

## **Press Release**

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## AVOID TRAFFIC THIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND RIDE METRORail to HERMANN PARK

Thousands of people will flock to Hermann Park during the Labor Day Weekend to enjoy its many attractions. The Playground for All Children, the Museum of Natural Science, the Houston Zoo, picnic grounds, and the Hermann Park Mini Train are all popular destinations during this busy holiday weekend.

To beat the traffic jams and parking challenges, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department urges patrons to carpool or ride METRO's bus system or METRORail, which goes right past Hermann Park. Riders 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 Cambridge and Ross Sterling; or the Museum District station, between Ewing and Binz, to access all of Hermann Park's amenities.

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 \$7.00 (subject to change by Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza) and visitors have the option of paying by cash or credit card.

- 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 allow two-way traffic from the Sam Houston Monument to Cambridge
- Know that HPD, METRO Police and Urban Park Rangers will be monitoring traffic at all intersections and may respond to direct and reroute traffic at Cambridge, Fannin and Hermann Park Drive if conditions warrant

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.

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 <a href="www.houstonparks.org">www.houstonparks.org</a>.