

## **PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES**

The Mission Statement for the Houston Parks and Recreation Department is “to enhance the quality of life by providing safe, well-maintained parks and offering affordable programs for the community”. This mission is accomplished through the operation, maintenance and expansion of the Houston Parks 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 Department is upgrading existing parks, developing unique systems of natural waterways into linear park systems, expanding existing park properties and adding new park facilities including water playgrounds, playgrounds without limits for the persons with disabilities, and other innovative facilities such as skate parks.

The FY 2009-2013 Parks and Recreation Facilities Improvement Program totals \$100.2 million and is funded by several funding sources. The significant funding sources include: \$54.8 million in voter authorized Parks bond funds; \$8.2 million in general improvement bond funds, \$6.6 million in state and federal grant and program funds; \$18.5 million in private and community partnership funding; and \$12.1 million from a variety of other funding sources or resources leveraged from other agencies.

The current 2001 Parks Master Plan was updated and approved by the City Council for the 2009-2013 CIP, and guides many of the project priorities.