

# Visions for the Houston Region: Immigration, Economic Diversity and a Low-Carbon Hub

Presentation for Gulf Coast Economic Development District 12 July 2019



### About the Center

The Center for Houston's Future seeks to make our region a top global community in which to work and live.

#### Our theory of change:

We bring business, government, and community stakeholders together to engage in fact-based strategic planning and collaboration on issues of great importance to the Houston region.

# Our areas of focus: Community Lea

Strategic Initiatives

Community Engagement





- The Future of Workforce & Immigration
- Barriers to Greater Houston's Future Growth
- Low-Carbon Energy Solutions
- Collaboration with CHF



"This report seeks to create a springboard for a community-wide discussion on how we can become a region where immigration is broadly seen as an economic asset."

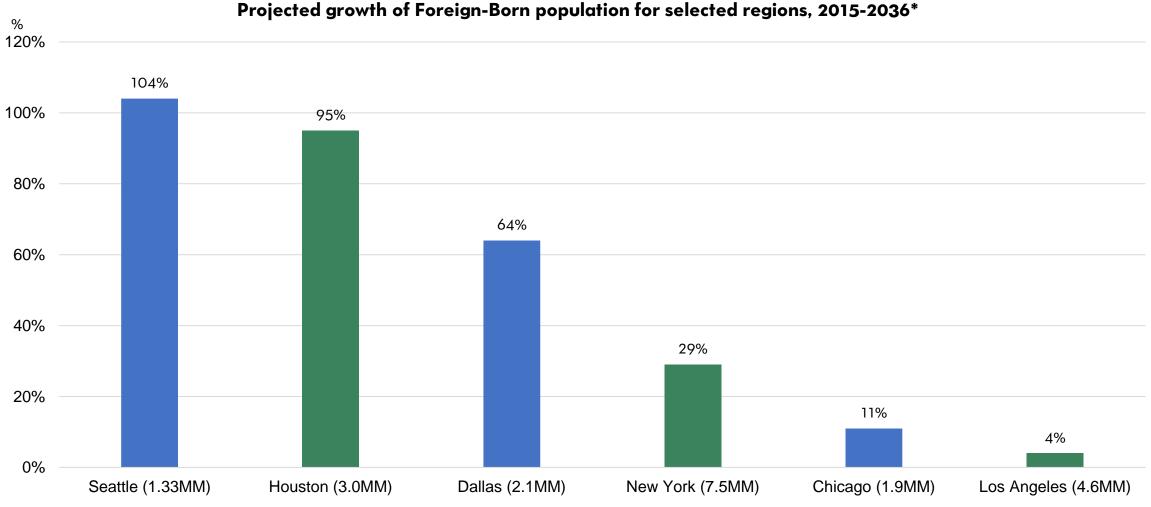
Download the full report at futurehouston.org

# Why Immigration?

- CHF has developed an initiative focused on highlighting how immigration is needed to meet the growing need for workers among Greater Houston's businesses.
- **2018-2019:** gathering information, conducting research & connecting with stakeholders
- March 2019: release of Houston's Economic Future: Immigration, a report synthesizing what we learned over the past year
- **Now:** promoting findings from the report, pushing for next steps & identifying action items for going forward



### Virtually No Other Region is More Affected by Immigration...



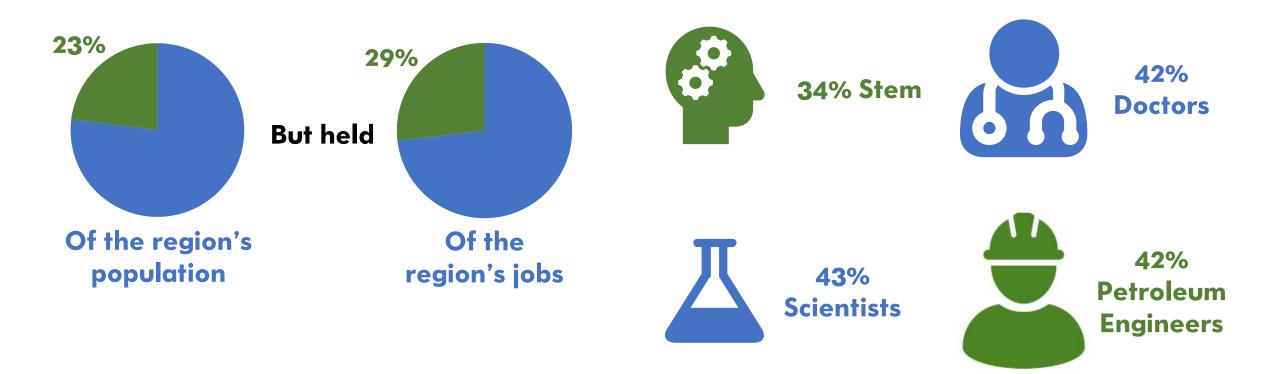
\* Figures in parentheses represent projected for-born population in 2036 Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2005-2009 and 2013-2017 American Survey 5-year extract Houston's Foreign-Born Population Is Evolving From 2006-2016, foreign-born residents became . . .

- More educated at every attainment level
- More integrated into the larger community
- More diverse in terms of their origin
- More likely to have legal status

### Immigrants Play a Significant Role in Our Workforce – 2016

#### **Immigrants** were

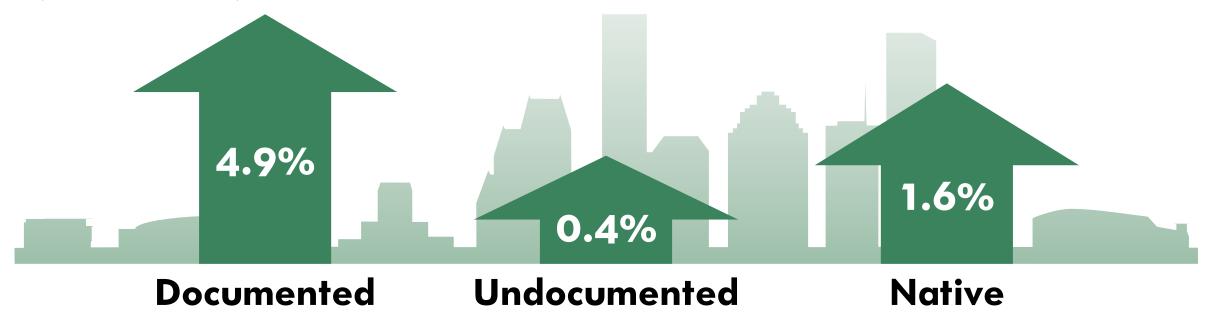
#### Foreign-born share of high-skilled workforce





We Need Immigrants to Meet Houston's Demand for Workers

Annual growth rate for employed workers (2007-2016)

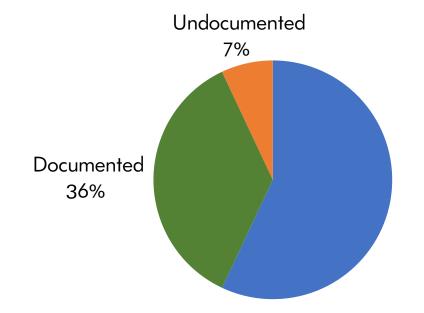




## Immigrants Will Drive Employment Growth Through 2036

- Industries most reliant on future immigration:
- Health care
- Professional Services
- Mining (Energy)
- Construction

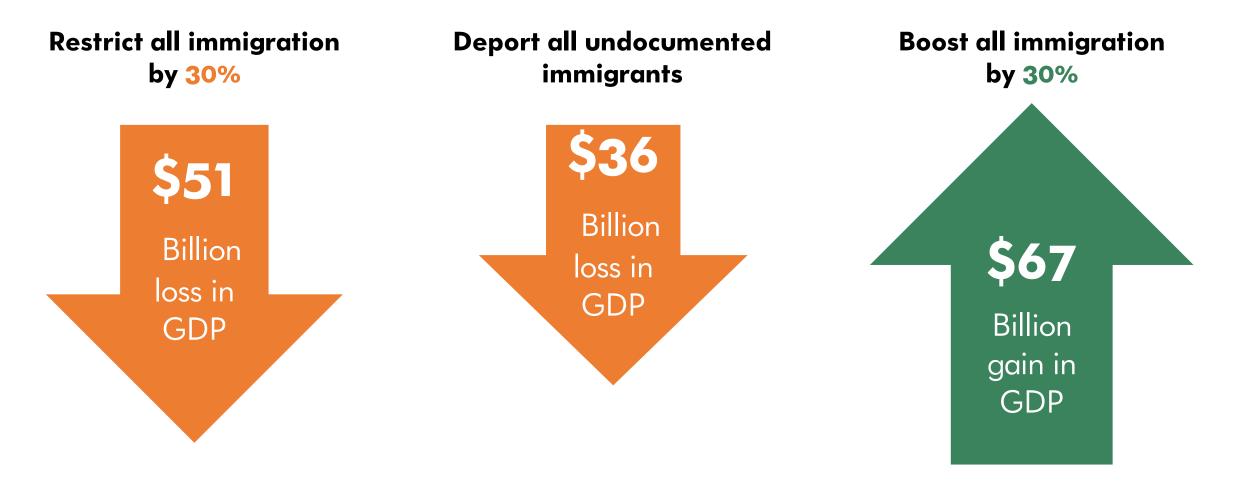




**57% of new jobs created (since 2016) will be filled by immigrants** 



# Changing Immigration Patterns Will Substantially Impact Growth *If we were to . . .*







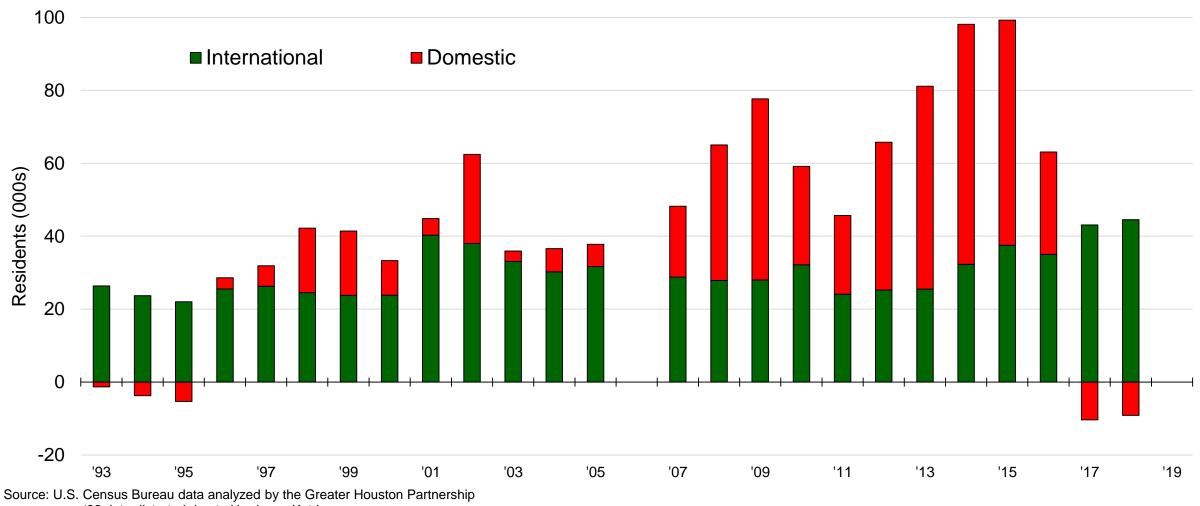
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Houston's story over the last 20 years has been one of high economic growth and affordability, but this has now been called into question

- The Houston region's long trend of economic outperformance has been disrupted, suggesting the existing 'growth model' be reexamined and potentially changed
- When faced with similar crossroads natural disaster, industry shifts, or other disruptions peer cities have demonstrated an ability to transform and thrive
- The Houston region's current challenges suggest an opportunity for leadership to adopt similar strategies

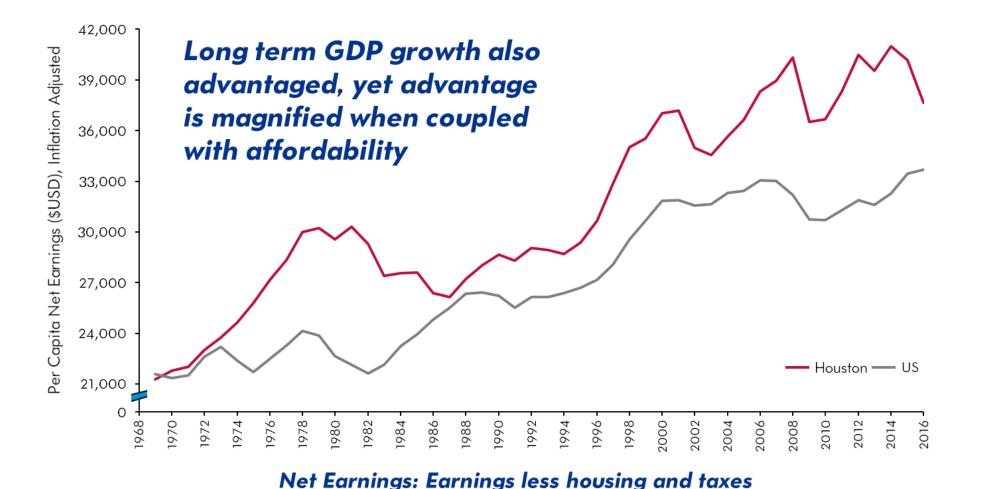


As a result, Houston has been a "magnet" for people across the globe and an economic success story



'06 data distorted due to Hurricane Katrina evacuees

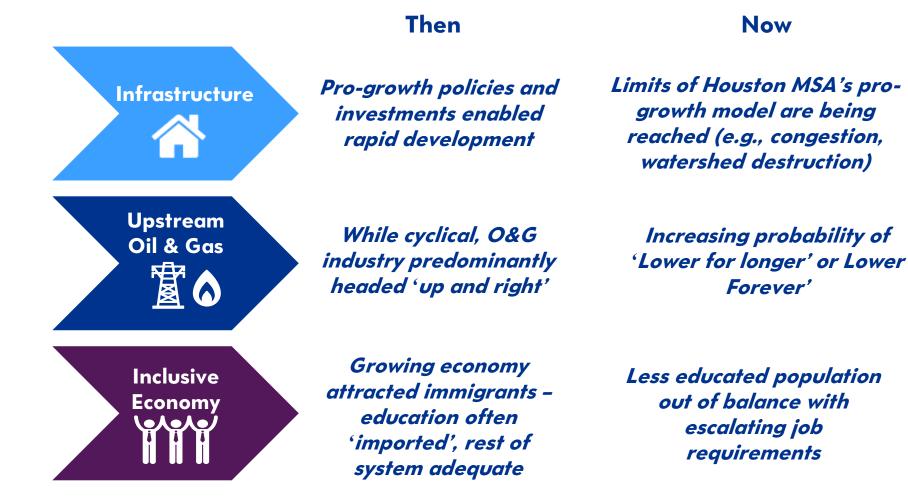
The region's oil & gas industry has historically driven steady growth in high-paying jobs that outpaced our peers & the U.S. average



Note(s): Per Capita Net Earnings adjusted using US Bureau of Labor Statistics Inflation Calculator Source(s): US Bureau of Economic Analysis

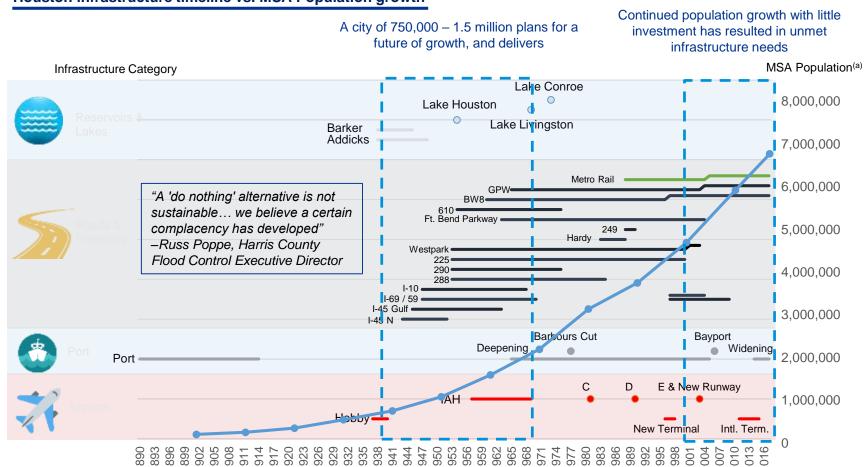


#### Post 2014, Houston's economic advantages have been disrupted



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# The gap in Houston infrastructure — largely in place decades ago—is clear



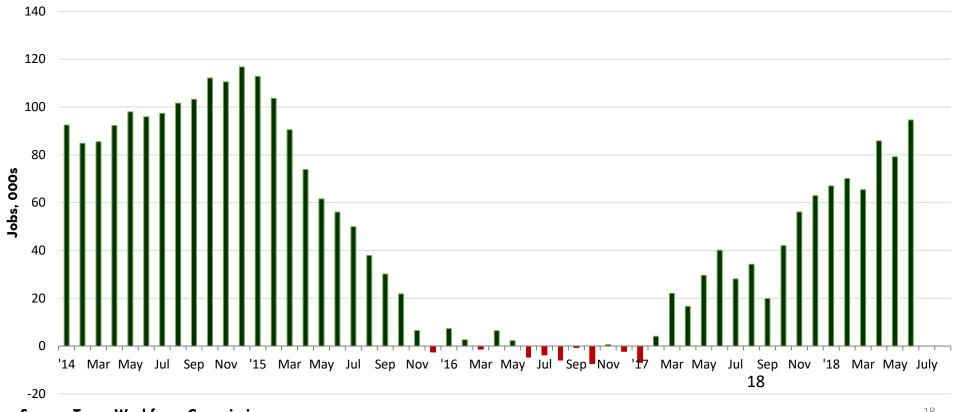
Houston infrastructure timeline vs. MSA Population growth

Note: (a) Population by county summed to determine total population – included counties currently in Houston MSA (Austin, Brazoria, Chamo Source(s): City of Houston, U.S. Census Bureau, Port of Houston website, *Houston Freeway*s Stotbloom, Harris County Flood Control Distric



#### Houston Job Growth Has Returned

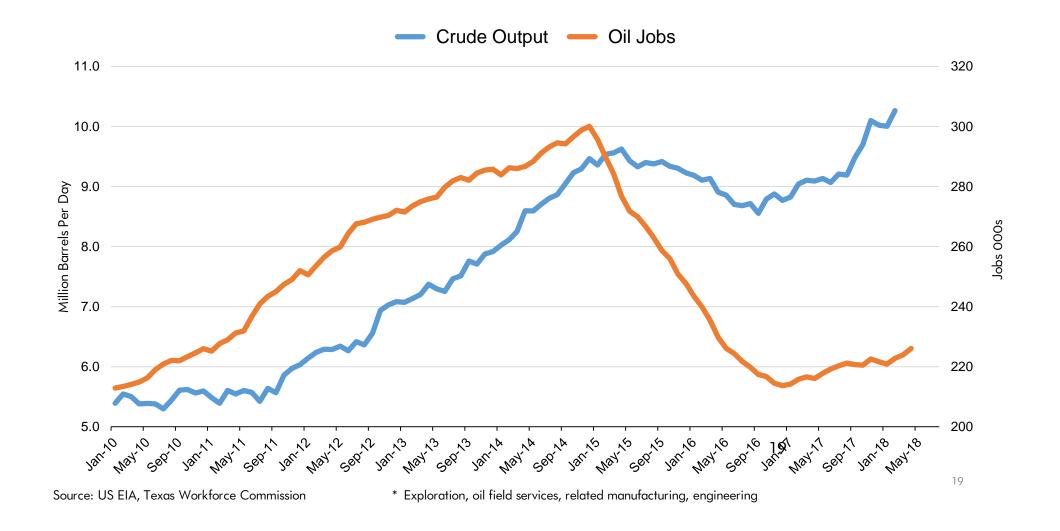
#### **12-Month Running Totals**



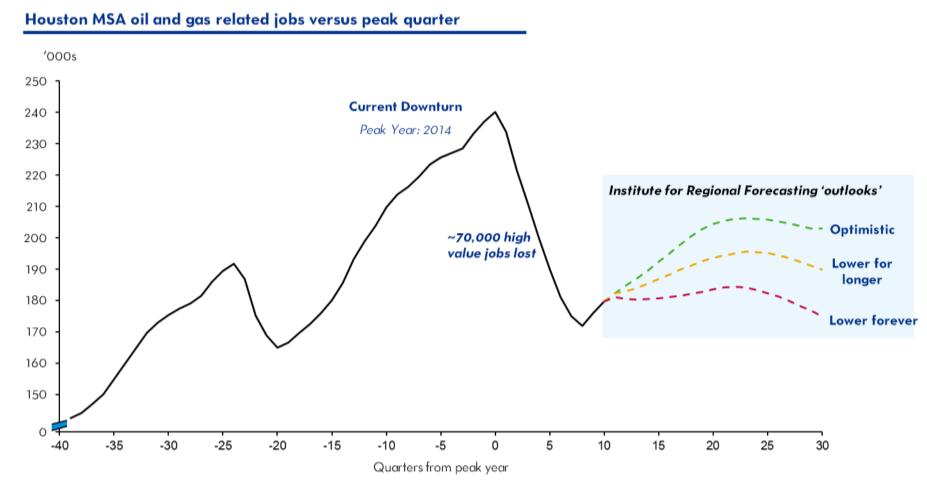
Source: Texas Workforce Commission



... but Oil and Gas Jobs still lag....



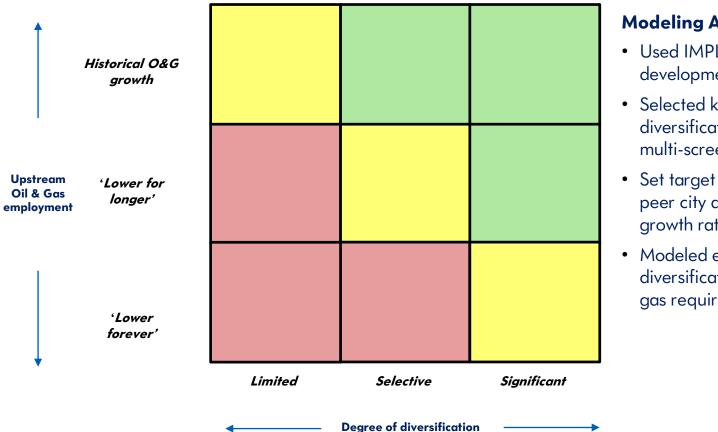
# Oil prices v. jobs: reversing Houston's decline in high paying jobs won't be easy



Note(s): Jobs consist of oil production, oil services, machinery, and fabricated metals – change from SIC to NAICS coding results in classification change Source(s): US Bureau of Labor Statistics; The Institute for Regional Forecasting



#### Modeling job growth



#### **Modeling Approach**

- Used IMPLAN economic development model
- Selected key sectors for job diversification through a multi-screening process
- Set target of outperforming peer city average annual growth rate **(2.1%)**<sup>(a)</sup>
- Modeled extent of diversification beyond oil and gas required

Note: (a) Average employment CAGR from 1990 – 2016 of key peer cities outperforming US employment growth: Austin, Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Oklahoma City, Phoenix Source(s): Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics



High multiplier jobs are key to driving economic growth UC Berkeley economist Enrico Moretti finds . . .

- Innovation Jobs
  - Make intensive use of human capital
  - Make products that are unique and can't be reproduced elsewhere
- For each innovation job, <u>5</u> additional jobs are created outside the innovation sector in the same city
  - 2 professional
  - 3 non-professional

High multiplier jobs are key to driving economic growth *Example: Twitter* 

- High tech has the largest multiplier, generating 3 times more service jobs than traditional manufacturing. The sector:
  - Pays higher salaries
  - Uses more local services
  - Encourages clustering effects
- 900 employees in SF
- Indirect job creation: 4,500 jobs (1,800 professional / 2,700 nonprofessional)
- The most important impact of Twitter on SF labor market is outside of high tech



# Our scenario modeling considered a combination of oil & gas industry growth and diversification across sectors

Cyclical oil price rebound reestablishes Houston's economic growth to match rate of peer cities.

Keeping up	Selective diversification plus modest oil and gas expansion maintains Houston MSA growth, but does not match peer city levels.
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Return to	Thoughtful diversification plus modest oil and gas expansion achieves Houston's
outperformance	outperformance.



We selected sectors for diversification based on connectedness to Houston, economic value-add, and growth potential

#### **Selective Diversification Existing presence** Healthcare manufacturing 5 year CAGR: 7.1% 2017 jobs: 2,631 Healthcare R&D<sup>(a)</sup> 3 year CAGR: 1.7% 2017 jobs: 27,407 **Plastics manufacturing #** 5 year CAGR: 1.3% 2017 jobs: 6,525 **Chemical manufacturing** 5 year CAGR: 1.7% 2017 jobs: 14,428

#### **Significant Diversification**

Existing capabilities and/or high applicability



Data Science & Programming 5 year CAGR: **2.9%** 2017 jobs: 30,885



**Computer systems & engineering** 5 year CAGR: **2.8%** 2017 jobs: 37,813

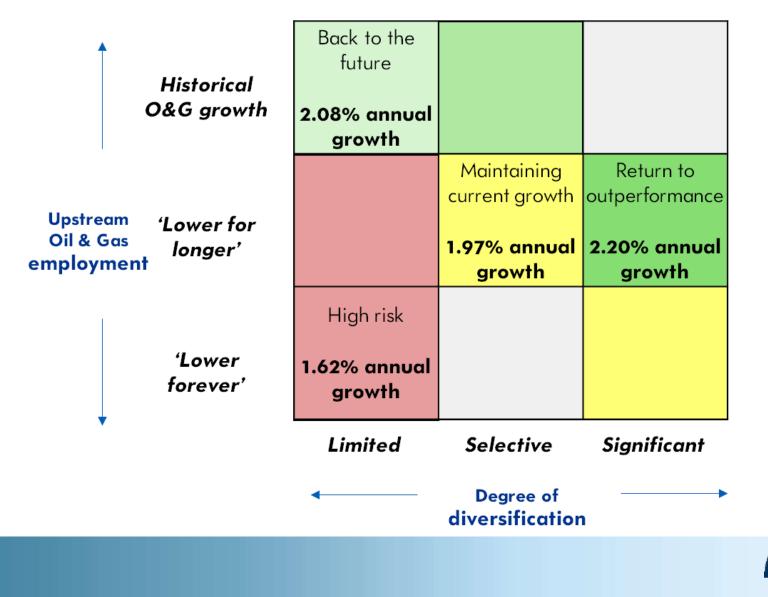
> Power transmission<sup>(a)</sup> 5 year CAGR: **2.0%** 2017 jobs: 9,539



**Utility scale renewables** 5 year CAGR: **3.2%** 2017 jobs: 706



Overall, significant job diversification will be required to maintain outperformance in the event of low to modest oil and gas expansion

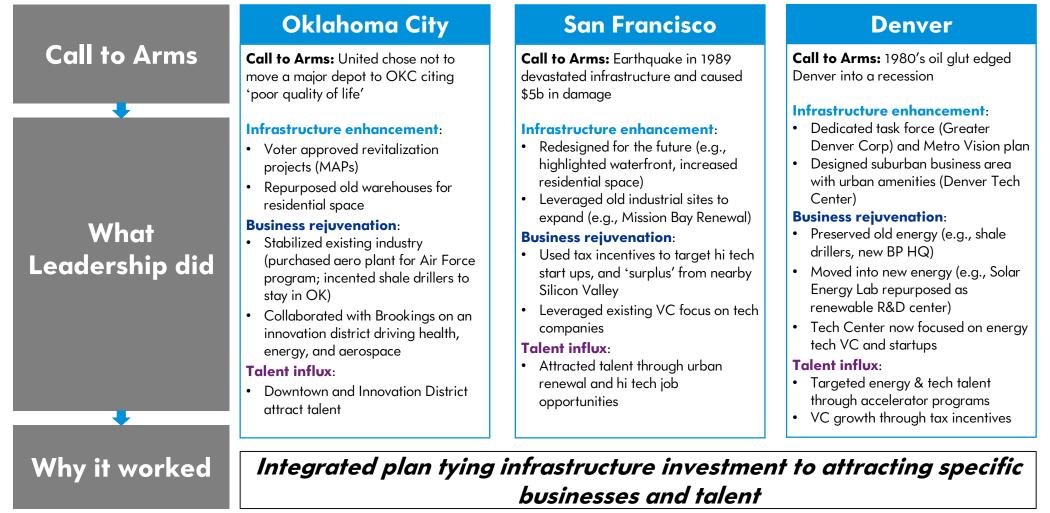


Peer city annual growth rate: 2.1%

#### A Call to Action

- Houston MSA's long trend of economic outperformance has been disrupted, suggesting the existing 'growth model' be reexamined and potentially changed
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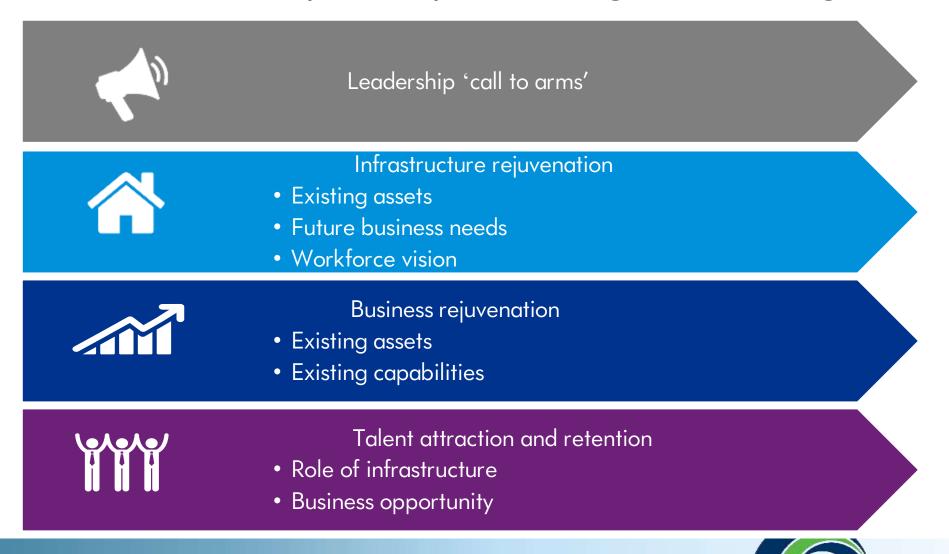
# Other cities revitalized their economies by integrating infrastructure, talent and business rejuvenation efforts



Source(s): CityLab, SF Gate, San Francisco Center for Economic Development, New York Times, KPMG Smart Cities, Denver Post, National Renewable Energy Lab, TechStars

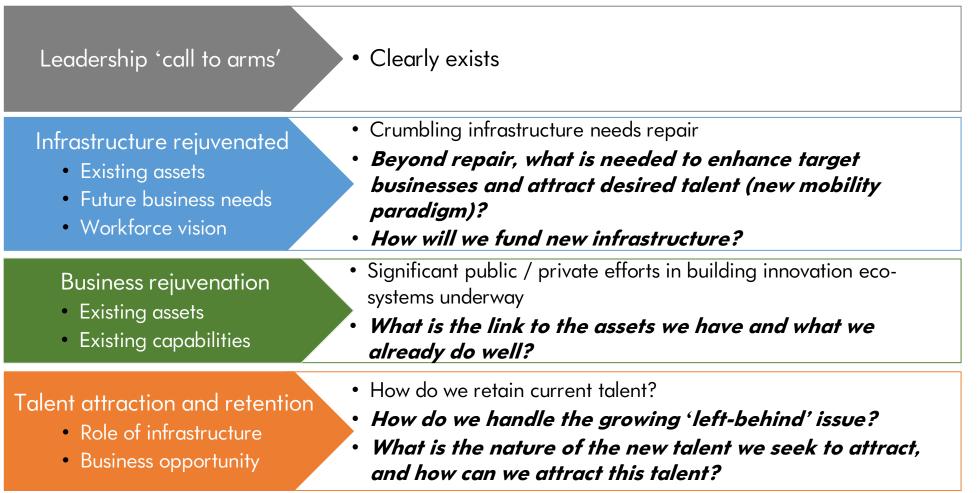


The 'Magnet City' model integrates business, talent & infrastructure efforts to spur outperforming economic growth



#### Where does Houston stand against these key levers?

#### **Magnet City Model**







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### 2019 HLCES Key Findings

- There is growing interest and movement in some sectors of Houston's energy sector in decarbonization.
- Many here believe CCUS (Carbon Storage and Utilization) must be part of the solution and if Houston isn't an innovation hub on CCUS we've missed out.
- There is also significant interest in working on methane leak and emission reduction.
- Texas already has a significant renewables footprint, but more can be done especially on solar.
- Opportunities exist in everything including hydrogen, carbon-reduction engineering, energy data analytics, to electrification to VC
- One theme we heard at the summit: if Houston aims to keep attracting talent, especially younger workers, we need to move beyond our image as the oil and gas capital to becoming the energy capital specifically the lower/low-carbon energy capital.
- Still lacking an overall vision, which we plan to part of shaping.

The Center for Houston's Future is working at the apex of many trends (immigration, climate change, infrastructure, education) that will be key to our economic future.

A new generation of leaders are required to transform Houston and continue its history of economic success.



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### Business/Civic Leadership Forum

 Bi-annual Business and Civic Leadership Forums send participants on self-directed Learning Journeys to inform and inspire them to become more active civic leaders

• Graduates have gone on to run for local office, start NGOs, serve on boards and commissions, and take leadership on issues in their community

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Ways to collaborate with CHF

- CHF's Business/Civic Leadership Forum
  - Fall 2019 session:
    - September 12-14
    - October 25-26
- Invite us to present our findings across the region

### Questions?

### Steven Scarborough sscarborough@futurehouston.org

