

Fifth Ward

I-45 NHHIP DIRECT COMMUNITY BENEFITS

**Unfortunately, ongoing litigation and Title VI investigations may delay or eliminate the following beneficial measures to which TxDOT has committed.*

Established in 1866, the Fifth Ward lies north of Buffalo Bayou and is in TxDOT's North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP) area. The project brings significant economic impacts to the Houston area as well as much needed safety improvements to one of the state's most congested highways. Some 92,000 direct jobs are being created with an additional 89,000 indirect jobs generated from this project. The overall statewide economic impact of NHHIP is estimated at \$19.2 billion.

The future of transportation is changing and the infrastructure in the nation's fourth largest city needs to change with it. Parts of the I-45 corridor have not changed since being constructed over 50 years ago. The I-45 improvement project not only brings these highways up to current standards, but also prepares for the future by improving resiliency to weather events and providing safer more efficient travel that could accommodate the transition to electric and self-driving vehicles. And, importantly, it will increase the opportunity for transit and high-occupancy vehicles as a mode choice for those traveling along the I-45 North Houston corridor. Additionally, the neighborhoods in the project area will see many specific benefits beyond the economic and safety improvements.



Public Housing/ Houston Housing Authority (HHA) - Kelly Village

UNITS ACQUIRED

Acquisition of 78 units of HHA Kelly Village property.

HOUSING AGREEMENT

TxDOT and HHA have entered into an agreement where HHA, funded by TxDOT, will construct replacement housing for displaced residents.

KEEP COMMUNITY TOGETHER

80 percent of the replacement housing units will be constructed within two miles of the current location for community cohesion.

RESIDENT PRIORITY

Current residents have first rights to the new units.

GREEN SPACE

TxDOT purchasing additional Kelly Village property to provide additional green space.

Flood Control

MOST RECENT STANDARDS ACCOMMODATED

Main lanes and I-10 Express Lanes (including the depressed sections and local street system above the depressed section) are designed to accommodate the current 500-year storm event model and most recent guidelines and criteria required by the HCFCD.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Upgrades the existing storm drainage systems along I-10/I-45 and the parallel streets Providence and Rothwell, including pump stations and detention ponds around Buffalo Bayou.

BUFFALO BAYOU IMPROVEMENTS

Adds the North and South Canal flood mitigation projects to reduce flood water elevations around Buffalo Bayou.

Mobility

RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS

Adds railroad underpasses to eliminate the at-grade railroad crossings and provide for continuous flow into and out of Fifth Ward along Providence and Rothwell.

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

Adds new bicycle/pedestrian realm that includes elevated bike lanes separated from vehicle lanes to Jensen Drive, Meadows Street, and St. Emanuel.

GREGG STREET

Adds a westbound exit.

HAMILTON STREET

Restored Hamilton Street as a southbound parallel street along the George R. Brown Convention Center to improve circulation between Fifth Ward and Downtown by reconnecting four (4) streets across I-69/I-45 that were severed by the George R. Brown Convention Center construction (Dallas, Lamar, McKinney and Walker).

Key Takeaway

TxDOT has fully, completely, and in good faith complied with all legal requirements in planning for and evaluating alternatives and impacts of the North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP). Moreover, TxDOT has committed to many significant actions bringing multiple benefits* to the community.