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PRESS RELEASE

Houston Parks Board Breaks Ground on San Jacinto Bayou Greenway
New trail to provide key connection to Woodland Hills Drive

HOUSTON, TX – February 8, 2021 – Houston Parks Board is pleased to announce that construction has begun on the San Jacinto Bayou Greenway along the West Fork of the San Jacinto River between Woodland Hills Drive and Burning Tree Court. Once fully complete the San Jacinto Bayou Greenway will stretch for approximately 2.5 miles.

“We are delighted that construction on the San Jacinto Bayou Greenway is now underway,” said Beth White, President and CEO of the Houston Parks Board. “In addition to providing connectivity to nearby neighborhoods, this new greenway will preserve the surrounding land as green space for residents to enjoy for years to come.”

Notable features of the segment include:

- New off-street trails as well as use of existing streets for the trail system
- Trail connection for Kingwood residents at Woodland Hills Drive to access the greenway
- Parking for greenway users within the former Riverview Townhomes Community
- Planting of native trees, meadows, and wildflowers
- Benches and seating areas
- Interpretive and directional signage
- Trash cans and recycling containers

“Our City Council Office along with the Houston Parks Board have been working on the West Fork San Jacinto Bayou Greenways Project for several years. We are excited about this new green space with the construction of 2.6 miles of new trails, bike paths, and other amenities which will strengthen Kingwood’s status as the ‘Livable Forest’. I am looking forward to the completion of the project and enjoying this amenity that supports all of our efforts to turn floodways into recreational green space,” said Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin.

Construction is expected to take 12 months, weather permitting. During construction, the public should not enter areas surrounded by orange caution fencing.

Following construction, Houston Parks Board will continue ongoing maintenance of San Jacinto Bayou Greenway, which includes weekly trash pickup, bi-weekly mowing of grass along the trail, upkeep of the trail and amenities, and any necessary flood cleanup.

In the future, San Jacinto Bayou Greenway will connect into and through Harris County Precinct 4's Edgewater Park, which is in development, to the Spring Creek and Cypress Creek trail systems, also operated by Precinct 4.

San Jacinto Bayou Greenway is one of nine bayous being transformed as part of [Bayou Greenways 2020](#), a public-private partnership between the nonprofit Houston Parks Board, the City of Houston, and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. The initiative is implemented in close collaboration with the Harris County Flood Control District, which manages the county's bayous and creeks for drainage and flood risk reduction. Bayou Greenways 2020 will transform 3,000 acres of underutilized land along nine major waterways and create a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails along Houston's major waterways.

Thanks to Kinder Foundation's visionary leadership and transformational gift, as well as the extraordinary generosity of the Hildebrand Foundation, Houston Endowment, The Brown Foundation Inc. and many other Houstonians, Houston Parks Board has surpassed its goal of assembling more than \$225 million to invest in Bayou Greenways. The fundraising journey began in 2012 when Houston voters resoundingly approved a bond to provide \$100 million in funds to the Bayou Greenways 2020 initiative. Houston Parks Board has since more than matched this number through a \$125 million capital campaign.

For photos of Bayou Greenways 2020, please click [here](#). Photo credit: **Anthony Rathbun, Courtesy of Houston Parks Board**

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A nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to providing access to quality parks and greenspace in the Greater Houston region, **Houston Parks Board** creates, improves, protects and advocates for parks for everyone. Since 1976, the organization has utilized public-private partnerships and its extensive philanthropic, government and community relationships to improve parks large and small. Houston Parks Board is currently leading the transformational \$220 million Bayou Greenways 2020 project to complete a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails along Houston's major waterways. For more information, visit www.houstonparksboard.org.

Bayou Greenways 2020 is one of the most ambitious parks projects in the U.S. By transforming more than 3,000 acres of underutilized land along Houston's major waterways into linear parks, Bayou Greenways 2020 will complete a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails. The \$220 million project will connect people, places, and greenspace while enhancing air and water quality, preserving flood-prone areas and stimulating economic development in Houston. Public investment was matched by significant private contributions including an extraordinary lead gift of \$50 million in 2013 from the Kinder Foundation.

The **Houston Parks and Recreation Department** (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 39,501 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.