

# **PARK SECTOR 8 SUMMARY**

### **PARK SECTOR 8 PRIORITIES**

These priorities were developed by using condition assessment information from site visits, standard-based needs analysis (NRPA standards and TPL ParkScore™), and public input via an online survey, park user interviews, community events and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meetings.

- 1. Develop Neighborhood connections to parks and trails
- 2. Revitalize existing parks
- 3. Acquire new parkland
- 4. Develop partnerships with the school system and other entities
- 5. Develop new park facilities
- 6. Preserve environmentally sensitive areas

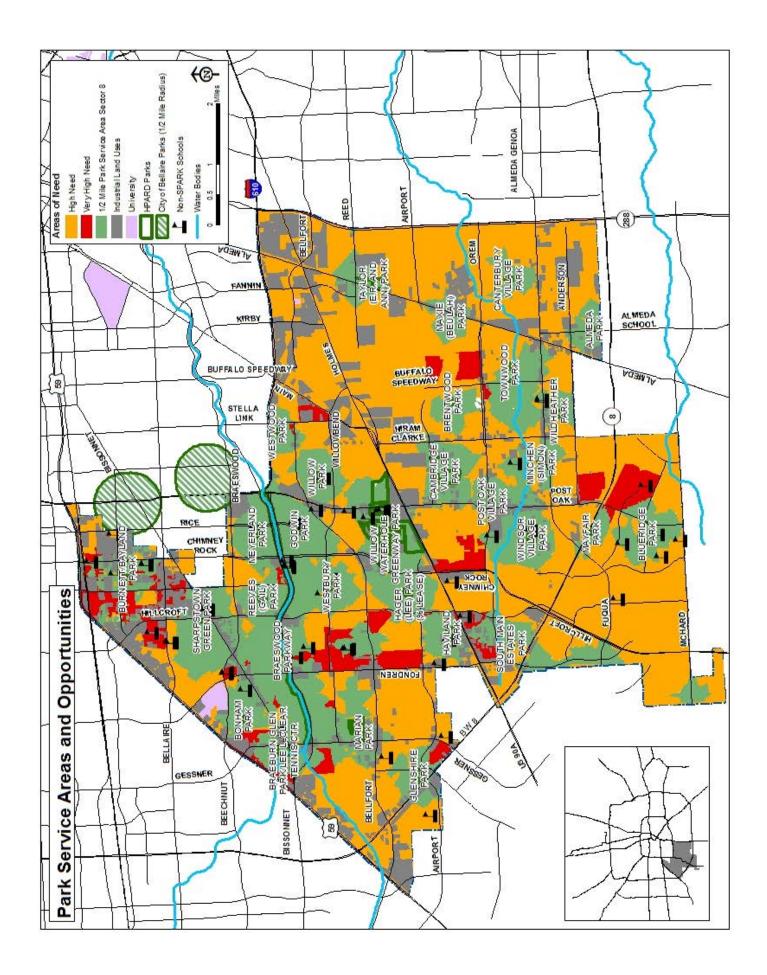
#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The parks in Park Sector 8 that have the highest need for redevelopment are listed from greatest need to least need: Hager (Lee) Park, Cambridge Village Park, Minchen (Simon) Park, Maxie (Beulah) Park, and Brentwood Park.

In this Park Sector 155 acres of parkland are needed. This Park Sector is the most populous of any throughout the city and has many areas of high need in the southeast. Schools not participating in the SPARK School Park Program (Non-SPARK schools) should be explored as potential future partnerships for park space. Fifty-seven (57%) of the population in this Park Sector has incomes considered to be low to moderate. Pursuing Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for park improvements should be a priority. In addition, since several non-SPARK schools are located in high and very high park need areas, Community Development Block Grant funding could be considered in partnership with the SPARK Park program to add park space to the system and provide improvements at non-SPARK school locations. As there is little redevelopment occurring in this Park Sector, it should be targeted for CIP and bond funds for future development and land acquisition. There are large undeveloped tracts of land close to US-288 that should be explored for land acquisition. Furthermore, properties in the Gulfton area in the northwest part of the Park Sector should be explored as this is an area of need and very high density with lots of multi-family developments. There is a utility corridor along Hiram Clarke that connects into Park Sectors 13 and 14. Creating a trail along this utility corridor could greatly enhance north-south connectivity within this Park Sector and within the near-west sectors of the City and the existing Brays Bayou trail as well as the future Keegans Bayou trail. The Management and Improvement Districts and residents in the area have expressed interest in off-street Neighborhood connections to the trail via utility easements and Harris Flood Control District channels and are potential projects for future planning, implementation and maintenance.

This Park Sector is deficient in playgrounds, picnic shelters, trails, volleyball courts, dog parks, skate parks, community centers, swimming pools, and softball and soccer fields. In the 2014 survey, the top three priorities of residents in Park Sector 8 when asked what recreational needs existed in their Neighborhood were: hike, bike and walk trails, open space and natural areas, and upgraded recreation centers. Other services and amenities that residents asked for in the write-in portion of the survey were: fitness and nutrition programs, arts and crafts programs, senior programming, swim lessons, fishing activities, dance and theater programs, youth nature programs, adult volleyball, yoga and tai chi classes, and golf programming. Because of the health profile (obesity, 31.9%, and diabetes,14.5%, levels higher than the city as a whole of 30.8% and 11.4% respectively) of this Park Sector, partnerships focused on increasing physical activity levels and programming for healthy living should be explored.

**Sources:** 2010 Census, 2010 Health of Houston Survey, American Community Survey 2013, Houston Parks Board, HPARD 2014 Online Survey, Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project, 2040 H-GAC population projections by Park Sector



# **EXISTING HPARD PARKS**

Facility Name	Address	Street	Total Acres	Trail Length
Pocket Parks				
Post Oak Village Park	13800	Lockway Dr	0.43	N/A
Sharpstown Green Park	6300	·	0.25	0.09
	Total HPAR	D Pocket Park Acreage	0.68	
Neighborhood Parks				
Almeda Park	14201	Almeda School Rd	1.00	N/A
Bonham Park	8401	Braes Acres	8.57	0.35
Braeburn Glen Park/Lee LeClear Tennis Ctr.	9510	S Gessner	12.90	0.25
Brentwood Park	13220	Landmark	7.90	0.33
Canterbury Village Park	12822	Northumb	4.40	0.33
Chimney Rock Park	11655	Chimney Rock	1.59	N/A
Glenshire Park	12100	Riceville School Rd	12.91	0.41
Godwin Park	5101	Rutherglen	8.17	0.42
Hager (Lee) Park (% Lease)	12100	Landsdowne	9.72	0.51
Maxie (Beulah) Park	2625	Monticello	1.10	N/A
Mayfair Park	6000	Arthington	1.00	N/A
Meyerland Park	5151	Jason	6.77	N/A
Minchen ( Simon ) Park	4900	W Fuqua	3.30	N/A
Reeves (Gail) Park	8800	Mullins	8.03	0.35
South Main Estates Park	12256	Zavalla Rd	4.93	0.32
Westbury Park	5635	Willowbend	5.94	N/A
Westwood Park	4045	Lemac	5.88	0.38
Whiting Tract (PB 4)	8200	Williamcrest Lane	2.50	N/A
Wildheather Park	14900	Whiteheather	12.15	N/A
Willow Park (Lease)	10400	Cliftwood	7.63	0.25
Windsor Village Park	1441	Croquet	8.99	0.31
	Total HPAR	D Neighborhood Park Acrea	ge <b>1</b> 35.38	
Community Parks				
Blueridge Park	5600	Court Rd	45.15	0.62
Burnett Bayland Park	6000	Chimney Rock	31.98	0.96
Cambridge Village Park	13000	Nitida	81.78	0.50
Haviland Park	11600	Haviland	17.79	0.28
Marian Park	11000	South Gessner	27.48	0.25
Taylor (E.R. and Ann) Park	1850	Reed Road	25.71	N/A
Townwood Park	3403	Simsbrook	26.81	0.39
Willow Waterhole Greenway Park	5300	Gasmer	60.00	1.17
		D Community Park Acreage	316.70	
Linear/Greenway/Regional Parks				
Braeswood Parkway		Holcombe/South Gessner	175.43	
	Total HPAR	D Regional Park Acreage	<b>175.43</b>	
		D Park Acreage	452.76	
		D Trail Length	8.30	

#### **EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND POOLS**

Community Centers and Pool Facilities	Address	Zip Code	Agency Responsible
Almeda Community Center	14201 Almeda School Road	77047	HPARD
Burnett Bayland Community Center	6000 Chimney Rock	77081	HPARD
Godwin Community Center	5101 Rutherglen	77096	HPARD
Marian Community Center	11000 South Gessner	77071	HPARD
Platou Community Center	11655 Chimney Rock	77035	HPARD
Townwood Community Center and Pool	3403 Simsbrook	77045	HPARD
Westbury Park Pool	5635 Willowbend	77096	HPARD
Windsor Village Community Center and Pool	1441 Croquet	77085	HPARD

#### PARK SERVICE AREAS

The Park Service Area map was produced using data provided by the Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project to show areas of park need. The green areas represent a ½ mile service area of public parks (city or county) and SPARK Parks (school parks open to the public after school) or other publicly accessible non-HPARD Parks.

The orange and red represent areas where there is not access to a park within a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. The degree of need (red is very high need and orange is high need) is based on population density, household income (less than \$35,000), and presence of youth (19 yrs or younger). The office and industrial land uses are represented in gray, to specifically highlight residential and commercial areas of need. Approximately 54% of the area in this Park Sector is in need of parkland accessible within a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, as compared to 55% of the population of the City of Houston who need park access. Non-SPARK schools are indicated on the map as black flags to explore as potential future partnerships for park space.

### PARK SECTOR FACTS

- This Park Sector contains 1,513 acres of parkland (Harris County, HPARD & other providers). Of the 39,530 acres in this Park Sector, 4% of this acreage is parkland.
- There are almost 295,000 residents living in this Park Sector; this is most populated Park Sector with almost 14% of the population of the city. There is a high percentage of elderly & youth.
- An additional 155 acres of parkland (Neighborhood parks) are needed in Park Sector 8. This is based on the current population (2010 US Census) of the Park Sector and needs assessment done for Pocket, Neighborhood and Community parks (number of acres per 1,000 people).
- The Health of Houston 2010 Survey shows that 14.5% of the population has been diagnosed with diabetes, compared to 11.4% for the City of Houston as a whole of.
- H-GAC population projections estimate that this area will add over 120,000 residents by 2040. To meet the
  estimated 2040 population an additional 297 acres of parkland will be needed.

### **NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR AMENITIES IN PARK SECTOR**

The table below shows the total existing amenities (including, HPARD, County and SPARK Parks) as of 2015, the target goal per amenity, and the amenities needed based on population standards for each amenity using 2010 US Census Population. The last row shows the estimated number of amenities needed based on the H-GAC population projections for 2040 and standards used in the 2007 Parks Master Plan.

AMENITY	PLAYGROUNDS	PICNIC SHELTERS	TRAILS (MILES)	OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS	VOLLEYBALL	DOG PARKS	SKATE PARKS	COMMUNITY	SWIMMING POOLS	OUTDOOR SPRAYGROUNDS	BASEBALL (LIT and UNIT)	SOFTBALL (LIT and UNIT)	SOCCER (LIT and UNIT)
2015 Goal	73	29	58	30	52	6	3	3	10	6	4	29	10	29
2015 Existing	44	23	29*	30	52	2	0	0	8	3	4	29	2	25
2015 Needed	29	6	29	-	-	4	3	3	2	3	-	-	8	4
2040 Needed	31	12	24	-	-	2	1	-	4	2	-	-	4	12

<sup>\*</sup>This number includes 7 miles of trails currently planned along Sims Bayou under the Bayou Greenways (BG2020) Initiative.

# GUIDE FOR ESTIMATED COST OF NEW AMENITIES, PARKLAND, AMENITY RENOVATIONS AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR PARK SECTOR

The table below contains costs estimates (in 2015 dollars) based on the needs assessment using 2010 US Census population and population projections provided by H-GAC per Park Sector for 2040, for both amenities and land in this Park Sector. In addition, the cost estimates (in 2015 dollars) for renovation of existing facilities and operation and maintenance are listed. A general explanation of each figure and its source is listed below:

- Cost of New System Amenities: This is the estimated cost for amenities based on the needs assessment above. Costs are estimated for 2015 and 2040 based on costs of 2014 HPARD projects. These costs are a guide and do not include site specific constraints such as utility extensions, flood mitigation or the purchase of land if expansion of the park was needed for these amenities.
- Cost of Park Land: This is the land needed to meet the parkland standards for 2015 and 2040 based on the 2010 US Census and the H-GAC estimated population projections respectively. Land costs are based on land values by Park Sector, provided by H-GAC, from 2014 HCAD values for properties greater than 5,000 sq ft in size and with no structures.
- 3. Cost of HPARD Amenity Renovation: The 2015 cost estimate is based on the assessment that 30% of the existing facilities in this Park Sector need renovation. The 2040 cost estimate is based on the assessment that the remaining 2/3 of the facilities from 2015 and 30% of the new facilities will need renovation to meet the population growth. Costs are estimated for 2015 and 2040 based on costs of 2014 HPARD projects.
- 4. Annual Operation & Maintenance: This figure is based on the national average for parks and recreation operational spending amount (\$63) per resident in 2013 according the Trust for Public Land publication "2014 City Park Facts." Houston spent \$29 per resident on parks and recreation in 2013. This figure shows what the cost of spending this average amount per resident would be based on the current population and the projected population in 2040.

	1	2	3	4		
	COST OF NEW SYSTEM AMENITIES	COST OF NEW PARK LAND	COST OF HPARD EXISTING AMENITY RENOVATION	ANNUAL COST OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
2015	\$87,000,000	155 Acres- \$16,000,000	\$41,000,000	\$18,000,000		
2040	\$77,000,000	297 Acres- \$30,000,000	\$130,000,000	\$8,000,000		
TOTAL 2040	\$164,000,000	452 Acres- \$46,000,000	\$171,000,000	\$26,000,000		

# **PARK SECTOR PROFILE 8**

#### **LOCATION AND POLITICAL BOUNDARIES**

Park Sector 8 is located south of 610, west of SH 288, east of 59, and Beltway 8 runs through the south end of the Park Sector. Park Sector Size: 39,529.9 acres or 61.8 square miles

Population: 293,586 people, Density: 4,750 persons/sq. mi.

Political Boundaries within Park Sector 8:

- Council Districts: J, K, C, and D
- Super neighborhoods contained in this Park Sector: Gulfton, Sharpstown, Braeburn, Westwood, Brays Oaks, Westbury, Meyerland Area, Willow Meadows/Willowbend Area, South Main, Astrodome Area, Central Southwest, and Fondren Gardens
- TIRZ: South Post Oak
- Management Districts: Sharpstown, Harris County Improvement District # 5 (Brays Oaks), Five Corners Improvement District (10B), and Harris County Improvement District 10A

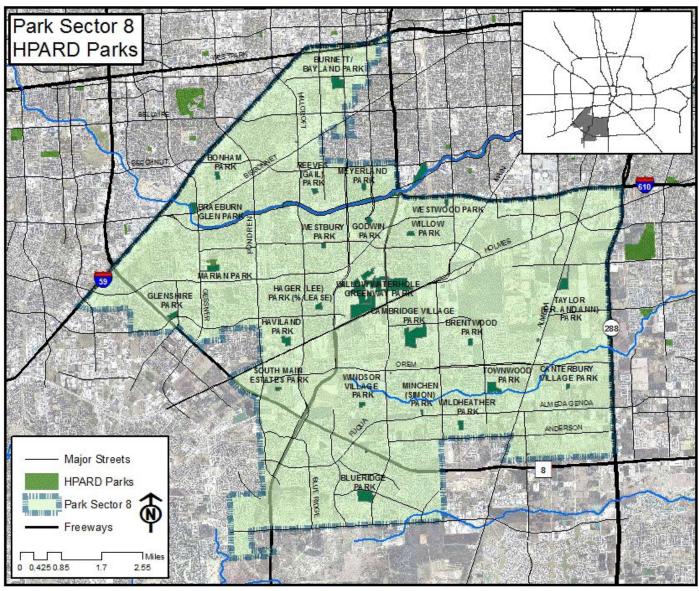


FIGURE 1. PARK SECTOR 8 BOUNDARY AND HPARD PARKS

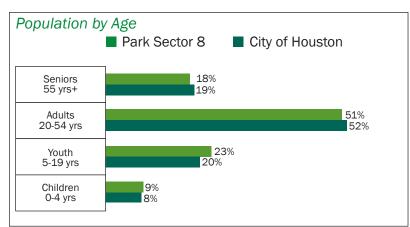
#### **DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**

#### Ethnicity

	Park Sector 8 Population	Park Sector 8 Percent of Total	Houston Population	Houston Percent of Total
Total Population	293,586	-	2,119,831	-
Hispanic or Latino	135,920	46.3%	919,668	43.8%
Non-Hispanic White	46,086	15.7%	537,901	25.6%
Non-Hispanic Black	93,811	32.0%	485,956	23.1%
Non-Hispanic American-Indian	393	0.1%		
Non-Hispanic Asian	13,934	4.7%	126,098	6.1%
Non-Hispanic Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	50	0.0%		
Non-Hispanic Some Other Race	3,392	1.2%	26,828	1.3%

TABLE 1. PARK SECTOR 8 ETHNICITY (2010 CENSUS & CITY OF HOUSTON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA)

This Park Sector contains 13.8% of the population of Houston, being the second most populated Park Sector in the entire City of Houston. The majority (46.3%) of residents are Hispanic/Latinos, followed by Non-Hispanic Blacks (32%), Non-Hispanic Whites (15.7%), and other ethnic groups (5%). The majority of the population lives along the freeways that comprise the boundaries of the Park Sector. The least dense area in the Park Sector is more centrally located in the Meyerland area along Brays Bayou and closer to US 610.



the percent of the population aged 5-19 (20%) is lower than that of the rest of the city (23%). The remainder of the age groups in this Park Sector closely mirror the trends present throughout the entire City of Houston. This signals that this Park Sector is similar to the City of Houston in that the population of children 19 and under comprises nearly a third of the population. These demographic trends can help inform future programming and park improvements.

The age profile for this Park Sector shows that

FIGURE 2. CITY OF HOUSTON VS. PARK SECTOR 8 AGE CITY OF HOUSTON ORTS BY HPARD PROGRAM AGES (2011 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY, CITY OF HOUSTON PD)

Program Group	Age Groups	PS 8 Population	PS 8 Percent of Total	Program Age Group	City of Houston Population	City of Houston Percent of Total	Program Age Group
Children	0-4 yrs	26,304	9%	9%	166,066	8%	8%
	5-9 yrs	23,756	8%		148,843	7%	
Youth	10-14 yrs	21,409	7%	23%	135,622	7%	21%
	15-19 yrs	21,879	7%		140,673	7%	
	20-34 yrs	73,028	25%		539,348	26%	
Adults	35-44 yrs	40,929	14%	51%	286,117	14%	52%
	45-54 yrs	36,631	12%		265,060	13%	
Conjor	55-64 yrs	28,337	10%	18%	204,852	10%	19%
Senior	65 yrs +	24,176	8%	18%	192,689	9%	19%

TABLE 2. CITY OF HOUSTON VS. PARK SECTOR 8 AGE CITY OF HOUSTON ORTS WITH FURTHER BREAKDOWN FOR ALL PROGRAM AGE GROUPS

#### Housing

There are a total of 113,010 housing units in this Park Sector. The percent of vacant housing in Park Sector 8 (11.1%) is slightly lower as compared to the vacancy rates for the entire city (12.3%). Home ownership for this Park Sector (41.8%) is slightly higher than that of the City of Houston (39.7%) and the share of renters (47.1%) is the same as the city's (47.1%).

#### Income

The median household income for this Park Sector (\$39,142) is significantly lower than that of the City of Houston (\$48,322). 61,384 households, or 61%, in this area have an income below the Houston median household income.

#### Educational Attainment

Within Park Sector 8 the percent (23%) of individual 25+ years of age with a Bachelor's degree or higher is lower than the relative percent for the entire City of Houston (28%). The other trends of educational attainment in this Park Sector are similar to those for the City of Houston.

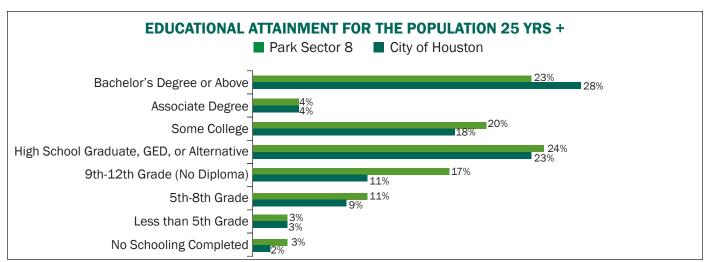
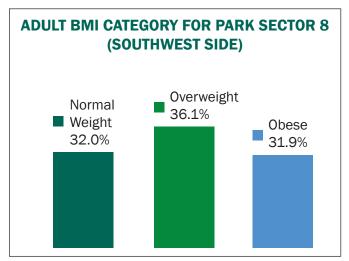


FIGURE 3. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2011 CITY OF HOUSTON PD)

#### Community Health

The Health of Houston Survey 2010 data (aggregated by Park Sector by the Houston Department of Health and Human Services) shows that 31.9% of the adult population in this Park Sector is considered obese, as compared to 30.8% for the entire population of the City of Houston. The survey also showed that 14.5% of the adult population received a diagnosis of diabetes by a professional, which is above the level for the entire city (11.4%). In addition, this survey inquired about physical activity level and the results indicate that over 30% of the respondents in this Park Sector engage in a moderate physical activity for 5 or more days a week, which is slightly lower than that of the entire city (32%). The national initiative, Healthy People 2020, has a goal to increase the amount of adults who engage in moderate physical activity for at least 5 days a week for 30 minutes to 47.9% of the population. The current national average of adults engaging in this level of aerobic activity is 43.5%. Finally, the survey shows that almost a quarter of the population (24.1%) does not engage in moderate physical activity at all, which is slightly higher than the rate for the entire city (21.2%). As HPARD plans and prioritizes investments for future parks and trails, it should take into account the accessibility of parks. amenities provided and the impact to the health of the community in the long term. HPARD is an active participant in the Healthy Communities Initiative, Community Transformation Initiative, Healthy Kids Houston, and the Sustainable Communities Houston-Galveston Regional Plan, among other efforts. This involvement should continue with an emphasis on partnerships, measurable outcomes, and engagement with the community to encourage physical activity and help identify physical barriers to park access.



Moderate Physical Activity in the Last Seven Days	Percentage (%)
0	24.10
1	6.80
2	12.70
3	16.00
4	9.70
5	11.50
6	1.30
7	18.00

FIGURE 4. HEALTH OF HOUSTON SURVEY (2010)- ADULT BODY MASS INDEX TABLE 3. HEALTH OF HOUSTON SURVEY (2010)- MODERATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

#### LAND USE ANALYSIS

	Number of Parcels	Percent of Parcels	Acreage of Parcels	Percent of Acreage
Single-Family	57,543	77.5%	34,823	62.5%
Multi-Family	6,384	8.6%	1,852	3.3%
Commercial	1,325	1.8%	1,938	3.5%
Office	203	0.3%	280	0.5%
Industrial	1,040	1.4%	2,819	5.1%
Public & Institutional	254	0.3%	1,865	3.3%
Transportation	224	0.3%	1,054	1.9%
Parks & Open Space	402	0.5%	901	1.6%
Undeveloped	6,521	8.8%	8,590	15.4%
Agriculture Production	361	0.5%	1,567	2.8%
TOTAL	74,257		55,688	

TABLE 4. LAND USE BY DESCRIPTION (2013 HCAD)

Park Sector 8 largely is contained within Harris County (about 34,000 acres); however, the southern portion of the Park Sector outside of Beltway 8 is Fort Bend County (about 5,000 acres or 12,000 parcels). According to HCAD and FBCAD, Park Sector 8 consists largely of single-family land use, 62.5% of all acreage and 77.5% of all parcels in the Park Sector are single-family. The majority of the rest of the Park Sector is comprised of undeveloped land, 15.4% of all acreage and 8.8% of all parcels are undeveloped. However, some large parcels by Airport Road and Highway 288 that are coded undeveloped belong to the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. While only 1.4% of the parcels are industrial, they constitute 5.1% of all acreage in the Park Sector and are predominantly clustered along major freeways. These two counties code their land uses differently and some assumptions were made with the land use coding for Fort Bend County to mirror that of Harris County.

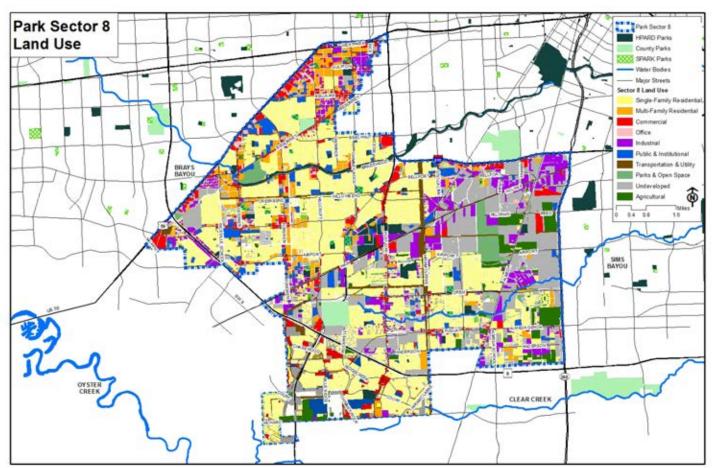


FIGURE 5. PARK SECTOR 8 LAND USE MAP (2013 HCAD) AND HPARD, COUNTY, AND SPARK PARKS

### **HPARD PARKS AND TRAILS**

Facility Name	Address	Street	Total Acres	Trail Length
Pocket Parks				
Post Oak Village Park	13800	Lockway Dr	0.43	N/A
Sharpstown Green Park	6300	Sharpview	0.25	0.09
Total HPARD Pocket Park Acreage	•		0.68	
Neighborhood Parks				
Almeda Park	14201	Almeda School Rd	1.00	N/A
Bonham Park	8401	Braes Acres	8.57	0.35
Braeburn Glen Park/Lee LeClear Tennis Ctr.	9510	S Gessner	12.90	0.25
Brentwood Park	13220	Landmark	7.90	0.33
Canterbury Village Park	12822	Northumb	4.40	0.33
Chimney Rock Park	11655	Chimney Rock	1.59	N/A
Glenshire Park	12100	Riceville School Rd	12.91	0.41
Godwin Park	5101	Rutherglen	8.17	0.42
Hager (Lee) Park (% Lease)	12100	Landsdowne	9.72	0.51
Maxie (Beulah) Park	2625	Monticello	1.10	N/A
Mayfair Park	6000	Arthington	1.00	N/A
Meyerland Park	5151	Jason	6.77	N/A
Minchen ( Simon ) Park	4900	W Fuqua	3.30	N/A
Reeves (Gail) Park	8800	Mullins	8.03	0.35
South Main Estates Park	12256	Zavalla Rd	4.93	0.32
Westbury Park	5635	Willowbend	5.94	N/A
Westwood Park	4045	Lemac	5.88	0.38
Whiting Tract (PB 4)	8200	Williamcrest Lane	2.50	N/A
Wildheather Park	14900	Whiteheather	12.15	N/A
Willow Park (Lease)	10400	Cliftwood	7.63	0.25
Windsor Village Park	1441	Croquet	8.99	0.31
Total HPARD Neighborhood Park Acreage	•		135.38	
Community Parks				
Blueridge Park	5600	Court Rd	45.15	0.62
Burnett Bayland Park	6000	Chimney Rock	31.98	0.96
Cambridge Village Park	13000	Nitida	81.78	0.50
Haviland Park	11600	Haviland	17.79	0.28
Marian Park	11000	South Gessner	27.48	0.25
Taylor (E.R. and Ann) Park	1850	Reed Road	25.71	N/A
Townwood Park	3403	Simsbrook	26.81	0.39
Willow Waterhole Greenway Park	5300	Gasmer	60.00	1.17
Total HPARD Community Park Acreage	1 3333	400	316.70	
Regional Parks			020.10	
Braeswood Parkway	6200	Holcombe/South Gessner	175.43	
<u> </u>	J 0200	Thoronibe/ South dessiler	175.43   175.43	
Total HPARD Regional Park Acreage	Total UD	APD Park Apropria	628.20	
		ARD Park Acreage	028.20	0.2
TARLES HOARD DARKS ACREAGE AND TRAILS INTERNA		ARD Trail Length		8.3

TABLE 5. HPARD PARKS, ACREAGE, AND TRAILS INTERNAL TO HPARD PARKS, BAYOU AND URBAN/SHARED USE TRAILS IN PARK SECTOR 8



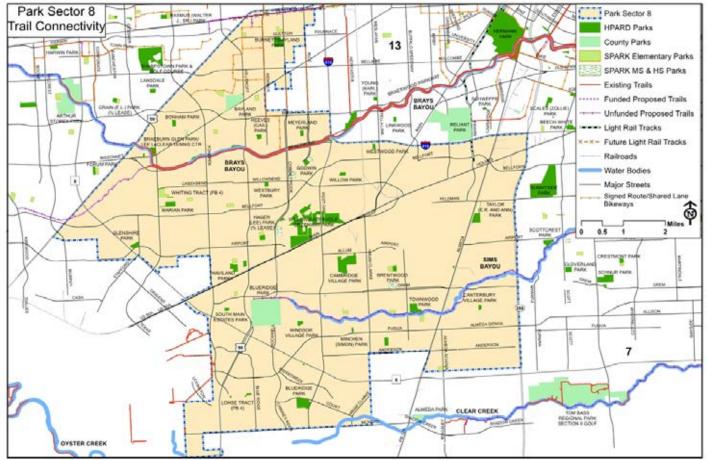


FIGURE 6. PARK SECTOR 8 BAYOU TRAILS, ON- AND OFF-STREET BIKEWAY SYSTEM (PWE), HPARD, COUNTY, SPARK, PRIVATE PARKS, BIKE/PED BRIDGES AND LIGHT RAIL

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department operates 32 parks in the area accounting for 628.20 acres of parkland. The maintenance responsibility of the Braeswood Parkway acreage and trail surface is shared amongst Harris County Precinct 3 and HPARD (further refinement of this data will be available in the next draft). Harris County operates 7 park properties in the area accounting for 637.99 acres of parkland. Harris County maintains and operates 4 parks and 2 hike and bike trails in this Park Sector that total 399.70 acres. HPARD and Harris County Flood Control District have partnered to on a 280-acre facility for recreation (Willow Water Hole Greenway Park) and flood control. HPARD currently maintains 60 acres and HCFCD 220 acres.

Currently, HPARD maintains 8.3 miles of trails, Harris County maintains 11.6 miles of trails, and HISD maintains 2.5 miles (track) inside 11 SPARK Parks in the Park Sector. Collectively, there is a total of 23.01 miles of trails within this Park Sector. The Bayou Greenway Initiative (BG2020) is linking gaps along Brays Bayou. When the connections are made along Brays Bayou at build-out, there will be a 19-mile system that will allow users from Park Sector 8 to traverse to the Houston Ship Channel, the Medical District, the University of Houston main campus and Downtown via Columbia Tap Trail (going northeast of Brays Bayou approximately 3 miles). Trails will also be built along Sims Bayou on a partnership between Houston Parks Board and the American Community Survey to connect to the existing 0.6 mile tract of the trail to create a 14-mile trail system. In addition, City of Houston will begin construction of the Keegans Bayou Trail (south fork from the end of Brays Bayou Trail) which will add 2.5 miles of trail in this Park Sector. According to the LOS analysis on Table 8, there is a need for an additional 36 miles of trails to meet current population standards for Park Sector 8. The miles (9.3) planned to be added to this Park Sector, 6.8 miles for Sims Bayou and 2.5 miles for Keegans Bayou, will only reduce the number of miles of trails needed to 27 miles, however, the impact is made when the connections to major employment centers and the rail are made. This Park Sector appears to have availability of land adjacent to Sims and Keegans Bayous and there is potential to purchase parkland to meet the needs of the population in this area as well as to provide connections to existing or future neighborhoods.

### County Parks and Trails

Harris County maintains four parks and two hike and two bike trails in this Park Sector. It should be noted that Harris County Blueridge park is distinct from HPARD's Blueridge Park.

County Park				
Facility Name	Address	Street	Total Acres	Trail Length
Bayland Park	6400	Bissonet Street	69.83	0.35
Blueridge	3511	Reed Road	296	N/A
Brays Bayou Hike & Bike Trail	9601	Braes Bayou Drive	11.71	8.5
Harris County Bonham Nature Park	7505	Wanda Lane	1.16	0.11
Sims Bayou Hike & Bike Trail 1		MLK to Scott	7.3	2
Sims Bayou Hike & Bike Trail 3		Post Oak to Croquet	10.9	0.6
Stein Family Park	9601	Braes Bayou Drive	2.8	0.1
HCFCD				
Willow Water Hole Greenway Bayland Park			220	
		Total HC Park Acreage	619.7	
		Total HC Trail Length		11.6

TABLE 6. TRAILS INTERNAL TO COUNTY PARKS, BAYOU AND URBAN/SHARED USE TRAILS IN PARK SECTOR 8

### SPARK Parks

There are 15 Elementary Schools, one Middle School and 2 High Schools participating in the SPARK Program providing access to park space and a variety of amenities to the public.

SPARK Parks				
Facility Name	Address	Street	Total Acres*	Amenities
Almeda Elementary School	14249	Bridgeport Rd	8.28	
Anderson Elementary School	5727	Ludington Dr	8.93	Playground
Benavidez Elementary School	6262	Gulfton St	7.6	Playground, Basketball Pavilion
Braeburn Elementary School	7707	Rampart St	7.2	Playground
Eleanor Tinsley Elementary School	11035	Bob White Dr	7.98	Playground, 0.12 Trail, Multi-Purpose Field
Foerster Elementary School	14200	Fonmeadow Dr	6.95	Playground, 0.19 Trail, Swing Set, Multi-Purpose Field
Fondren Elementary School	12405	Carlsbad St	4.97	Playground, 0.13 Trail, Swing Set
Grissom Elementary School	4900	Simsbrook Dr	7.42	Playground, Basketball Pavilion, Swing Set
Hobby Elementary School	4021	Woodmont Dr	7.8	2 Playgrounds, Basketball Court
Johnston Middle School	10410	Manhattan	25.9	0.25 mi Trail, Baseball Field, Basketball Hoops
Madison High School	13719	White Heather Dr	19.96	0.26 mi Trail, Basketball Pavilion, Multi-Purpose Field
McNamara Elementary School	8714	Mcavoy Dr	5.36	Playground, Basketball Pavilion
Milne Elementary School	7800	Portal Dr	7.13	Playground, 0.14 Trail
Montgomery Elementary School	4000	Simsbrook Dr	7.04	Playground, 0.3 Trail, Basketball Pavilion, Swing Set, Soccer Field (Unlit)
Petersen Elementary School	14414	Waterloo Dr	8.1	Playground, 0.15 Trail
Sharpstown High School	7504	Bissonnet St	5	0.26 mi Trail, Multi-Purpose Field
Sutton Elementary School	7402	Albacore Dr	11.94	Playground, 0.17 Trail, Basketball Hoops
Sylvan Rodriguez Elementary School	5858	Chimney Rock Rd	9.74	Playground, 0.27 Trail
Valley West Elementary School	10707	Gessner Dr	21.62	Playground
Westbury High School	11911	Chimney Rock Dr	21.46	0.26 mi Trail, Multi-Purpose Field
Total Acres*			210.38	

TABLE 7. SPARK PARK ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS FOR PARK SECTOR 8 BASED ON DATA PROVIDED ON 2011 BY THE SPARK PROGRAM \*Acreage is overstated because it is based on the parcel corresponding to entire school and not the SPARK Park only.



### Open and Green Space

To determine level of service, the 2007 Master Plan outlined standard distances based on park classification as well as population. Analysis in this section will be done based on population (acres/1,000 people) as well as park accessibility within a ½ mile radius using data provided by The Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project. The table below shows the level of service (LOS) based on the 2007 HPARD recommended standards of a number of acres per 1,000 people using the 2010 Census population. According to the HPARD recommended standards per park type (2007 HPARD Master Plan Criteria Facility Needs): this Park Sector is lacking 0.79 acres in Pocket Parks and 154 acres of Neighborhood Parks for a total of 155 acres of parkland. For the purposes of this analysis, the portion of Willow Water Hole Greenway Park that HPARD currently maintains (60 acres) was included under the classification of Community Park and thus this category shows sufficient park acreage. Braeswood Parkway and all bayou greenways are being considered as a regional park in this analysis. With the BG2020 efforts to build out bayou greenways throughout the city, the greenway and trail system should be considered more as linear, Regional Parks that will eventually traverse the majority of the city and serve various areas and population. The acreage for Regional Park will be accounted for when the city-wide analysis is conducted and staff may revisit what impact and how each regional park should be accounted within each Park Sector.

Park Type	HPARD Park Number	HC Park Number	HPARD Acreage	County Acreage	Other Providers	Total Park Acreage	HPARD Recommended Standard	Current HPARD LOS	Current Total Inventory LOS	HPARD NEED (2010 Population)	Total Inventory NEED 2010 Population
								Popu	lation		293,586
Pocket Park (<1 acre)	2	0	0.68	0	0	0.68	0.005 ac/ 1,000 people	0.00	0.00	0.79	0.79
Neighborhood Park (1-15 acres)	21	2	135	3.96	0	139.34	1 ac/1,000 people	0.46	0.47	158.21	154.25
Community Park (16-150 acres)	8	1	316.70	69.83	59.95	446.48	1.5 ac/1,000 people	1.08	1.52	123.68	-6.10
Regional Parks (151+ acres)	1	5	175.43	545.91	205	926.34	8.0 ac/1,000 people				
TOTAL	32	8	628	619.7	264.95	1,512.84				282.67	155.03

TABLE 8. HPARD LOS AND PARKLAND NEED ANALYSIS

A negative number in the last two columns means there is a surplus, a positive number means there is a need.

Another way to measure the level of service provided by parks is by looking at a "walkable" distance (1/2 mile radius) from the park regardless of the size of this park. The Rice University Shell Center for Sustainability published the Houston Sustainable Development Indicators: A Comprehensive Development Review for Citizens, Analysts, and Decision Makers and used 1/4 of a mile distance of persons living from a park as a sustainability indicator for quality of life and determined that 44% of residents have access to a public space (King 2012). The Trust for Public Land (Trust for Public Land (TPL)) ParkScore™ Project study mapped the park needs of the City of Houston based on accessibility by density, age, and income. The methodology used by Trust for Public Land (TPL) ParkScore™ Project factors in the accessibility to a public park within ½ mile considering freeways and major thoroughfares as barriers to park access. Trust for Public Land (TPL) ParkScore<sup>TM</sup> Project found that 45% of residents have access to public spaces (Trust for Public Land (TPL) 2012). The map was produced using data provided by Trust for Public Land (TPL) ParkScore™ Project. The areas in green on the map below represent the area within ½ mile of existing parks not blocked by freeways or major roads; the hatched area represents the service area of a publicly accessible (owned, developed and maintained by the City of Bellaire) park that was not account for when the Trust for Public Land (TPL) ParkScore™ data was produced. These parks only provide a small amount of coverage for the fringes of the Park Sector. Roughly 54% of the live/play areas (residential= yellow and orange and some commercial= red) in this Park Sector are not served by a park, which is almost equal to that of the entire city (55%). This percentage was calculated by subtracting the areas served, industrial areas, and acreage of private parks from the total acreage of the Park Sector.

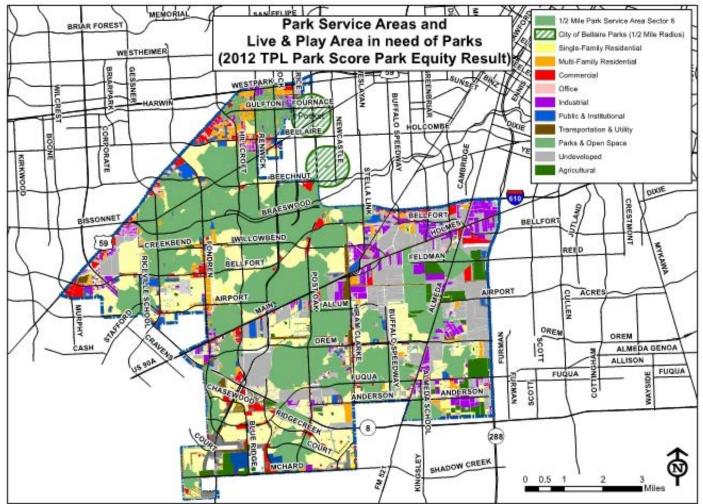


FIGURE 7. PARK SECTOR 8 PARK SERVICE AREAS (1/2 MILES ACCESS) AND LIVE/PLAY AREAS OF NEED

#### **AMENITIES AND SERVICES**

This map shows some of the community services available in this area: community centers, multi-service and health centers, schools, libraries, and YMCAs. There are seven community centers located in Park Sector 8: Almeda, Burnett Bayland, Godwin, Marian, Platou, Townwood, and Windsor Village Community Centers.

The Hiram-Clarke Multi-Service Center, which is owned and operated by the City of Houston is located in this Park Sector. It contains many valuable community resources, such as a community garden, the Vinson Neighborhood Library branch of the Houston Public Library, adult education classes taught by Houston Community College, and a variety of governmental and nonprofit organizations that offer services to disadvantaged populations, such as children, seniors, homeless people, and impoverished households. The Southwest Multi-Service Center offers similar services such as a community garden, a Houston Public Library Express location, a Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program, and a variety of other nonprofit and governmental organizations that offer services to in need individuals and families. The West Orem YMCA is also located in this Park Sector. The Baker-Ripley Neighborhood Center is located near to the Southwest MSC and provides: immigration services, senior and youth programs, computer and fitness classes, health and wellness programs, tax services, and a private charter school. The Alliance for Multicultural Community Services is also located in this Park Sector. It provides refugee resettlement assistance, case management, ESL classes, a micro-lending program for small businesses, marriage counseling, youth development programs, and eventually will own and operate a housing project. The libraries in this Park Sector provide computer access, community meeting space, and educational programs.

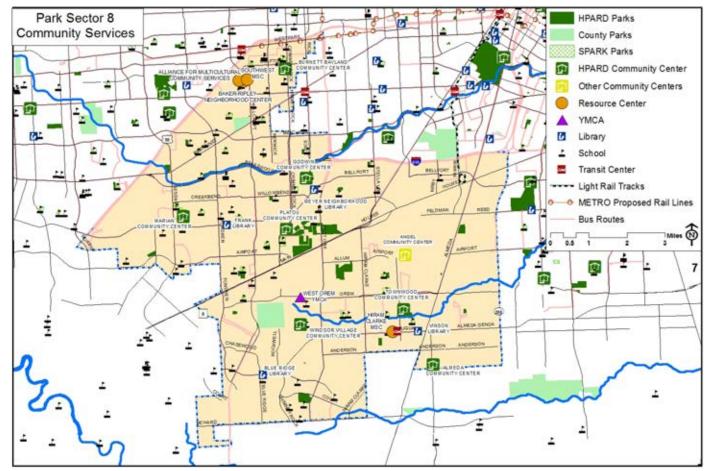


FIGURE 8. PARK SECTOR 8 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PUBLIC TRANSIT

#### Amenities - Level of Service

The 2007 HPARD standards by amenity have been applied to the amenities in Park Sector 8. The first column after the recommended HPARD standards indicates the level of service (LOS) accounting for HPARD facilities only, the total inventory standard accounts for facilities from all providers. The standard for each amenity is then compared to the 2010 Census population data for this Park Sector to determine if the standard has been met or if more amenities are needed. The last two columns show the number of facilities needed to meet the standard using HPARD inventory only and using all providers in the Park Sector. According to these recommended HPARD standards, Harris County and other providers are meeting the needs of the residents for outdoor basketball courts, tennis courts, outdoor spraygrounds, and baseball fields. This Park Sector is deficient in playgrounds (28), picnic shelters (6), trails (36 miles), Volleyball Courts (4), dog parks (3), skate parks (3), community centers (2), swimming pools (3), softball fields (8), and soccer fields (4).

	HPARD	Harris County	Other Providers	Total	Recommended HPARD Standard		Current HPARD Level of Service		Current Total Inventory Level of Service		HPARD NEEDS Over/ Under Service	Total Inventory NEEDS Over/ Under Standard
Population									293,586			
Playgrounds	24	4	16	44	1	4,000	1	12,233	1	6,672	49	29
Picnic Shelters	20	3	0	23	1	10,000	1	14,679	1	12,765	9	6
Trails	8.3	11.6	2.5	22	0.2	1,000	0.03	1,000	0.08	1,000	50	36
Outdoor Basketball Courts	22	0	8	30	1	12,000	1	13,345	1	9,786	2	-6
Tennis	46	4	2	52	1	10,000	1	6,382	1	5,646	-17	-23
Volleyball	2	0	0	2	1	50,000	1	146,793	1	146,793	4	4
Dog Parks	0	0	0	0	1	100,000	1	293,586	1	293,586	3	3
Skate Parks	0	0	0	0	1	100,000	1	293,586	1	293,586	3	3
Community Centers	7	0	1	8	1	30,000	1	41,941	1	36,698	3	2
Swimming Pools	3	0	0	3	1	50,000	0	97,862	0	97,862	3	3
Outdoor Spraygrounds	3	0	1	4	1	100,000	1	97,862	1	73,397	0	-1
Baseball (Lit & Unlit)	11	12	6	29	1 field	30,000	1	26,690	1	10,124	-1	-19
Softball (Lit & Unlit)	2	0	0	2	1 field	30,000	0	293,586	0	293,586	8	8
Soccer (Lit & Unlit)	12	2	11	25	1 field	10,000	0	24,466	0	11,743	17	4

TABLE 9. LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR AMENITIES IN PARK SECTOR 8

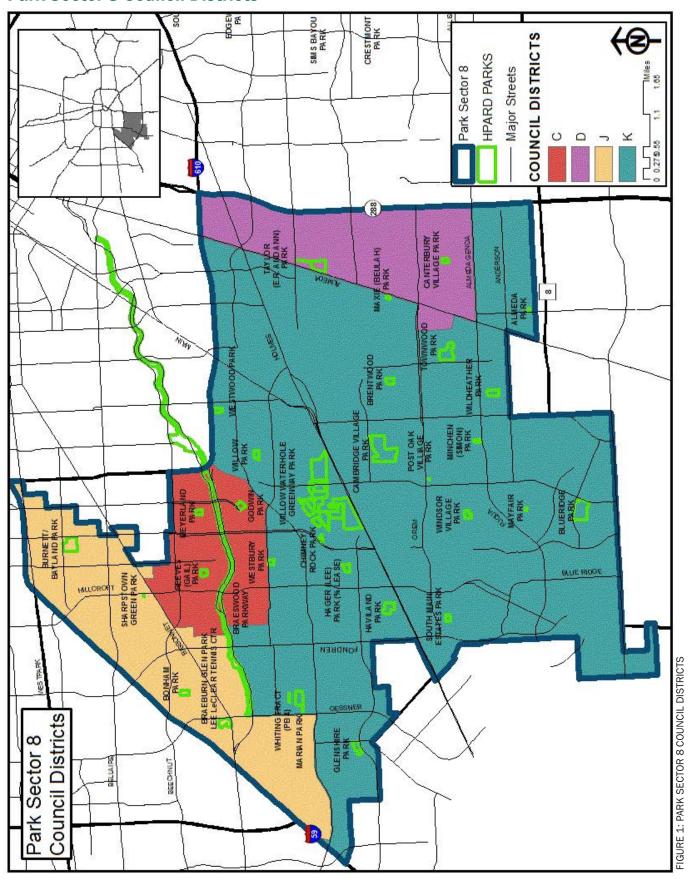
A negative number in the last two columns means there is a surplus, a positive number means there is a need.

# Status of Projects (POS/CIP/CDBG/Grants)

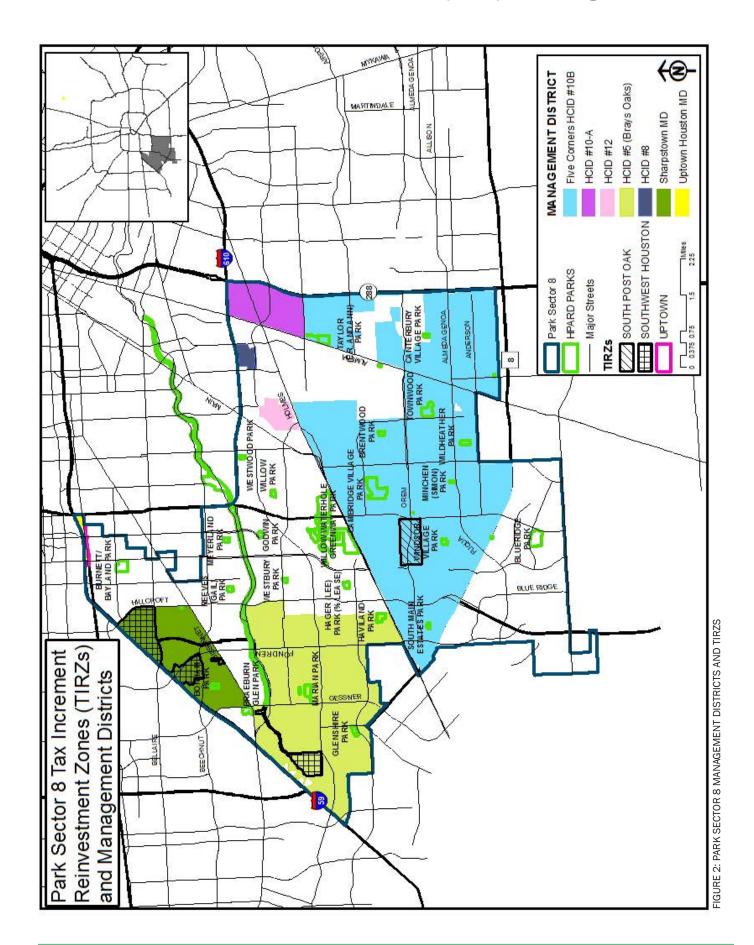
- Braeburn Glen will be renovating in 2016 including: refurbishment of the existing parking lot, new lights for the parking lot, entry plaza, ornamental fence, maintenance gate, dumpster enclosure, and drinking fountain.
- Townwood Park's baseball field will be lighted and the parking lot were overlaid in 2013.
- Westbury Park received CIP funds for a new playground in 2013.
- Wildheather Park will receive a renovation in 2015, which could include a new lighted walking trail, playground, splash pad, pavilion, fitness are, sports field and half basketball court.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL MAPS:**

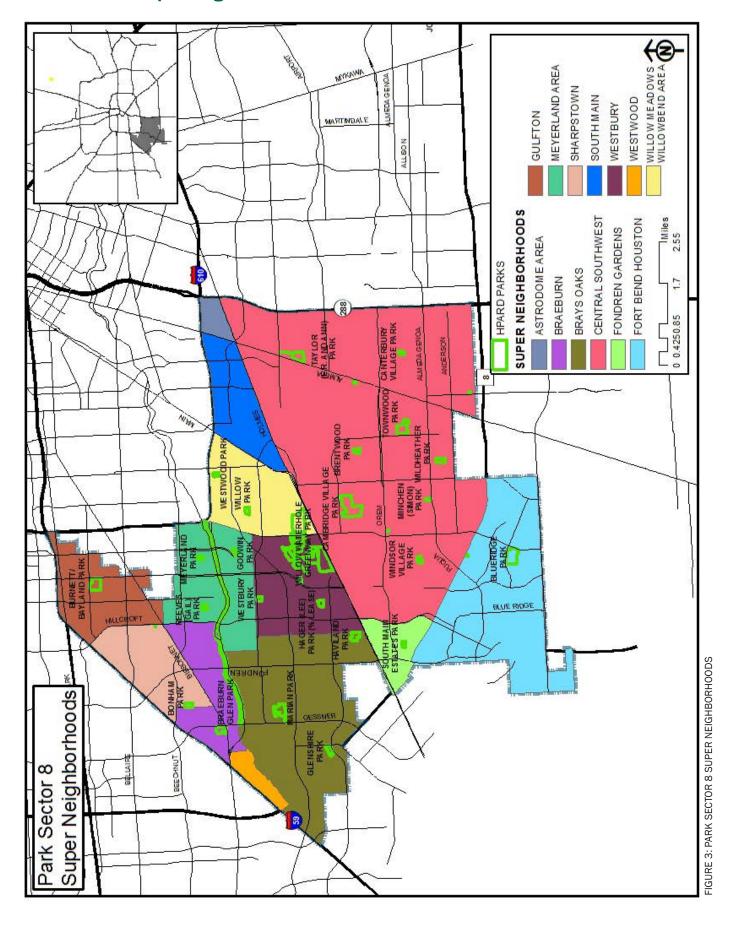
# **Park Sector 8 Council Districts**



# Park Sector 8 Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZs) and Management Districts



# Park Sector 8 Super neighborhoods



# **Park Sector 8 Floodplain Areas**

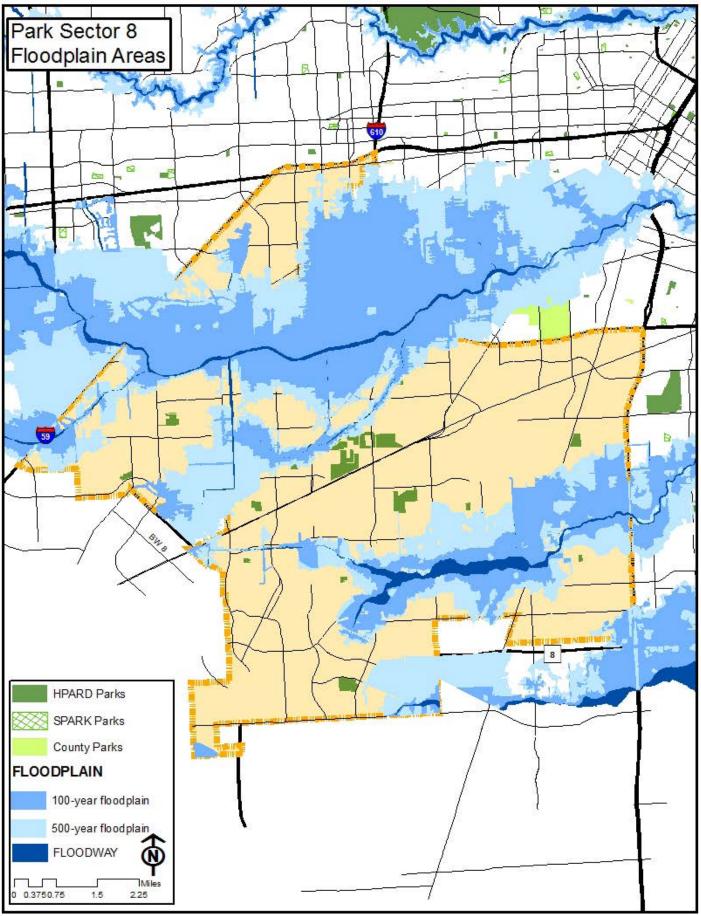


FIGURE 4: PARK SECTOR 8 FLOODPLAIN AREAS

 $\mathcal{M}$