



Rail Safety Task Force January 2026

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East End District

Rail Safety Task Force

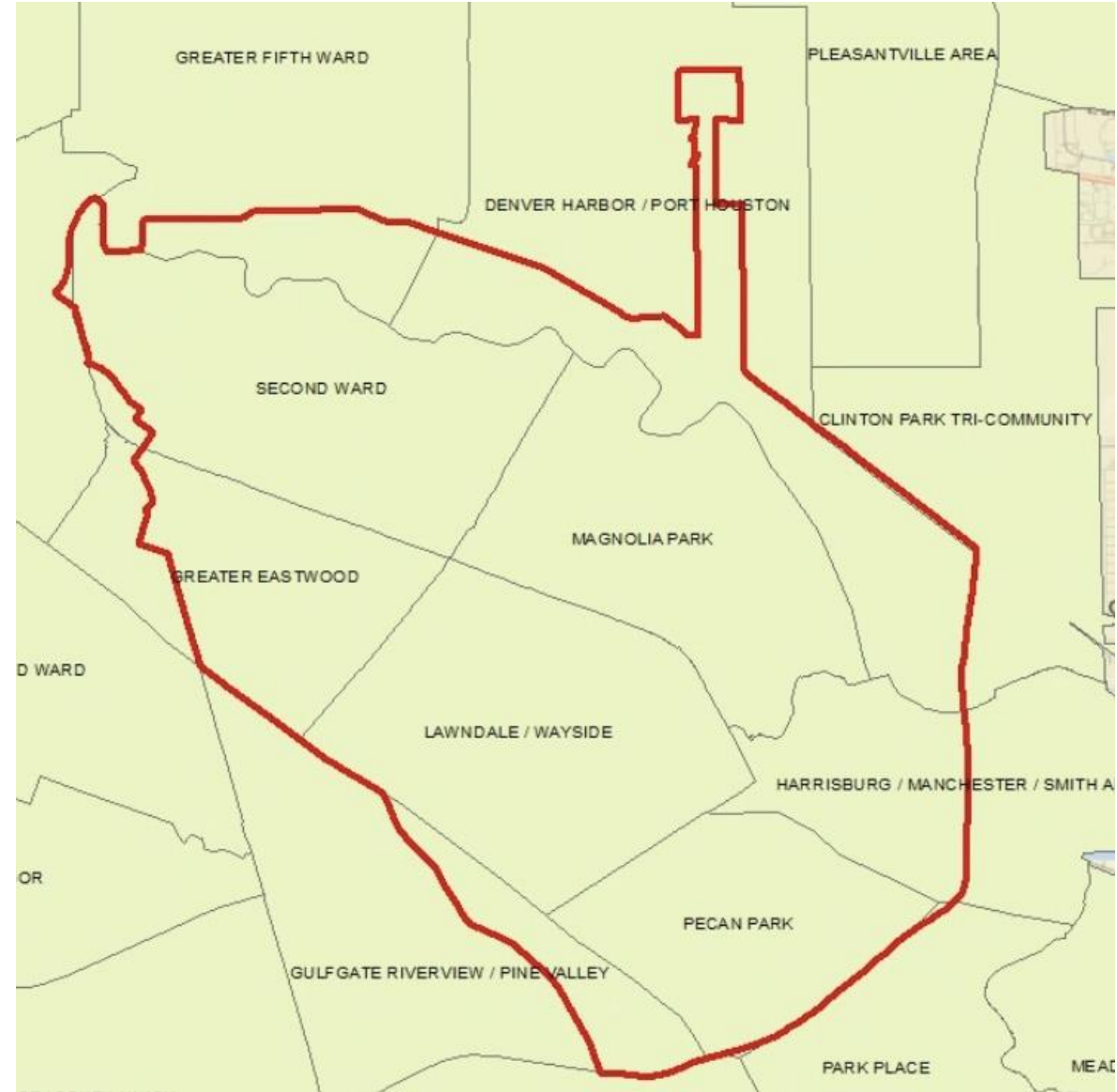
Top 3 Neighborhood Concerns

2026

- Discussion on Top Railroad Impacts
- Blocked Crossing
- Smart Solutions
- Risk Management

2025

- Stopped Trains
- Train Horn Noise
- Speeding Vehicles



Rail Corridor Collaborative

Review Significant Stopped Train Events

December 2 - (Leeland and Cullen)-Five Hour Stop

December 7 - Two Hour Stop

December 13 - Train Vehicle Crash

December 15(Galveston Sub)

January 8-2 Hour Stop



Rail Safety Focus Group

Public and Private Sector entities from the four railroads, city, county, state and federal governments

- Continuity of Efforts
- Information Sharing
- Transparency
- Goal Oriented

<u>Short Term</u>	<u>Mid Term</u>	<u>Long Term</u>
Crossing Prioritization List	Monitoring/Alerting Technology	Infrastructure Improvements
Signage Wayfinding	Pedestrian Access	Legislation
Rail Project Awareness	Funding	

Railroad Corridor Projects

Texas House allocated \$10 million in funds for a pedestrian bridge

- Pedestrian bridge to be constructed for Broadway Crossing to support safety around Milby High School
- UPRR completed fencing to protect pedestrians from crossing tracks in unsafe areas
- UPRR and City of Houston collaborated to complete the sidewalks over the railroad tracks, creating an at grade pedestrian crossing for students.

Federal Railroad Awarded \$36.9 for underpass along UPRR West Belt

- Underpasses scheduled to be constructed for York Street crossings and the Commerce Street crossing
- ### **Harris County Precinct 2 and City of Houston**
- Received \$2 million to study the effects of the East End Train Triangle

Leeland/Cullen Study

- Houston Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (TIRZ) has requested a feasibility study of the Leeland and Cullen Crossings.

Data Convergence

Using FY24 SS4A Funding, to collaborate with the Traffic Injury Research Foundation to link and analyze Stopped Train Events:

- FRA Blocked Crossing Report,
- Houston Smart Railroad Project,
- HFD Delay by Train Report

Goals:

- Identify trends that compound a Stopped Train Event
- Evaluating Pedestrian Activity at Crossings

Safe Streets Project Updates

- FY22 – \$603,646 awarded to create a safety action plan
 - Completed in July 2025 and posted on EED Website
- FY24 - \$895,000 awarded in December 2025
 - Transportation System Analysis for EED
 - Pedestrian – Vehicle Conflict Studies along the Esplanade on Navigation, Lower Second Ward and Harrisburg Plaza area
 - Implement Treatments related to updated crosswalks, lighting, and active warning signage in study areas.

Safe Streets Project Updates

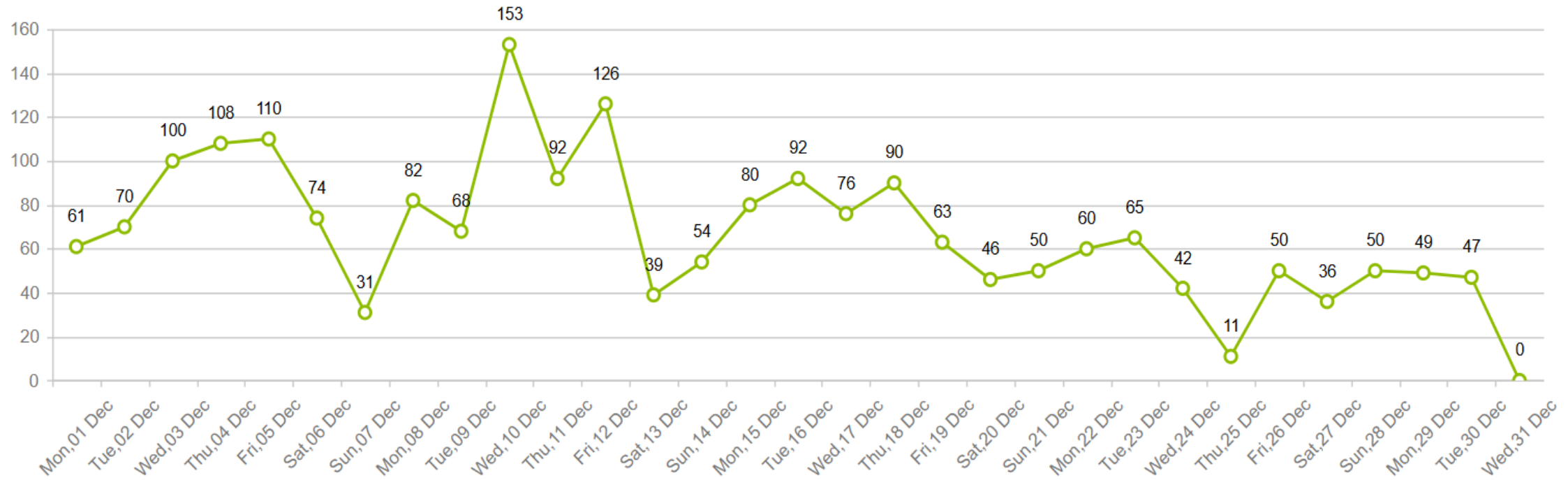
FY25 – \$1,102,256 awarded, pending obligation of funds

- Traffic Demand Study of District Gateways in Second Ward
- Feasibility Study for implementing Bike/Pedestrian access on St. Charles Street



National Blocked Crossing Trends

December 2025



December 2025 - 2,075

November 2025 - 2,214

October 2025 - 2,517

September 2025 - 1,976

August 2025 - 2,206

East Houston Sensor Activity December 2025

December 2025	▼ Daily Crossing Occupancy▼	Average Occupancy▼	Total over 1 hou▼	Longest Occupancy	▼ location of longest occupar▼	incomplete data	▼
Validated: Smart Crossing Technology							
Commerce St	25	9 min	7	2.52 Hr 12/11/25 @ 12:45 PM	288129A	see senor health tab	
Hirsch Rd	7	21 min	14	2.78 Hr 12/5/25 @ 12:48 AM	755640L	see senor health tab	
Leeland/cullen	21	10 min	11	2.25 Hr 12/21/25 @ 11:02 AM	288224V	see senor health tab	
Lockwood St	9	10 min	2	2.52 Hr 12/16/25 @ 1:48 PM	859523F	see senor health tab	
Market(5900)	14	11 min	1	1.33 Hr 12/28/25 @ 5:19 PM	755709E	see senor health tab	
Polk (5400)	11	7 min	1	1.2 Hr 12/24/25 @ 5:02 PM	288039B	see senor health tab	
York St	3	10 min	0	.16 Hr 12/28/25 @ 4:29 PM	859517C	see senor health tab	

Transportation Safety Web Page

Created a Transportation Safety Page on the EED Website

- Community Groups
- Plans & Programs
- Helpful Links
- Resources and Studies

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

As a community effort to address transportation challenges, the East End District is implementing a comprehensive strategy focusing on transportation safety, quality of life and mobility throughout the district. Key initiatives include: creating a comprehensive safety action plan, identifying traffic flow impediments such as blocked railroad crossings, damaged crossings, inadequate pedestrian access, and malfunctioning traffic control devices.



MISSION

The East End District provides services and conducts capital improvement throughout the 16 square miles of the District. The services, funded by assessment paid by commercial property interests throughout the District, include public safety programs, graffiti abatement, maintenance of major thoroughfares, and disposal of illegally dumped trash.



Team



Community



Resources

HELPFUL LINKS

Report a blocked crossing
TXDOT Rail FAQ
TX Operations Lifesaver
Train Watch
Report Issues to Union Pacific

<https://www.fra.dot.gov/blockedcrossings>
<https://www.txdot.gov/discover/rail/rail-faqs.html>
<https://sites.oli.org/state/tx#about>
<https://houstontx.gov/trainwatch/>
[Notify Union Pacific | Union Pacific](#)

Rails and Trails Task Force

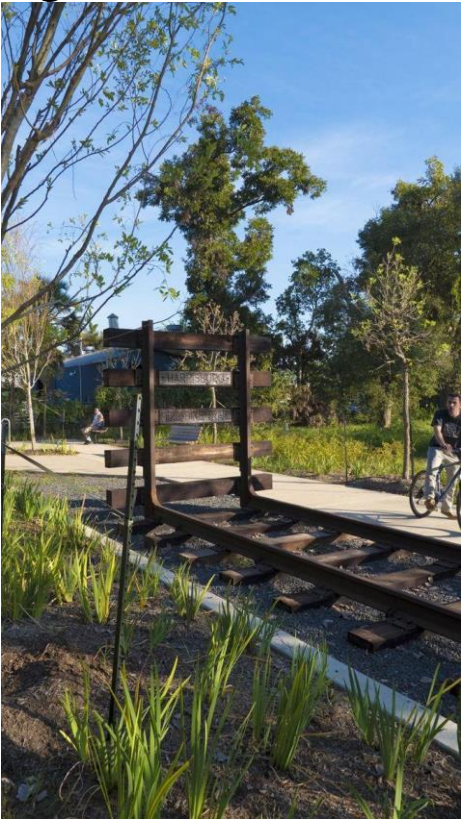
A collaborative effort between the East End District, HPD, PCT6 Constables, PCT1, UPRR, and Houston Parks to develop a best practice for managing property related concerns along railroad corridors and hike/bike trails within the East End District

Rail Corridor Update

- Coordinating with CCE and UPRR on a prioritized property violation list
- Coordinating with Precinct 1 Environmental Unit to proactively address illegal dumping along railroad right of way

Hike and Bike Trail Update

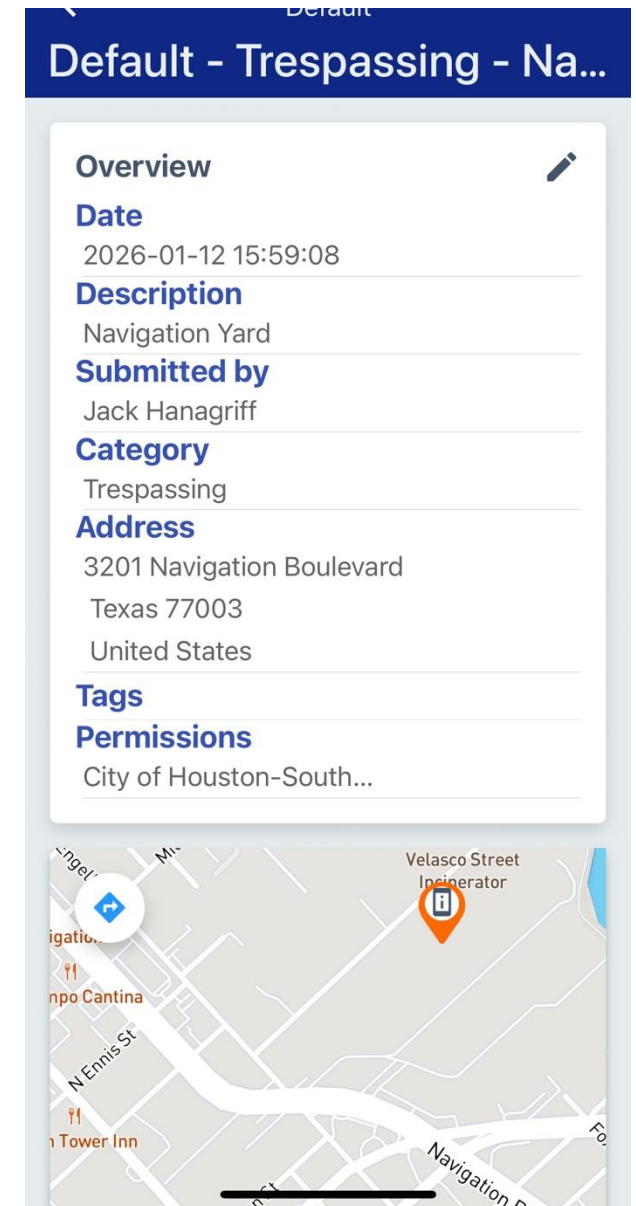
Park Maintenance	9 Events	Debris Pickup & Trail Mowing
Urban Ranger Patrol	4	Homeless Contact -11
HPD & PT 6 Patrol	2	



Mobile Technology

Using Mobile Technology to track locations of unwanted and unsafe behavior

- Illegal Dumping
- Trespassing on Railroad Right Away
- Homeless Encampments





THE PROJECT

The Houston-Galveston region accounts for nearly 20% of traffic deaths in Texas. In an average year, 739 people are killed and 3,678 people experience life-altering injuries from traffic crashes within the region. Each day two people are killed, ten people are seriously injured, and countless years of life are lost. In response to these tragedies, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) and local agencies have initiated the **H-GAC Safety Action Plan (SAP) project**.

Attend our public meeting and visit our website to learn more about the project! This public meeting will focus on the Regional, METRO, and GCRD Safety Action Plans.

Houston-Galveston Area Council

2nd Floor, Conference Room B

Thursday, February 12 | 6:30 pm

3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, TX 77027

Questions? Contact:

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EAST END
DISTRICT

Thank You
