



CITY OF HOUSTON

Planning and Development

Sylvester Turner

Mayor

Patrick Walsh, P. E.
Director
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

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October 17, 2018

Mr. Stephen Wright
Houston Parks and Recreation Department
2999 South Wayside
Houston, TX 77023

Re: 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Call for Projects – **City of Houston**
Concurrence

Dear Director Wright:


The City of Houston Review Committee has reviewed Hermann Park Conservancy's application for TIP funding to construct the Hermann Park Bike Network. The Review Committee will notify H-GAC that the conceptual design is consistent with City guidelines and plans.

Please be advised that projects will be subject to City of Houston final design review and approval prior to construction. Any non-standard improvements in city right-of-way will require a maintenance agreement prior to construction. Sponsors awarded federal funding should be prepared to coordinate design and construction through Houston Public Works as a local let contract.

The staff of both departments is prepared to continue working with you during the project development process. Please contact Jennifer Ostlind at (832) 393-6569 or via email at jennifer.ostlind@houstontx.gov or Gary Hill at (832) 395-3082 or via email at gary.hill@houstontx.gov if you have any questions or require additional guidance.

Sincerely,


Margaret Wallace Brown
Acting Director
Planning & Development Department


Carol Ellinger Haddock, P.E.
Director
Houston Public Works

MWB:JO/smb

c: Maureen Crocker, Assistant Director, Houston Public Works
Jeff Weatherford, Deputy Director, Houston Public Works
Hermann Park Conservancy



30 October 2018

Alan Clark
Director of Transportation Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons, Suite 120
Houston, Texas 77027

Dear Alan,

The Texas Medical Center (TMC) fully supports Hermann Park Conservancy's Hermann Park Bike Network project presented for the 2018 TIP Call for Projects.

As a park neighbor, we believe the proposed bike path connections through Hermann Park are vital to connecting major bike networks together, including the ever-growing TMC campus, via both on-street and off-street bike trails. We have been coordinating with Hermann Park Conservancy to connect our bike network and ensure we are both integrated into the overall Houston Bike Plan.

TMC is the largest medical center in the world, serving more than 10 million patient visits each year and we proudly employ over 110,000 people who live in Houston. Many of our employees commute via bike to and from TMC each day.

TMC is also working on developing a new translational research campus, TMC3, which will be another link in the chain of a major innovation investments in Houston from downtown, to the Midtown Innovation District that Rice University is working on, to the main TMC campus and TMC3 – all connecting through Hermann Park. The creation of safe and easily connected bike trails is integral to achieve the overall vision of the innovation district and commuter biking in Houston. Hermann Park is a central link in the overall bike network, so TMC fully supports TIP funding for this important project.

TMC supports the work of the Conservancy and applauds its efforts toward increasing the quality of life in Houston and being part of a greater plan for this City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abbey Roberson".

Abbey Roberson

Texas Medical Center
Vice President of Planning

RICE UNIVERSITY

KEVIN E. KIRBY
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION

Oct. 26, 2018

Alan Clark
Director of Transportation Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons, Suite 120
Houston, Texas 77027

Dear Alan,

Rice University fully supports Hermann Park Conservancy's Hermann Park Bike Network project, being presented to HGAC in response to its 2018 Traffic Improvement Plan Call for Projects.

As a park neighbor, Rice University believes the proposed bike path connections through Hermann Park are vital to important goal of knitting major Houston bike networks together, including those that run to and through the Rice campus, the Texas Medical Center and the central business district, and that the proposed trails will help to integrate all of these networks more fully into the overall Houston Bike Plan. This continuity is crucial to multiple organizations' collective efforts to make our city safer and more connected for pedestrians and bikers.

In support of the recommendations of Mayor Turner's Technology and Innovation Task Force, Rice University has embarked on a major project to create an Innovation district that will reimagine a multi-acre land parcel in Houston's Midtown neighborhood, approximately 1.7 miles from Hermann Park and Rice's campus, 2 miles from the Texas Medical Center, and just over 2 miles from Houston's central business district. This entire corridor is known as the Houston Innovation Corridor and is served by METRORail's Main Street Red Line and a currently fragmented system of bike lanes. Rice University is heavily investing in the redesign of this area and supports all efforts to encourage connectivity between technology innovation hubs along the innovation corridor via transit and bikeways. Technology developments of this kind will only attract more knowledge workers and innovation industries to Houston, and support of the Hermann Park Bike Network supports this by helping to realize the vision of the overall Houston Bike Plan.

Rice University supports the work of the Hermann Park Conservancy and applauds its efforts toward increasing the quality of life in Houston and being part of a greater plan for this city's future.

Cordially yours,



Kevin E. Kirby

Copies:

The Hon. Ellen Cohen, Mayor Pro Tem. of Houston, City Council Member District C
The Hon. David Robinson, Houston City Council Member At-Large, Transportation Policy Council Vice Chair
The Hon. Amanda Edwards, Houston City Council Member At-Large, Mayor's Technology and Innovation Task Force



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August 14, 2018

Mr. Alan Clark
Director of Transportation Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, TX 77227-2777

Re: Support for 2018 H-GAC TIP Submission for Hermann Park Bike Network

Dear Alan,

As Executive of BikeHouston I would like to lend my support to the Hermann Park Conservancy to complete the Hermann Park Bike Network.

These improvements are the culmination of a planning effort aimed at improving bicycle, pedestrian, and transit connectivity to and from Hermann Park. BikeHouston promotes connections to Hermann Park from the Museum Park Neighborhood, Third Ward, Brays Bayou Trails, Texas Medical Center and Rice University.

These are significant projects because they will improve safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other alternative mode users by providing safe and direct access to the Park along dedicated or otherwise marked connections. The projects also eliminate several barriers and take into account the dangerous major thoroughfare crossings that have resulted in bicycle and pedestrian fatalities – most recently on Main Street at the Sunset Boulevard/Hermann Park/METRO light rail station.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at 713-824-6808.

Sincerely,

Clark Martinson
Executive Director
BikeHouston



October 28, 2018

Alan Clark
Director of Transportation Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons, Suite 120
Houston, Texas 77027

Dear Alan,

The Museum Park Super Neighborhood fully and enthusiastically supports Hermann Park Conservancy's Hermann Park Bike Network project presented for the 2018 TIP Call for Projects.

Hermann Park is located in the Museum Park Super Neighborhood and is a vibrant part of the community offering beautiful scenery, walking and jogging trails, gardens, and countless other amenities. All of the improvements made to Hermann Park are vital to the continued growth and sustainable development directed towards enhancing quality of life in Houston.

The Museum Park Super Neighborhood is focused on expanding pedestrian and bike connectivity in the neighborhood and surrounding area. Hermann Park is a vital link connecting Downtown, Midtown, Museum Park, and TMC; serving to create a useable commuting and leisure bike network for Houstonians. We believe that the proposed bike trails within the Park serve as major connections to the greater Houston Bike Plan and will fill in missing links that are vital for the overall connectivity, safety, and ultimately the success of the bike network city-wide, including the many destinations, businesses, and residents in our neighborhood. The Park is uniquely positioned in the middle of existing and planned trails, major transit centers, bustling neighborhoods, mega employment centers, and the ever developing 150 miles of trails along Houston's bayou systems, so the creation of these trails serve as crucial links to the areas around the Park and are necessary to the overall success of the bike network. The synergy of the Conservancy's work and ours can be transformational.

The Museum Park Super Neighborhood appreciates and supports the work of Hermann Park Conservancy and respectfully requests your consideration of furthering their efforts towards increasing the quality of life in Houston through their 2018 TIP Call for Projects application.

Best regards,

Kathleen O'Reilly

Kathleen O'Reilly, President
713.303.8938
Museum Park, Inc.
www.museumparksn.org



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Ex-officio

Steve Wright
Rick Dewees

President

Doreen Stoller

October 10, 2018

Steve Wright

Director

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

2999 South Wayside Drive

Houston, Texas 77023

Dear Steve,

Please accept this letter as an official commitment from Hermann Park Conservancy to provide the required 20% cost share for the Hermann Park Bike Network project being nominated for the 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Call. If the project is selected for funding, the Conservancy will enter into a funding and project management agreement with the City of Houston for the match and any cost overruns.

The Hermann Park Bike Network project is vital to connecting major bike networks together, including Texas Medical Center and downtown, via bike trails and integrate into the overall Houston Bike Plan.

Sincerely,

Doreen Stoller

President, Hermann Park Conservancy

