

-Focus-

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

-Sustainable Infrastructure Committee-

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-Issue-

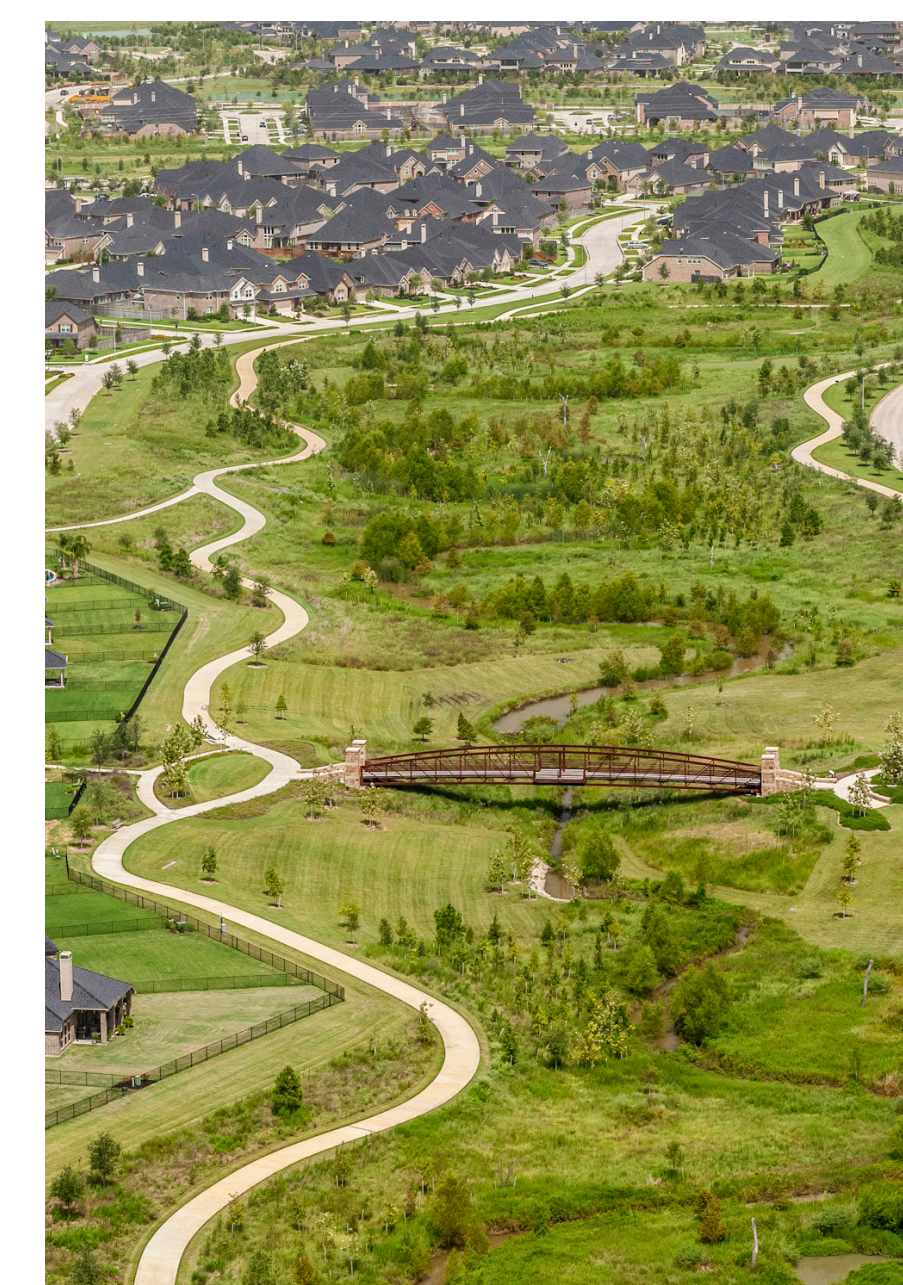
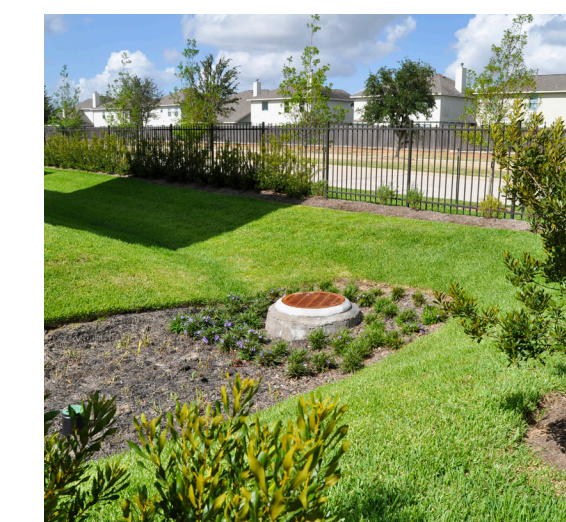
Prior development in our area used traditional approaches to design and implement infrastructure that was functional and relevant, improving the quality of life in West Houston. Population growth, increasing resource constraints, aging and failing infrastructure, and environmental and climatic changes pose new challenges for the Greater West Houston region. Infrastructure designers and owners must now innovate to construct projects that provide better economic, social, and environmental outcomes.

-Goal-

The traditional infrastructure development paradigm will shift as planners, designers, and project sponsors partner with elected officials and other policy-makers to create and implement new policies and strategies to promote a network of sustainable, resilient infrastructure in the region.

Challenges & Opportunities

- **Low Risk Tolerance.** Project sponsors generally seek a low level of risk and only occasionally try new planning and design approaches.
- **Aging Infrastructure.**
- **Finite Resources.** There are finite fundamental resources, such as water, energy, and land.
- **Funding / Investment Constraints.** Current approaches to funding infrastructure are practiced with limited initial capital cost, delayed maintenance, and costly replacements.
- **Regulatory & Design Constraints.** Prescriptive requirements often frustrate planning, design creativity, project delivery, and taxable values.
- **Public Education & Outreach.**
- **Asset Management & Life Cycle Considerations.** Project owners must quickly adopt asset management programs that facilitate preventative and predictive maintenance and rehabilitation that extend the life of existing infrastructure.
- **Conservation & Reuse.** Conservation, innovation, and thoughtful design must be built into developments throughout our region.
- **Triple-Bottom Line.** Putting more thought into infrastructure procurement may increase initial costs but provide considerable saving and returns over life-cycles.
- **Improve Standards & Policy.** Correctly implemented, performance-based standards instead of prescriptive regulations lead to improved project delivery, life-cycles, perceptions of regulators, and tax revenue.



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DEVELOP A BETTER FUTURE

