creation of a glob...

#### The Youth Smoking Epidemic – Fighting for Our Future

In March, Surgeon General Regina Benjamin released Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults - the first youth smoking report since 1994 – and the results are troubling, to say ...

### Taking Action In Your Community

A simple model for taking action you can use.

Assess

Sustain

Plan

The Community Tool Box is a global resource for free information on essential skills for building healthy communities. It offers more than 7,000 pages of practical guidance in creating change and improvement.

Donate

Subscribe to our newsletter

We are proud to support implementation for **Healthy People 2020**, which provides national objectives for improving the health of all Americans. **Learn more..**

# Find the Tool That's Right for You

The screenshot shows the website for Kansas Action for Children. At the top left is the logo with the text "KANSAS ACTION FOR CHILDREN". To the right is a search bar and a language selector "En Español". Below the logo is a navigation menu with "About KAC", "Policy", "Publications & News", and "Project". A large banner image shows two children walking, with the word "Advocacy" overlaid in a large font. Below the banner, there are several links: "Find Your Legislator", "Advocacy Toolkit", "Social Media", "Promising Practices", "30th Anniversary", and "Resources & Links". On the left side, there are three buttons: "TAKE ACTION" with a person icon, "MAKE A DONATION" with a dollar sign icon, and "STAY INFORMED" with an envelope icon. The main content area is titled "ADVOCACY TOOLKIT" and features a document titled "Intro to Advocacy". The text next to the document explains that advocacy is an attempt to influence public policy and provides instructions on how to request a free hardcopy of the guide.

The screenshot shows the website for Service Leader.org. The main heading is "service LEADER | .ORG" in a large, green, sans-serif font. Below the heading is the tagline "Where the study and practice of volunteerism meet". In the top right corner, there is a logo for The University of Texas at Austin and the text "WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN". Below this is a search bar with the text "Search this site:". At the bottom of the page, there is a navigation menu with the following items: "HOME", "ABOUT", "VOLUNTEERS", and "LEADERS & MANAGERS".

# Getting Started

- Resources
  - Your Toolkit Sheet
  - Google.com
- Trial Run

**Strategize**

**Prioritize**

**Mobilize**

# Was this useful?

1. Yes, I learned something new.
2. I knew this was possible, but now I understand how to do it.
3. No. I already knew about this.
4. This doesn't help me. I'm just not interested.





# Next Steps

- Go with enthusiasm
- Execute with purpose

# HOUSTON GALVESTON REGIONAL PLAN

**OUR**  
REGION VISION FUTURE



Thank You!

# Appendix

PHASE III

# Appendix A

## Survey Summary

**THINK 2040 ONLINE SURVEY:  
SUMMARY OF RESPONSES RECEIVED**



SUMMER 2013

## **CONTENTS**

Introduction.....	2
Geographic Summary.....	3
Demographic Summary .....	4
Alternative Scenarios .....	6
Less Time on the Road: Survey Results .....	6
Greener Region: Survey Results.....	12
Competitive Workforce .....	16

## INTRODUCTION

As part of the THINK 2040 online survey, respondents were asked to consider three future scenarios for the region. Each represents one of the top three areas residents indicated were important during a previous survey:

- Less Time on the Road
- Greener Region
- Competitive Workforce

As a baseline, respondents also considered what the future would look like if current growth, environmental, and educational trends continue.

Once the survey was closed, the project team analyzed the responses received, identifying common themes amongst different communities and populations. Responses to select questions are described on the following pages, along with more detailed demographic information about survey participants. Visit [www.ourregion.org](http://www.ourregion.org) to view responses to all of the questions, which can be sorted by respondents’:

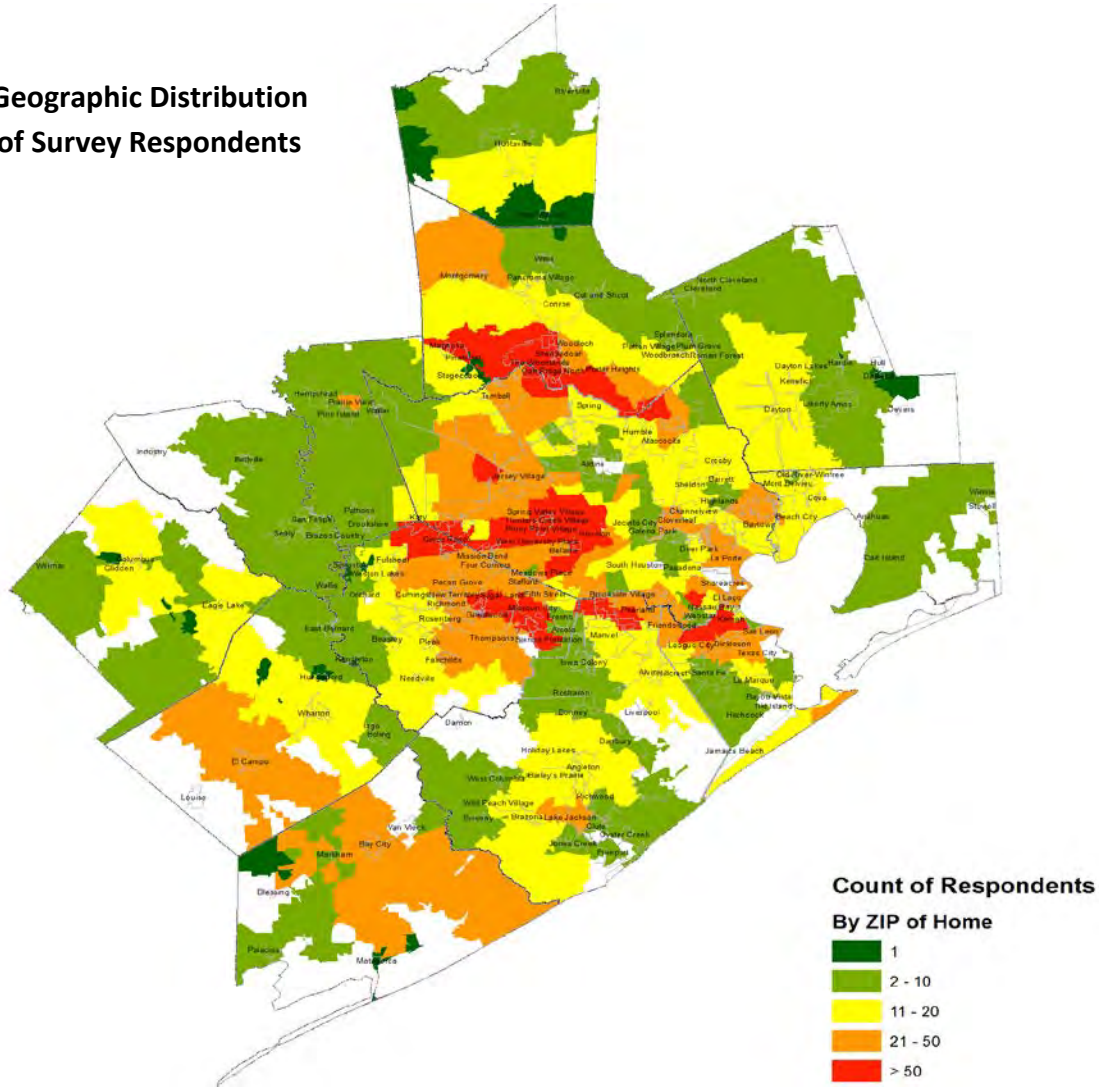
- Place of residence
- Gender
- Household size
- Ethnicity
- Household income
- Age
- Educational attainment
- Length of residence within the Houston-Galveston area

The survey revealed that the region’s diverse communities have different needs and visions for the future.

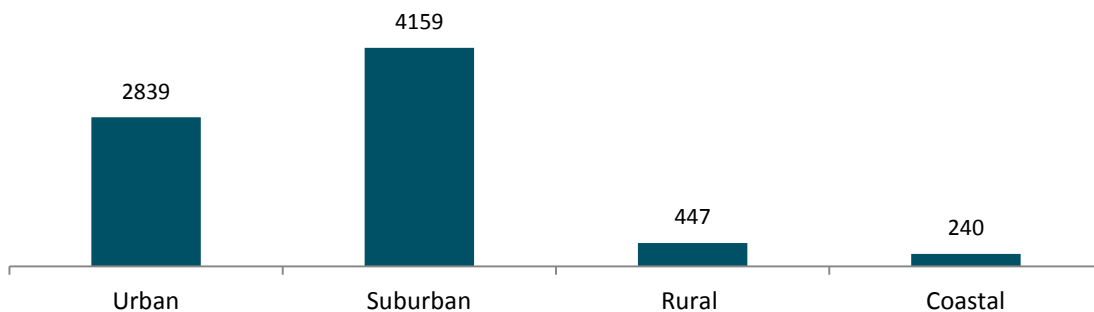
## GEOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

7,677 respondents from throughout the region completed the THINK 2040 online survey. Respondents reported living in urban, suburban, rural and coastal locations.

**Geographic Distribution of Survey Respondents**



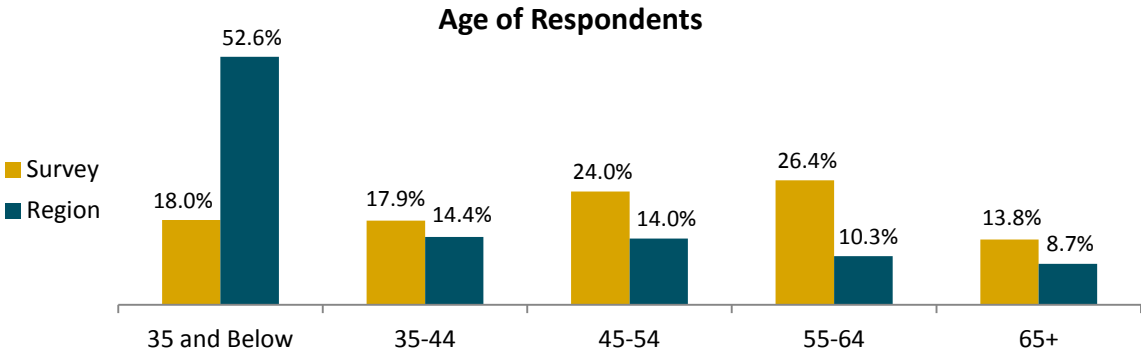
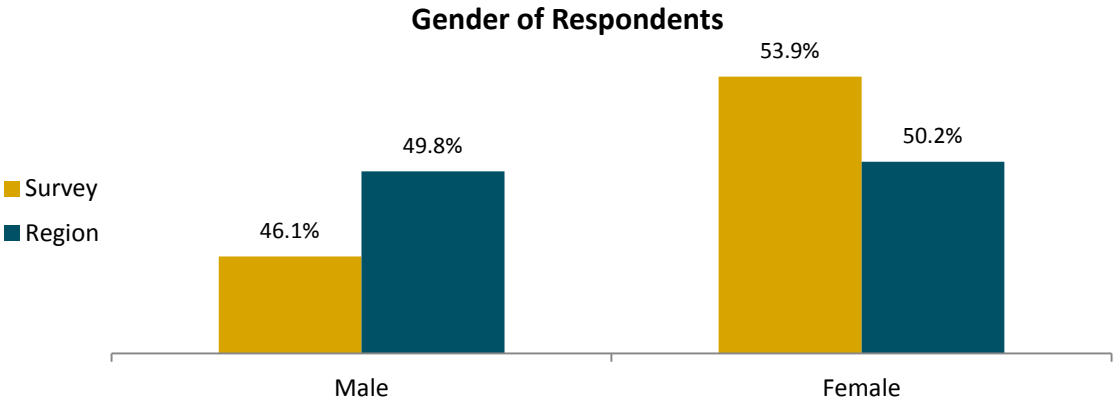
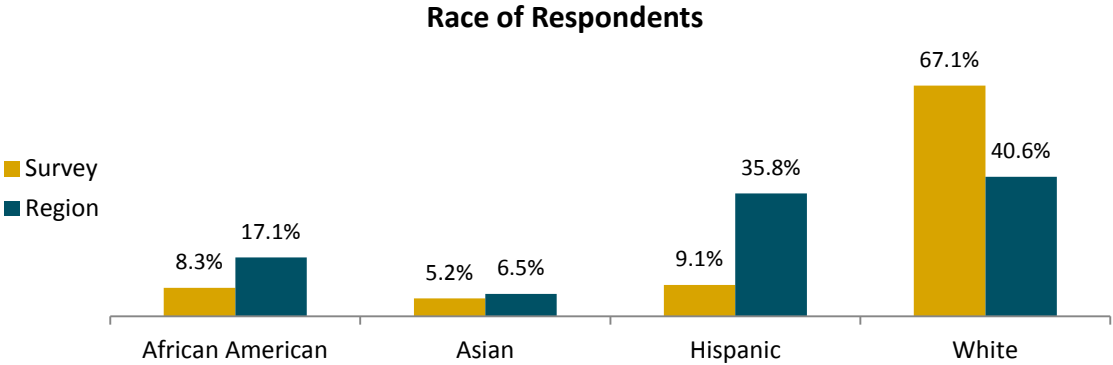
**Self-Identified Geography**



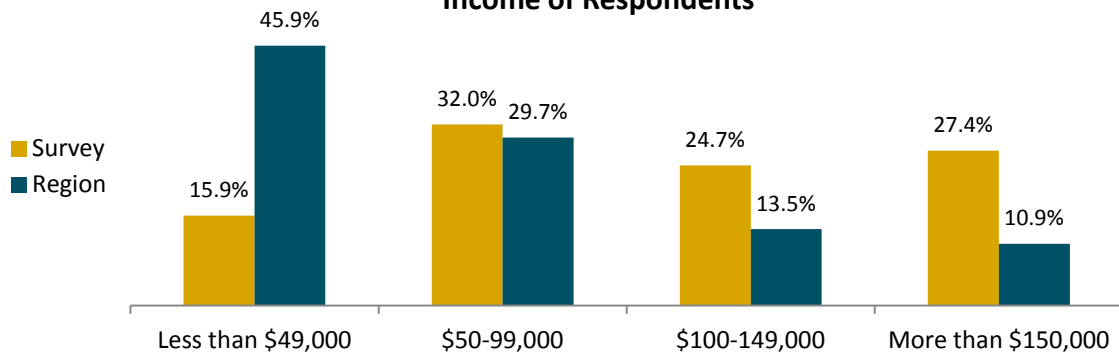


# DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

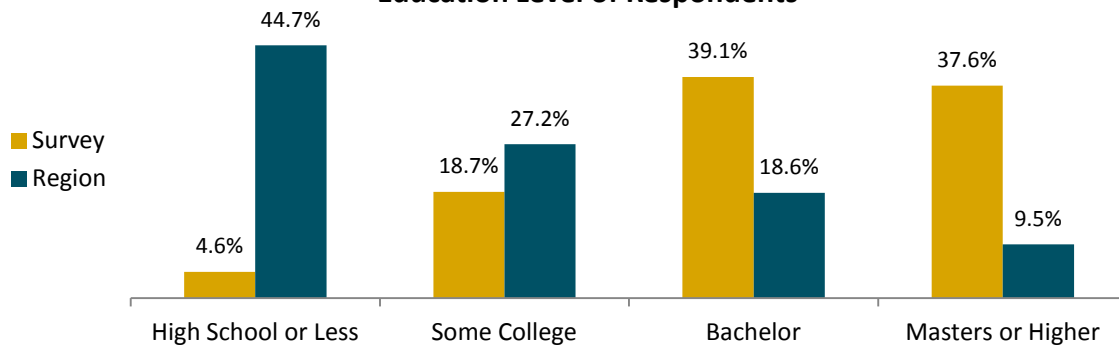
People of different ages, races, genders, and income levels completed the THINK 2040 online survey.



### Income of Respondents



### Education Level of Respondents



## ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS

As part of the THINK 2040 online survey, respondents were asked to consider three future scenarios for the region. Each represents one of the top three areas residents indicated were important during a previous survey:

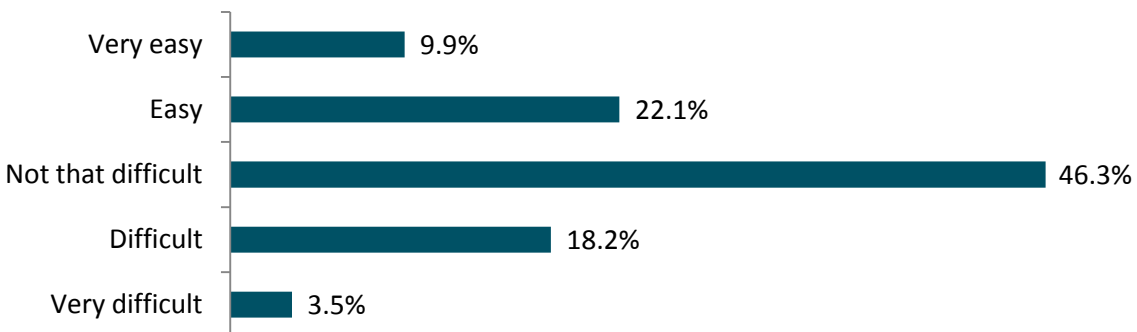
- *Less Time on the Road*  
This alternative promoted more growth in existing communities, where infrastructure and services already exist. It also looked at coordinating housing with jobs, reducing travel times and costs, and providing more opportunities for walking, biking, and transit.
- *Greener Region*  
This alternative preserved high-quality natural areas in the region through public and private efforts, resulting in a reduction in air and water pollution.
- *Competitive Workforce*  
This alternative focused on increasing the educational attainment of the region’s residents by improving schools, as well as addressing community factors such as poverty, crime, and substandard housing. It also looked at increasing opportunities for job training to provide a more competitive workforce.

Below is a summary of public input regarding each of these alternatives.

### LESS TIME ON THE ROAD: SURVEY RESULTS

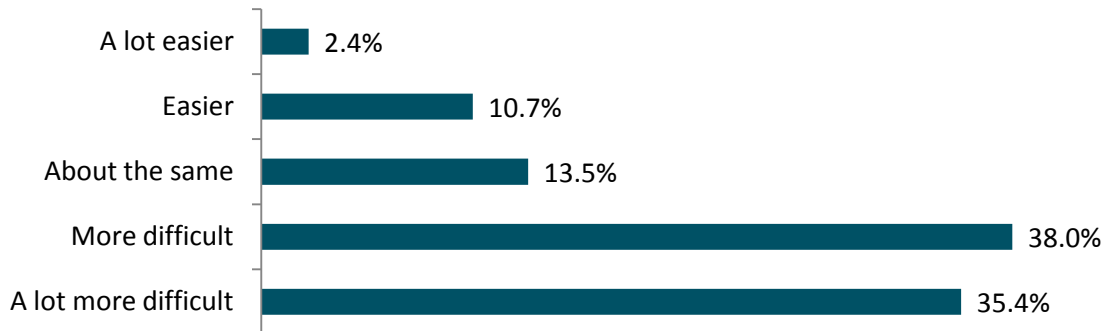
#### Question:

From where you live, how difficult/easy is it for you to get to the places you want to go?



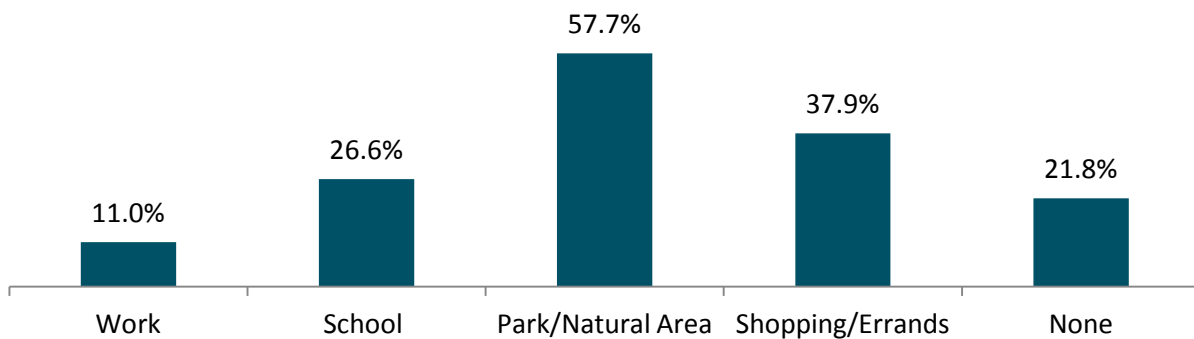
**Question:**

Do you think it will be easier or more difficult in the year 2040 for people to reach the places they want to go than it is today?



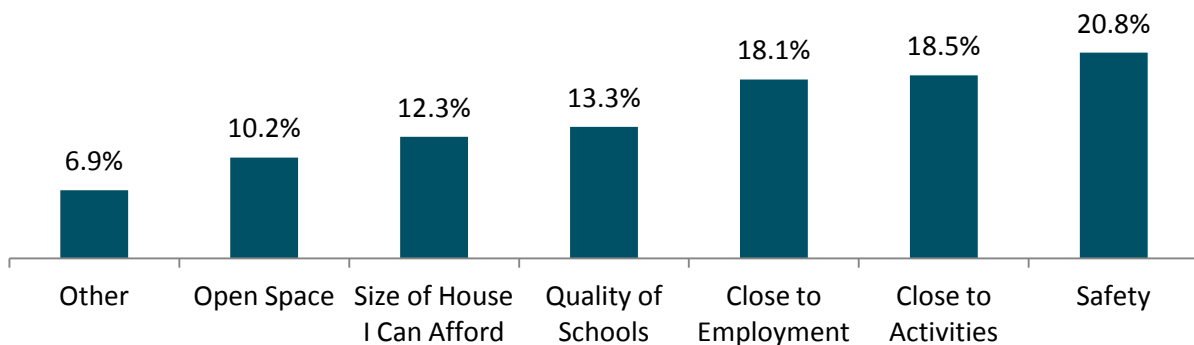
**Question:**

From where you live, which of the following could you reach in 10 minutes or less comfortably by bicycling or walking?



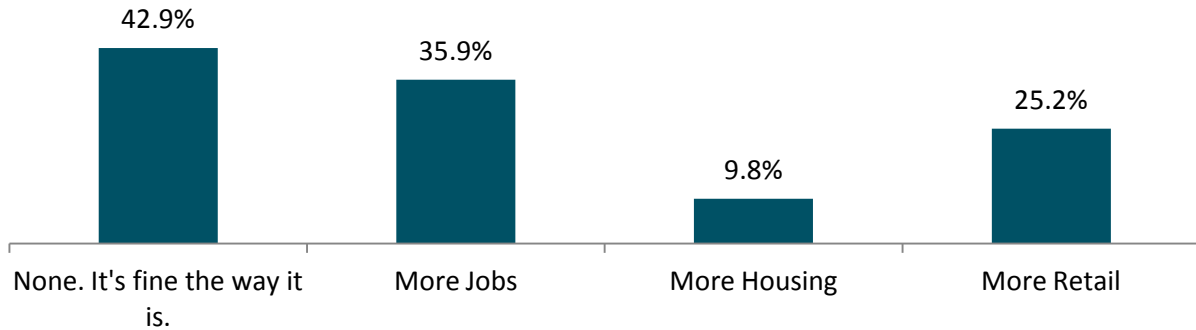
**Question:**

If you could live anywhere in the region, which of the following would be the most important factor in your decision?



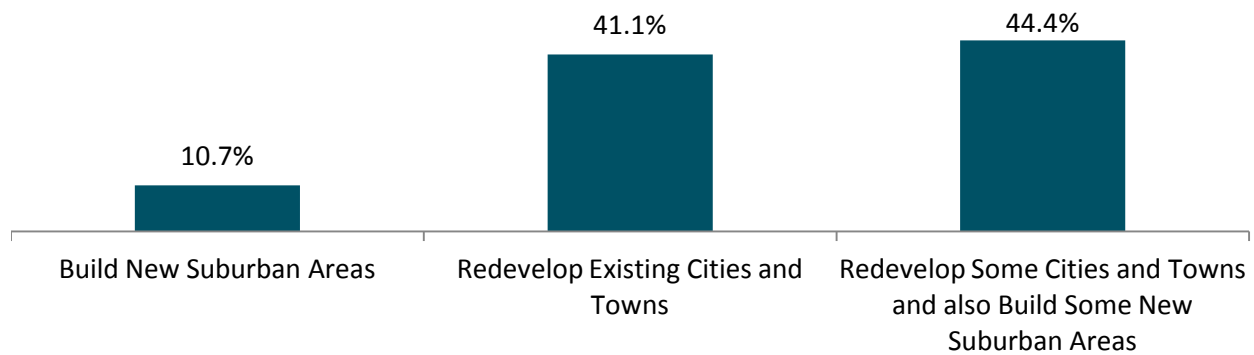
**Question:**

As our region continues to grow, which of the following would you like to see in the area where you live?



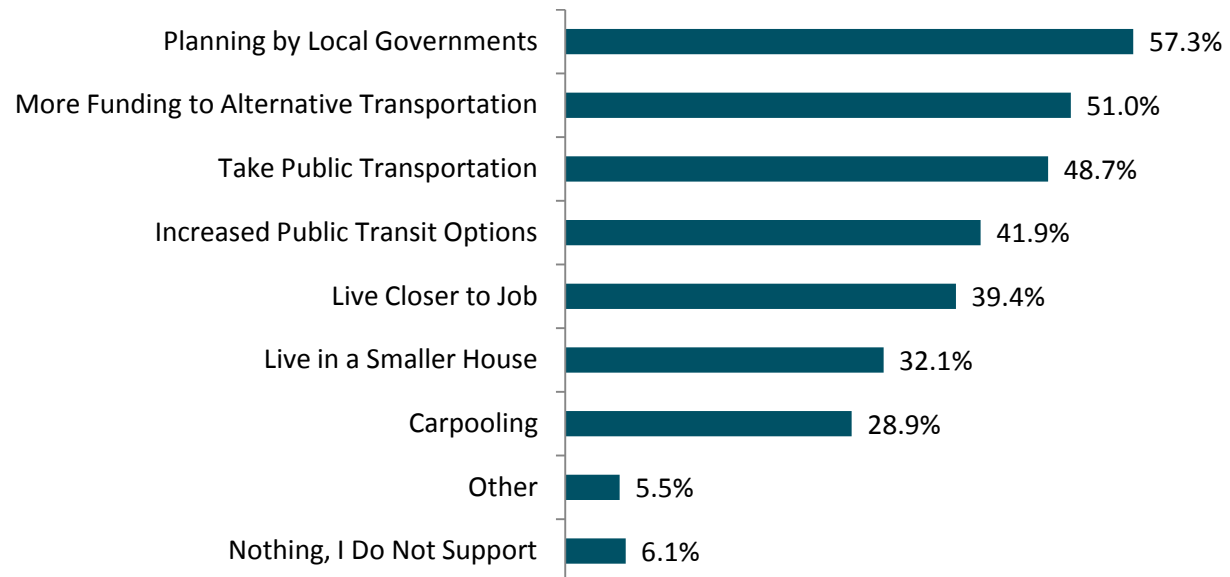
**Question:**

What is the best way to accommodate future growth?

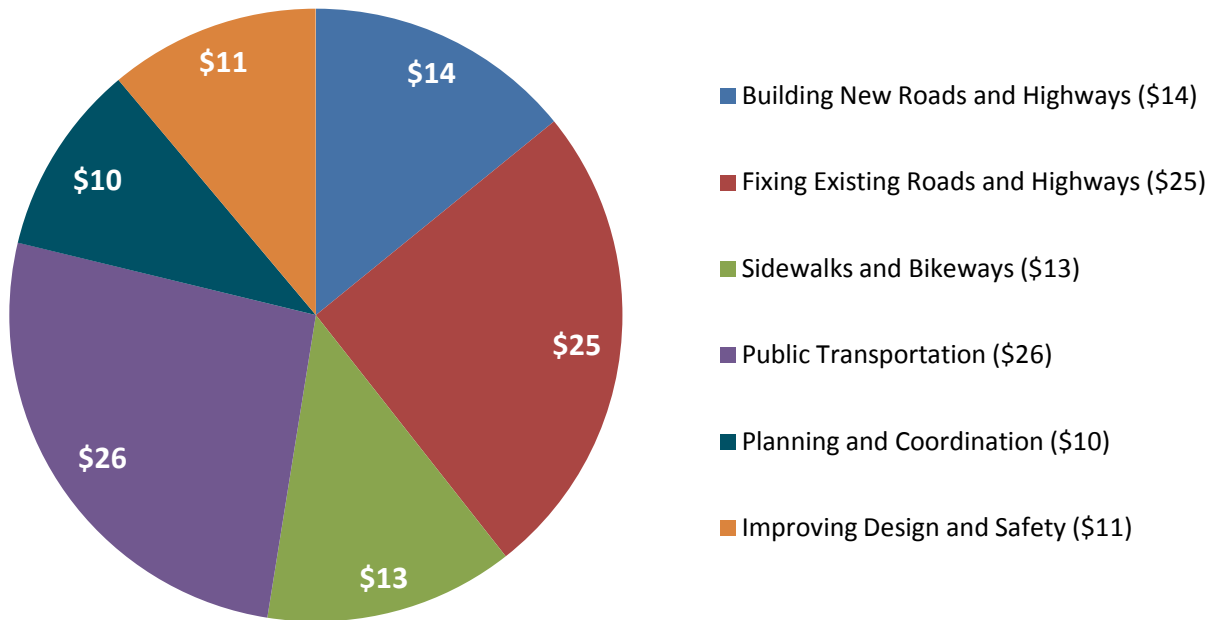


**Question:**

What would you support to make this alternative a reality?



**How the region would spend \$100 to improve the region’s transportation system**



**Significant Variations: Less Time on the Road**

In some instances, people of different backgrounds responded much differently than others.

**Question:**

From where you live, how much time does it usually take for you to reach the following destinations? Park/Natural Area

Possible Choices:

- Less than 10 minutes
- 10 – 30 minutes
- 30 – 45 minutes
- 45 – 60 minutes
- More than 60 minutes
- I don’t go there

**Choice:** Less than 10 minutes

Income Below \$50,000	Income Above \$50,000
46.7%	59.5%

**Question:**

If you could live anywhere in the region, which of the following would be the most important factor in your decision?

Possible Choices:

- Close to activities (walking/biking distance)
- Size of house I can afford
- Open space
- Close to employment
- Quality of Schools
- Safety
- Other

**Choice: Open Space**

Rural	Suburban	Urban
34.3%	10.6%	5.0%

**Choice: Close to Activities (Walking/Biking Distance)**

Rural	Suburban	Urban
4.4%	13.0%	30.0%

**Choice: Close to Activities (Walking/Biking Distance)**

Under 35 Years	35 to 44 Years	45 to 54 Years	55 to 64 Years	65 Years and Older
30.6%	14.8%	14.8%	17.8%	19.2%

**Choice: Quality of Schools**

Under 35 Years	35 to 44 Years	45 to 54 Years	55 to 64 Years	65 Years and Older
13.1%	29.1%	15.8%	5.4%	3.9%

**Question:**

As our region continues to grow, which of the following would you like to see in the area where you live?

Possible Choices:

- None. It's fine the way it is
- More Housing
- More Jobs
- More Retail

**Choice:** None. I's fine the way it is

African American	Asian	Hispanic	White
20.6%	27.0%	36.1%	46.5%

**Choice:** None. I's fine the way it is

Under 35 Years	35 to 44 Years	45 to 54 Years	55 to 64 Years	65 Years and Older
27.7%	37.7%	45.9%	46.0%	59.2%

**Question:**

By the year 2040, our region will need to build new housing, shops, and workplaces for more than 3.5 million additional residents. Which would be the best way to accommodate that growth?

Possible Choices:

- Build new suburban areas
- Redevelop existing cities
- Redevelop some cities and towns and build new suburban areas
- No opinion/I don't know

**Choice:** Redevelop existing cities and towns and build new housing and shops where streets and city services already exist

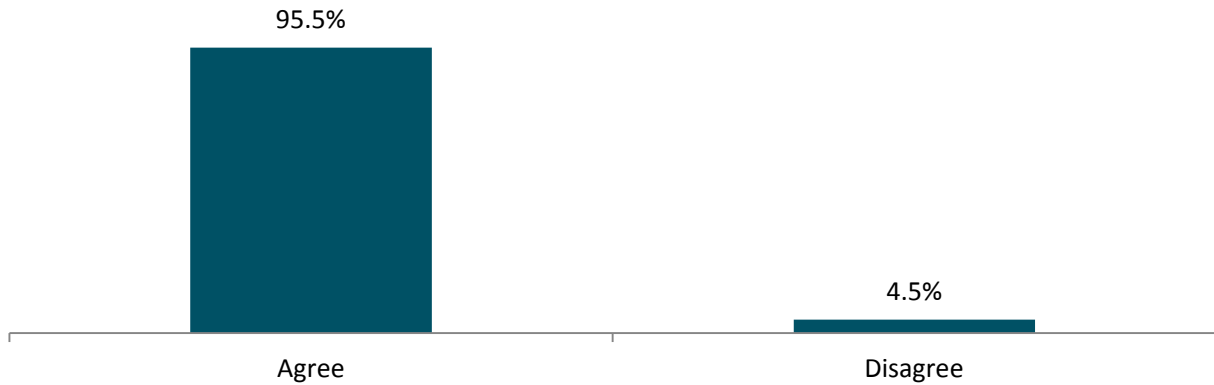
Rural	Suburban	Urban
33.3%	33.8%	53.4%



## GREENER REGION: SURVEY RESULTS

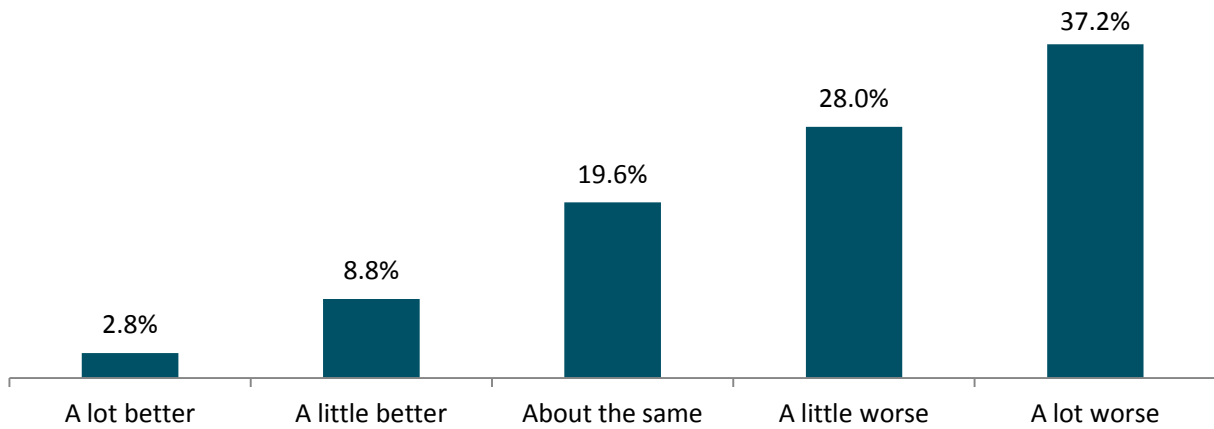
### Question:

As we grow, steps should be taken to preserve our region's wetlands, forests, prairies, and shorelines.



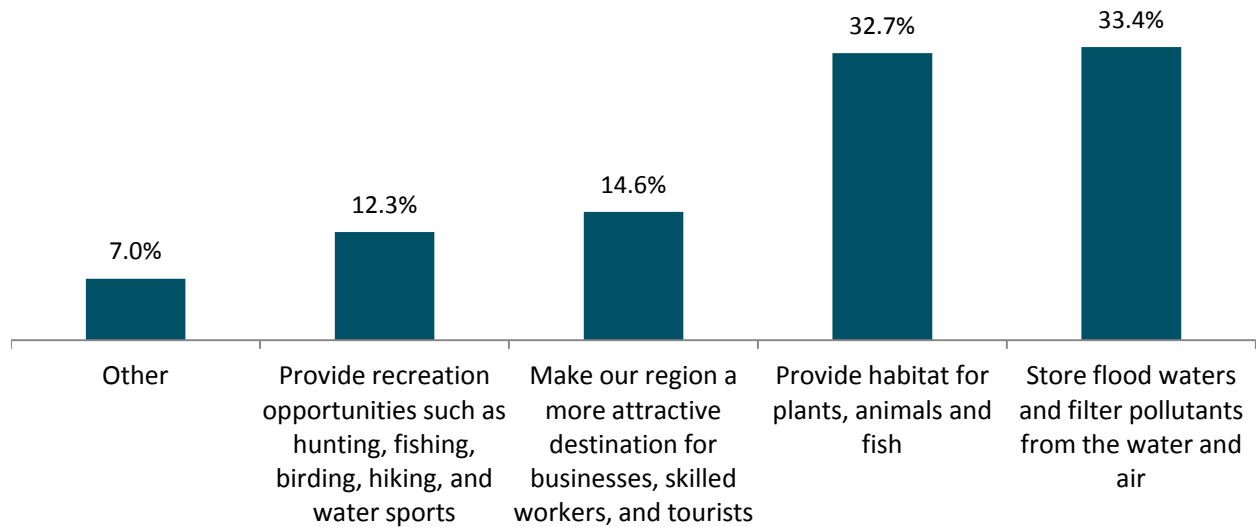
### Question:

How do you think the quality of the region's air, water, and natural areas will be in the year 2040 compared to today?



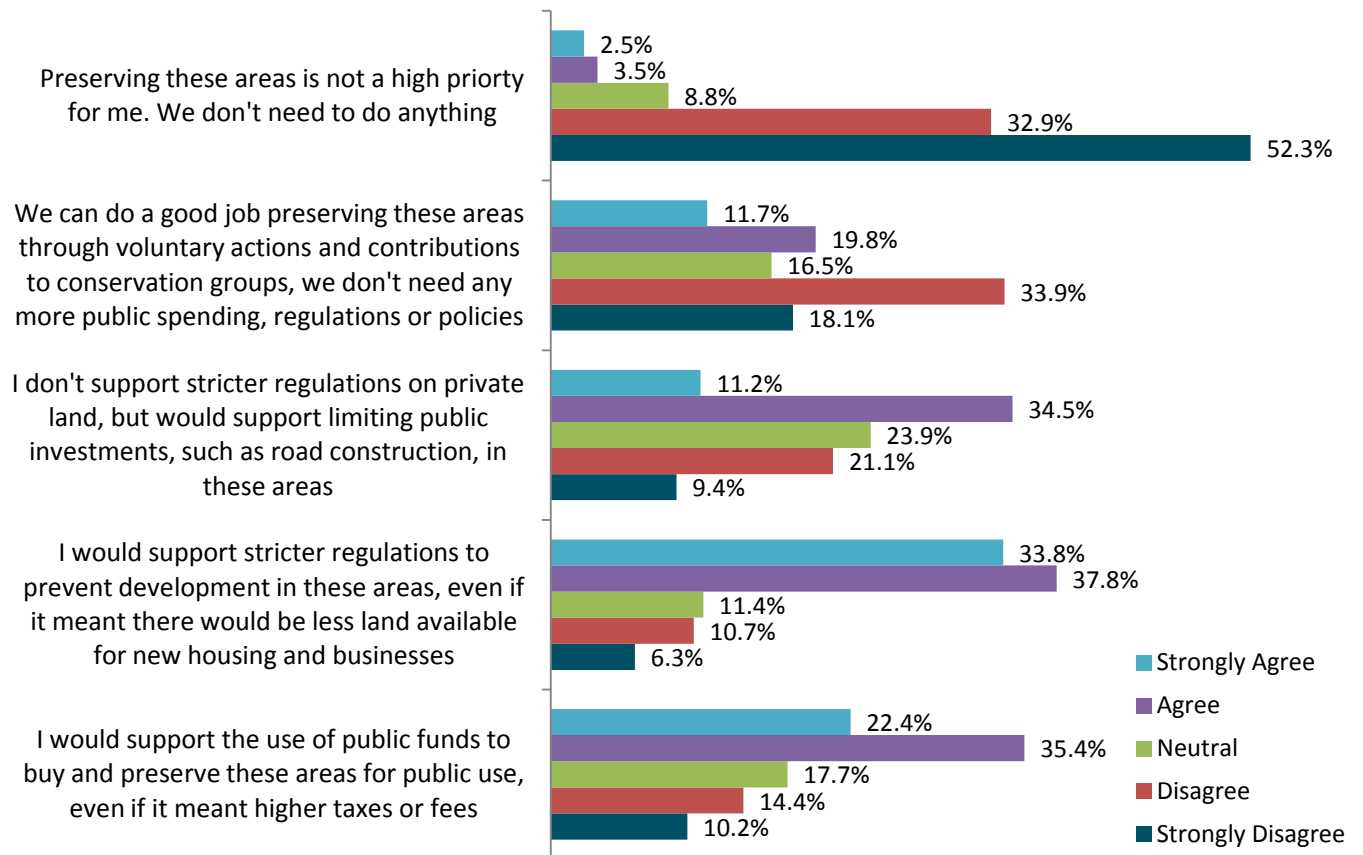
**Question:**

What is the most important reason to step up efforts to preserve our region’s wetlands, forests, and prairies?



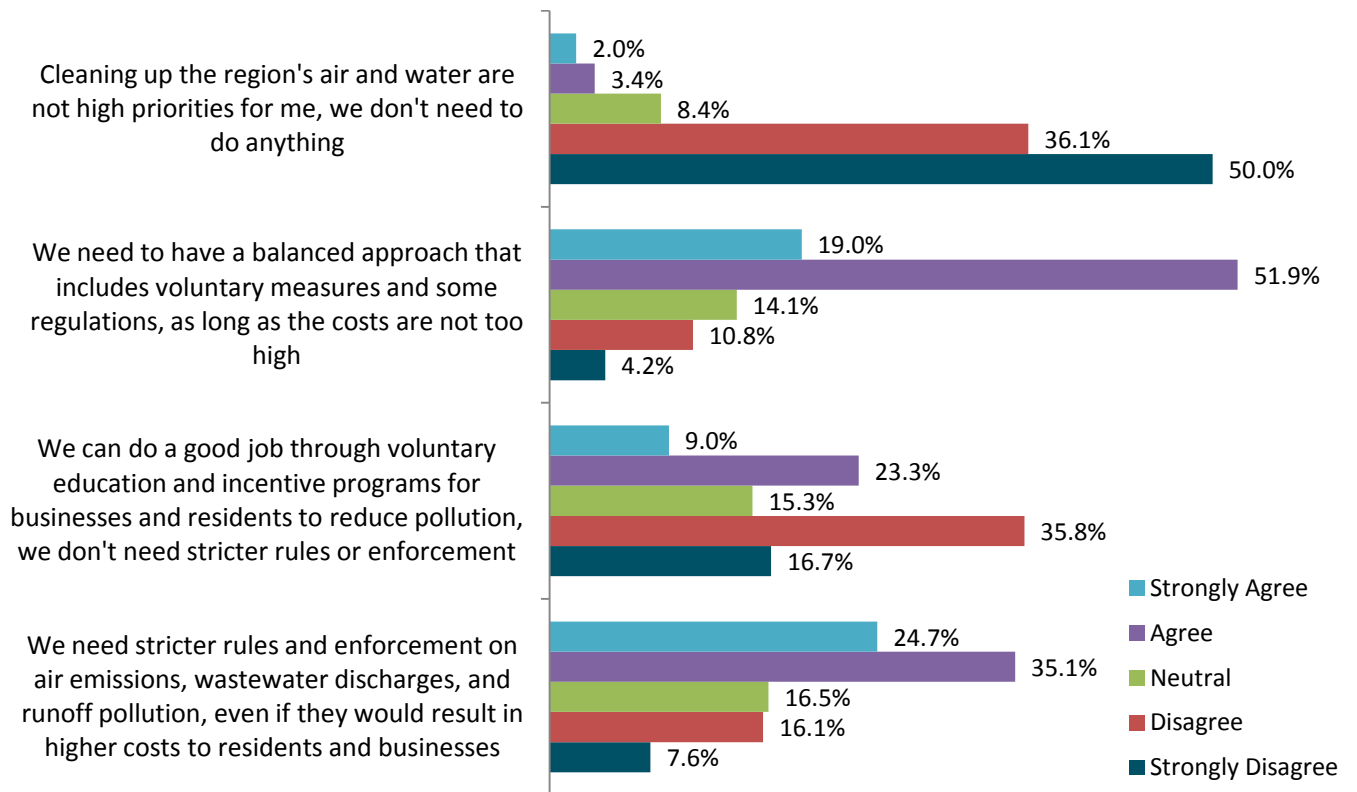
**Question:**

Rate your level of agreement with the following statements about strategies for preserving the region’s wetlands, forests, prairies, and shorelines.

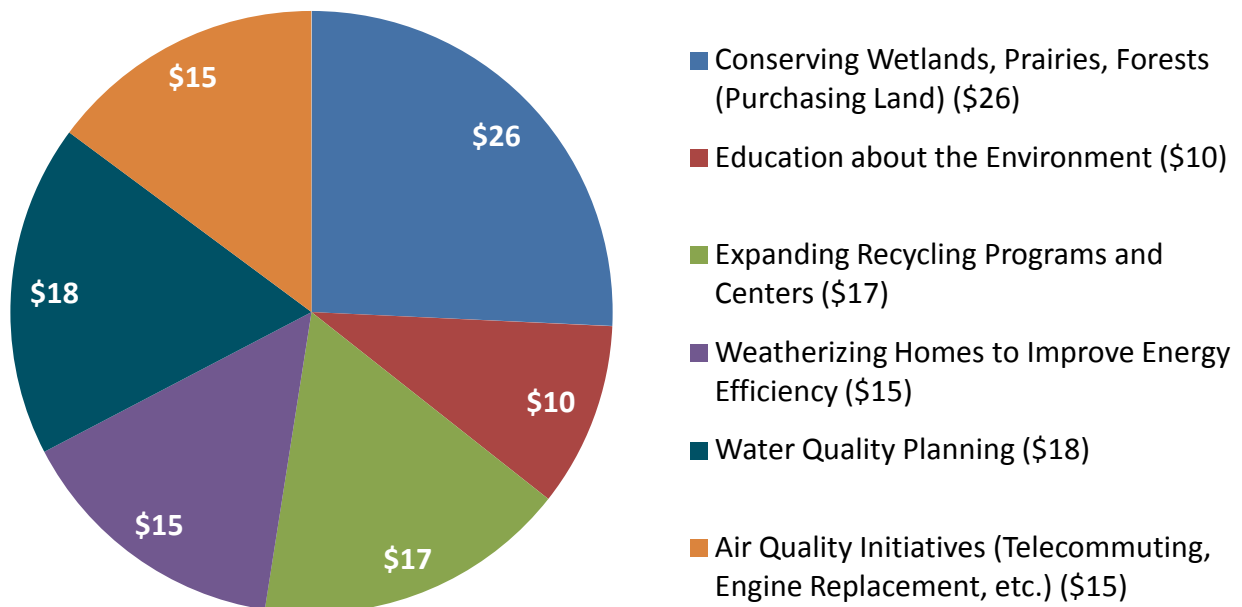


**Question:**

Rate your level of agreement with the following strategies for cleaning up our region’s air and water.



**How the region would spend \$100 to improve the environment**



**Significant Variations: Greener Region**

In some instances, people of different backgrounds responded much differently than others.

**Question:**

Rate your level of agreement with the following statements about strategies for preserving the region’s wetlands, forests, prairies, and shorelines: I would support the use of public funds to buy and preserve these areas for public use, even if it meant higher taxes or fees.

Possible Choices:

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**Choice: Strongly Agree**

Rural	Suburban	Urban
13.2%	20.2%	28.8%

**Question:**

Rate your level of agreement with the following strategies for cleaning up our region’s air and water: We need stricter rules and enforcement on air emissions, wastewater discharges, and runoff pollution, even if they would result in higher costs to residents and businesses.

Possible Choices:

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

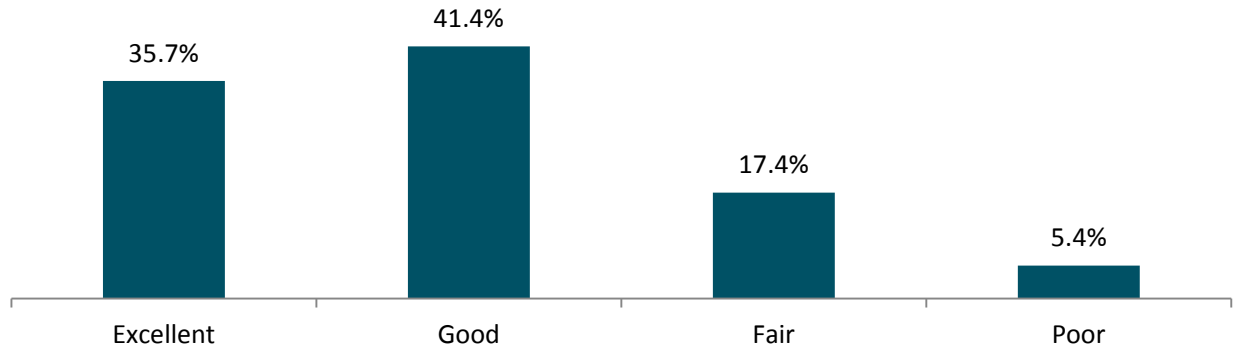
**Choice: Strongly Agree**

Rural	Suburban	Urban
13.1%	21.2%	32.9%

## COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE

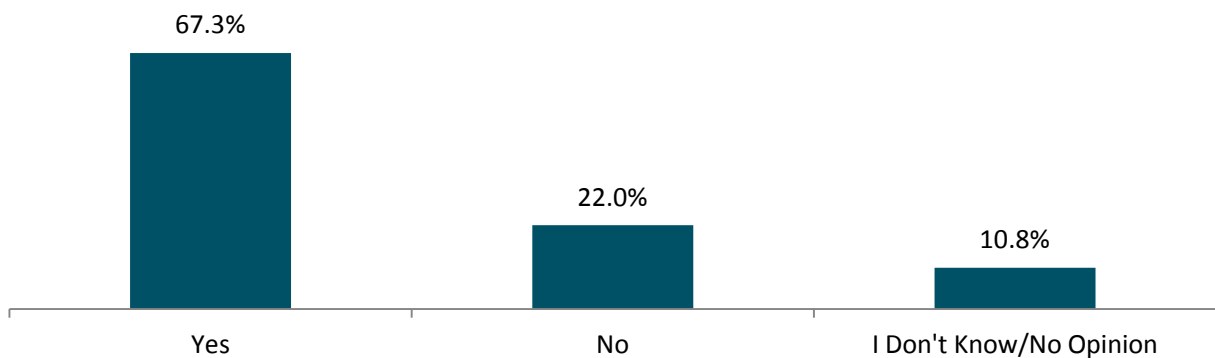
### Question:

I think the opportunities for getting a good education in my community are:



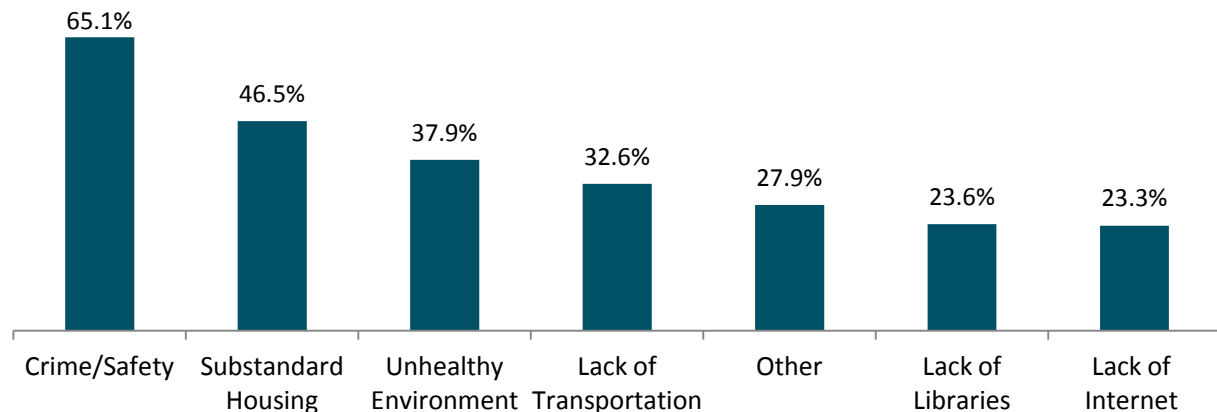
### Question:

Are there factors in your community besides the quality of schools that make it a poor environment for getting a good education?



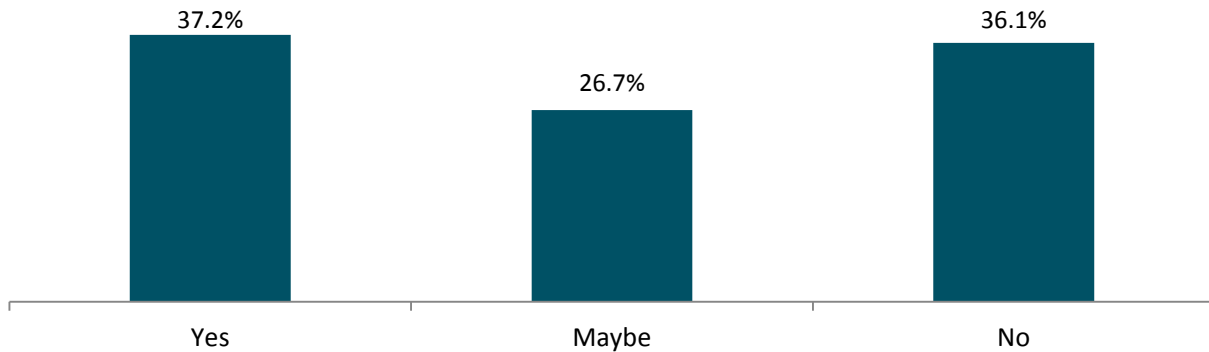
### Question:

Which factors in your community (besides the quality of the schools) make it a poor environment for getting a good education?



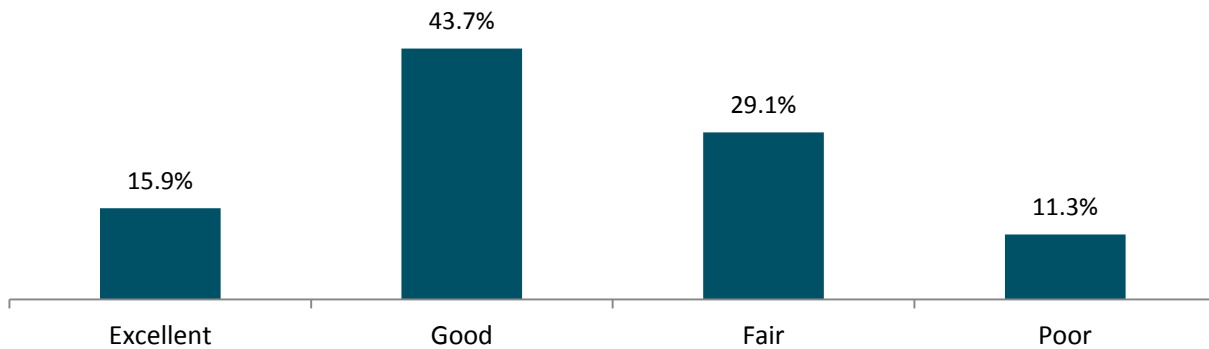
**Question:**

Do you have an interest in learning a new skill that will improve your job prospects and earning potential?



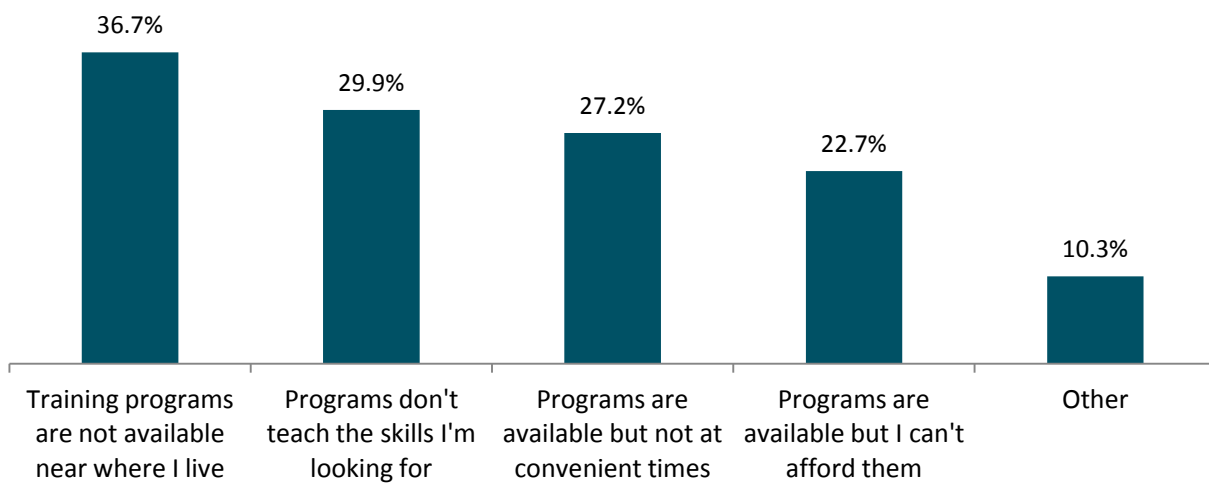
**Question:**

How would you rate the opportunities for learning new job skills where you live?



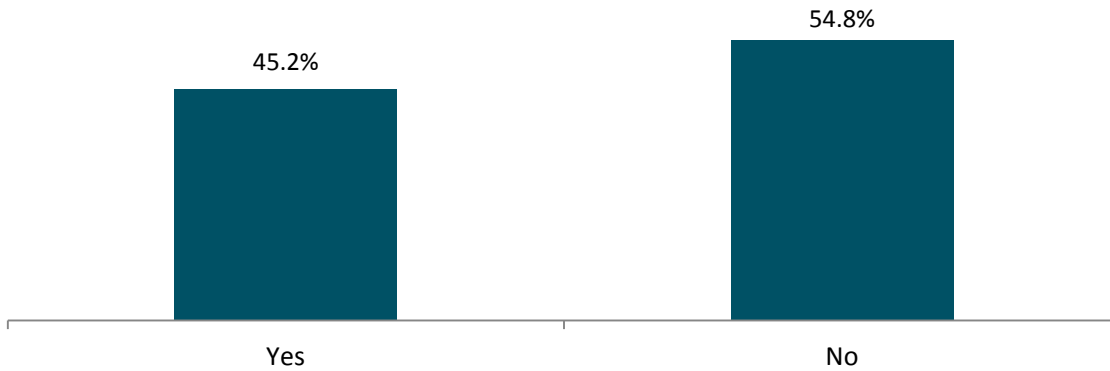
**Question:**

Why do you think your opportunities for learning new job skills are fair or poor?



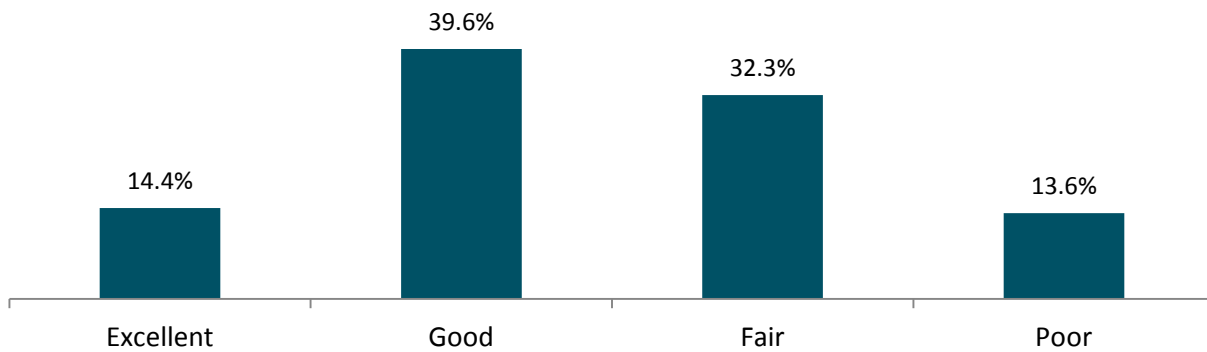
**Question:**

Do you currently have or have you considered starting a small business?

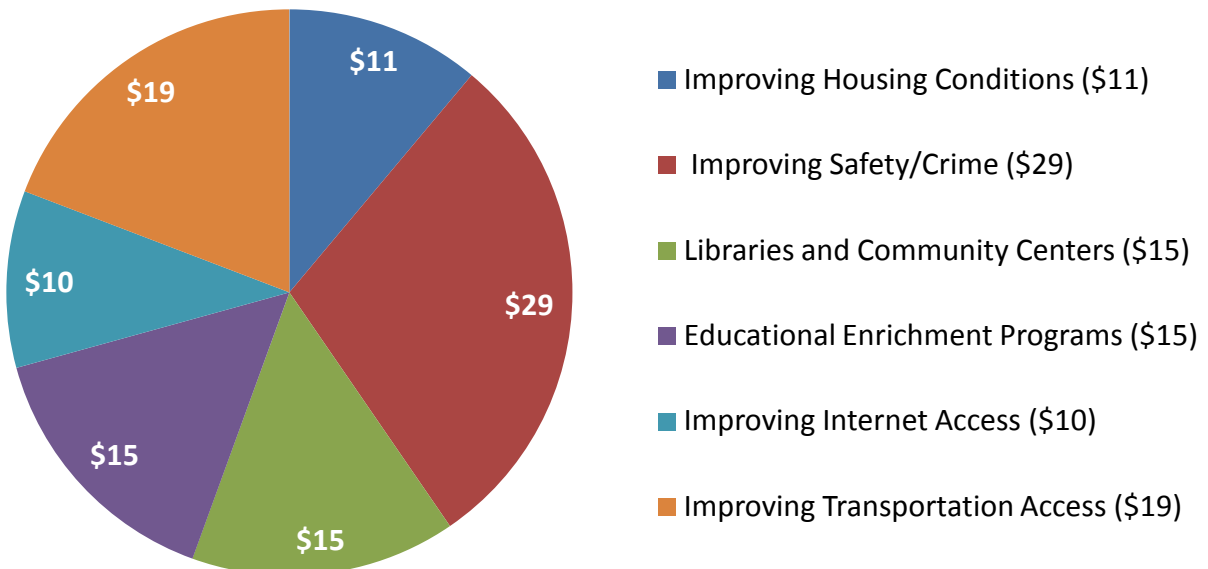


**Question:**

How would you rate the opportunities available where you live to get training and support to make your business successful?



**How the region would spend \$100 to improve the region's community factors that impact education and training opportunities**



**Significant Variations: Competitive Workforce**

In some instances, people of different backgrounds responded much differently than others.

**Question:**

Are there factors in your community besides the quality of the schools that make it a poor environment for getting a good education?

Possible Choices:

- Yes
- No
- I Don't Know/No Opinion

**Choice: Yes**

African American	Asian	Hispanic	White
85.9%	61.1%	82.8%	60.1%

**Choice: No**

Income Below \$50,000	Income Above \$150,000
10.9%	37.3%

**Question:**

Do you have an interest in learning a new skill that will improve your job prospects and earning potential?

Possible Choices:

- Yes
- Maybe
- No

**Choice: Yes**

Income Below \$50,000	Income Between \$50,000 to \$150,000	Income Above \$150,000
57.6%	39.6%	26.1%

**Choice: Yes**

African American	Asian	Hispanic	White
59.9%	61.2%	60.8%	30.8%



**Question:**

How would you rate the opportunities for learning new job skills where you live?

Possible Choices:

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

**Choice:** Good

Rural	Suburban	Urban
28%	44%	45%

**Question:**

Why do you think opportunities for learning new job skills are fair or poor?

Possible Choices:

- Training programs are not available near where I live
- Programs are available but I can't afford them
- Programs are available but not at convenient times
- Programs don't teach the skills I'm looking for
- Other

**Choice:** Training programs are not available near where I live

Rural	Suburban	Urban
51.5%	37.1%	32.8%

**Question:**

How would you rate the opportunities available where you live to get training and support to make your business successful?

Possible Choices:

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

**Choice:** Poor

Income Below \$50,000	Income Above \$150,000
26.4%	7.7%

# Appendix B

## Focus Group Notes

## Austin County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	March 7, 2013
<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Texas A&M: AgriLife Extension Service 20 South Holland Street Bellville, TX 77418

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Austin County is working with local colleges to provide employment training.</li> <li>• There needs to be local and regional training opportunities.</li> <li>• Blinn College – Sealy offers workforce training classes.</li> <li>• Employers support/want workforce training classes locally.</li> <li>• Some employers offer in-house training.</li> <li>• Funds are needed for people to be able to take classes.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The student loan program needs restructuring (“no blank checks”).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• St. Joseph’s is taking over Bellville General Hospital.</li> <li>• Sealy’s urgent care facility recently expanded its hours.</li> <li>• Tourism needs to be promoted at a regional level. San Felipe State Historical Site should be promoted as a tourist destination.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information regarding area destinations should be relayed to locals as well.</li> <li>○ There should be a promotion campaign for historical sites, with signage along I-10.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wal-Mart is a community benefactor.</li> <li>• There should be a “Buy Local” campaign, which could help with tourism.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Local Examples: Farm-to-Market, Saturday Trade Days</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Up-to-date fiber optic infrastructure is needed, but there are some issues:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Installation is expensive</li> <li>○ AT&amp;T controls the local market</li> <li>○ Existing infrastructure is old</li> <li>○ Residents would benefit from being able to telecommute</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sealy Elementary School has good programs for special needs children, but there are reading/literacy challenges.</li> <li>• Federal workforce programs have been cut, and no one has provided “soft skill” training.</li> <li>• There is no funding mechanism for mixed-income housing, and it is difficult to get tax credits.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The EDC is unable to directly fund housing projects, since its funding can only be used for parks and infrastructure.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is a business incubator (SBDC @ Blinn) that is already in place and meeting local demand.</li> <li>• H-GAC is bringing funding opportunities and grants to outlying counties/rural areas.</li> </ul>
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Environment

- A regional conservation approach will not receive public support in Austin County. A local approach works best.
  - The local SWCD helps landowners implement conservation approaches, which many new landowners are receptive to.
  - Regional groups may help with marketing/tourism, but keep policymaking local.
- There is no money, time, or staff to help implement low-impact development (LID) techniques.
- The county has limited ability to regulate new development.
  - The county has general development standards to protect safety and quality-of-life (subdivision guidelines, floodplain management regulations).
  - Cities are trying to limit new mobile home communities due to density and other issues.
- Sealy already has some tree protection policies; a regional tree protection plan is not needed.
- The county doesn't know how to address piecemeal, dense subdivisions (e.g. small lots filled with mobile homes).
- Managing development utilizing wells is a current issue.
- Although there are limited regulations, concerned locals speak up against unwanted development.
- Land Use Regulation
  - Smaller localities have less authority than larger localities.
  - The county would be interested in pursuing more authority from the state, and would like to see a comparison between the powers of smaller and larger localities.
  - Example Policy/Authority Needed: Notify county when electric hookup is requested. This would help the locality determine if other systems are coming online that may/may not have been permitted.
- People interested in helping the environment will take steps to protect it; others won't.
- Some support paying money (ex. \$0.02) for recycling bottles, because it will discourage people from littering, and would encourage some to pick up trash.
- Austin County uses all educational materials provided and distributed by H-GAC.
- Reverse 911 would be used to promote certain policies and for educational purposes.
  - Example: Ask people to turn off electricity at times of peak use, to avoid blackouts.
- The groundwater conservation district acts as a regional water planning group; regional planning is not required.
- Austin County does not need a regional circuit rider to enforce environmental regulations.
- Cities already do good parks planning.
- The planning done in Austin County 6 – 7 years ago with H-GAC has produced good projects.
- Austin County hasn't spent money on parks, because they don't have the resources to build and maintain park facilities.
- There is a need for a landfill siting ordinance, based on the current issues Waller County is facing.
- Local money should not be spent on green building initiatives.
- The local cooperative does energy audits for residents/businesses that it serves. Ask Centerpoint to do an energy audit.
- Farmers/ranchers sometimes harvest rainwater.
- Limiting water to rice farmers will be an economic disaster.
- Old Hurricane Industry Steel Mill: There are contaminants on-site, the property is vacant with an absentee landowner.

<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sealy now has an urgent care facility, improving local access to healthcare.</li> <li>• Some businesses already sell local foods.</li> <li>• Christian Food Pantries receive fresh food/produce grown by local farmers.</li> <li>• There are no major issues with accessing fresh foods – local farmers give food to local food pantries, and many grocers sell locally-grown foods.</li> <li>• There is advanced trauma/stroke treatment on ambulances.</li> <li>• Affordable health care is an issue. “Affordable” healthcare is not affordable.</li> <li>• Texana (Brookshire) is the local mental healthcare provider. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mental health is an issue in Austin County.</li> <li>○ People with mental health issues are repeatedly arrested by the police (“Revolving Door”).</li> <li>○ Because of state standards, many people that need help are not getting it. Those prioritized for treatment are those deemed suicidal or a danger to others.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is little public outreach regarding mental health.</li> <li>• There are many children that are “crack babies” or have fetal alcohol syndrome; these children require additional educational assistance, which places significant demands on local schools.</li> <li>• There are challenges dealing with some mental health patients on local transit; it is the only way they can get to local clinics. There are long travel times to clinics</li> <li>• Residents that need a specialist probably have to go to Houston.</li> <li>• There already is a joint-use agreement between local schools and municipal park systems.</li> <li>• Localities have already utilized the Safe Routes to School program (ex. Sealy).</li> </ul>
<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-end housing is coming to Bellville</li> <li>• Sealy has apartment complexes with a lot of crime and substandard/unhealthy housing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There needs to be a push from city leadership to clean-up those sites.</li> <li>○ There are staff/funding issues associated with addressing substandard housing.</li> <li>○ Substandard housing (including old hotel) impact cities services.</li> <li>○ YMAC, Boys &amp; Girls Club, and mentoring help in these communities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A housing quality assessment could help the county/cities address substandard housing.</li> <li>• SECO energy-efficiency grant had a lot of red tape, was not as simple as it seemed.</li> <li>• Energy-efficiency education would help.</li> <li>• Texas electric cooperatives offer rebates for weatherization.</li> <li>• Habitat for Humanity offers opportunity to reuse materials, and most residents are “thrifty.”</li> <li>• Sealy has a good recycling program, but disposal of tires remains an issue.</li> <li>• Tax credits would be helpful in creating new housing.</li> <li>• There is good coverage for aging-in-place with home healthcare services.</li> <li>• Colorado Valley Transit is an important resource for aging in place.</li> <li>• Meals on Wheels is a big program.</li> <li>• The housing stock needs to improve if Austin County is to become a retirement destination.</li> <li>• There are good activities for seniors.</li> </ul>

<b>Resiliency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brazos River floods, <u>if it rains</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are floodplain regulations, but there are issues with compliance</li> <li>○ There is interest in flood insurance programs.</li> <li>○ In 1994 and 1998, animals had to be moved away from the river, due to flooding threats.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Austin County has a reverse 911 system.</li> <li>• Austin County kept a burn ban in place longer than surrounding localities, due to the threat of wildfires.</li> <li>• The Texas Forest Service is a good resource.</li> <li>• There is ongoing participation/relationship with Red Cross, FEMA, and hurricane preparation workshops.</li> <li>• The accuracy/responsiveness of the United Way 211 system needs to be improved.</li> <li>• There is good coverage with the flood insurance program. There are many existing efforts and educational opportunities.</li> <li>• There is a burden on local law enforcement and public works officials post-disaster.</li> <li>• Repetitive loss is not a significant issue in Austin County.</li> <li>• Neighbors help neighbors during/after disasters.</li> <li>• Austin County is already implementing components of different disaster preparation programs (Firewise Communities, Storm Ready, etc.), but financial resources limit full implementation.</li> <li>• Austin County participates/already is in the Community Rating System.</li> <li>• Austin County already has a communication plan.</li> <li>• Many people from the Houston area evacuate to Austin County for emergencies. How do you prepare for that? There needs to be coordination with Fort Bend and Harris counties.</li> <li>• There needs to be safety plan for the large Enterprise Oil Tanks along I-10. How do you mitigate/prevent a disaster? What controls are needed?</li> <li>• The local citizen corps receives minimal funding.</li> <li>• Austin County participates in regional hazard mitigation planning.</li> </ul>
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**Transportation**

- Interstate 10 Tollway is important (County Officials: “Get Back on the Hopper”)
  - Congestion frequently bad on I-10, not just on holidays
- Bellville Bypass (City Project): County wants the project to happen, the city doesn’t
- When politics change and institutional knowledge is lost, projects are disrupted.
- There is a good relationship between Austin County and TxDOT.
- There is a desire to use an existing rail right-of-way along I-10 for light rail to Houston.
- In Sealy, rail traffic is loud, disrupts sleeping residents, and has become a major noise issue (residents are working to adopt a quiet zone).
- Long trains disrupt emergency response services at at-grade crossings.
- Difficult for localities to work with rail companies
  - There have been recent fatalities on railroad tracks, which may spark better communication.
- Coordination between entities within the right-of-way of roads is not an issue.
- Example of Innovative Funding: FM 3538 (EDC, City, TxDOT, businesses funded improvements)
- Transit facilities will not meet future demand
  - Funding Issues: Challenge to get full funding, funding from localities (problem with many rural transit systems)
  - Connections with other transit systems could be improved
    - Commuter service needed to connect community with Houston; there are already vanpools, but more is needed.
  - Funding is needed to address unmet needs. Expanded, nontraditional hours are needed.
- There are many bicyclists using county roads, especially in the spring.
  - Overall, bicyclists are conscientious of the surrounding community, although they are not viewed favorably by all. Bicycling associations donate to local philanthropies.
  - Bicyclists aren’t really tourists; they ride their bikes and leave, don’t spend a lot of money. Motorcyclists stay in the community, spend money at local businesses, are more tourist-like.
- Healthy initiatives in schools will help encourage bicycling and walking.
- Connecting parks will help encourage walking and biking.
- Few people in Austin are interesting in biking/walking.
- Texting while driving is a major issue, particularly for young people.

### Brazoria County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	April 10, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Lake Jackson Branch Library 250 Circle Way Lake Jackson, TX 77566

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local businesses: Manufacturing, bringing labor from outside the U.S.</li> <li>• Higher Education: Alvin Community College, UH Clear Lake at Pearland, Brazosport College</li> <li>• Why using non-local labor for local jobs?</li> <li>• Is it a minimum wage issue? Or skills issue?</li> <li>• Not adequate housing for workers</li> <li>• Pearland does not have enough low-income housing</li> <li>• Alvin and other cities do not have enough high-end housing</li> <li>• High schools have training programs, which are growing/in demand</li> <li>• Other high school students getting college prep education, not job skills, need career track options</li> <li>• College educated students don't have skills for local jobs</li> <li>• High school curriculum can't change without change at state legislature</li> <li>• Community factors limiting change, including communities' aging population</li> <li>• Need new industry? Yes! Need to diversify.</li> <li>• Internet access is mostly adequate, but there are not many options</li> </ul>
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<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation: There are 2 major wildlife conservation areas, so already a priority.</li> <li>• When people see word “conservation” here, it is not a good word – there is a negative connotation. Ex: DOW made conservation seem bad</li> <li>• Industries like Dow try to give back</li> <li>• People like open space, wildlife viewing is appealing</li> <li>• Environmental amenities are a tool to get visitors here</li> <li>• Regulation is a bad word, when dealing with industries</li> <li>• Schools doing a good job promoting environmental stewardship</li> <li>• “Enhancement of Nature &amp; Resources” sounds better than “conservation.” “Awareness” is catching on.</li> <li>• Beaches and wildlife attractive to visitors</li> <li>• Space is attractive to people buying homes- want their own open space</li> <li>• Water is an issue for Brazoria County</li> <li>• Supply needed for agriculture and freshwater for maintain natural environment</li> <li>• Keeping bays clean is important for the area, supporting tourism, fishing, space</li> <li>• Want to develop regulation strategy for retaining attractiveness of this area</li> <li>• Air quality, may need more hybrid cars at dealership</li> <li>• Parks are important everywhere in the county. Brazoria is doing well with this</li> <li>• Solid Waste: Cities &amp; industries do well with this</li> <li>• Water Quality: Big for industry operations, taking lead on this. DOW is developing a private reservoir</li> <li>• Looking at Options for Water Supply: How are we going to make sure we have enough water for future?</li> <li>• Pearland water impact user fee: Cheaper to reuse water than buy new from city</li> <li>• Energy/Green Buildings: Permitting process makes it and expense hard. LEED is too challenging at times, how to make it easier?</li> <li>• Need regular local strategies for energy</li> <li>• Energy Audits by the Texas Municipal League: Lots of companies wanting to do energy audits. If there is a regulation strategy for this, it could be a good thing to use these</li> <li>• Schools and offices have light (electricity) conservation</li> <li>• Brazosport College saved \$\$\$ with light (electricity) conservation</li> </ul>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>Healthy Communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to Fresh Foods: Many people have their own gardens, ties to open space issue. (A plus here).</li> <li>• Food banks, do they have fresh food?</li> <li>• A lot of cities want to expand farmers’ markets, would draw people to their cities. Private partnership farmers market in Pearland</li> <li>• Health facilities? Good access and close to Medical Center.</li> <li>• Access for elderly or non-driving?</li> <li>• Good veterans services, connect transit</li> <li>• Region needs more mental health facilities.</li> <li>• Behavioral Health: There is nowhere to take people for help, lack of funding</li> <li>• Need for more crisis intervention training</li> <li>• Plenty of recreation, sharing of school facilities</li> <li>• Safe routes to school? Elementary OK, distance prohibits walking in some areas. Need more coordination sidewalks, district lines need to be redone</li> <li>• Connectivity of parks? Good, no public knowledge of</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code Enforcement: Not sure if there are any incentives for improvements/upkeep on homes. Hard for people</li> <li>• Pearland- Rental inspection program- annual- permit by city. Owner of property needs renewal each year (Will be going to council soon)</li> <li>• Jones Creek looking at this too- for rental inspections</li> <li>• Shortage of multi-family homes</li> <li>• Clute offers incentives for multi-family development</li> <li>• Multi-Family Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Most hesitant developers-concerned about return on investment and demand in 5 years</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Senior Housing: Chambers gets calls daily for senior independent living. There is a need, but just a few out there.</li> <li>• Housing Shortage: It is hard to convince young family to settle in some areas, since there are not many amenities (schools or restaurants/shopping)</li> <li>• Angleton offering housing builder incentive (tax-related) to attract new houses in their area. It is a brand new program, just approved by council.</li> <li>• Since March 1<sup>st</sup>, seven people with businesses have applied there, just not enough housing</li> <li>• Incentive is not significant, but made some builders think it could be time to build more houses</li> <li>• Chambers of Commerce working with housing issue, two areas being started (230 homes Oyster Bend, 2 near airport)</li> <li>• Quality Housing: Pearland number of housing options, so it is not an issue, but materials/sustainability of development is a concern.</li> <li>• What are these places going to look like in 20 years? Materials matter</li> <li>• Considering masonry ordinance in Pearland</li> <li>• Neighborhood standards/ordinances deal mostly with exterior</li> <li>• Afraid of too many restrictions because will cause buildings to go somewhere else</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define first what this means</li> <li>• Dam and levee safety is being addressed, but waiting for federal government</li> <li>• Education on storms &amp; such are important (flooding, etc.)</li> <li>• Older population attend evacuation meetings</li> <li>• But what about new people living here –how do they know what to do in a natural disaster? 211 program for evacuating people</li> <li>• Churches and counties need help with evacuation and assistance</li> <li>• Structural Mitigation: Could this be part of city’s cod/building enforcement? It might be part of local requirements</li> <li>• A Floodplain Director can help educate the public.</li> <li>• Economic Vulnerability with Natural Disasters: Can hurt when people don’t want to move back</li> <li>• Rapid housing and business recovery, haven’t had too hard of a hit yet, most realize potential of storms living near the coast</li> <li>• There are good county and regular communication plans for disasters warning: schools, counties, hospitals, etc.</li> <li>• Brazoria County does a great job making sure people are ready for disaster, safe, evacuations are timed well, etc. Intercounty coordination is good too.</li> <li>• Building codes and structures have been changed to become stronger, new products/initiatives are being built to withstand storm surge and wind.</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tied to lack of affordable housing needs, jobs/housing balance</li> <li>• An economic development issues existing communities may not want jobs</li> <li>• Intracounty congestion: FM 518</li> <li>• 332 has helped a lot</li> <li>• Freight/goods movement will become an issue with port. Communities do not want more congestion on 288</li> <li>• Locals need to be able to prioritize their own transportation projects, here better knowledge of issues</li> <li>• Technology improvements? No depends on cost</li> <li>• Creative/innovative financing? Developer partnerships</li> <li>• Intermodal capabilities? Needed to attract industry. There is a lack of rail choices</li> <li>• Grade separations needed on 518</li> <li>• Regional Issues: Local bus system was started with federal funds, and is needed for students to travel to Brazosport, considering how to continue funding</li> <li>• Cycling/sidewalks - Jones Creek – not as important, college- yes, climate prohibits, local systems of railroad track is a barrier</li> <li>• Safety: Dangerous intersections? Rail crossings</li> <li>• Air Quality: Natural gas vehicles in Lake Jackson. Pearland has hybrids</li> <li>• Utility companies: There are issues with CenterPoint, there isn't a master plan or undergrounds corridors</li> <li>• Need better organization and communication</li> </ul>
<b>Major Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of skilled labor, training opportunities other than colleges</li> <li>• Route 288, Route 36, Port Expansion</li> <li>• Housing for all incomes, as well as improved quality</li> <li>• Transit an issue</li> <li>• Interest in preserving environmental amenities</li> <li>• Preserving country lifestyle</li> <li>• Resiliency: Generally satisfied, but always other stuff to work on</li> <li>• Pearland missing "cultural arts"</li> <li>• Water Supply</li> </ul>

### Chambers County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	March 27, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Chambers County Library: Anahuac 202 Cummings St. Anahuac, TX 77514

#### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard time finding needed employees, due to industry and training costs, difficulty bringing in high school students to get them interested in jobs, and few training systems for non-college students. Career fair recently held</li> <li>• Housing Stock             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Depend on time frame, been pretty steady</li> <li>○ Many RV parks going in</li> <li>○ Don't expect city amenities; people travel there</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ecotourism             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Become a focus after Hurricane Ike</li> <li>○ Not really a market now</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Already have a buy local "20 in 20" campaign. If you spend \$20 before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, you are entered into a \$500 raffle</li> <li>• Connectivity is getting better with Verizon</li> <li>• Beach City dead pocket</li> <li>• Use Satellite internet</li> <li>• Most areas don't have cable internet</li> <li>• Want business to come, but are wary of competition</li> <li>• Good high school graduation rates</li> <li>• Small business incubators - doing AMDB- Give money to include employment opportunities, small scale now</li> </ul>
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<b>Environment</b>	<p>Regional Strategies (Responses by Strategy Number)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Greenprint- Part of Chart Turtle Bayou, no big plan but projects Plan 1978 to pressure Wallisville project was not revitalization Unique opportunity development moving up to Trinity River, then will jump the river Unique open space opportunities</li> <li>2) Sub-division looking at conservation, put as park, county interested in maintaining parks</li> <li>3) Tree-planting is a ?, was a costal prairie, are you creating more problem       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Tallow-tree elimination</li> <li>b. Air-quality</li> </ol> </li> <li>4) Environment-paper, recycling hard b/c cheap disposal</li> <li>5) N/A</li> <li>6) Not priority</li> <li>7) Water supply big issue</li> <li>8) Aging infrastructure big problem w/q, MUD plus Surface water costs are expensive       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Farm runoff is a big problem</li> <li>b. Lake Houston-high nitrite levels</li> <li>c. Public education about lawn fertilizer</li> <li>d. Seven water studies left to do</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>Local Strategies (Responses by Strategy Number)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Already planning park, national wildlife refuge, unique model</li> <li>2) Low cost landfill</li> <li>3) Contamination of sands</li> <li>4) N/A</li> <li>5) Reuse-scary, not consistent supply of wastewater</li> <li>6) N/A</li> <li>7) Farmers lease, not interested in improvements</li> <li>8) Environmental justice-recycling materials- hazardous waste into sand pits, sealed vehicles coming in</li> </ol>
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to Fresh Food: Winnie has a farmers' market. Access has not been a problem expressed by many. The community probably can't support HEB or Kroger</li> <li>• Healthcare: Don't have trauma care, Baytown is nearest, new clinic</li> <li>• Transportation to the hospital? Getting to dialysis</li> <li>• Substance abuse? Growing problem</li> <li>• Work with Liberty County? Have a women's shelter in Baytown</li> <li>• Mental health, most through Beaumont       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New clinic has a psychologist (Sherriff would know_</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mont Belvieu has a police department, Anahuac does not</li> <li>• Community design, have welcome packet</li> <li>• Schools open for recreation and sports</li> <li>• Have a copper theft problem</li> <li>• Few safety issues</li> <li>• Bike lanes? Community may not have enough people to use. There is community facility, water park.</li> <li>• Crime? Same as elsewhere</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth is not wanted, but communities want to reap the benefit of it.</li> <li>• Trying to keep count of new vs. renewal trash dumping</li> <li>• Local campaign for housing choice</li> <li>• Not much multi-family housing (3 complexes in Anahuac, 3 in Mont Belvieu) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can't build more, communities at capacity</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dry county impact-having to buy membership cards</li> <li>• Space for building neighborhoods? Yes</li> <li>• Have code enforcement in city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have made changes for fire purposes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• No zoning</li> <li>• Green space required for development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Zero impact: Doing retention ponds to help with flooding</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ordinance to prohibit development in certain areas</li> <li>• Problems with private water companies</li> <li>• Incentives for housing stock?</li> <li>• Historic preservation? Not many old buildings</li> <li>• Have 10,000 more people than 10 years ago</li> <li>• Senior housing, needed, currently only in Winnie</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storm Surge Issues: Anahuac could be inundated. Sewer systems are old, this is an environmental hazard 1+1</li> <li>• Public water supply got messed up in Hurricane Ike. There is funding to work on these, two already being built up</li> <li>• Here saltwater barriers, could impact City of Houston in severe drought. Luce Bayou Project will impact others. Freshwater inflows are required to the bays, problems will continue as population growth continues</li> <li>• Need to deepen water supplies, like Lake Houston, but regulatory barriers to doing so. Need to be able to cut red tape to take advantage of opportunities and save money</li> <li>• Flood insurance costs getting too high to afford. Planning for furloughs now</li> <li>• Education not a problem on disasters, people have short memories on disasters, people revert to what they were doing, need education right after events</li> <li>• Hard to get notice out</li> <li>• Economic resiliency</li> <li>• Agriculture, industry, petrochemical</li> <li>• County split into two by Trinity River: I-10 and ferry</li> <li>• Regulation an issue for energy</li> <li>• Rapid recovery planning? Need for freshwater, need contact list for small companies</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<p>Regional Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritization of transport projects</li> <li>• Funding a problem everywhere</li> <li>• Received some here funding here. TxDOT required right-of-way be 400ft on road project, cost significantly more</li> <li>• Don't know long-term needs, track units coming in now; warehousing coming in, bringing traffic</li> <li>• New pipelines coming in, makes it hard to build new roads. Routes 1942 and 146 are problem areas, 20 minutes to I-10</li> <li>• Hard to build for new people now when numbers may change</li> <li>• Contractors are doing staggered start time to prevent traffic</li> <li>• Not as many accident with truck traffic as they expected</li> <li>• Environmental permitting hurdles to build new roads-regulations slow things, rules keep changing</li> <li>• Intermodal barge traffic, cedar bayou, takeout transfer is easier, would save money congestion, but not happening</li> </ul> <p>Local Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Idle reductions, working on changing fuel sustainability (school buses)</li> <li>• Transit to go to VA hospital, have Meals on Wheels</li> <li>• County pays for it. H-GAC aging helps, only available in Anahuac</li> <li>• Anahuac: People trying to walk- sidewalks would be good, have workers already</li> </ul>
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## Colorado County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	March 12, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Nesbit Memorial Library 529 Washington Street Columbus, TX 78934

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Splashway in Shanton</li> <li>• Recreation opportunities for youth</li> <li>• Older swimming pools meeting ADA regulations create monetary issues</li> <li>• Splash pads popular/relatively cheap</li> <li>• Recreation multi-use facilities, economic development idea</li> <li>• New grant from the Dept. of Education for training</li> <li>• Wharton bringing back welding to schools</li> <li>• Vocational training needed</li> <li>• County considered having a welding school</li> <li>• Boot camp juvenile detention facility</li> <li>• Work ethic lacking in youth</li> <li>• College not for all, job training needed</li> <li>• Apprenticeships require money</li> <li>• Strong FFA program</li> <li>• Agricultural extension services partnership/Sealy</li> <li>• CWAM is an economic development cooperative between Colorado, Wharton, Austin, and Matagorda counties</li> <li>• Matching housing stock and quality</li> <li>• Small business support need             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Resources to help people be successful</li> <li>○ Education and financial</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Maybe start a mentorship program</li> <li>• SBA loans             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Training needed for people to start a business</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Outdoor recreation to promote tourism</li> <li>• Buy local-made local</li> <li>• High speed internet still an issue, telecommuting issue, cell service can be spotty</li> <li>• Weimar working on internet, working with Blinn College and other local partners</li> <li>• Education impact is a big issue (internet)</li> <li>• Toolkit for housing stock would be good</li> <li>• Mining traffic issues, high truck traffic, on Alt. U.S. Route 90</li> <li>• Eagle Ford Shale impact minimal</li> <li>• Need for good skills training</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation needed for rice farmers because water cutoff will impact waterfowl, causing migratory flight patterns to shift east</li> <li>• Still good duck hunting</li> <li>• Drought big economic issue, even impacts schools</li> <li>• Water supply issue</li> <li>• Lower Colorado River Authority working on several long-term river rights/contractual agreements</li> <li>• Aquifer underground supply a big plus</li> <li>• Colorado groundwater conservation district (limited authority)</li> <li>• Weimar has limited water supply</li> <li>• Eagle Lake water and sewer lines are aging</li> <li>• Weimar upgrading infrastructure</li> <li>• Change culture to educate and communicate</li> <li>• Complaints about registering water wells, do not want to be restricted</li> <li>• Household hazardous waste/illegal dumping a big issue</li> <li>• More recycling options</li> <li>• Air quality, energy not big issues</li> <li>• Plan to keep open/development plan</li> <li>• Lots of new small landowners from Houston and Katy</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Healthy Communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing private, smaller organizations to take on animal issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Shared funding, private management?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• De-regulate facilities (euthanasia, etc.), education/outreach needs in animal care, etc.</li> <li>• No facilities or overnight shelter for people with mental health issues</li> <li>• Limited funding throughout the area /state when it comes to mental health issues</li> <li>• Expansion of existing farmers' markets in Wharton, Eagle Lake</li> <li>• Boys and Girls club/teen central partnership in Wharton</li> <li>• Need for connected sidewalks, especially in older neighborhoods</li> <li>• Animal Control Problems: Lack of facilities, education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Deters walking</li> <li>○ No city-specific grants to address problem</li> <li>○ Public-private partnerships to manage facilities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic preservation priority</li> <li>• Local approach to preservation preserved v. Texas Historic Commission</li> <li>• Housing for aging population needed</li> <li>• Challenges with zoning and subdivision regulations</li> <li>• Needs to be updated</li> <li>• Weimar updating its zoning</li> <li>• Aging-in-place in rural areas is a challenge</li> <li>• Counties limited in ordinance drafting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Needs to balance regulation and flexibility</li> <li>○ Manufactured homes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Need of workforce housing</li> <li>• Housing education should be done locally</li> <li>• Energy efficiency is important</li> <li>• Removal and upgrading substandard housing</li> <li>• Slumlords need to invest in their properties</li> <li>• Code enforcement is a challenge</li> <li>• Lack of clear title prevents upgrading some properties</li> <li>• Supply and quality of affordable housing as an issue</li> <li>• Lack of higher-end homes</li> <li>• Lack inventory and diversity (type, rent, vs. owner)</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not so much top-down laws</li> <li>• Lack of Involvement: Is it valid without key leaders (esp. county representatives)?</li> <li>• Disasters/Threats: fire, drought, floods</li> <li>• Colorado River hazard mitigation plan: Little general knowledge of it in plan</li> <li>• CWAM (CWAM region promotes economic cooperation between Colorado, Wharton, Austin, and Matagorda counties in Texas)</li> <li>• Having pre-planned game is important</li> <li>• Educate leaders on who to go to beyond our community</li> <li>• “Hmmm:” Do we need a regional emergency planning training center? Maybe one person</li> <li>• How many boards do you serve on?</li> <li>• Emergency management coordinator, seem to coordinate well</li> <li>• Dam and levee safety is being done</li> <li>• Education about using prescribed burning to reduce wildfire hazards</li> <li>• Equipment needs to keep up with need</li> <li>• May be impacted by hurricane</li> <li>• Accommodating evacuees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Traffic jams, cars running out of fuel, road rage, emergency room capacity, trash</li> <li>○ Better in Hurricane Ike than Rita</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Weimar was hit by tornado, mutual aid was critical</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transportation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TxDOT efficient with little funding (more than others)</li> <li>• Rail collisions preventing emergency services from crossing in Eagle Lake</li> <li>• Need for “Quiet Zones” in some areas</li> <li>• Need for Park and Ride extensions (between Columbus and Houston)</li> <li>• Need to connect to other regional/local transit systems</li> <li>• Lack of coordination (amenities) when switching from state to county roads</li> <li>• Good draw for “destination bicyclists”, has been a point of contention</li> <li>• Increased costs associated with servicing I-10</li> </ul>

### Fort Bend County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	April 4, 2013
<b>Time</b>	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	George Memorial Library 1001 Golfview Drive Richmond, TX 77469

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobility (including bicycle/pedestrian mobility)</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Economy</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local machine shops can't find qualified workers. TSTC, community colleges could help address the issue by providing more training opportunities.</li> <li>• Schools should start offering vocational training in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.</li> <li>• Need to show the community that it is ok to be a welder or other skilled profession that does not require a college degree (not every student needs to, or should, go to college).</li> <li>• Mastering a "trade" can provide a stable income and high quality-of-life.</li> <li>• Texas A&amp;M AgriLife offers a "career path program."</li> <li>• Dual credit programs (high school classes offering college credits) are good.</li> <li>• Fulshear is looking at building a partnership with a junior college to open a campus in the city; this proposal will be in the comprehensive plan. Highly-educated population, but not many industrial or manufacturing jobs.</li> <li>• Fulshear is working to attract medical businesses and oil/gas companies to create a new "Energy Corridor."</li> <li>• Problem: TSTC cannot offer courses in the area until the local junior college allows them to do so ⇒ This creates obstacles that limit the county's ability to offer specialized training opportunities.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The county want to promote partnerships between TSTC, HCC, UH, and Wharton Junior College.</li> <li>○ TSTC has curriculum prepared that other colleges in the area do not offer.</li> <li>○ HCC offering classes in old Spring Branch classroom building ⇒ New strategies</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Job/Industry Diversification?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are 3 EDCs countywide and each city has its own EDC</li> </ul> </li> <li>• High-speed data connections in western Fort Bend County are underutilized. An aging population is not "tech-savy" and prefers other modes of communication, which makes it difficult to for governmental entities to reach out to the public.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The cost of internet/communication an issue for older populations, along with the "fear factor" associated with using new technology.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fulshear uses "Blackboard Connect," a phone program similar to reverse 911, where residents can choose to receive alerts via text or voice message. The elderly like the phone recording, which is the voice of a city employee.</li> </ul>

**Environment**

- Water availability is Fort Bend County's #1 issues. Community members are concerned about:
  - Water quality
  - Water quantity
  - Drought
  - Flooding
- Drinking Water Supplies
  - West of Brazos River: 100% of the drinking water comes from groundwater sources
  - Many cities (Stafford, Missouri City, Sugar Land) are transitioning to surface water sources.
  - According to some, there has been more subsidence east of the Brazos River.
  - Many people don't believe that BRA has as much water as it has sold.
    - A "water master" would create a metering system that would ensure that not all of the water is used upstream, that some is reserved for downstream consumption.
- Water Conservation
  - New Territory is using reclaimed effluent for irrigation.
  - More water reclamation is needed. Some projects have begun installing the infrastructure necessary to facilitate reclamation (e.g. Cross Creek, Riverstone).
  - Some states require dual pipes that provide water service and provide reclamation capabilities. Some community members think that Texas should make that a state requirement.
- Low-Impact Development
  - Fulshear is encouraging developers to use LID techniques, promotes these practices within its comprehensive plan. The city is also encouraging the protection of coastal prairie landscapes.
  - In Sugar Land, developers may opt out of the conventional development standards, if they adhere to the city's LID standards.
  - Fort Bend County is promoting the use of LID; developers using LID techniques are generally not required to provide as many detention facilities.
  - Local AgriLife Extension promotes environmentally-friendly management practices, such as water conservation, xeriscaping, the planting of native species, and conservation farming techniques.
- Sugar Land's Wise Guys Program: As part of the program, irrigation systems are inspected for leaks, preventing water from being wasted.
- Recycling Programs
  - Fort Bend County has the Central Recycling Center
  - Most cities provide curbside recycling. Cities are encouraging more recycling by offering large containers and not require citizens to sort the different recyclable materials.
- Illegal dumping is an issue in rural areas, where tires and mattresses are dumped along railroad corridors.
- Fulshear is working to develop tree planting/protection programs.
- Fort Bend County plants trees within its parks and has a county-owned tree farm that provides seedlings.

**Healthy Communities**

- Issues with Mental Health
  - The local hospitals and jail handle mentally-ill individuals, but they do not provide significant resources for recovery.
  - There are few long-term mental healthcare facilities (Texana provides care for up to 30 days; the Richmond School offers long-term care opportunities).
  - Mentally-ill individuals not receiving proper care burden local police forces. Police in smaller communities may not have training that properly prepares them for encounters with mentally-ill citizens.
  - Many believe it is important to help mentally-ill individuals to receive job training and obtain employment (although it must be very structured) (eg. Brookwood).
  - AgriLife Extension offers its “Master of Memory” program.
- Aging-in-Place
  - Travelling nurses groups can care for the elderly.
  - Senior citizens centers
  - PPP (Income-based, Catholic charitable facility in Richmond that only provides services to the poor)
- Healthy/Local Foods
  - West Fort Bend County has been designated by the FDA has a “food desert.” Food selection is limited, and officials are working to attract a grocery store.
  - Local farmers’ markets attract more affluent people, and, since the products offered are expensive, do that improve access to healthy foods for low-income populations.
  - Locally-Grown Produce = Freshness
  - AgriLife Extension’s “Backyard Basics” program encourages residents to grow their own food.
  - Deed restrictions prevent some from growing their own food (esp. animals).
  - Allowing chicken raising is a hot-button issue in Sugar Land.

## Housing

- Affordable housing is needed in Fulshear.
- In general, most of the county has good housing stock.
- In Sugar Land, affordable housing is not on the community's wish list. Most of the city consists of single-family detached homes.
  - The city is looking at changing demographics, and there is concern for the ability of residents to age in place. There is also concern that there are not adequate housing options for younger people.
- In Fulshear, there are plans to build an age-restricted community with 500 units. 8,000 new homes are planned over the next 10 years. 100% of the existing housing units are single-family detached.
- There is possibly growing demand for multi-family residential units.
- Richmond/Rosenberg have a greater diversity of housing stock.
- How can communities address the need for affordable housing for workers?
- Assisted living facilities need to be expanded.
- Fulshear has subdivision and zoning codes, but there are no restrictions within the ETJ. This hinders the ability for cities/county to regulate the quality of development, since there are fewer development standards in unincorporated areas (e.g. fire code for multi-family structures).
- Cities can use development agreements, allowing them to regulate development within the ETJ in exchange for providing limited services, such as water, police, and fire protection.
  - When a landowner signs a development agreement, the existing regulations are "locked in;" any subsequent changes in regulations will not apply.
  - These agreements are only permitted inside a city's ETJ.
- Some cities use limited purpose annexation to gain partial control of commercial properties.
- Fulshear provides incentives for green and energy-efficient construction. Energy-efficient homes tend to sell faster (Energy Star rating system).
- The West Fort Bend Management District enforces architectural standards for commercial development in western Fort Bend County, regulating the materials used and their quality.
- Sugar Land has strong regulations that ensure high-quality projects are constructed.
- Sugar Land's planned unit development review process helps ensure that historic features are protected, such as the Imperial Sugar site.
- Sugar Land uses zoning regulations to help protect the character of certain historic neighborhoods (e.g. Mixed Use/Conservation District for the Brooks Street corridor).

<b>Resiliency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fort Bend County’s Office of Emergency Management works well with local cities, each of which has their own emergency management coordinator/department. The County Judge directs the Office of Emergency Management.</li> <li>• Sugar Land staff are trained in NIMS</li> <li>• Hurricane Evacuation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There were issues with evacuating the area prior to the arrival of Hurricane Rita, but now there are better plans in place.</li> <li>○ State Highway 6 has undergone light synchronization and will handle phased evacuations.</li> <li>○ TxDOT now has contraflow plans, which is a <u>key</u> change.</li> <li>○ Spur 10 will be important, helping ease congestion on State Highway 36 during evacuations.</li> <li>○ There are few north/south roads due to few river crossings.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The last major flooding of the Brazos and San Bernard rivers was in 1994.</li> <li>• Storm Ready program has been beneficial.</li> <li>• There are wildfire/prairie fire risks in northern parts of the county, near Fulshear. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wildfire risks could be mitigated through landscape management and fire education, which is offered by AgriLife Extension.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Officials recommend that everyone in Fort Bend County get flood insurance, even in areas outside of the flood plain. Flood insurance is cheap for those living outside of the flood plain.</li> <li>• Getting homeowner insurance is difficult because of the areas proximity to the coast/Galveston (concerns about wind damage). The county is a “2<sup>nd</sup> Tier” county because is further inland than other coastal localities.</li> <li>• Economic resiliency: Fulshear is not very diversified, and depends on sales tax revenue to finance its operations.</li> </ul>
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## Transportation

- Want to expand bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure (Fulshear)
- Want METRO services expanded to Fulshear
- Focusing on pedestrian/bicycle “utility” trips (trips not for recreational purposes) (Sugar Land)
- Commuter services into/out of Fort Bend County (Sugar Land)
- Meadows Place is located next to the City of Houston but has no transit opportunities. Residents want it.
- TxDOT-funded Park & Ride (Carpool Lot) in Fulshear, but it is not utilized.
- METRO ROW goes through Fulshear, and the city asked about a possible rails-to-trails project but METRO opposed. Project would help take bicyclists off of FM 1093.
- Freight Issues ⇒ Don’t look just at local \$ for solutions
- There are safety issues associated with freight rail ⇒ Communities need to balance economic development and safety
- Railroad creates barriers to mobility but also provides economic benefits.
- Bicycle facilities may not be safe for certain roads, but communities need to look at other opportunities for building trails.
  - Example: Use utility ROWs; does not interfere with automobile travel
  - Buffered bike lanes (separate from the roadway) are preferable.
- Goods movement and overall mobility are critical needs, but not enough have been done, especially to plan and develop solutions for future problems.
- Low-income populations and others need a safe place to walk.
- Safety ⇒ Issue with bicyclists (2 deaths in Fulshear)
- Motorized wheelchairs are driving on local roads (Highway 90: West Fort Bend), interfering with automobile traffic.
- Financing Tools
  - “County Assistance Districts” will be used to fund projects in unincorporated areas.
  - MUDs, LIDs, etc. (Special Districts) ⇒ Community wants to see how these could be improved.
  - PPPs
- Air Quality
  - Fulshear looking at an electric vehicle charging station.
  - Sugar Land is working to acquire a fleet of compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles.
  - Sugar Land’s comprehensive plan addresses environmental responsibility and design standards.



## Galveston County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	May 16, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Charles T. Doyle Convention Center 2010 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North Texas City, TX 77590

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Major Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Availability: There is not water available to accommodate new development</li> <li>• Traffic/Congestion</li> <li>• Need more efficient land uses</li> <li>• Need parallel corridors/alternative routes</li> <li>• Need coordination between transportation, land use, and infrastructure. A lack of coordination will slow economic development and diminish quality of life.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kemah: Interested in opening new businesses, as there have been few new businesses in the past 10 years</li> <li>• Need to diversify economy: “don’t want all eggs in one basket”</li> <li>• Diversifying increases community resilience, and minimizes disruption to municipal services and tax base</li> <li>• In developed areas, land must be used efficiently to accommodate economic development</li> <li>• New development should be built in consideration of next 30-40 years, not just built for current conditions. There should be multiple uses well-integrated with one another, so they can co-exist next to each other for the long-term.</li> <li>• Workforce development: Need to promote the range of educational opportunities (ex. vocational schools)</li> <li>• Need more divers training than what is currently offered</li> <li>• UH Clear Lake, Galveston College offer some courses</li> <li>• Broadband reaches developed areas, but less availability in rural areas (ex Bolivar Peninsula)</li> <li>• Kemah promotes “buy local” campaign. Smaller businesses have “legacy” employment, and sometimes offer higher wages</li> <li>• Lack of affordable housing for middle-income families, need more market-based housing, especially in mid/north county away from Interstate 45</li> <li>• Some MUDs (Municipal Utility Districts) have high tax rates,</li> <li>• Less economic diversity in new communities</li> </ul>

<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water is a huge issue for the county, bringing supplies in from Harris County</li> <li>• League City has a “grey water” system</li> <li>• Air Quality: There is housing near industries. Texas City works closely with BP (a major industry in the area)</li> <li>• Parks: League City recently put together a park. Some want a dog park</li> <li>• Recycling: There are existing services (not mandatory), but they don’t accept glass</li> <li>• Natural Area Preservation: Kemah has a 57-acre area that they would like to be natural</li> <li>• Water quality is seen as a major quality of life issue for the area</li> <li>• More public education on disposal of hazardous waste</li> <li>• The area has a Water District, just passed a bond for water issues</li> <li>• Energy-Efficiency: SECO (State Energy Conservation Office) grant to install LEDs; saving \$650 a month on electric bills</li> <li>• New building codes have higher efficiencies</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some recognition of the air and water quality impacts of petrochemical industries</li> <li>• There is access to fresh produce. There are several farmers’ markets, but they serve more of a niche. Getting an ALDI, all private grocery store about the size of a Walgreens pharmacy.</li> <li>• Mental Health: Galveston County better off in terms of availability</li> <li>• Strong emphasis on good healthcare</li> <li>• County government has different attitude on role of government in Galveston.</li> <li>• Walking to school, some elementary schools are accessible via local network</li> </ul>
<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More multi-family housing being built in Galveston County, especially post-recession</li> <li>• Concerns about too many apartments, lingering homeownership opportunities</li> <li>• Multi-family housing may not retain its quality as long as single-family homes</li> <li>• Homeownership promotes more involvement and engagement in the community</li> <li>• Water availability is a challenge when trying to attract large-scale residential development</li> <li>• In Kemah, small independent builders building infill single-family homes</li> <li>• Hurricane Ike Recovery: Difficult finding people still in need</li> <li>• Some people affected by storm have left</li> <li>• In West Kemah, damaged homes have been rebuilt, most on pilings</li> <li>• CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds will be used to improve local infrastructure to support redevelopment</li> <li>• Few small cities have on-staff engineers</li> <li>• Kemah enforces local housing codes</li> <li>• Senior Housing: There is some interest in communities. Hurricane Ike funds may be used to construct senior housing</li> </ul>

<b>Resiliency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ike Dike: Neat concept (contra surge, building to different elevation)</li> <li>• No raising lots with storm water management</li> <li>• County has no ability to regulate building code</li> <li>• Did not get “dirty side” of Hurricane Ike</li> <li>• Building to base flood elevation</li> <li>• A federally-funded program has to use the latest data</li> <li>• Now people understand the importance of flood insurance, some still can’t afford. If you don’t have a mortgage, there is no need for flood insurance</li> <li>• Rewarded for not having flood insurance</li> <li>• Inter-governmental coordination and communication. Hurricane Rita was the worst, people died needlessly.</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biggest Issues: Number of people commuting to Harris County or Galveston Island</li> <li>• Interstate 45 is clogged 24/7 from the Harris County Line to Beltway 8</li> <li>• League City is behind the curve. It takes 30 minutes to go east-west across the County</li> <li>• Might drive 20 minutes to go to the grocery store</li> <li>• Inertia from business concerns and no champion for transportation planning. Commutes are as bad as New York City, people have a choice on where to live.</li> <li>• Schools are a big reason people choose suburban communities</li> <li>• Communities more densely populated in Fort Bend and Brazoria counties did a better job in transportation planning. Highway 146 Park and Ride coming soon.</li> <li>• Post-Hurricane Ike people moved to the mainland from Galveston Island</li> <li>• Highway 146 will be a critical corridor with the new truck traffic from the port</li> <li>• Participants has found a road with a bike lane</li> <li>• Bike trails are almost non-existent</li> <li>• Lots of golf carts for transportation; in Galveston golf carts can ride on the streets</li> <li>• If you don’t build it they won’t come</li> <li>• CenterPoint with not share their electric corridor with a bike/hike path</li> <li>• Localities Streets are important</li> <li>• Fixed route bus service</li> </ul>

**Northwest Harris County Focus Group**

<b>Date</b>	May 6, 2013
<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Northwest Branch Library 11355 Regency Green Drive Cypress, TX 77429

**Meeting Notes/Input**

<b>Main Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local study of safety of greenways</li> <li>• Understanding vulnerability along roadways</li> <li>• Communication amongst different entities (Coordination)</li> <li>• Civic involvement between elected officials, businesses, residents, etc. . . . and really caring</li> <li>• Funding ⇒ Cross-Jurisdictional (MUDs, cities, homeowners, etc.)</li> <li>• Communication during disasters</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of Exxon move</li> <li>• Economic development interrelated to all topics</li> <li>• How can the region optimize the benefits of the Exxon move?</li> <li>• 249/Cypress Creek/Noble Energy is an emerging employment market, along with Lone Star College. There are 17,000 office workers</li> <li>• Trail master plan to connect 75,000 people</li> <li>• Spring Creek is the longest urban, forested, contiguous corridor in the nation ⇒ Quality-of-life for Exxon right in the middle of the corridor</li> <li>• Vacant strip centers in the area. There need to be incentives to get these filled, instead of building new ones             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Vacant centers can be a safety/hazard issue</li> <li>○ Relates to central coordination issue</li> <li>○ Could the county address this?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Lone Star College and Noble Energy are coordinating training programs</li> <li>• Vocational education ⇒ Lone Star College Efforts             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Career Technology Education (CTE) at high-school level (ex. Klein ISD)</li> <li>○ Example Courses: Robotics, Cisco services, cosmetology</li> <li>○ New emphasis at the state level on students being college- and career-ready</li> <li>○ 90% of students take at least 1 CTE class</li> <li>○ Still missing construction trade ⇒ Is there a mismatch?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Good schools in Northwest area</li> <li>• Growing population of economically-disadvantaged             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Takes more money to educate each economically-disadvantaged student</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Many classes at community colleges are at the remedial level, addressing K – 12; would be better to not have to “re-educate”</li> <li>• Buy Local/Made Local             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Helps small businesses</li> <li>○ Need general database of what is offered</li> <li>○ Example: Houston Arts Alliance “arts hound” for local offerings would help for marketing small businesses</li> <li>○ Nextdoor.con ⇒ social media for neighborhoods</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Apartment communities on I-45 have a transient school population</li> </ul>

<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents move to the area because of the trees</li> <li>• Need policy (and enforcement of) on maintaining trees</li> <li>• Quality of water deteriorated after switch to surface water and treatment process</li> <li>• Significant cost increases in water</li> <li>• More graywater should be used for amenity pools, conversion costs are high</li> <li>• ISDs converting to greener water conservation practices, due to cost savings</li> <li>• Conservation, water quality, and flooding should be addressed holistically</li> <li>• Weak understanding of where water comes from</li> <li>• City of Houston should provide education on water supply and watershed</li> <li>• Maintain LID infrastructure</li> <li>• Some subdivisions don't have recycling</li> <li>• More hazardous materials recycling needed</li> <li>• Reliable electricity needed (Bury electrical lines)</li> <li>• Education on yard waste</li> <li>• Precinct #4 parks are assets, need promotion</li> <li>• Leveraging resources and dual uses are important in the future, due to limited resources</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health issues: Interfaith Samaritan Council Center is a resource, but there is a greater need</li> <li>• Access to mental health is not easy to find <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Could be because more people</li> <li>○ Suicide rate going up</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Access to green space is good for overall mental health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Push to get kids outdoors</li> <li>○ Push for hospitals to be connected to green spaces (Ex. Rx for Parks)</li> <li>○ Engaging local doctors to promote green space</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Safety an issue with some access to outdoor areas</li> <li>• Areas of exercise equipment outdoors/park (ex. Greens Bayou)</li> <li>• There are local farms in the area; no real food issues in the area</li> <li>• Walking/Biking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lack of sidewalks/accessibility an issue</li> <li>○ Connectivity Issues: Gates and fences can be major barriers for walking/biking</li> <li>○ Mid-Block Crossings: Cannot be done on Harris County right-of-way, major barrier</li> <li>○ Many barriers to walking</li> <li>○ Crime sometimes an issues: NIMBYism with joint use of facilities</li> <li>○ Public greenways are safer, but some have a perception of them not being safe; public education could help</li> <li>○ SRTS could be an opportunity for partnerships with developers, MUDs, ISDs, etc.</li> <li>○ Conundrum of public policy – walking/biking/roads</li> <li>○ Coordination between medical entities on service</li> <li>○ Sidewalks should be a priority on new and existing roads</li> <li>○ Canopies can help with walkability and flooding</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic preservation ⇒ Need coordination between public facilities and private expectation, historic buildings cost a lot of money to fix up</li> <li>• Shouldn't have to rebuild the city streets ⇒ Real public/private coordination needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 20 – 30 year old subdivisions ⇒ “Middle Ring”</li> <li>○ Not energy efficient</li> <li>○ Incentives needed to buy/renovate/upgraded to make efficient</li> <li>○ Not necessarily in distressed areas</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Lots of homes in flood-prone areas, losing tax base through buyouts. These homes are sitting empty; could they be removed? HCFCD uses for green space</li> <li>• Example of Inwood Forest/Man. District Country Club</li> <li>• Houses sell quickly, inventory low</li> <li>• In new developments, communities can work with builders to have model homes use something other than St. Augustine grass, the biggest water user, and promote the use of native landscaping/xeriscaping</li> <li>• Houston Housing Finance Corporation ⇒ Workforce Housing</li> <li>• Need to support quality affordable housing without disrupting neighborhoods</li> <li>• City of Houston urban/suburban ordinances changing</li> </ul>
<b>Resiliency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ More Concrete = More Flooding</li> <li>○ Removal of trees causing new flood areas and creating issues with access</li> <li>○ Detention/retention of stormwater a major issue regionally (esp. non-natural concrete methods) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Concrete facilities result in mosquito pits ⇒ more <u>natural</u> storage needed</li> <li>▪ Concrete facilities look bad and do not work</li> <li>▪ Need to address the engineering and impacts of stormwater facilities</li> <li>▪ HCFCD has design criteria/guidelines, but some are privately maintained</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Cypress Creek Overflow Study: Will have solutions, but how can implementation be funded?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Trees/power lines an issue</li> <li>• Planning on Federal aspects of resiliency may be lacking (ex. FEMA).</li> <li>• What are the priorities after a natural disaster?</li> <li>• Education needed on how to ride out a storm</li> <li>• Communication aspect that has not been tested in a natural disaster (analog v. HD), may need educational campaign</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• U.S. 290 Expansion needed</li><li>• Need for light rail into downtown Houston and cross-town</li><li>• Ridesharing</li><li>• Improve aging infrastructure<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Focus on MUDs and unincorporated areas</li><li>○ Lack of funding</li></ul></li><li>• Difficultly communicating between jurisdictions, lack of coordinated planning</li><li>• How do you make light rail work in a dispersed area?</li><li>• D.C./Baltimore light rail system a good model</li><li>• Lack of public transportation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Reduces the pool of qualified employees</li></ul></li><li>• Children are unable to walk to schools<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ More investment in sidewalks and crossing guards needed</li><li>○ Issue with crossing busy streets</li><li>○ Encourage children to bike</li></ul></li><li>• New roads should have bicycle lanes</li><li>• Facilitation between Harris County, ISD, MUDs, others</li><li>• Alternative fuels for fleets difficult to implement</li><li>• FM 1960 and Boudreaux Railroad Crossing Challenge</li><li>• High Train Speeds</li></ul>
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### City of Houston (City Employees) Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	May 14, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Houston City Offices 611 Walker Street Houston, TX 77002

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Main Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional transportation authority</li> <li>• Need for aligning educational opportunities</li> <li>• Need for comprehensive plan for water system management</li> <li>• Comprehensive transportation plan</li> <li>• Policies to increase variety of vendors that supply healthy foods</li> <li>• Prioritizing long- and short-term strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Houston has many economic development tools that can be used, but are not marketed.</li> <li>• Infrastructure is key</li> <li>• Identify redevelopment opportunities</li> <li>• Partnership with other City of Houston departments</li> <li>• Workforce Development             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Enough qualified workers without creating an employment gap</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Create communication mechanism between employers, educational institutions and economic development organizations</li> <li>• Economic incentives should align with housing needs or retail commerce needs</li> <li>• Parks are an important selling point that need to be marketed</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One bin for all</li> <li>• Energy efficiency (#5 Local strategies)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Disclosure</li> <li>○ Benchmarking</li> <li>○ Auditing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Energy Savings Calculations: We don't count for operations but should. A big savings not only on energy, but man power. Technology helps with man power savings</li> <li>• Want to work on private side, not only municipal</li> <li>• Water Conservation: Education campaign, should be energy and water conservation</li> <li>• Want model communities (relocations)</li> <li>• Air Quality: Look at industries doing it right (models)</li> <li>• Non-mobile sources need to address more</li> <li>• Local Strategy #3: Include reuse and add organic and household waste</li> <li>• Regional strategies do not have much on solid waste. Add organic and household waste, would be nice to have a stronger regional strategy, balance of responsibility, plan to maximize diversion</li> <li>• LID (low-impact development) is a buzzword that is often misused, may want to rethink word (same with "Complete Streets" as a buzzword). The concept is important, but consider using a non-buzzword.</li> <li>• Tree Strategy is good. Memorial Park as an example (significant)</li> <li>• Developer awareness for trees, not cut down so many</li> <li>• Economic benefits of tree cover, not just environmental (resiliency, flooding, shade, etc.)</li> </ul>



<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of fast-food/unhealthy food available (vs. access to healthy options)</li> <li>• Need to align economic incentives with healthy communities initiatives/needs</li> <li>• Healthy community information is available, but now we need the funding and implementation mechanisms</li> <li>• Placement of affordable housing with respect to access to food, etc.</li> <li>• Health transcends our traditional definitions, encompasses education, complete streets, CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)</li> <li>• Our model is broken, from the location of housing to the coordination of transportation options</li> <li>• Increase coordination between departments to align economic development goals with healthy communities' objectives</li> <li>• Can we identify incentives for grocery stores to locate in underserved areas?</li> <li>• Battling against the convenience, price, etc. of fast-food options, not as simple as choosing to eat "unhealthy"</li> <li>• Increased education for adults</li> <li>• Need for increased mental health services</li> <li>• Ongoing mental health campaign through the Mayor's Office</li> <li>• Neighborhood allotment gardens (especially for underserved communities)</li> <li>• Not scaling Healthy Communities awareness/education campaigns ( i.e. Recipes for Success)</li> <li>• Change equals access to active parks to supplement Local Strategy #6</li> <li>• Need for preventative care outreach/education</li> </ul>
<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding that unincorporated areas do not have their own building codes</li> <li>• Educate consumer on building in the floodplain and lack of building codes</li> <li>• Reuse of construction materials as a model for deconstruction</li> <li>• Lack of mixed-income communities</li> <li>• Need for a workforce housing strategy</li> <li>• Access to fresh food on-site within housing developments. Rolling green mobile food vendors for fresh food</li> <li>• Smoke-free policy for multi-family developments</li> <li>• Need for energy-efficient housing</li> <li>• Strategy #3 critical to plan</li> </ul>
<b>Resiliency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dam &amp; levee strategy not highly applicable/important to the city</li> <li>• Concern for the rising cost of development in the northern and western areas outside of Houston</li> <li>• Challenges with wholesale system (water)</li> <li>• Need for a regional vision that anticipates future development</li> <li>• Need to incorporate "drought" more within strategies</li> <li>• Need to improve electrical system with respect to resiliency (e.g. aftermath of Hurricane Ike)</li> <li>• Challenges in moving people around after a disaster (i.e. to and from work, tourists, etc.)</li> <li>• Solid waste/debris removal as 1<sup>st</sup> responders</li> <li>• Reliance on cell phones for primary communication</li> <li>• Impact of downed cell towers after/during disasters</li> <li>• Placing/incorporating towers with existing generators</li> <li>• Interconnectedness of all components fuels the impacts on economic development</li> <li>• Potential impacts of relying on one industry, need for redundancy and diversity</li> <li>• Aligning educational and employment opportunities for greater continuity</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issues: Need more transportation links to/from the grocery store, medical places, etc. and need efficient service (lifeline transportation)</li><li>• Integrated system that looks at needs</li><li>• Continue to develop connectivity in trails, parks, and transit (alternative modes of transportation)</li><li>• Close mindedness of transit options</li><li>• Look beyond light rail</li><li>• Transit needs a broader spectrum</li><li>• We need a regular transportation authority that really looks at all modes, and that is well-funded</li><li>• Mobility from economic development perspective- commutes need to be easier</li><li>• Public needs to understand transportation trade-offs (Ex. Transit could take longer than other modes)</li><li>• Regional transportation authority concept and coordination</li><li>• Challenges with continuity and coordination between jurisdictions (e.g. signal timing, many transit agencies)</li><li>• Need to look at planning and overall best investment of the region (but political challenges)</li><li>• Example: Regional Operation Organization</li><li>• Transit: Do we need to think more outside the box? Yes (Some private funds, etc. Look at BRT and other 21<sup>st</sup>-century and beyond means)</li><li>• Need to look move into the “last mile” transportation (Ex. Bike/Car Share)</li></ul>
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**Houston (Urban Interests) Focus Group**

<b>Date</b>	April 24, 2013
<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Houston-Galveston Area Council 3555 Timmons Lane Houston, TX 77027

**Meeting Notes/Input**

<b>Main Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access, affordability, and choice</li> <li>• Local investment in businesses and food</li> <li>• Resiliency (Preparation): Climate Change</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Reduce emissions through land use and transportation decisions</li> <li>• Soil health and water</li> <li>• Freight</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Access to preventative services</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buy local, made local, grow local</li> <li>• Small businesses need to be incentivized</li> <li>• Alternative business models (Ex: Co-ops)</li> <li>• Develop a depository of programs</li> <li>• Explore new economic sector opportunities</li> <li>• Too many incentives focus on big businesses</li> <li>• Address barriers to accessing broadband (income issues)</li> <li>• Technology for All (Rice University)</li> <li>• Develop a way for non-accredited investors to invest in small local business</li> <li>• Not only grow food, make a product</li> <li>• Understand high-yield and added value</li> <li>• Focus on crafts and trades</li> <li>• Create a centralized resource on “How to get into business”</li> <li>• Coordinate with community colleges</li> <li>• Important that people graduate from high school</li> <li>• Need for vocational training and college preparation in high schools</li> <li>• Algebra #1</li> <li>• Market opportunities</li> <li>• Teach kids how to think not only to be “good corporate citizens”</li> </ul>

<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify areas for conservation and identify methods of preservation. Include this information when having policy discussions (For example, when building a new road).</li> <li>• Strategy #4: Bacteria Implementation Groups are already working to educate residents about environmental issues</li> <li>• Should have multimedia, bilingual, education programs (ex. some have limited access to internet)</li> <li>• Education programs should begin early in education process</li> <li>• Problem: Education is piecemeal, need to teach a holistic picture, so that people understand why you should participate in education program</li> <li>• Involve parents in youth education efforts</li> <li>• Strategy #4: Environmental education should be formal</li> <li>• Energy conservation/energy efficiency is important. There are opportunities for solar in the region, but communities are not currently taking advantage of it. Region needs a strategy to promote solar</li> <li>• Smart Grid: Turns off unneeded electronics at peak times to reduce demand</li> <li>• Distributed Grid: Incorporate solar or other energy producers locally (not far away, connected to grid)</li> <li>• Resiliency: Energy is part of resiliency</li> <li>• Some localities incentivize the use of alternative energy</li> <li>• Water conservation important</li> <li>• Large-scale storage results in net environmental loss (ex. Cutting forest for reservoir in East Texas)</li> <li>• Use reforestation to reduce water loss from evaporation</li> <li>• Incorporate full cost of water into pricing structures</li> <li>• Issue: Realism of implementing strategies after plan is developed</li> <li>• For priorities, focus on strategies that can be achieved realistically. (1) What do you think is the most achievable? OR (2) Focus most critically on urgent needs. This may not work for every topic issue</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Healthy Communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to local foods should be a priority</li> <li>• Several organizations already working together to promote local foods</li> <li>• Neighborhood Centers and Urban Harvest are participants in a farmers’ market. SNAP can be used. There needs to be a forum where others can share experiences. Use other areas’ experiences and adapt to local needs</li> <li>• Third Ward: Several community gardens have food preparation/preservation program that teach people how to grow and prepare fresh foods</li> <li>• Need for training people in all transects how to grow food (high leverage opportunity)</li> <li>• Example: Plant It Forward Farms</li> <li>• Creation of food hubs</li> <li>• Allows smaller farms to sell to larger markets</li> <li>• Issue: Not enough small farmers to supply region with food</li> <li>• Need policies that protect prime farmland from development</li> <li>• Northside Program: Use community gardens as educational tool, increase interest in farming</li> <li>• Food security is important part of health/resiliency</li> <li>• Conventional row crops/feed for animals not productive, could make more money growing produce for people</li> <li>• Center for Houston’s Future: Shortage of safety net clinics</li> <li>• Physical environment important for community health</li> <li>• Some foundations focus on fixing problems instead of preventative care</li> <li>• People don’t know how much benefit a high-quality physical environment has on physical/mental health</li> <li>• Local Strategy #1 should be a regional strategy. The cost of local food is higher than imported food, limiting access (need growing in low-income neighborhoods)</li> <li>• Need to promote Safe Routes to School programs, as they promote a lifetime of walking activity</li> <li>• Important issues: City of Houston housing policies push low-income people farther out, forcing them to rely on automobile for travel</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding housing justice</li> <li>• Many neighborhoods have no deed restrictions</li> <li>• What is the public sector’s role in affordable housing?</li> <li>• Funding restrictions are a challenge</li> <li>• What will the market be in 2040? Size and type of housing, large aging population</li> <li>• Other planning tools needed for housing diversity</li> <li>• Need support individual residents and small developers</li> <li>• There is a need for a comprehensive housing policy</li> <li>• Need a diversity in the types and location of housing provided to suit varying needs</li> <li>• More understanding of home/business improvement programs</li> <li>• Strategy #3 is good</li> <li>• A land trust is needed to address gentrification</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Idea of robust yet fragile systems. Dashboard information collection for early warning signs for what may happen. The region is not thinking about it now.</li> <li>• Diversity as component of a resilient system</li> <li>• Education needs to be ongoing because the population shifts</li> <li>• Gap in information regarding potential hazards. The media exaggerates threats, making the public blasé about real threats</li> <li>• Make it easier for people to understand and interpret threats, such as toxic waste emissions</li> <li>• Mitigation component/prevention</li> <li>• Climate change is missing component</li> <li>• Balancing construction versus maintaining land for growth. This needs to be factored in when decisionmakers determine priorities</li> <li>• Favor goes to developers</li> <li>• Proactive planning is needed to prevent people from being in vulnerable areas, including the floodplain. Zoning/subdivision regulations can address this.</li> <li>• How people can get help post-disaster?</li> <li>• Also wind to flood insurance policy education</li> <li>• The Free market cost of insurance is an issue in and out of the floodplain. Work with state insurance pool.</li> <li>• Economic Resiliency: Think about different scenarios/indicators dashboard</li> <li>• Joint payment with Harris County for impact fees on flooding</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transportation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How would you consider cost externalities when considering total transportation costs?</li> <li>• No existing model to derive from. Could use positive costs/benefits to create this model. Bike/pedestrian projects could be more competitive with road projects.</li> <li>• Strategy #1 would be a good strategy.</li> <li>• Look at progressive solutions/ “new answers” that will maximize the performance of the existing transportation network (ex. Smart Cars)</li> <li>• Use GIS/existing GPS systems on METRO buses to show users exactly where bus is in relation to stop (encourage bus ridership). Other cities have used GPS data from cell phones to determine when commuters are traveling. This data can be used to manage traffic to increase performance</li> <li>• Add METRO to Local Strategy #1 (Coordination in Construction)</li> <li>• Local Strategies #4 – 6 should be regional strategies too</li> <li>• How do you expand mass transit in rural areas?</li> <li>• Communities should encourage private/philanthropic mass transit (ex. Magic Bus in Gulfton, Washington Avenue). City will shut down private providers; that shouldn’t be done.</li> </ul>

### Northwest Houston (Harris County Employees) Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	May 15, 2013
<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Trini Mendenhall Sosa Center 1414 Wirt Road Houston, TX 77055

#### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Main Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve livability (public should be involved; don't leave to developers)</li> <li>• Giving the greater county regulatory or land use powers</li> <li>• Educational impacts for all</li> <li>• Pass legislative items related to housing and transit</li> <li>• Environment: Aesthetics, connection to nature, considering the full costs of development, changing expectations and demanding more, citizen engagement</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good economic climate now; maintain economic development and job growth momentum</li> <li>• Need jobs for low-income, indigent people with lower educational levels</li> <li>• Already have vocational training opportunities</li> <li>• Current gaps between growing industries and some available trades/labor availability</li> <li>• Educate students about other job opportunities besides college</li> <li>• Need to balance education with other job opportunities</li> <li>• Ex. One company partnered with Lone Star College to offer a training opportunities; students competing program guaranteed a job</li> <li>• Partnerships between companies and community college would be a "win-win" for students, employers, and schools</li> <li>• Need incentives to match housing and economic development</li> <li>• Some areas alack affordable housing with mass transit, and adequate access to jobs and services</li> <li>• Provide incentives for businesses to locate to areas, build revenue for community</li> <li>• Big push for "Buy Local, Made Local" interest in Harris County             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Associated growth in local businesses</li> <li>○ Driven by interest in sustainability and eating healthy/organic food (Example: Food Co-Ops)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• More pollution complaints in county by local farmers, slaughtering on site</li> <li>• Local being promoted by cities. Some cities are creating policies that local require/encourage governments to buy from local businesses</li> <li>• Preserve existing businesses during road construction by maintaining access to businesses during adjacent road construction</li> </ul>

<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need a regional funding system for improving infrastructure. Local MUDs (municipal utility districts) are unable to improve aging infrastructure at times (max-out bonding, taxing ability)</li><li>• Harris County provides CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds to improve local infrastructure</li><li>• County helps/encourages MUDs to plan for long-term improvements</li><li>• Large portions of Harris County have water quality issues, particularly with drinking water</li><li>• Failing septic systems are contaminating private wells, because they are aging and are in close proximity to one another (Ex. Spring Heights, just north of Old Town Spring). Communities have failing systems, but there is no way to connect to central utilities (nearby private utility providers would not extend utilities)</li><li>• Water supply and Conservation: More storage capacity needed, incentives needed for conservation</li><li>• Stormwater pollution prevention plans required for new development</li><li>• Minimizing land disturbance/keeping natural landscaping encourages infiltration, reduces runoff, improves appearance</li><li>• County does not have recycling programs? Cities offer recycling programs, some drop-off facilities for Hazardous Household Material, but cut mobile units</li><li>• Need to educate people about environmental benefits of recycling</li><li>• County is promoting energy-efficiency construction for new county-owned facilities</li><li>• All county-administered affordable housing projects require homes to be constructed to Energy Star standards</li><li>• Support idea of energy audits, think highlighting costs of energy will encourage conservation</li></ul>
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**Healthy Communities**

- Access to mental health care and substance abuse programs
- Aging-in-Place: Elderly are forced to move. People are moving to Katy because it is cheaper to live out there, but buildings for seniors do not have adequate transit. Seniors may not be able to drive, and affordability is an issue, due to their fixed income
- Access to healthcare
- In northern Harris County (Aldine), there is less access to healthcare
- Expansion in hospital systems with input from Harris Health System
- Pearland has 100k,000 people, but no hospital; people must travel to the Medical Center or to the Southeast
- Getting up Route 288 at rush hour is difficult
- Healthy foods?
- Limited grocery stores in low-income areas (especially in E. County/OME Areas)
- Quality and prices? Wal-Mart looking at neighborhood markets
- Community gardens: Need funding/tools and fresh food
- Money + Education resources
- In absence of big chains, work with convenience store to provide fresh foods
- Low-income people pay more for groceries
- Healthy Food Finance Initiative is a revolving loan fund to increase access to healthy produce. There is an effort to establish a national program.
- Farmers markets in low-income areas, not high dollar foods in low-income areas
- Eating choices are systematic problems. When residents are in "survival mode," healthy/fresh foods are the first to be cut
- EBT at farmers' markets? If close and affordable, would people go to farmers market (walk/bike)?
- People are interested in walking and biking
- Bikers need to follow laws, need own lanes, safety important
- No sidewalks, even in master-planned communities.
- No lanes or sidewalks in communities
- Put sidewalks where needed and safety accommodations are concern

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rising home prices/rent v. stagnant wages/fixed incomes</li> <li>• Current housing market is very competitive</li> <li>• Homelessness Prevention Program: County helps provide housing using local, state, and federal funding. All housing funded must pass inspection, ensuring that landlords are meeting current housing codes and the housing is high-quality.</li> <li>• Older housing stock is not turning over, because they are generational properties or are very transient. Properties are not being improved, so lead paint may not be removed.</li> <li>• Some affordable housing is located near industrial users because of lack of zoning. Children play near these facilities. Debris from factories lands on homes and residents don't know what it is</li> <li>• Some industries are buying properties as a buffer</li> <li>• Need more education regarding fair housing and discrimination</li> <li>• There is a lot of local opposition to multi-family housing (NIMBYism). There is a stigma associated with multi-family housing; there are unjustified concerns with traffic, crime, etc.</li> <li>• Cities are opposing new multi-family development</li> <li>• Need diversity of housing, especially for young professionals</li> <li>• Housing doesn't match regional needs</li> <li>• Developers are building high-end housing because more profitable, and it creates more tax revenue for localities</li> <li>• Some communities are opposed to mass transit because residents are concerned it will attract undesirable populations, claiming buses bring crime.</li> <li>• Gentrification in some urban communities' decreases diversity. How can you redevelop communities while retaining community diversity?</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding: Awareness? More education needed. Resiliency also should include public health issues, such as manmade plant explosions or pandemic flu</li> <li>• Globalization increases exposure to new diseases. The City of Houston responsible for health issues associated with George Bush Intercontinental Airport</li> <li>• West, Texas Phase I EIA for housing evaluation</li> <li>• Disaster recovery funds can't be spent in certain places</li> <li>• Preparedness since 9/11</li> <li>• Drill for emergencies/storm surge</li> <li>• Homeowners' insurance does not cover many costs, including damage caused by flooding, windstorm, and rising water/</li> <li>• County participating in CERT (Citizen Emergency Response Team)</li> <li>• Strategies #9-10: Robust emergency planning, keep it robust by incorporating the costs of evacuation. Studies have been done, considering long-term costs.</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major Transportation Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ General congestion</li> <li>○ Unincorporated areas have do not public transportation</li> <li>○ Need transportation alternatives</li> <li>○ Active transportation needed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There are ozone issues. The county is in a non-attainment area. Air toxics from petrochemical production contribute to air quality issues.</li> <li>• It is difficult to get around, and more residents are coming</li> <li>• Indigents don't have options to get to healthcare, probation, jobs</li> <li>• Aging populations have no way to get around</li> <li>• Mass transit is lacking in Harris County, with limited connections to medical and employment centers</li> <li>• Parts of the county are 50-60 years old; current transportation loads are hard on existing infrastructure.</li> <li>• We spend more on roads and bridges</li> <li>• Need money operate the transportation system</li> <li>• Light rail doesn't work for frail, elderly people</li> <li>• Not lifeline transit other than to doctor's office.</li> <li>• Improvement in transit to county, lots of transportation infrastructure</li> <li>• Homeless or at-risk placement</li> <li>• Suburbs less expensive for housing, but don't have transportation options</li> <li>• Needed transportation infrastructure dependent upon local population</li> <li>• Tension between road and bridges and transit alternatives</li> <li>• There is a need for greater coordination amongst communities. High-intensity areas need more services</li> <li>• Adapting to changing intensity can be difficult. Can't tax (?) or have land-use controls in unincorporated areas</li> <li>• Tax Improvement Districts are one time shots, taxes are on-going</li> <li>• Like Strategy #6 (a centralized database with safety)</li> </ul>
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**Pasadena (Harris County) Focus Group**

<b>Date</b>	May 8, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Pasadena Public Library 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Drive Pasadena, TX 77506

**Meeting Notes/Input**

<b>Economic Development</b>	<p>La Porte</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large lots can accommodate gardening, looking at doing “Grow Local” there, farmers’ market, connecting with bay areas</li> <li>• Connection to Port (2014 Panama Canal Expansion)</li> <li>• Industrial districts that do fees-in-lieu of taxes for industrial</li> <li>• Perception of health risks due to proximity to industrial uses, but employment opportunities offered are invaluable. Travel times less, since people live and work in the community</li> <li>• Partnership with San Jacinto College, stream of people, local high schools partner</li> <li>• Houston Area Safety Council: High school career preparation for those not going to college</li> <li>• Looking at farmers’ markets downtown</li> </ul> <p>West University Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not interested in anymore retail</li> <li>• Economic development is not an issue, as the city is 98% residential</li> <li>• Land is expensive to purchase from local business</li> <li>• When businesses move in is a good time to mitigate any impact. 4B East development corporate sales taxes</li> </ul>
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<b>Environment</b>	<p>West University Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The city has a tree canopy protection program, and is considering water conservation and the reuse of runoff for irrigation</li> <li>• The community invested in environmental protection and advocacy</li> <li>• City has good communication with its citizens, uses email blasts and press to relay messages.</li> <li>• City-built structures are LEED certified</li> <li>• Regional disincentive program better for conservation, use mandatory only when necessary. Examples: Education programs; incentive ordinance for xeriscaping and native landscaping; economic benefits of environmental initiatives</li> <li>• All core infrastructures is on auxiliary power (generators). Programs allow cities to use generators to take facilities offline at times of peak demand; the environmental benefits of that program are not promoted.</li> </ul> <p>La Porte</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an industrial city. Despite the perception it has a poor environment, federal regulations have improved it</li> <li>• Residents want better access to waterfront</li> <li>• Local water treatment plant, have backup wells, conservation is required when necessary</li> <li>• Greywater used to irrigate golf course</li> <li>• Not as much energy management as hoped. There have been some energy upgrades in public buildings. The comprehensive plan promotes energy management.</li> <li>• City is part of Armand Bayou Partnership. The Bayou Nature Center is a major environmental/economic development help</li> <li>• Partnership uses public education initiatives to raise awareness of water quality issues</li> </ul> <p>Pasadena</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are solar arrays on schools. Major education initiatives teach students about their impact on the environment</li> <li>• Landscaping ordinance as a tree replacement clause</li> <li>• Air quality issues are addressed by Citizen Advisory Councils (Bayport, San Jacinto Battleground ,Pasadena)</li> <li>• Discuss local air quality concerns</li> <li>• Any pollution releases reported; Companies don't want to be known as polluters</li> <li>• Most cities have recycling programs, either curbside or drop off</li> </ul>
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<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No smoking in restaurants</li> <li>• Access to mental health services is unknown. Police have good practices in place to address those with mental illness</li> <li>• Subsidized clinics are located down South Main Street</li> <li>• Programs for senior mental health</li> <li>• Active Senior program offered, looked into bringing in eldercare nurse</li> <li>• Access to healthcare is an issue in La Porte, the closest facilities are in Pasadena. A emergency clinic opened.</li> <li>• Pasadena has three hospitals. There is a small medical hub in Pasadena at Belway 8</li> <li>• HEB is a great partner in West University Place</li> <li>• La Porte is making huge strides in developing bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure. There is an extensive hike/bike plan with 14 miles of trail, linked to Pasadena trail. The trails are well-utilized, especially segments that are well-connected. The trails are used for travel and recreation, have a bike-to-work day on Fridays. There is an additional trail not listed on the Houston-Galveston Area Council website.</li> <li>• Houston region has made great strides in improving bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure; METRO buses have bike racks</li> <li>• Pasadena ISD passed a major bond, planning working on safe routes to school.</li> <li>• Water Quality: There are people some with medical needs requiring high-quality water.</li> </ul> <p>West University Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The city has no money to buy land for trails</li> <li>• There are clubs for seniors and new moms that walk around. All sidewalks connect, but these groups and other do not use them enough</li> <li>• Community gardens are happening in schools</li> <li>• Composting an issue- neighbors will get injunctions</li> </ul>
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<b>Housing</b>	<p>West University Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City is interested in partnering with someone to offer more housing variety. All municipal employees must commute into town, due to a lack of affordable housing. There is currently a three-minute emergency response time, and the community is trying not to be an enclave/target.</li> <li>• Copper only ordinance, gone to recycling. Old housing stock ordinance preserving homes so people can invest in them.</li> <li>• Renewed tree canopy with diverse species</li> <li>• Agreement with Habitat for Humanity to recycle old buildings. LEED Silver for all new public buildings .</li> <li>• Trees improve resiliency, clean the air.</li> <li>• Want to keep workforce closer. Solid waste employees work four, 10-hour days, everyone else works 80 hours in nine days.</li> </ul> <p>La Porte</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City has 3.1 miles of shoreline on Galveston Bay. FEMA is remapping the area. There is concern about the effect the surge zone will have on the city.</li> <li>• The city’s east side has experienced some decline</li> <li>• Partner with Habitat for Humanity to provide affordable housing, donated land</li> <li>• Northside revitalization</li> <li>• Moderate-income community; there has been a push for and against increased density</li> <li>• 3.5 million people are moving to the region; the city is hoping to increase density and</li> <li>• add elderly residents</li> <li>• Most lots are 50’x125’</li> <li>• The Comprehensive Plan is being updated, stakeholders want it to stay as it is</li> <li>• Waterfront opportunities for multi-family housing</li> <li>• Density is an unresolved issue</li> <li>• There is not a lot of developable land. Market forces are influencing densification.</li> <li>• FEMA preferred rate flood insurance is going away. Flood insurance costs are going up.</li> <li>• How do you handle the displacement of low-income residents&gt;</li> <li>• 2030 must use surface water</li> <li>• 80/20 surface water to ground water</li> <li>• Taxes could be used for injection wells</li> <li>• Arrest subsidence, flood insurance premiums can go up</li> </ul> <p>Pasadena</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City is 92% built out, so considering redevelopment and creation of a town cente</li> <li>• Housing stock in northern areas declining.</li> <li>• A commercial façade program provides \$15,000 match</li> <li>• Many cities cutting back on housing rehabilitation programs because they are not cost-effective</li> <li>• No diversity of housing choice. Many multi-family units declined and were not rehabilitated.</li> </ul>
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<b>Resiliency</b>	<p>La Porte</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participates in Storm Ready program</li><li>• Flooding is an issue across the county</li><li>• The city as a master plan for stormwater management. It upgraded infrastructure from 2 year to 5 year storm capacity</li><li>• Passed a CO to mitigate 100 year floodplain, mitigation sheet flow</li><li>• Taylor Bayou, Broadway to Bay</li><li>• Have concerns about sea-level rise and climate change. A three-foot rise in sea level will have a major impact. That could be a best-case scenario, not the worse.</li><li>• Shoreacres: First 15,000 feet have to build to higher elevation</li></ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	No comments



### Liberty County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	April 9, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Dayton Community Center 801 S. Cleveland Street Dayton, TX 77535

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for small B12</li> <li>• Info about assistance not being distributed</li> <li>• Marketing B12 Programs can be improved (Radio, Chambers of Commerce, EDCs, Cities)</li> <li>• Quantity of housing is an issue, especially rental units (very limited). Higher-quality housing needed, along with a diversity of rental housing types.</li> <li>• Participants to keep the area’s “bedroom community appeal”</li> <li>• The area lacks a viable local workforce (drug use, high school dropouts, transportation issues)</li> <li>• Higher wage jobs needed</li> <li>• Technical schools</li> <li>• Parents must pay for college courses for high school kids</li> <li>• More trade classes needed, possible partnership with Lee College</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interested in single stream recycling</li> <li>• Major issues with illegal dumping</li> <li>• Need for full-time environmental officer</li> <li>• Opportunity for quarterly pick-up for large items</li> <li>• Funding barriers for recycling events (e.g. tires, electronics, etc.)</li> <li>• Drilling third well for Liberty County, providing increased water security, etc.</li> <li>• Houston is taking more and more water out of the Trinity River</li> <li>• Water/Wastewater/Drainage Infrastructure: Need for maintenance and update</li> <li>• Much of the county is on septic systems and is in the flood plain</li> <li>• U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife Service (Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge) building is only structure with “green” features, solar panels etc.</li> <li>• Price and usage is only mechanism for conservation</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Healthy Communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No sidewalks for kids to walk to school</li> <li>• Need for a change in culture to support a pedestrian/bicycle facilities</li> <li>• Fourteen physicians serve the area now and current facility is outdated, used, etc.</li> <li>• Building a new facility on the eastside</li> <li>• Providing the amenities for more active lifestyles</li> <li>• Mental health training should be handled at the federal level (law enforcement), but there is a local need for services</li> <li>• Potential to tie in to regional mental health system</li> <li>• Farmers' market starting May 4<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Supplies by local farmers/growers</li> <li>• U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife Service is pursuing agreements with community facilities (to get people more active)</li> <li>• Expand/better utilize community gardens, etc.</li> <li>• Senior programming need for healthy foods outweighs supply and funding is being cut</li> <li>• Healthy food options are available (depending on income level)</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of housing</li> <li>• Dayton has a program to demolish derelict housing</li> <li>• Liberty has torn down more structures than are being built</li> <li>• How do you attract developers to build?</li> <li>• Need for mid- and higher-end housing (state help)</li> <li>• Workforce housing</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major changes since Hurricane Ike</li> <li>• More preparation and continuity planning</li> <li>• Local community needs to have money put away for recovery and sustaining after impact. Cities should keep 2-3 months of expenses as a reserve</li> <li>• Use the regional council of governments to cut through bureaucracy and coordinate recovery efforts</li> <li>• There are existing mutual aid packages</li> <li>• Potential barriers for federal-state-local memorandums of understanding for coordinating recovery efforts</li> <li>• Major (potential) disaster could occur if the Livingston Dam breaks (almost did during Hurricane Rita)</li> <li>• Need for evacuation and communication planning, there is an existing NIXLE service</li> <li>• Need for increased communication between local government and the river authority (Trinity River)</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dayton will become increasingly industrialized</li> <li>• There has been a dramatic increase in rail facilities (lines and storage)</li> <li>• Limited expansion of existing business</li> <li>• Increased rail traffic increases noise and reduces quality of life</li> <li>• Potential for quiet zones</li> <li>• 43 trains a day with 140 cars per train</li> <li>• Increased port activity (Panama Canal influence)</li> <li>• Increased traffic in county</li> <li>• Pedestrian and bicycle initiatives (You build, we will use). These facilities would be used for recreation mainly. Potential for partnerships between city and USFWS</li> <li>• Transportation projects don't rate. Do not need projects, just need to fix existing facilities.</li> <li>• Need more complete streets, bicycle paths and sidewalks</li> <li>• Are there corporate sponsored transportation options?</li> <li>• Park and ride shuttles etc. Have been deemed not feasible by past study</li> <li>• Local system between Liberty and Dayton is utilized</li> <li>• Need for low- to moderate-income housing for rent and purchase</li> <li>• Developer not interested in building small units</li> <li>• Return on investment is higher in urban areas than rural areas</li> <li>• How do you make the project (rental) work for developers?</li> <li>• There is a need for senior housing</li> <li>• There are no historic preservation ordinances</li> </ul>
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### Matagorda County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	February 27, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Bay City Library 1100 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Bay City, TX 77414

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doing some job training locally</li><li>• Need employers outside of county to help with needs</li><li>• Can't grow it fast enough</li><li>• Not an over-reliance on one industry in Matagorda County</li><li>• Yes on coordination on new economic sectors</li><li>• Buy local good strategy</li><li>• Need more broadband coverage</li><li>• Supporting local business owners<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ They can be hesitant to reveal they are struggling</li></ul></li><li>• What is the benefit of being home grown</li><li>• Expansion brought resources but also divisions</li><li>• Housing Cycles ⇒ Mobile Society<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ How do you keep people here?</li></ul></li><li>• Soft skills for employees<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ High school is too late</li></ul></li><li>• Need money to fund housing incentives</li><li>• Paid apprenticeships would be good. Who pays?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ STP doing this</li></ul></li><li>• There aren't industrial and manufacturing incubators. Need awareness of incubators.</li></ul>
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<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Area Conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lone Star National Rec. Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expected designation within next year</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Storm Surge Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Voluntary Participation</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Natural Solution vs. Manmade</li> <li>○ Ecotourism Opportunity</li> </ul> </li> <li>• LID Not a Priority</li> <li>• Clear-Cutting Forests Problem</li> <li>• Hazardous Waste Event</li> <li>• Good Recycling Program in Bay City &amp; Palacios</li> <li>• Palacios Spring Cleaning Program</li> <li>• Palacios updates its codes which includes better efficiency standards</li> <li>• Water management and detention for use is important for needs</li> <li>• Water supply management important for agricultural use and bay health</li> <li>• Small utility districts need help</li> <li>• Circuit rider may create too many regulations</li> <li>• Local <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Capitalize on existing parks</li> <li>○ Palacios has great parks</li> <li>○ Educate citizens on water quality opportunities</li> <li>○ Large water bodies help maintain aquifer levels</li> <li>○ Issues with arsenic in water supply</li> <li>○ Environmental justice not a priority</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support network for kids to break negative cycle</li> <li>• Awareness/Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bay City Development Ordinances</li> <li>○ Funding for Safe Routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Most students walk</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Education on prep</li> <li>• Transportation for low-income folks</li> <li>• Electronic testing</li> <li>• Health Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Infrastructure in place but still gaps</li> <li>○ Need local mental health capabilities</li> <li>○ Awareness of mental illness</li> <li>○ Community health workers</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Palacios – Farmers’ Markets per month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strong Ag/Gardening Tradition</li> <li>○ Not great interest in BC</li> <li>○ Interlocal agreements for moving locally-produced food</li> <li>○ Organization of assets</li> <li>○ Move people to food or food to people</li> <li>○ Moving farmers’ market</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality/Supply is an issue</li> <li>• Awareness in place via HUD/Ike</li> <li>• Large family rental shortage</li> <li>• Some regulatory restrictions (Household Size/Bedrooms)</li> <li>• Reuse of existing homes for large families; limitations of use due to financial requirements</li> <li>• Gentrification more of an urban issue</li> <li>• Caution not to restrict improvement</li> <li>• Catch-22 Cities – Responsible for liability for utilities (Gas &amp; Electric)</li> <li>• Pressure to support landlords rather than renters</li> <li>• Education needs for all (officials, landlords, renters)</li> <li>• Use HOME Program</li> <li>• Hard to enforce codes when choices are to live in substandard housing or potentially become homeless/leave</li> <li>• Availability (lack of) is an impediment</li> <li>• Incentives are challenging to fund, but important</li> <li>• Historic District in Bay City, Matagorda – Good Assets</li> <li>• Entryway Overlay Districts</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need to be prepared to mitigate hurricane impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can move resources around to where needed</li> <li>▪ Cost-prohibitive to get coverage – flood and wind</li> <li>▪ Fund pool to help</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Dam and levee – plan in place here</li> <li>○ Toolkit – important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Could help small communities, cities be in better shape</li> <li>▪ Add other unincorporated districts (small MUDs)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Flood insurance – Some can't afford <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Everyone wants and needs</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Local <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Public education – people don't know that they don't know</li> <li>○ Program to mitigate effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Matagorda already doing</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Foresight Panel</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Specific Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ #4: Not so important here</li> <li>○ #6: (Economic and Firewise)</li> <li>○ #8/#9: Already doing – Stormready/what is open</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not enough money to keep building, but playing catch-up<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ More of a state-level issue</li></ul></li><li>• Would love regional cost-sharing for Matagorda</li><li>• Intermodal/Goods<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Rail system at capacity. Difficulty dealing with railroads, but no track being added.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Regular interaction with rail companies</li><li>▪ Need thinking outside the box – reg. level</li></ul></li><li>○ Transit – Determined needs and have a system in place<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Could be expanded though (Victoria COG)</li></ul></li><li>○ People don't know to ask for walk/bike infrastructure<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ People would use sidewalks if provided</li></ul></li><li>○ Bay City will be doing a comprehensive plan at some point</li></ul></li></ul>
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### Montgomery County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	May 1, 2013
<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Montgomery County: Precinct #3 Commissioner’s Office 1130 Pruitt Road Spring, TX 77380

#### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Top Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation funding, mobility, congestion, mass transit</li> <li>• Getting from residential areas to employment centers</li> <li>• Alternatives to cars/driving</li> <li>• Conroe UZA transit funding/fair share</li> <li>• Housing/transit for elderly/disabled/low-income</li> <li>• Collaborative transit throughout Montgomery County</li> <li>• Affordable housing, employment, and governmental powers for unincorporated areas</li> <li>• Transportation, air quality, health</li> <li>• Holistic issues that bind the community together</li> <li>• Changing people’s conceptions about mass transit and affordable hosing</li> <li>• Education vs. fears</li> <li>• Mobility: Getting employees to work safely</li> <li>• Water: Long-Term Issue (2040)</li> <li>• Housing/transportation</li> <li>• Transportation/water</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No growth vs. high growth</li> <li>• Linking housing with economic development</li> <li>• Different communities have different responses to growth</li> <li>• Lots of land is available, but there are transportation issues</li> <li>• Housing dictates transportation infrastructure (different opinions on if this is true)</li> <li>• County doesn’t have the money to build infrastructure ahead of growth</li> <li>• What happens when The Woodlands is built out?</li> <li>• There is affordable housing in The Woodlands</li> <li>• There is not affordable housing in East Montgomery County</li> <li>• Splendora is proactively working with developers to plan for the future</li> <li>• East County has apartments by no single-family homes</li> <li>• High-Speed Internet Access: Broadband access is definitely a problem in some areas. A business on U.S. Route 59 needed DSL and had to dig a trench to FM 1485 to access the internet. Satellite internet is not cheap and is slow. Cable is the only broadband option, along with satellite. Shenandoah has free Wi-Fi.</li> <li>• Buy local? Maybe</li> </ul>



<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Conservation: Private property rights are important. Participants have an issue with telling landowners what they can/cannot do with land</li> <li>• LID/Conservation Design: The Woodlands utilized it, but there is little incentive to protect open space for development.</li> <li>• Tree Canopy: Conroe has a tree protection ordinance; developers don't like it.</li> <li>• Most open space protected is in the floodplain, and cannot be developed anyway</li> <li>• New highways increase access to previously undeveloped areas, compromising open space. Once you develop open space, you can't get it back.</li> <li>• Sprawling growth patterns compromise ecological resources</li> <li>• Difficult to plan for green space protection because of multiple players</li> <li>• Environmental Education: Some programs being offered but recycling/solid waste, other programs could be offered regionally. Education programs are offered for people along the 30-mile Spring Creek Greenway.</li> <li>• Energy Management: Splendora ISD has implemented programs that have resulted in significant savings (\$300 - \$400,000). County has energy efficiency block grant to manage resources</li> <li>• Water Conservation: The Woodlands fines for overuse of water on lawns.</li> <li>• Water authorities working together to address water supply; this will be a major issue in the next 15 years</li> <li>• Schools have limits on amount of water they use; some districts have replaced fields with synthetic to save water</li> <li>• Agencies/schools have looked at reusing effluent for irrigation and other uses. It is cost-prohibitive to reuse for schools.</li> <li>• Air Quality: Air flow from Pasadena can be bad, depending on wind currents. Air pollution can affect East Montgomery County (roofs changing color from gray to black because of particulate matter)</li> </ul>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>Healthy Communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main Issues: Indigent care; number of hospitals; Lone Star Family Health Center</li> <li>• Kingwood Hospital did not have adequate beds. Each part of the county (North, South, East, and West) all have different issues, are "separate counties."</li> <li>• Issues getting people to coordinate</li> <li>• Clinics/Urgent Care: The Woodlands is served, survey with good information, growth is happening</li> <li>• Always behind in all types of infrastructure (roads, schools, etc.), need growth to support (cumulative effect of growth). The Woodlands was able to plan, but congestion still makes it difficult to get in and out. Communities need to shift from planning for mobility to immobility.</li> <li>• Local foods: The Woodlands has a farmers' market (possibly expanding). Community Support Agriculture (CSA) operations in Montgomery and Magnolia, and farmers' markets as well. There are state policy problems with local foods. There are more state regulations for co-ops, food delivery, CSAs.</li> <li>• Education and awareness with United Way on how to prepare food</li> <li>• New residents want new services but there is not funding</li> <li>• Consolidated recreation and city services would be helpful</li> <li>• Community/education would help expand programs, encourage use of existing resources</li> <li>• Mental Health: No residential facilities for substance abuse (16-bed facility substance abuse facility). Mental health is a growing issue.</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major issues with transportation</li> <li>• Large unincorporated areas</li> <li>• Housing built in the 1960s/1970s is declining</li> <li>• Residences transforming into business. These businesses lack adequate infrastructure/parking.</li> <li>• In some communities, homes are being rehabilitated and rebuilt. In older areas, people are abandoning homes</li> <li>• Unincorporated areas have no development regulations</li> <li>• There is a growing need for housing enforcement. There are communities with no roads and sewer, people are pitching tents. Developers sell lots without that do not meet regulations, and are not healthy. Commissioners Court has little authority. "Houston is pushing people out."</li> <li>• Seniors/low-income residents are asked for support in outlining areas. These areas lack amenities for seniors, need more integration with other uses</li> <li>• Multi-use, dense housing not wanted, but would reduce problems</li> <li>• Affordable housing can only develop where wanted low land costs</li> <li>• Uncoordinated process for building affordable housing; state rules make building affordable housing in areas with amenities difficult</li> <li>• Montgomery has historical district</li> <li>• Oakridge wants to maintain "hometown feel;" wants unique identity to be preserved . Are there tools to make that happen? Limited ability compared to homeowners associations (HOAs).</li> <li>• Older suburbs moved out of or rebuilt</li> <li>• People who work in the town will start to live in town</li> <li>• East Montgomery County has four cities, with significant growth in unincorporated areas</li> <li>• People in cities have higher taxes, but less money for maintenance</li> <li>• County collects tax money for law enforcement, no extra for roads</li> <li>• Low housing stock in South Montgomery County market because of new Exxon facility.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding and wildfires both can be issues</li> <li>• Education and toolkits for local governments interest in planning for and mitigating natural disasters; cities need resources</li> <li>• Assistance needed to educate the public on natural disasters</li> <li>• Floodplain maps are not always accurate</li> <li>• Topography vs. modeling</li> <li>• There are development restrictions within the floodplain, but properties within the county not in floodplain also flood sometimes, due to local conditions</li> <li>• Insurance rates (wind/flood) can be high (rising water and trees)</li> <li>• During evacuations, Interstate 45 and U.S. Route 59 are horrible (pass-through for evacuees)</li> <li>• TxDOT Department, emergency management, contraflow; still some signal timing issues</li> <li>• Magnolia does a good job addressing wildfire</li> <li>• The County Office of Emergency Management is excellent</li> <li>• Text messages/Code Red system is in place</li> <li>• Even though the county is a "pass through" during evacuations, people want to stop there, so there is a need to have designated shelters, generators, etc.</li> <li>• Local radio stations could do a better job about getting the word out during disasters.</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding is a major issue</li><li>• Communities need to expand and maintain roadways</li><li>• Local road maintenance</li><li>• Funding is more competitive</li><li>• Requirements are higher for paratransit. Communities cannot meet current demand for transportation for the disabled.</li><li>• Mass Transit: More people come in for work than leave the area, no finding</li><li>• Roads are not prepared for growth</li><li>• Some in East Montgomery County have no options for transit</li><li>• Need countywide transit/road /utility district</li><li>• Difficult for county to require new roadways with development (no legislative authority). The county can't adequately plan for roads, and there are no impact fees. Developers do not have to improve roads. Communities can use tax abatements, but can't be used "as a stick" to require new roadways as land develops.</li><li>• There is a major thoroughfare plan</li><li>• Connect to Woodlands or greenway</li><li>• Everywhere outside of South Montgomery County wants trails/sidewalks in small communities</li><li>• Concern about truck traffic (18 wheelers) on U.S. Route 59/Interstate 69.</li><li>• Rail non-existent for local goods movement; existing facilities are at 100% capacity</li></ul>
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### Walker County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	March 28, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Wynne Home 1428 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Huntsville, TX 77340

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commuting from Houston</li> <li>• Employment for students</li> <li>• Farmers’ market in Huntsville</li> <li>• Resources in classrooms, technology, WiFi; also important for e-commuting and businesses, state and federal</li> <li>• Restrictive development codes</li> <li>• Problems retaining young professionals/doctors</li> <li>• Need for payment-in-lieu of taxes             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tax base cannot grow because of government property</li> <li>○ Limited ability to raise money though tax rate</li> <li>○ Host community benefit agreements for public entities</li> <li>○ Need to share burden public institutions (Fire, water, streets, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Maybe some opportunities with Eagle Ford shale</li> <li>• Need for housing, every salary dictates housing affordability</li> <li>• University systems as a hinge pin for economic development</li> <li>• Build priv. around University as jumping point</li> <li>• Need awareness of benefits</li> <li>• Housing: Either have a house or can’t afford one</li> <li>• Not an inventory of rooftops</li> <li>• Schools: Older facilities, not a capacity issue; poor curb appeal</li> <li>• Woodlands and surrounding areas draws residents, competitor</li> </ul>
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<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two Ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Longevity health issues</li> <li>2) Quality of life environmental issues</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Little control of regional issues</li> <li>• Costs of environmental issues</li> <li>• Quality of life issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Silver lining to public lands: Need to harness for economic development</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Residents like being in a rural area</li> <li>• Access to parks not an issue when you live on 50 acres</li> <li>• People want to keep what they have (streams, trees, etc.)</li> <li>• People want urban options for retail</li> <li>• No one wants new neighbors but want advantages of density</li> <li>• Appreciate public land, do not want to lose what they already have</li> <li>• Regional planning for open space, do not want to inhibit Walker County's development in the restrictions for open space</li> <li>• Long-term benefits of natural resources</li> <li>• Walker County looking to the Houston-Galveston Area Council for planning</li> <li>• Town v. Gown is now Huntsville v. Region</li> <li>• Tree canopy plan a priority, did not like Woodlands-Conroe tree plan, regional approach is the best payoff</li> <li>• Water is the Number 1 problem. Walker is fairer than the region for water resources. Growth is possible because of water, expensive but needed. Natural water filtration or more of a lake?</li> <li>• Lots of water resources, but fewer recreation opportunities</li> <li>• Awareness of opportunities</li> <li>• Lake Livingston controlled by Houston. Marinas are not viable</li> <li>• Energy conservation, energy-efficiency cuts costs for local budgets</li> <li>• Let business know about opportunities for energy efficiency</li> <li>• Moffett Springs in Huntsville</li> <li>• Real estate developers are buying wetlands in Walker County to do transfer of development rights, eating up developable land.</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now is the time to strike/focus on mental health issues because of limited resources</li> <li>• Services/programs for those leaving incarceration, mental health institutions, etc.</li> <li>• Need for education/outreach initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Link between environmental health and community health</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is a need for increased access to fresh food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increasing commutes to surrounding area</li> <li>○ Disproportionately impacts low- to moderate-income communities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• TDCJ no longer provides fresh foods and vegetables; not as many suppliers now</li> <li>• Tough to attract fresh-food suppliers because of lack of available land (for stores)</li> <li>• Framing the lack of access to food by identifying leakages in purchasing</li> <li>• Parks/youth sports suffer the first and the most from budget cuts. There is a need for alternative funding sources</li> <li>• Community is not boom or bust (because of TDCJ and SHSU employment base)</li> <li>• Older, low- to moderate-income neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by lack of sidewalks. Sidewalks are associated more with new development.</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town v. Gown</li> <li>• No Zoning: Historical, general use, commercial</li> <li>• City will not enforce deed restrictions</li> <li>• 58% of city are renters</li> <li>• High costs to build housing</li> <li>• Primary issues in Huntsville/Walker County are: Great schools, better housing, JOBS!</li> <li>• Salaries are not expanding</li> <li>• No city homebuyer program</li> <li>• Little turnover of housing stock, few foreclosures</li> <li>• Larger transient population</li> <li>• Pell grants are needed for economic development; new multi-family developments are for students, not families</li> <li>• Lots of housing stock needs redevelopment</li> <li>• Rural housing is able to be subsidized, but not housing within the City of Huntsville</li> <li>• It is not economically viable to rehabilitate housing</li> <li>• Homeowner education needed</li> <li>• Maybe need for shared environmental attorney, shared urban forester</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio system, radio sequencing /emergency communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need grant money for radios for volunteer fire department</li> <li>○ Grant criteria erroneous</li> </ul> </li> <li>• County/Huntsville cannot afford additional firefighters</li> <li>• Agencies do work well together/collaborate</li> <li>• County has completely combined dispatch</li> <li>• Some people don't know how to get help</li> <li>• County has a shelter hub, bearing state burden, due to its location between the hurricane and tornado belts</li> <li>• County participates in Firewise Communities and the Storm Ready program, but not the Community Rating System (CRS). CRS is not working for rural Texas where there are no building codes.</li> <li>• 26% of county is in a flood zone</li> <li>• Regulations apply in floodplain</li> <li>• Floodplain regulation is seen as a bureaucratic decision (flood insurance). Community education in areas close to, but not within, the flood zones (voluntary areas) is needed</li> <li>• Some major flood events have occurred in the past 5-7 years</li> <li>• Flooding is not as big an issue within the City of Huntsville</li> <li>• Lack high-quality development</li> <li>• Development of flood zone properties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Compliance issues/permitting, due to remaining housing stock</li> <li>○ Need for increase of awareness of regulations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fire/drought- volunteer fire department, communication/FCC money issue</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area is a hub for various transit (i.e. military traffic, air and road)</li><li>• Two Big Problems (RE: TXDOT) that impact project prioritization<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Poor quality of transit studies (esp. compared to the region)</li><li>2) Need to be proactive with projects because of limited/no communication with TXDOT</li></ol></li><li>• Area is historically undercounted in transportation studies, which negatively impacts the area</li><li>• Use local (Walker County) transportation-minded people in future transportation decisions/grants, especially in the five-county area outside of MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization)</li><li>• There is lots of traffic between The Woodlands, Conroe, and Huntsville that isn't always accounted for</li><li>• Need transit that addresses schools (including Sam Houston State University) as well as jobs.</li><li>• The area has the longest K-12 bus routes in the state.</li><li>• Community would like to see rail transportation developed further<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Low road-to-rail interface</li><li>○ No rail congestion</li></ul></li></ul>
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### Waller County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	April 18, 2013
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Hempstead Recreation Center 635 U.S. 290 Business Hempstead, TX 77445

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Major Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic development</li> <li>• Healthcare</li> <li>• Commuter rail</li> <li>• “Livable Centers”</li> <li>• Housing stock</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #1 Overall Strategy: Workforce/Vocational Education/Training</li> <li>• Bill in legislature for vocational education</li> <li>• Soft skills/workplace skills important</li> <li>• Blinn College training district has soft skills, classes not very active though in Waller County (also Lone Star College in Waller)</li> <li>• City of Waller housing stock, quality and quantity issues</li> <li>• School district hires have trouble finding housing for young professionals. There is also a need for senior housing</li> <li>• Livable Centers Study identified infill as desire</li> <li>• Discussion on having housing incentives in Hempstead</li> <li>• Want to create interest in creating housing</li> <li>• Do utilize low-income housing tax credits (LIHTC)</li> <li>• Gap through for qualifying for credits</li> <li>• Donut between high-end private housing and affordable housing</li> <li>• Public-Private Partnerships for Livable Centers, interested in housing development/ tax abatements</li> <li>• Want to create a better workforce pipeline in high school. vs. testing focus</li> <li>• Have a small business loan program in the City of Hempstead; 4B backed by private investor, successful program.</li> <li>• Requires a lot of coordination</li> </ul>



<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for regional conservation plan</li> <li>• Waller Drainage Plan addresses open space</li> <li>• Hempstead Comprehensive Plan stresses neighborhood parks</li> <li>• No policies on books for low-impact development (LID)</li> <li>• Desire to participate in a regional tree plan</li> <li>• Waller has received energy efficiency grants</li> <li>• Support for regional water plan</li> <li>• Hempstead drilling two new wells, Waller is drilling one</li> <li>• Waller has a good infrastructure supply, some is aging</li> <li>• Hempstead new sewer plant, new electric line, but more funding needed</li> <li>• Prairie View put in new sewer plant, new electric lines, but more funding is needed</li> <li>• Water is an issue, with the area selling water to Fort Bend County</li> <li>• Air quality not an issue, it is good</li> <li>• Blue Bonnet Water Conservation District conducts water audits, possible service for business</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food important/priority, not sure if additional effort needed</li> <li>• Healthcare: Critical care access, closest hospital is 16 miles away. If you need acute care, you are in trouble</li> <li>• Good EMS in Waller, but want urgent care</li> <li>• Community has primary care services, but must drive for a specialist</li> <li>• Mental Health: Communities are addressing needs, law enforcement, need more help for long-term care</li> <li>• Providing medical services is a priority</li> <li>• Long-term strategies for substance abuse: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Passing drug tests/prior history</li> <li>○ Get them early and educate</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Gap in resources</li> <li>• Law enforcement regionally</li> <li>• Guidebook: Looking at form-based code</li> <li>• Joint-use agreements are in place</li> <li>• CDC Guidebook and Food Access Challenge, going out of county</li> <li>• Include amenities: No master plan yet, but would include</li> <li>• CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design): Not a priority but would look at it</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantity and quality of housing stock</li> <li>• Senior housing/aging-in-place</li> <li>• Redevelopment of derelict properties, Hempstead trying to increase home ownership</li> <li>• Hempstead received energy-efficiency funding</li> <li>• Training for public buildings</li> <li>• Minor concerns of residential displacement</li> <li>• Challenge with foreclosed properties</li> <li>• Critical to maintain code enforcement, working well in Hempstead</li> <li>• No zoning in Waller</li> <li>• Model code enforcement process would be helpful</li> <li>• Emergency vehicle access can be a challenge</li> <li>• Retail is more accessible but out of city limits in Harris County</li> <li>• Hempstead has historic district</li> <li>• One historic building in Waller difficult to rehabilitate</li> <li>• Waller considering downtown form-based code</li> <li>• Oil and gas cluster in City of Waller</li> <li>• Would like bio</li> <li>• Prairie View Office of Commercialization</li> <li>• Has some good research, opportunity area for small business development</li> <li>• Interest in studying economic diversification</li> <li>• Farm production/buy local important</li> <li>• AgriLife Extension: Walker County Farmers’ Market getting started up, vision for large-scale wholesale for farmers with 100 miles</li> <li>• Local businesses/ “keep local” is stressed</li> <li>• Hempstead is creating city WiFi hotspots, wants to take it citywide</li> <li>• Gaps in internet and cell phone service do exist</li> <li>• Interest in expanding local businesses, local strategy</li> <li>• Would like to have access to Lone Star College in Hempstead</li> <li>• College district works directly with companies</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resiliency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone was back up after Hurricane Ike in 12 hours. Waller’s mayor was active after the storm, Hempstead has its own crew.</li> <li>• Wildfire: Had regulation absolving liability for donation</li> <li>• Dam and levee safety is important</li> <li>• Disaster education is needed</li> <li>• Reverse 911 could be important</li> <li>• Local: public education, regional education, no local, not needed</li> <li>• 10,000 people were stuck in Waller during Hurricane Rita, better during Hurricane Ike</li> <li>• Hazard mitigation planning already being done</li> <li>• Concerns about drought</li> <li>• Economic diversification would be beneficial</li> <li>• Hempstead and Waller have good emergency management plans</li> </ul>

<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Makes all the sense in the world, how do you quantify?</li><li>• TranStar: Robot car</li><li>• Innovative funding, commuter rail, Transportation Re-Investment Zone, bond for Street repaving in Waller, Hempstead: Pay-as-you-go</li><li>• Intermodal Transportation: No issues, not much rail, windmill arms/utility poles. Will increased freight reduce commuter rail possibilities? Dual tracking? Inter-district coordinated,</li><li>• Transit: Colorado Valley, opted not to support transit. Would love private transit, is there a market?</li><li>• Pedestrian Infrastructure: Livable Centers. No conflict, things well laid-out, more construction requirements</li><li>• Only thing that will revitalize downtown is transit</li><li>• Have safety, its importance is understood</li><li>• Teleworking/carpooling, not much information</li><li>• School district-idle reduction</li><li>• Electrical recharge station</li></ul> <p>Interest in commuter rail: How do we fund reinvestment zones?</p>
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## Wharton County Focus Group

<b>Date</b>	March 18, 2013
<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Wharton Public Library 1920 North Fulton Wharton, TX 77488

### Meeting Notes/Input

<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education/Job Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are good opportunities for job training at Wharton County Junior College.</li> <li>○ There are some job training opportunities in El Campo.</li> <li>○ After receiving job training, many people have to leave Wharton County to find jobs.</li> <li>○ There need to be more local programs that address residents’ unfamiliarity with college/higher education, and provide outreach to the community.</li> <li>○ There is going to be less funding for lower levels of education.</li> <li>○ There are barriers to accessing existing programs.</li> <li>○ Challenge: Missing middle strategies/bridge training that helps people go from getting a G.E.D. to getting a job.</li> <li>○ Challenges attending job training programs</li> <li>○ There are local problems with educational attainment (many people do not have a high school diploma or college degree).</li> <li>○ “Look outside cookie cutter:” There need to be unique training programs for those that do not want to go to high school or college or are not well-suited to those environments.</li> <li>○ There is a lack of services for those that are learning disabled.</li> <li>○ The public needs to realize the impact of low educational attainment.</li> <li>○ Crime is cyclical/relates to low educational achievement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There are problems with Workforce Solutions (H-GAC Program): Who is auditing the contractors?</li> <li>• The downsizing of workforce programs has been a negative for Wharton County; when the local office was moved to a neighboring county, Wharton County was “out-of-sight, out-of-mind.” Community leaders have to ask for service to receive it.</li> <li>• Internet/Cell Phone Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lack of internet/cell service is a major hindrance for economic development.</li> <li>○ Creating better internet/cell service is a major priority.</li> <li>○ There have been many complaints about internet/cell service.</li> <li>○ There are problems with DSL: not very fast, not adequate service lines.</li> <li>○ There is a lack of wi-fi hotspots in the area (McDonalds, local coffee shop).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Farming is a major interest. The Lower Colorado River Authority’s water supply system/policies are a major issue. Without water, there will not be farming.</li> <li>• Hunting has suffered, due to local water supply issues. Rice farming has decreased due to limited water supply; less water and rice farming has led to a reduction in waterfowl.</li> <li>• The planned reservoir for Wharton County should be located north of the county, so that water released from it can benefit its farmers, wildlife habitat, etc.</li> <li>• Provisions allowing interbasin transfer are not good for water supply, because it allows water to be sold to large cities outside of the area. Courts have determined that landowners are allowed to sell water anyone they want to.</li> <li>• Residents want to retain local farmers, so that the area’s rural character will be maintained.</li> <li>• The community would like to have a “Buy Local” campaign.</li> </ul>
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<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding, including runoff, is an issue in Wharton County. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 60% of Wharton (city) is located within the floodplain; this creates several environmental and economic development issues.</li> <li>○ Localities have worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on flooding issues, but funding suggested projects has been an issue.</li> <li>○ In East Bernard, the San Bernard River floods.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The rice industry has had its water supply limited for the past two years, which has creates major economic impacts.</li> <li>• Water supplies within the underlying aquifer are adequate, but surface water supplies are not.</li> <li>• There are relatively few industries, so illegal dumping is not an issue; those industries that are caught dumping generally pay a fine instead of fixing the problem.</li> <li>• Solid waste is handled by the localities through third-party contracts.</li> <li>• Some cities have done energy audits and are looking at strategies that could be used to save energy.</li> <li>• Limits in statewide energy capacity will likely cause price increases in the future.</li> <li>• El Campo and Wharton have “original jurisdiction” for electricity. Policy changes are proposed that would not require CenterPoint to pay for evaluations of electricity fee structures; there needs to be regional cooperation to ensure that the public is not hurt by policy changes.</li> <li>• Wharton County is not in a non-attainment area, and its citizens do not want to be within a non-attainment zone. Air quality is good now, but residents are concerned about the future; they do not want air quality to get worse.</li> <li>• Regional cooperation is needed to address air pollution, and the region needs to be more conscious of air quality issues.</li> <li>• Wharton has a higher rate of cancer than surrounding areas; there was speculation that this is due to the use of chemicals in farming.</li> <li>• Most localities are already doing parks planning.</li> <li>• There has been low population growth (population has remained stable).</li> <li>• Localities need to plan for park amenities (parks, bike trails, amphitheater, etc.). There are currently not enough amenities to attract visitors and create a high quality-of-life.</li> <li>• Some predicted a tension will develop between newcomers, who want more services and are willing to pay higher taxes, and existing residents, who want low taxes.</li> <li>• El Campo and Wharton County are interested in recycling programs, and think that a regional plan that addresses recycling will be useful.</li> </ul>
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## Healthy Communities

- Access to high-quality healthcare is difficult, but used to be better.
- Local clinics are not catering to the community's needs; people must travel far for healthcare.
- Babies are not longer delivered in Wharton County; paramedics are delivering babies.
- El Campo has some healthcare services, but there are a lot of referrals to other doctors or hospitals.
- Hospital business struggles in the county.
- The emergency room is only place for after-hours care.
- The Tenaris Plant in Bay City will likely require/have healthcare facilities.
- Although they may be far away, most residents do have access to doctors.
- Mental Health:
  - The hospital is looking at making changes, but the quality is not improving.
  - Wharton is improving its mental health facilities, but there are limited options for long-term stays.
  - Law enforcement officials have to deal with citizens with mental health issues; many are in-and-out of local jails. Training for law enforcement officials to address mental health patients is needed. The community cannot rely on law enforcement officials to treat patients; more practitioners are needed.
  - Is there funding available to house mental health patients? Programs and other methods of addressing mental health issues are needed.
  - There are state issues as well as local/regional mental health issues.
- There are nursing homes and other options for elderly care.
- Healthy Foods:
  - There is a local farmers' market, but it isn't located where it should be.
  - There are two grocery stores in the area: HEB and Wal-Mart. These stores are "B-quality" stores, and do not offer has many high-quality, fresh products as stores in more urban areas. To get fresh produce from a store, residents must travel 35 miles to Whole Foods.
  - There are not many local food vendors, but many residents have gardens.
- Walking/Biking
  - The Sante Fe Trail (1 mile) was built near the Junior High School track.
  - There are few children outside playing in local neighborhoods.
  - There is a need for publically-accessible trails.
  - There is not good infrastructure for walking around.
  - The town is not bicycle- or pedestrian-friendly; some areas don't have sidewalks at all.
  - Sidewalks would be used if they were available.
  - Safe Routes to School: There is a need, but costs a lot of money.
  - El Campo is looking at development standards to require sidewalks for new development.
  - El Campo is looking at better connections for walking/biking between activity areas.
- Education should be considered a health issue, since it is a major issue in the county; 25% of people only have a high school education. No money is being spent on teaching life skills.
- Poverty contributes to poor education and poor health.

<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is substandard housing in several low-income areas. The county has no authority to enact or enforce building codes.</li><li>• Wharton has used grants to improve the housing stock.</li><li>• If there isn't money for infrastructure, new housing won't be built.</li><li>• There is a waiting list with the housing authority and for nursing homes.</li><li>• New LIHTCH (3) properties under</li><li>• Senior housing an issue</li><li>• New housing difficult to find</li><li>• There is a high-cost for rental properties, but there is not much housing stock.</li><li>• There is demand for housing, but there is a shortage.</li><li>• An assessment needs to be done of residential demand and supply</li><li>• There should be incentives for residential building.</li><li>• Developers have not been interested in building new homes in Wharton County.</li><li>• There are incentives that can be used for funding infrastructure for affordable housing projects.</li><li>• Someone needs to educate developers about the opportunities in Wharton County.</li><li>• Chicken &amp; Egg with Economic Development</li><li>• Quality of schools an issue</li><li>• There are no historic preservation initiatives for residential buildings.</li><li>• There is a revitalization program for downtown Wharton, which is used mainly for commercial buildings (although may be used for lofts atop businesses).</li></ul>
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<b>Resiliency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Flooding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wharton (city) and El Campo are both working to prevent flooding, with major projects planned.</li> <li>○ Both Wharton and El Campo have wastewater treatment plants located within the floodplain.</li> <li>○ There are not levees in the county, although the City of Wharton may build one.</li> <li>○ El Campo is a widening an existing creek to help prevent future flooding.</li> <li>○ During floods and other disasters, localities were able to respond effectively.</li> <li>○ In Wharton, the northwest portion of the city floods repeatedly.</li> <li>○ El Campo has severe repetitive loss areas; new projects aim to protect those areas.</li> <li>○ Some flooding issues were attributed to older developments that were not required to have drainage plans. Cities now require drainage plans, to ensure new development will not impact neighbors.</li> <li>○ Some county ditches do not drain properly. El Campo is working with the county on current projects to ensure that each entity's drainage ditches work together properly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● There are fewer power outages in Wharton because there are few trees (coastal prairie).</li> <li>● Both Wharton and El Campo are adding generators to important community buildings/infrastructure.</li> <li>● The Wharton Airport is already considering environmental impacts and other issues because of federal regulations.</li> <li>● In El Campo, hurricane evacuees leaving Houston and Matagorda County cause traffic issues at the town's major intersection.</li> <li>● The county's main industry is agriculture, with several relatively small manufacturing industries (largely support industries) and power generation facilities. The county is not reliant on one industry; if one larger operation closes, it will not severely affect the local economy.</li> <li>● The county's economy remains stable, even as the national/state economies go up and down.</li> <li>● Localities are good about instituting fire bans when necessary.</li> <li>● El Campo is preparing a Community Rating System application.</li> <li>● Local governments are already doing hazard mitigation plans.</li> <li>● Regional evacuation routes are an issue, because they cause severe traffic problems in the area.</li> <li>● Cities (El Campo, Wharton) have building permits and codes, which help ensure buildings are safe during disasters. There are no building standards in the county; the only requirements for residential building address on-site septic systems. There was debate as to whether or not building codes were necessary in rural areas.</li> <li>● Seniors are encouraged to sign up for 211 to receive emergency alerts.</li> <li>● The county works closely with adjoining localities.</li> </ul>
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**Transportation**

- Wharton County is within the TxDOT's Yoakum District; there is a good relationship between city/county officials and TxDOT.
- There are transportation safety issues in the City of Wharton (U.S. 59 exit)
- Transportation Reinvestment Zone created in December along U.S. 59/Future I-69 in El Campo.
  - Part of the zone is in El Campo, and part of it is in unincorporated Wharton County
  - Funding will improve access along the highway by funding construction of frontage roads along U.S. 59.
  - The zone will be in existence for 20 years, and may be extended; the zone is terminated when the loans/bonds are paid in full.
  - It is the 4<sup>th</sup> zone in the state, and the 1<sup>st</sup> in the Houston region.
- EDCs supplement road funding when federal/state/local sources cannot cover the entire cost of a project.
- El Campo and Wharton County are working together on a "regional" transportation plan.
- There are no existing plans for multimodal facilities in El Campo, but a project is planned for Kendleton. In Kendleton, several users would be served by a multimodal facility; spurs may be needed for companies that do not want to be near other industries.
- Future Interstate 69: There are concerns from existing businesses about access to the highway.
- Public Transportation
  - There are problems getting out of the county using mass transit for medical care and jobs (Fort Bend, City of Houston, new plant in Matagorda).
  - Services are provided by Colorado Valley Transit and some senior transit operations.
  - People coming from other counties must pay an additional fee when crossing into the county, which is financially burdensome for riders.
- There is good coordination between local governments and utilities working within the right-of-way.
- There are currently a good number of bicyclists, and local residents, cities, and TxDOT are interested in it.
- Who is going to build bicycle facilities? There needs to be a designated entity responsible for improving bicycle facilities.
- Existing street design standards are fine as-is.
- El Campo has zoning and a comprehensive plan.
- Wharton has a comprehensive plan.
- Localities believe their comprehensive plans are coordinated with local transportation plans.
- Local transportation plans need to relate with entrance corridor beautification projects.
- Localities are working with TxDOT on regional evacuation routes; current routes cause severe congestion.
- El Campo, Wharton County, and local school districts have talked about using alternative fuels, but there are no existing outlets in the area.

# Appendix C

## Focus Group Summary Chart

### Focus Group: Summary Chart

After the focus groups were held, the project team discussed important issues raised by meeting participants, identifying common themes. These overarching concepts were summarized in the following chart, and were used to expand and modify the proposed implementation strategies.

Topic	Austin County	Colorado County	Walker County	Matagorda County
Transportation	Expansion of Colorado Valley Transit (CVT) wanted  Freight: Difficulty to Work with Railroad Companies, Quiet Zones wanted; safety concerns around rail lines. EMS hindered by rail lines.	Expansion of Colorado Valley Transit (CVT) wanted  Freight: Difficulty to Work with Railroad Companies, Quiet Zones wanted; safety concerns around rail lines. EMS hindered by rail lines.	School bus issues	Freight: Difficulty to Work with Railroad Companies, Rail line capacity issues
Economic Development	Local planning preferred over regional planning or 'government' County agencies utilize regional grants, educational materials, and other resources	Opportunities for youth. A Boys and Girls Club/teen center was built in Wharton.	Quality of facilities/transportation to education	
Housing	Interest in conducting a regional housing quality assessment.	Strong interest in model ordinances that can be tailored to address local needs	Support aging-in-place/senior housing and non-student multi-family housing  Must consider the costs of rehabilitating of existing housing stock versus the cost of demolishing existing structures	Quantity and availability of housing is an issue  Concerned about quality of housing stock quality, enforcing rental housing code (issue in Colorado, Walker, Austin, and Matagorda counties)
Healthy Communities			Access to grocery stores an issue	
Resiliency	Drought is a major concern	Drought is a major concern for farmers	Building within floodplains is a major concern (Education)	
Environment	There is education about energy conservation; using public service announcement (PSA) system to educate  Water is a priority issues. Water diversion is a concern, creates major economic implications, may need a subsidence district..  Concern regarding oil tank storage on Interstate 10  Colorado, Matagorda, and Austin counties are all interested in	Supports conservation initiatives, particularly in productive agricultural areas  Rice farming issue in Colorado/ Matagorda  In Colorado County, water rights an issue due to proximity to San Antonio and Austin. What is the current status of reservoir plans (Allen Creek)?  Very interested in identifying funding mechanism for aging	Concerns about bearing costs for the region  Interested in urban forestry and the idea of having a centralized forester to work with communities who couldn't afford it. Issues with land clearing.  Lake Livingston water levels issue for economic development; adequate levels needed for recreation.  Water access for recreational	Support voluntary conservation programs like the Lone Star Natural Conservation Area  Want more eco-tourism  There currently is ample open space, may not be top concern now. Most natural areas are in private ownership.  Issue with land clearing, losing canopy and wildlife habitat  Water flows to the bay, not concerned about groundwater

	<p>household hazardous waste</p> <p>Support local conservation efforts, but regional marketing initiatives promoting natural and cultural resources</p>	<p>infrastructure</p>	<p>purposes an issue.</p> <p>Interest in circuit rider program, but there are concerns about it in Colorado, Matagorda, and Austin counties</p> <p>“Red tape” associated with grants is a concern</p>	<p>because of aquifer. Feeling that MUDs do not charge enough.</p> <p>Detention vs. drainage.</p> <p>U.S. Dept. of Agriculture is already offering farm management programs, related strategy should be to increase awareness/promotion/education.</p> <p>Farm insurance agents could help promote this program</p>
<p>Major Themes</p>	<p>Need to raise awareness of the concept of economic vulnerability/resiliency.</p> <p>Example from Hurricane Ike: Hard-hit Galveston got through the initial stages of disaster recovery well, but the storm created long-term financial issues and economic stability concerns. Disasters can impact the local government’s ability to provide basic services, especially if reliant on sales taxes.</p> <p>Examples of Overdependence on a Single Employer/Industry: Clear Lake (NASA), Sealy (BAE), Galveston (UTMB)</p> <p>Is there a mechanism to stimulate the market to achieve some economies of scale? (Is there an example of a regional program to remove barriers to latent demand?)</p> <p>How can the economic energy generated by Eagle Ford, Tenaris, and other places be channeled to provide permanent quality housing in the region? Ties into local heritage/“land story.”</p> <p>Access to local foods generally not an issue in rural areas. Healthy foods can help promote rural land preservation heritage and “tell the story of local communities</p> <p>Mental health is an issue – access to long-term is needed. How can communities deal with indigent health care? (Transportation/access is an issue as well). UTMB was key provider – what is current status?</p> <p>Affordability of health care is a concern.</p> <p>Desirable symbiosis to enable outlying counties to keep land and heritage, preserving that quality is important, while promoting economic development. What is the mechanism to do this? Communities are not interested in a top-down approach.</p> <p>In rural communities, there is a heritage of loving the land, “bloodlines run deep.”</p> <p>Tying environment and public health together is a quality-of-life issue.</p> <p>Water supply and conservation are <u>top priorities</u>.</p> <p>Internet access is an issue in Walker, Colorado, and Austin counties. Limits telecommuting and educational opportunities. Weimar is an example of using internet as a economic development tool, began an internet service providers. Texas Connect completed an assessment of high-speed internet access and is looking for county partners (doing work for free, speaking in April 19th at Gulf Coast Economic Development District meeting).</p> <p>How do we manage economic booms so communities get the most out of them?</p> <p>Game changers: Job Training, Leadership/Youth/Professional Development, High-Speed Internet, taking advantage of economic booms. Idea: Entrepreneurship development supported by a regional entrepreneurship institute, with nomination by local EDC scholarships.</p> <p>Key leaders in rural areas “wear many hats” – leadership development programs needed</p> <p>Desire for job training opportunities. Availability of trade/vocational training. Soft skills/work ethic – youth development/professional development</p>			
<p>Possible Strategies to</p>	<p>County-Specific Powers</p>	<p>Animal Control</p>	<p>Payment in-lieu-of taxes/Regional</p>	

Add			Cost Sharing	
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Topic	Wharton County	Chambers County	Fort Bend County	Liberty County	Brazoria County
Transportation	<p>Innovative Transportation Reinvestment Zone along I-69. (Properties along the corridor pay increased property tax, with the increasing financing frontage roads). EDCs also contributed funding. Access roads viewed as economic development drivers. One of 4 in the state.</p> <p>Participants like Colorado Valley Transit service. Inter-county transit connectivity is difficult.</p> <p>Santa Fe Trail in Wharton, trail to nowhere, content.</p> <p>Trying to install bike lanes in Wharton.</p> <p>Congestion is not an issue. Walkability is an issue within Wharton.</p> <p>Interest in having a rural MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization).</p> <p>Packs of dogs are an issue. Safety data needed.</p>	<p>Interested in intermodal facility for Home Depot and Wal-Mart Distribution Center. Want to barge goods to distribution centers instead of using roads.</p> <p>There is an east/west divide in the county, with only one crossing at I-10. The western side has more development, while the east side is more rural. Almost feels like two different counties. Growth from Baytown/Mont Belvieu may eventually spread to the eastern half. The opening of the Grand Parkway has sparked development.</p> <p>Sidewalk connectivity is an issue. Anahuac has ADA-compliant ramps at intersection, but there are no sidewalks in-between.</p>	<p>Differences between the western and eastern parts of the county.</p> <p>Doing more initiatives across the board than other counties, has more planning and resources than other counties.</p> <p>Mobility is a major issue/game changer.</p> <p>There are safety issues in western Fort Bend County.</p> <p>Financing county – private county assistance district.</p> <p>Pedestrian/Bicycle Initiatives:</p> <p>Some participants only want off-street facilities. Sugar Land is completing a Comprehensive Mobility Study and ped/bike master plan, and there is a desire for on-street facilities.</p> <p>Railroads create mobility challenges, but these challenges are not often discussed.</p> <p>Public/private partnerships support the Fulshear Parkway.</p> <p>Participants from Fulshear desire better relationship with METRO, would like to use METRO right-of-way to build trail. There is also a</p>	<p>Future impact of grand parkway on dev.</p> <p>Circulator currently well used but does not connect to region destinations/med. Center. Future funding issue.</p> <p>Railroad crossings, desire for quiet zone issue, econ. Dev. Potential of freight. Gulf Inland logistics park expansion. Increase in manuf. Will bring heavy truck traffic, bottlenecks in Dayton.</p> <p>Dayton desire to time their 4 lights.</p> <p>Desire for walkability/ped/bike, increased sidewalk connectivity</p> <p>Funded ped-bike thru private foundation.</p> <p>Desire for Park and ride and implementing Lib. County transit plan (H-GAC). Want demand response for seniors.</p>	<p>288 is a problem – capacity growth issue. North county.</p> <p>South county logistics port Freeport issue.</p> <p>518 connectivity issue.</p> <p>336? Issue</p> <p>Transit lack of funding</p> <p>RR crossing conflicts with cars and people in brazosport area.</p> <p>Coord with utility companies, centerpoint.</p> <p>Need better coord with master plans, currently piecemeal.</p>

			desire to use powerline easements for trails.		
Economic Development	<p>Once students graduate, where can they get jobs? Trade/vocational education needed. There are achievement gaps and institutionalized poverty. There is a concern that the quality of local school systems is limiting economic development (perception of schools low). HB5 training. Internet access is an issue. There is limited availability, with service only provided by one company. Prices are high, and service is not great. Cell reception is limited. Strong partnership with junior college.</p>	<p>There is a need for educational campaign on blue collar jobs, since there is potential growth in that sector. Locals can get operators for water treatment plant.</p> <p>There are many reverse commuters, who work in Chambers but live elsewhere.</p> <p>Housing issue/schools issue (Mont Belvieu).</p> <p>New retail wanted, but not new housing.</p> <p>Want to keep rural character and promote eco-tourism (High Island/Winnie, birding).</p> <p>Offering tax abatements to attract businesses. \$20 for 20 local business support program within Anahuac.</p> <p>AMDD board for education and business training. United Way completed study of Winnie HS graduation rates. There is a perceived lack of opportunity.</p>	<p>Some have interest in county impact fees.</p> <p>Machine shops not able to hire local workers. Trade occupations are not as attractive, how is this addressed at the high school level. State bill.</p> <p>Fulshear has a partnership with a junior college.</p> <p>Is developing partnerships between colleges and business to develop workforce-appropriate curriculum a state issue?</p> <p>High-speed data connections are an issue in West Fort Bend County.</p> <p>Fulshear lacks a diversified economy, serving primarily as a bedroom community.</p>	<p>Jobs are available but there are not qualified workers to fill them. Many are not passing drug tests. Many people, for various reasons, are unable to secure employment. The area has one of the highest unemployment rates in region. Many jobs offer low pay. Technical/vocation training in high school needed. Partnership with Lee College is an opportunity to expand vocation training, but students have to pay their own way.</p> <p>Many participants see the area as a bedroom community.</p>	<p>Issue of ppl not staying in county, low-paying jobs, foreign labor?</p> <p>There is a desire for trade/vocational education in high schools.</p> <p>There are many petrochemical businesses; vocational education should focus on this.</p> <p>Greater economic diversification is needed. When workers leave, they do not come back.</p> <p>Surfside Beach has issues with internet connections.</p>
Housing	<p>The housing supply constrained, and there is little new housing. There is a waiting list for low-income housing. There is limited quantities of housing available across all income levels; housing availability is determined through word of mouth, with some looking at obituaries to find available housing. Developers are needed to address different</p>	<p>Participants want rural, large-lot housing.</p> <p>There is a need for senior housing, as it is currently only available in Winnie. There is a lack of beds in medical care/nursing facilities.</p> <p>Localities require zero impact on flood zones, and a regional detention impact fee. Mobile homes are an issue.</p>	<p>There are issues with development in city's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), as cities can only enforce the fire code. The quality of development can be an issue in those areas. Counties have the option to adopt the county seat building code or the international building code.</p> <p>There is a need for</p>	<p>There is limited housing stock, and there are issues with quality. There is limited housing in all price points. Small rental market limits economic development. There is a desire for multi-family housing.</p> <p>There is a desire for moderate-income workforce housing, which would support economic</p>	<p>There is a general shortage of housing. There is limited housing stock and diversity, with little multi-family housing. Pearland is turning away multi-family housing projects, while other cities are unable to attract multi-family developments.</p> <p>Participants that it would be great, if could distribute</p>

	<p>market needs. There is a desire to offer infrastructure reimbursement programs to developers.</p>	<p>There is a potential for historic tourism.</p>	<p>affordable housing. Most current housing stock is single-family homes, with limited multi-family options.</p> <p>There is a desire for aging-in-place/senior housing.</p> <p>In rural areas, housing stock is more affordable, but is aging, and there are concerns about its quality.</p>	<p>development.</p> <p>There is a need for greater code enforcement, but there is no political will.</p> <p>There is the potential for historic tourism, but there are not preservation-related regulations (or a desire for those regulations).</p> <p>There is a need for senior housing, and there is a lack of healthcare facilities.</p>	<p>it.</p> <p>Retail and service people are unable to afford housing near their jobs; this may be an issue in Fort Bend County too.</p> <p>There are housing incentive programs and tax breaks in some cities.</p> <p>Pearland has new single-family homes. The city wants senior housing, but not multi-family units.</p>
<p>Healthy Communities</p>	<p>There is limited access to healthy food. Residents must long distances to get health options (some drive to Lake Jackson).</p> <p>There is no pediatrician or OB/GYN in the county, patients must travel to Fort Bend County. There is no place that delivers babies in the county. There is limited access to mental health services and continuing care. Jails and hospitals are being overburdened with the mentally ill..</p>	<p>Winnie and Anahuac have farmers’ markets. There is a limited desire for high-end grocery stores.</p> <p>Mental health and behavioral health are growing issues. There is a shelter in Baytown, but patients have to go to Beaumont to be committed. Anahuac has a wellness center.</p> <p>There are concerns about liability within county/city parks. After being privately constructed, the city has to maintain them.</p>	<p>Western Fort Bend County is a food desert.</p> <p>Mental health is an issue, since there are no long-term treatment and recovery centers. The mentally ill enter a cycle of being sent to jail or local hospitals..</p> <p>There is a county tree farm (maybe a best practice?)</p> <p>Do local codes prohibit farming in urban areas? Deed restrictions in some communities prevent it.</p> <p>There are energy conservation initiatives in City of Sugar Land facilities. New “green homes” in Fulshear sell well, with many people wanting the Energy Star designation. Low-impact development (LID) techniques are used to manage stormwater.</p>	<p>Healthcare for prisoners is an issue, have to bring them off-site. Prison care is also an issue in Huntsville.</p> <p>The local hospital district new, wants to build new hospital. Dayton residents have to travel to Liberty for healthcare. There is a need for specialists. Participants think if you “build it, they will come.”</p> <p>Grocery stores are not using local produce. There is a farmers’ market. Community gardening is happening.</p> <p>Mental health is a concern.</p> <p>Kids walk in the street. There is a desire for more pedestrian walkways.</p> <p>Neighborhood based policing, sense of safety.</p> <p>Meals on wheels cut funding, but many more need to be served.</p>	<p>There are not major concerns about access to healthy foods.</p> <p>Mental health is an issue. Law enforcement officers have basic training on how to deal with the mentally ill, but there is limited long-term assistance available. The mentally ill are sent to Houston for care.</p>

<p>Resiliency</p>	<p>Participating in resiliency programs, proactively planning for the future.</p> <p>There is a lot of property within the floodplain, and localities are completing capital improvement projects and drainage plans.</p> <p>Evacuation routes are an issue. There have been bottlenecks in El Campo; city officials are working with TxDOT to resolve the issue. Evacuation planning with H-GAC is helpful.</p> <p>Wharton and Colorado counties are in the Lower Colorado River Authority, which is cutting back on services. Water delivery for agriculture is an issue. Rice industry is impacted by drought and lack of water. Hunting is also affected; if there is no water, there are no birds. A reservoir in southern Wharton County will help Matagorda County, but not Wharton County.) Water diversion to small farms is an issue. Water rights is an issue.</p>	<p>Flooding in Anahuac from a storm surge took out water plant, and having to buy water. Concerned about future development</p> <p>Bureaucracy at TCEQ prevents communities from taking advantage of opportunities.</p> <p>Lake Houston has a desire to make improvements for water supply, but there is a concern about potential lawsuits.</p> <p>Lots of water companies but power issue, hard to contact the suppliers.</p> <p>There are concerns about flood insurance costs and social equity.</p> <p>Residents have a “short-term memory” of disasters.</p> <p>Saltwater intrusion into freshwater supplies is a concern.</p> <p>The Luce Bayou project is being built, but will mainly help the City of Houston’s water supply.</p> <p>Trying to develop secondary sources of water. Freshwater needs to be released into the bay for economic development and eco-tourism.</p> <p>There is a lack of local radio. It is hard to get people signed up for notification service.</p> <p>Evacuation options are limited if Interstate10 or ferry services are closed.</p>	<p>Community is taking advantage of many of the resiliency programs. There have been no major flooding events in recent history. Localities encourage the purchase of flood insurance, even outside floodplain.</p> <p>There is difficulty of getting homeowners’ insurance, since the county is a Tier 2 area due to the potential for high winds. Insurance can be expensive.</p> <p>Evacuations in the past worked well, and localities have good coordination with other communities.</p>	<p>Flooding and dam vulnerability are an issue.</p> <p>Recognize the importance of residents and communities taking care of themselves, and having a plan to deal with disasters. Interlocal coordination is important. Localities need 2 – 3 months of cash available to deal with disaster, due to the bureaucracy at FEMA.</p> <p>Red tape/cut bureaucracy, example of coordinating fed/local response in clean-up, forest service reimbursement. Jasper-Livingston-Liberty mutual aid pact. Get agreements in place ahead of time.</p> <p>Nextel service uses texts/calls for emergencies, like reverse 911. Local radio is the best source for information.</p> <p>If U.S. Route 90 is closed and a dam breaks, it would be difficult for communities to evacuate.</p>	<p>Participants feel localities are doing a good job of keeping people informed.</p> <p>Many residents have an awareness of what to do during disasters, although newcomers may not be as aware.</p> <p>The existing alert system works well.</p>
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		Getting out of Baytown is also an issue.			
Environment	<p>Communities do not want new industry cause the county to become a non-attainment area.</p> <p>Illegal dumping is an issue. People dump illegal to avoid the cost to disposal.</p>	<p>After storm did a greenprint, lot of little projects not an overarching plan. Wallisville project opps before dev. Nature preserve.</p> <p>Saltwater intrusion issue in drilling wells, on groundwater will go to surface.</p> <p>b/c of drought, not discharging into streams, so water supply low</p> <p>Not formal conservation/voluntary.</p> <p>Want native plantings in projects.</p> <p>Solid waste – cheap fees.</p> <p>Energy cons. Not big issue.</p> <p>Currently water quality not issue but future. Lake Houston runoff fertilizer issue.</p> <p>In NRA, like voluntary model (pick if in or out).</p>	<p>Water is an issue, particularly subsidence. Communities in the eastern part of the county are now using surface water, while well water is used more in the western areas.</p> <p>There is a subsidence district.</p> <p>In western Fort Bend County, illegal dumping along railroads is an issue.</p>	<p>Illegal dumping is a big issue. Communities want to do more household hazardous waste pickups and recycling, and want funding from H-GAC to support this program.</p> <p>Water supply is an issue, with most water going to Houston.</p> <p>Trinity River Authority – state mandates for water supply to Lake Livingston (upstream). Communities don't have water rights to the Trinity River. A third well is being drilled for Liberty because there are concerns about the water supply.</p> <p>Subsidence is a possible issue.</p> <p>There is a desire for single-stream recycling in Liberty.</p> <p>The headquarters of the Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge used green building technique and solar panels, is a successful local model.</p> <p>There is potential for ecotourism with wildlife refuge.</p> <p>Air quality is not currently a quality of life issue.</p> <p>Using weatherization techniques for trailers is hard to do.</p>	<p>Water supply is not a major issue.</p> <p>Economic resiliency is an issue – DOW plant, economic hit.</p>
Major Themes	<p>Water security, housing supply, internet access, and vocational training are the biggest issues in Wharton County.</p> <p>Water, housing, and the linkage between resiliency, flooding, drought, and ecotourism is an issue in Liberty and Chambers counties. There is a need to develop more amenities for tourists, such as lodging, retail, etc. (untapped opportunity area).</p>				

	<p>Mobility is a major issue in Fort Bend County, along with gaps in education, water security and the need for affordable housing.</p> <p>In Brazoria County, participants expressed a new for new vocational training to meet the needs of current employers. Mobility along the Route 288 corridor and housing supply (particularly multi-family housing in some communities) are other major concerns.</p>			
Possible Strategies to Add		Several counties have “split personalities” between north and south, and east and west. Resources may be divided different in those areas.		

Topic	Waller County	Montgomery County	Northwest Harris County	Southeast Harris County
Transportation	Commuter rail and development of “Livable Centers” viewed as important.	<p>Mobility and congestion are concerns. There is a need for more funding to build and maintain roads, as communities are always “playing catch-up.” There is a need to identify alternative funding mechanisms. There is a limited ability to require developers to make road improvements.</p> <p>There is a lot of freight traffic but less local goods movement.</p>	<p>U.S. Route 290 is a transportation/mobility issue. Desire for more rail into downtown and cross-town. More people in fewer cars.</p> <p>Address aging infrastructure. Lack of public transportation in area.</p> <p>Kids can’t walk to schools. Address and invest in walkability around schools. Better coordination of walking, biking, and roadways.</p>	<p>Increase in trail usage, connectivity between residential and employment centers.</p> <p>Issues with heavy truck traffic, La Porte locally pays for enforcement of trucking laws.</p> <p>Discussed park and ride, under-utilization of transit, transit stopped.</p>
Economic Development	<p>Broadband internet access is important.</p> <p>Lone Star Community College seemed to offer more vocational training options than Blinn College.</p>	<p>There is concern about balancing the area’s rural character with economic development opportunities.</p> <p>The opening of the new Exxon facility is creating housing shortages.</p> <p>Some parts of the county have limited access to broadband.</p>	<p>Impact of Exxon’s move to the area.</p> <p>Quality of life issues: Greenways, trail master plans.</p> <p>Issue with vacant strip centers.</p> <p>Vocational Education, Lone Star College. Schools don’t want to re-teach K-12 skills at the community college level.</p> <p>Centralize buy local/made local initiatives with a one-stop resource showing what is available.</p>	<p>Education/employment partnerships between San Jacinto College and local industries; leads to a lot of job placement, with people living close to where they work (high note). Potential for “Grow Local” campaign and farmers’ markets.</p> <p>Successful with tax incentives to increase business, interest in developing this further.</p>
Housing	There is a general need for	There are issues with the county’s	Historic preservation can be	Pasadena/La Porte: Increasing the

	workforce housing and high-quality housing.	<p>ability to develop and enforce housing codes.</p> <p>Older areas are declining, and there is a desire to maintain community character as areas grow and redevelop. There is “NIMBYism” opposition to multi-family housing.</p>	<p>expensive. Need incentives to rehabilitate middle-ring subdivisions.</p> <p>There is low housing inventory.</p> <p>Need coordination with developers to promote the use of more efficient landscaping materials.</p> <p>There is a need for high-quality affordable housing.</p>	diversity and quality of housing stock (quality over quantity of units); and redeveloping communities, increasing density with infill.
Healthy Communities	<p>Local food production is viewed as important to Waller County’s branding/identity.</p> <p>There is a need for greater access to healthcare.</p>	<p>There are few mental health facilities, but demand is growing.</p> <p>Healthcare needs vary amongst different parts of the county.</p>	<p>Access to green space can improve mental health. Coordinate between medical field and general population, prescription for parks.</p> <p>Safety perception issue with outdoor areas. There is a lack of sidewalks and pedestrian accessibility, and there are connectivity and barrier issues.</p> <p>Public policy issue to make sidewalks a priority across the board.</p>	<p>West University Place: Active mental health component, many activities for seniors, senior health.</p> <p>La Porte: Limited access to health care services including mental health. Recreational aspects trail connectivity (La Porte, Pasadena).</p> <p>La Porte considering more small-scale community gardens on empty lots. Possible impediments in ordinances.</p>
Resiliency	There is potential interest in utilizing reverse 911.	<p>Flooding and wildfire are concerns.</p> <p>FEMA floodplain maps are not always accurate. The Community Rating System (CRS) is not very helpful.</p> <p>The local Office of Emergency Management is good about communicating with the public.</p>	<p>Want to focus on how to bury electrical lines to increase resiliency and improve aesthetics.</p> <p>There is regular flooding, due to too much concrete and tree removal.</p> <p>Detention and retention as issue.</p> <p>How do you implement a flooding strategy?</p> <p>Storm recovery, power issue.</p> <p>Need better list of priorities post-disaster and more education and communication.</p>	Flooding is an issue in all areas. La Porte upgraded its infrastructure. Concern that FEMA re-mapping could lead to higher insurance costs, impacting low- to moderate-income residents, possibility of displacement.
Environment	Fort Bend County is buying water from Waller County. Water supply/security is an issue, since water is important for farming and for growth.	There is a concern about protecting property rights. There is interest in water conservation. Water supply is a major issue.	<p>There is interest in having a tree policy, so that developers don’t cut down trees; clear-cutting has an impact on water and drainage.</p> <p>Want better water conservation solutions that show cost savings.</p> <p>Need for more recycling in</p>	West University Place: Strong environmental advocacy culture, but some “NIMBYism” to compost, etc. Landscaping incentives, city LEED buildings, energy efficiency aspect. Trees important to quality of

			neighborhoods and education programs on yard and other waste. Market and promote green space as an attractive feature.	life and appeal. La Porte/Pasadena: Fighting perception of eastern Harris County as unhealthy (air pollution). Increase economic development opportunities and environmental benefits balance. Citizen advisory councils that address air quality with local plants. La Porte tree replacement policy (1:1).
Major Themes	<p>In Waller County, coordination between economic development and workforce development was important.</p> <p>In Montgomery County, the northern, southern, eastern, and western parts of the county all have different needs. Water security is a major issue throughout the county. There needs to be coordination between housing, transportation infrastructure, and the authority given to counties (most areas are unincorporated).</p> <p>In Northwest Harris County, communication and coordination between different entities and elected officials, businesses, and residents.</p> <p>In La Porte and Pasadena, priority issues include transportation and goods movement/heavy truck movement, due to increased traffic from the Panama Canal; increasing the diversity and quality of housing stock (quality over quantity of units); and redeveloping communities, increasing density with infill. Senior populations have needs.</p> <p>In West University Place, affordability is an issue, city employees can't live afford to live there, need to provide for more blended socio-economic immediate area, in terms of emergency responders not needing to travel so far (5 miles or less).</p>			

Topic	Harris County Employees	City of Houston Employees	Galveston County
Transportation	<p>Elderly populations are moving to unincorporated areas because housing is cheaper, but then they lack transportation.</p> <p>Lifeline users</p> <p>Lack of money to operate the system.</p> <p>Like the idea of have a transportation safety database</p>	<p>Transit across a broader spectrum, connect trails, parks and transit.</p> <p>Mobility for economic development, easier for commuters, public needs to understand transit trade-offs.</p> <p>Operational challenges between different entities with signal timing.</p> <p>How can cities fund alternative transportation? Look outside the box.</p> <p>Bike-share program</p>	<p>Transportation/traffic top concern (especially along FM 518, Interstate 45, Highway 3, Highway 146).</p> <p>Land use/transportation infrastructure coordination is key. League City hasn't kept up with infrastructure as it has grown.</p>
Economic Development	<p>Need for vocational education and connecting low-income people with jobs, into employment.</p> <p>Need to match housing and economic development.</p> <p>Some local governments require local purchasing or hiring.</p> <p>Work with transportation agencies to keep</p>	<p>Lot of tools but not marketed, under-utilized.</p> <p>Infrastructure is key.</p> <p>Redevelopment opposition.</p> <p>Communicate better between employers, businesses, educators.</p>	<p>Good local training for plants but no local institution.</p> <p>College of Mainland limited.</p>

	businesses open during construction projects.	Parks as economic development tool	
Housing	<p>Home prices/rents rising, but wages remain stagnant. Currently housing market very competitive.</p> <p>Unincorporated areas lack of ability to enforce and regulate.</p> <p>Stigma associated with multi-family housing, even if not low-income. There is local opposition to multi-family housing, even if senior housing.</p> <p>Negative perceptions of mass transit.</p>	<p>Housing in unincorporated areas an issue.</p> <p>Education about building in floodplain</p> <p>Workforce housing</p> <p>fresh food near housing, mobile food vendors</p> <p>Energy-efficient housing</p>	<p>Limited water resources for new multi-family development in Kemah.</p> <p>Protect current housing stock.</p> <p>Lack of smaller single-family homes, over-supply of larger homes. Lack of market-rate single-family homes affordable to median income.</p>
Healthy Communities	<p>Healthy foods and access to healthcare: Some areas lack access. Healthy food finance initiatives and revolving loan funds for healthy produce in smaller retailers could be potential models.</p> <p>Not a lot of infrastructure for walking/biking.</p> <p>Low-income residents sometimes have to pay more for groceries.</p>	<p>Placement of housing with healthy foods.</p> <p>Education for adults, Recipe for Success example needs to be scaled up.</p> <p>Need for mental health services and preventative outreach care.</p> <p>“Active Parks”</p>	<p>Farmers’ markets available</p> <p>UTMB (University of Texas Medical Branch) as an asset, promoting culture of health</p>
Resiliency	<p>Pandemics</p> <p>Rising costs of wind and flood insurance</p>	Communication between departments	Educating people about having more than 3 days of food/water
Environment	<p>Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs) unable to improve aging infrastructure, “maxed out” on bonds.</p> <p>Wells, failing septic systems creating water quality issues.</p> <p>Water supply, stormwater, and recycling needs more education about benefits</p>	<p>Energy conservation in commercial buildings. Energy saving calculations do not currently look at operations savings. Water conservation and energy in education campaigns. Behavior change in maximizing tonnage.</p> <p>Air Quality: Non-mobile sources need to be addressed.</p> <p>Low-Impact Development (LID) is a buzzword.</p> <p>Economic benefits of trees.</p>	<p>Some energy conservation initiatives in Kemah</p> <p>Water quality issues.</p>
Major Themes	<p>Developers not having final say for livability, increase in amenities.</p> <p>County having regulatory, land use power.</p> <p>Educational impacts of public spending.</p>	<p>Regional transportation operational authority</p> <p>Need to align educational opportunities with types of industry</p> <p>Holistic water management system: Water protection</p> <p>Comprehensive transit plan</p> <p>Increase vendors that supply healthy foods</p> <p>Incorporate drought in the resiliency-related strategies</p>	Water issues

		<p>Storm debris management</p> <p>Communications post-disaster, incorporate electrical grid into resiliency.</p>	
<p>Common Themes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban Transect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ More solid waste concerns</li> <li>○ Unincorporated areas are rapidly urbanizing, concern about quality of development and ability to regulate without powers</li> <li>○ Trees more of a focus, tree canopy. Montgomery County tree ordinance, Conroe tree person on staff.</li> <li>○ Energy more of a focus.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Transit, bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure</li> <li>• Mental health and preventative care</li> <li>• Local healthy foods as a top issue.</li> <li>• Middle-age housing issue in Northwest Harris and Montgomery counties. Aging infrastructure and municipal utility districts (MUDs).</li> <li>• Equity issue/embracing diversity has not come up as an issue. Internet as equity issue. (Underlying but not specifically addressed). Lots of NIMBYism against multi-family housing and negative perception of multi-family housing.</li> <li>• Resiliency: Electrical grid, pandemic, utility lines underground, toxic air emissions and housing.</li> <li>• Geographic Disparities: Unincorporated versus incorporated areas issue. SCALE as an issue for programs and funding.</li> </ul>		