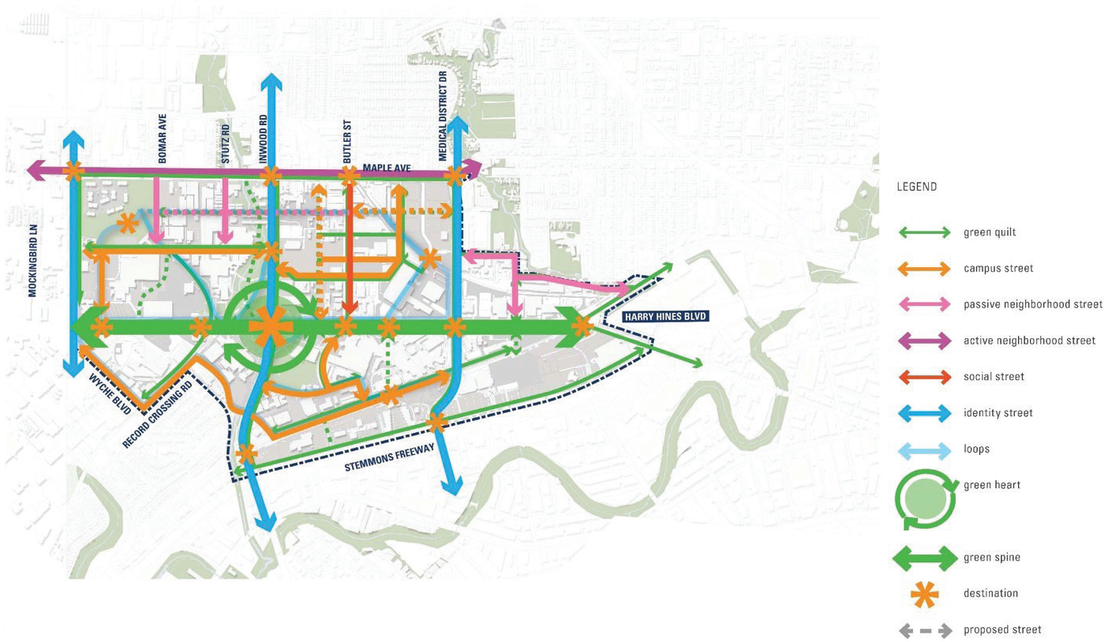
MASTER PLAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK



- **GREEN SPINE** Harry Hines Boulevard will become a unique green corridor that supports vehicular, transit and pedestrian circulation through the center of the SWMD and activates the public realm through pedestrian-scaled improvements
- **GREEN QUILT** will increase tree canopy and nature along revitalized streets while providing localized stormwater management strategies
- **GREEN HEART** will create an iconic destination at the intersection of Harry Hines & Inwood, the center of the SWMD's ecological, pedestrian and transit network
- **LOOPS** will provide recreation and circulation options throughout the SWMD with multi-use paths and bicycle facilities with connections to the future Trinity Strand Trail
- **VIBRANT DISTRICT** cultivates the unique character of each street to better support its adjacent land use and contribute to the vitality and user experience
- **DESTINATIONS** refine the SWMD's identity by highlighting key intersections and way-finding portals while creating enjoyable spaces for visitors and residents

TEXAS TREES FOUNDATION
2906 Swiss Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75204
texastrees.org

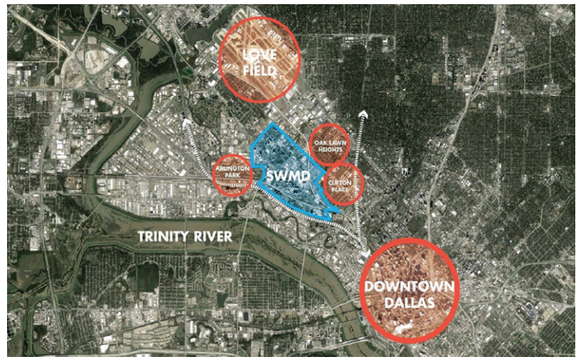
SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL DISTRICT URBAN STREETSCAPE INITIATIVE

Dallas, Texas
2018 - 2025

In partnership with the Southwestern Medical District, and with support of the City of Dallas, Dallas County, NCTCOG and numerous stakeholders, Texas Trees Foundation is again taking the lead to ensure implementation of the Southwestern Medical District Urban Streetscape Master Plan. Bringing the plan to life through a public/private partnership will provide substantial benefits to the entire District and all users - patients, employees, physicians, visitors, students, residents, and area businesses patrons. Safer, greener and healthier streetscapes will transform the District economically, socially and environmentally. The Texas Trees Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization identified the Southwestern Medical District as the largest urban heat island in the 2015 State of the Dallas Urban Forest Report. This resulted in the creation of a much needed master plan for urban streetscape, generously funded by Lyda Hill. After a ten month intensive process, the master plan was launched in November 2016.

AREA CONTEXT

- The Southwestern Medical District (SWMD) is home to three world class medical institutions: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Parkland Health and Hospital System and Children's Medical Center Dallas
- SWMD is located three miles northwest of Downtown Dallas and three miles south of Love Field airport
- SWMD serves an estimated 2.8+ million patient visits annually and 91,000 hospital admissions
- 35,000 employees work within the district
- Approximately 5,000 medical and nursing students and physician residents-in-training are in the District annually
- Development of higher density residential accommodations for employees and students is on the rise both in and near SWMD
- Depending on the day of the week, 30,000 to 40,000 vehicles travel on Harry Hines Blvd within the District



ISSUES IDENTIFIED THROUGH MASTER PLAN STUDY

PEDESTRIAN ACCESSIBILITY & SAFETY
- Sidewalk gaps, narrow broken sidewalks and areas with no sidewalks in the SWMD make navigation for pedestrians challenging and nearly impossible - currently there are 12 miles of existing sidewalks and 8 miles of missing sidewalks
- The Harry Hines Blvd bridge crossing over Inwood Road has no sidewalk making pedestrian crossing impossible
- Existing sidewalks are mostly narrow, immediately back of curb with no buffer between busy high speed streets
- Current intersections are excessively wide making crossing extremely dangerous
- User survey responses overwhelmingly identified concern for safety from vehicle and crime related incidents

NATURE DEFICIT DISORDER
- Disconnect from nature in our urban environments is a contributing factor to mental health and depression
- SWMD is in need of more greenspace and naturalistic settings

AGING INFRASTRUCTURE
- SWMD street infrastructure and public rights-of-way were originally designed 50+ years ago for industrial use making street infrastructure and public rights-of-way a public safety hazard for the present day and future user
- SWMD is plagued with excessive stormwater runoff and flooding during periods of extreme rainfall

URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT
- Dallas ranks second to Phoenix as U.S. city heating up the fastest and the SWMD is one of the hottest urban heat islands in Dallas
- DFW ranks13th for high ozone days out of 228 metropolitan areas
- SWMD has only a 7% tree canopy cover compared to the minimum 30% needed to effectively reduce ambient air temperature
- Continued environmental effects of urban heat island effect are detrimental to health and wellbeing of the SWMD and its users

SOLUTION ORIENTED DESIGN GOALS IDENTIFIED THROUGH MASTER PLAN STUDY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

HEALTHY PEOPLE
- Increase human comfort through enhanced landscaping, amenities and pedestrian/bicycle friendly circulation
- Improve user health by reconnecting with nature through greenspaces and trails connectivity
- Define District as destination by providing amenities and nodes
- Express SWMD history through interactive amenities and public art
- Enhance temporal qualities through enhanced landscaping, amenities and increased tree canopy

HEALTHY SYSTEMS
- Economic development opportunities for private and public sectors
- Improve pedestrian safety with improved sidewalks, buffers, crossings, and lighting
- Utilize smart technologies to enhance user experience and reduce carbon footprint
- Improve access & connectivity with multi-use paths, designated bus lanes, and future mobility strategies
- Maximize overall energy usage on streets with energy saving lights and amenities

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT
- Mitigate heat island effect through energy saving materials, green infrastructure and increased tree canopy
- Increase tree diversity through increased tree canopy
- Improve air quality/reduce carbon footprint through increased tree canopy
- Filter and treat stormwater through green infrastructure applications
- Enhance urban wildlife habitat through tree diversity and increased tree canopy

IMPLEMENTATION

PHASE ONE PRIORITY PROJECTS will address identified issues and include above design solutions

Estimated Cost: $50 Million
Estimated Timeline: 2018 through 2025
Funding Secured: $13,500,000

- Green Spine - Harry Hines Boulevard 1.8 mile right-of-way improvements, including center median and street resurfacing with multi-use paths and designated bus lanes
- Social Street - Butler Street pedestrian oriented right-of-way improvements
- Campus Street - Forest Park Road sidewalk improvements
- Children's Medical Center sidewalk improvements
- Gateway Signage Landscape Enhancements

PHASE TWO will further enhance mobility, safety, and environmental improvements with the addition of the Green Heart, an iconic destination located at the intersection of Harry Hines Boulevard and Inwood. Serving as the unifying center landscape of the Medical District, this project will provide ecologically restorative elements, and an enhanced pedestrian and transit network to transform this 14-acre area into an iconic destination for all users of the Medical District. Estimated cost TBD.

SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL DISTRICT URBAN STREETSCAPE MASTER PLAN AWARDS

- **Greater Dallas Planning Council Dream Award** November 2016
- **American Society of Landscape Architects** Texas Chapter Honor Award - April 2017
- **American Planning Association** Texas Chapter Current Planning Award - November 2017