New interactive website from Rice's Shell Center provides insight on sustainability and livability issues in Houston

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Houstonians can learn more about sustainability and livability issues in the Bayou City thanks to a new, smart and interactive website from Rice University's Shell Center for Sustainability.

The first-of-its-kind website for Houston, www.houstoncommunitysustainability.org, provides data from three years worth of reporting: *"Houston Sustainable Development Indicators: A Comprehensive Development Review for Citizens, Analysts and Decision Makers,"* released in 2012, *"Sustainable Development of Houston Districts: The Health of the City,"* released in 2013 and *"Houston Community Sustainability: The Quality of Life Atlas,"* released earlier this year in 2014. The three reports offer a widespread look at 24 social, economic and environmental indicators of sustainability at the Super Neighborhood, Council District and city levels. The website allows users to interact with data from these three reports, creating the opportunity for comparisons within Super Neighborhoods and within Council Districts.

Lester King, Sustainability Fellow at the Shell Center, author of the reports and creator of the website, said the Shell Center seeks to significantly contribute to the knowledge base on sustainability in Houston by demonstrating how comprehensive data can be used to understand important issues affecting the city.

"It was important for us here at Rice to maintain our role in the city as providers of high quality and unbiased research," King said. "Therefore we have made the data freely available using the most modern visualization techniques. Users can use the data as they deem necessary. This dynamic website represents a showpiece for Houston, something for which Houstonians can take great pride in visualizing development patterns across the city."

To navigate the site to see the data visualization, users can visit the homepage following the link provided. Click on either the Super Neighborhood or Council District links at the top of the page and then select a choice of visualization map style. Users can choose between *radar charts*, *performance analysis* or *indicator overlay*. After selecting a visualization style, the page will load with a map of the city in the upper left side of the page. On the map, users can click on an individual Super Neighborhood or Council District to browse available data. Data is also available on each map at the city level.

For more information on the website, visit www.houstoncommunitysustainability.org.