

Crestwood / Glen Cove Neighborhood News



A Publication of Crestwood Civic Club

Volume 14, Issue 2

The City has been working on a Houston Bikeways Plan for about a year. The Blossom bike lanes that you have probably heard about were to be a part of that plan.

This bike plan should be before City Council before the end of the year for adoption. This will be the last step before the plan starts being implemented in street designs.

As we learned earlier this year, bikeway planning can conflict with a neighborhood's interests, and Crest-

wood is not unique in that respect.

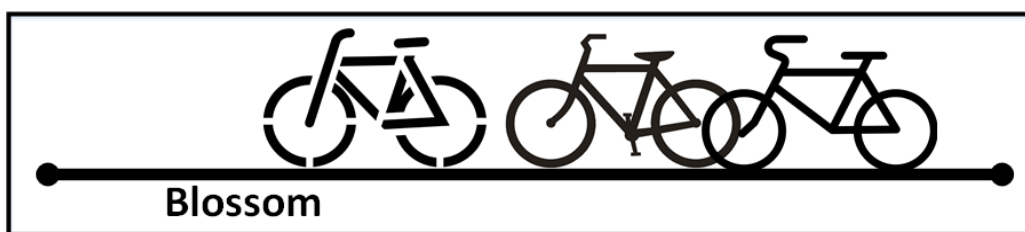
Please plan on attending the neighborhood meeting and discussing the emerging bike plan for our city.

Steven Vealey, with Superneighborhood 22, will be at the meeting to tell us about what's happening in the neighborhoods east of our neighborhood.

And Adrian Shelley, with Air Alliance Houston, will also give a presentation about air quality along the Washington Avenue corridor.

In this issue:

Neighborhood Meeting	1
City Bike Plan Update	2,3
Street Right-of-Way	4
Club Information	5

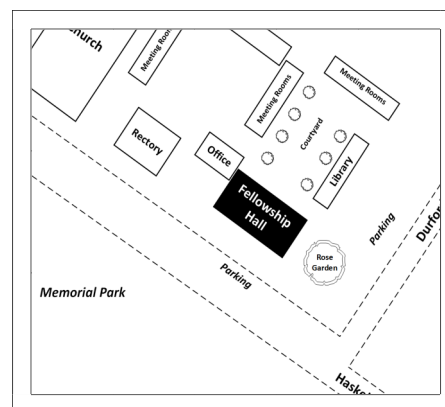


All-Neighborhood Meeting is October 4th, 7pm !

October 2016						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Residents are invited to our next All-Neighborhood Meeting to be held Tuesday, October 4 at the Fellowship Hall at St Theresa Catholic Church. The meeting will begin at 7pm.

The Fall meeting has been moved forward due to scheduling conflicts for the Fellowship Hall.



The Houston Bike Plan

by Mike VanDusen

Proponents of the Houston Bike Plan have been working on expanding the City's 500 miles of bikeways to about 1,800, and making those bikeways friendlier to occasional cyclists. City departments have drafted changes to municipal code that allows oversight and implementation of the plan, similar to the way thoroughfares and streets are engineered.

The plan is extensive, and calls for the implementation of three types of bikeways: 1) Shared On-Street, 2) Dedicated On-Street, and 3) Off-Street. Shared On-Street is the current type of bikeway on Blossom. Dedicated On-Street is the cycle track on Lamar in downtown Houston. And Off-Street are the paths along Buffalo Bayou. Please note that the color of the lines on the maps indicate the bikeway type.

The plan is divided into short-term opportunities of 5 years or less, and a longer term vision. The budget for the short-term opportunities is \$27-\$51M. But

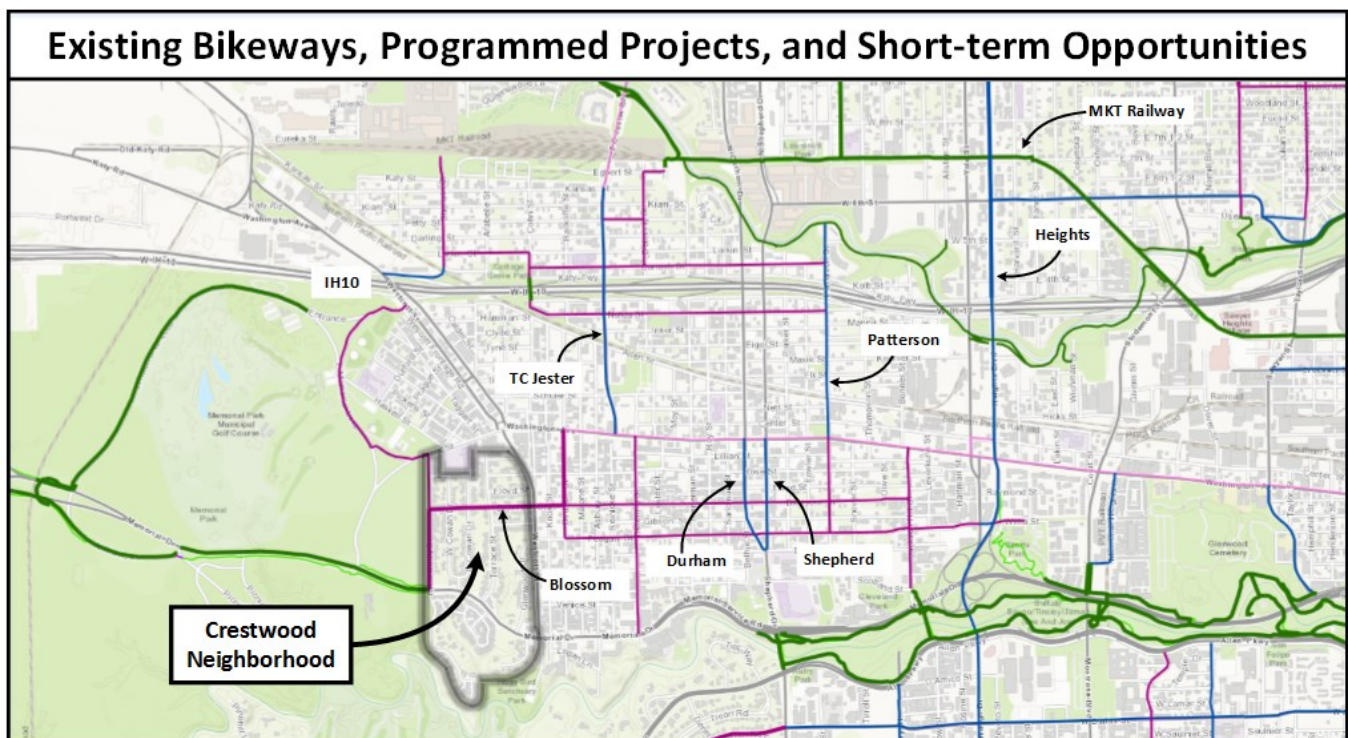


Color-coded Bikeway Types

the long-term components are \$235-\$382M.

There are also programmed projects that have already been budgeted as capital improvement projects, and two exist near our neighborhood. They are Shepherd/Durham and TC Jester, and are scheduled to be implemented within the next 2 years as dedicated on-street bikeways.

Below is a map of existing bikeways, and those expected within the next 5 years.



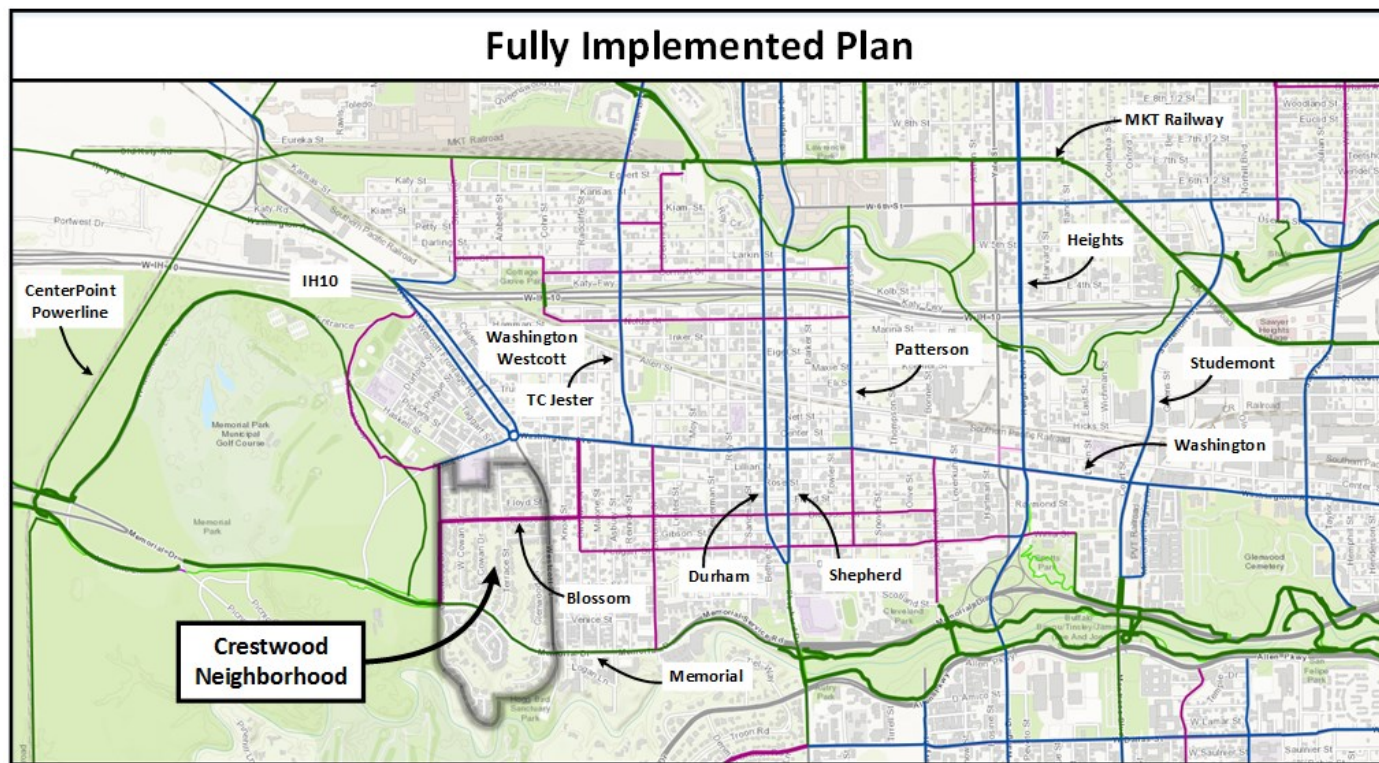
The Houston Bike Plan, cont.

The majority of the bikeways, between Buffalo and White Oak Bayous, in the 5-year map don't currently exist. The new bikeways are designed to allow more cycling within the Washington Avenue corridor, and to make it easier for cyclist to

move between Heights, the corridor, and Montrose neighborhoods. Most of these are new shared on-street bikeways, and cost between \$10K-\$140K/mi to implement.

But it is important to note that Blossom is the only design-

nated bikeway access to Memorial Park for cyclists east of our neighborhood! It is not until segments of the fully implemented plan are in place that additional access to the park will become available.



The fully implemented plan shows bikeway access to the park along Memorial, Washington/Arnot, Washington/Westcott, and the CenterPoint powerline right-of-way. These are dedicated on-street and off-street bikeways, costing \$90K-\$210K/mi and \$600K-\$1.7M/mi respectively.

The cost of these bikeways are why they are shown in the plan as future segments with no projected implementation schedules. The CenterPoint bikeway requires a

light bridge be built across IH-10, and the Memorial bikeway requires a wide multi-use sidewalk built along the street between Shepherd and Crestwood.

The risk to our neighborhood is that short-term plan segments are implemented, increasing cycling traffic in the Washington Avenue corridor, and Blossom remains the only bikeway access to the park.

The issues discussed here are not unique to our neighborhood. You

are encouraged to go to the bike plan website (<http://houstonbikeplan.org/final-report-and-maps>) and look at the plan. The Interactive Map is a good tool. The plan touches many streets in Houston that you may use regularly. The map will show how you might be affected as the plan is implemented.



The Street Right-of-Way

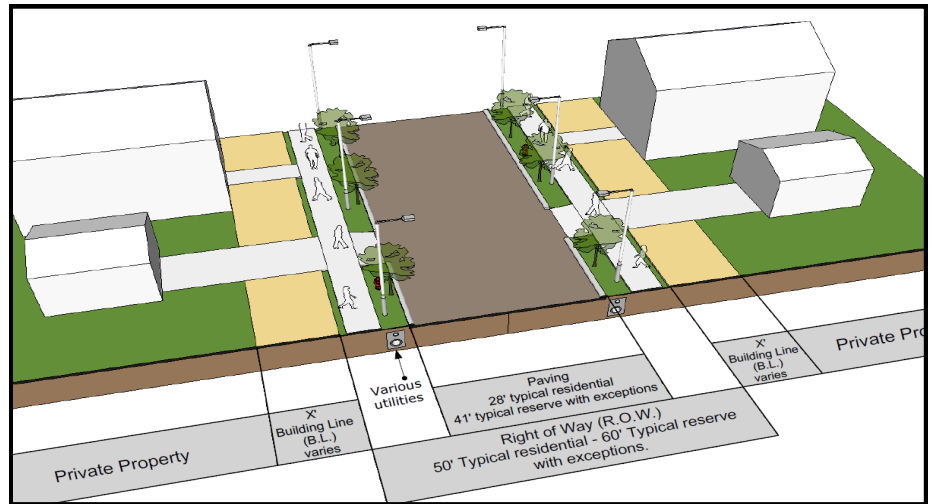
by Mike VanDusen

In the past, residents have asked me what they can put or plant in the front of their home near the curb. This article will hopefully answer some of those questions.

The drawing on the top-right shows a typical streetscape and indicates the street right-of-way (ROW). The ROW includes the street and curb, a sidewalk, and utilities, and is owned by the City. The residential property abuts the ROW, and is usually 1-2 ft on the house side of the sidewalk, if one is present. Since the ROW width of streets in our neighborhood is usually 60 ft, this means that the ROW extends about 30 ft from the center of the street into a yard.

City municipal code requires homeowners to maintain the ROW from the curb to the property line, and allows an owner to place landscaping soft and hardscape in the ROW. Guidelines allow trees, ground-cover, raised flowerbeds, and hardscape, such as stones, to be placed in the ROW.

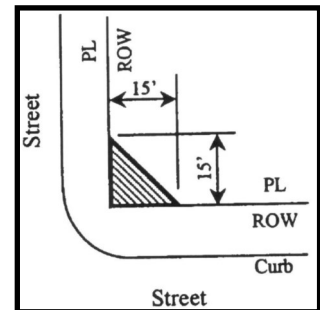
There are some guidelines the



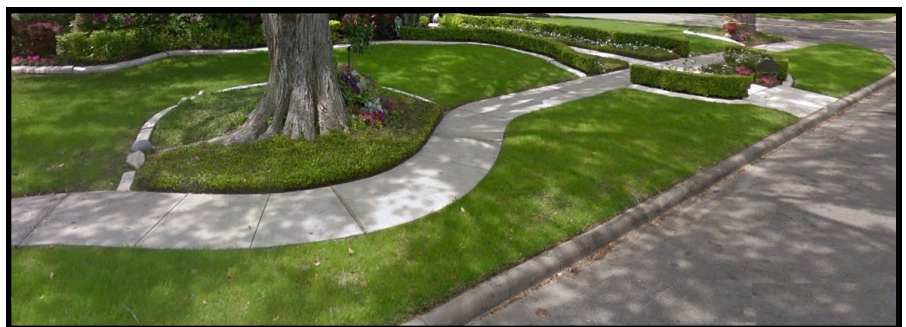
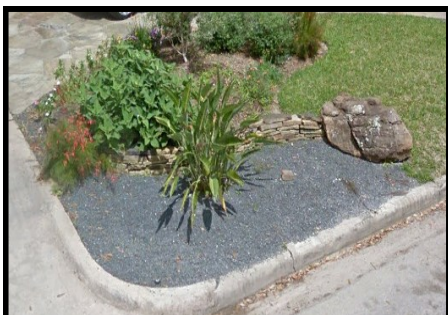
City would like homeowners to follow when creating a streetscape.

- 1) Raised beds and hardscape should be placed a few feet from the back of the curb. This allows visitors to open passenger vehicle doors when visiting.
- 2) Trees in the ROW are protected. A homeowner is required to obtain a permit from the City before removing a ROW tree.
- 3) Sidewalks are required to be clear of vegetation vertically and horizontally that would impede a pedestrian.

Residents who live on corner lots are required to maintain a visible line of sight at the corner of their property. This is a safety issue for motorists.



Landscaping is permitted at the corner of a property, but it should be no more than 1-2 ft tall, and not obscure a driver's view of oncoming cross-traffic.



Board Members

President	Mike VanDusen	(713) 864-0221	president@crestwoodglencove.org
Treasurer	Kathy Bernobich		treasurer@crestwoodglencove.org
Secretary	- Open -		secretary@crestwoodglencove.org
Board Member	Lon Stern		board2@crestwoodglencove.org
Board Member	Pete Pavluk		board4@crestwoodglencove.org
Board Member	Suneeta Ranjwani		board5@crestwoodglencove.org
Board Member	Christine Kirschner		board3@crestwoodglencove.org
Board Member	Tom Tynan		board1@crestwoodglencove.org
Architecture Committee Liaisons	Gail Baxter Lon Stern Alan Svoboda Mike VanDusen	(713) 864-0221	architecture@crestwoodglencove.org



Blockheads

Street	Blockhead	Email Address
Arnot, Byway, Haskell	Carole Lopez	Arnot.Byway.Haskell@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Blossom	Pilar Schneider	Blossom@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Camellia	Sharon Choens	Camellia@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Crestwood, NOM	Marilyn Ho	Crestwood.North@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Crestwood, SOM	Joni Landon	Crestwood.South@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
East Cowan, NOB	Cherrill Farnsworth	ECowan.North@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
East Cowan, SOB	JoAnn Owens	ECowan.South@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Feagan	Anne Coles	Feagan@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Floyd	Jennifer Briscoe	Floyd@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Glencove	Katy Emde	Glencove@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Glenwood	Delana Bice	Glenwood@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Memorial	Hande Castiglione	Memorial@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Rose	Ofelia Mayo	Rose@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Terrace, NOB	Suzie Williams	Terrace.North@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
Terrace, SOB	Mary Christ	Terrace.South@CrestwoodGlenCove.org
West Cowan	Rebecca Marvil	WCowan@CrestwoodGlenCove.org

Crestwood Civic Club

P.O. Box 131594
Houston, Texas 77219-1594

email: info@crestwoodglencove.org

www.crestwoodglencove.org

Happy, Healthy, and Wholesome

