South Lamar Blvd. **Corridor Study** December 10, 2014 **Public Meeting Exhibits** 



# Why am I here?

While you are here tonight you can help to...

# ...Identify mobility and safety issues for

Autos



Mobility and safety concerns you identify along South Lamar Boulevard will be considered for further analysis in the next step of this study.

Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies INVOLVED

an Hughes, P.E., 512-974-7186 alan.hughes@austintexas.go

IVOLVED

# **South Lamar Traffic Conditions**

### Current Corridor Traffic Volumes

South of Riverside Dr. 38,500 TRIS 4,970 AM (7:00 - 9:00) 6,610 PM (4:00 - 6:00)

 Between Oltorf and Bluebonnet

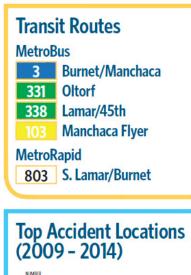
 35,810
 August A

 5,770
 PM (4:00 - 6:00)

North of Brodie Oaks 31,780 DAILY 3,670 AM (7:00 - 9:00) 5,100 PM (4:00 - 6:00)

### Pedestrian/Bicycle Activity

- ★ 70% 55 66 97 1. Riverside Dr.
- 13 75 2. Barton Springs Rd.
- 9 21 3. Treadwell St.
- 8 14 4. Hether/Mary St.



- 14 1. Ben White Blvd.
- 91 2. Butler Rd.
- 58 3. Oltorf St.
- **57** 4. Barton Springs Rd.
- 57 5. Barton Skyway

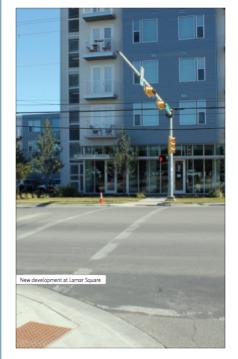


Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies



Alan Hughes, P.E., 512-974-7186 alan.hughes@austintexas.gov

## South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study Corridor Snapshots















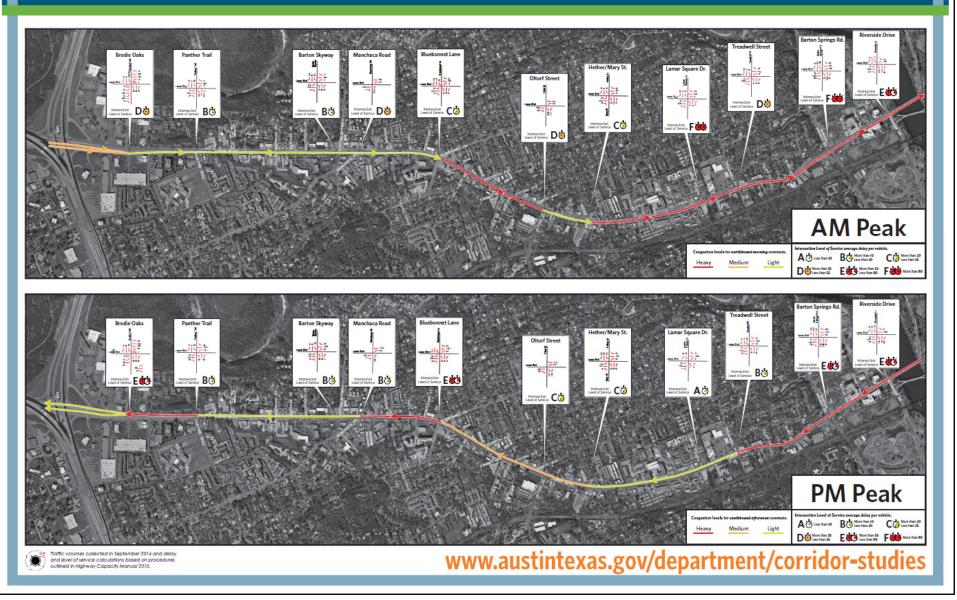




## South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study Corridor Snapshots



### South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study Intersection and Link Level of Service



Open

rc-1 🎁



Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies



Alan Hughes, P.E., 512-974-7186 alan.hughes@austintexas.gov

# **Stakeholder Outreach**

### Outreach to Date

Zilker Neighborhood Association Executive Committee

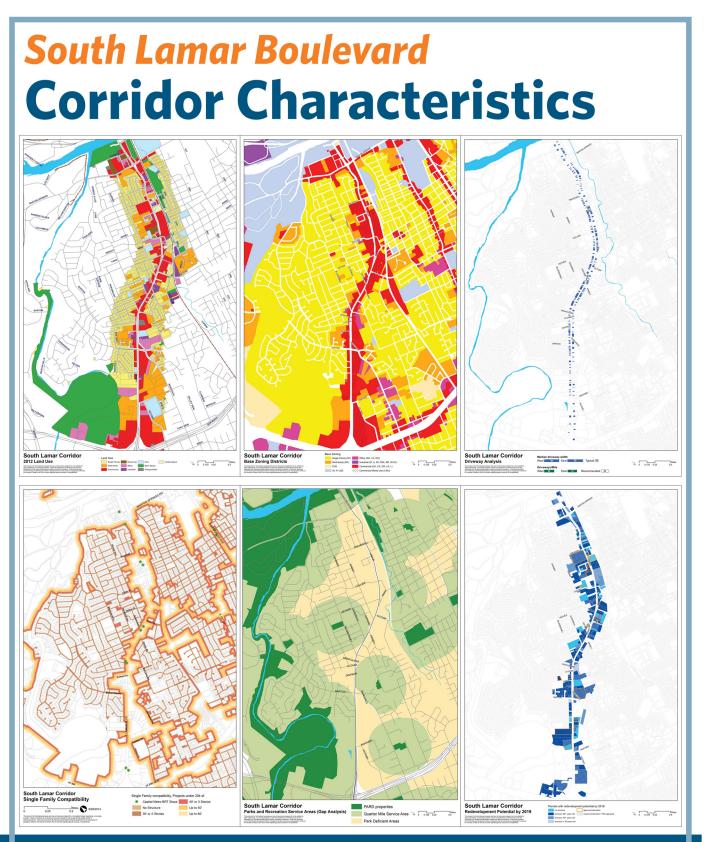
Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association Meeting Barton Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting **TBD**<sup>2015</sup> South Lamar Neighborhood Association Meeting

**Upcoming** Outreach

If you would like for project team members to meet with your neighborhood or community group, please contact Project Manager Alan Hughes, PE, City of Austin.

Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies INVOLVED

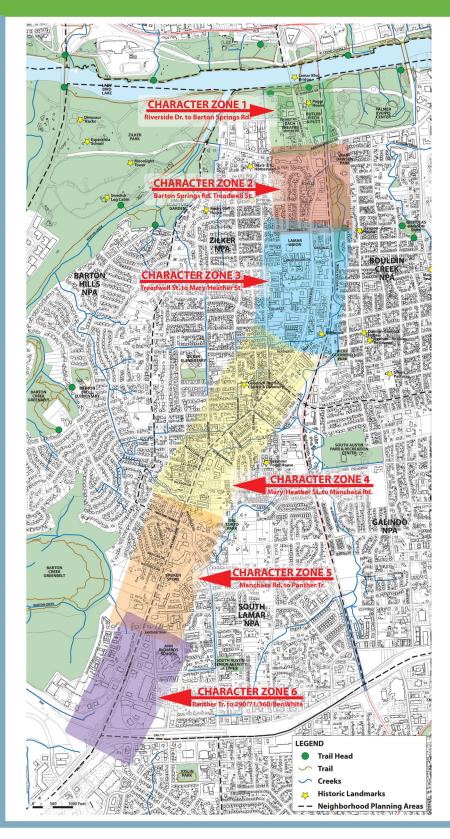
lan Hughes, P.E., 512-974-7186 alan.hughes@austintexas.gov

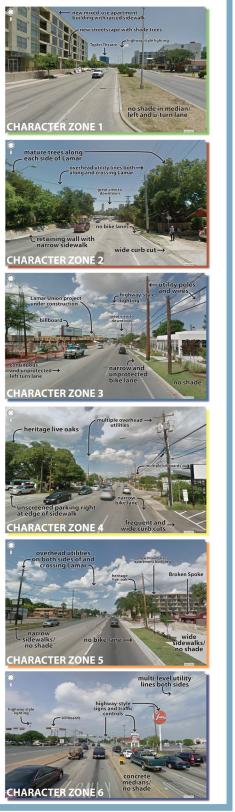


Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies



# South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study





Open

## South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study What are your priorities?



(c) Environment	(D) Urban Design	Cars	Pedestrians	6 Bicycles	🗊 Transit	(A) Safety

## **Imagine Austin and Complete Streets:** A road map for improving South Lamar.

The Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan has been adopted to serve as a guide to shape future growth in our City- including its streets, parks, neighborhoods, and quality of life.



Imagine Austin has eight **implementation priority programs.** These include:



Did you know? In the U.S. 28% of all trips are less than 1 mile.

> While many people are willing to walk or bike short distances, there are few places where



*it is enjoyable.* "Complete Streets seek to remedy this situation by making it safe and inviting for all users to share public roads. Complete Streets should accommodate, but also encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation."

Earlier this year a *Complete Streets Policy* was integrated into the *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*. The core intent of this policy is to ensure that Complete Streets serve all users and modes.

These policies will serve as the foundation on which the future South Lamar Boulevard is built.

Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies



Alan Hughes, P.E., 512-974-7186 alan.hughes@austintexas.gov

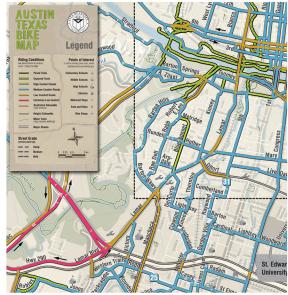
## South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study Planning for bike-friendly streets.



### What does the 2014 Bicycle Master Plan Update say?

### Vision

Austin is a place where people of all ages and abilities bicycle comfortably and safely for transportation, fitness and enjoyment. Bicycling brings benefits not just to people who bicycle, but the whole community by helping to activate the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan for our shared sustainable future.



Study Area Detail of the Austin Texas Bike Map

### Safer Cycling in our City: Austin in Action.



**Bike Routes** 

A network of posted routes and/or shared and designated lanes provides clear wayfinding routes for cyclists.



**Cycle Tracks** 

Physically separating bike lanes from car lanes creates a safer experience for cyclists.



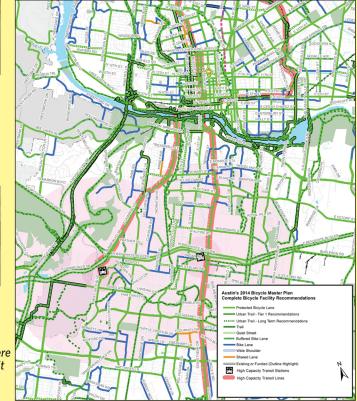
**Bike Lanes** 

Designated lanes on roadways are already a large component of Austin's existing bicycle network.



Intersection Treatments Bike boxes direct where automobiles should stop and where bicyclists should wait when stopped at intersections.

Detail of the 2014 Complete Bicycle Facilities Recommendations Map



# South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study Planning for walk-friendly places.



### What do the Sidewalk and Urban Trails Master Plans say?

### Sidewalks

The goal of the **Sidewalk Master Plan** is to provide an objective mechanism for the City's use in prioritizing sidewalk construction projects to complete a City-wide ADA-compliant sidewalk network.

The Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan promotes designing for people, not just cars. We can make our streets and roadway corridors more safe, attractive and welcoming for all. Complete Streets are designed to work for cars, but also need to meet the needs of children walking to school, bikes, people in wheelchairs, parents with strollers and non-drivers. Complete Streets are connected streets.

### **Urban Trails**

Urban Trails can help to enhance connectivity in neighborhoods, parks, schools, businesses, and other centers of activity.

For the City of Austin, the **Urban Trail Network** is defined as: "A citywide network of non-motorized, multi-use pathways that are used by bicyclists, walkers and runners for both transportation and recreation purposes."

### **Completing the Network: Sidewalks in our City.**



Arterial Sidewalks ADA compliant, continuous sidewalks can provide shade and reduce conflicts with vehicular traffic.



#### Intersection Treatments

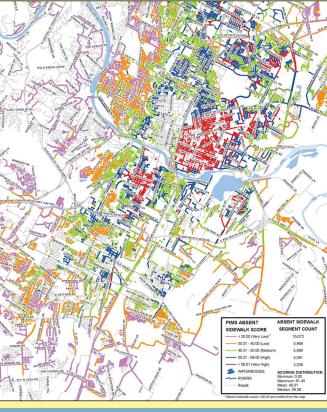
Traffic controls, signals, striping, signage, lighting and reduced crossing distances all help to enhance the pedestrian experience.



s Commercial Sidewalks In line with complete street design, wider sidewalks provide seating for restaurants, active ground level uses



**Connectivity** Improved crossings and 'filling in the gaps' helps to build connectivity in neighborhoods, and to places such as business, parks and schools. Detail of the City of Austin Pedestrian Plan Absent Sidewalk Scoring Results

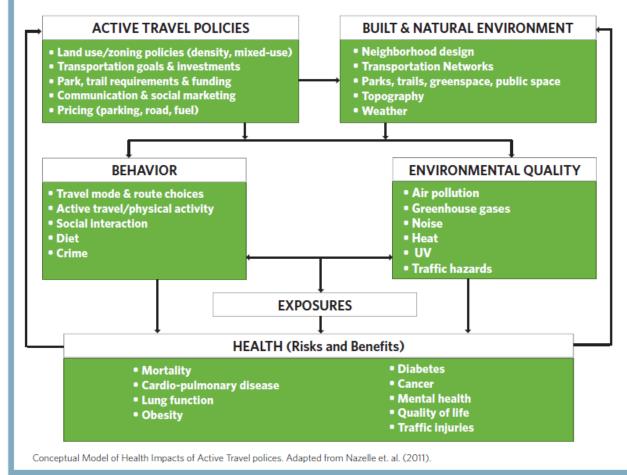


### South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study Health Impact Assessment: Introduction



### What is a Health Impact Assessment (HIA)?

- HIA makes visible the health effects of decisions that impact the public.
- Many factors affect health and well-being, including the social and built environments.
- HIA identifies opportunities to maximize positive and minimize negative health effects of policy/project.



### How are public health and the transportation environment connected?

- The built environment includes transportation infrastructure and surrounding land uses and design.
- Transportation can affect health in many ways, including behaviors such physical activity and social interactions.

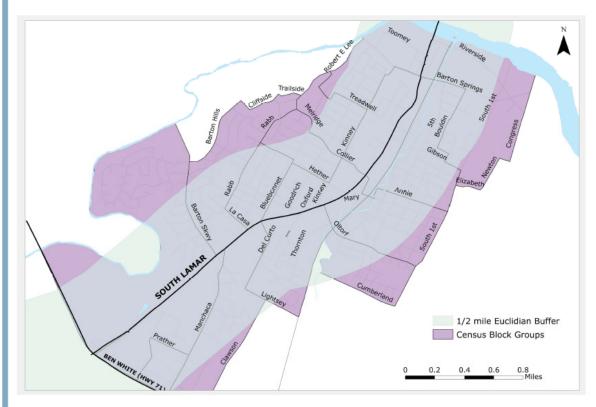
#### Purpose of the South Lamar Corridor Study HIA:

- To help ensure the project considers public health during the planning process.
- To provide information on the potential health impacts of proposed plan(s).
- To develop approaches to evaluate future health outcomes related to the corridor improvements.

### **South Lamar Boulevard** Corridor Study Health Impact Assessment: Study Area



The HIA study area consists of the sixteen census block groups that are at least 50% contained in a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile Euclidian ("as the crow flies") buffer around South Lamar corridor.



\*All data presented here came from the U.S. Census 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year estimates; as this area is experiencing substantial growth, 2014 population numbers are likely somewhat higher.

### Who lives here?\*

- 18,461 people in 9,927 households
- 2,764 children <18 (15.0%)
- •1,264 seniors 65+ (6.8%)

Population Density: **4,274 people per square mile.** 

How do the 10,774 commuters who live here typically get to work?

- 4.8% bike
- 3.2% walk
- 5.0% public transit
- 75.9% drive to work alone

What changes to the corridor could positively affect the health of the population that lives, works, plays and attends school in this area?



### **South Lamar Boulevard** Corridor Study Health Impact Assessment: S. Lamar Walkshed

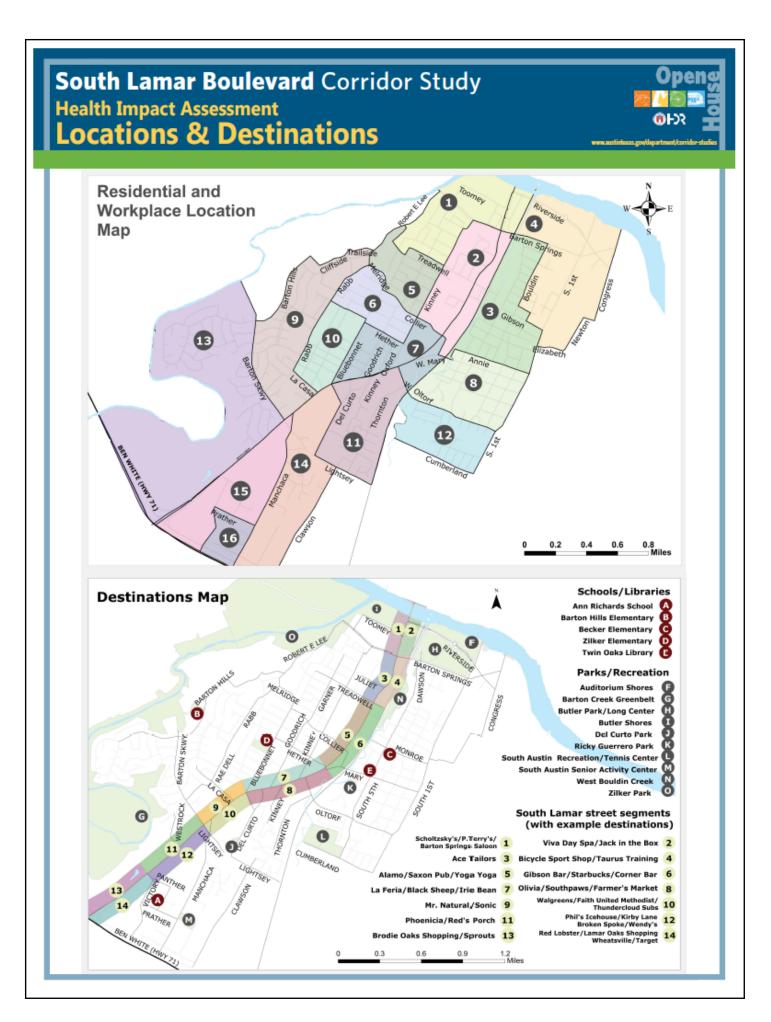
"Walksheds" are geographic areas within a walkable distance of a location or destination.

Rather than measuring distance "as the crow flies," these walksheds are based on distances along **a road network.** 

Along South Lamar, the intersection with the largest walkshed area is the **Bluebonnet/Lamar** intersection...

This intersection is on the route to school for students who cross Lamar to reach Zilker Elementary School.





# Where do we go from here?

**Consider.** community input from today's event.

> *Identify.* a list of potential multi-modal alternatives.



### Evaluate.

analyze and refine alternatives.

**Develop.** recommendations for the corridor.

Learn more about the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Study: www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies Openg Openg

lan Hughes, P.E., 512-974-7186 alan.hughes@austintexas.go