

2013 Annual Report

Houston Parks and Recreation Department



McGovern Lake
Hermann Park



houston
PARKS
& recreation
department

A CAPRA Accredited Agency



Historic Bethel Church Under Construction
Bethel Park



The Blue Trees - Konstantin Dimopoulos
Memorial Drive Cloverleaf



Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Mission Statement

To enhance the quality
of urban life
by providing safe
well-maintained parks and
offering affordable programming
for our community

El Vaquero
Moody Park

Over the past year we have been involved in a number of projects to improve neighborhoods through our parks. The Bayou Greenway Project (BG2020) has received great support from the public and from grant funding sources. BG2020 will create a continuous system of 150 miles of parks and trails along Houston's bayous. The \$215 million project is being funded through a unique public-private partnership. The project funds include \$100 million in bonds approved by voters in November 2012. An additional \$115 million will be secured through the private fundraising efforts of the Houston Parks Board.

Buffalo Bayou Park, between Sabine to Shepherd, is in the midst of a \$55 million construction project. The project catalyst is a \$30 million grant from the Kinder Foundation. This is the largest grant ever received in the history of Houston's park system. The Buffalo Bayou Partnership (BBP) has committed to raising the remaining \$25 million. BBP will oversee the project in partnership



Joe Turner
Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department



TIGER IV Grant Announcement
Heritage East Trail - East of Downtown Houston



Shepherd Street Bridge Construction
Buffalo Bayou Park



Pavilion Moving
Sam Houston Park Renovation

with the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Harris County Flood Control District. The 160-acre Buffalo Bayou Park will serve as an iconic entrance to downtown Houston. It is scheduled for completion in mid-2015.

At Memorial Park we will begin the process of developing a new Master Plan. Funding for the new Master Plan comes from the recent expansion of the Uptown Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number 16 and the Uptown Development Authority along with the Memorial Park Conservancy.

Hermann Park will celebrate its Centennial Year in 2014. The Hermann Park Conservancy will mark the occasion throughout the year with special events and activities. As part of the Hermann Park Centennial Campaign, the construction of a new \$30 million Centennial Garden is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2013.

Parks, greenspaces, and projects like BG2020, the Buffalo Bayou project, the Memorial Park Master Plan, and Hermann Park's Centennial Garden construction define our communities. Parks improve the quality of life for users and for the neighborhoods that surround them. As stewards of a municipal park system, we are always balancing the growing need for greenspace with the need for fiscal responsibility. For our department, partnerships play a key role. Their support and funding help us improve neighborhoods through parks.

HPARD believes that by "changing a park you can change a neighborhood." Memorial Park, Hermann Park and Buffalo Bayou Park are examples of how parks can positively affect the quality of life for a community.



Parks Build Community Project Plan Review With NRPA
Shady Lane Park



Bethel Church Park
Groundbreaking

Support for more well-known parks from conservancy groups and partners allows us to redirect limited resources to other parks and replicate the “change a park change a neighborhood” model across the city. Emancipation Park, Moody Park, Townwood Park, Sagemont Park, Brewster Park, and DeZavala Park are examples of changes made possible through partnerships.

As stewards of Houston’s parkland, we recognize the diverse and important role parks play in our lives. This past year, events like the passage of the 2012 park bonds and increasing interest in the preservation of Houston’s history, including park history, indicates that many Houstonians share our belief. Two projects of note are great examples of how historic preservation and building for the future can successfully co-exist. Bethel Park preserves an important historic structure for the city while creating a unique and beautiful

park. Shady Lane Park, in contrast, is a nature park designed to engage youth in outdoor pursuits. Both projects are examples of stewardship at work.

The Shady Lane Park project is a National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), Parks Build Community project. The project will be featured during the NRPA’s national convention to be held in Houston this October. For HPARD, serving as the host site for the 2013 NRPA convention and Shady Lane are important achievements.

The NRPA is the leading advocacy organization in the nation. They are dedicated to the advancement of public parks, recreation, and conservation. Its 40,000 members include park and recreation professionals and citizens who share a common vision that everyone



should have easy access to park and recreation opportunities. The department is very honored to showcase our park system to convention attendees and serve as their host during their stay in Houston. In 2008, HPARD was accredited through the National Recreation and Park Association Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). For HPARD, receiving CAPRA Accreditation meant validation of our established processes and procedures. CAPRA accredited agencies are reviewed every five years. In 2013 HPARD staff members, under the direction of Jeff Jefferson, worked to conduct the self-assessment study necessary for this review. Their dedication to achieve re-accreditation exemplifies the work ethic employed by all HPARD staff on a daily basis. We look forward to receive re-accreditation for HPARD during this year's NRPA Congress and Exposition.

Anyone who has lived in Houston for any length of time realizes that it is a city on the move. To keep up with the city, its people and their need for parks, greenspace and recreational opportunities, HPARD will continue to plan, budget, and seek alternative funding sources to improve neighborhoods through parks.

Joe Turner, Director
Houston Parks and Recreation Department

A large, leafy tree is being moved by a yellow excavator. The excavator's arm is positioned around the tree's trunk, and its bucket is open. The tree is being lifted from a grassy area. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a blue sky with some clouds.

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Greenspace Management

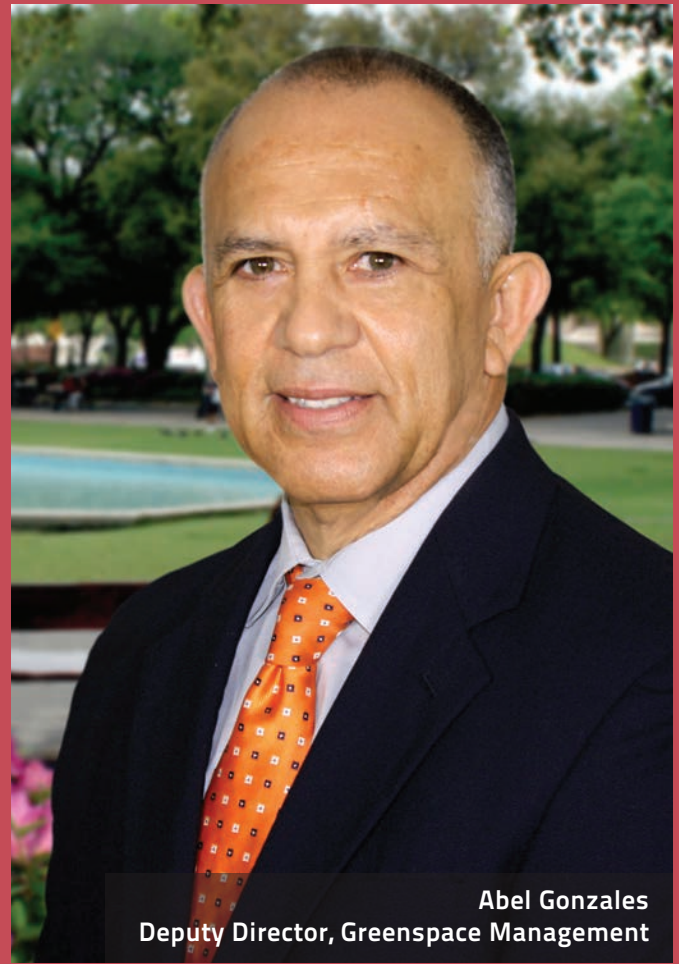
- General Grounds Maintenance
- Urban Forestry
- Sportsfield Management
- Horticulture
- Greenspace Adoption
- Court Restitution and Community Service
- Lake Houston Wilderness Park

Arbor Day
Memorial Park - Apache Grove

The Greenspace Management Division oversees the daily maintenance of Houston's parkland, esplanades, greenspaces, and urban forest. The division also maintains greenspace for certain city facilities including Houston Public Libraries, and Health Department Multi-Service Centers.

To provide greater accountability and service, the division's job duties are divided into seven sections: General Grounds Maintenance; Urban Forestry; Sportsfield Management; Horticulture; Greenspace Adoption; Court Restitution and Community Service; and Lake Houston Wilderness Park.

The general grounds maintenance section of the division is responsible for grass mowing, litter removal, and maintenance of certain city-owned greenspaces and parkland. These crews operate the mowers, tractors, weed eaters, and various other equipment needed to keep city parks and greenspaces manicured.



Abel Gonzales
Deputy Director, Greenspace Management



Americorps Workers
Esplanade Work

Crews are dispatched to parks every day to remove litter. Parks are scheduled for mowing on 16-day cycles and patrolled for litter every 3 days during the growing season, March through October. Cycles are adjusted during the non-growing months to coincide with the turf's seasonal dormancy. In addition to routine grounds maintenance, Greenspace Management staff perform prep work, post event clean-up and site restoration for a large number of parks' activities and events.

The Horticulture Section operates and maintains HPARD's greenhouse in Memorial Park. Here, flowers and shrubs are propagated for planting on city property. They also oversee the annual Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting project. This annual event pays tribute to Lady Bird Johnson, often referred to as the country's first environmental First Lady, by planting wildflowers in her memory.

The Adopt-A-Greenspace section encourages civic groups, businesses, non-profit groups and others to adopt greenspaces for maintenance throughout the city. These adoptions allow groups interested in beautifying their neighborhoods the opportunity to do so while supplementing maintenance resources for HPARD. To date 850 acres of Greenspace have been

adopted by civic-minded groups and businesses. The park Volunteer Coordinator works to match volunteer opportunities with citizens and groups interested in a hands-on role in the maintenance of parkland and/or greenspace. Over 10 thousand volunteers donated their time and hard work to this effort this past year.

The Court Restitution Work Probation Program offers oversight and work sites for probationers sentenced to community service work. This partnership enables the department to better maintain parkland and greenspace while recognizing a significant in-kind cost savings. For FY2013, the savings included 48,422 hours of work at a value of \$1,039,620.

The division's Urban Forestry experts steward the City's urban forest through re-forestation and forestry management practices. When necessary, foresters remove hazardous trees from parks, esplanades and other city-owned properties. In recent years, the forestry section has been heavily engaged in drought mitigation activities. On an annual basis, Urban Forestry responds to over 5,000 3-1-1 Service Requests and responds to



Vegetable Demonstration Beds
Memorial Park Greenhouse



many after-hour emergency calls. Urban Forestry also serves as first-responders during major weather events. In their role as first-responders, their primary focus is ensuring access to medical facilities and performing specialized services of removing trees that have fallen on private property.

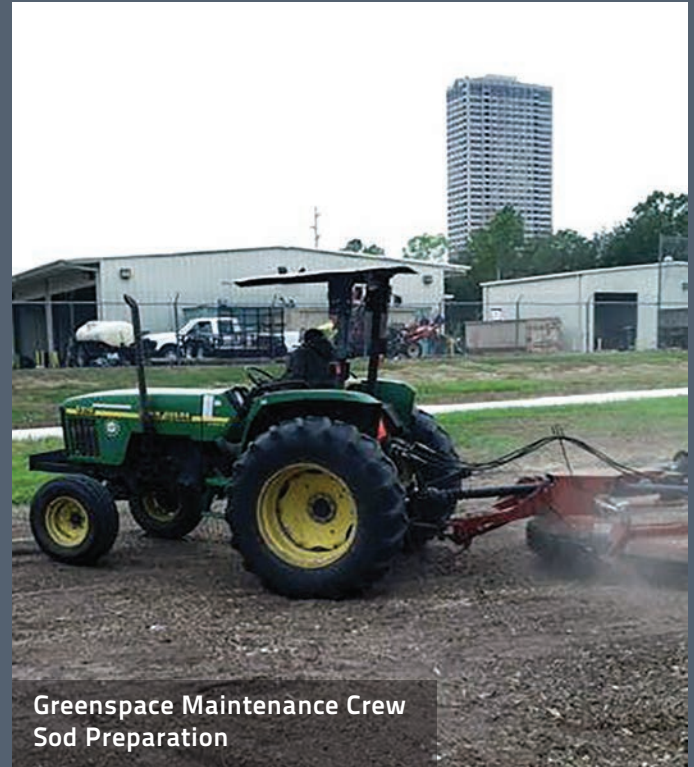
In addition to tree maintenance, Urban Forestry adheres to the City of Houston’s Code of Ordinances and enforces all violations regarding illegal tree removals. The continuing work of Urban Forestry has ensured that the City of Houston has proudly maintained its Tree City USA status for 28 years. Park Inspections make up a considerable part of the division’s quality assurance activities. Inspections are conducted daily using a 15-point checklist to provide feedback on conformity with quality maintenance standards. Inspectors also provide the extra sets of eyes and ears to look for potential safety hazards and get them resolved quickly. Last year, the small team of inspectors completed 1,100 park inspections. Among other tasks, the quality assurance team: helps to ensure the satisfactory completion of work by contractors; troubleshoots various maintenance issues; conducts audits to ensure

compliance with state regulations for herbicide storage and handling; participates in special projects; and verifies changes in inventory for accuracy in data collection and reporting.

The Sportsfield Division helps to ensure greenspaces designed for organized sports activities are maintained to quality standard for sports field maintenance and safety. The maintenance crews perform the daily tasks of mowing, de-littering, sports field prep, layout and maintenance. They maintain: 27 competitive/tournament level fields, 23 recreational level fields, and 226 practice fields. Four of the competitive/tournament level fields were developed through a partnership between HPARD and the Houston Astros Community Leaders Program to bring the Urban Youth Academy program to Houston.



West Lake Beds
Cleanup Project



Greenspace Maintenance Crew
Sod Preparation

Greenspace Staff Participation Major Events

- 6th Annual Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting Project Sept 29, 2012
- Commemorative Cherry Tree Planting At Hermann Park Oct 19, 2012
- 25th Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting Jan 26, 2013
- Tour de Houston Bike Ride March 17, 2013
- Japanese American Festival April 13, 2013
- Earth Day Houston at Discovery Green April 14, 2013

Urban Forestry

- Trees Planted 25,744
- Trees Trimmed 1,700
- Trees Removed By HPARD 1,406
- Hazardous Trees (Due to Drought) Removed By Contractor 10,080

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Planting Project

- Acres Seeded (Reduced mowing cycles from 21 to 15 times per year resulting in lower emissions and reduced fuel usage) 28.3 acres

De-littering Volume

(Baggable trash; large items not included; 5,770 acres covered each cycle)

- Trash collected from parks, esplanades and other sites on maintenance inventory 48,374 Cubic Yards

Greenspace Volunteers

- Volunteers Registered 10,074
- Hours Worked 31,771
- Value (based on \$21.47/hour) \$696,117

Court Mandated Community Service Hours

- Workers 1,623
- Appointments made by workers to schedule service hours 9,283
- Hours Worked 48,422
- Value (based on \$21.47/hour) \$1,039,620

Greenspace Adoptions

- Sports Fields 177
- Esplanades (approximate number) 900 acres
- Libraries 3
- Parks (15 adopted for complete maintenance) 68

Quality Assurance

- Number of Park Inspections 1,885
- Greenspace acres added to routine maintenance inventory 17.78

Lake Houston Wilderness Park is the only park in the HPARD system where overnight camping is available. Cabins and walk-in campsites are available for rental. Activities include hiking, biking, canoeing, kayaking, and horseback riding. This wilderness park is heavily forested. Park wildlife includes several species of snakes, deer, and birds. The park offers 20 miles of hike and bike trails, 8 miles of equestrian trails, a nature center, and overnight accommodations including tent camping sites, group campsites, screen shelters, a-frame shelters, group lodges, and lakeside cabins. Fiscal year 2013 is the first year that the park has operated with Phase I Master Plan amenities in place.

Lake Houston Wilderness Park Accomplishments

- 37,562 Visits
53 % Increase from FY2012
- \$142,440.59 Revenue from park rentals/day use fees 58% from FY2012
- 7,892 Nature Center Visits
- 101 Nature Center Programs
- 2,814 Nature Center Program Participants
- Continued development of Eye on the Wilderness Exhibit
- Increased educational outreach to Montessori school programs. Began programming and educational sessions for local home school networks
- Operated first Family Wilderness Adventure Program - 8 families participated. This program is designed to initiate people to camping. All equipment and set-up and use instructions are provided by LHWP.
- Provided programs to educate families about safety while camping and activities while camping
- Received 2,992.5 hours of donated time by individuals and groups volunteering for various park projects, events and park operations
- Hosted two trail running events
Feb 2, 2013 - Pinewoods Trail Run (230 participants)
May 18, 2013 - El Chupacabra de Houston (499 participants)



Cabin Rentals
Lake Houston Wilderness Park



Fully Furnished Cabins
Lake Houston Wilderness Park

- Hosted taping of a television episode of "Kimberly's Simply Southern" a cooking show on GAC (Great American Country) hosted by Kimberly Schlapman.
- Hosted the first two "Yak-N-Pak" programs with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. This program was designed to teach women the basic skills involved in Backpacking and Kayak Camping.
- Remodeled Lake Houston Wilderness Park dining hall. This included: the addition of new flooring, closing in the dining area, installed air conditioning, upgrading the electrical service and fixtures, added new chairs and tables, and painting the interior and exterior of the building.
- Began planning Phase II Master Plan improvements which includes: construction of 2 additional Lakeside Cabins, Vehicular Bridge across Peach Creek, and restrooms/shower building for A-frame camping area.
- Oversaw the removal of 700 drought killed trees along park roadways, camping areas, day use areas and around park facilities

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Recreation and Wellness

Community Center Operations

- Community Centers Management
- After-School Enrichment Program
- Summer Enrichment Program
- After-School Achievement Program
- Recreation Programming for all ages

Athletic and Aquatics Services

- Golf Course Operations
- Aquatic Services
- Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
- Summer Food Service Program
- After-School Meal Program
- Adult Sports Leagues
- HPARD Permitting Operations

Let's Play Carnival
Sunnyside Park



Debra Lathan
Assistant Director, Recreation and Wellness
Community Center Operations

The Recreation and Wellness Division promotes health and wellness for all ages and abilities through its facilities and programming. The division's services are operated by two sections: Community Center Operations and Athletics and Aquatics Services .

Community Center Operations oversees and directs the operation and programming of the department's sixty community centers. This section is responsible for the coordination of all community center programming for all ages. Areas of responsibility include: The After-School Enrichment Program, the Summer Enrichment Program, the After-School Achievement Program, and the development and implementation of recreation programming for adults, teens, youth, and seniors.

Athletics and Aquatics Services oversees and directs the operation of Recreation and Wellness programs not specifically part of Community Center Operations. This includes the operation/oversight of HPARD's seven Golf Courses, 37 outdoor swimming pools, the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center and its indoor swimming pool, the Summer Food Service Program, the After-School Meal Program, Adult Sports Leagues, and the Department's Reservations and Permitting Functions.



Kenneth Allen
Assistant Director, Recreation and Wellness
Athletics and Aquatics Services

Community Center Attendance

▪ Summer Enrichment Program	121,166
▪ After School Enrichment Program	241,996
▪ After-School Achievement Program Sites	14
▪ After-School Achievement Program Students	98,852
▪ Teen Program	89,066
▪ Adult and Senior Arts and Crafts	138,272
▪ Senior Leisure Class	4,197
▪ D-Tag Program	270
▪ Adult Volunteer Hours	22,903
▪ Teen Volunteer Hours	26,597
▪ Field Trips	3,803
▪ Memorial Fitness Center	9,110
▪ Community Center Weight Rooms	197,999
▪ Adult and Fitness Programs	357,779

Soccer For Success

▪ Youth Soccer	1,046
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Youth Tennis Attendance

▪ Youth Tennis Attendance	42,632
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First Tee of Houston Attendance

▪ Youth Golf (participants)	21,339
▪ Youth Golf (registered)	1,137

Permits and Reservations

▪ Close Use Revenue	\$279,179
▪ Close Use Permits Issued	2,061
▪ Ballfield Revenue	\$399,574
▪ Ballfield Permits Issued	2,253

Adult Sports Leagues

▪ Team Registration	862
▪ League Participants	135,495

Lee and Joe Jamail Skatepark

▪ Total Attendance	37,525
▪ Total New Members	1,062
▪ Permitted Events	13

Aquatics Attendance

▪ Pool Attendance	249,627
▪ Youth Learn - to - Swim	1,547
▪ Adult Learn - to - Swim	142
▪ Water Fitness Classes	7,053
▪ Lap Swim	1,696

Summer Food Service Program Attendance

▪ Total Sites	496
▪ Lunches Served	577,524
▪ Snacks Served	448,809

Houston Garden Center Attendance

▪ Horticultural Attendance	46,106
▪ Non-Horticultural Attendance	6,551
▪ Garden Center Event Attendance	2,871

Golf Operations

▪ Brock Park Golf Course	17,433
▪ Gus Wortham Park Golf Course	30,079
▪ Memorial Park Golf Course	67,363
▪ Sharpstown Park Golf Course	48,397
▪ Glenbrook Park Golf Course Managed by Lopez Golf Management	18,077
▪ Hermann Park Golf Course Managed by BSL Golf Management	51,235
▪ Melrose Park Golf Course Managed by Walton Golf Management	3,869



Adaptive Recreation Attendance

▪ Adaptive Aquatic - Deep Water Class	9	▪ Wheelchair - Basketball	882
▪ Adaptive Aquatic - New Orientations	282	▪ Wheelchair - Basketball Tournament	97
▪ Adaptive Aquatic - Open Swim	8,552	▪ Wheelchair - Power Soccer	213
▪ Adaptive Aquatic - Water Aerobics Classes	4,834	▪ Wheelchair - Rugby	220
▪ Adaptive Fitness Room - Participants	7,398	▪ Wheelchair - Rugby Summer League	173
▪ Air Guns	93	▪ Wheelchair - Rugby Texas Cup Series	204
▪ ARC of Greater Houston Adult Dance	3,331	▪ Wheelchair - Soccer	428
▪ Art Class	125	▪ Wheelchair - Tennis	110
▪ Bariatric Boot Camp	51	▪ Wheelchair - Youth Basketball	513
▪ Basketball (Deaf and Hard of Hearing)	25	▪ Wheelchair - Youth Basketball Tournament	97
▪ Beading	29	▪ Women's Empowerment Forum	267
▪ Braille Youth Camp (Judo/Swimming)	11	▪ Wood, White, and Wheels Tennis Tourney	9
▪ Bridge	178	▪ Yoga	243
▪ Beep Baseball	98	▪ Young Athlete Olympics	87
▪ Deaf Seniors Advisory and Social Group	670		
▪ Deaf Women's Health Forum	97		
▪ Gardening Class/Group	94		
▪ Hand Cycling	41		
▪ Healing Poetry Class	22		
▪ Hot Shots Special Olympics Tennis	33		
▪ Houston Area Parkinson Society - Aquatic Class	79		
▪ Houston Area Parkinson Society - Land Exercise	118		
▪ Houston Area Parkinson Society - Tai Chi	49		
▪ Houston Area Parkinson Society - Tango	194		
▪ Houston Commission on Disability	199		
▪ Judo Clinic/Demonstration	34		
▪ Kayak Group	66		
▪ Line Dancing	651		
▪ Lose 2 Win Support Group	150		
▪ River Performing & Visual Arts Center	2,752		
▪ Special Olympics Coaches Training	106		



Dance Class
Judson Robinson, Jr. Community Center



Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Facilities, Management and Development

- Park Planning and Acquisition
- Park Design and Construction
- Park Facility Maintenance and Repair
- Capital Improvement Project Management
- Park Open Space Dedication Fund Management
- Park Administration Section
- Urban Park Rangers

Bill Coats Bridge
Hermann Park

The Facilities Management and Development Division is responsible for the administration of the Parks Master Plan. In addition, it oversees the administration of individual park Master Plans and oversees and coordinates park system improvements and expansion.

In coordination with the General Services Department, the Division implements the Capital Improvement Plan. To more effectively and efficiently accomplish these tasks, the division maintains an internal Carpentry/Light Construction/Painting Shop, a Pool and Plumbing Shop, an Electrical and HVAC Shop, a Playground Inspection Shop, a Fencing Shop, and a Graffiti Abatement Shop.

The Park Administration section coordinates planning, design, construction, maintenance and events in HPARD's most popular signature parks, Hermann Park and Memorial Park. In addition,



Mark Ross
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Facilities Management and Development Division



Emancipation Park Renovation Project
Aerial Rendering

Park Administration works on projects as assigned by the Director to assist park groups and citizen advisory boards in achieving funding and planning goals. It also acts as liaison for citizens groups and assists them in the development of specific park master plans and projects. With diminishing budgets, HPARD has been able to leverage its resources by working in collaboration with other City, County and State agencies and private donor groups to continue improvement and renovation of the City's Signature Parks. Valued partners in this collaboration have included:

- The Heritage Society
- The Memorial Park Conservancy
- The Hermann Park Conservancy
- The Houston Arboretum and Nature Center Board
- The Miller Theatre Advisory Board
- The Houston Garden Center Advisory Board
- The Houston Zoo
- The Houston Museum of Natural Science
- The Harris County Flood Control District
- The City of Houston Department of Public Works and Engineering
- The City of Houston Planning and Development Department
- The Texas Department of Transportation
- Houston First Corporation
- The City of Houston General Services Department for Project Management

Urban Park Rangers provide a visible source of information to the general public by assisting with park orientation and use. Urban Park Rangers monitor trails, picnic areas, pavilions and similar park areas on foot, bicycle and motorized vehicles.

Their visible presence helps deter vandalism, promotes visitor safety and insures the proper use of parks and facilities.

July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 Park Administration Completed Construction Projects

- Hermann Park Golf Course 800 Trees Planted By BSL with HPARD Approval
- Memorial Park Replanting Triangle Area By Memorial Park Conservancy and HPARD
- Memorial Park Tree Removal Work Completed By Memorial Park Conservancy and HPARD
- Bill Coats Bridge in Hermann Park In Partnership with TXDOT, City of Houston Public Works and Engineering, and Hermann Park Conservancy
- Project Brays at Hermann Park In Partnership with Harris County Flood Control District

Park Administration Projects Under Construction

- Japanese Garden Renovation-Continuing Project In Partnership with Hermann Park Conservancy
- Main Street Project In Partnership with Hermann Park Conservancy and City of Houston Planning and Development Department

Park Administration Projects in Design

- TXDOT STEP Project Grand Gateway at Hermann Park In Partnership with TXDOT and Hermann Park Conservancy
- Hermann Park Centennial Garden In partnership with Hermann Park Conservancy
- Memorial Park Demonstration Project on Buffalo Bayou In partnership with Harris County Flood Control District
- Memorial Park Outer Loop Phase II In partnership with Memorial Park Conservancy
- Re-Plant Memorial Park Design In Partnership with Memorial Park Conservancy
- Memorial Park Running Center In Partnership with Memorial Park Conservancy

FY2013 - Projects Completed

- Agnes Moffitt Park Pool Replastering
- Briarmeadow Park Redevelopment
- Clark Park Community Center Roof Replacement
- Clark Park Playground
- Dow Park Pavilion Renovation
- Fall Surface Replacement at Various Playgrounds
- Finnigan Park Waterline Replacement
- Harwin Park Trail
- Keith-Wiess Maintenance Facility
- Kingwood Community Center
- Law Park Additional Lighting
- Mangum Manor Park Drainage Improvements
- Memorial Silver Triangle
In conjunction with Leadership Houston and
the Houston Parks Board
- Miller Theatre Irrigation Improvements
- Nieto Park Sprayground Upgrades
- Park at Palm Center
In conjunction with Almeda/OST TIRZ

- Pavilion Lighting Replacements for Brookline Park, Lee Hager Park, Irvington Park, and Moses Leroy Park
- St. Lo Park Playground Expansion
- Schwartz Park Improvements
- Stude Park Community Center Structural Repairs
- Sylvan Rodriguez Park Parking Lot Expansion and Sports Field Lighting
- Veterans Park WWII Memorial Upgrades

FY2013 - Projects Under Construction

- Baldwin Park - In partnership with Midtown TIRZ
- Bethel Park
- Brewster Park Playground
- Elizabeth Glover Park - In partnership with Midtown TIRZ
- Glenbrook Park Playground/Picnic Shelter and Ballfield Improvements
- Moody Park Community Center Renovation and Expansion



Kingwood Community Center
Kingwood

- Sagemont Park Playground
- Sam Houston Park
- Sunnyside Park Trail
- Townwood Park Ballfield & Parking Lot Upgrades
- Westbury Park Playground
- West End Park Upgrades

- Shady Lane Park Playground
NRPA Parks Build Community Project
- Westside Trail Replacement

FY2013 - Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant Projects Projects In Design

- White Oak Bayou
Alabonson Rd/Antoine Drive Link
In partnership with Houston Parks Board
- White Oak Bayou
11th Street to Heights Bike Trail
In partnership with Houston Parks Board
- White Oak Bayou
Connection to Residential Neighborhoods and Buffalo Bayou
In partnership with Houston Parks Board
- Buffalo Bayou Path
Smith to Travis
In partnership with Buffalo Bayou Partnership
- East Downtown
Transit/Residential/Commercial Connection
In partnership with Greater East End Management District
- Brays Bayou Path
MLK/Old Spanish Trail
In partnership with Houston Parks Board

FY2013 - Projects In Design

- Avenue Place Park - In conjunction with Avenue CDC
- Emancipation Park
- Hermann Square
- Hermann Park Grand Gateway
- Hidalgo Park
- Keith-Wiess Park Parking Lot and Soccer Field Improvements
- Lake Houston Wilderness Park
Project includes additional cabins, restrooms, and bridge at Peach Creek
- Mandell Park
In conjunction with Friends of Mandell Park and Houston Parks Board
- Milby Park Soccer Field Improvements





Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Management and Finance

- Accounting
- Purchasing
- Contract Compliance
- Fixed Asset Inventory
- Risk Management
- Information Technology Services
- Safety
- Grant Writing
- Liaisons for HR, Payroll and Workers Compensation

HPARD Safety Fair
Gragg Park

The Management and Finance Division directs the operations for all aspects of accounting, purchasing, information technology services, safety, grant writing and includes liaisons for HR, Payroll and Workers Compensation.

Management and Finance forecasts the financial needs of the department on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis. In addition, the division searches, applies for, sets up and supervises grant funding received by the department for recreational and sports programs offered to the public.

The division's goal is to continually support the department in all its undertakings to meet the Mayor's five priorities: Jobs and Sustainable Development, Public Safety, Quality of Life, Infrastructure, and their primary focus, Fiscal Responsibility.



Cheryl Johnson
Deputy Director, Management and Finance

Additional duties and responsibilities overseen and managed by Management and Finance include: Purchasing, Contract Compliance, Fixed Asset Inventory, Risk Management, Desktop Computer Support and Phone Services.

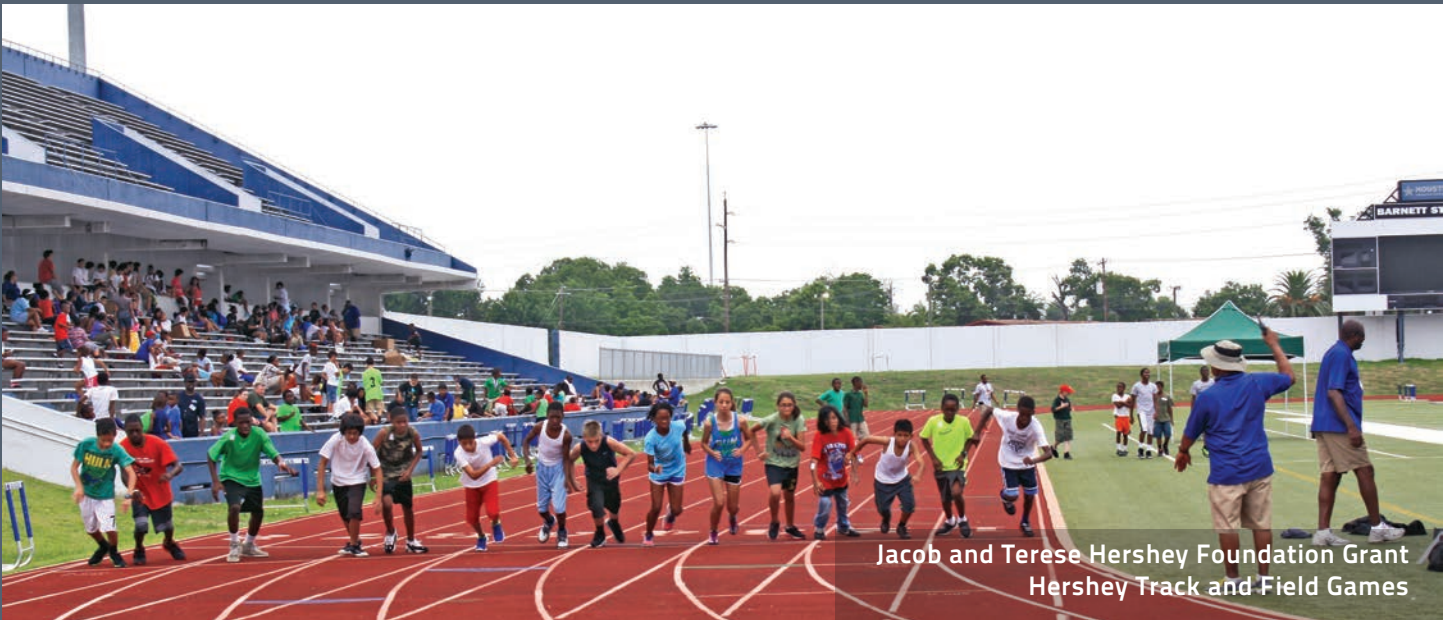
The Grants Office is also housed within this division. This office is responsible for developing alternate forms of revenue sources for the department. Other forms of revenue include: grant initiatives, partnerships and sponsorship opportunities. The Office researches award criteria for projects and works to ensure that funding requirements are met. HPARD welcomes product or service donations and funding for its many facilities, programs, and services. Partnership opportunities are available for a variety of groups including: foundations, corporations,

public agencies, neighborhoods and individuals. We thank all our partners for their contributions to the Department's mission in Fiscal Year 2013.

Grants & Partnerships



Grant	Project Name	Amount
US Department of Transportation TIGER IV	Houston Regional Bike/Pedestrian Connections to Transit	\$ 15,000,000
TIGER Grant	Private Matching Funds	\$ 14,126,129
Texas Department of Agriculture	Summer Food Service Program	\$ 3,419,089
Texas Department of Agriculture	Child and Adult Care Food Program	\$ 874,962
Astros/Community Leaders Program	Little Astros Baseball Park Renovation	\$ 759,590
Housing and Urban Development - CDBG	After-School Enrichment Program	\$ 428,219
US Fish and Wildlife - CIAP Judge Ed Emmett Harris County	Willow Waterhole Greenspace Project	\$ 399,999
Housing and Urban Development - CDBG	After-School Achievement Program	\$ 290,884
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Outdoor Recreation and Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program	Shady Lane Park Parks Build Communities Improvement Project	\$ 220,000
Timken Foundation of Canton	Timken Fitness/Conference Room at Emancipation Park Recreation Center	\$ 120,000
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Archery Range Grant	\$ 120,000
AmeriCorps NCCC	One Team from Greenspace Management Division	\$ 108,000
Houston Police Department	D-Tag Program	\$ 55,664
Minute Maid Corporation	HPARD Grand Slam for Youth Baseball	\$ 50,000

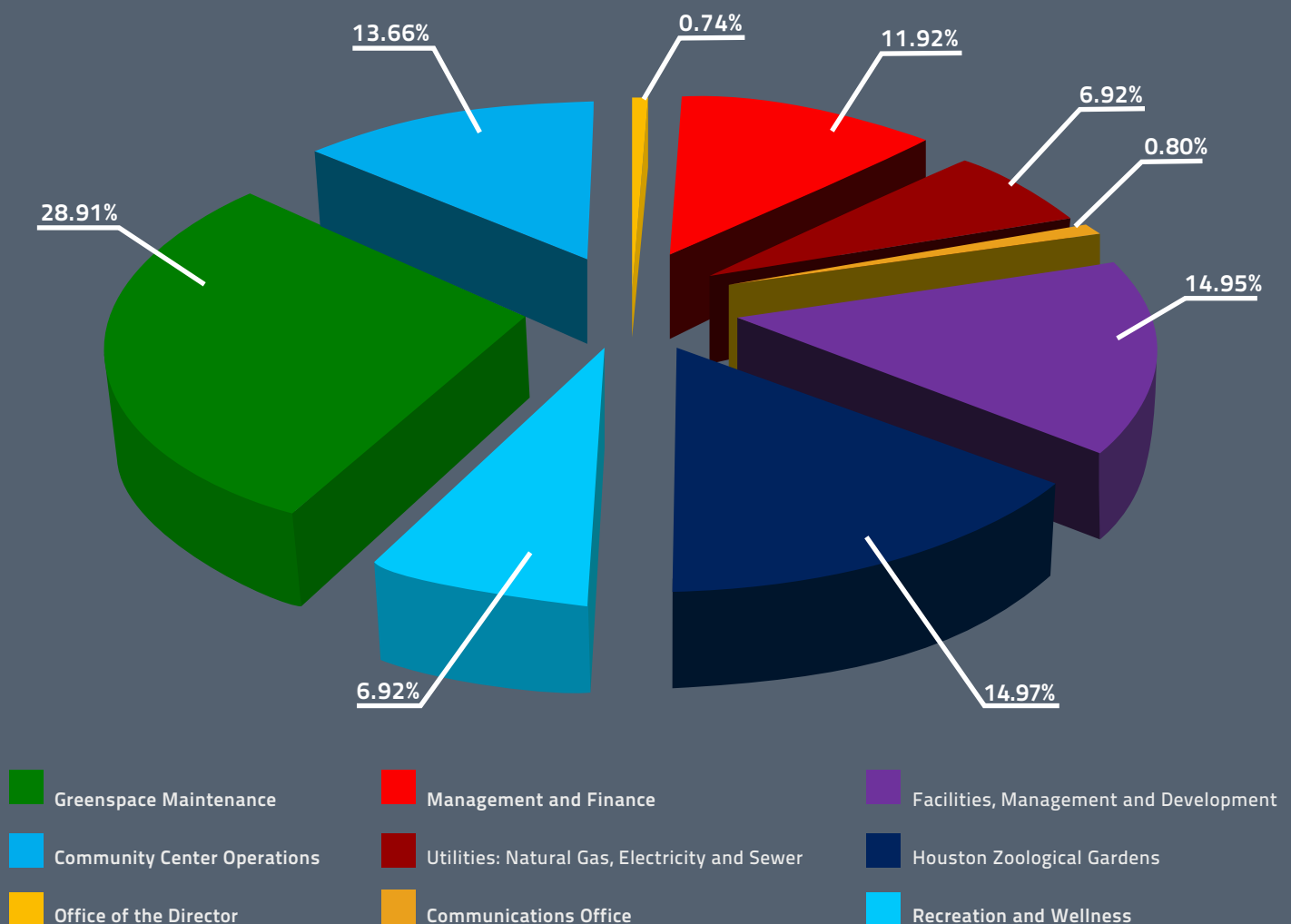


Grant	Project Name	Amount
US Soccer Foundation	Milby Park Field Improvement Project	\$ 50,000
Harris County Department of Education	After School Achievement Program	\$ 42,000
USOC Paralympic Veterans Program Grants	Adapted Recreational Program for Veterans	\$ 25,000
Humanities Texas	Celebrating Creativity: Parks + Museums Nature in American Art Program	\$ 7,000
National Recreation and Parks Association	Take Me Fishing	\$ 5,000
Houston Astros Baseball Club	Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF)	\$ 5,000
The George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation	Houston Soccer for Success Program	\$ 5,000
The Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation	2013 Hershey's Track & Field Youth Program	\$ 5,000
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Texas Outdoors Family Partners	\$ 5,000
National League of Cities	Cities Combating Hunger Through After-school and Summer Meals Programs (CHAMPS) Leadership Academy	\$ 5,000
Total Grant Value		\$ 36,126,536

Houston Parks and Recreation Department - Fiscal Year 2013

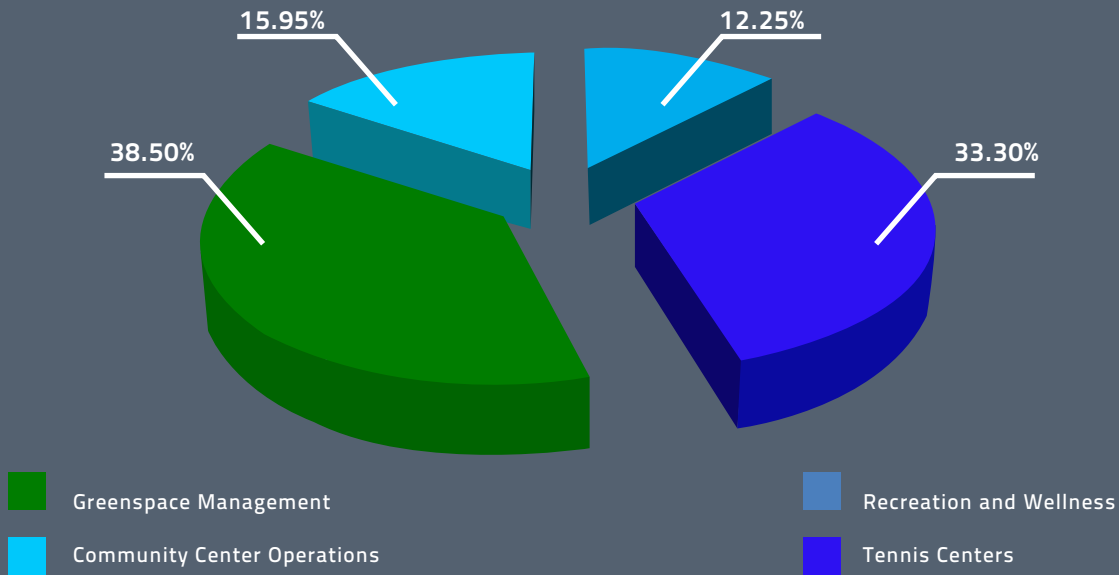
General Fund - 1000

Fund	Cost Center	Cost Center Name	FY13 Allocation
General 1000	360001	Office of the Director	\$ 477,478 0.74%
General 1000	360002	Management and Finance	\$ 7,680,602 11.92%
General 1000	360002	Utilities: Natural Gas, Electricity and Sewer	\$ 4,457,836 6.92%
General 1000	360004	Communications Office	\$ 514,839 0.80%
General 1000	360007	Facilities, Management and Development	\$ 9,637,619 14.95%
General 1000	360008	Houston Zoological Gardens	\$ 9,650,259 14.97%
General 1000	360009	Recreation and Wellness	\$ 4,595,932 7.13%
General 1000	360013	Greenspace Management	\$ 18,636,268 28.91%
General 1000	360015	Community Center Operations	\$ 8,805,683 13.66%
General Fund Total			\$ 64,456,516 100%

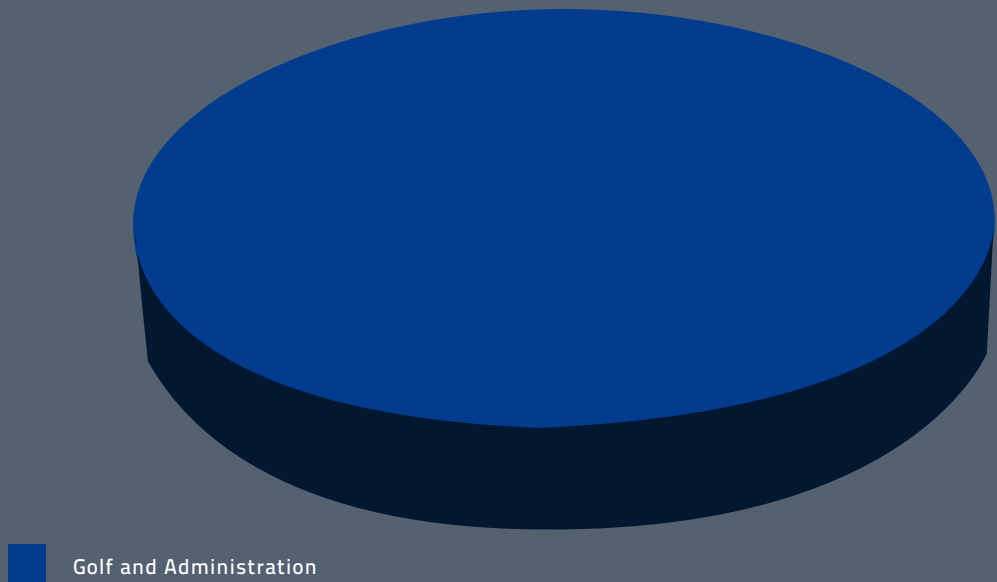


Special Revenue Fund - 2100

Fund	Cost Center	Cost Center Name	FY13	Allocation
Special Revenue 2100	360009	Recreation and Wellness	\$ 240,500	12.25%
Special Revenue 2100	360011	Tennis Centers	\$ 653,865	33.30%
Special Revenue 2100	360013	Greenspace Management	\$ 755,950	38.50%
Special Revenue 2100	360015	Community Center Operations	\$ 313,250	15.95%
Special Revenue Fund Total			\$ 1,963,565	100%



Fund	Cost Center	Cost Center Name	FY13	Allocation
Special Revenue 2104	360009	Golf and Administration	\$ 5,941,610	100%
Golf Operations Special Revenue Fund Total			\$ 5,941,610	100%



A large bronze equestrian statue of Sam Houston, wearing a military uniform and a bicorne hat, pointing forward with his right hand. The statue is mounted on a tall, ornate stone pedestal with the name "SAM HOUSTON" inscribed on it. The background is a clear blue sky with some clouds.

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Communications

- Media Communications and Development
- Public Relations
- Branding and Marketing
- Graphics Design and Print Production
- HPARD Website
- Texas Public Information Act
- CitizensNet Liaison
- 3-1-1 Liaison
- Photography

Art In Parks - Brochure Cover Photo
Sam Houston Statue at Hermann Park

The Communications Office is responsible for the media communications and development, public relations, branding, marketing, graphic and print production, photography, web development and social media functions of the department. In the absence of an advertising budget, the division works to communicate the department's message through the use of promotional tools like press releases, media alerts, public service announcements, journal articles, op-ed articles, and press conferences when appropriate.

HPARD's Communications Office is staffed by professionals with experience in the media. They leverage that experience and knowledge to generate news stories that highlight the department's programs, facilities and projects. In addition, they pro-actively work to develop and maintain relationships with media outlets to keep informed on the changing needs of the



Estella Espinosa
Communications Manager



Mason Park Bridge Houston Chronicle Interview
Mason Park - Brays Bayou Marsh

media industry. This past fiscal year the office has generated over \$3 million in media value for the department. Notable campaigns have included: the Bethel Church Park project, the Emancipation Park renovation announcement, the Kingwood Community Center Grand Opening, the Re-Plant Houston Arbor Day Celebration, and HPARD's Summer Programming Univision Phone Bank.

The office also oversees the design, production and printing material for the department. This includes HPARD's Activities Guide and Class Catalog and the department's Annual Report. HPARD's activity guide and class catalog is produced 3 times a year coinciding with the department's changing programming schedule. The Art In Parks guide is available in both a printed

and online version. In FY2013, the office completed a challenging project to catalog HPARD's outdoor municipal art collection. The project, called Art in Parks, involved researching, writing, and photographing 91 pieces of municipal art on display in 24 parks across the city. Three tour guides, maps and links to information on each piece were developed to enhance visitors' municipal art experience. The guides are available at HPARD community centers and the City of Houston's Visitor Center. Art in Parks is also available online allowing a global audience to view the entire collection.



Bethel Church Renovation Groundbreaking
Bethel Church Park

FY 2013 Communications Office Highlights

- Junior Tennis Kids Day – Memorial Park Tennis Center
- Splash Day – Glenbrook Park Pool
- Father-Child Golf Tournament
In Support of Youth Recreation Programs
- Bethel Missionary Baptist Church Restoration Project
Press Conference
- Art In Parks Website Launch
- Kingwood Community Center Ribbon Cutting Event
- Lady Bird Johnson Tribute Wildflower Planting
- Walmart State Giving Program Grant Announcement
- Japanese Garden Commemorative Cherry Tree
Planting and Press Event
- Moody Park Fall Fiesta and Renovation
Project Announcement
- Emancipation Park Renovation
Grant Announcement and Press Event
- Sam Houston Park Renovation
Groundbreaking and Press Event
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
Grant Announcement for Memorial Park Reforestation
- After-School Meal Program
Launch Announcement
- Arbor Day 2013 RE-Plant Houston
Press and Volunteer Event
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Grant Announcement for Shady Lane Park
- U.S. Soccer Foundation
Grant Announcement for Milby Park Lighting
- U.S. Department of the Interior
Grant Announcement for Willow Waterhole
- Summer Food Service Program
Call for Meal Sites
- Kingwood Community Center
Seniors Programs Line Dance Event
- Townwood Park Expansion
Press Conference



Arbor Day - RE-Plant Houston
Memorial Park - Apache Grove



**CAPRA Accreditation Team Members
Gragg Park Sam Houston Conference Room**

Back Row

Joe Turner -Director, HPARD; Mark Ross-Facilities Management and Development Division; Luci Correa-Director's Office;
James Worsley, CAPRA Accreditation Review Team; Sean Fletcher- Chair CAPRA Accreditation Review Team;
Thurman Hardison – CAPRA Accreditation Review Team; Jeff Jefferson-HPARD CAPRA Team Leader; Kenneth Allen-Recreation and Wellness Division

Front Row:

Erika Reyna-Director's Office; Cheryl Johnson Management and Finance Division;
Rennisa Garza -Facilities Management and Development Division;
Debra Lathan-Recreation and Wellness Division; Abel Gonzales-Greenspace Management Division



**HPARD FY2013 Annual Report
Division Representatives**

Left to Right

Meme Rasmus-Recreation and Wellness Division; Rennisa Garza-Montalvo-Facilities, Management, and Development Division;
Carmon Smith-Recreation and Wellness Division



**NRPA Local Host Committee
Gragg Park**

Back Row

Rose Esteves-Management and Finance Division Grants; Kay Joshua-Recreation and Wellness Division;
Charles French-Metropolitan Multi Service Center; Carmon Smith-Recreation and Wellness Division;
Charlotte Lusk-Greenspace Management Division; Erika Reyna-Director's Office;
Renae Tramble-Recreation and Wellness Division; Twonda Thompson-Recreation and Wellness Division;
Tina Ortiz-Recreation and Wellness Division; Rubi Longoria-Facilities Management and Development; Gail Brown-Communications Office

Front Row:

Luci Correa-Director's Office; Jeff Jefferson-Recreation and Wellness Division; Clifton Clarke-Recreation and Wellness Division;
Debra Lathan, Co-Chair NRPA Local Host Committee-Recreation and Wellness Division; Joe Turner, Co-Chair Local Host Committee-Director, HPARD;
Garth Welch-Recreation and Wellness Division; Cheryl Johnson-Management and Finance Division; Estella Espinosa-Communications Office



**HPARD FY2013 Annual Report
Division Representatives**

Left to Right

John Davidson-Management and Finance Division; Iyetunde Oduntan-Greenspace Management Division; Don Whitaker-Communications Office



Tai Chi
Fonde Recreation Center



Jackson Hill Bridge
Buffalo Bayou Park

The image is a vertical composition. The top half shows a brick building with large windows, identified as the Houston Parks and Recreation Department building. The bottom half is a close-up of a field of yellow wildflowers with dark centers, identified as the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting Project. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

improving neighborhoods through parks

Mayor Annise D. Parker

City of Houston

Joe Turner

Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Mark Ross

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

Facilities Management and Development Division

Director's Staff

Abel Gonzales

Deputy Director, Greenspace Management Division

Cheryl Johnson

Deputy Director, Management and Finance Division

Kenneth Allen

Assistant Director, Recreation and Wellness Division

Debra Lathan

Assistant Director, Recreation and Wellness Division

Estella Espinosa

Division Manager, Communications Office

Luci Correa

Council Liaison, Director's Office

Erika Reyna Madison

Administrative Coordinator, Director's Office

Houston Parks & Recreation Department

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askparks@houstontx.gov | www.houstonparks.org

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting Project
West Orem Esplanades