

# CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD

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## ADA Compliant Sidewalks and Curb Ramps in Downtown Friendswood



# Friendswood Facts

- Population Approx. 41,118
- 14,850 Households
- Land Size 21.2 Square Miles
- Downtown 1.4 Miles in Length

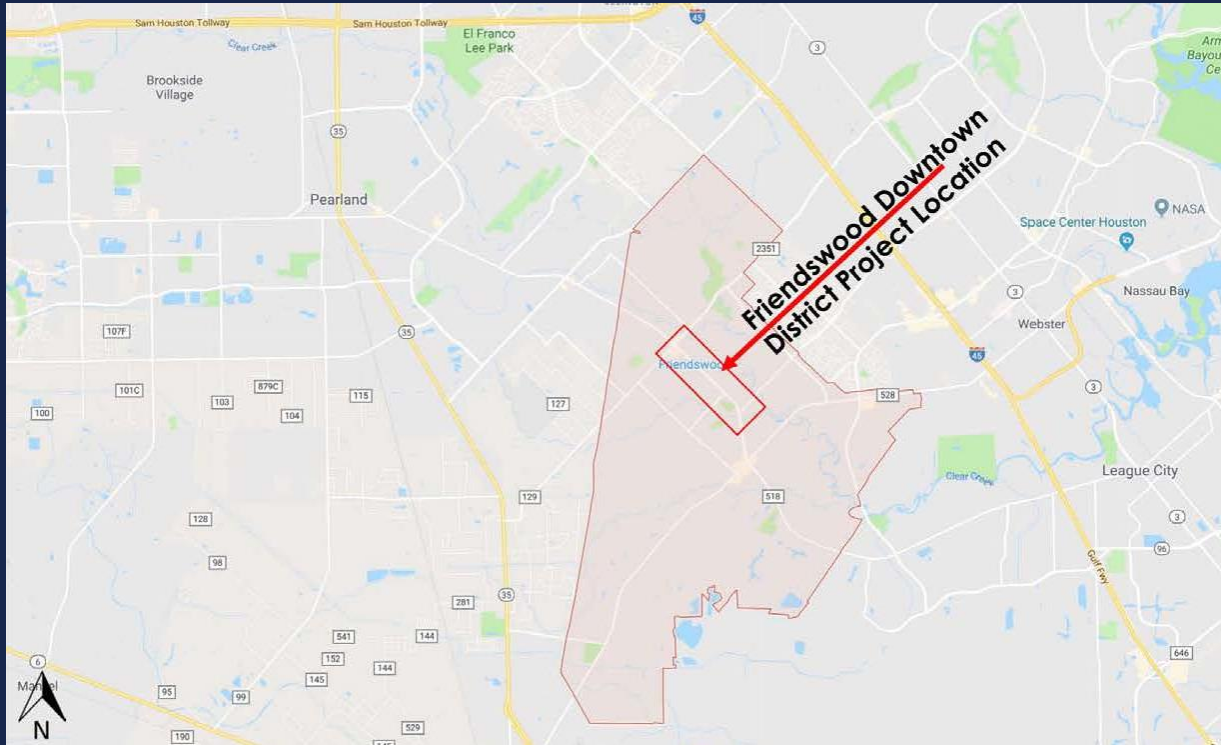


# Mayor and City Council

- |                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| • Mike Forman       | Mayor      |
| • Steve Rockey      | Position 1 |
| • Sally Branson     | Position 2 |
| • Trish Hanks       | Position 3 |
| • Robert J. Griffon | Position 4 |
| • John H. Scott     | Position 5 |
| • Brent Erenwert    | Position 6 |



# Downtown Focus – Mayor & Council



- June 2008 Council designates the Downtown District's Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ Number 1) waiving construction and impact fees.
- May 2016 Friendswood Downtown Economic Development Corporation created as result of voter approval.
- October 2018 City Council adopts the Friendswood Downtown District Improvement Plan. Implementing a guide for the FDEDC identifying future projects for Downtown.

# Friendswood Downtown Economic Development Corporation (FDEDC)

Dr. Patrick McGinnis

Arden “Trey” Hill

Paul Marx

Ron Cox

Dr. Rebecca Hillenburg

Elmer “Bubba” Johnson, Jr.

Alton Todd

President

Vice President

Sec./Treasurer

Board Member

Board Member

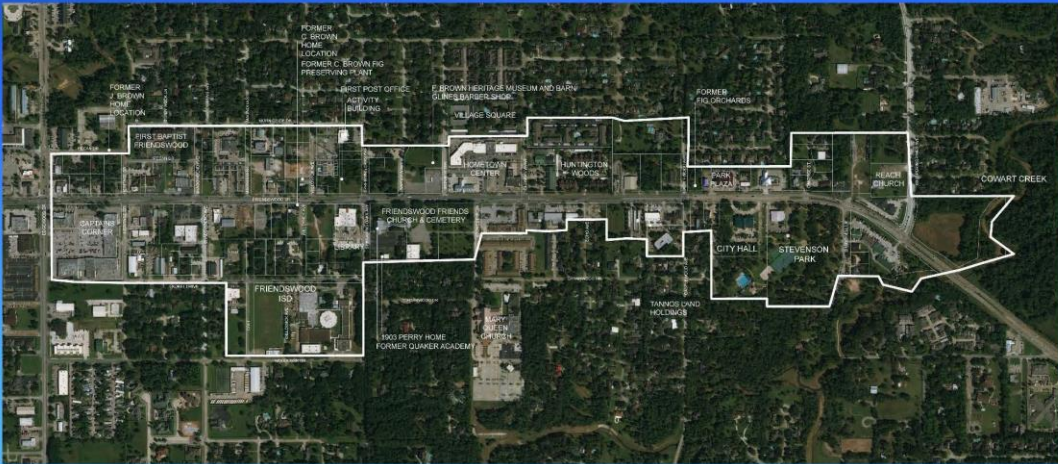
Board Member

Board Member





# Downtown Focus – The FDEDC



# Friendswood Downtown District Improvement Plan



*Lauren Griffith Associates*

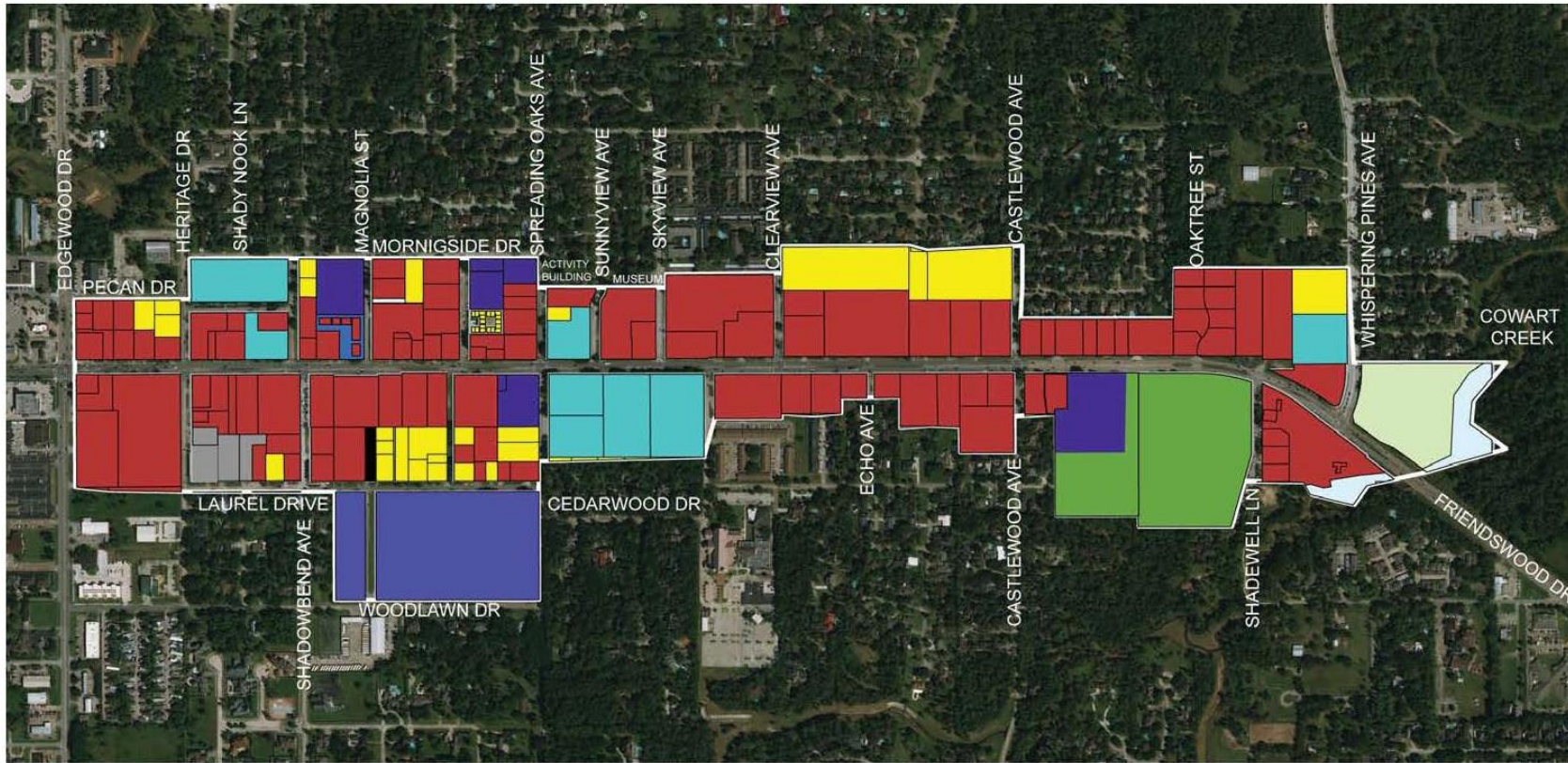


CORE DESIGN STUDIO



- May 2016 Creation of Type B Economic Development Program
- Utilizes 1/8 cent sales and use tax to promote new or expanded business enterprises in downtown area.
- Includes streets, infrastructure, sidewalks, pedestrian amenities and other related public improvements along with maintenance and operations expenses.
- Established improvement plan overview and schedule while expanding public involvement.

# Downtown District Today



## Legend

Civic/Community	Church
Park	Light Industrial
Commercial	Open Space
Residential	Flood Plain



# Always Have A Plan

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD

"where friendship is a way of life"

Prepared by

Clovis Heimsath Associates, AIA

Architects/Planners

January 9, 1969

*Lauren Griffith Associates  
Landscape Architecture and Planning*



Friendswood Downtown District  
Improvement Plan





# Funding – Transportation Improvement Projects

- October 31, 2018 applied unsuccessfully for H-GAC TIP Call for Projects.

## MEETING OUTLINE August 21, 2018

1. Introductions
2. Downtown Friendswood Project Background
3. Potential TIP Project and Draft Cost Estimate
4. Discussion



City of Friendswood – Potential TIP Application Discussion

Lauren Griffith Associates



Existing Conditions - Sidewalks



Lauren Griffith Associates





# Existing Conditions





# Existing Conditions





# Existing Conditions



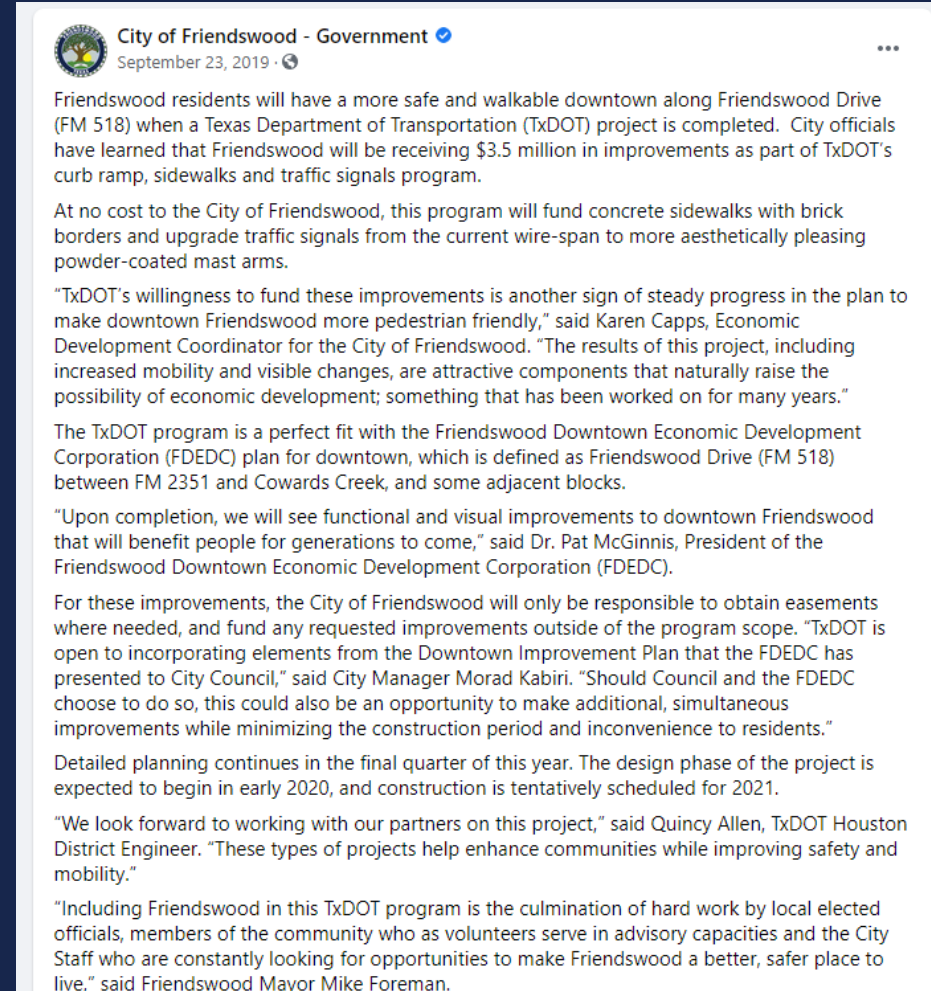
# Funding Sources


- Have A Plan
- Apply Everywhere Possible



# Funding Source – TXDOT Curb Ramp Program

- October 31, 2018 Applied unsuccessfully for TIP funding.
- August 21, 2019 – TXDOT gauges interest.
- September 16, 2019 Kick-off meeting \*
- October 24, 2019 Scoping Meeting



 **City of Friendswood - Government** ✓  
September 23, 2019 · 🌐

Friendswood residents will have a more safe and walkable downtown along Friendswood Drive (FM 518) when a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) project is completed. City officials have learned that Friendswood will be receiving \$3.5 million in improvements as part of TxDOT's curb ramp, sidewalks and traffic signals program.

At no cost to the City of Friendswood, this program will fund concrete sidewalks with brick borders and upgrade traffic signals from the current wire-span to more aesthetically pleasing powder-coated mast arms.

"TxDOT's willingness to fund these improvements is another sign of steady progress in the plan to make downtown Friendswood more pedestrian friendly," said Karen Capps, Economic Development Coordinator for the City of Friendswood. "The results of this project, including increased mobility and visible changes, are attractive components that naturally raise the possibility of economic development; something that has been worked on for many years."

The TxDOT program is a perfect fit with the Friendswood Downtown Economic Development Corporation (FDEDC) plan for downtown, which is defined as Friendswood Drive (FM 518) between FM 2351 and Cowards Creek, and some adjacent blocks.

"Upon completion, we will see functional and visual improvements to downtown Friendswood that will benefit people for generations to come," said Dr. Pat McGinnis, President of the Friendswood Downtown Economic Development Corporation (FDEDC).

For these improvements, the City of Friendswood will only be responsible to obtain easements where needed, and fund any requested improvements outside of the program scope. "TxDOT is open to incorporating elements from the Downtown Improvement Plan that the FDEDC has presented to City Council," said City Manager Morad Kabiri. "Should Council and the FDEDC choose to do so, this could also be an opportunity to make additional, simultaneous improvements while minimizing the construction period and inconvenience to residents."

Detailed planning continues in the final quarter of this year. The design phase of the project is expected to begin in early 2020, and construction is tentatively scheduled for 2021.

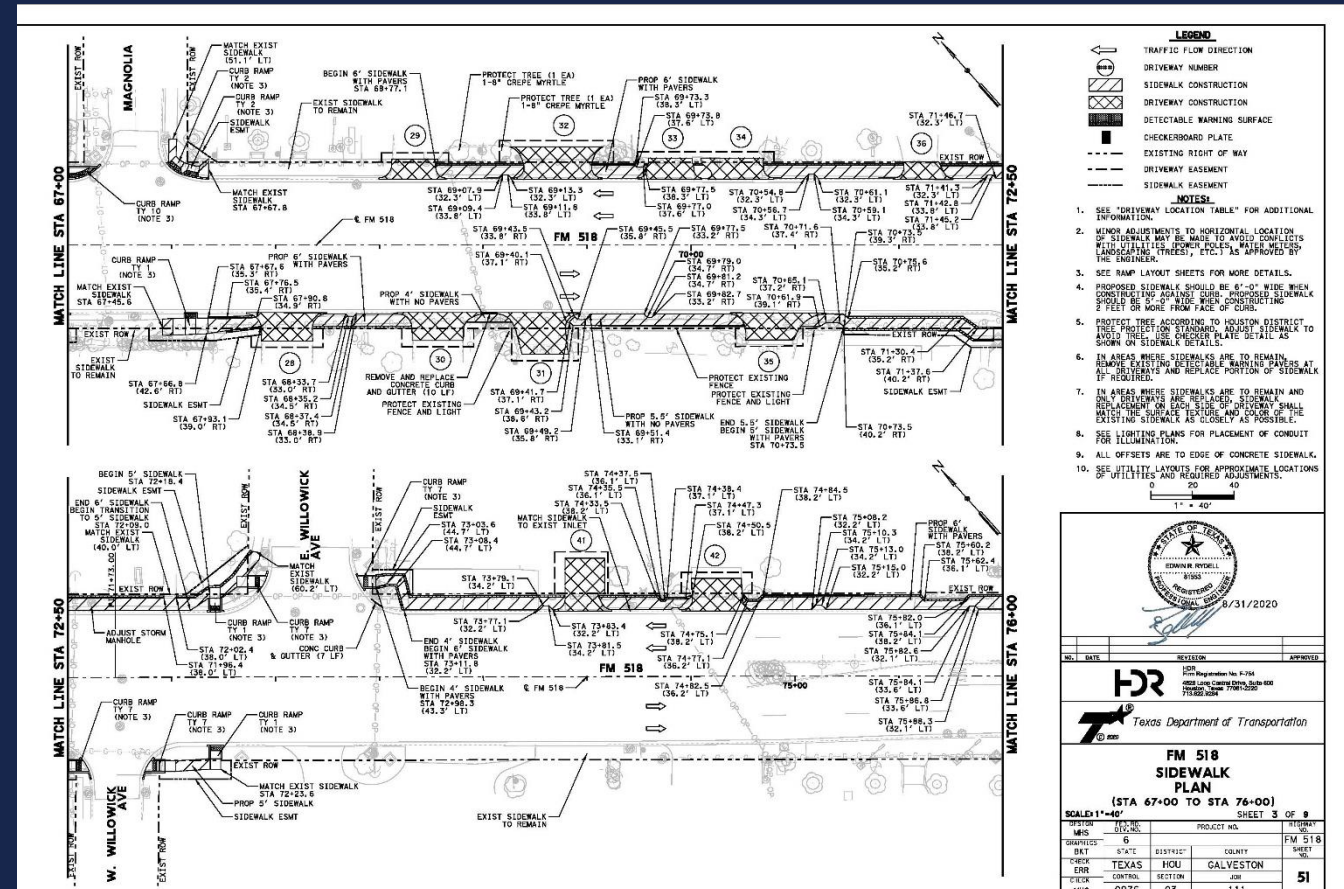
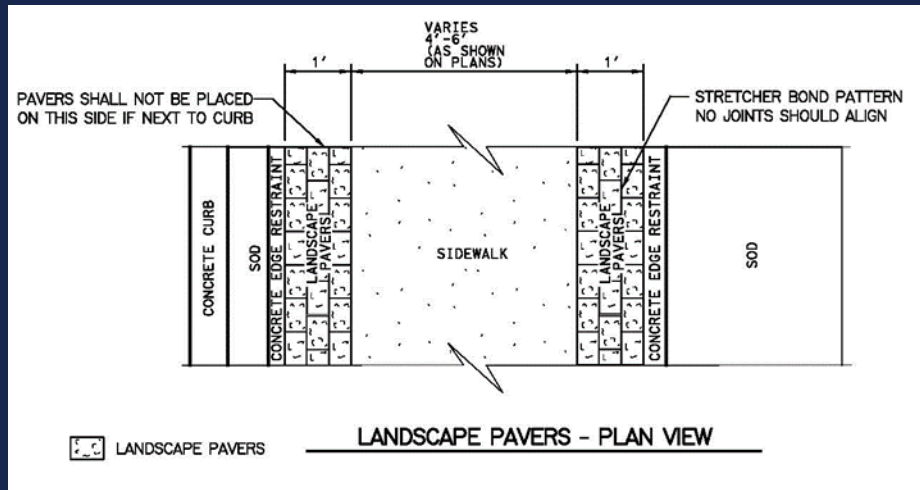
"We look forward to working with our partners on this project," said Quincy Allen, TxDOT Houston District Engineer. "These types of projects help enhance communities while improving safety and mobility."

"Including Friendswood in this TxDOT program is the culmination of hard work by local elected officials, members of the community who as volunteers serve in advisory capacities and the City Staff who are constantly looking for opportunities to make Friendswood a better, safer place to live," said Friendswood Mayor Mike Foreman.

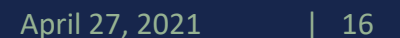


# TXDOT Curbs Ramp Program

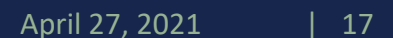
- 2020 saw completion of Environmental, Surveying & Engineering.



- Construction of pedestrian infrastructure over 2.8 miles.
- City of Friendswood responsible for obtaining easements and future maintenance.



- February 2021 Project Let to Contract.
- May 2021 Project Start
- December 2021 Estimated Project Completion





# Questions?

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