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And the Loopie goes to ...

Here are the winners (as we see it) for the top real estate deals and trends for 2017



Charles Apple / Houston Chronicle

By Nancy Sarnoff

Throughout 2017 Houston saw a bevy of new food halls, microbreweries and co-working spaces as the city quickly caught up with some of the nation's hottest real estate and development trends. Also during the year, the ink dried on some of the biggest commercial real estate deals Houston has seen — even as the oil-driven economy remained uncertain. And in what have become far more common across the city, land-



» Find the Chronicle's *Looped In* podcast here: HoustonChronicle.com/LoopedIn

use battles flared up as residents fought to shut down a music venue near the Heights, and business owners in Montrose rallied against their neighborhood's assessment-levying management district. Nancy Sarnoff, the Chronicle's real estate writer and host of the *Looped In* podcast, asked her

social media followers to cast their votes for some of 2017's most outstanding real estate deals and developments in the inaugural Loopie Awards. Sarnoff and Gray Matters editor Allyn West, along with the help of their Chronicle colleagues who have been covering many of these issues, discuss the winners of "the Loopies" on the latest episode of *Looped In*.

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Trendiest development trend

- » Food Halls
- » Co-working spaces
- » Microbreweries
- » Bike racks



Best/Worst real estate buzzword

- » Resilience
- » Sustainability
- » Future proofing
- » Collisions



Best remake

- » The Melrose Building into a Le Meridien hotel
- » The Acre at Allen Center
- » Avenida at the George R. Brown Convention Center
- » Heights Mercantile



Most ambitious project

- » Plan Downtown
- » East River, the former KBR site planned along Buffalo Bayou
- » The Interstate 45 highway project
- » A third west Houston reservoir



Best commercial real estate deal

- » Airline farmers market sale
- » Greenway Plaza sale
- » Midtown Sears closing/lease buyout
- » Houston Center sale



Best real estate controversy

- » Montrose Management District
- » White Oak Music Hall
- » UT land deal
- » Building homes in flood plain on Pine Crest Golf Course



Best Hurricane Harvey Silver Lining

- » Buyouts
- » Elevating houses
- » Eric Berger
- » Research Alliances



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