

PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

The Mission Statement for the Houston Parks and Recreation Department is “to enhance the quality of urban life by providing safe, well-maintained parks and offering affordable programs for the 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 Department is focused on upgrading existing parks, expanding and developing existing park properties, adding new community centers and renovating existing centers, providing linkages to parks and continual development of a linear park system.

In 2007 HPARD undertook an update of the Parks Master Plan completed in 2001. The Master Plan update is intended to support decision making for HPARD to guide future park and recreation operations and development aligned with the values and direction of an evolving city. Specifically, the focus of the update is intended to serve as a tool and guide for HPARD to determine how to allocate 2006 and future bond proceeds.

Park classifications and facility standards were reviewed and updated to assist in establishing a balanced system throughout the city by assuring that parks are developed with appropriate amenities. These standards help guide HPARD’s development and renovation plans for the duration of the Master Plan scope.