

**PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS**

The Mission statement for The Houston Parks and Recreation Department is: *“We strive to enhance the quality of urban life by providing secure, well-maintained parks and by offering affordable programs for our community.”* This mission is accomplished through the maintenance, operation and expansion of the Houston Park System. Consequently, the Department’s overall strategy for capital improvements and the use of all available funding, including Bond Funds, is to improve the quality of life for individual neighborhoods and the city at large.

The Master Plan promotes the redevelopment and expansion of the parks system. The Department will upgrade current parks, continue the very successful Parks to Standard Program, develop the City’s unique system of natural waterways into a linear park system extending throughout the City, develop and expand existing park properties, and add new maintenance facilities and community centers.

Property tax supported park bond funds is critical to the implementation of this strategy. By far, bond funds are the primary source of funding for park projects and will remain so for the foreseeable future. The Adopted FY2003-2007 CIP reflects the bond proposition approved in November 2001.

This CIP’s Adopted bond funds will initiate the Parks Master Plan and will be used toward the following goals:

- Implement parks-to-standard program at approximately 75 Parks

- Fund Phase I and Phase II improvements at eight undeveloped and underdeveloped parks
- Support the privatization of the Houston Zoological Gardens
- Renovate 16 recreation centers
- Renovate 13 swimming facilities
- Fund flagship parks improvements
- Leverage \$26.4 million in pledged private sector donations for acquisition of new park land
- Continue partnership funding of the Master Plan with the Parks Board

**PARKS MASTER PLAN SUMMARY**

**I. Introduction**

Vernon Henry & Associates began work in October 1998, with the goal of providing the Parks and Recreation Department a guide for future acquisition and development specifically, how and what spending should occur in the next 10-15 years

**II. Overview of the Plan Development Process**

- Categorize parks by pocket, neighborhood, community, regional and metro; Inventory existing City, County, and Private Facilities; establish criteria for identifying needs (demand based, standard based, and resource based) and then identify gaps in the parks, facilities and services

- Public Process – Public meetings were held in every city council district. Additionally, surveys and questionnaires were utilized. The objective was to involve the community in establishing priorities regarding renovations (the continuance of the Parks to Standard Program), land acquisitions, new park development, and construction of specific facilities – swimming pools, community centers, and/or maintenance facilities.
- Adoption by City Council.

**III. Master Plan Findings**

- 70 new land acquisitions with an additional 16 expansions
- Continued expansion of the PTS program
- Continued expansion of the linear park system along our bayous
- Community and Regional sized parks to accommodate sports fields
- Add additional 11 recreation centers
- Replace poorly located park maintenance facilities

# 2003 - 2007 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

# CITY OF HOUSTON

SOURCE OF FUNDS SUMMARY (\$THOUSANDS)										
Source of Funds	Appropriations through Dec. 31, 2000	Estimated Appropriations Jan. 1 - June 30 2002	Fiscal Year Planned Appropriations					Total	Total	
			2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003 - 2007		
Accumulated Unexpended Fund	2,050	1,400	787						787	4,237
Harris County Flood Control			1,421	300					1,721	1,721
Federal Grant				451					451	451
Private Funds			6,300	6,000	6,000	6,000			24,300	24,300
Park Special Fund	120	405	438						438	963
Park Cons. Const. Fund	368	14,516	9,558	11,456	16,837	20,121	7,144		65,116	80,000
General Imp. Cons. Const. Fund	100		529						529	629
Texas Dept of Parks & Wildlife			995	89					1,084	1,084
Community Development Blk Grant		108	1,498						1,498	1,606
Undetermined Funding				22	22	22	22		88	88
<b>Total</b>	2,638	16,429	21,526	18,318	22,859	26,143	7,166		96,012	115,079

**Parks Department Facilities**  
 FY2003 - 2007 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
 (\$THOUSANDS)

CIP NO.	COUNCIL DISTRICT	PROJECT NAME	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	TOTAL FY2003 - 2007
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**Parks Department Facilities**

F-0206	D	Park Acquisition	200 A					200A
F-0244	N/A	NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS		100 C				100C
F-0268	ALL	HERMANN PARK PLAYGROUND FOR ALL CHILDREN - PARKING		150 C				150C
F-0466	I	MULTI-USE PAVILIONS	779 C					779C
F-0494	ABDIHE	SWIMMING FACILITY RENOVATION	787 C					787C
F-0500	C	WILLOW WATER HOLE PARK	2,171 C					2,171C
F-0501	E	SKATE PARK	138 C					138C
F-0502	I	STEWART PARK	100 C					100C
F-0504A	VAR	PARKS MASTER PLAN	1,100 DC	2,850 C	7,040 C	8,080 C	270 C	19,340DC
F-0504B	VAR	PARKS MASTER PLAN	560 C	3,272 C	1,000 C	4,696 C	4,474 C	14,002C
F-0504C	VAR	PARKS MASTER PLAN	2,469 AC	1,150 C	4,830 C	4,075 C		12,524AC
F-0504D	VAR	Parks Master Plan	2,000 C	584 D	3,617 D	2,520 C		8,721DC

LEGEND:    A = ACQUISITION    D = DESIGN    C = CONSTRUCTION    E = EQUIPMENT    O = OTHER    R = ART

## Parks Department Facilities

FY2003 - 2007 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
(\$THOUSANDS)

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### Parks Department Facilities

F-0505	D	HOUSTON ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS	2,600 O	2,600 O				5,200O
F-0506	A	CULLEN VELODROME	157 C					157C
F-0507	B	SWINEY PARK		451 C				451C
F-0508	D	HERMANN PARK				400 D	2,400 C	2,800DC
F-0509	ALL	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	1,150 O	650 O	250 O	250 O		2,300O
F-0510	ALL	MUNICIPAL ART	100 O	100 O	100 O	100 O		400O
F-0511	B	MELROSE PARK	503 C					503C
F-0512	B	ROSEWOOD PARK	145 C					145C
F-0513	VAR	ACQUISITION	6,000 A	6,000 A	6,000 A	6,000 A		24,000A
F-0514	ALL	E.R. AND ANN TAYLOR PARK	545 C					545C
F-0515	ALL	THE HILL AT SIMS GREENWAY		389 C				389C
F-NA	VAR	CONTINGENCIES FOR PARKS PROGRAM	22 O	110O				

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**Parks Department Facilities**

TOTAL PLAN:

21,526	18,318	22,859	26,143	7,166	96,012
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