



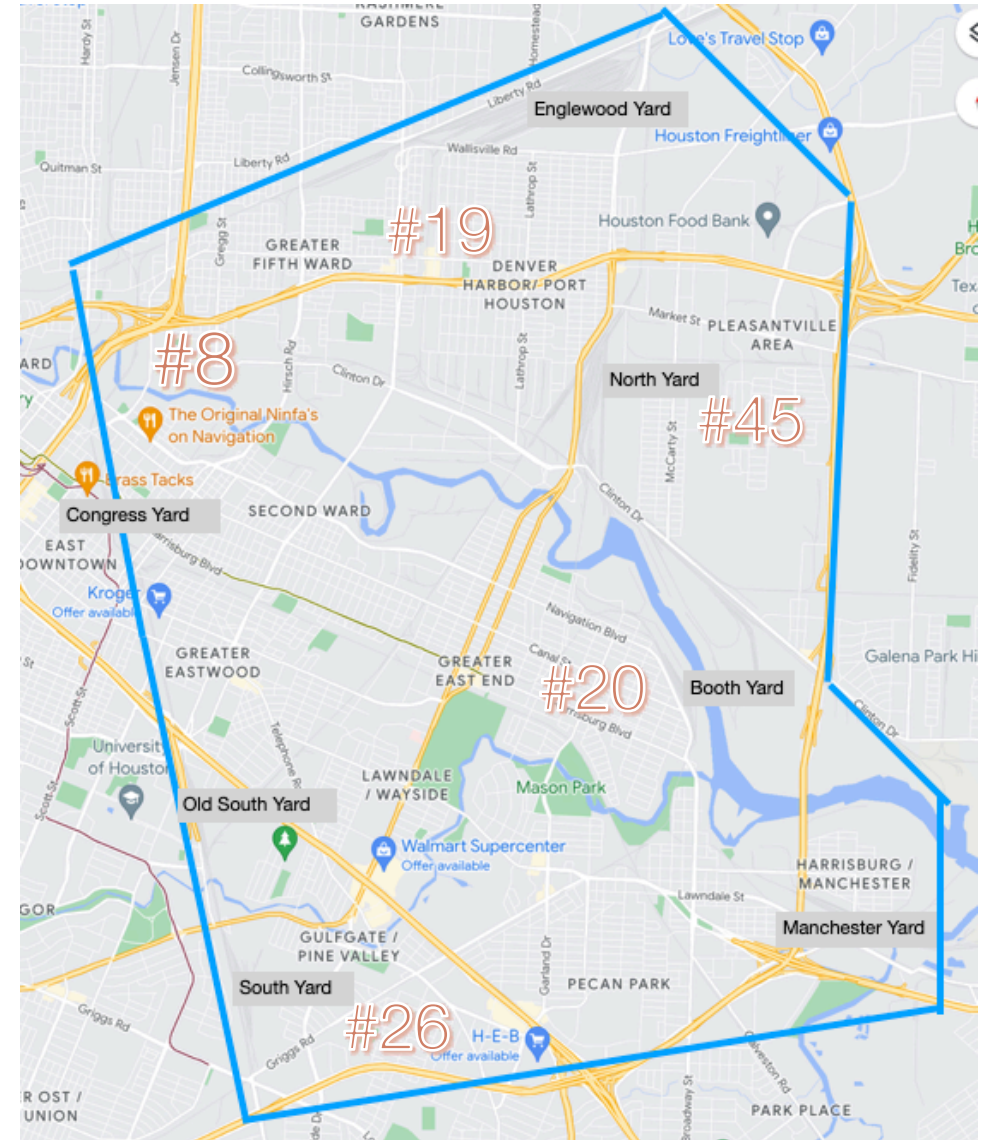
EAST END
DISTRICT

Rail Safety Task Force
March 2023

Jack C. Hanagriff, Manager
Road Safety and Mobility Program
East End District

East Houston Focus

- Continue to identify needs and address concerns related to train operations impacting quality of life in East Houston Neighborhoods
- Identify other road safety and mobility concerns within the East Houston area



Rail Corridor Collaborative – UPRR Update

- Leadership is aligned is ensuring railroad operations are efficient and blocked crossing reduction is a priority
- Operational Adjustments are ensuring train routing is efficient
- Making infrastructure investments to reduce bottlenecks and stoppages
- Increasing visibility of blocked crossing events:
 - Track Tags
 - Email Notifications
 - Dispatch Alerts
 - Use of Cameras and other Sensors
- Consistent Communication with other railroads, Houston First Responders, FRA and community leaders



February 2023 Reported Blockages

	January 2023	February 2023
HFD	93 (56 Stopped)	80 (48 Stopped)
FRA	72 (134)	(152)

East End	OST/South Park	Pleasantville	Fifth Ward
11	16	0	4

Trainfo Analysis

February 2023	Average Trains over 10 minutes	Average Occupancy	# over 30 minutes	Longest Occupancy
Commerce Street	22	10 minutes	19	2.5 Hours
Lockwood	6	20 Minutes	17	11 Hours (2/26/23 @8:00 PM) No Impacts to HFD
York	16	7 Minutes	14	11 Hours (2/26/23 @ 8:00 PM)
Market (5900)	15	18 Minutes	53	5 Hours (02/26/23 @7:13 PM)
Polk (5400)	12	2 minutes	0	
Leeland/Cullen	25	8 minutes	12	1.5 Hours (02/28/23 @8:28 PM) (2/23 – 49 minutes)

January 2023	Average Trains over 10 minutes	Average Occupancy	# over 30 minutes	Longest Occupancy
Commerce Street	21	9 minutes	16	3 Hours (1/10/23-10:23 AM)
Lockwood	6	15 minutes	24	4 Hours (1/7/23-3:52 AM)
York	19	5 Minutes	2	6 Hours (1/1/23-6:59 PM)
Market (5900)	13	17 Minutes	4	5 Hours (1/12/23-5:00 PM)-Peak
Polk (5400)	Under Calibration			
Leeland/Cullen	Under Calibration			

Rail Safety Taskforce



Second
Ward



Fifth Ward



Eastwood

Denver Harbor



Magnolia Park



Pleasantville



Pecan Park



South Park

Lawndale/Wayside



Manchester

Gulfgate/Pine Valley



OST/South Union



Have Representation

- Request for Congressional Assistance regarding railroad operations affecting community stability
- Develop a monthly report to highlight railroad and community efforts

Request for Congressional Assistance

CONGRESSWOMAN SYLVIA GARCIA WILL INTRODUCE DON'T BLOCK OUR COMMUNITIES ACT NEXT WEEK

I'm introducing a bill in Congress next week to address the issue of blocked crossings. My bill, "Don't Block Our Communities Act," or the "D-BLOC Act," is a significant step towards holding rail carriers accountable and making our communities more efficient and safe. As you know, rail safety and transportation reliability are among my top priorities. I am exceptionally dedicated to ensuring that passing trains do not continue to disrupt the flow of traffic and emergency vehicles in my district.

THE DON'T BLOCK OUR COMMUNITIES ACT WILL:

**PROHIBIT RAIL CARRIERS FROM BLOCKING INTERSECTIONS
WITH PASSING TRAINS FOR MORE THAN 10 MINUTES**

**REQUIRE THE FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION TO
INVESTIGATE BLOCKED CROSSING INCIDENTS THAT HAVE
BEEN REPORTED BY YOU - THE PUBLIC - TO THE NEW
BLOCKED CROSSINGS DATABASE**

**ALLOW THE FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION TO ISSUE
FINES TO RAIL CARRIERS FOR REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF
THIS BLOCKED CROSSING TIME LIMIT**



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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ANA HERNANDEZ
DISTRICT 143

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 27, 2023

Contact: Adriana Aguirre Hernandez
(512) 463-0614

Rep. Ana Hernandez Files Railroad Safety Legislation

AUSTIN, TX — State Representative Ana Hernandez files House Bill 2717 to address railroad safety concerns. According to the United States Government Accountability Office, freight train length has increased by 25 percent since 2008. The increasing length has adverse impacts as trains travel across the country and through our communities. This legislation will help reduce the frequency of blocked thoroughfares and harmful impacts affecting our neighborhoods.

"House Bill 2717 will restrict railroad train length to 8,500 feet. Limiting the train length will reduce the periods of time that grade crossings are blocked in our communities, which have been reported to last as long as 15 hours at a time.

Longer trains are blocking major thoroughfares, impeding the mobility of first responders, obstructing street access for students walking to school, and jeopardizing the train crew members' safety and communications, among other adverse impacts.

I look forward to working with my colleagues, constituents, and stakeholders to make our communities safer and improve the safety of railroad crew members." — Rep. Hernandez

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Representative Hernandez is currently serving her ninth term in the Texas House of Representatives. She proudly represents District 143, which includes part of Houston (Second Ward, Magnolia Park, Denver Harbor, Port Houston, North Shore, Clinton Park), part of Baytown, the communities of Channelview and Cloverleaf, and the cities of Galena Park and Jacinto City.

Monthly Update

Rail Safety Taskforce

The Rail Safety Taskforce is made up of community organizations that work together to address the safety of the rail corridor. The taskforce is focused on identifying safety issues and working to address them through community outreach and advocacy.

Click the links to view Meeting Presentations



Meeting Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Review of the Rail Safety Taskforce
- 3. Presentation of the Rail Safety Taskforce Report
- 4. Open House and Community Outreach

Meeting Photo: Members and guests at the meeting




The Rail Safety Taskforce is currently working on a plan to address the safety of the rail corridor. The plan includes a number of key elements, including a review of the rail corridor, a review of the rail safety taskforce, and a review of the rail safety taskforce report.




Safety Sync Up

A coordinated effort of organizations to bring safety concerns to the East End District and throughout the East End District.

SAFE WORK - Greater Houston
COMMUNITY HEALTH UNIONS
LABOR UNION
HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAFETY
Meeting Agenda




Information about the meeting agenda



Safe Road Steering Program




- Tracking Roadway Concerns in East Houston
- Blocked Crossings
- Sight Distance Limitations
- Dangerous Intersections
- Bike/ Pedestrian Access



The Safe Road Steering Program is a collaborative effort of the East End District and the Houston Area Council of Governments (HACOG) to address roadway safety concerns in East Houston.

Rail Corridor Collaborative

Partnership between organizations to address the safety of the rail corridor through a collaborative effort.

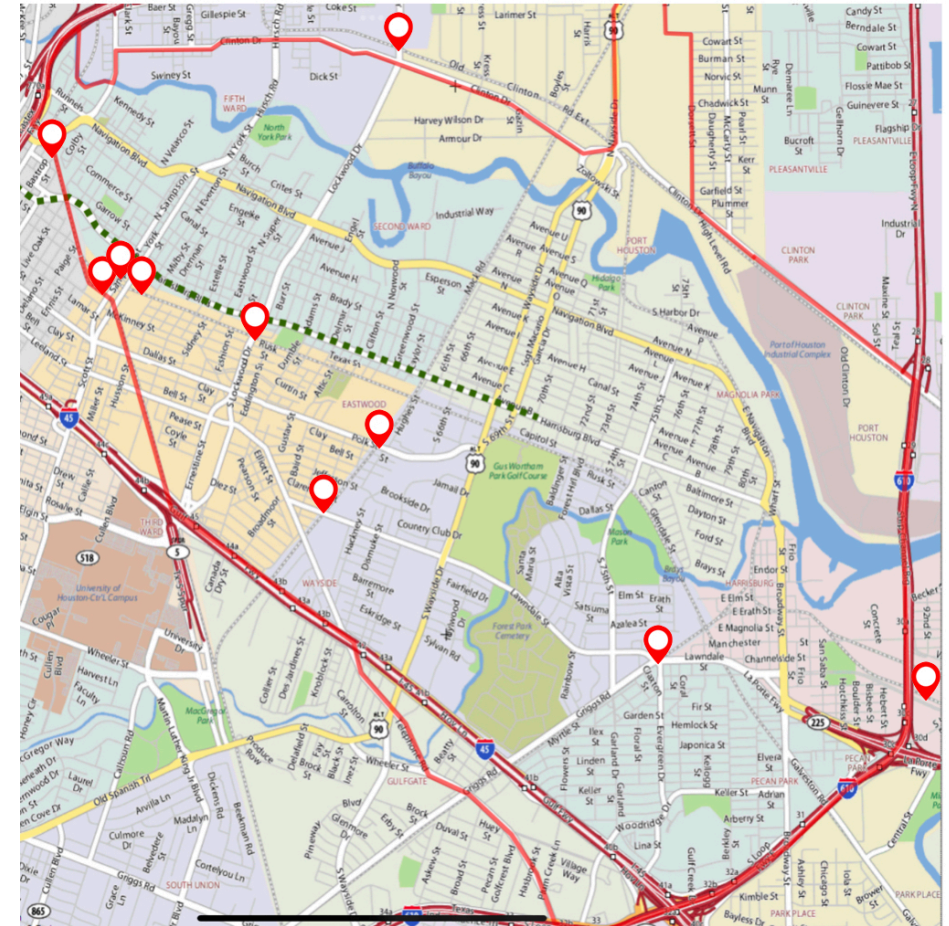


Smart Railroad Sensors



- 14 Locations Monitored
- Capturing data on behaviors (train, motorist, pedestrian) at the crossings
- Access is available to participating railroads
- Coordinating with Houston Emergency Services to assist in improving response

Some Locations are available for public viewing at [Livetrains.com](https://www.livetrains.com)



Railroad Impact Study

- Research Delays to HFD
- Business Impact Survey



Thank You

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Road Safety and Mobility Program
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