



## MEDIA ALERT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 26, 2013

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### **Abandoned House Demolition Expands Townwood Park**

*H.P.A.R.D. Dedicated to Improving Neighborhoods Through Park Projects*

Mayor Annise Parker and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department will be joined by state and local officials at a ceremony to demolish an abandoned house at the entrance to Townwood Park. The event will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Once the demolition is completed, the cleared land will become a part of Townwood Park.

**WHO:** Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department  
Mayor Annise Parker  
State Representative Dr. Alma Allen  
Council Member Larry Green, District K  
Council Member Wanda Adams, District D  
Former Council Member Ada Edwards  
Roksan Okan-Vick, Executive Director, Houston Parks Board

**WHAT:** Demolition of abandoned house to improve neighborhood through park projects

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 27, 2013  
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Ceremony followed by demolition  
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Reception at community center

**WHERE:** Townwood Park  
3403 Simsbrook at Buffalo Speedway  
Houston, TX 77045

The acquisition of the property and the demolition of the abandoned house (14203 Buffalo Speedway) was a project originally begun under former Council Member Ada Edwards. The property was acquired by the Houston Parks Board for the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and will add 9,000 square feet, or approximately 1/5 of an acre of land, to Townwood Park. This project is the latest in a number of improvements to the park over the past few years. These improvements have included: a new community center (built in 2008 with Capital Improvement Project funding), a new swimming pool and pavilion (opened in 2011 through Capital Improvement Project funding, a T.P.W.D. Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant and an Urban Development Economic Development Initiative Grant), and a project currently underway to improve sports fields and parking (in construction through a T.P.W.D. grant and Capital Improvement Project funding). Taken together, the projects continue H.P.A.R.D.'s commitment to improve neighborhoods through park projects.

*The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,832 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).*