



El Dorado Boulevard Widening



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Frequently Asked Questions and Responses by Harris County Precinct 2 and District E of Houston

- 1. When will the El Dorado project be finished? And as of now, how much of the El Dorado project is complete?** The project on paper was complete as of October 6, 2022. After that, it became clear that warranty work was necessary for a section of large underground water drainage pipe that failed to meet requirements. This rework is being coordinated with Indi the contractor, Harris County Engineering and Clear Lake City Water Authority, the receiving entity. When the scope of pipe warranty work to repair or replace the pipe is determined, a schedule will set a completion date.
- 2. Why has this project taken so long?** First, keep in mind that the partnership of Harris County and City of Houston, identified and financed the new lanes and new bridge, reducing traffic and improving safety where drivers from west sped up as four lanes reduced to the two-lane bridge. The project was completed on October 6, 2022, and extensive public outreach and planning addressed community interests and met governmental requirements, leading to new plans for some elements. Currently, warranty work to an underground pipe is being coordinated with the contractor Indi, Harris County Engineering, and Clear Lake City Water Authority. The grading of the ROW was completed on April 21, 2023, the unfinished sidewalk section has been removed, and crushed limestone was applied on May 15, 2023. This is a temporary limestone path enabled by Precinct 2 that will stand until the contractor repairs the pipe. Once the scope of work is determined, a work schedule will be set with a final completion date and work will begin. As of today, the contractor has not committed to performing the warranty work and the Court of Appeals is now involved to assist our team in getting Indi to complete the warranty repair.
- 3. What's going on with the new sidewalk near the Brook Forest Dr. intersection? When will it hat be walkable?** The problematic underground flood mitigation pipe is below the sidewalk trail. This is a contract issue that may become a legal issue that'll take time as Harris County demands the contractor meet quality requirements for pipe. To open the walkway and take away barriers, the unfinished sidewalk section has been removed and replaced temporarily by crushed limestone.
- 4. There is talk that because of delays and "do overs," the project, will cost \$40M to \$70M, way beyond the initial budget, what is the actual cost and budget?** Approximate cost is \$8.7 M, within the original budget.
- 5. We're glad to see replacement trees planting has begun, who's organizing planting and how many trees will be planted, and where?** This effort is being coordinated by the city of Houston/COH and Trees for Houston along with Bay Oaks Community Association for trees, tree locations and planting events. While original plans predicted about 100 trees could be lost to new construction and ROWs, about 250 trees were planted this spring and perhaps more later.
- 6. What close-out tasks have the county and city already completed?** All items have been complete, except for minor clean-up and work associated with west side storm pipe and sidewalk above it.
- 7. Our HOA leader said there's more to do, what about mulch and irrigation; and electric, plantings and sod around our HOA monument?** Can our community organization be compensated for expenditures to rebuild our monument? Mulch along the Bay Oaks wall was not in the project scope. Any irrigation lines within the ROW were removed and capped. The monument at Brook Forest was in the ROW and was restored. Additional work around other community association monuments was performed by utilities not related to the El Dorado project, and the HOA will need to coordinate any reimbursement with the utility organization that damaged the area near the monuments.



Widening of El Dorado Boulevard



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8. Why are there wood pole streetlights in the median, when will new lights be in place, and who's responsible to ensure proper and timely installation? New streetlights will be installed in the new southbound direction. CenterPoint is coordinating with the COH on this task. While the streetlights function correctly, the appropriate replacement will be guided by COH. COH Streetlight section is coordinating with CenterPoint Energy for installation of new streetlights.

9. Why is there new trenching and new large holes along sidewalk? What is going on and when will it be completed? This is not part of the El Dorado project. This is an ATT project and ATT should provide the completion date directly or by city of Houston. Utility projects often happen in the city's right of way/ROW. The condition is usually returned to pre-project state.

10. Who's responsible for on-going maintenance and mowing of median and street-side areas between street and trail, trail and power line ROW and then to HOA wall? The COH will maintain the median and anything in the ROW. Houston Parks organization will assume mowing once the project is complete unless there is a maintenance agreement with Management District

11. On the east side of El Dorado, and our monuments and areas around them were a mess after the project. Why is that and what can county or city do to fix them or pay for our HOA's repairs? Any additional work around monuments was performed by utilities not related to the El Dorado project, and the HOA would need to coordinate any efforts with the utility organization that damaged the area around the monuments.

12. From the east side, it appears much has been done for the west side community, but we struggle to get relatively minor work on the east side. Harris County will coordinate with the interested parties on the east side to determine what work needs to be completed and address with the contractor(s) accordingly.

13. There are old inaccurate construction warning signs on El Dorado between Bay Forest Drive and Woodbourne Dr, long after their appropriate use. Can these be removed soon, please? These signs were left behind by the CenterPoint after their initial work on El Dorado project. For months COH and Precinct Two sought action by the utility companies. After much interaction between the city and county with CenterPoint, the signs were picked up in early June.

14. Although it's not a part of El Dorado project, will someone lay a final concrete sidewalk south of the bridge to connect to the Bay Forest sidewalk? The El Dorado project didn't go south beyond the bridge. The additional effort to connect the sidewalk section between bridge south to Bay Forest is being evaluated by the COH as a future project. At recent Precinct 2/COH meeting, the city took responsibility for laying the sidewalk, expecting this can be done in the near-term. COH is working this segment into their future projects

**For more information from Harris County Precinct 2,
call 713-274-2222 or visit www.HCP2.com**

**for more information from Houston District E, call 832-393-3008 or visit
<https://www.houstontx.gov/council/e/>**