# **2024 Bike The Woodlands Annual Meeting**

BikeTheWoodlands.org



6:00-6:20 PM Social

6:20-7:00 PM Presentation and Q&A

7:00-7:30 PM Wrap-Up, Volunteer Sign-Up, and Social



### **Bike The Woodlands Coalition**

#### Mission

• Build a better community through bicycling

#### Vision

- Convenient, safe, with a well-planned bicycling infrastructure
- Integral part of a transportation system with protected bike lanes, signage, etc.
- Support for all facets of cycling: fitness, recreation, and transportation
- Appreciated as economic contributor that fosters stronger community connections

#### Goals

- **Promote Safety:** with resources for safe riding for both adults and children
- Improve Infrastructure: for safe, convenient, and equitable cycling
- Build Community: to get more people cycling and cultivate mutual respect among cyclists and non-cyclists



#### **Bike The Woodlands Coalition**

**Activities:** We work with residents and local leadership to promote safety, improve infrastructure, and build community. We host events, share helpful resources, and raise awareness about key local issues.

#### Started in 2009:

- Proposed to The Woodlands to get Bicycle Friendly Community status
- Bronze Level since about 2010; first suburban community in Texas to earn Bicycle Friendly designation

**Governance:** Non-profit with volunteer board of directors

**Area:** The Woodlands, south Montgomery County, north Harris County



#### **Current Board Members**

Tricia Monticello Kievlan, President

**CT Gooding**, Vice President

Yan Wang, Treasurer

John Martin

Cynthia Ullman

John Zgourides



#### What have we done in the past?



#### **Past Achievements**

- Contributed to the 2016 Bike Pedestrian Master Plan
- Developed extensive maps of local landmarks (public art!) and areas where roadways need improvement
- Maintain a website with information about local rides, local long-term transportation plans, bike recycling, and safety
- Originated Bike to Work Day and Bike Month in The Woodlands
- Develop and publish surveys including candidate perspectives about upcoming elections





#### Bike Month 2024

- 4 Village Rides, 2 Public Art Rides, 2 MTB rides, family Sprayground Cycle Tour, 2 Moonlight Rides on 5/18
- Maintenance Workshop & Bike Commuter Workshop
- Bike to School Day, Wednesday 5/8
  - popsicles for kids who ride
- Bike to Work Week, 5/15-5/17
  - Giveaways at local coffee shops!
  - Bike-Friendly Business Survey





### **Bike The Woodlands Day, Saturday 5/18**

- Harris County Pct 3 Bike-A-Palooza
  - 9 AM-1 PM, Burroughs Park
- Bands, Badges, and Bikes
  - 5:30-7:30 PM, Northshore Park
  - Award ceremony for ride challenge winners & bike-friendly businesses
- Moonlight Rides
  - **7:30-8:30 PM (sunset at 8:11 PM)**
  - Guided pathways ride
  - Guided road ride
  - lights provided!





#### What have we done lately?



### **Bike Recycling**

Quarterly bike recycling events starting in May 2023

More than 300 bikes recycled back into the community

Partnerships with TWT Environmental Services, Recycled Cycles of Texas, CASA of Montgomery County, Riders in Recovery

Next event: May 28-31, 2024

### **Bike Recycling**

#### What have we learned?

- **Don't reinvent the wheel:** find out what events and programs exist and find ways to magnify their impact.
- Make new friends and find new way to work together.
- Big wins can come in surprising places.







### Community Advocacy

Strong relationships with several members of The Woodlands Township Staff & Board of Directors

Developing relationships with Montgomery County and Harris County Commissioners

Membership on Houston-Galveston Area Council Transportation Advisory Committee and Subcommittees

### **Community Advocacy**

What have we learned?

 Relationships matter: especially when you live in a "special-purpose district."



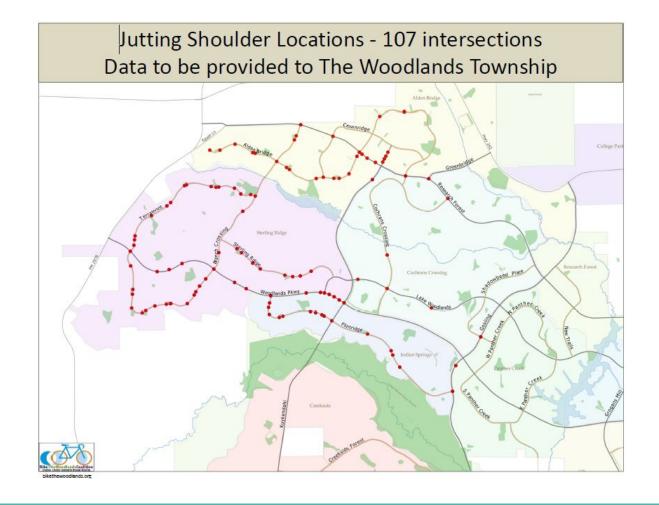


### **Jutting Curbs**

- 400+ Jutting curbs at 107 intersections.
- Montgomery and Harris County Precincts maintain the roads
- The Woodlands Township proposed fixing these along the length of Lake Woodlands Drive
- Probably \$30,000+ per location
- Complicated to know when this process will begin, how to estimate its real cost













#### **About P3 Works App**

The application provides residents in Montgomery County Precinct 3 the opportunity to report issues 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to the precinct directly from their mobile device (phone, tablet) or PC. P3 Works will keep you connected through real-time updates provided by Precinct 3 staff regarding your request and allow you to follow your request from the initial submission to completion.

We also can send push notifications during emergencies such as high-water locations and road closures. Through this app, you can report concerns including potholes, traffic signal malfunctions and a host of other issues. Submit a work order to Precinct 3 today or even contact us with a question through the app in just seconds!

#### Call to Action: Use the Precinct 3 Works App!

### **Community Advocacy**

What have we learned?

- Relationships matter: especially when you live in a "special-purpose district."
- Infrastructure policy is complicated.

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	HOUSTON / CONROE-MONTGOMERY / TRANSPORTATION	
	H-GAC outlines \$564M in road pro	pjects for Montgomery County
	By Jessica Shorten   1:00 PM Apr 4, 2024 CDT Updated 1:00 PM Apr 4, 2024 CDT	(f) (S) (D) (
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NEWS EVERYONE	GETS	

widening in regional plan

By Jessica Shorten | 1:58 PM Apr 25, 2024 CDT

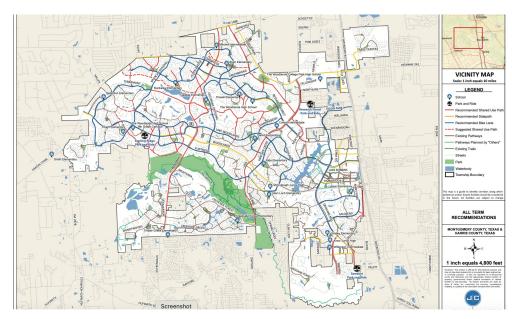
Updated 1:58 PM Apr 25, 2024 CDT



### **Community Advocacy**

What have we learned?

- Relationships matter: especially when you live in a "special-purpose district."
- Infrastructure policy is complicated.
- Meaningful progress can be slow.









#### Bonus Content: Google Street View & Pathways

OSE



Spring, TX 77380

CT Gooding



### Community Engagement

- Tabling at public school & charter school bike rodeos
- Membership in The Woodlands Area Chamber of Commerce
- Connections with The Woodlands Art Council
- Participation in the South County Independence Day Parade, TWT Adopt-a-Path program, Community Safety events, and more

### **Community Engagement**

What have we learned?

- **Don't reinvent the wheel (again):** work with existing programs and find out how we can support and magnify their impact.
- Make (even more!) new friends and find new way to work together.
- We need more capacity! We need to find more ways to engage the community and put volunteers to work.







...

"Faith, Hope & Joy" by Robert Heinzelman is underwritten by James, Janet, Sarah and Maggie Stilwell. (Vanessa Holt/Community Impact)





### THE WOODLANDS AREA CHAMBER of COMMERCE



#### New this year: Bike-Friendly Business Recognition

#### 2024 Bike-Friendly Business Recognition

**Did you know that The Woodlands Township has been a Bike-Friendly Community since 2011?** This year, we're submitting an application to retain our certification, and we're gathering data about the state of bicycling in our community.

For the first time this year, <u>Bike The Woodlands Coalition</u> would like to recognize some especially bike-friendly spots, like coffee shops that welcome groups of riders, stores with convenient bike parking, and bike shops that do great work. We're also interested in places that need improvement: Where do you WISH you could get to on a bike? What stores need a better bike rack -- or a bike rack at all? We won't publish the results of those more critical responses, but we will reach out to those businesses to see how we can help make bikefriendly improvements.

We're accepting nominations for these awards from April 25th through May 3rd. Then, we'll open up a new survey and invite community members to vote on the finalists. Winning businesses will be announced at Bands, Badges, and Bikes on Saturday 5/18 at

### **Do Now: Nominate some businesses!**

#### • Best of the Best:

- Favorite Local Bike Destination
- Best Bike Parking
- Favorite Local Bike Shop for buying a bike
- Favorite Local Bike Shop for fixing a bike
- Best Restaurant to arrive on foot
- best shopping center/area to arrive by bike

#### • Needs Improvement:

- Worst Bike Parking
- Place we wish was easier to get to on a bike
- Place we wish had better connectivity to the pathway system
- What else?





### Ways to Get Involved

- Advocacy
- Events
- Strategic Projects
- Become a member!
- Become a sponsor!



### Ways to Get Involved: Advocacy

- Attend Township board meetings (online or in person)
  - Pro Tip: check out the agenda in advance!
- Attend other local meetings (TXDOT, Precinct meetings, H-GAC)
- Help identify areas for improvement: use the Township 311 and P3 Works apps!
  - Remember, the Township addresses issues for the the parks and pathways and the counties address issues related to the roads.



#### Ways to Get Involved: Events

- Become a board member!
  - Monthly meetings
  - Tangible way to build a better community through bicycling

#### • Volunteer with us:

- Blke Month events
- Adopt-a-Path cleanups
- School Bike Rodeos
- Wayfinding sign installation
- Roadway surveying
- School & Community outreach



#### Ways to Get Involved: Bike Month!

- Bike to School Day: Wednesday 5/8
- Bike to Work Week, Wednesday 5/15-Friday 5/17
  - Post up at local coffee shops to spread the word about better living through bicycling
- Bike The Woodlands Day, Saturday 5/18
  - 5:30-7:30 PM at Northshore Park at "Bands, Badges, and Bikes" event
  - Followed by Pathways & Roadways Moonlight Rides

#### Tons of events on the Township website and on our website



### **Membership**

#### • Membership Benefits

- Participation in special group rides & events
- NEW for 2023: Discounts at Trek, Bike Land, Bike Lane, Nike, Pedego
  - Present your digital card at time of purchase.
     We'll email it to you!

#### • Membership Levels

- Annual Member \$25
- Lifetime \$250

Join here: https://donorbox.org/btwc







## PATRICIA MONTICELLO **KIEVLAN** MEMBER **EXPIRES 12/24**

### **Sponsorship**

Seeking sponsors to help us raise money to reach our goals.

**Revenue from memberships and sponsorships helps us:** 

- Host events (like this one! with food, drinks, printed items)
- Run our nonprofit (fees for website hosting, PO box, insurance, national and state advocacy organization memberships)
- Develop a scholarship program (coming soon)



# Questions & Answers

# So what can we do tonight?

### **Things To Do Tonight**

- Become a member!
- Sign up to volunteer during Bike Month
- Help us identify Bike-Friendly Local Businesses
- Discuss the New Gosling Park





### **South Gosling Park**

- Acquired from Howard Hughes recently
- Construction must begin within 3 years
- 208 acres of land
- Almost all in floodplain
- Floodable amenities can be built
- Adjacent to Spring Creek Nature Trail and Spring Creek Greenway

What could we envision on this land?



#### South Gosling

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Option to reprioritize and develop phasing plan during Phase I Engineering

