



PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO UNVEIL IMPROVEMENTS TO HENDERSON PARK ON NEAR NORTHSIDE

*Park is the fourth to see improvements under
Mayor Sylvester Turner's Complete Communities Initiative*

Mayor Sylvester Turner, the Mayor's Office of Complete Communities, and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department will celebrate improvements to Earl Henderson Park on Saturday, November 20, 2021. The park is located at 4250 Elysian on the Near Northside. To celebrate the event the Parks Department is hosting its fourth *Love Our Parks Fest at Earl Henderson Park* from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a ceremony at 11 a.m. The fest will feature family-friendly activities and programming from Houston Parks and Recreation, Houston Public Library, HPD's Greater Houston Police Activities League (GHPAL), and other City departments.

"This is an exciting day for Henderson Park, this neighborhood, and the City of Houston. I know what safe, well-maintained parks mean to a community, and I want families to love their neighborhood park," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "I commend the Parks Department for working tirelessly to carry out my mission, and I thank the dedicated staffers and partners like Cheniere Energy who worked to upgrade Henderson Park. I am proud of what we have accomplished by working together."

The improvements at Earl Henderson Park include new furnishings, sidewalk upgrades, a new pavilion roof, new BBQ grills, new lighting, and new playground equipment coming soon. The park's basketball court will be revived featuring public art by muralist Gelson Lemus, courtesy of Cheniere Energy. Cheniere, the largest producer of liquified natural gas in the United States, is a big supporter of the "Love Our Parks" initiative and has donated over \$180,000 to the Houston Parks and Recreation Department for this five-park project.

"We are honored to once again be participating in the Love Our Parks Fest with Mayor Sylvester Turner and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department," said Zach Davis, SVP & CFO, Cheniere Energy, Inc. and Board Member, Cheniere Foundation. "Seeing the transformation in these parks is inspiring and just one way that Cheniere's employees are giving back to the communities where we work and live."

"Overseeing the physical improvements we've made to Earl Henderson Park has been very special," said Kenneth Allen, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "However, the most rewarding part of this process for me is seeing the faces of the Near Northside neighborhood

residents as they get to experience the improvements made to their park. I love what the Mayor's Love Our Parks initiative is doing for Houston's underserved communities."

The *Mayor Sylvester Turner Love Our Parks Complete Communities* initiative is a collaborative effort created by the Mayor to improve and upgrade neighborhood parks in under-resourced Houston communities. The first phase focuses on five neighborhood parks – Malone Park (completed July 2021) and Our Park (completed September 2021) in Third Ward, Woodruff Park (completed October 2021) in Magnolia-Manchester, Earl Henderson Park (completed November 2021), and Catherine Delce Park (to be completed December 2021) in Kashmere Gardens.

Earl Henderson Park is in City Council District H, represented by City Council Member Karla Cisneros. It was acquired by the City of Houston in 1986. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, please visit www.HoustonParks.org.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages 381 parks and over 39,501 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all ages and abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.