EVIRONMENTAL SCAN TOOL
Aimee Schultze, MPH, CHES®

HCPHTX.ORG
HARRIS COUNTY: BIG DIVERSE & COMPLEX

Harris County is the third most populous county with over 4.7 million people spread over 1,778 square miles.
Built Environment Unit

Our mission is to promote health and well-being through healthy community design where individuals live, learn, work, worship, and play in Harris County, Texas.

Safe Routes to School
- Pasadena
- Baytown
- Acres Homes

Safe Routes to Parks
- Baytown
Environmental Scan Tool (EST)

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Capture pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure data
- Street Segment level
- GPS coordinates

Land Use
Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
Road Attributes
Walking and Cycling Environment (comfort)

Created 2015, Updated 2021
B2. Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities

6 Sidewalk completeness/continuity: *
Select...

7 Sidewalk material: *
Select...

8 Sidewalk width: *
Select...
Less than 3 ft.
3 ft. to 4 ft. 11 in.
>= 5 ft. or more
Select...

11 Distance from edge of sidewalk to curb or edge of pavement: *
Select...

12 Buffer between road & sidewalk (check all that apply): *
Select...

13 Does sidewalk cross-slope allow access to people of all abilities?: *
Select...

14 Are there curb ramps present at the intersections?: *
Select...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EST Benefits</th>
<th>EST Limitations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real experience walking on the street</td>
<td>Evaluates both sides of the street at the same time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of GIS and technology for more rapid assessments</td>
<td>Does not evaluate crossings/intersections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Captures pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure data</td>
<td>Limited bicycle infrastructure data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provides infrastructure data to City planning and engineering departments</td>
<td>Some questions are subjective</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1) Improve visibility of signalized Pedestrian Crossing on Richey St. (See Appendix A)

- Install Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon Signal
- Re-stripe crosswalk and “SCHOOL XING” marks on pavement
- ADA curb ramps with truncated dome tactile strip at the bottom of the curb ramp with contrasting color
- Install additional “Pedestrian Crossing” signage on roadside and overhead crossing
- Install median on Richey St. to slow traffic
- Improve visibility of traffic signals with use of signage and physical support structure
Resources

BE Unit Website

BE Unit Safe Routes Programs

Built Environment Tools