

# The Downtown Houston Park Connector

## Connecting Buffalo Bayou to Discovery Green

### What is the Park Connector?

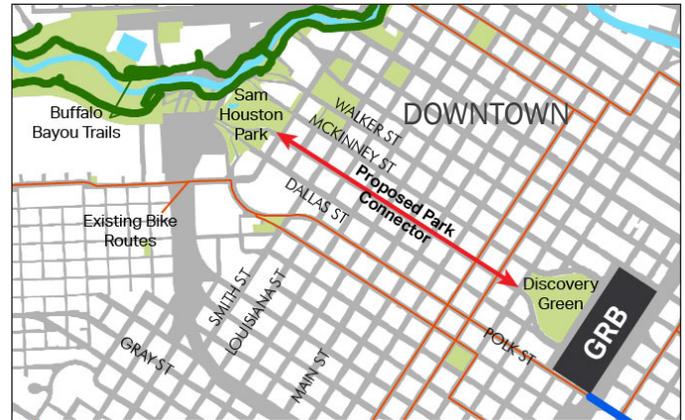
The Park Connector is a dedicated east-west bicycle facility crossing Downtown Houston on Lamar Street, connecting Discovery Green on the east to the Sam Houston Park & the trails along Buffalo Bayou west of Downtown.

### What is a Two-Way Cycle Track?

The Park Connector is planned as a two-way cycle track. Two-way cycle tracks are separated bicycle lanes that allow bicycle travel in both directions on one side of the road. They are frequently used on one-way streets and provide dedicated, protected space for bicyclists. They improve cyclists' perceived comfort and safety and have been shown to increase bicycle use by providing an attractive route to a wide range of bicyclists at all levels and ages.

### How Can a Cycle Track Benefit Downtown Houston?

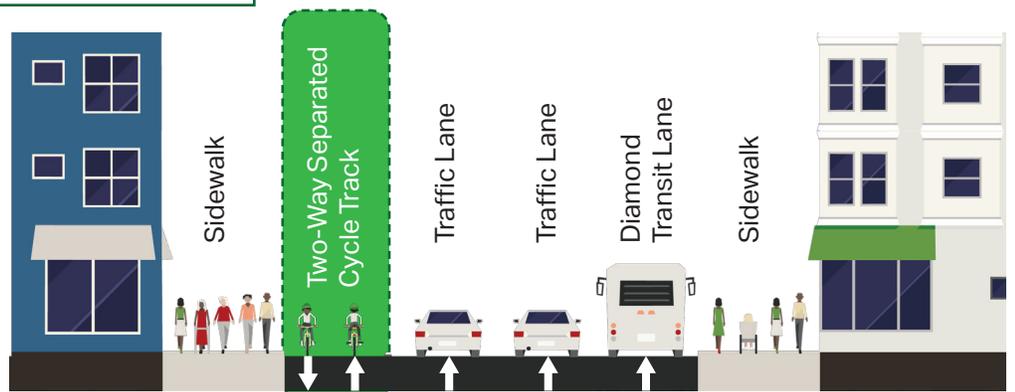
- The cycle track provides an attractive transportation route for more people to bike to and from Downtown Houston for work, entertainment, or major events.
- Cycle tracks increase driver's awareness of cyclists and reduces conflicts for both cyclists and drivers.
- Cycle tracks have been shown to create positive economic benefits to adjacent businesses and properties.
- Improved bicycle infrastructure can be a useful tool in recruiting businesses and employees.



Park Connector  
(Lamar Street)



Two-way Cycle Track  
(NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide)



Park Connector on Lamar Street  
(Looking Westbound)

### Examples of Urban Cycle Tracks



Rio Grande Street, Austin



15th Street, Washington, DC



Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC

For more information on the design of cycle tracks please visit:

<http://nacto.org/cities-for-cycling/design-guide/cycle-tracks/>

For a list of America's 10 best protected bike lanes of 2013 please visit:

<http://www.peopleforbikes.org/blog/entry/the-10-best-protected-bike-lanes-of-2013>

For more information on the Houston Bikeway Program please visit:

<http://www.houstonbikeways.org/>