



Rail Safety Task Force

June 2025

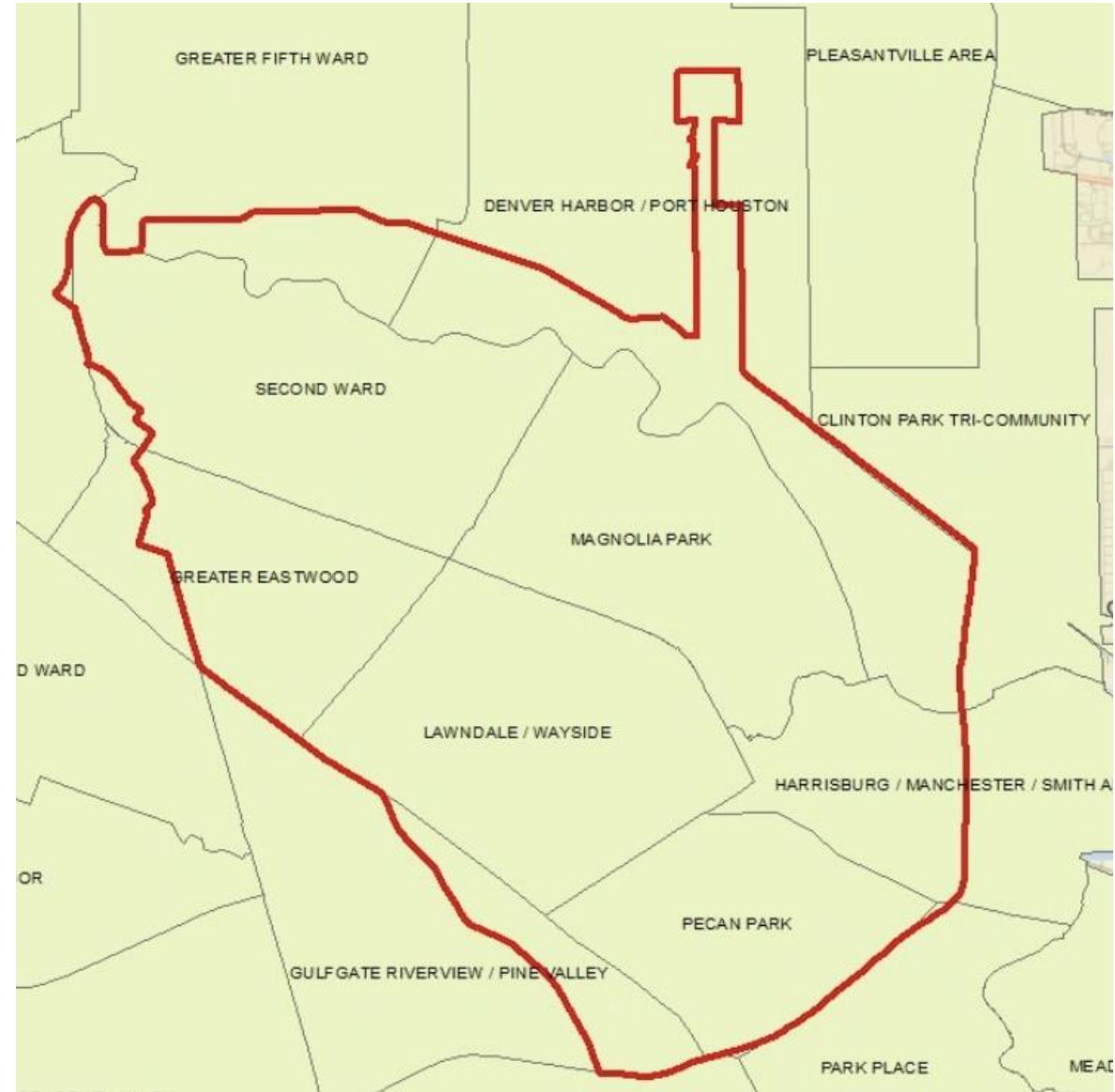
Jack C. Hanagriff, Manager
Road & Rail Safety Program
East End District

Trinity Park, Project Manager
Safe Streets Project
East End District

Rail Safety Task Force

Top 3 Neighborhood Concerns

- Stopped Trains
- Train Horn Noise
- Speeding Vehicles



Rail Corridor Collaborative

Reported Events that affected Safety and Railroad Operations:

- June 5, 2025 – Congestion Multiple crossings and corridors affected due to track damage
- June 3, 2025 – Derailment (Non-Hazmat/No Injuries)
- May 2025 - Track Maintenance Project Phase 2
- March 18, 2025 – 2.5 Hour Blockage on Galveston Sub (Train Meet & Track Curfew)
- March 11, 2025 – Track Maintenance on East Belt – no disruption expected
- January 1, 2025 – Track Maintenance in Denver Harbor/Fifth Ward
- December 9, 2024 – Pedestrian Train Fatality (Galveston Sub)



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
School Proximity List	Pedestrian Access	Legislation
Railroad Operating Practices	Funding	
Communication		
Signage (Wayfinding)		
Public Awareness Campaign		
Crossing Guards		

State, Federal, & City Activities

Texas Senate passes bill to fund safer railroad crossings

- SB 1555 co-authored by Senator Carol Alvarado & Senator Robert Nichols
- \$350 million grant program
- \$10 million appropriated for a memorial pedestrian bridge at Milby High School
- Approves TXDOT to manage projects on non-state highways

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

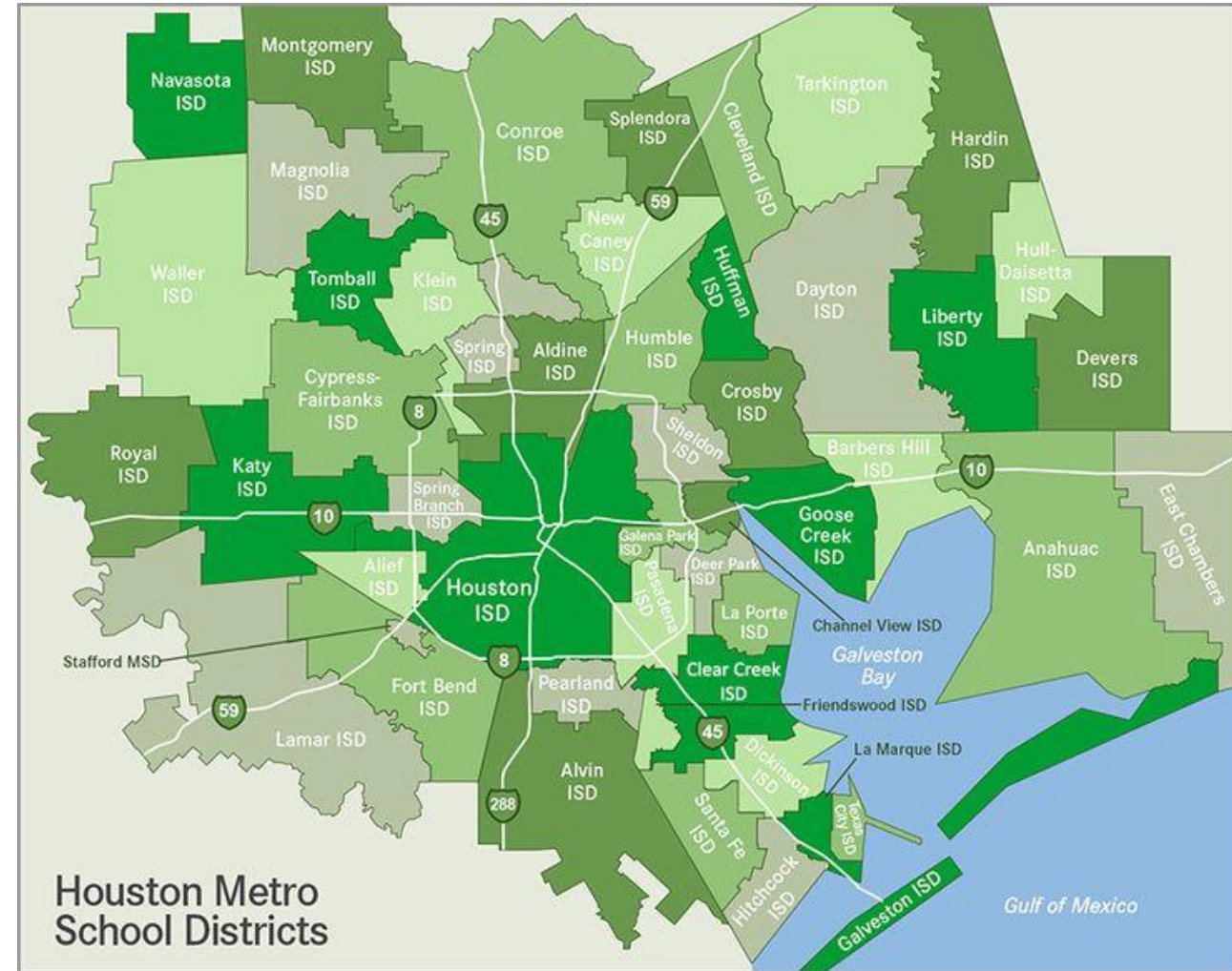
- Underpasses scheduled to be constructed for York Street crossings and the Commerce Street crossing
Harris County Precinct 2 and City of Houston
- Received \$2 million to study the effects of the East End Train Triangle

Metro Grade Separation Effort

- Put Lockwood Crossing back on the table for underpass
- Review other "gateway" crossings to the East End
- Leverage funding to improve Preemption Data

Community Safety Strategy

- East End Safe Streets
 - Transportation Safety Coordinator
 - Assess needs, concerns, and guide resources to schools, clinics, and community centers
- Railroad Safety Outreach
 - UPRR
 - BNSF
 - PTRR
 - CPKC



Data Convergence

Using FY22 SS4A Funding, Texas A&M School of Public Health and TTI is helping to correlate data content from the:

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

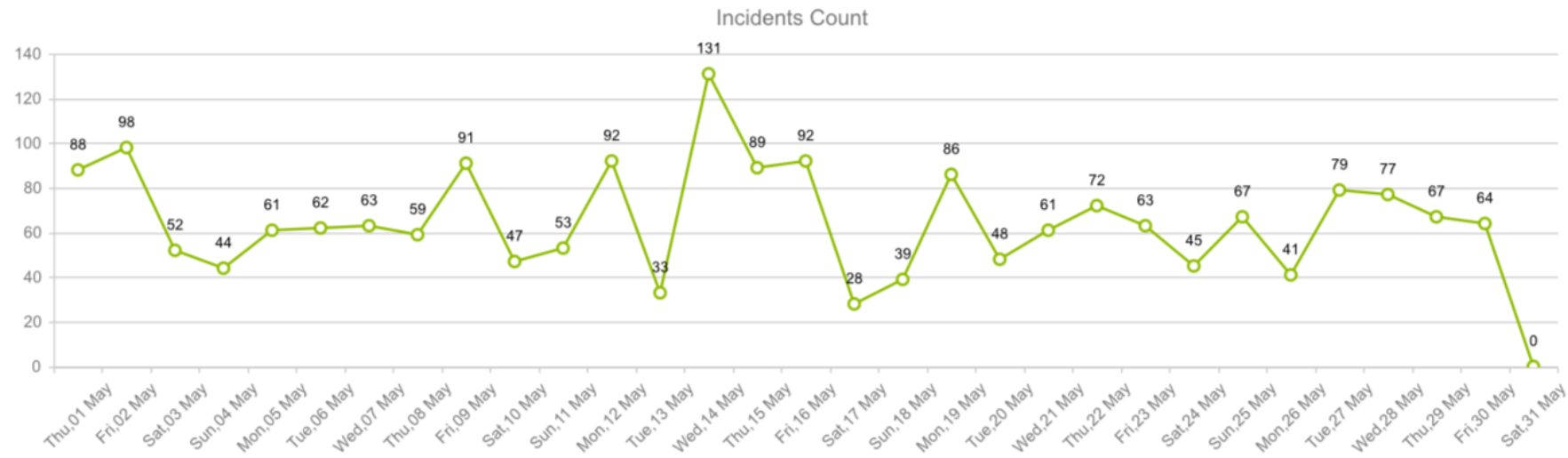
The goal is to identify trends that compound a Stopped Train Event

Evaluating Pedestrian Activity at Crossings



National Blocked Crossing Trends

May 2025



May 2025- 1,9912

April 2025 – 2,378

March 2025 – 2,486

February 2025-2,015

January 2025 – 1,820

East Houston Sensor Activity May 2025

May 2025	Daily Crossing Occupancy	Average Occupancy	Total over 1 hour	Longest Occupancy
Commerce St	26	9 min	2	1.4 Hr 5/6/25 @ 9:21 PM
Hirsch Rd	7	20 min	12	2.4 Hr 5/15/25 @6:20 PM
Leeland/cullen	27	8 min	9	2.6 Hr 5/4/25 @ 1:14 PM
Lockwood St	9	11 min	1	1.2 Hr 5/14/25 @12:14 AM
Market(5900)	18	13 min	11	12.1 HR 5/27/25 @ 12:33 AM
Polk (5400)	20	2 min	0	n/a
York St	13	9 min	4	3.2 Hr 5/16/25 @9:55 PM

FY22 EED Safety Action Plan – Ends July 2025

FY24 EED Supplemental Planning and Demonstration - \$895,000

FY24 Houston HFD Post Crash Care - \$3.4 Million

FY25 EED Supplemental Planning Bike/Ped Access -2nd Ward



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- July 23-24, 2025
 - Public And Private Sector Safety Professionals
 - Review Best Practices related to Road and Rails Safety Programs in the Houston-Harris County Area
 - Develop a process for managing railroad safety efforts similar to Chicago CREATE



Thank You
