



# Abbie Kamin

Houston City Council Member, District C

March 27, 2024

TxDOT Houston District  
7600 Washington Ave  
Houston, TX 77007

*Re: Public Comment on I-10 Inner Katy Corridor managed lanes from Voss Road to I-45*

Dear Director Paul and Staff:

Please allow this letter to serve as my public comment, on behalf of our constituents, relating to the proposed redesign of the I-10 Inner Katy Corridor managed lanes project from Voss Road to I-45 (“Inner Katy Project”). As the Council Member representing District C—I respectfully oppose Design Alternative 2 and raise concerns about other Design Alternatives.

It should be noted at the outset that the vast majority of this project lies within District C. As such, it is critical to highlight the significant, and highly detrimental, community impacts that would arise without substantial neighborhood protections incorporated into current plans.

My office is in close communication with residents and neighborhood groups that continue to engage in TxDOT public forums and have, themselves, provided extremely valuable feedback. My office has attended public meetings, and we have received comments to our office from neighborhood groups and individual residents who will be impacted by the proposed plans. I want to thank the Department for its efforts to engage through public town halls on this matter, and hope that, moving forward, there will be opportunities for residential feedback to be *incorporated* into current plans.

I share in our residents' concerns relating to the proposed designed options, specifically current proposals that would displace homes, businesses, and city parks. As such, I must stand in strong opposition to Design Alternative 2, which would displace approximately 52 residents, 30 commercial structures, and a city park all within District C.

Attached to this letter, I am resubmitting the City of Houston’s Technical Memo submitted to your department on February 17, 2023, in which the City of Houston requested, among other things, that TxDOT alternatives “*remain within TxDOT’s existing right of way.*” I hereby incorporate that technical memo into our District C public comment to the extent that specific items in that memo have yet to be incorporated or adopted by TxDOT. I additionally submit to you the imperative needs of the “N. Canal Project,” and resulting flood mitigation that is desperately needed (including bridge improvements for Yale/Heights). I ask that the *Inner Katy Project* not hinder this important project that has been in the works for years.

Residents have also raised concerns with Design Alternative 1 as it relates to noise and environmental impact. There are critical wetlands, bayous, and greenspaces along this corridor that must be protected, and I greatly appreciate TxDOT’s expressed commitment to adding additional vegetation. The elevated managed lanes may greatly increase noise pollution and impact air quality along this corridor. Residents are requesting that TxDOT install publicly accessible air monitors prior to the beginning of construction, that will remain in place beyond the project’s completion.



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I must also bring to your attention the dire situation of unchecked erosion putting Olivewood Cemetery at risk on the south side of the freeway just west of Studemont abutting White Oak Bayou. This cemetery has been recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of the country's most endangered historical sites, having been threatened by decades of neighboring development, flooding, and neglect. The Decedents of Olivewood organization and hundreds of volunteers have worked tirelessly to preserve this space, and we must protect this cemetery and the access to it for generations to come. I respectfully request that TxDOT assist as a good faith partner and incorporate protective measures to preserve historical areas along this corridor, including Olivewood Cemetery.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration of comments submitted by residents, stakeholders, and our office. Should you require any additional information or have further questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Most respectfully,

Abbie Kamin  
Houston City Council Member, District C