



Media Release

Release Date: 09/08/2012

CONTACT: Estella Espinosa
 Work: (832) 395-7022
 Cell: (832) 465-4782
 Email: eiespin@mstvp.com

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Held For Kingwood Community Center Grand Opening

Houston Mayor Annise Parker, Council Member Michael Sullivan-District E, and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) celebrated the Grand Opening of the new Kingwood Community Center today with a ribbon cutting ceremony and building tours for the community. The Kingwood Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods, was a result of a partnership between the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and Harris County. Additional partners include TIRZ#10. The Kingwood Community Center is available to the community for rental space for meetings and events.

"Community requests were considered when designing the new facility," said Joe Turner, Director Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "That is why this center is built to serve as a rental facility that can accomodate meetings and events."

The partnership between the county and HPARD involved the transfer of the former site of a county library to HPARD to build the new Kingwood Community Center. A new Houston Public Library (HPL) (30,000 square feet) replaced the old county library (12,000 square foot). The new HPL will be operated by the county and was made possible through a transfer of 5 acres of property from HPARD to HPL. TIRZ#10 provided funding for land acquisition and the addition of an audio/video system to the community center.

The scope of work included: the construction of a new community center (11,200 square feet), parking lot replacement and expansion (103 spaces), driveways, connecting walkways, site detention, landscape and irrigation. The building has lobby with reception/office area, restrooms, a large room which can seat up to 350 people and can be divided into two meeting areas if needed and two small meeting rooms. There is a catering kitchen, servery and storage. The Kingwood Community Center sits on 2.5 acres. LEED certification will be sought for the building. The project cost is \$3,299,147.00 Costs include design, construction, contingency, testing and civic art.

Design Cost	\$463,296.72
Parks Consolidated Construction Fund	\$2,076,721.00
TIRZ 10 - Land Acquisition	\$170,850.00
TIRZ 10 - Construction Funding	\$412,279.00
TIRZ 10 - Funding for Audio/Video System	\$176,000.00
Project Cost	\$3,299,147.00

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,752 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.