Livable Centers Workshop

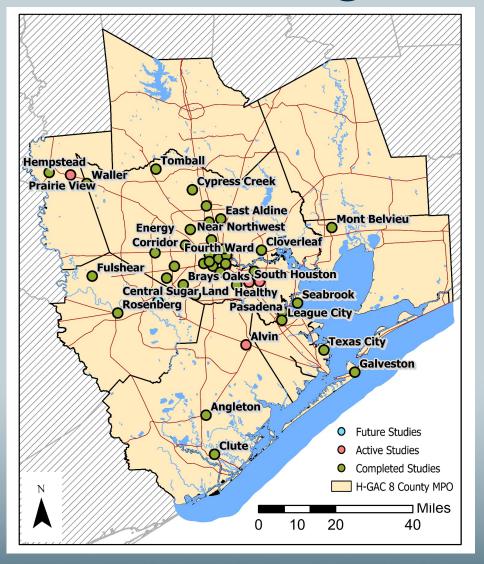
Elements of Placemaking Beyond Aesthetics

Thursday, September 14, 2023



About the Livable Centers Program

- 41 completed studies
- 5 active studies
- Places where people can live, work, and play with less reliance on single-occupancy vehicles.
- Small scale Land Use and Transportation studies.





Livable Centers Study Elements

- Access to Transit
- Pedestrian and Driver Safety
- Congestion Mitigation
- Air Quality Improvements
- Housing Affordability
- Economic Development
- Placemaking

bike sidewalk affordable parks community trees

lights space seating



What is Placemaking?

Creating or improving public spaces in a way that reflects the needs and desires of the community.

Create a space that promotes social interaction, community engagement, and a sense of belonging.

- Elements that make a place "great"
 - Identity
 - Uses

- Access
- Comfort





- Downtown Waller improvements
 - signage, sidewalks, parking









Discovery Green

- Successful park design, programming and management
- Transformed downtown Houston as a real estate market, as a visitor destination, and a place where Houstonians now want to live, work, and play.







- Bates Allen Park
 - Ideal location for programming like Boy scouts orienteering courses
 - Future site of the Fort Bend Heritage Unlimited Museum
 - Tree Orchard for Fort Bend County Parks







- James Driver All Inclusive Park
 - A space where everyone, regardless of their abilities, can play and make memories
 - Located in a historically underserved part of Harris County, the revitalized park aims to revitalize the surrounding community and serve as a destination to local visitors







- Alvin Historic Train Depot and Tom Blakeney Jr Park
 - Original train depot building
 - Skate park
 - Hike and Bike Trail











Jason O'Mara, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

City of Angleton jomara@angleton.tx.us



Livable Centers Study Recommendations





Placemaking Recommendations

Implement Gateways and Branding

- 5.1. Retain a landscape architect to design Gateway signage at Front Street, Plum Street, and Cedar Street.
- 5.2. Implement wayfinding signage at Velasco and Magnolia, Velasco and Mulberry, Chenango and Mulberry in Downtown.
- 5.3. Enhance the area surrounding the "Heart" sculpture by incorporating landscaping, signage, and other amenities.



Gateway & Signage Master Plan





Purpose

The City of Angleton retained Clark Condon, a landscape architecture firm in Houston, to develop a Gateway and Signage Master Plan and corporate brand. Angleton wanted the new brand and sign package to keep the city's history in mind while supporting the city's economic growth, downtown revitalization, and population increase. New gateway and signage monumentation will help to improve public spaces, increase visibility, and enhance the public realm into the future.

As the county seat for Brazoria County, Angleton looked to capitalize on the increase of visitors, travelers, and residential development making their way through the city and to the downtown core destinations.











Stages of Public Engagement

- 1. Information Gathering
- 2. Findings and Visioning
- 3. Draft Recommendations
- 4. Final Plan
- 5. Implementation



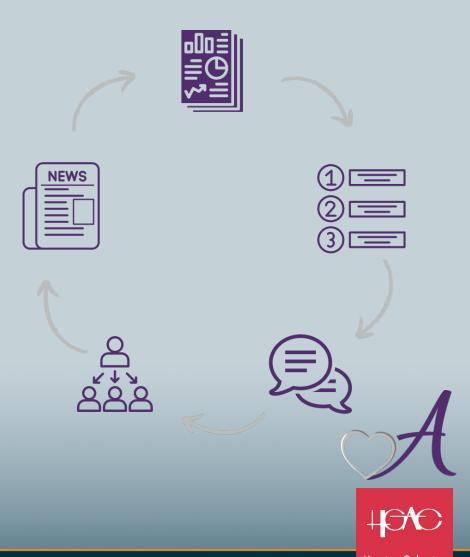
Information Gathering





Information Gathering Process

- Collect historical data relative to the city and the existing identity that support design options
- Gauge the community's interest, support, needs, and priorities
 - Online and printed surveys
- Establish channels for open dialogue and community input
 - Public meetings
- Build support for and momentum around the plan
 - Community involvement
- Communicate plan outcomes
 - Newsletters, social updates, website, project updates at public meetings



Draft Recommendations





City of Angleton Brand Standards

Official color palette



PMS Purple 269C

CMYK

C=81, M=96, Y=26, K=13

RGB

R-82, G-45, B-109

HTML #512D6D

HEX



Cool Gray 9

CMYK:

C=48, M=41, Y=41, K=16

RGB

R-125, G-124, B-124

HEX.

HTML#75787B



TPMS. "PMS 877C Metallic Silver Cool Gray 4

CMYK

C=24 M=17 Y=15 K=0

RGB-

R-187, G-188, B-188

HEX

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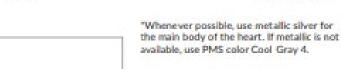
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R=0, G=0, B=0 R=255, G=255, B=255

HEX HEX

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Where the Heart is

- >> Beautiful
- >> Environmentally Responsible
- >> Education
- >> History
- >> Wildlife
- >> Tourism



THEME IMAGERY











SIGNAGE MATERIALITY



STONE VENEER TYPE 1: CHEROKEE BLEND, TUMBLED



STONE VENEER TYPE 2: CREAM LIME-STONE



PAINTED METAL: SILVER (METAL CABI-NETS)



PAINTED METAL: PURPLE (ACCENT PIEC-ES)



REVERSE CHANNEL LETTERING WITH LIGHTING

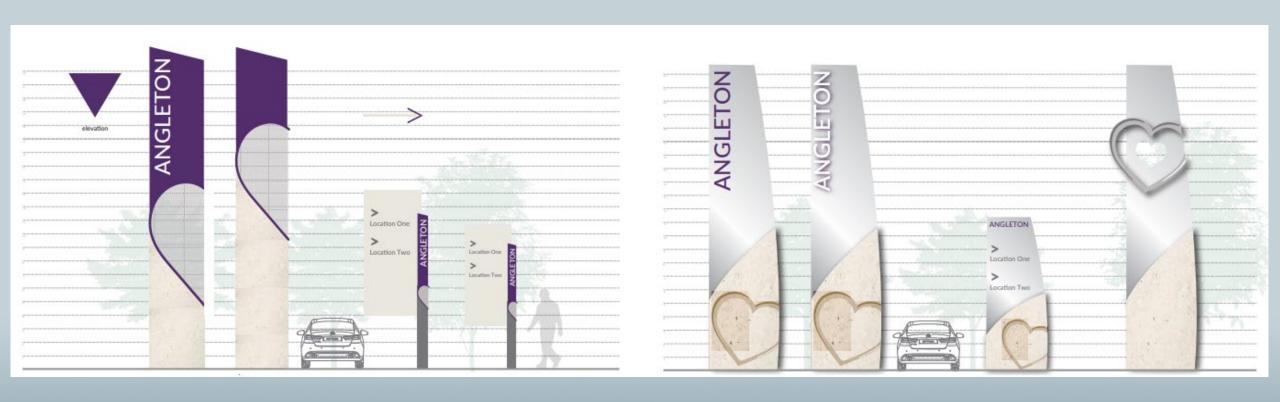


VINYL LETTER BANNER PROGRAM

Along with consistency in messaging, a consistent theme of materials will create a sense of familiarity and recognition within the graphic artwork, monuments, and signage.



Initial Recommendations





Additional Sign Elements





Final Plan Gateway Signage Master Plan





















Streetscape Rendering











Funding Opportunities

- 1. ANNUAL BUDGET
- 2. CIP
- 3. GOVERNER COMMUNITY
- 4. ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
- 5. SPECIAL FUNDS
- 6. CO AND BOND
- 7. DONATIONS
- 8. GRANTS
- 9. SPONSORSHIPS
- **10.NAMING RIGHTS**
- 11.PARTNERSHIPS



Implemented Signs









Questions?

Jason O'Mara, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Angleton

jomara@angleton.tx.us





Veronica Chapa Gorczynski, President,

East End District
www.eastenddistrict.com

Veronica@eastenddistrict.com





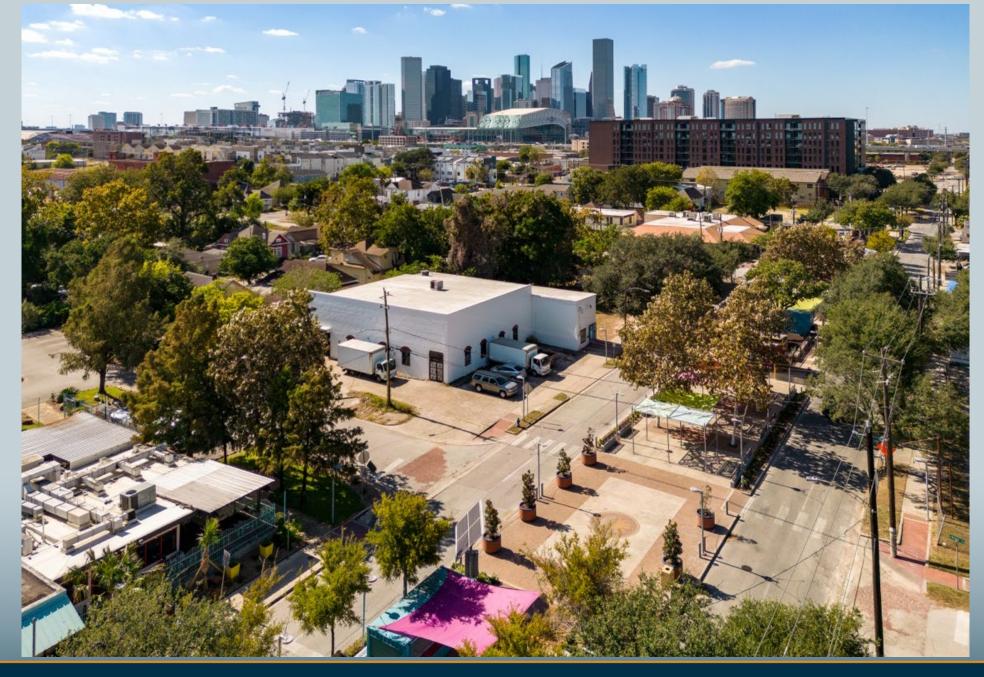




























Questions?

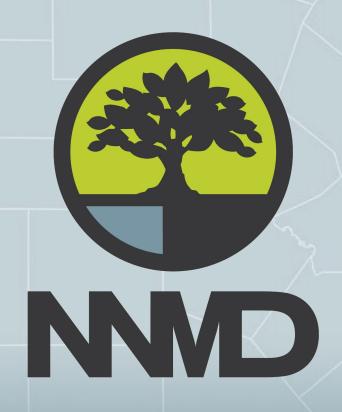
Veronica Chapa Gorczynski, President

East End District

www.eastenddistrict.com

Veronica@eastenddistrict.com





Wayne Norden, President Eileen Egan, VP Capital Projects

Near Northwest Management District www.nnmd.org wnorden@nnmd.org eegan@nnmd.org



Where We Were

- High crime rates
- 9 person supplemental patrol service
- Failing retail
- Multifamily occupancy and deferred maintenance
- Community focus on negatives
- No NNMD capital improvements plan
- NNMD Board of Directors needed a vision



Our Livable Centers Study

- Focused on a key subarea
 - Included Antoine Drive our "Main Street"
 - High density of multifamily communities
 - Suburban-style mixed retail
 - Highest crime rates
- High level of community input
- Engagement of Board and key stakeholders
- Recommendations fired up the community
- Change language Be the Change!
- \$31M in projects property we did not own, money we did not have





What We Did Next

- Board of Directors adopted the report
- Shift in our thinking and perception



- Small projects
 - New logos developed
 - Hummingbird and Butterfly Garden
 - Heavier promotion and growth of National Night Out
 - Placemaking efforts
 - METRO Bus Shelter wraps
 - Monument Markers
 - Intersection enhancements
- Promoted the report to EVERYONE Be the Change



And...

- Created Change Champion award
- Grew to annual Grow Near award





Placemaking demonstrates that
 this place matters to people



Other Placemaking

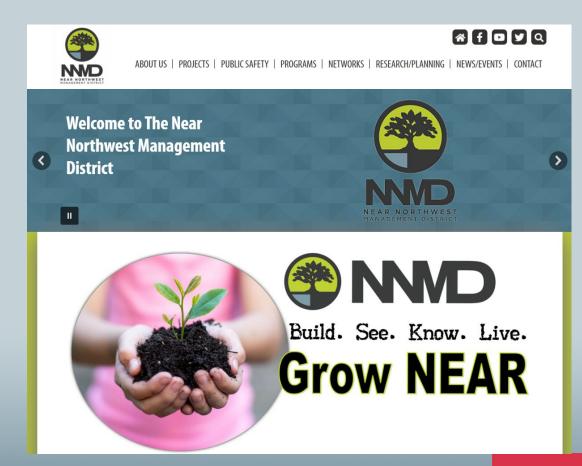
- 31 Mini Murals
 - Nature and "pretty"
 - Nearby active living amenities
- Continued graffiti abatement
- Added litter abatement
- Added code inspection
- Added esplanade mowing
- Intersection enhancements planned
- New sidewalk projects include design elements





The Work Continues...

- Conversations with owners
- Meetings with new investors
- Sharing the vision
- Website redesigns and updates
- Social media to reinforce the message
- Radio promotions
- Security cameras hotspots





What We Have Seen

- Improving perception
- Reduced crime (mostly "of convenience"), reduced graffiti
- Reduction in patrol officers
- Rising commercial occupancy
- High multifamily occupancy rates, new investments
- New commercial construction and renovation investments
- New single family homes
- Greater awareness of Near Northwest as the place to live, work, play and learn!

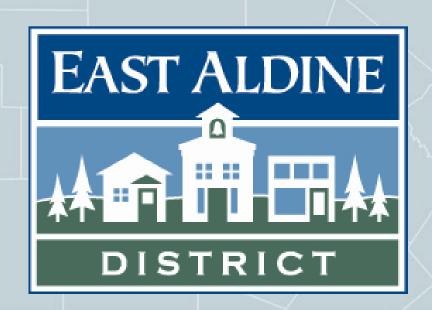


Questions?

Wayne Norden, President
Eileen Egan, Vice President
Near Northwest Management District
wnorden@nnmd.org, eegan@nnmd.org







Veronica Sanches, Director of Operations

Selina Valdez, Recycling Coordinator

East Aldine District





East Aldine District Profile



- The East Aldine District was created by the Texas Legislature in June 2001 to enhance the physical, social, and economic well being of Aldine. It is a governmental entity administered by a nine-member, volunteer board of directors.
- In August 2002, the board of directors adopted an eight-point Service and Action Plan to address:
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure
- Transportation
- Public Safety & Security
- Business & Economic Development

- Mobility, Environmental, & Urban Design
- Leadership Training
- Project Staffing & Administration
- Neighborhood Cleanup



About East Aldine District

OUR MISSION	OUR VISION	OUR GOALS
Positively impact Public Safety, Economic Development, Environmental and Urban Design, and Mobility and Transportation to help create an environment attractive to business, to facilitate profitability, and to promote the redevelopment and growth of the area.	To provide resources and quality of life for businesses and residents alike in East Aldine.	To improve the quality of life for our residents who live and call the District home and invest in our community for economic prosperity for everyone who chooses to work and open a business in East Aldine.









East Aldine Town Center



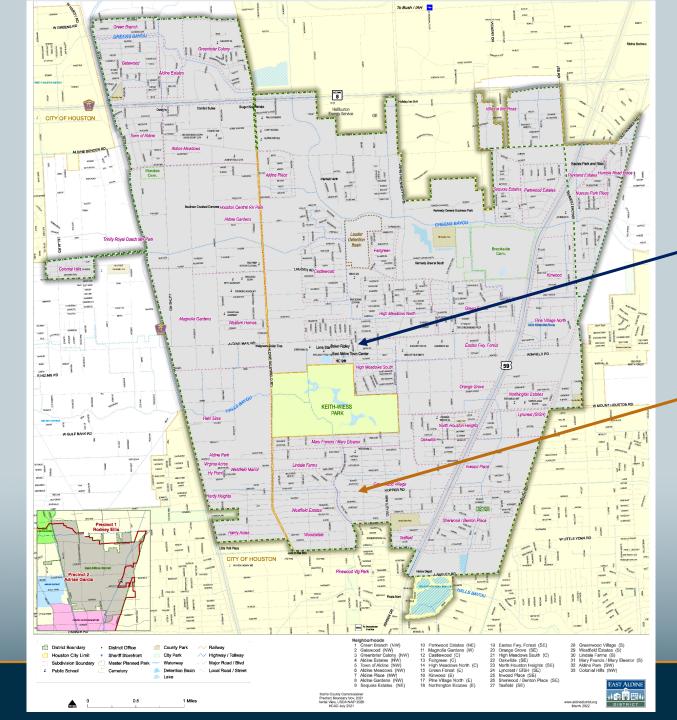




East **Aldine District** Boundary Map







East Aldine Town Center

East Aldine Neighborhood **Depository & Recycling** Center





Identifying the Need to Dispose Heavy Trash in EAD



The Problems

- Battling Illegal Dumping
- Lack of heavy trash service in 47 of 49 neighborhoods
 - Only 2 neighborhoods serviced by heavy trash pickup once a month
- Even while paying private companies, everything is not picked up
- Once a month heavy trash pickup in 2 designated neighborhoods

The Solution

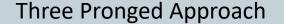
 Create and develop the first FREE depository and recycling center for EA residents.

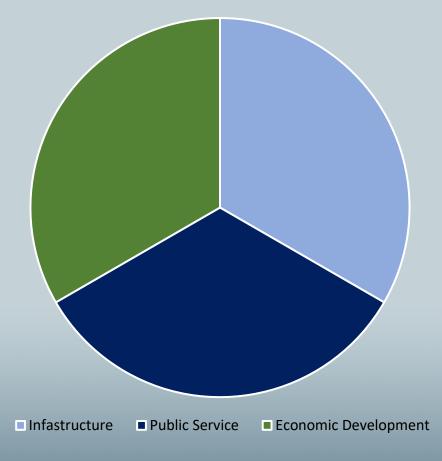




How Did We Get Here?







- Beyond the Aesthetics encapsulates all 3 service areas.
- Providing a depository helps eliminate illegal dumping and provides residents a site to recycle and dispose of items.
 - Items like metal, tree waste, furniture, wooden fence, construction and demolition debris, tires, etc.





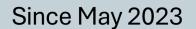


The East Aldine Neighborhood **Depository and Recycling Center** (EANDaRC)





"Friendly service and staff. I'm very happy to have a place to dispose of my heavy trash. Thank you!!" Sandra A.



Residents Served

Neighborhoods Served (out of 49)

Tires Collected



428

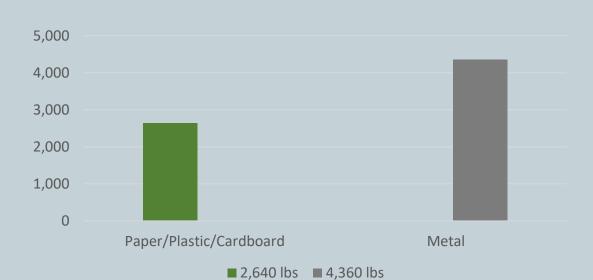


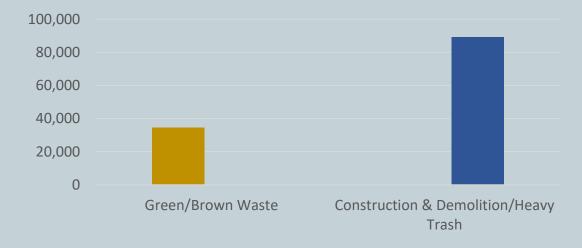


EANDARC BY THE NUMBERS



TOTAL POUNDS DISPOSED IN 5 MONTHS: 130,700 lbs. (Over 1,300 pounds per day)













EANDaRC is Making an Impact



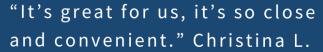






"Awesome experience! Staff was very friendly and helpful. Love that we have this service in our community now." Amy A.

"Staff is very nice and helpful. We are very happy to have this in our community." Sandra M.







Thank you! Questions?

Selina Sanchez, Director of Operations Selina Valdez, Recycling Coordinator East Aldine Management District















Impacts of Placemaking, Beyond Aesthetics

By UltraBarrio

Marcus Martinez, Assoc. AlA - Partner marcus@ultrabarrio.com

Amna Ansari, AIA, NCARB - Partner amna@ultrabarrio.com





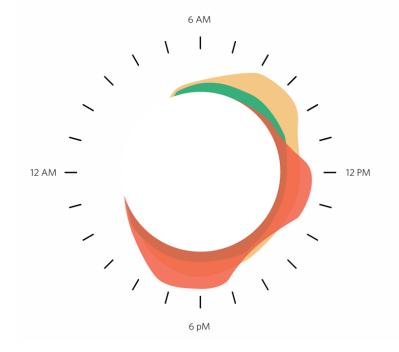








Endurance





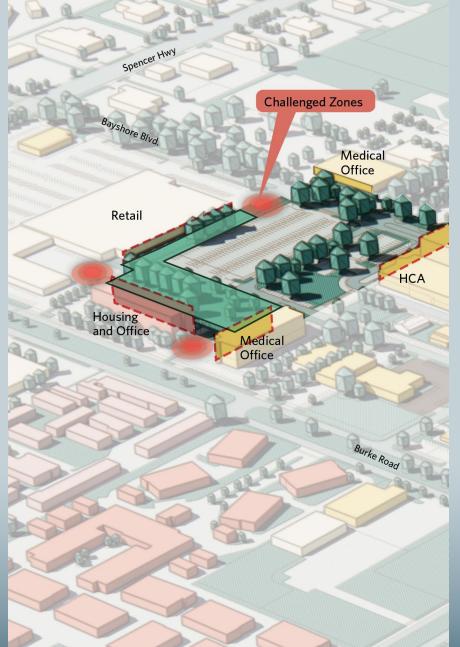
















Emergent Patterns

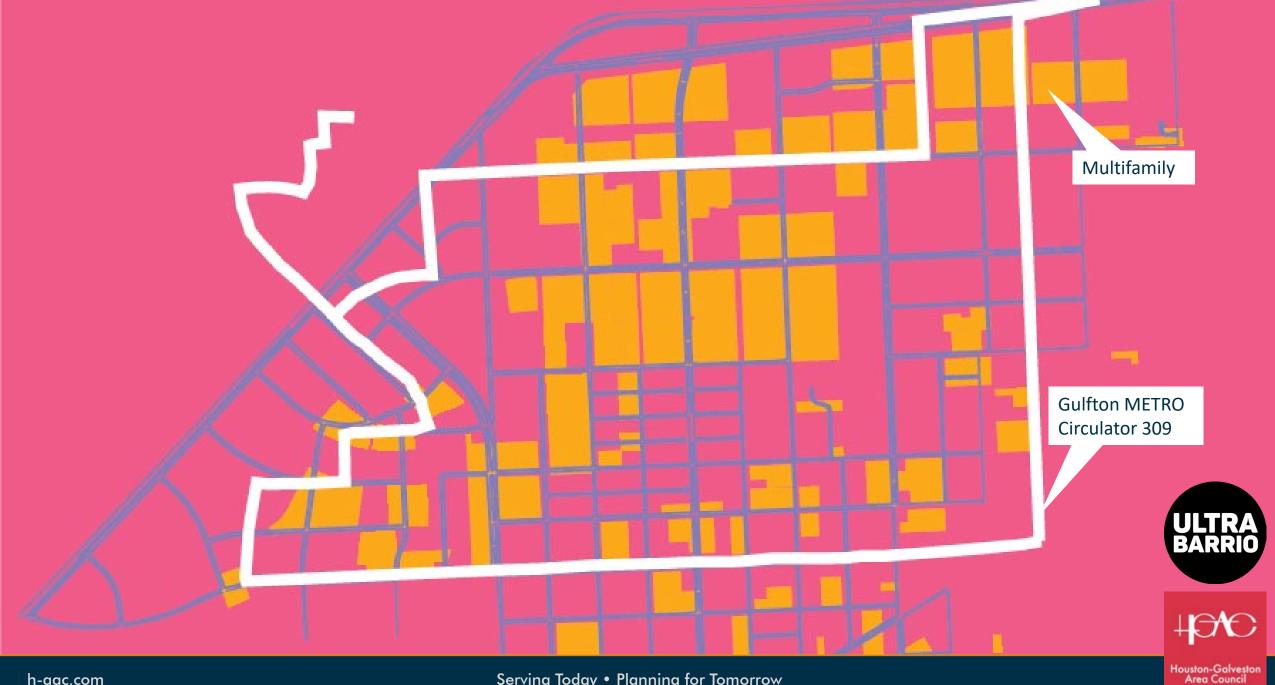
Research as raw material





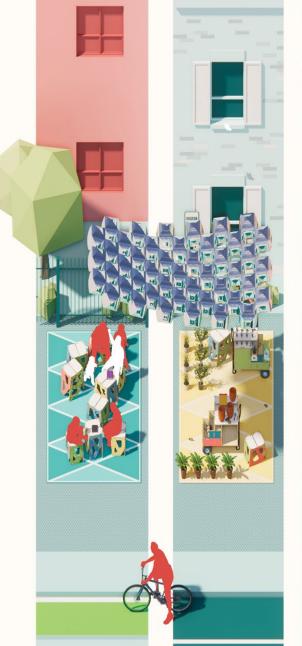


Houston-Galveston Area Council



LIFE CYCLE 1

Series of community outreach events such as Story Day, Culinary Day, Music Day, Go Green Day, and Movie Night are held to collect feedback on living conditions and serve as a tool to expose parents, children, and adults to the multitude of opportunities available to them.





METRO





EVENT SERIES
Six plus series of
community outreach
events will be held at
different locations within Gulfton.

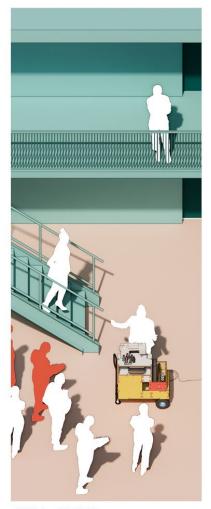
LIFE CYCLE 2





LOCAL SALES

Carts distributed to local entrepreneurs to help support Gulfton's micro-economy while recognizing the craft and talent of the community.



SKILL SHARE

Carts used as mobile classrooms for learning different trades and craft.



PARTS TO COMMUNITY

Seating and carpets distributed to residents, adding another layer of vibrancy to the community.



EDUCATIONAL CART

Carts distributed to organizations and public library to host various events such as Financing Day, Health and Wellness Day, Reading Party Day.











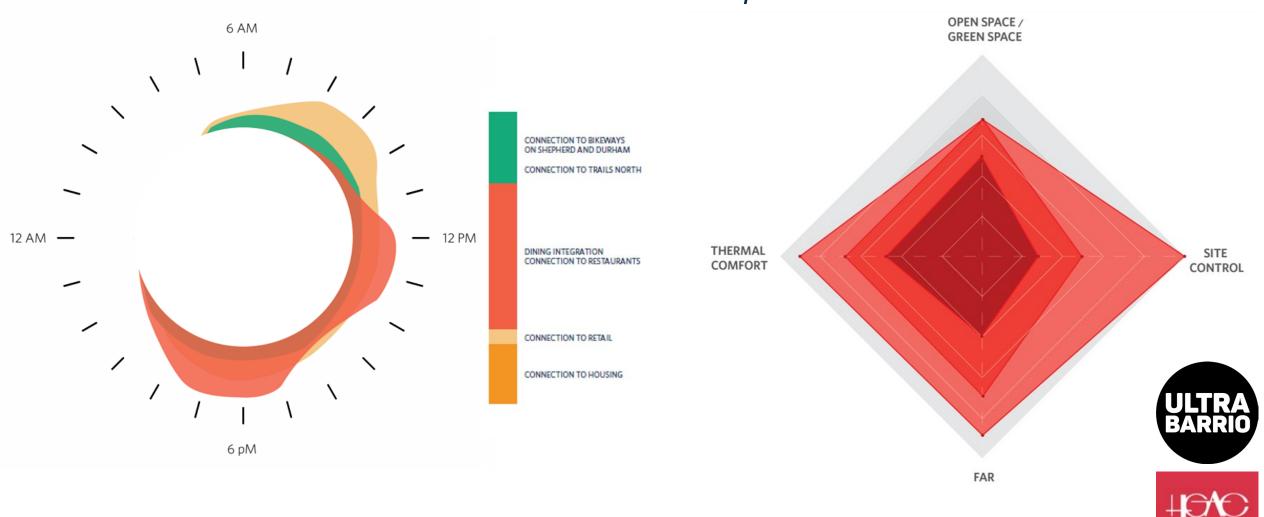
Urgent Fabrics

Research as raw material

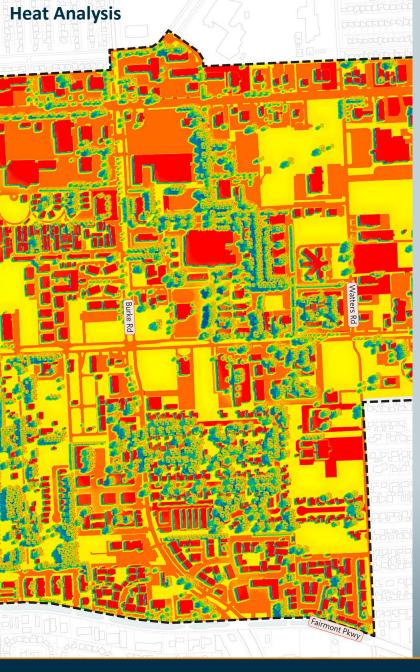


Activity Metrics

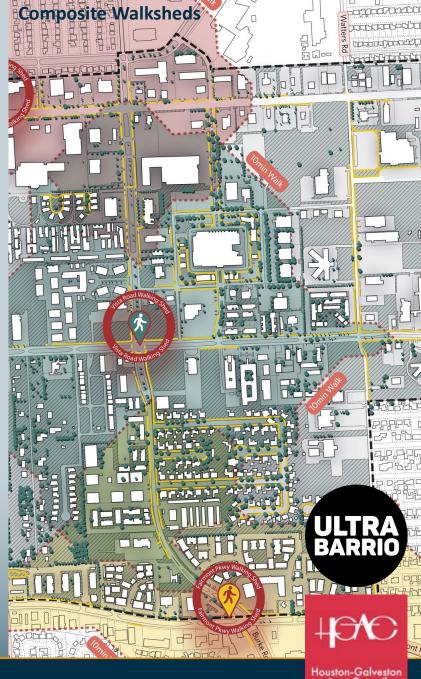
Economies of Active Spaces

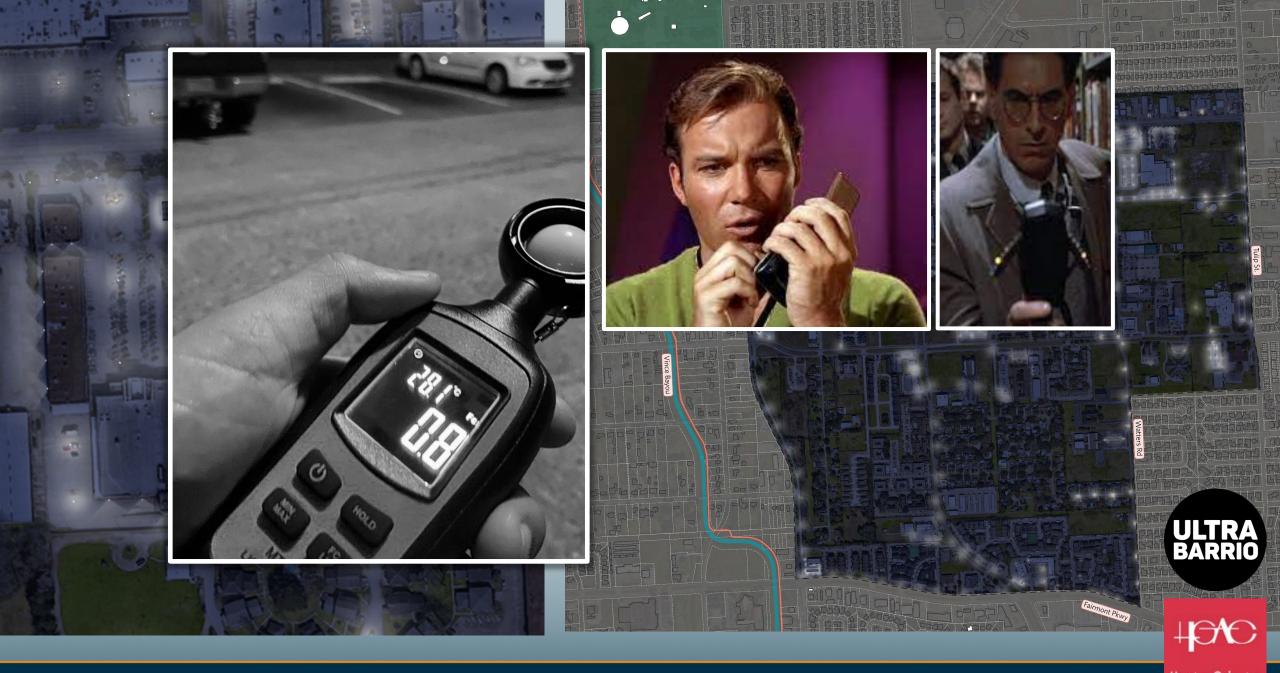






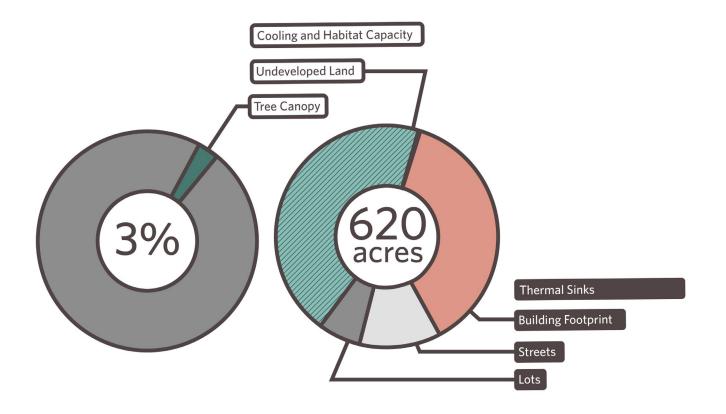






Performance Metrics

Existing Conditions as a Spring Point

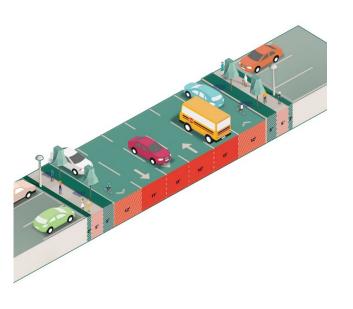




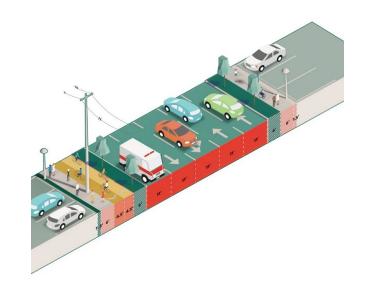


Performance Metrics

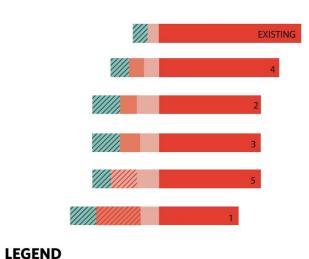
Existing Conditions as a Spring Point



EXISTING





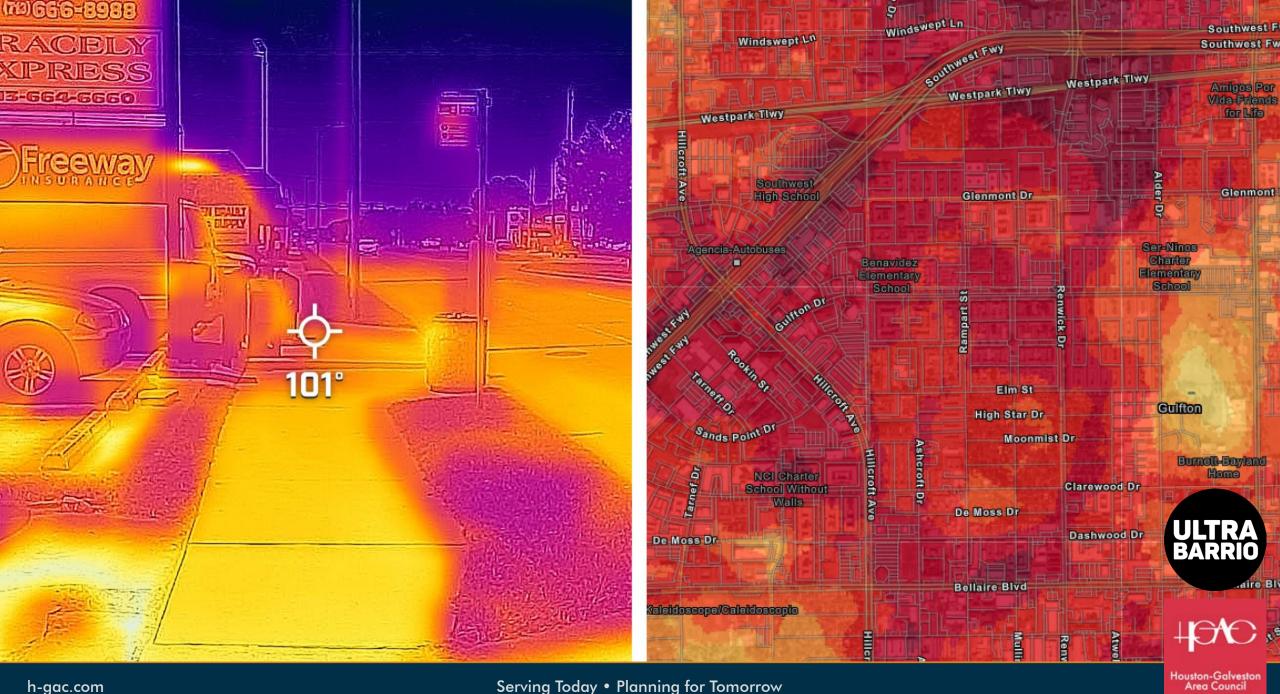










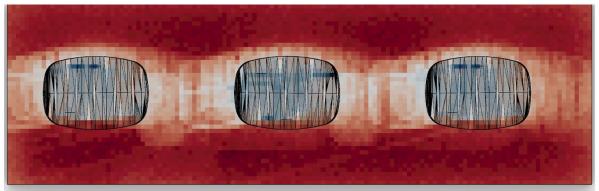




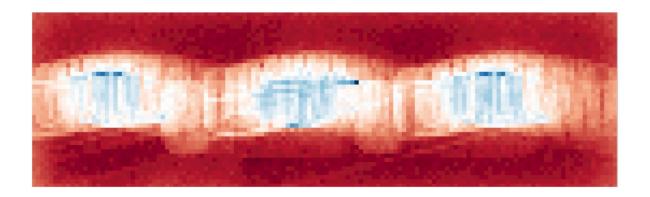


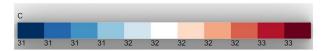


Houston-Galveston Area Council



Universal Thermal Climate Index 8/1 to 8/31 between 1 and 0 @1



















Generating Threads

Research as raw material





Connective Metrics

Spatial Adjacent and Time Adjacent

