

BAYTOWN LIVABLE CENTER INITIATIVE

Background

The Harris County Community Services Department – Transit Services Division, in partnership with Harris County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia and the City of Baytown, has developed a master plan to redevelop and revitalize the downtown area of Baytown centered around Texas Avenue. Like other cities and towns, Baytown’s downtown area has experienced a steady decline since its apex in the 1960s. It currently suffers from visual blight, crime, and a lack of neighborhood cohesiveness and mobility.

Current Situation

Harris County and the City of Baytown has created a master plan for the Texas Avenue area based on the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Livable Communities Initiative and “smart growth” principles. The Livable Communities Initiative seeks to provide resources that can help communities create pedestrian-friendly, transit-oriented environments that will draw and retain businesses and residents.

The Baytown Study recommends two new transit routes that will link Lee College with Baytown’s downtown area and provide increased general mobility. The first route is called the San Jacinto Mall route and the second is Lee College. In addition to increased transit, the study also recommends public amenities for the area such as: a plaza with a fountain, bus shelters, street furniture such as sidewalks, art, and brick-paved sidewalks.

Action Requested

For information only