



February 24, 2026

Office of Commissioner Rodney Ellis
1001 Preston, 9th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

Re: Support for White Oak Bayou Trail Access Improvements Project

Dear Commissioner Ellis,

I support the Memorial Heights Redevelopment Authority's request for partnership funding to advance the design of access improvements along the White Oak Bayou Trail corridor.

White Oak Bayou Trail is one of the most heavily used recreational and transportation facilities in the region. However, access to the trail remains uneven, with several locations where residents must navigate unsafe crossings or are without ADA-compliant connections entirely. Advancing design for these improvements represents a meaningful step toward addressing long-standing safety and accessibility concerns for nearby neighborhoods.

The proposed effort focuses on practical solutions: safer connections from surrounding communities, improved intersection treatments to reduce conflicts between users and vehicles, and development of an accessible crossing where one does not currently exist. Investing in design now will allow these improvements to be fully engineered, cost-defined, and positioned for construction funding as opportunities arise.

Projects that strengthen access to regional trail systems generate broad public benefits. In addition to enhancing pedestrian safety, they improve connectivity to parks, schools, and community destinations; support public health outcomes; and increase the overall utility of prior public investments in the trail system. Advancing this design work ensures that future capital dollars can be deployed efficiently and responsibly.

Thank you for your consideration.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLIE ALCORN, AT-LARGE 5