



---

## Press Release

March 17, 2011

CONTACT: Estella Espinosa  
Work: (832) 395-7022  
Cell: (832) 465-4782

# Hermann Park Spring Break Traffic

## Hits Record Number-**REVISED**

*The Houston Parks and Recreation Department Encourages You To Ride METRORail !*

Spring Break Traffic at Hermann Park has been hitting record numbers as thousands of people flock to one of Houston's most popular parks.

"We've been experiencing record numbers of visitors to the park this spring break," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "This means our parking lots have been filling up rapidly. We encourage visitors to avoid traffic headaches during their spring break visit by parking downtown and riding METRORail into Hermann Park."

**Hermann Park Zoo Attendance** numbers for the 2011 Spring Break to date:

Saturday, March 12 - 17,096

Sunday, March 13 - 17,509

Monday, March 14 - 3,918 (rain)

Tuesday, March 15 - 24, 910 (record)

Wednesday, March 16 - 24,735

Park visitors can catch METRORail at the Fannin South Park and Ride lot located at 1604 West Bellfort or park downtown and catch METRORail at any of the downtown rail stations. Riders can disembark at Hermann Park/Rice University Station, at Fannin and Sunset; Memorial Hermann Hospital/Houston Zoo, at North MacGregor and Ross Sterling; or the Museum District Station, between Ewing and Binz to access all of Hermann Park's amenities.

Hermann Park has limited parking that may possibly be overtaxed during this extreme peak period. Park visitors will need to be ready for delays and should have contingency plans. Park patrons are also advised to:

- Be aware that it is no longer possible to turn left into Hermann Park. Pay attention to the "No Left Turn" signs posted along the light rail track
- Be aware that Hermann Park Drive will only allow one-way traffic southbound from the Sam Houston Monument to Cambridge Street
- Know that HPD's Mobile Response Team (MRT), METRO Police and Urban Park Rangers will direct traffic at all intersections on Cambridge Street, Fannin and Hermann Park Drive.

Houston TranStar will coordinate freeway changeable-message signs on SH 288 to communicate traffic information to motorists. Portable message signs will also be placed around the park to provide additional information to park visitors. Check traffic conditions before venturing out to the park. Information is available at [www.houstontranstar.org](http://www.houstontranstar.org)

**During the weekends**, visitors to Hermann Park can take advantage of expanded parking options, thanks to an agreement with Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza. **Hermann Park visitors can now use the parking garage located at 6400 Fannin, next to the Hermann Professional Building, on weekends.** The current maximum rate for weekends is \$6.00 (subject to change by Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza) and visitors have the option of paying by cash or credit card.

Hermann Park is home to the Houston Zoological Gardens, the Museum of Natural Science, Miller Outdoor Theatre, and is a neighbor to the Museum District. Hermann Park offers a host of amenities, from hike and bike trails to McGovern Lake's pedal boats and the upgraded miniature train. Renovations have only enhanced its reputation as a place for families to have fun together.

For more information on the METRORail system, including a map, schedule and fares, call METROLine at (713) 635-4000 or visit [www.ridemetro.org](http://www.ridemetro.org). For more information about the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).

*The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,992 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).*