# DOUNTOWN'S TOP 20 STRATEGIC ACTIONS

F0R 2024

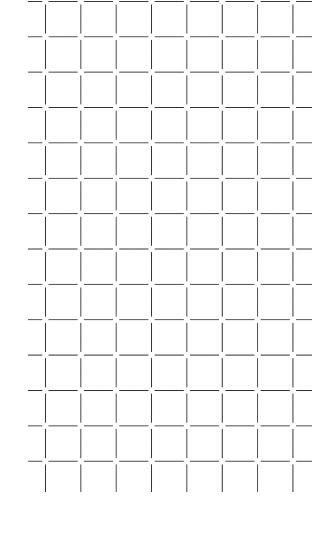


## DOWNTOWN HOUSTON+





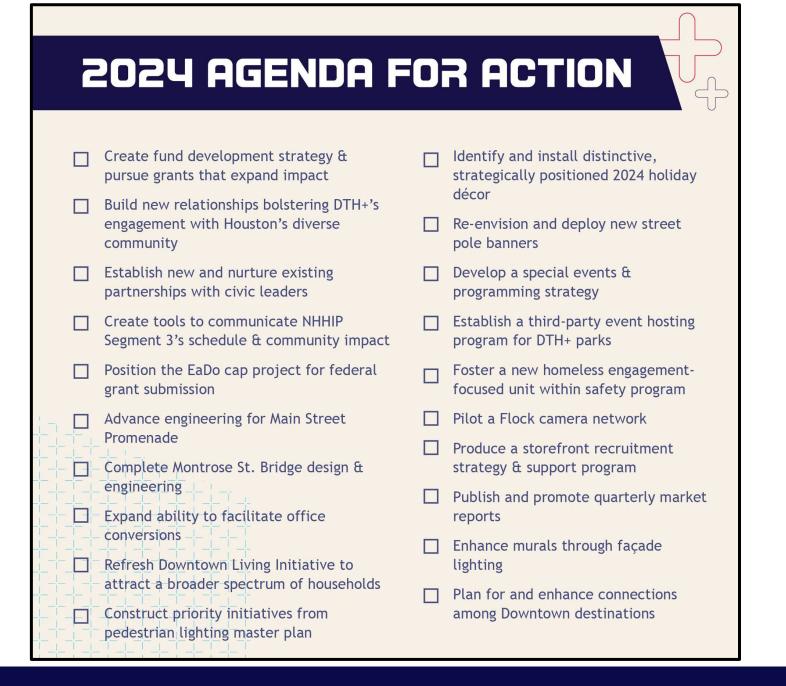


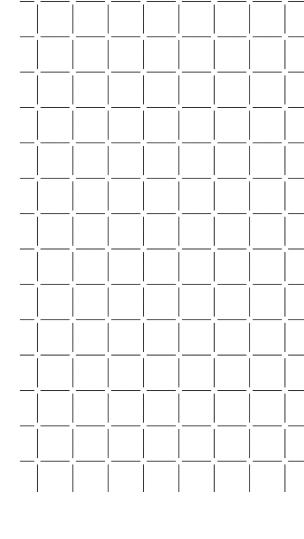




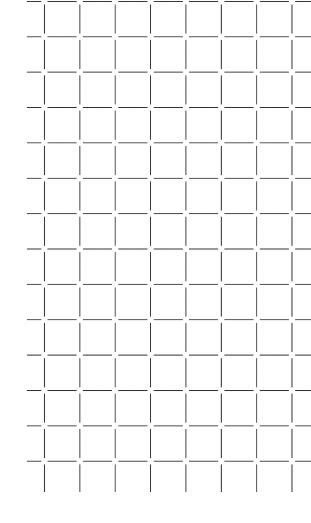
## **STRATEGIC GOALS**

- 1 Champion major projects, initiatives and investments that improve Downtown
- 2 Enhance and maintain a comfortable, welcoming, and well-managed public realm
- Drive vibrancy through improved street-level connectivity, a commitment to walkability and inclusive programming strategies
- 4 Foster a vital and thriving economy through business growth, residential expansion, and enhanced reasons to be in Downtown
- 5 Develop a hivemind of intelligence and goodwill by genuinely engaging and convening stakeholders





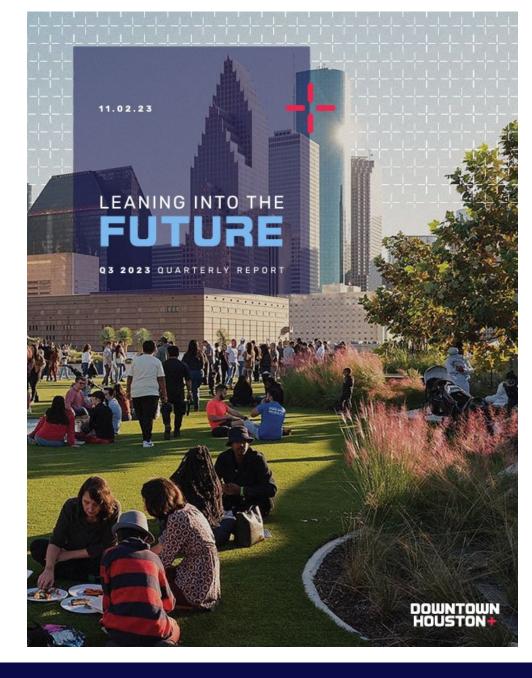
## PUBLISH & PROMOTE QUARTERLY MARHET REPORTS

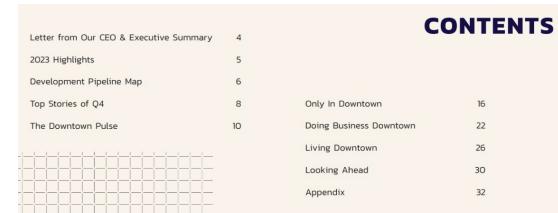




## TELLING DOWNTOWN'S STORY WITH DATA

- Proactively lead the Downtown Houston narrative through data-backed insights
- Consistently publish one month after the quarter ends
- Continue the DTH+ legacy of trusted reports that feature trusted data and market insights, including office, hospitality, and residential
- Evoke new perspectives by revealing the dynamism of Downtown on the daily
- Showcase the outsized impact of Houston's beloved Downtown destinations
- Write and design a report that's accessible, concise, and informative





## **TOP STORIES OF Q4**



Controller, first-time Council Members for Districts H and I, plus three new at-large members joined District C's returning Council Member around the City Hall "horseshoe." Downtown Houston+ looks forward to continued collaboration with the elected officials entrusted by the people to implement an uplifting vision of Downtown and our region

Everyone should be smiling this morning. The people of Houston are smiling because they've elected a mayor that's going to listen to them, a mayor that is known for solving problems. And be he

VISITS IN Q4 2023



Houston on December 2nd. The memorial to Houston's late U.S. Congresswoman, civil rights icon, and Fifth Ward native also marks an honoring legendary leaders. Artist Angelbert Metover labored for three years on "I am Barbara Jordan," commissioned by POST owner Lovett Commercial. A joyous culmination of the former U.S. Post Office's revival, partly funded by a \$23 million grant from the Downtown Redevelopment Authority, the monument

## **DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE MAP**

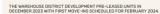


NAME	DEVELOPER	ADDRESS	BUILDING STATUS	EST. DELIVERY	RENTABLE BUILDING AREA	# OF UNITS	# OF STORIES
Sovereign at the Ballpark	Sovereign Properties	101 Crawford St	Under Construction		193,000	229	6
Warehouse District Phase I and II	Urban Genesis	813 & 850 McKee St	Under Construction	Early 2024		489	6
800 Bell	Carnegie Hanagement inc	800 Bell St	Proposed		1.200.000	400	45
Home 2 Suites and Tru by Hilton Houston Downtown	PA Hospitality	1540 Leeland St	Under Construction	Late 2025	123,000	221	9
Holiday Inn Express and Staybridge Suites Houston TX	Neway Hospitality	1319 Texas St	Under Construction	Late 2025		275	17
Ascend Collection Houston	Choice Hotels	402 Main St	Proposed	2025	50,250	67	10

FOURTH WARD

DOWNTOWN





## THE DOWNTOWN **PULSE**



The pulse of Downtown's sidewalks, parks, trails, and destinations continued its upswing in Q4 2023. Compared to 2019, over 81% of pre-pandemic 04 visitor activity had returned. Greenspaces and sidewalks, illuminated for the holidays, invited visitors and Downtown residents to stroll every day of the week. Cooler weather nearby neighborhoods, as well as visitors from across Houston, to explore White Oak and Buffalo Bayou trails and their confluence at Downtown's Allen's Landing Park.

 $141_{\text{mins}}$ 





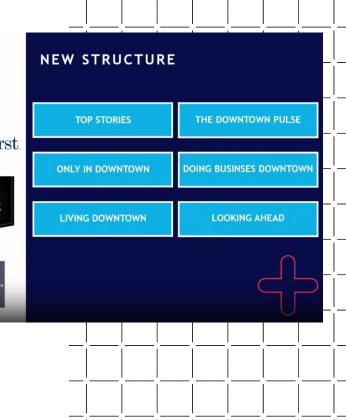
EAST DOWNTOWN

## BEHIND THE DATA

- Public webinars with Q&A
- In-person presentations to economic development partners and stakeholder groups

## Placer University of Houston-Downtown South Texas College of Law Houston National Center for Education Statistics Baseball-Reference.com Harris County - Houston Sports Authority Alley Theatre Houston First Corporation Live Nation Special Events Texas Bar Tab Concert Archives (concertarchives.org) Center City District (centercityphila.org)

开兴

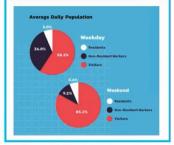




What makes Downtown shine and thrive on the daily.

## Q3 UPSHOT:

- 1. Despite the heat, visitors flock Downtown.
- 2. Food Halls are a trending and sought-out retail offering.
- 3. Our tree canopy public spaces are clean and green all summer.
- 4. Back to School: Did you know Downtown is an urban campus for four schools and over 16k students?



DOWNTOWN'S DAILY POPULATION



UNCOVERING DOWNTOWN

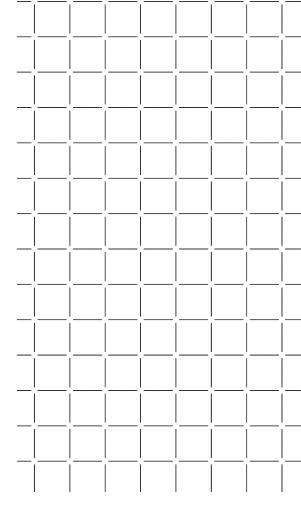


+ more for Q4 2023 and beyond

DOWNTOWN'S STOREFRONTS



## ESTABLISH NEW & NURTURE EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS WITH CIVIC LEADERS



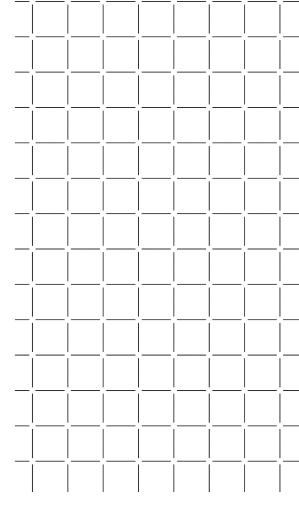


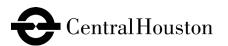
## **NEW CIVIC LEADERS**

- Period of considerable transition
- Outcomes enhanced through collaboration
- On the Horizon:
  - Municipal budget challenges
  - Homeless funding evaporating
  - Business attraction
  - Convention campus planning
  - NHHIP design and implementation



# BUILD NEW RELATIONSHIPS WITH HOUSTON'S DIVERSE COMMUNITY



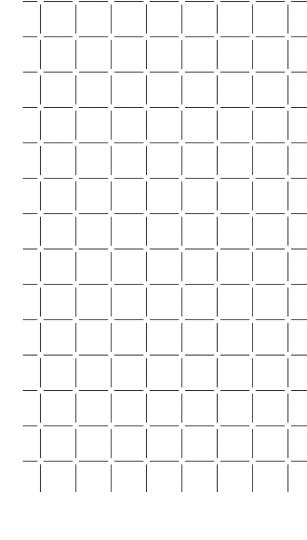


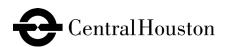
## EXPANDING RELATIONSHIPS

- Champion and enhance Downtown
   Houston as a connected and thriving
   place for everyone.
- Downtown as everyone's neighborhood:
  - Reinforcing Houston's reputation as diverse and welcoming
  - Expand ability to attract the local market
  - Operationalizing intent through our program design



# CREATE TOOLS TO COMMUNICATE NHHIP SEGMENT 3'S SCHEDULE & COMMUNITY IMPACT





## NHHIP TOOLHIT



## TRANSPORTATION

## I-45 rebuild in Harris County expected to start in 2024 & end in 2042

According to TxDOT's resent presentation to the Houston-Galveston Area Council, its \$9.7 billion plan to widen and reroute I-45 near and north of downtown includes a series of sub-projects in three overarching segments.

Adam Zuvanich | May 5, 2023, 4:52 PM





**Support Comes From** 



## RELATED

No, funny highway signs in 1 not banned, feds say

TxDOT tweaks \$347 million pelevating I-10 near Houston' neighborhood

Houston drivers will see 69/ wrap up, start of I-45 work ii



## **SEGMENT 3 LEGEND**

SEGMENT 3
I-45
I-10
US 59/I-69
DOWNTOWN
CONNECTOR
I-10 EXPRESS
LANES
KEY INFORMATION



Straighten I-69 and widen from 8 to 10 or 12 lanes in each direction.



Straighten and add two Express Lanes in each direction which motorists will use to travel through Downtown.



Downtown Connector replaces Pierce Elevated.



Access between Downtown and East Downtown increased by construction of new southbound street between Commerce St and Leeland St.



Structural cap built over I-69 depressed section from Lamar St to Commerce St next to the George R. Brown Convention Center (GRB) could be developed by others.



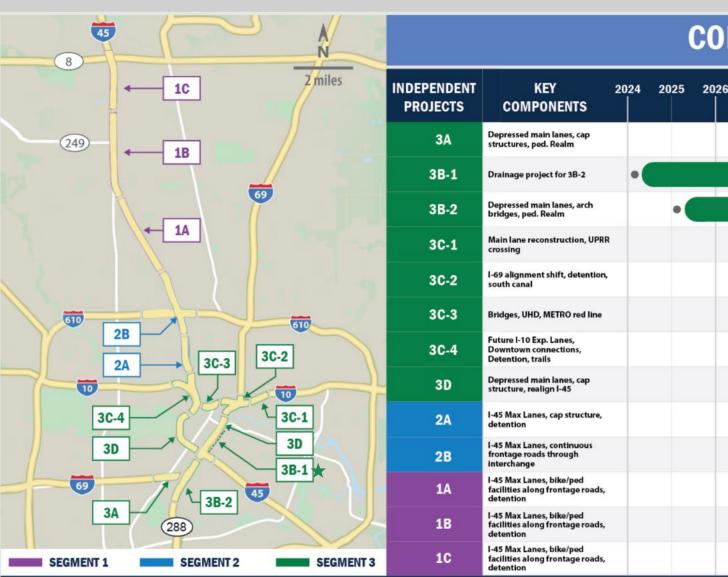
Pierce Elevated no longer needed.



Structural cap built over I-69 depressed section from Main St to Caroline St could be developed by others.

## **TXDOT MOVING FORWARD WITH NHHIP**





## **CONSTRUCTION PHASING** 2034 2026 2027 2029 2030 2035 2036 2028 2031 2032 2033



3C-4 is phased to start before 2B because drainage elements in 3C-4 need to be constructed and operational to receive drainage from 2B.

<sup>3</sup>B-1 is phased to start before 3B-2 because drainage elements in 3B-1 need to be constructed and operational to receive drainage from 3B-2.

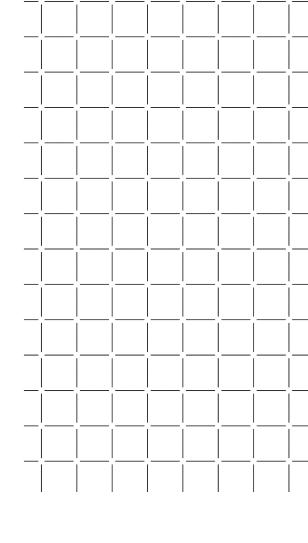
<sup>🛦 3</sup>C-2 is phased to start before 3D because proposed I-69 in 3C-2 needs to be constructed and operational to receive proposed I-69 in 3D. (Proposed I-69 in 3D is unable to be connected to existing I-69 in 3C-2)

## NHHIP TOOLKIT

- Serves as clear and accurate voice
- Equips stakeholders as project ambassadors
- Removes barriers to digesting project details



# CREATE FUND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY & PURSUE FUNDS TO EXPAND IMPACT



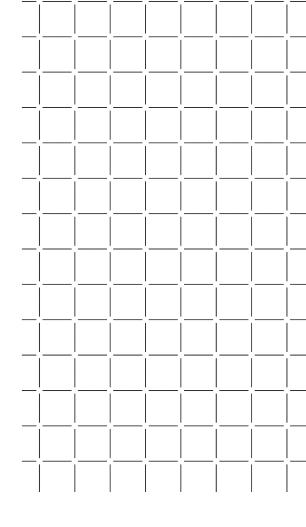


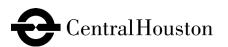
## IDENTIFY + **DIVERSIFY FUNDING**

- CHCI: Apply for federal, state, and philanthropic grants to expand our impact.
- Areas of focus to include:
  - Expanding our existing programs, such as homeless outreach and public safety
  - Identify funds to support strategic initiatives, such as placemaking and connectivity
  - Ramp up grant writing capacity to support NHHIP implementation



# POSITION THE EADO CAP PROJECT FOR FEDERAL GRANT SUBMISSION



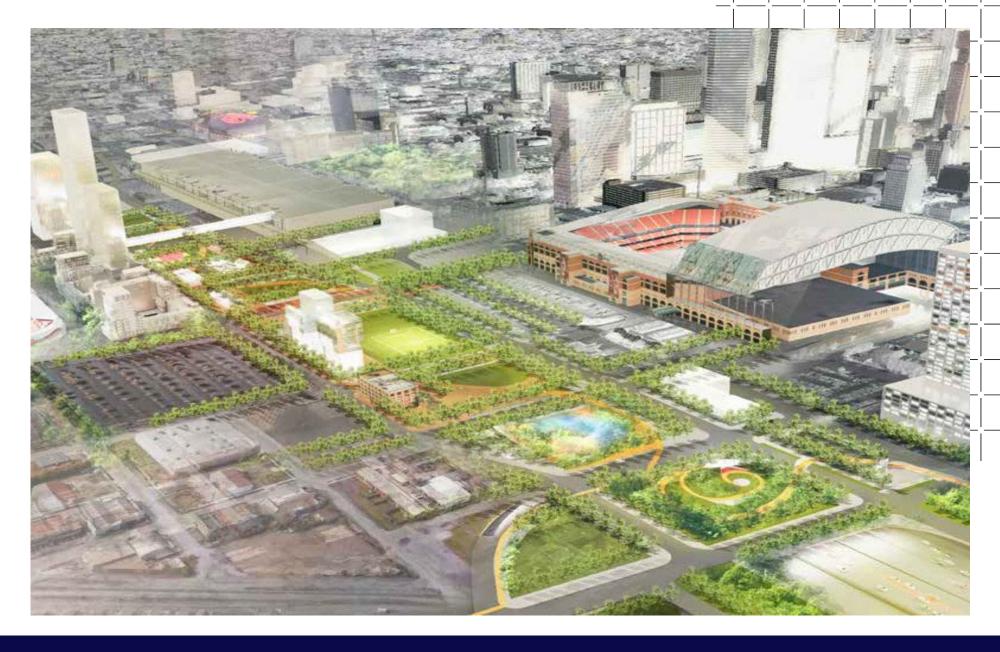


## EADO "CAP"

BASE CONDITION

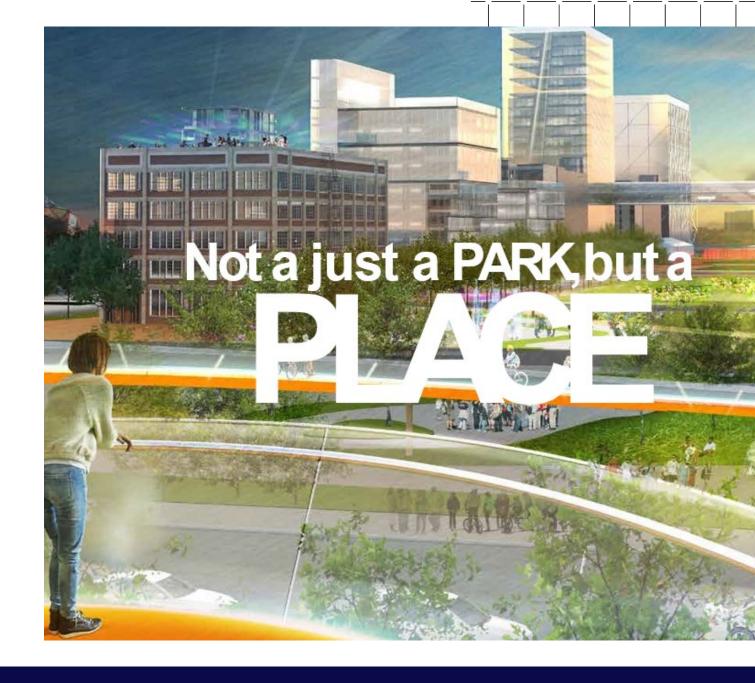


## EADO CAP

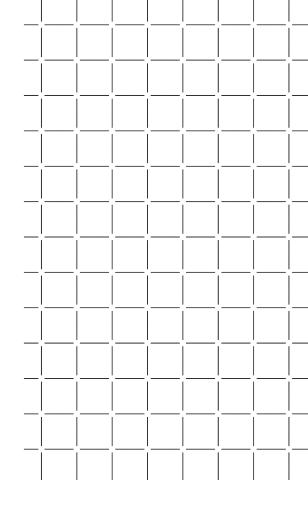


## EADO CAP

- Builds consensus around shared vision
- Uses inclusive community engagement
- Connects public voices to decisionmaking
- Serves as catalyst for future investment
- Reconnects adjacent communities



## EXPAND ON THE ABILITY TO FACILITATE OFFICE CONVERSIONS

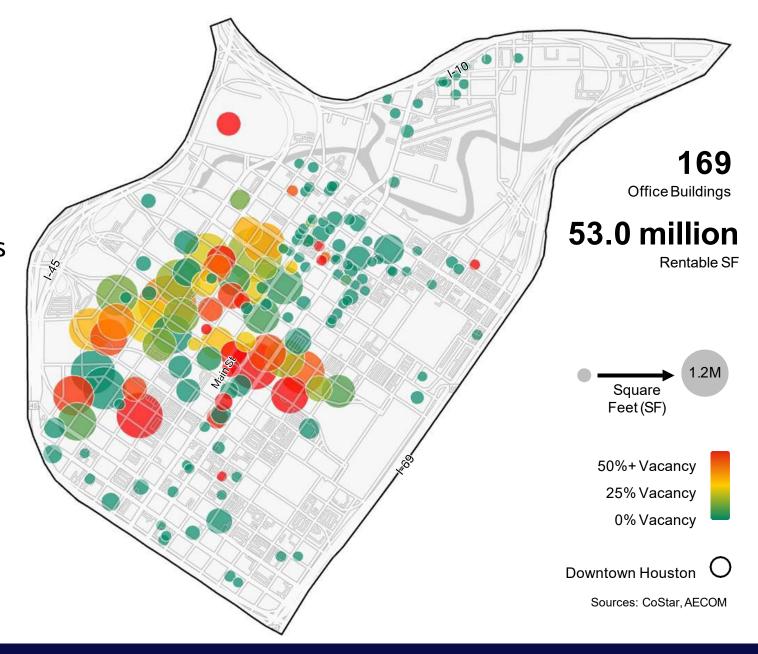




## OFFICE MARKET CONTEXT

Average vacancy rate of 24%

• 3<sup>rd</sup> highest among 35 largest US Cities



## CONVERSION CANDIDATES

## The Challenge

- 37 buildings holding 53% of available office space DT are conversion candidates (28M SF total)
- 22 of those 37 buildings are >40% vacant (14M SF in total)
- 23 of those 37 buildings built between 1975-1986 (20M SF in total)
- Large floorplates and remaining tenants

Property Address	Built	RBA (SF)	Total Score
1021 Main St	1960	608,660	26
919 Milam St	1956	542,078	25
708 Main St	1923	98,253	24
808 Travis St	1941	599,107	23
1415 Louisiana St	1983	520,602	22
800 Bell St	1962	1,314,350	22
700 Milam St	1975	694,021	22
1001 Texas Ave	1982	119,436	21
1010 Lamar St	1981	277,991	21
1600 Smith St	1984	1,098,399	21
1301 Fannin St	1983	369,486	21
1001 McKinney St	1947	375,440	20
440 Louisiana St	1983	379,382	20
1331 Lamar St	1983	985,896	20
1315 St Joseph Pky	1984	170,554	19
601 Jefferson St	1973	1,047,748	19
711 Louisiana St	1975	666,762	19
801 Louisiana St	1978	105,145	19
1001 Louisiana St	1962	937,003	18
1221 McKinney St	1977	1,065,215	18
1301 Fannin St	1983	882,539	18
401 Franklin St	1962	114,650	18
1200 Smith St	1978	986,229	18
1001 Fannin St	1981	1,385,212	17
801 Travis St	1981	222,192	17
909 Fannin St	1974	1,024,956	17
430 Lamar St	1928	60,369	17
712 Main St	1929	794,186	17
1100 Louisiana St	1980	1,327,882	16
1801 Main St	1957	219,054	15
1301 McKinney St	1982	1,247,061	15
1111 Bagby St	1986	1,149,635	15
333 Clay St	1980	1,193,697	15
500 Dallas St	1972	975,306	15
1000 Louisiana St	1982	1,721,242	14
811 Louisiana St	1970	588,423	13
700 Louisiana St	1983	1,281,007	13

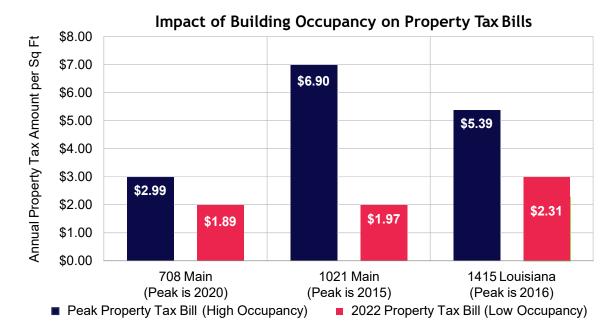
## FISCAL IMPACT

## Cost of the "Do Nothing" Scenario

- Declining office building occupancy = declining values
- Ripple effect reducing value

## **Benefit of Incentivizing Conversion**

- Incentives recouped through the long-term boost in property tax revenue
- Ripple effect enhances values
- Amenities increase community vibrancy and value
- Inclusive residential offerings boost tenant absorption rate



## **Estimated Annual Property Tax Amounts**



## POLICY & PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS







## Financial Incentive Structure

## Enhanced tax incentive program

- Partnering with other taxing units
- Public Facility Corporation vehicles on select properties
- State and Federal funding

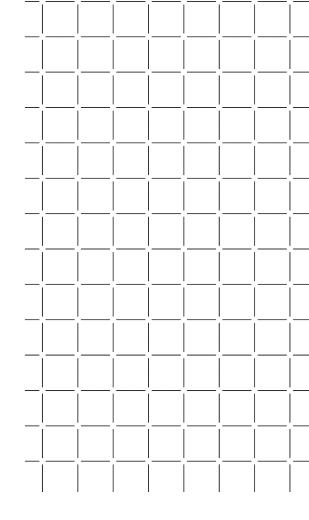
## **Project Selection Criteria**

- Chronic high availability
- Low acquisition costs
- Residential and/or adaptive reuse experience
- Historic tax credit eligibility
- Strategic neighborhood amenities
- Impactful unit pricing

## **Technical Assistance Program**

- Office conversion liaison
- Streamline permitting process
- Concierge for historic tax credits
- Address lease burden

## REFRESH DOWNTOWN LIVING INITIATIVE



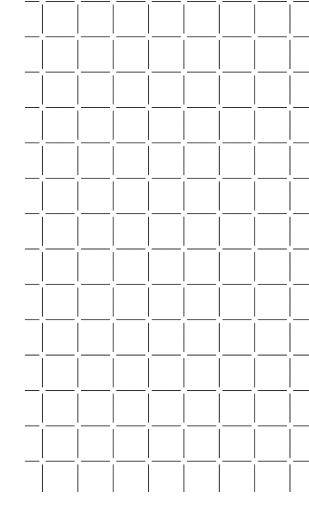


## DOWNTOWN LIVING INITIATIVE 2.0

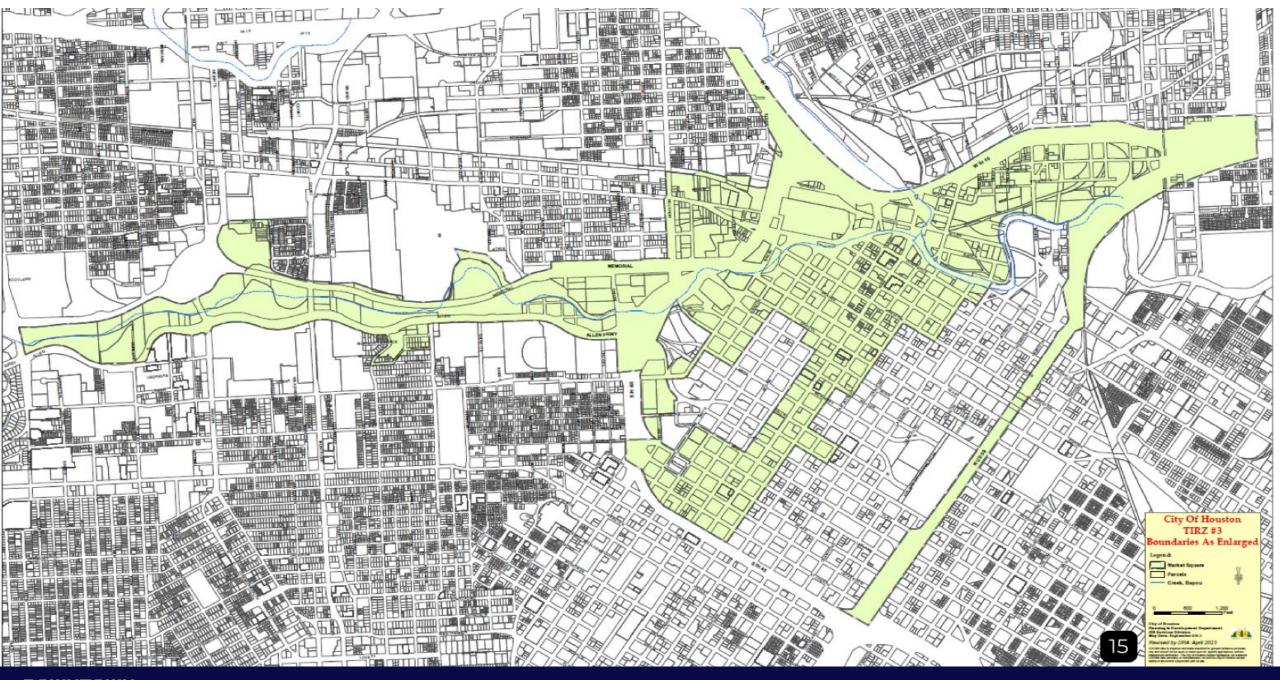
- Reignites residential population base
- Complements retail recruitment efforts
- Activates pedestrian realm
- Creates a genuine "neighborhood"



## COMPLETE DESIGN & ENGINEERING FOR THE MONTROSE BRIDGE

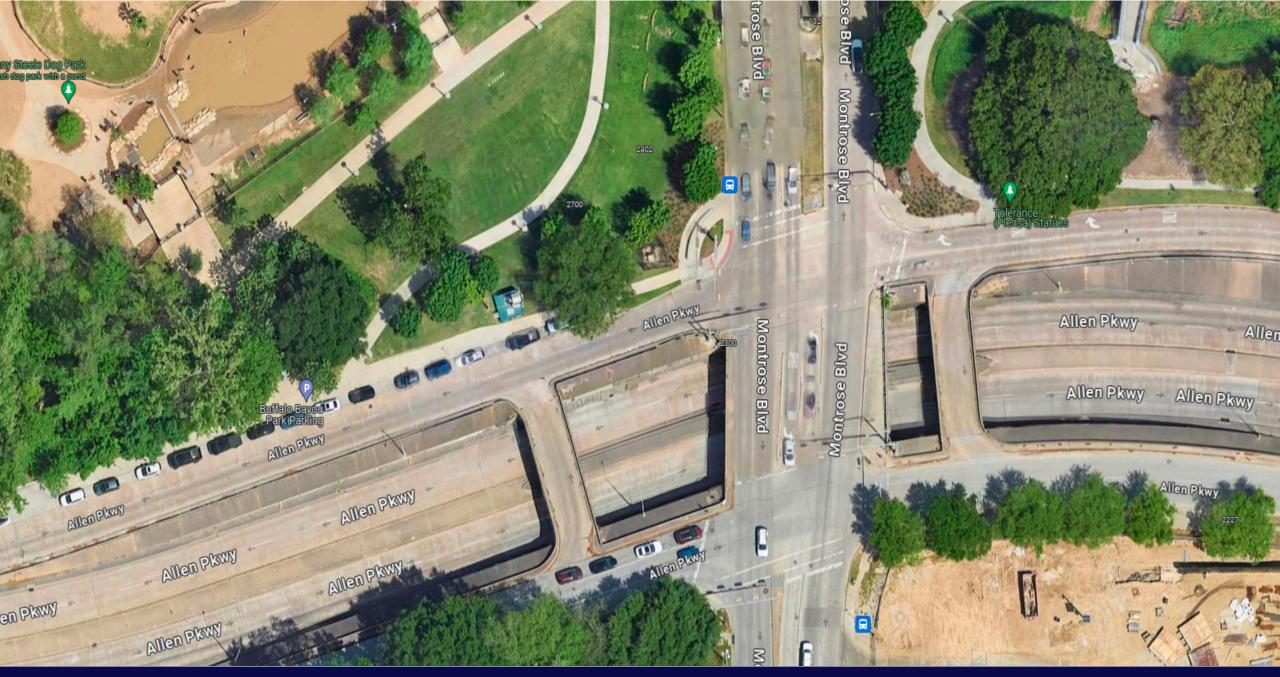


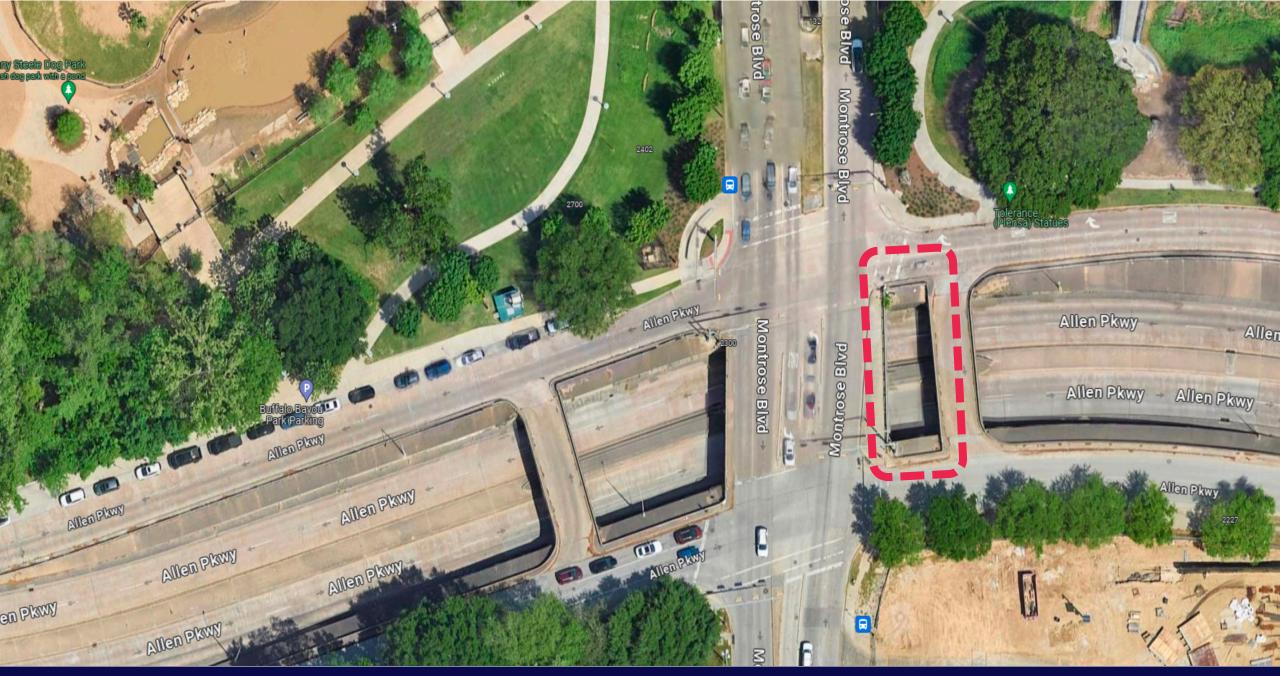








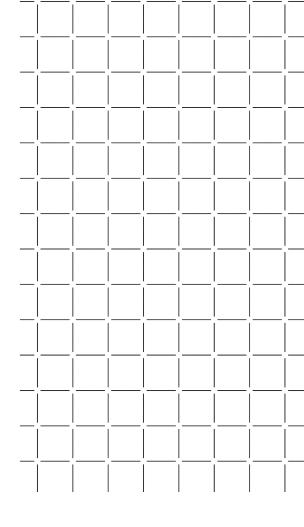








## ESTABLISH A 3<sup>RD</sup> PARTY EVENT HOSTING PROGRAM FOR DTH+ PARHS







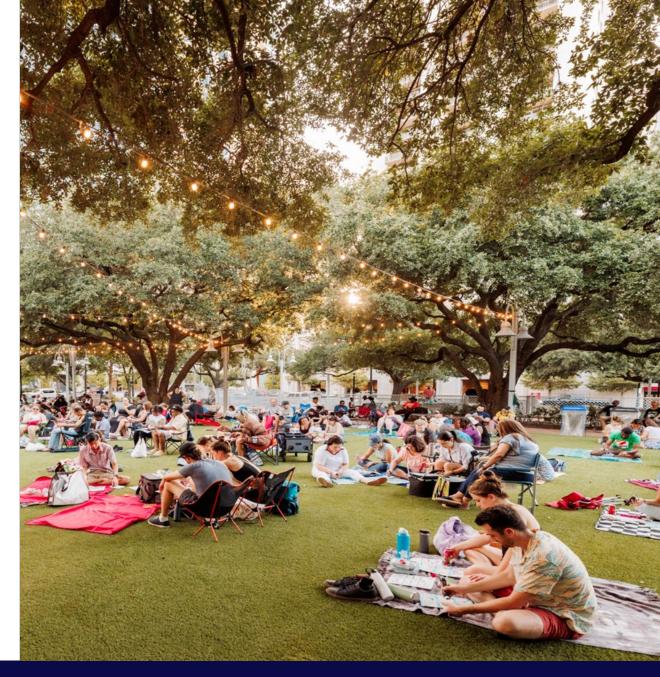




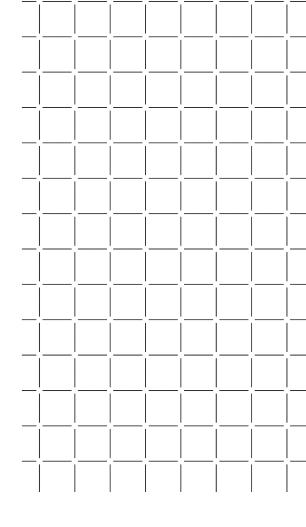


#### 3<sup>RD</sup> PARTY EVENT HOSTING

- Clear, fair, predictable
- Amplify impact on public parks
- Reflect community aspirations
- Respect the public assets
- Serves as a catalyst for Downtown



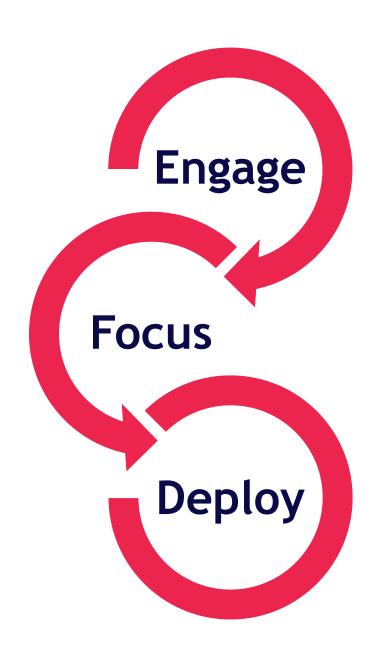
## DEVELOP SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMMING STRATEGY

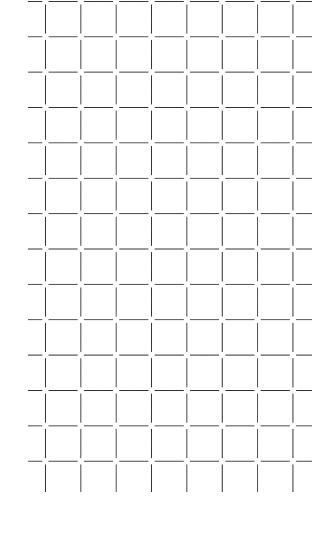




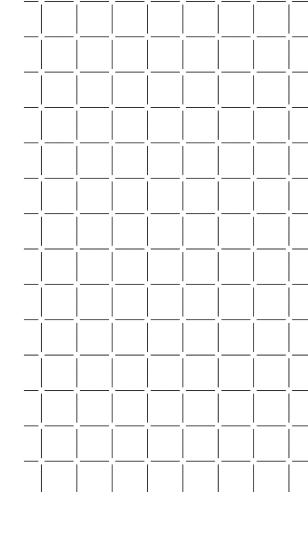
### **PROCESS**

- Build consensus on desired outcomes
- Test, Measure, Learn
- Differentiated
- Vibrant Public Realm





# IDENTIFY & INSTALL DISTINCTIVE, STRATEGICALLY POSITIONED 2024 HOLIDAY DECOR



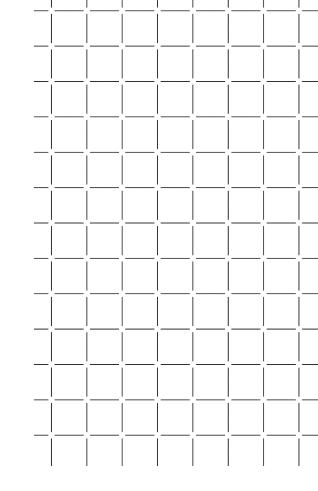


#### SENSE OF PLACE

- Synergy with public realm + placemaking
- Differentiated
- Measurable *strategic* impact



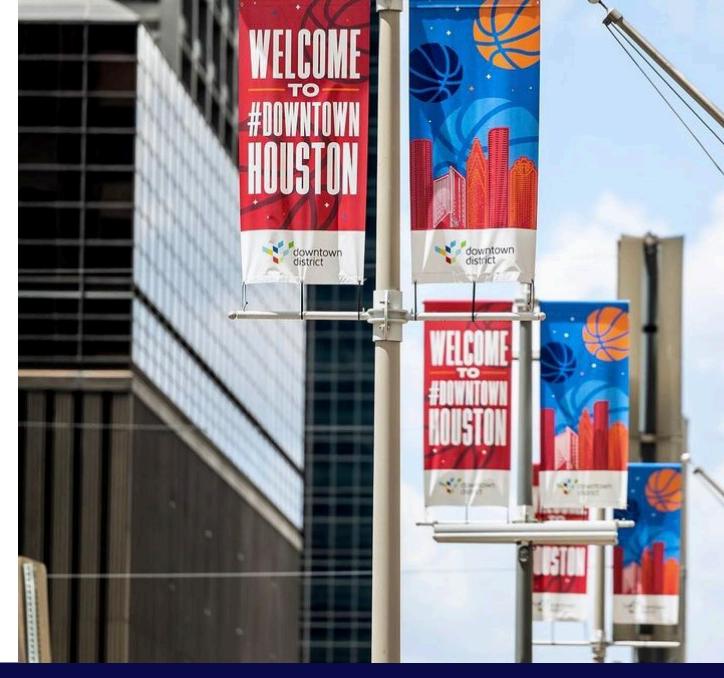
## RE-ENVISION & DEPLOY NEW STREET POLE BANNERS



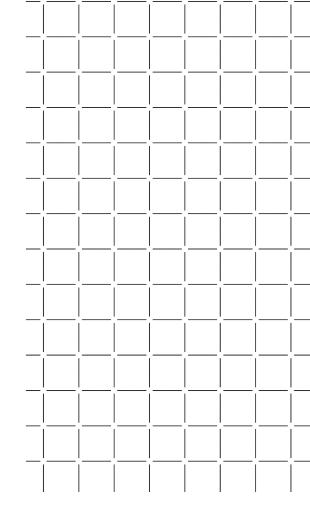


### ARRIVAL

- Bold Color + Simple Graphics
- I AM Downtown!
- Unique Experiences (Differentiated)



## PILOT A FLOCK CAMERA NETWORK



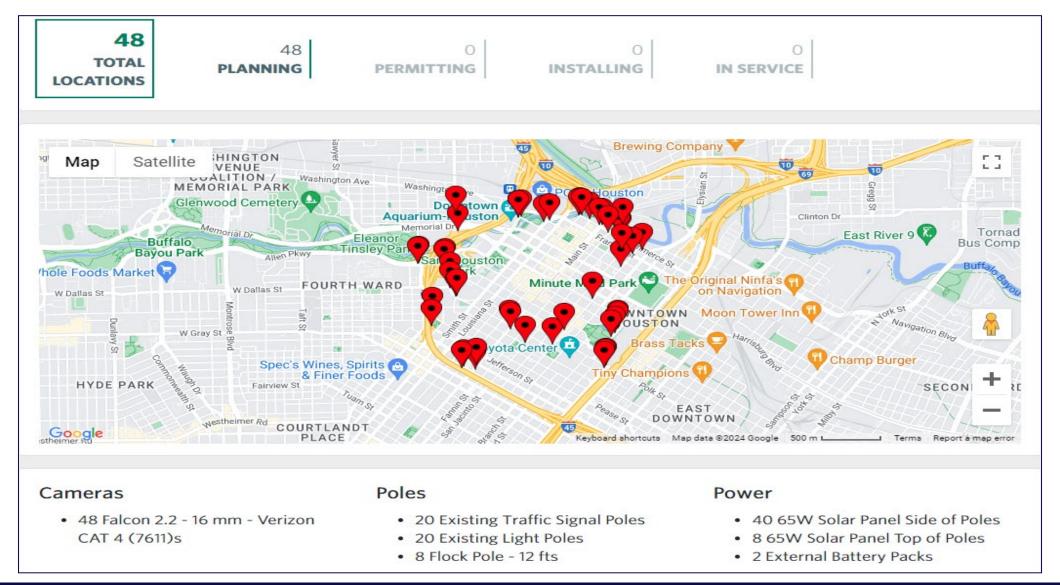


#### FLOCK CAMERAS

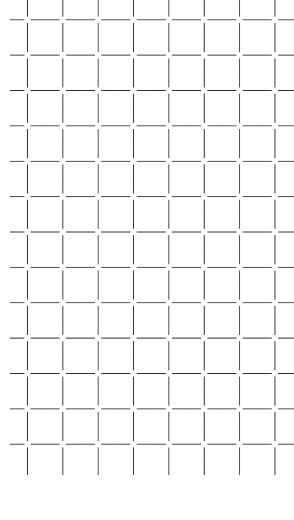
- Camera system that provides direct support to the Houston Police Department
- Cameras deployed to specific locations that read vehicle license plates
- Captures two (2) lanes of traffic simultaneously, with ability to process up to 30,000 vehicles per day
- Part of growing network: 5,000 Flock cameras deployed around the greater Houston metropolitan area



#### FLOCH CAMERA DEPLOYMENT



# FOSTER A NEW HOMELESS ENGAGEMENT-FOCUSED UNIT WITHIN SAFETY PROGRAM



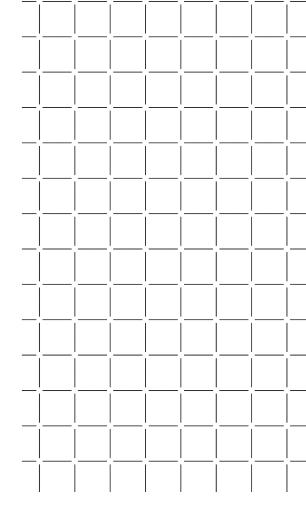


### **QUALITY OF LIFE TEAM**

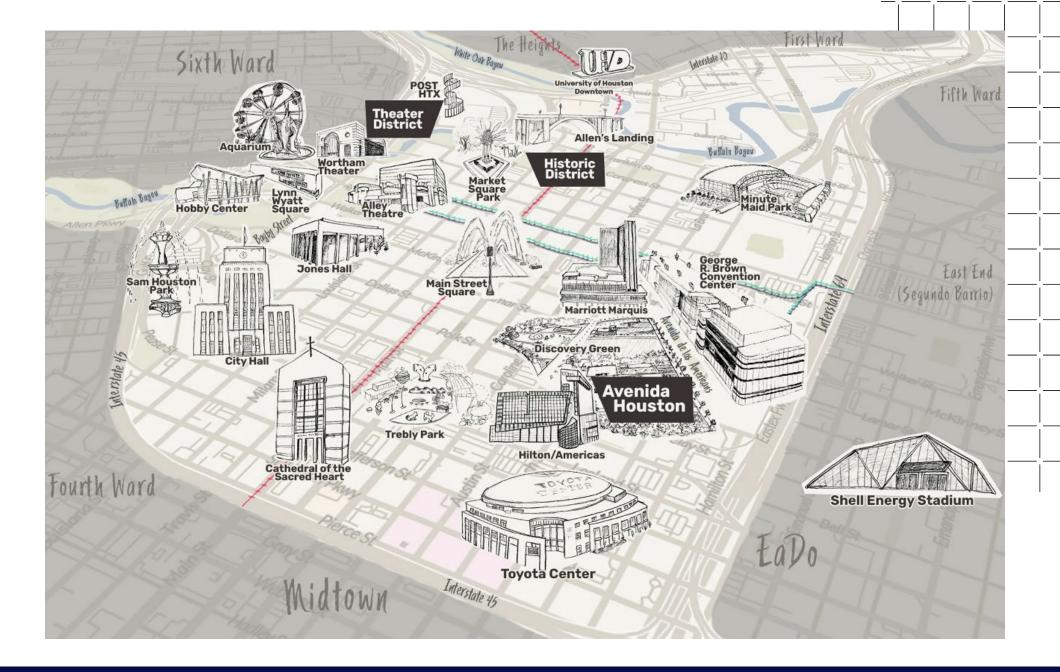
- 6 Quality of Life Response team members
- Specially trained to deter quality-of life issues and offer an enhanced sense of safety in Downtown
- Proactively deployed to known "hotspot areas" during peak times
- Address all nuisance, City ordinance compliance issues
- Works closely with outreach teams, providing referrals
- Analytic data collection



## PLAN FOR & ENHANCE CONNECTIONS AMONG DOWNTOWN DESTINATIONS





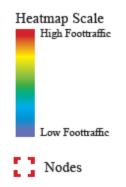


### NEIGHBORHOOD VIBRANCY, DAY & NIGHT, ANY DAY OF THE WEEK

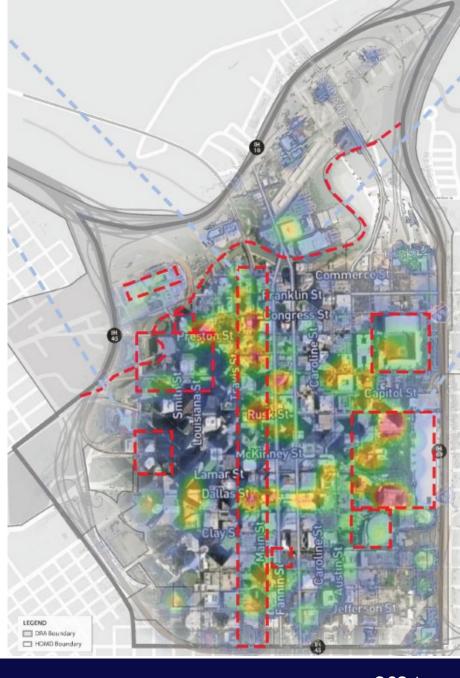




### CONNECT OUR DESTINATIONS



- 8.3 million people visited Downtown 39 million times in 2023
- Population has grown nearly 2.5x over the last decade
- Workers are returning, seeking more dynamism in the workplace
- 2023 yielded public realm studies and recommendations:
  - ARUP Pedestrian Lighting Study (January 2024)
  - More Space: Main Street Basis of Design (January 2024)
  - Downtown Ground-floor Block Face Study (May 2023)
  - Vision Zero: Downtown High-Injury Network and Recommended Interventions (December 2023)



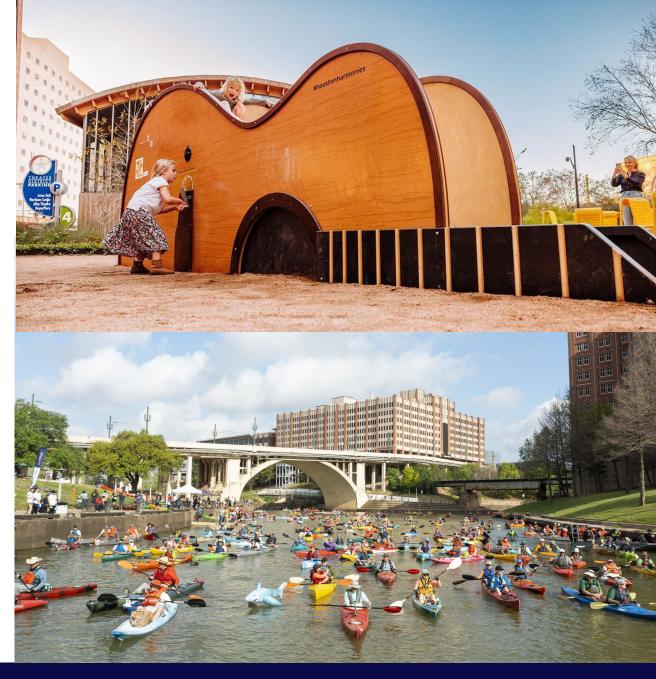
## ACTION PLAN FOR URBAN DESIGN & PROGRAMMING

- With the support of an urban design consultant and through community engagement, goals include:
  - Enhanced connectivity between Downtown's districts and outperforming destinations
  - Developing a coordinated open space network that ensures the 20+ parks of Downtown thrive together
  - Programming for all Downtowners in parks and along streets that is coordinated
  - Pedestrian-centric design for safe, more comfortable and illuminated public spaces and sidewalks
  - Art and cultural integration throughout

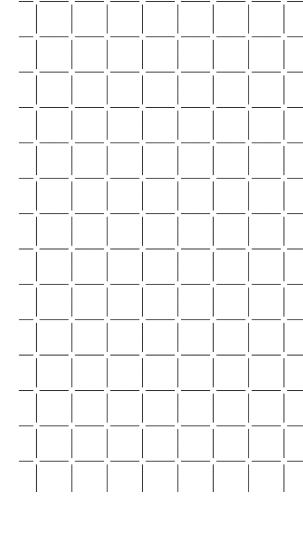


### ALIGN PARTNERS & PROJECTS

- Theater District's Placemaking Plan
- Minute Maid Park Entertainment Destination
- Toyota Center
- George R. Brown & SB 1057 public realm projects
- Discovery Green
- Buffalo Bayou and Buffalo Bayou Partnership
- Main Street Promenade
- Remembrance Park
- Historic District
- EaDo Connections



# PRODUCE A STOREFRONT RECRUITMENT STRATEGY & SUPPORT PROGRAM





#### BOOST STREET-LEVEL ACTIVITY

- Despite residential population growth and the steady return of visitors to our major destinations, street-level storefronts and retail nodes struggle to shine
- This isn't a tunnels problem (entirely)
  - 3 out of 4 storefronts are <u>not</u> in the tunnels
  - Tunnels storefront occupancy is 72% and street-level occupancy is 82%
- What's needed: Enhance, diversify, and strategically pivot street-level storefronts and their tenants toward a mixed-use Downtown neighborhood

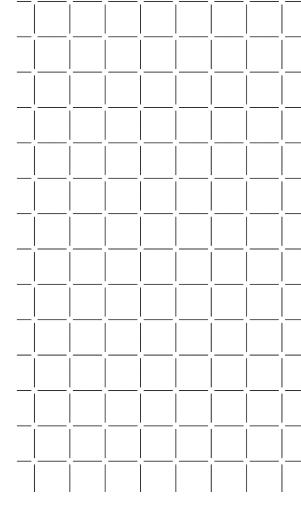


## STRATEGY-INFORMED GRANT PROGRAM FOR STOREFRONTS

- Develop a strategic plan in partnership with a national retail expert to consider cities and solutions that mirror Houston.
- Stand up a strategic grant program or multiple programs for street-level storefronts.
- Connect retail nodes through placemaking and connectivity efforts occurring at street level.



## CONSTRUCT PRIORITY INITIATIVES FROM PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING MASTER PLAN





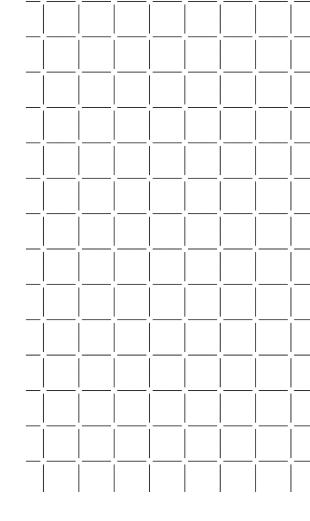
### LIGHTING

- Assessment and Masterplan Issuance: January 2024
- Over 6,500 light measurement points taken
- 24 case study sites assessed
- 34 murals evaluated

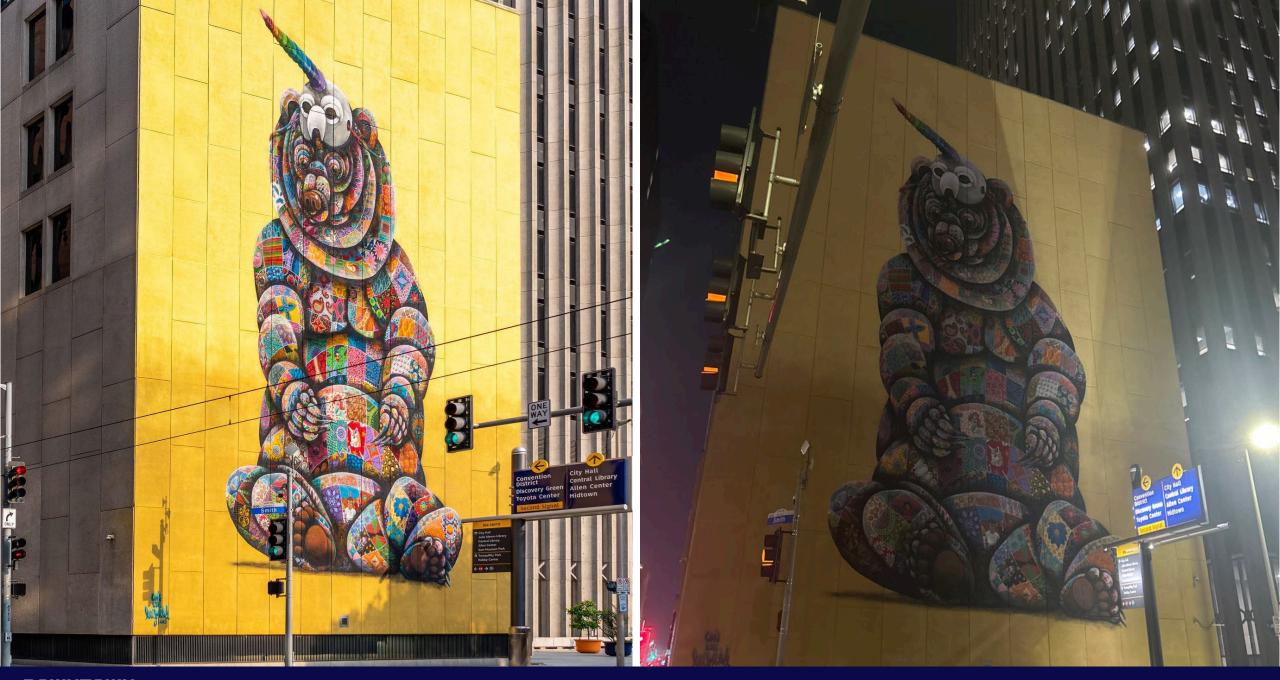
8 Areas of Opportunity

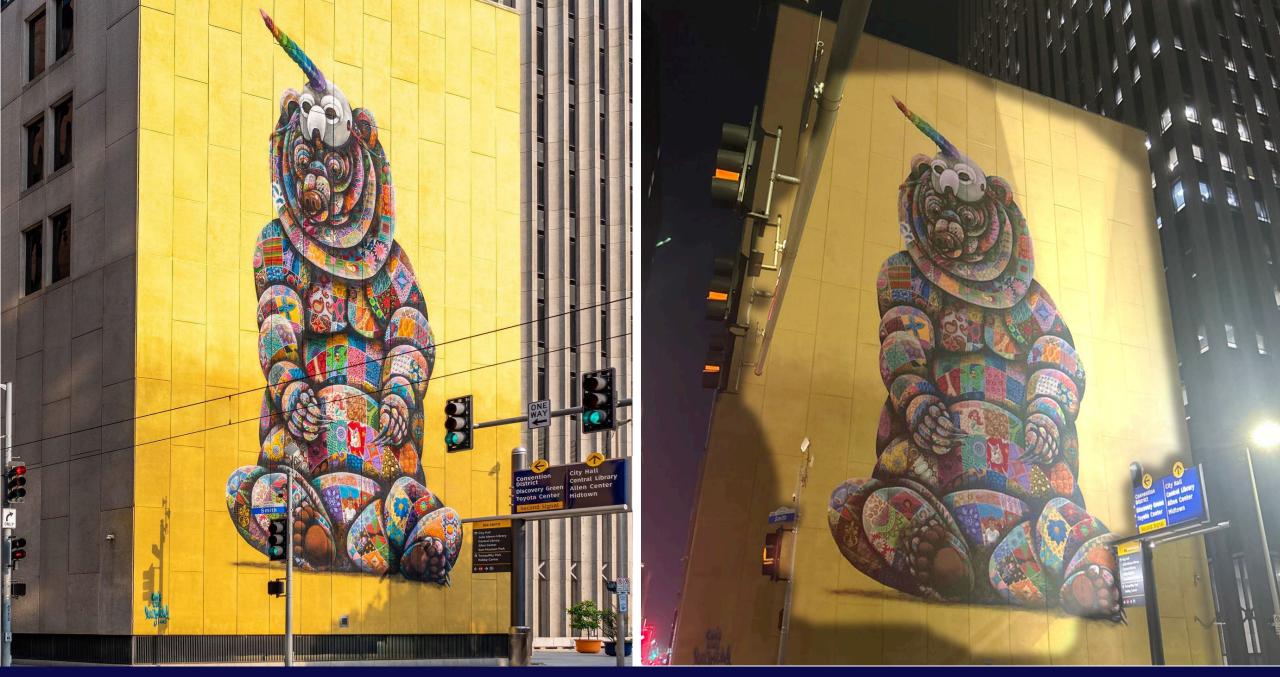


## ENHANCE MURALS THROUGH FACADE LIGHTING

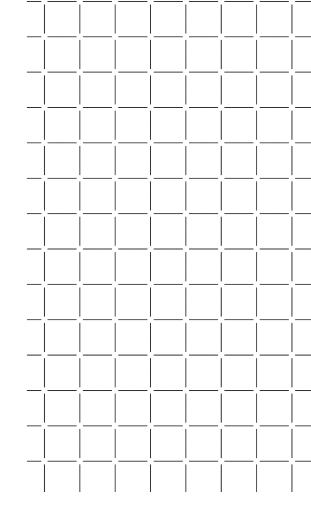








## ADVANCE ENGINEERING FOR MAIN STREET PROMENADE





#### MAIN STREET PROMENADE

- RFQ to be issued: January 2024
- Continuous communication with Main Street businesses and owners will be an important part of the process
- Designing with programming in mind
- Engineering phase will run through early 2025

