

RIVER OAKS PARK

“Pumpkin Park”

COMMUNITY
MEETING #1



HOUSTON
PARKS BOARD



HPARD
HOUSTON PARKS
AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
A CAPRA Accredited Agency

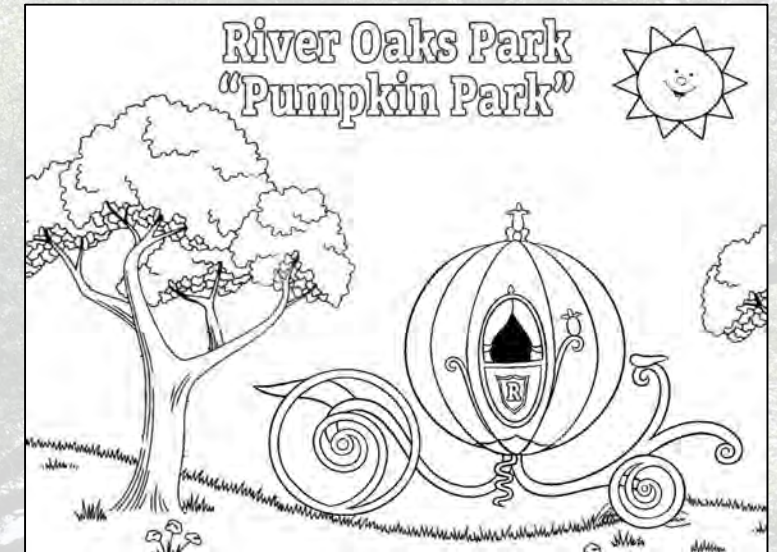


¿Prefieres comunicarte en español? Envíanos tu nombre e email a
info@houstonparksboard.org, y la semana entrante te enviaremos via correo electrónico
la versión en español de esta presentación.

Agenda and Goals

Agenda:

- Project Introduction
 - Background and Mission
 - Team
 - River Oaks Community Center and Park
- Community Feedback
- Wrap-up/Next Steps



Meeting goals:

- Communicate the park history, importance, and existing conditions
- Summarize community input from the survey
- Find out what community wants to do in the park and building (aspirational goals)
- Communicate next steps and involvement opportunities

Project Background

Last year, after losing our beloved baby Isabel, who brought so much joy and happiness to us for the 8 months she was with us, we wanted to make sure that we could celebrate her memory in a meaningful, joyful way.

It effortlessly occurred to me that renovating the building and surrounding areas at River Oaks Park or "Pumpkin Park" could not be more of a perfect fit.

Fortuitously, Susan Cooley with Friends of River Oaks Park was getting ready to start fundraising for a very similar project with the Houston Parks Board, and they along with Houston Parks and Recreation Department graciously allowed us to pursue this together in Isabel's memory.

*- Margaret Elkins
Davis*

Project Mission

To transform the *River Oaks Community Center* into a place that inspires joy in the lives of all who use it.

With the community's input and vision, we will discover its best uses and make it into a place where people of all ages love to be together.



Team

- Houston Parks and Recreation Department
- Friends of River Oaks Park
- Houston Parks Board
- Leslie Elkins Architecture
- Johnny Steele Design
- Hurley Michael Structural Engineers
- Collaborative Engineering Group
- Frayre Engineering and Consulting, PLLC
- Rulon Electric

Location

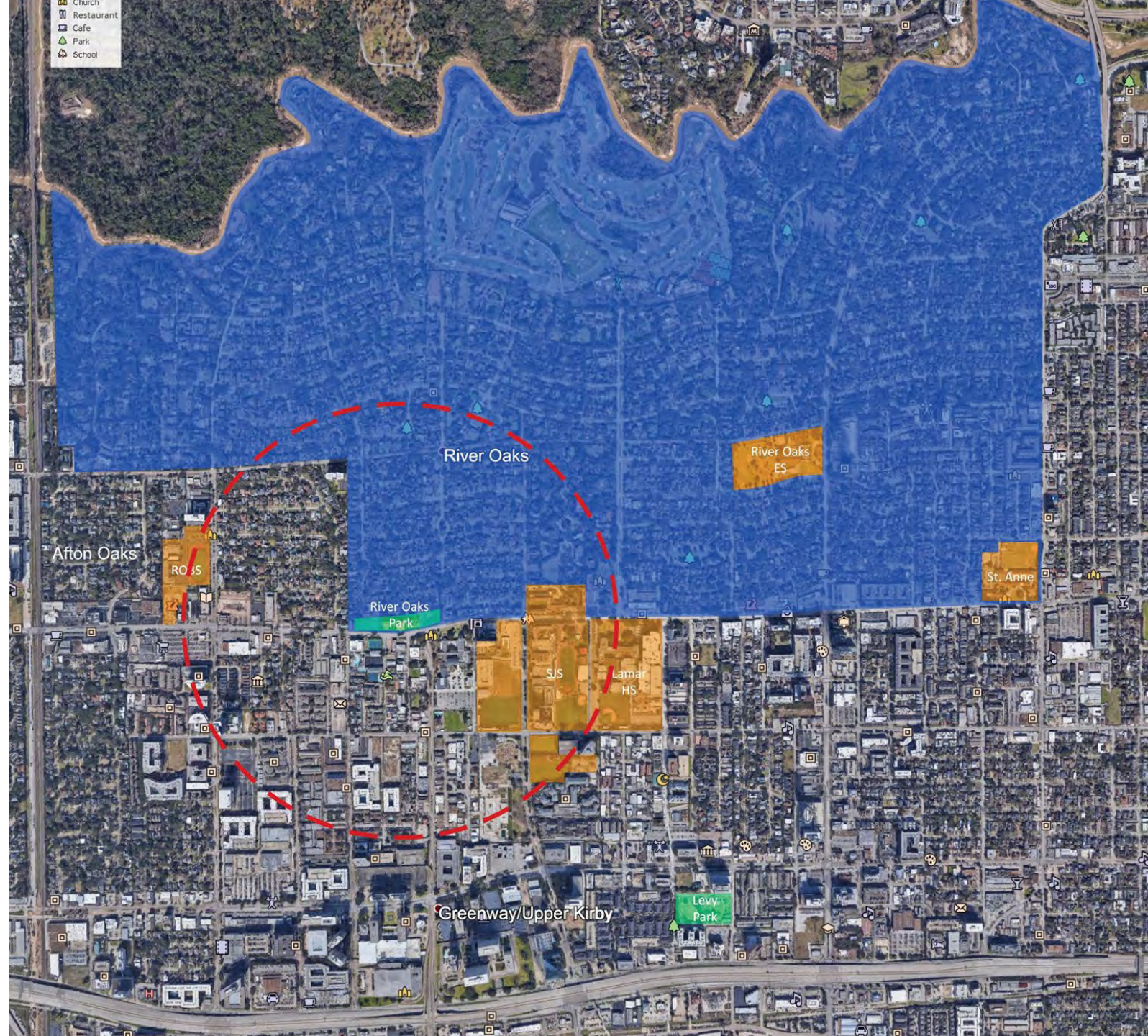
3600 Locke Lane

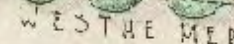
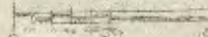
Houston, Texas

Proximity to:

- Lamar High School
- River Oaks Baptist School
- St. Johns School
- St. Johns Church
- St. Luke's Church
- Highland Village
- Multiple apartments and high rises
- Afton Oaks
- Greenway Plaza

"I love that children come from other places in the city to our little park that is safe, friendly and comfortable."





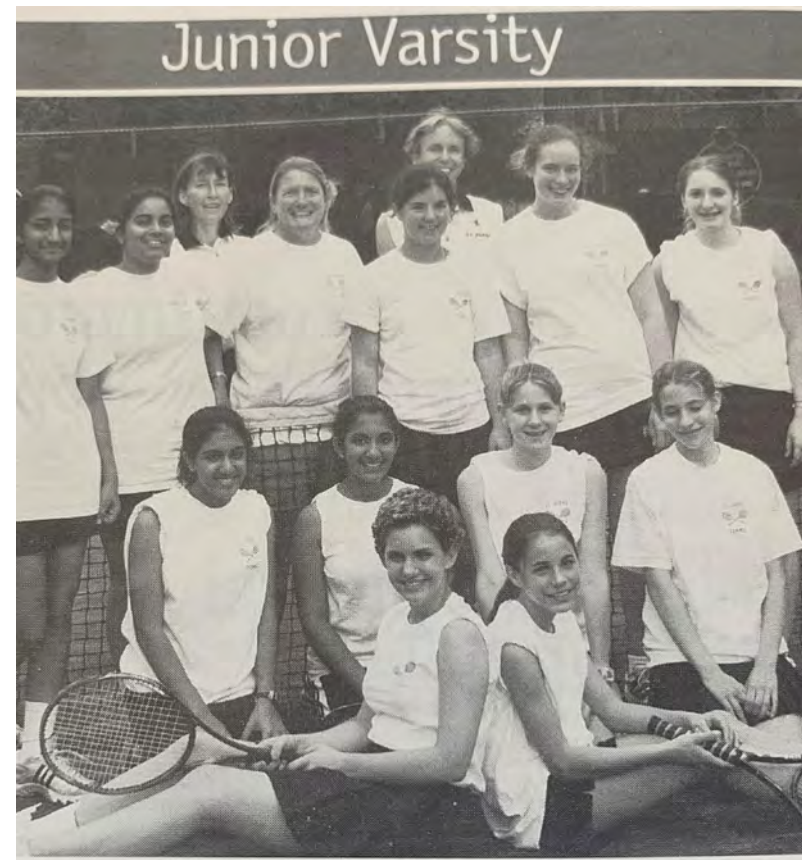
1938



1 2 3 4 5 6 7

FOR THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

WARE & WARE
Landscape Architects and City Planners
Kansas City, Missouri Aug 12, 1938



1938

"It has been the backyard of generations"

2020

Current Conditions



Park
Amenities

Playground

Tennis

Picnic Areas

Restrooms

Walking Track

Wishing Tree

Basketball

Beach Volleyball

Community Center

Little Free Library



Pumpkin Playground

River Oaks Park is frequented by families, especially with children.....

Most respondents (53%) take their kids to the park. Additionally, 26% go with their entire family.

Many respondents used to go often when they had young children or grandchildren.



Other amenities

But others use it as well.....

hhilliard001 She looks like she may be stuck. I hope someone helped her down.



riveroakspark Eagle Scout Project - Bobby Casey & Boy Scout Troop55 install pollinator garden AND 4 huge pallets of St Augustine.



Activities

- *Soccer Shots*
- *Parties*
- *Voting*
- *Summer Camp*
- *Saturday Chess Club*
- *Tai Chi*



Community Center

Office Hours:

M, T, W, & F = 11am – 7pm

Th = 12pm – 7pm

Sat = 9am – 2pm

Sun = 12pm – 4pm

Summer Office Hours:

M to F = 8am – 7pm

Sat & Sun Closed



Oaks Community Center
Lake Lane

Building Exterior

70% respondents have been in the center

Most either to vote or attend a party/event

56% said it met their needs

"I would like the building to be more inviting to all who visit, children, adults, young adults and families"



Building Interior

What would you like to do there that you can't now?

- Indoor exercise
- Better bathrooms
- More inviting
- Reserve rooms/
dedicated web page
- Events
- Basic concessions
kitchen

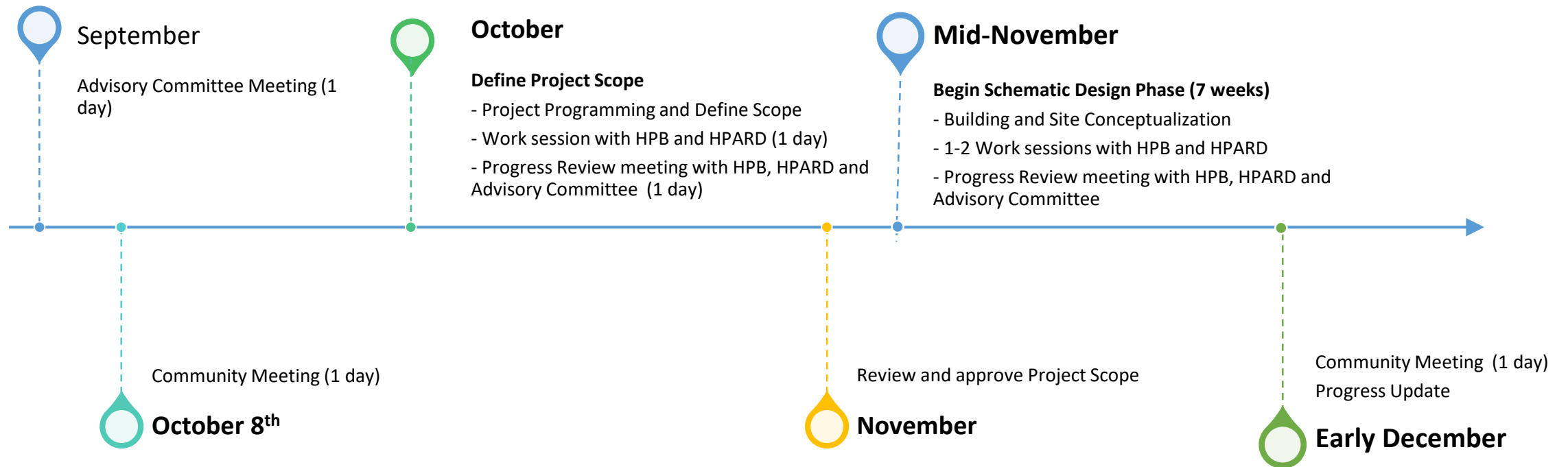




Community Feedback

Menti questions

Key Dates 2020



How you can help!



Share Information –

51% said they would share information about the project

Volunteer –

15% respondents said they would volunteer, 60% said they need more information first

Join Friends of River Oaks Park –

64% respondents said they would join

Share Survey

Others?

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Website:

www.houstonparks.org

Email:

askparks@houstonparks.org

Houston Parks Board

Project Webpage:

<https://houstonparksboard.org/about/river-oaks-park>

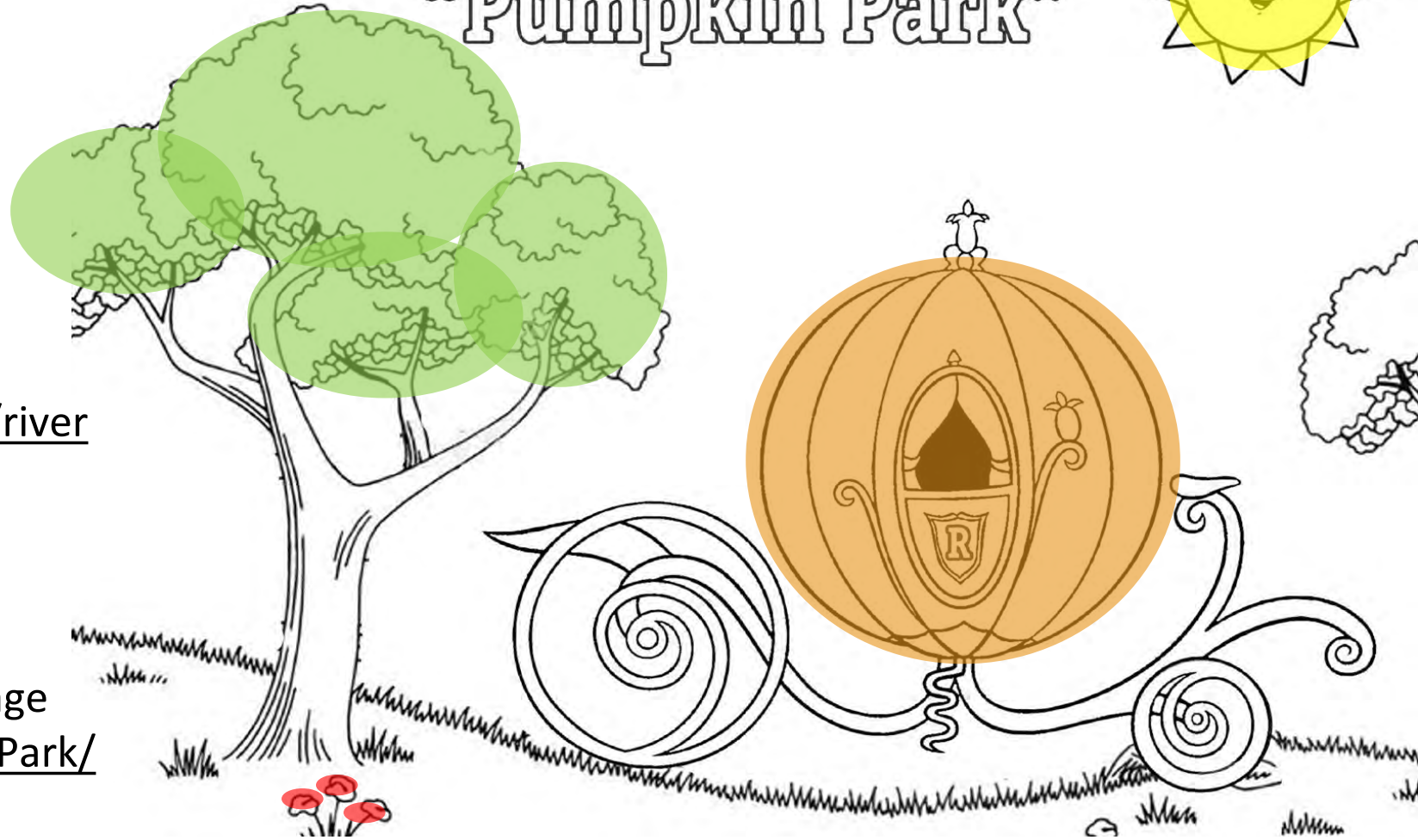
Email:

Info@houstonparksboard.org

Friends of River Oaks Park Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/RiverOaksPark/>

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