

Public Meeting Oral Comments

I am Patrick Ezzell with the Greater East End Management District. I'm here in support of the Second Ward sidewalk and roundabout project at the corner of Jensen, Runnels, and Navigation Street. This project was developed in our center study through numerous community meetings to deal with an intersection that's over 200 feet to walk across. This is a location that's a nexus for transit because Runnels, Jensen and Navigation and Canal Street all have buses that go to downtown. That's one of the highest riderships. So this project rebuilds bus stops, it rebuilds sidewalks, it tightens the intersection up to a roundabout. Additionally, we're redeveloping Guadalupe Park as a trailhead for bicyclists. All the bicyclists from the Columbia Tap, the Harrisburg-Sunset Trail, they want to navigate their way to the Buffalo Bayou Trail System to go through this intersection so this intersection addresses a number of those issues. The Greater Houston Management District is a sponsor providing the match. A large portion of that match, more than half of it, is being reimbursed to the Management District by area property owners who are interested in this intersection happening. So we have lots of community support and, you know, we strongly recommend that this project be approved. If you're familiar with the intersection of Navigation, Canal, and Jensen, that's a large intersection that was built for heavy truck traffic back when it was all industrial area. At this point, it's pretty well transitioned and so this project builds a roundabout in that intersection that uses up less of the right of way than what's currently being used so it puts more sort of behind the curb space in the green space and it tightens up your -- the walking distance for pedestrians from over 200 feet to about 60 feet. And so it sort of enhances pedestrian, bicyclists, and mobility. You also move lots of traffic through a roundabout.

Patrick Ezzell (public meeting, 8-11-15)

My name is Tom Thompson. I'm a member of Bike Houston and I'm really impressed that everyone that has spoken here tonight has been in favor of the bike/ped infrastructure. And I hope that the TAG and the TPC and all the other alphabet take notice of that and the broad-based support for bike/ped projects. I ride all over town and all these projects are very worthwhile. I'm particularly enamored of the--both the East End, the roundabout project, and the Memorial Park down to San Felipe project because I ride those areas and I can tell you the access, particularly getting into Memorial Park from the south, is very difficult as it stands right now. So I wanted you to know, particularly endorse those two, but, I mean, every one of these--and I hope the folks that I mentioned are getting the message of the broad base of support for bike/ped infrastructure.

Tom Thompson (public meeting, 8-11-15)