

**CITY OF TOMBALL
LIVABLE CENTERS STUDY**

Background

In the 2008-2011 TIP, the Transportation Policy Council committed \$1.5 million to fund Livable Center studies in the region. The goal of H-GAC's Livable Centers Program is to help create walkable, mixed-use places that provide multi-modal transportation options, improve environmental quality, and promote economic development. Livable Centers studies apply these program goals to a specified study area. Project outcomes may include proposed future land uses, transportation facilities, street design and pedestrian improvements and parking plans.

Current Situation

The Livable Centers Study for the Downtown Tomball area complements recommendations from the FM 2920 Access Management Study, completed in November 2008. The Livable Centers study focuses on strategies to enhance the walkability of the downtown business district without creating conflicts with the intersection, signal, median, and driveway recommendations from the Access Management Study.

The Livable Center's study identifies strategic investments and policies in the transportation and land use realms that will improve the safety and feasibility of using alternative modes of transportation, increase the sense of identity, and leverage private investment in the study area.

The study's recommendations and conceptual design work focus on improving the pedestrian realm, including improving pedestrian connectivity within the Downtown Tomball business district. Recommendations to improve pedestrian safety, parking options, and streetscape are also included in the study. Other major recommendations and conceptual design work include improvements to the Historic Depot Plaza as a community focal point linking cultural, residential, and commercial uses.

The implementation plan for the proposed recommendations includes a fiscal analysis that outlines the proposed funding sources, cost estimates, and priority level. These projects include pedestrian improvements such as sidewalks, lighting, and landscaping along the streets in the downtown business district.

Action Requested

For information only