



The Woodlands Township Board of Directors Candidate Survey - 2020 Election

This survey was conducted by Bike The Woodlands Coalition, www.bikethewoodlands.org.

Position 1

Jerry D. Smith, Jr.

Gordy Bunch

Ron Keichline

In 2016, The Woodlands Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors. Since then, only one project in the plan has been completed. Do you support the plan and if so what steps would you take to progress the plan?

The master plan is available here: <https://www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/ImageRepository/Document?documentID=6768>

I support the goals and vision of the plan. If elected, my first step will be to determine where we are in the implementation phase of the project and determine the cause for delay. I will then push to immediately begin moving forward with the project. I will push to further secure grant funding and corporate sponsorship to finance the project and use reserve funds to supplement the cost as needed.

The Board has submitted to HGAC for several aspects of the plan. Unfortunately none of our projects received funding. The Township is moving forward with Harris County Commissioner Cagle to build a 14' wide asphalt multipurpose pathway along Spring Creek and away from traffic. This will connect to nearly 50 miles of pathways. The board has set aside funding for this project and we anticipate it to begin in 2021. There will be multiple access points to the pathway.

Candidate has withdrawn from election.

What message would you like to send to bicycle riders in The Woodlands about your candidacy in the upcoming Township election?

For several years, there has been a coordinated push for incorporation that has come at the cost of other projects, to include paying for projects already approved, such as the Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan. I want to get back to focusing on what the residents have already said they want. One such areas is the need for increased pedestrian and cyclist safety. Today, as I am responding to this survey, I hear of yet another cyclist hit by a vehicle at the intersection of Research Forest and Kuykendahl. We have known about the dangers of cycling in The Woodlands for a long time but not enough has been done to improve safety. This issue is overdue for a remedy and it is time to connect the Villages together in a safe and enjoyable manner.

I am a cyclist and know first hand the challenges of riding safely within The Woodlands. I am focused on creating safer off traffic options that provide uninterrupted miles of cycling opportunities as well as on road options. The roads are controlled by the county which presents challenges on the road. Lake Woodlands shows promise but also shows a third traffic lane being added in the south county mobility plan.

Candidate has withdrawn from election.

Position 2

Jason J. Nelson

Tom Chumbley

Luis Granados

Jimmie Dotson

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Yes, and as we continue to work our way through the economic, physical, mental, and spiritual effects of Covid-19, I believe elevating this plan will encourage and promote the overall health of our community.

Well, they got rid of the entire committee because they didn't want to have to deal with it or prioritize the plan. I do support the plan and it is a goal of Vision 2034 Strategic plan. So first step is to resurrect that committee and build a coalition on the board for support. It's about quality of life.

I am not going to spend money to please a minority who wants to save the world meanwhile the Hughes Corp destroys the forest

Yes, I support the plan and if elected I will pursue the progress of implementing the plan.

What message would you like to send to bicycle riders in The Woodlands about your candidacy in the upcoming Township election?

I'm an athlete and an advocate for healthy living. Exercise (walking, running, bicycling, etc.), especially while enjoying God's beautiful creation, is good (and essential) for the body and the soul.

I am a bicycle rider who probably bikes as much as you do - Tom Chumbley

Think what you are asking for. You are asking to spend \$2MM to please to 300 people who are bikers that is the equivalent to spend \$6666 per biker. Totally stupid

I support the Bicycle master Plan, because I firmly believe it adds to the quality of life in The Woodlands.

Position 3

John Anthony Brown

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I was one of the Directors to approve this plan, still believe in the mission and have worked on a few points within the plan. Since 2016, we applied for HGAC funding to connect those pathways, primarily around schools, to allow for one cohesive pathway throughout the community. Another location was connecting 242 from the west side to the east side to connect our Harpers Landing residents and friends from the East side of 242. Knowing that the roadways are controlled by the county and future neighborhoods are planned by developers, we are consistently working with them to connect such pathways to our existing Pathway system.

What message would you like to send to bicycle riders in The Woodlands about your candidacy in the upcoming Township election?

Stay informed, Stay Safe, and stay active! This year has been a challenge with Covid 19 and many projects were put on hold. We have not forgotten about our partnership with the cycling community and continue to look for ways to create a safe and active community.

Position 4

Dan Hannon

Bruce Rieser

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Bike/Walk is a vital part of any communities health. A plan approved by previous boards is to be implemented by working in cooperation with The Woodlands Township Management, Parks and Recreation and others to carry out with will of the people by developing a fair and accurate time line of implementation. Then manage the time line.

Overall, we do support the plan and we did submit two proposals to the HGAC last year to fund them without success. The remaining connector paths in the plan I believe are the first priority. I am hopeful that 2021 will be a much more stable financial year than 2020 and we can revisit that portion of the plan with an eye to funding it from reserves.

What message would you like to send to bicycle riders in The Woodlands about your candidacy in the upcoming Township election?

PRESERVE OUR TOWNSHIP and its creative approach to community recreation which includes hike and bike. We, in The Woodlands Township, are the beneficiaries of a great vision and work started by Mr. George P. Mitchell we call it The Woodlands Township. Unique in the state of Texas this special purpose district is the only one of its kind in the state. It is a magnificent place to live, work, raise a family and recreate. Integral to the design and master plan of The Woodlands was the intentional commitment to hike and bike with our hundreds of miles of trails. We also should be more proactive in endorsing community events that encourage greater family participation in bike and hike recreation.

I am committed to continuing to promote pedestrian and bicycle usage in our community. Our pathway system is one of the most extensive in the country and it is a significant draw for people thinking of relocating to The Woodlands as well as visitors to our area.