



NEWS RELEASE

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Mayor Bill White Featured Speaker at Second Annual Health and Wellness Town Hall Meeting For People with Disabilities

Houston! Help us improve your community by voicing your ideas! The Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Houston Commission on Disabilities, in coordination with Get Moving Houston, will host the Second Annual Health and Wellness Town Hall Meeting for People with Disabilities. Mayor Bill White will be on-hand as a special guest and keynote speaker. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 27 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center located at 1475 West Gray.

"We are committed to ensuring that all Houstonians have full use and enjoyment of City parks and recreational facilities, and this meeting will help us achieve our goals," Mayor White remarked.

The Town Hall Meeting invites citizens to offer their opinions and suggestions on how the Houston Parks and Recreation Department can improve area fitness and recreation resources for persons with disabilities.

"Last year was one of our busiest and most successful years thanks to the ideas shared at our first Town Hall," said Joe Turner, Director of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "We hired Peggy Turner who has done great work as an Adaptive Recreation Director, we reviewed and improved accessibility for many City parks, and we look forward to hosting National Junior Wheelchair Basketball Tournament next month."

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Second Annual Health and Wellness Town Hall Meeting – Page 2

Town Hall attendees will also receive updates on the many improvements made to existing Parks services within the past year. These improvements were made based upon feedback from last year's meeting.

"I'm impressed with the improvements that the Parks and Recreation Department has made to date, and with their continued commitment to listen to the disabled community to ensure that our city's recreational areas are fully accessible to all of our citizens," said Michelle Colvard, Houston Commission on Disabilities, Chairperson. " I encourage citizens to attend and take advantage of this opportunity."

The Town Hall Meeting is co-sponsored by the Houston Commission on Disabilities – a twelve-member board appointed by Mayor White to serve as advocates for the needs and rights of people with disabilities in the City of Houston. The Houston Commission on Disabilities continues to promote health and fitness for Houstonians with disabilities through their goals and activities.

For information on the Second Annual Health and Wellness Town Hall Meeting for People with Disabilities, contact the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities at 713-837-9061. For information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department or its Adaptive Recreation Division please call 713-845-1135 or visit our website at www.houstonparks.org.