

A CLOSER LOOK AT AN ACTUAL BAYOU TRAIL

The HOA board has met with the Houston Parks Board in recent months to discuss planning for the Brays Bayou Trail coming to Shadowlake. While it's one thing to study a map to see where our trail is marked for construction along Brays, we thought it might be a good idea to see what a newly completed HPB Bayou Greenways trail that runs from I-45 to Greens Parkway actually looks like.



What we learned is that our trail in Shadowlake should match the beautiful landscaping we expect for our community. Instead of having an area next to the bayou that is overgrown with tall grass and weeds and mowed sporadically by the Houston Flood Control District, HPB will maintain the Brays Bayou Trail by mowing every two weeks on both sides of this waterway. This will immediately improve



visibility in this nearly one-mile long area in our community as well as increase the possibility that we can have security patrols in a previously difficult to monitor area.

In the first photo of HPB's Greens Parkway project, one of the nice features that adds heightened interest are full-size wrought iron bicyclists positioned along a bridge. Also shown in the right of this photo is an 18' solar powered light that shines in a 12' circle. For Shadowlake's trail, 3 of these beautiful solar lights can provide a stunning visual effect.

HPB's goal is to ensure that their trails are designed not to look like a highway cutting through communities, but rather pathways that feature shade trees and wild flowers and places to relax and enjoy the view. HPB trails also feature signs to locate where you are that include GPS coordinates. If there is an emergency, you can phone for medical help or security by providing these GPS coordinates so that you can be immediately located.



Another example of adding visually pleasing features is using stained concrete for a bench. Next to the bench are standard blue and green trash bins that are emptied regularly.

As a community we can look forward to the Brays Bayou Trail coming to Shadowlake. This new development will add value to all homes in our area while providing a healthy and safe way to enjoy a beautiful trail.