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## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Mayor Sylvester Turner and Council Member Mike Laster, District J, Join Parks Dept. to Celebrate Opening of 2019 Summer Swim Season**

Mayor Sylvester Turner, Council Member Mike Laster, District J, and David Hawes, Executive Director, TIRZ 20 will join the Houston Parks and Recreation Department to celebrate the official opening of the 2019 Summer Swim Season. The celebration will take place at the new Sharpstown Pool, 6600 Harbor Drive, on Saturday, May 25 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon. Following the ceremony, the City's 37 neighborhood pools will open for the Memorial Day holiday (May 25 – May 27, 2019) from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The Summer Swim Season will begin on June 1 through August 11 with pools opening Tuesday – Sunday 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. All pools will be closed on Mondays for regular maintenance.

"We are excited to kick off the 2019 Summer Swim Season with the opening of the new Sharpstown Pool, in addition to the opening of all neighborhood pool sites," said Steve Wright, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "We encourage everyone to Get Up, Get Out, and Get Active by visiting a local neighborhood pool."

Entry to City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department pools is free. Water Fitness and Learn to Swim classes are also offered by the department at select pool locations across the city. All classes are offered free of charge, but registration is required. The offered classes include:

H2O Safe is a learn to swim class offered at 3 levels that is designed to teach youth ages 6-13 basic swim skills, swim strokes and water safety skills to help them become proficient at swimming. Classes meet Tuesday through Friday for two weeks for a 30-minute class.

SwimWise is a learn to swim series of swim classes offered for all ages and skill levels from beginner to advanced, designed to teach swimming and water safety skills. Classes meet Tuesday through Friday for two weeks for a 30-minute class.

For a complete listing of pool sites, hours of operation (including holiday hours) and to register online for Water Fitness or Learn to Swim classes, visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).

*The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,851 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).*