



# HOUSTON PARKS BOARD

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



**HOUSTON**  
PARKS BOARD

PARKS BY YOU



*Bayou Greenway Day*  
Read more on page 16

## HOUSTON PARKS BOARD

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS \*

Thomas G. Bacon, *Chairman*  
 Barron F. Wallace, *Vice President*  
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 Don Stephen Aron  
 Maire A. Baldwin  
 Ellanor Allday Camberg  
 Alberto "Beto" P. Cardenas, Jr.  
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 Steve Gibson  
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 Don Woo  
 Nina O'Leary Zilkha  
 Stephen Wright, *Ex Officio*  
 Beth White, *President and Chief Executive Officer*

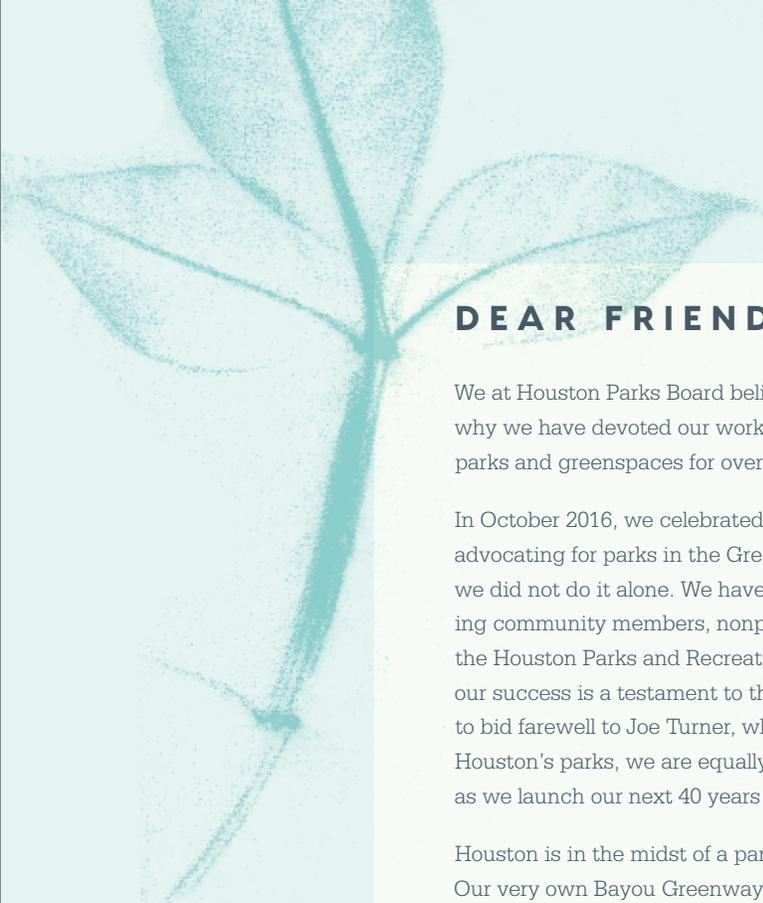
### EMERITUS BOARD

Jane B. Block  
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 Mrs. Bob Lanier  
 Mrs. Meredith J. Long  
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 V. H. "Pete" Van Horn  
 W. M. "Bill" Wheless, III  
 David S. Wolff



*We mourn the passing of Terry Hershey, a true friend and advocate of Houston's parks and bayous.*

\*For Fiscal Year 2017. The period covered by this report: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.



## DEAR FRIENDS,

We at Houston Parks Board believe in the power of parks to improve peoples' lives. That is why we have devoted our work to building, enhancing, and improving access to Houston's parks and greenspaces for over 40 years.

In October 2016, we celebrated our 40th anniversary of creating, improving, protecting and advocating for parks in the Greater Houston region. We have done a lot in those 40 years, but we did not do it alone. We have had the honor of working with remarkable partners, including community members, nonprofit groups, donors and public-sector agencies. In particular, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department has been our steadfast public partner, and our success is a testament to their collaboration over the years. Though we were saddened to bid farewell to Joe Turner, who retired in April after leaving behind an indelible mark on Houston's parks, we are equally excited to welcome new HPARD Director Stephen Wright as we launch our next 40 years of partnership.

Houston is in the midst of a parks renaissance and we have the attention of the nation. Our very own Bayou Greenways 2020 is moving at full speed, and we are marking our progress with ribbon cuttings and groundbreakings throughout the year. As you read through this report, you'll see how our other park projects are enhancing Houston's quality of life. Our city's prominent park conservancies, such as Buffalo Bayou Partnership, Emancipation Park Conservancy, Hermann Park Conservancy, Levy Park Conservancy, and Memorial Park Conservancy, have either recently completed or are soon embarking on major renovations and improvements to their parks, all for the benefit of our growing communities. We have a strong parks advocate in Mayor Sylvester Turner, who believes in the value of neighborhood parks and the important role they play in complete communities. And community partners and local corporations are enthusiastically investing in Houston's parks and greenspaces.

Just as we began a new fiscal year, the city was hit with the most devastating storm in years. Never in Houston's history have its bayous and parks worked so hard, managing unprecedented amounts of water brought by Hurricane Harvey. While the impact of the storm will be present for the foreseeable future, Bayou Greenways 2020 is helping to make Houston a more resilient city. Every acre of land we have acquired and preserved has helped allay the damage wrought by the storm, and Houston Parks Board is redoubling our efforts to acquire land in the flood zone and complete the Bayou Greenways project by 2020. Now more than ever, it is time to support and invest in Houston's parks, bayous and greenspaces.

To all of our friends, donors, partners and supporters: *thank you*. With your help, we are making Houston a happier and healthier place to live, work and play. Enjoy these stories and share them with pride. It is truly an exciting time to be on Houston's green team.

Thank you,



Tom Bacon,  
Chairman



Beth White,  
President and CEO



**CELEBRATING** **40**



*Houston Parks Board creates, improves  
protects, and advocates for parks  
in the Greater Houston region...*

**AND WE'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR FORTY YEARS**





**YEARS**



**IN THAT TIME, WE HAVE:**

Completed projects in more than

**250**



in Houston

Added more than

**14,000**



**ACRES**

of new parkland and greenspace

Raised and leveraged more than

**\$258**

**MILLION**



for Houston's parks and greenspace

Inspired

**COUNTLESS SMILES**

all across Houston

# ENHANCING *the environment*





## HELPING HANDS

In November, hundreds of volunteers got together to beautify their Bayou Greenways. Volunteers spread millions (yes, millions!) of wildflower seeds along Sims Bayou, Brays Bayou and White Oak Bayou. This was Houston Parks Board's third year in a row to team up with the Houston Parks and Recreation Department for their annual Lady Bird Johnson Tribute Wildflower Planting.

**THE RESULT? SPRING ARRIVED WITH 380 ACRES OF WILDFLOWER MEADOWS ON THE BANKS OF THE BAYOUS**

*Did you know that fall is the best season to spread wildflower seeds? This allows them more time to settle in and germinate. Seeds planted in the fall sprout up to two weeks earlier than seeds planted in the spring. This also allows them to grow sooner than other weeds, which may prevent the weeds from growing. This means more wildflowers on the bayous!*





## TEAMING UP WITH TREES FOR HOUSTON

Our work with Trees for Houston has become one of our most beautiful partnerships, bringing more than 1,400 new trees to Sims Bayou Greenway at the new Blue Ridge County Park.

To kick the project off, Trees for Houston hosted two volunteer planting days with Aramco Services and Council Member Larry Green of District K.

The new trees transformed an empty field into a lush greenway. One day, the trees will mature into a rich wooded site that will be enjoyed by park users and serve as habitat for birds and wildlife.



ARAMCO



DISTRICT K



## PRESERVING A FIELD OF DREAMS

Just six miles south of the Texas Medical Center, there's a 30-acre field of re-emerging prairie land along Sims Bayou. It's covered with native grasses and flowers, including blankets of beautiful goldenrods. Houston Parks Board purchased the land in March, protecting it from future development. It adds to an already important collection of open space including Margaret Jenkins Park, the Harris County Flood Control District's Hills at Sims, the Houston Sports Park and HPB's previously acquired 21-acre site on the south side of the bayou.

*"This is a perfect example of how Bayou Greenways 2020 is adding to Houston's open space inventory and preserving the landscape," explains Chip Place, Managing Director of Capital Programs at Houston Parks Board. "Securing parkland is a cornerstone of our mission."*

The land will be accessible through future expansion of Sims Bayou Greenway. Houston Parks Board plans to keep this area as a natural oasis in our rapidly expanding city.



# BAYOU GREENWAYS 2020 Highlights

2016

JULY

AUGUST

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



## Secured \$14 million in funding for Bayou Greenways 2020

Houston City Council voted to appropriate \$14 million for Bayou Greenways 2020 for construction of segments of Halls and Sims Bayou Greenways. The unanimous vote of approval is due in large part to the broad public support of Bayou Greenways 2020.



## Planted 380 acres of wildflowers along the Bayou Greenways

Read more on page 5

# building

# CONNECTIONS



## Demolished Abandoned Apartments to make way for Greenspace

Read more on page 18



## Broke ground on new segment of Sims Bayou Greenway

Houston Parks Board, Council Member Larry Green, District K, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Harris County Flood Control District celebrated the groundbreaking of a new segment of Sims Bayou Greenway.



DECEMBER



**Opened a new segment of White Oak Bayou Greenway**

Houston Parks Board, Memorial Heights Redevelopment Authority (TIRZ 5), the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Harris County Flood Control District celebrated a new section of White Oak Bayou Greenway. More than two miles long, the hike-and-bike trail provides a new off-street route for those traveling to and from downtown. One section showcases brick salvaged from the historic Yale Street Bridge.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY



**Sims Bayou Greenway Trail Replacement**

Houston Parks Board's Conservation and Maintenance team replaced the worn asphalt trail with a fresh concrete trail between MLK and Scott St.



**Arbor Day in District K**

Read more on page 6

## MARCH



### Double Bayou Greenways 2020 Celebration

Houston Parks Board, University of Houston and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department celebrated the opening of a new segment of trail and the start of construction of a pedestrian and bike bridge on Brays Bayou Greenway. The newly opened trail, which stretches 1.6 miles from Old Spanish Trail to MLK Blvd., was one of six bike/pedestrian projects funded through a \$15 million federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant awarded to the City of Houston in 2012. The pedestrian and bike bridge, a separate project funded through TxDOT, will connect the University of Houston across Brays Bayou to MacGregor Park.



### Mason Park Bridge Groundbreaking

Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston Parks Board, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Texas Department of Transportation celebrated the groundbreaking of the Mason Park Ped/Bike Bridge along Brays Bayou Greenway. The bridge, located in Houston's East End in Mason Park, was eagerly anticipated by community members and will facilitate safe pedestrian and bike crossings of Brays Bayou. It will also give residents on either side of the park access to the nearly 30-mile Brays Bayou Greenway trail network.

## APRIL



## JUNE



### Opening of new segment of Sims Bayou Greenway

Houston Parks Board, Mayor Sylvester Turner, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis and Council Member Larry Green, District K, and the Harris County Flood Control District celebrated the opening of a new segment of Sims Bayou Greenway. This new linear park stretches 1.8 miles along the bayou from Heatherbrook Drive to Hillcroft Avenue, and is just one piece of what will be the 20-miles long Sims Bayou Greenway.



### Bayou Greenway Day Festival

Read more on page 16

# BAYOU GREENWAYS BY THE NUMBERS

Over  
**4,000**

**TREES**



planted on the Bayou Greenways

Participated in  
**4 LOCAL INITIATIVES**

- Houston Bike Plan
- Houston Arts Alliance's Bayou Trails initiative
- The Houston Police Department Positive Interaction Program
- Super Bowl Touchdown Tours

**\$2M SPENT**



replacing and repairing old trails and greenway infrastructure

**1,400**

**ACRES**



of greenspace maintained

**53**

**BENCHES REPLACED**



**87**

**ACRES**



secured for future parkland

Led **103**  
**OUTREACH MEETINGS**

which included community members, key stakeholders, elected officials and other interest groups

**380**

**ACRES**



of wildflowers planted

**725**

**TRUCKLOADS**



of litter, debris and silt removed

**3,150**

**GRAFFITI SITES ABATED**



Presented at  
**6 CITY OF HOUSTON**

Capital Improvement Project

**TOWN-HALL MEETINGS**

**10**

**NESTING BOXES INSTALLED**



**4**

**DRINKING FOUNTAINS REPLACED**



Introduced  
**7,000 PEOPLE**

to Houston Parks Board and BG2020 through all outreach activities

**1,600** through outreach meetings

**3,700** through Houston Parks Board events

**1,700** through community events, conferences and panels

**23**  
**26** **TRASH and RECYCLING**



receptacles replaced

**60** **MILES**

of trail maintained



## CITY OF HOUSTON BIKE PLAN

For the first time in 20 years, the City of Houston took on the task of creating a new Houston Bike Plan to make Houston a more bike-friendly city.

Since Bayou Greenways 2020 is a key component of the citywide bike plan, Houston Parks Board became a funding partner of the Bike Plan and a sitting member of the Planning Department's Bicycle Advisory Committee.

After months of public outreach and stakeholder meetings conducted by the City of Houston Planning Department and its primary nonprofit partner, Bike Houston, a comprehensive bicycle network was envisioned which included the programs and policies that would be needed to meet Houston's goal to become a Gold Level City by 2026.

Houston Parks Board advocated for the Bike Plan by distributing Bike Plan materials at our own outreach events and encouraging council members to support the plan.

On March 22, 2017, Houston City Council voted to approve the Houston Bike Plan.



*Since Bayou Greenways 2020 is a key component of the citywide bike plan, Houston Parks Board became a funding partner of the Bike Plan and a sitting member of the Planning Department's Bicycle Advisory Committee.*



NEWS

### Houston City Council approves new bike plan

[Share](#) [G+](#) [Tweet](#) [Email](#)





## PADDLING PARTNERS

Community members in the East End love Brays Bayou Greenway. In fact, a group of residents is making the greenway their own by creating a paddle trail for kayaking and canoeing.

It all started when Amy Dinn, President of the Idylwood Civic Club, heard about paddle trails on Buffalo Bayou through the Bayou Preservation Association and wanted to create one on her own neighborhood bayou. After researching paddle trails and scouting potential locations, she and other community members developed a concept for a paddle trail that centered on five parks connected by Brays Bayou Greenway: MacGregor, Fonde, Spurlock, Mason and Brays Greenway Park.

*“Having the Brays Bayou Greenway infrastructure already in place allowed us to be imaginative and add onto it in a cost effective way,” explains Amy.*

Amy worked closely with Houston Parks Board along the way to keep updated on the progress of Brays Bayou Greenway and to ensure that their plans were aligned with ours. She also coordinated with the surrounding community groups and other key stakeholders, including the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Harris County Flood Control District and Council Member Robert Gallegos, District I, who supported the project through his district’s park improvement funds. Additional funding came from Bayou Preservation Association, who received a grant from REI.

Three of the five launches have already been built, including those at Fonde, Spurlock and Brays Greenway Park. The launches mostly consist of natural elements, including rearranged riprap and larger stones to provide a more solid surface for walking. Amy and her group are closely watching the master planning effort of both Mason Park and MacGregor Park to ensure that they can incorporate the launches in a cohesive way.

“One of the greatest values of Bayou Greenways is how it’s transforming peoples’ thinking of what a bayou could be,” remarks Amy, who hopes the project will create a recreational and educational opportunity for kids who live along the bayou.



# COMMUNITY collaboration

## BAYOU GREENWAYS 2020 JOINS THE HIGH LINE NETWORK

In June, Houston Parks Board, Friends of the High Line, Buffalo Bayou Partnership and other national park leaders celebrated the public launch of the High Line Network, a group of transformative infrastructure reuse projects across the country. Consisting of the leaders of renowned projects such as the High Line, LA River, Atlanta Beltline, The 606 and Houston's Buffalo Bayou Park, the group was established to create a peer-to-peer network to help project leaders learn from each other and help ensure these projects are as successful as possible.

Houston Parks Board worked with the organizations for much of Fiscal Year 2017 to prepare for the launch, including the development of a website with information about each project. Additionally, Buffalo Bayou Partnership and Houston Parks Board acted as local hosts for a network convening in Houston in January, 2017. Bayou Greenways 2020 is one of 19 projects featured, which is a testament to its national recognition as a transformative park project.

*You can learn more at [network.thehighline.org](http://network.thehighline.org)*



## **INGRANDO PARK FUTSOL COURT WINS NRPA'S PARKS BUILD COMMUNITY GRANT**

Houston Parks Board had the honor of helping deliver a truly collaborative project to repurpose an unused tennis court into a new soccer mini-pitch court. The project was made possible through the National Recreation and Park Association's "Parks Build Community" initiative, which invited the public to vote for local park projects to receive a \$20,000 grant from the NRPA and Disney. Fifteen projects were selected by popular vote and a sixteenth project, Ingrando Park's Futsol Court, was a write-in winner.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department was awarded the grant, and Houston Parks Board co-managed the project with them. Other funding partners include the U.S. Soccer Foundation and the Major League Soccer Players Union.

The new courts benefit the Houston Parks and Recreation Department's Soccer for Success program, which engages low income, at-risk children in youth development opportunities through the game of soccer.



# BAYOU GREENWAY DAY 2017



In April, Houston Parks Board celebrated its third annual Bayou Greenway Day along Brays Bayou Greenway in MacGregor Park. Thousands of residents attended the event, which was presented by Noble Energy and executed by numerous nonprofit and community partners.

We collaborated with more than 40 community groups to help shape the event, making it a unique festival perfectly tailored to the community.



*A festival for the community,  
by the community*



*"Bayou Greenway Day was a wonderfully personal experience for me. I was able to breathe in fresh air, meet new friends and see old ones. I saw people I hadn't seen in years! We have a large, diverse neighborhood and Bayou Greenway Day brought different facets of our community together. Bringing so many people to MacGregor Park gave us the opportunity to see what the park could be through someone else's eyes."*

– Dr. Teddy McDavid,  
Friends of MacGregor Park





In July 2016, Houston Parks Board celebrated the demolition of an abandoned apartment complex along White Oak Bayou Greenway with Mayor Sylvester Turner, Council Member Brenda Stardig, District A, and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. The long-abandoned complex had been a hotbed for crime and an eyesore for nearby residents and for White Oak Bayou Greenway trail users. Houston Parks Board contributed \$400,000 to acquire the property. Other funding for acquisition and demolition came from the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, District A Council Member Stardig and COH Housing and Community Development Department.



**FROM ABANDONED APARTMENTS TO OPEN GREENSPACE**



**AFTER**





*After the demolition, the site was transformed into serene greenspace with access to White Oak Bayou Greenway. A beautiful bioswale was created on the site and will filter rainwater before entering the bayou. Now, trail users and the many families that live nearby have a beautiful new amenity to enjoy.*

*“This is a great example of what can be achieved when we collaborate closely with partners to achieve a common goal.”*

*– Beth White, President and CEO*



# SUPER fun

## 51 SUPER PLACES ON THE BAYOU GREENWAYS

In the months leading up to the Super Bowl, everyone in Houston was getting ready for the big game, including Houston Parks Board.

To give visitors (and residents!) an idea of the adventures the Bayou Greenways have to offer, every week leading up to Super Bowl 51, Houston Parks Board published new “super places” near the existing and future Bayou Greenways.

*From tacos and bats to swamps and kayaks, there's plenty to explore.*

**VISIT [HOUSTONPARKSBOARD.ORG](http://HOUSTONPARKSBOARD.ORG) TO GET STARTED**



- 1 Bike ride along White Oak Bayou Greenway
- 2 Go bat watching at the Watonga Blvd. Bridge
- 3 Enjoy the wildflowers that line many of the Bayou Greenways
- 4 Stroll along a scenic trail
- 5 Take your family on a walk along the Bayou Greenways
- 6 Stop by the Orange Show for an eclectic experience
- 7 Visit with the Presidents
- 8 Find a friend in a nesting box
- 9 Kayak one of the many bayous

## SUPER BOWL TOUCHDOWN TOURS

Houston Parks Board scored a role in the Super Bowl Touchdown Tours, a series of community events at parks to bring the Super Bowl experience to neighborhoods all across Houston.

We had a booth and/or presence at 10 out of the 11 Super Bowl Touchdown Tour events, where we distributed information about Bayou Greenways 2020 as well as created relationships with new audiences.

## TOUCHDOWN HOUSTON GRANT

Houston Parks Board was honored to be a part of Super Bowl LI's lasting impact on the City of Houston.

78 local organizations, including Houston Parks Board, were awarded \$4 million in grant-funding from Touchdown Houston, the Super Bowl LI Host Committee and NFL Foundation's charitable giving initiative.

We are so grateful for their support and for their huge investment in Houston. The Super Bowl may be over, but Houston is Greater than the Game.



*#GreaterThanTheGame*



TOUCHDOWN TOURS



TOUCHDOWN HOUSTON GRANT

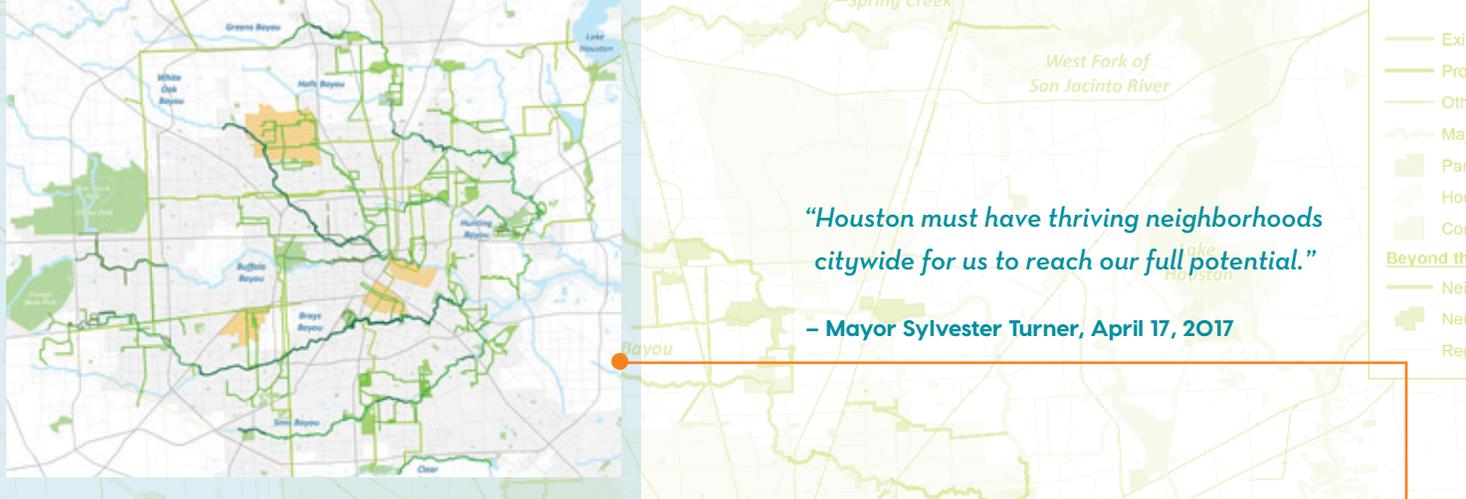
# WONDER *and* WANDER

## INTERACTIVE MAP OF THE BAYOU GREENWAYS

Introducing our new interactive map of the Bayou Greenways! Using GIS technology, we mapped existing and future Bayou Greenways and built a digital map you can interact with online. Now you can plan your trip and keep up to date on all project happenings, including what's under construction and what's out there now.

*Start exploring at [bayougreenways.org](http://bayougreenways.org)*





“Houston must have thriving neighborhoods citywide for us to reach our full potential.”

– Mayor Sylvester Turner, April 17, 2017

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## BEYOND THE BAYOUS

### A Vision for Expanding Greater Houston’s Public Realm

With funding from Houston Endowment, Houston Parks Board commissioned renowned landscape architects Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates (MVVA) and Morris Architects to develop *Beyond the Bayous*, a vision to expand and improve Greater Houston’s public realm beyond the signature Bayou Greenways project, which is currently shaping Houston.

*Beyond the Bayous* aims to accomplish the following goals:

- Provide an **equitable distribution of open space** throughout Houston;
- **Increase public access to open space**, as well as **connectivity** between parks, homes, and jobs; and
- Preserve and enhance the **natural ecosystems** of Houston

Extensive contextual research and mapping were conducted to gather data on the existing landscape, including income, population density, public health, park needs, flooding, transit and land use patterns. After identifying opportunities and constraints, a vision for expanding Greater Houston’s public realm was developed, which includes opportunities to develop regional connector corridors, create additional “hub” parks and improve access to neighborhood parks.

*Beyond the Bayous* has an inspiring vision and relies on the collaboration of public agencies, private investors and community partners. Based on the continuing success of Bayou Greenways 2020, HPB is poised to move this vision forward in collaboration with key partners with a particular focus on the Mayor’s Complete Communities.



Date: 8/14/2

# your IMPACT

## OAK FOREST PARK PLAYGROUND FOR ALL ABILITIES

When Friends of Oak Forest Park came to Houston Parks Board with their vision, we were inspired to help. The key initiative at Oak Forest Park is to build a playground for all abilities — the first accessible, inclusive playground in central northwest Houston. Located in Houston's third largest neighborhood, it will be the seventh accessible playground in the city's park system.

The first phase of the park revitalization includes improvements to the tennis/basketball court area, which have been funded through community efforts and funds allocated by Mayor Pro Tem Ellen Cohen, City Council Member for District C. Oak Forest Park is the Houston winner of the 2017 NRPA "Meet Me at The Park" \$20,000 grant, awarded through public voting and a grant from the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation to fund a piece of accessible playground equipment. In addition to serving as fiscal agent and project manager for the renovation, Houston Parks Board is assisting the Friends of Oak Forest Park in their fundraising efforts.

In October 2016, Friends of Oak Forest Park held the first annual Festival of Abilities, an inclusive Halloween weekend event, which raised \$55,000. The second annual Festival of Abilities fundraiser will be held October 28, 2017.



*"It would be nice to have equipment for people with disabilities so they can play just like other kids their age. They deserve to laugh, scream, and play just like all kids."*

– Garrett Holcombe, age 11, Oak Forest Park Ambassador



## RICH AND NANCY KINDER

When it comes to championing greenspace in Houston, Rich and Nancy Kinder are the city's preeminent supporters. The Kinders are establishing their legacy across the parks, trails, and bayous of our city.

In 2013, through the Kinder Foundation, the visionary philanthropists provided the \$50 million catalyst gift for Bayou Greenways 2020. To date, their gift to the Bayou Greenways 2020 project is the largest donation in the history of Houston's park system and one of the largest grants to a public greenspace in the United States.

Rich, chairman of the Kinder Foundation, recounts with a chuckle the day Nancy met with Houston Parks Board Chairman Tom Bacon to inform him of their gift. "It rendered him speechless. He later called and apologized, saying he was not expecting anything of this size and wanted to make sure we didn't interpret his silence as lack of gratitude."

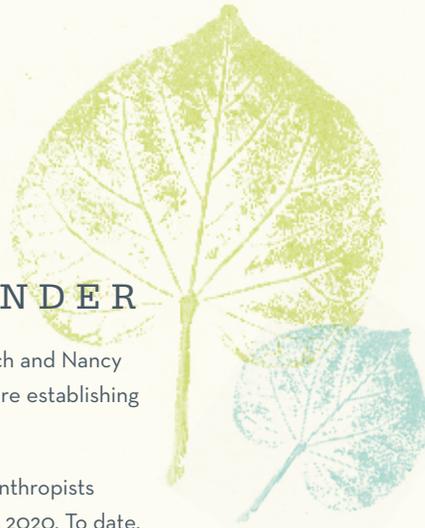
The grant was inspired in large part by the success of two earlier transformative Houston parks projects, Discovery Green and Buffalo Bayou Park, both of which they helped establish, guiding the vision, providing the catalyst funding, and working alongside the respective teams throughout construction, opening and beyond.

"Once we saw the huge popularity of these venues and the cross section of citizens utilizing them, we realized that urban greenspace was in high demand and if we could help extend greenspace throughout the city it would be a real plus for the whole community," says Rich.

The Kinders have devoted a third of their foundation's focus and resources to urban greenspace as parks and open spaces are essential not only to a thriving city but to Houston's overall strategy to mitigate flooding.

"We believe parks and greenspace are important components of urban life and are often overlooked by philanthropists and other leaders when trying to improve the quality of life in major cities," says Nancy, president of the Kinder Foundation. "When properly done, parks are centers of diversity and become melting pots for all of our urban populace."

Adds Rich, "Houston doesn't have mountains or spectacular beaches, but we do have a climate ideal for creating parks seen as urban jewels. Nancy and I are committed to doing our part to ensure Houston becomes synonymous with accessible and outstanding greenspace projects."



## MEMORIAL HERMANN MATCH CHALLENGE

Memorial Hermann issued a challenge: Raise \$15,000 in the month of June and they'll double it.

Well, you knocked it out of the park!

More than \$50,000 was raised in June to support our mission thanks to you and Memorial Hermann, our partners in health.

Memorial Hermann believes in the power of parks to improve people's lives, and we're so grateful for their help and inspiration.

If you are feeling as inspired as we are, please consider continuing the love with a donation to Houston Parks Board. Your support helps us create, improve, protect and advocate for parks large and small throughout the Houston region.

[houstonparksboard.org/donate](https://houstonparksboard.org/donate)

# Thank You!

## 2017 DONORS

### BAYOU GREENWAYS

#### Bayou Greenways 2020

**\$3,000,000 - \$7,999,999**

Houston Endowment Inc.

Kinder Foundation

(pledge \$50,000,000)

**\$1,000,000 - \$2,999,999**

The Hildebrand Foundation

(pledge \$9,000,000)

**\$500,000 - \$999,999**

The Cullen Foundation

**\$300,000 - \$499,999**

Joan and Stanford Alexander

(multi-year pledge)

Robert & Janice McNair Foundation

(pledge \$1,000,000)

**\$100,000 - \$299,999**

Laura and Tom Bacon

(multi-year pledge)

The Brown Foundation, Inc.

Anne and Albert Chao

The Elkins Foundation

(pledge \$1,000,000)

Annie and Bob Graham

(multi-year pledge)

George and Mary Josephine

Hamman Foundation

Hines Interests Limited Partnership

Phillips 66

Silver Eagle Distributors

(pledge \$300,000)

Trees for Houston

Phoebe and Bobby Tudor

The Wortham Foundation, Inc.

(pledge \$1,600,000)

Nina and Michael Zilkha

(multi-year pledge)

**\$50,000 - \$99,999**

The William Stamps Farish Fund

(pledge \$150,000)

The Garden Club of Houston

Greater Houston Community Foundation

Noble Energy (pledge \$300,000)

**\$25,000 - \$49,999**

Dickson-Allen Foundation

Susie and Joe Dilg (multi-year pledge)

The Fondren Foundation

(pledge \$500,000)

Diana and Russell Hawkins

(multi-year pledge)

Jill and Dunham Jewett

(multi-year pledge)

Laurie and Reed Morian

(multi-year pledge)

**\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Cindy and David Fitch (multi-year pledge)

Ann Lents and J. David Heaney

(multi-year pledge)

REIT Partners, LP

Sterling-Turner Foundation

Anne Whitlock and Michael Skelly

(multi-year pledge)

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Harvey R. Houck Jr. and

Patricia W. Houck Foundation

Jill and Dunham Jewett

(multi-year pledge)

Joy and Edward Randall

R.E. Smith Foundation

Lisa and Barron Wallace

(multi-year pledge)

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Azteca Enterprises, Inc.

Kathryn and Gary Dudley

Julie and Andrew Price (multi-year pledge)

**\$500 - \$999**

Janet Clark

Joanne Crull

Kendra Kennedy

Marvin Lummis

Chris Porter (multi-year pledge)

Kelly Whitcomb

**up to \$499**

Shirley Bludau

Patricia Frayre

Janet and Gerard Haughey

Wendy and Jeff Heger

Brian Kao

Javier Mateache

James E. McDermott

Mandi Peavy

Susan Rosenbaum

Anjali Shivshanker

Brad Snead

John Tauser

Wanda Teas

Tri Delta Houston Alumnae Chapter

#### Bayou Greenway Day

**\$50,000 - \$99,999**

Noble Energy

**\$25,000 - \$49,999**

The John M. O'Quinn Foundation

**\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Fred Haas Toyota World

Gadberry Construction

Texas Wall & Landscape, LLC

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Champions Hydro-Lawn, Inc.

Cullen Geiselman

Houston Methodist Hospital System

King & Spalding LLP

MD Anderson Cancer Center

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Houston Trust Company

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Landtech, Inc.

Luby's Fuddruckers Restaurants

Menade, Inc.

Minor Design

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Port Houston

Richards/Carlberg

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The SWA Group

Times Construction, Inc.

Traffic Engineers, Inc.

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Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc.

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Avenue Community Development

Corporation

#### Bench Fund

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Thomas Conryn

#### The Station at Burnett-Bayland

##### Skatepark

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

United Airlines

#### Capital Fund

**up to \$499**

Kursat Zafer

#### Emancipation Park

**\$100,000 - \$299,999**

Kinder Foundation (pledge \$2,000,000)

#### Fleming Park

**\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Friends of Fleming Park, Inc.

**up to \$499**

Karen and Charlie Baughn

#### Herman Park

**\$10,000 - \$999,999**

Houston Taipei Society

#### Hogg Bird Sanctuary

**\$500,000 - \$999,999**

The Hildebrand Foundation

(pledge \$1,000,000)

#### Lee and Joe Jamail Skatepark

**\$50,000 - \$99,999**

The Lee and Joseph D. Jamail

Foundation

**\$25,000 - \$49,999**

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Randall Jamail

Dahr Jamail

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Redevelopment Authority

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**Linkwood Park**

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**BAYOU GREENWAY DAY**

*Your contributions helped us create,  
 improve, protect and advocate for parks  
 and greenspace all over Houston.*

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**\$100,000 - \$299,999**

Harris County Houston Sports Authority

**Nellie Keyes Park**

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Brinn and David Miracle

**\$500 - \$999**

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Phillips 66

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Alison Rivera

Dewi Schoute

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**Oak Forest Park**

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Oak Forest Park Homeowners

Association, Inc.

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Joan and Stanford Alexander

Houston Young Lawyers Foundation

Marek Brothers Systems, Inc.

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Resource One Credit Union

REVIVECO, LLC

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Soccer Shots Houston

Stan-Co

Texas Tree Team

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UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

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Pediatric Health Hands Therapy  
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Robin and Tim Phillips  
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Red Dessert Dive  
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Amy and Patrick Shields  
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Michael Bolton  
**Wagner Greenspace**  
**up to \$499**  
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**West 11th Street Park**  
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Friends of West 11th Street Park  
**Wiess Park**  
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**up to \$499**  
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Katie Guidroz



## BAYOU GREENWAYS VOLUNTEERS

*Volunteers spread millions (yes, millions!) of wildflower seeds along Sims Bayou, Brays Bayou and White Oak Bayou.*

Cindy Knebel  
Christine and Jindy Lan  
Tricia and David Levenson  
Chen Li and Alan Lee  
NRG Energy  
Andrew Tank  
Amanda L. Wilder

#### **Yale Street Bridge**

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1502 Sawyer Spur LLC  
Frank and Cindy Liu  
Silver Street Holdings LLC

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**up to \$499**

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Nicholas Bryan Guidry  
Sandra Gunn  
Becky Houston  
Alan Jackson  
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Mark Williamson

#### **PARTNER PROGRAMS**

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Houston Area Road Runners Association

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Mark R. Boerner  
Crickets Splash Swimming LLC  
USA Softball of Houston  
Westbury Summer Recreation  
Swim Team Inc.  
South Texas Aquatics  
**\$500 - \$999**  
The Forge for Families, Inc.  
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AquaKare USA  
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**\$1,000 - \$4,999**  
Plumbers Local Union No. 68  
**\$500 - \$999**  
The Herb Society of America  
South Texas Unit  
Spring Branch African Violet Club  
Zone One Auto Storage & Sales  
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Infrastructure Services, Inc.  
Just For Animals, Inc.  
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#### **HPARD**

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Dean's Nutritional Food Services Inc.  
Memorial Park Conservancy, Inc.  
**\$500 - \$999**  
Buffalo Bayou Partnership  
Emancipation Park Conservancy  
Levy Park Conservancy  
SPARK

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Walmart  
**\$1,000 - \$4,999**  
BlueCross BlueShield of Texas  
Bunny C. Brightman  
Chris Canonic  
CIGNA Foundation  
Felix H. Morales Funeral Home, Inc.  
Gray Reed & McGraw PC  
H-E-B  
Houston Community College System  
Isani Consultants, LP  
Legacy Community Health Services  
The Miami Foundation  
Port Houston  
SES Horizon Consulting Engineers, Inc.  
Lenora Sorola-Pohlman  
Southwest Airlines  
Community Affairs & Grassroots  
Univision  
Saul Valentin

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Farah PLLC  
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Construction Trade  
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Ivan Sanchez  
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TPC Group

#### **Soccer Programs**

**\$10,000 - \$24,999**  
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John Egan  
Individual and Team Registrations  
National Recreation and  
Park Association, Inc.  
**\$5,000 - \$9,999**  
Amaarah Refugee Services  
Omar Ruiz Velasco  
U.S. Soccer Foundation  
**Tennis Programs**  
**\$25,000 - \$49,999**  
Houston Tennis Association, Inc.

#### **Urban Garden Program**

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**  
Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers

#### **UNRESTRICTED**

##### **Annual Lunch 2016**

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**\$25,000 - \$49,999**  
DX Service Company, Inc.  
Marie Louise and David Kinder  
Kathrine McGovern/  
McGovern Foundation  
Nina and Michael Zilkha  
**\$10,000 - \$24,999**  
Chinhui and Eddie Allen  
Laura and Tom Bacon  
Maire and David Baldwin  
Bracewell LLP  
Bud Light/Silver Eagle Distributors  
Susie and Joe Dilg &  
Jill and Dunham Jewett  
Cynthia and Ben Guill  
H-E-B  
Cornelia and Meredith Long  
Kim and Scott Martin  
Leslie and Shannon Sasser  
Virginia & L.E. Simmons Family Foundation  
Sterling-Turner Foundation  
Aliyya and Herman  
Judy and Charles Tate  
Phoebe and Bobby Tudor  
Wedge Group  
Meg and Dick Weekley  
**\$5,000 - \$9,999**  
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Amegy Bank  
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Champions Hydro-Lawn, Inc.  
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Norton Rose Fulbright  
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SWCA Environmental Consultants  
Uptown Houston  
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Precious and Ore Owodunni  
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Joy and Edward Randall  
Isla and Tommy Reckling  
Richards/Carlberg  
RPS Klots Associates  
Kara and Dax Sanders  
Aimee and Wynne Snoots  
Johnny Steele  
The SWA Group  
Times Construction, Inc.  
Francita and Jim Ulmer  
Beth White and Zet Smith  
Polly and Jeff Whittle  
Nancy and Don Woo  
Lorraine and Ed Wulfe  
Pam Zimmerman  
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Sheri and Camp Bailey  
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Bike Houston  
Cathy and Gary Brock  
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Bettie Cartwright  
Gracie and Bob Cavnar  
Central Houston, Inc.  
Evans and Charlie Christ  
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Kelty and Rogers Crain  
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Marybeth and Tom Flaherty  
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Fan and Peter Morris  
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Beth and Chase Robison  
Deborah and Scott Rule  
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Beth Taylor and Carter Stern  
Christine and Blake Williams  
Jeanie and Wally Wilson  
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*Gifts received as of print date*  
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Mindy and Jeff Hildebrand  
**\$25,000 - \$49,999**  
Kathrine McGovern/  
McGovern Foundation  
Nina and Michael Zilkha  
**\$10,000 - \$24,999**  
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Cameron Management @ Esperson  
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Maire and David Baldwin  
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Collaborative Capital  
Susie and Joe Dilg  
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H-E-B  
Huitt-Zollars, Inc.  
Jill and Dunham Jewett  
Cornelia and Meredith Long  
Minor Design  
Leslie and Shannon Sasser  
Aliyya and Herman Stude  
Phoebe and Bobby Tudor  
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Bud Light/Silver Eagle Distributors  
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Champions Hydro-Lawn, Inc.  
Clark Condon  
Jenny and Jim Elkins Family Fund  
Cindy and David Fitch  
Cullen Geiselman  
Jackson Walker L.L.P.  
Susan and Richard Keeton  
Marie Louise and David Kinder  
Ann Lents and J. David Heaney  
Norton Rose Fulbright  
Uptown Houston  
Vinson & Elkins LLP  
Meg and Dick Weekley  
Randa and K.C. Weiner  
Anne Whitlock and Michael Skelly  
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Henrietta Alexander  
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Sue Sue and Don Aron  
Clare Casademont and Mike Metz  
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Guy Hagstette  
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Millis Development & Construction, LLC  
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Vivie and Chris O'Sullivan  
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## INGRANDO PARK FUTSAL COURT



## TOUCHDOWN TOURS

*Because we believe that all Houstonians deserve quality parks and greenspace, we continue to work with community groups to improve their neighborhood parks and recreational facilities across Houston.*

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Angie and Jim Green  
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**\$25,000 - \$49,999**  
Marvy Finger Family Foundation  
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Brenda and John Duncan  
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Nancy and Don Woo  
Nina and Michael Zilkha  
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Sara and Steven Dobbs  
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Includes gifts, pledges and pledge payments received between July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.



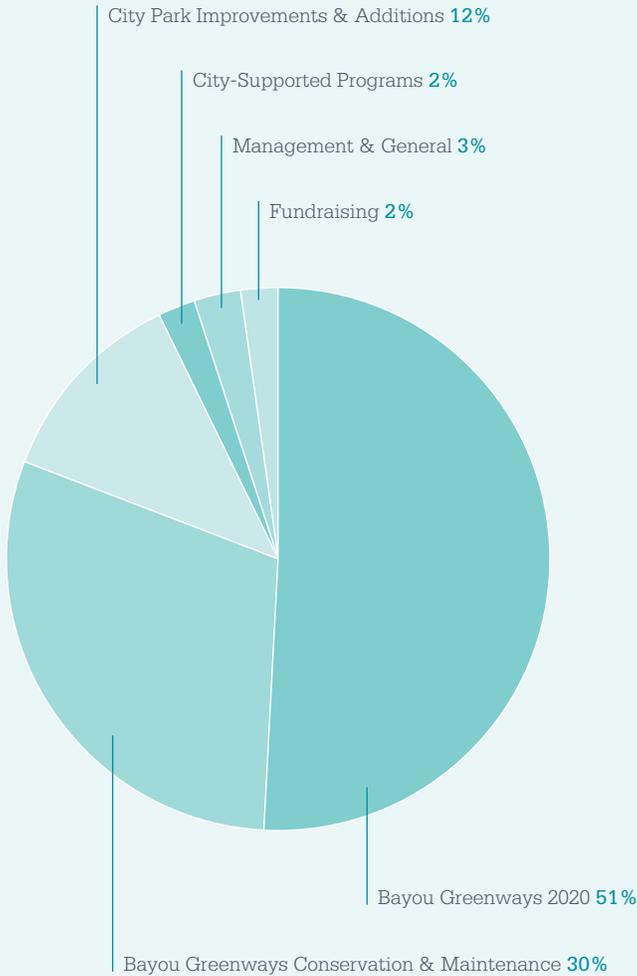
*The biggest parks and land conservation project in Houston's history is happening right now. Bayou Greenways 2020 is transforming Houston into a healthier and more resilient city every day, but we're not done yet. There's still time to leave your mark.*

**Make a donation today: [houstonparksboard.org](http://houstonparksboard.org)**



# 2017 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



### Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2017

#### ASSETS

Cash	\$ 708,280
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	594,406
Cash held for Bayou Greenways capital reserve	5,831,617
Cash held for City-supported programs and parks	4,172,599
Cash held for Bayou Greenways 2020	17,862,973
Pledge receivables	15,319,239
Investments and endowment funds	18,579,957
Property, net	11,797,690

**Total Assets** **\$ 74,866,761**

#### LIABILITIES

Accounts and construction projects payable	\$ 1,311,194
Funds held for others	96,357

**Total Liabilities** **\$ 1,407,551**

#### NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	13,557,978
Temporarily restricted	54,640,763
Permanently restricted	5,260,469

**Total Net Assets** **73,459,210**

**Total Net Assets & Liabilities** **\$ 74,866,761**

### Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2017

#### OPERATING REVENUE

Contributions and special events	\$ 11,780,641
Operating investment return	597,374
Bayou Greenways 2020 maintenance	8,382,000
Management fees	521,272

**Total Operating Revenue** **\$ 21,281,287**

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

##### Program Services:

Bayou Greenways 2020	\$ 11,273,199
City park improvements	6,672,794
Bayou Greenways conservation and maintenance	2,582,524
City-supported programs	523,039

**21,051,556**

##### Management and General

644,313

##### Fundraising

388,310

**Total Operating Expenses** **\$ 22,084,179**

Conveyance of land to the City of Houston	(98,440)
Conveyance of land to Harris County Flood Control District	(13,903)
Endowment investment return	641,269

**Changes in Net Assets** **\$ (273,966)**



## HOUSTON PARKS BOARD *staff*

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**John Brandt, ASLA PLA**

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*With special thanks to Catherine Butsch Villarreal, Dancie Jones, Kelly Whitcomb, LaTrice Monroe and Sarah Pierce.*



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