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PRESS RELEASE

Houston Parks Board Breaks Ground on New Segment of Hunting Bayou Greenway

Trail to provide important connection through Herman Brown Park and access to new green space

HOUSTON, TX – June 11, 2020 – Houston Parks Board has begun construction on a new 4.5-mile segment of [Hunting Bayou Greenway](#) from Manitou Drive to Maxey Road. The new greenway segment will connect through the existing trail network at Herman Brown Park and, when complete, extend to Greens Bayou Greenway at Maxey Park.

The greenway segment will begin at Manitou Drive, south of Banner Drive, and head east along Hunting Bayou until it reaches Wallisville Road, where it heads west to the intersection of Wallisville Road and Oates Road to cross to the south side of Wallisville. The greenway continues south from Wallisville along Hunting Bayou until it enters Herman Brown Park.

Within the park, the greenway goes under US 90 and then connects into the park's existing trail network. The greenway exits Herman Brown Park at the intersection of Lafferty Oaks Street and Autumnwood Drive, where it heads east along Lafferty Oaks Street and through a pipeline easement until it connects to Maxey Road.

Once the greenway reaches Maxey Road, it will head north along existing sidewalks on Maxey Road to the intersection of Maxey and Woodforest Boulevard, where trail users can access Greens Bayou Greenway, including the Metro Park and Ride and Maxey Park.

Notable new features include:

- Two trail connections into Manitou Drive and San Pedro Street complete with signage, trash cans and recycling bins
- A trailhead within the El Dorado Neighborhood at the intersection of Saltillo Street and Mesa Drive, with a seating area, signage, a woodpecker gateway, trash can and recycling bin
- Two trail connections at the intersections of Lafferty Oaks Street and Autumnwood Drive, and Coolwood Drive within the Woodshadows II Neighborhood
- New neighborhood green space in the Woodshadows II Neighborhood between Autumnwood Drive and Centerwood Drive on land owned by Harris County Flood Control District, featuring a 6-foot wide concrete trail, native meadow and tree plantings, reforestation buffer along the existing homes and an ornamental design featuring a woodpecker gateway.
- Trail access into Herman Brown Park from nearby neighborhoods
- Connection to a recently completed 1.4-mile segment of Greens Bayou Greenway from Strickland Park to Maxey Park
- 10-foot wide concrete trail

- Native trees and meadows

Work recently began in the El Dorado Neighborhood and will continue over the next year to other neighborhoods along this bayou. Construction work is estimated to conclude in nine months. During construction, the public should not enter areas surrounded by orange caution fencing.

Following construction, Houston Parks Board will continue ongoing maintenance of Hunting Bayou Greenway, which includes weekly trash pickup, bi-weekly mowing of grass along the trail, upkeep of the trail and amenities, and any necessary flood cleanup.

Hunting Bayou Greenway is one of nine bayous being transformed as part of [Bayou Greenways 2020](#), a public-private partnership between the nonprofit Houston Parks Board, the City of Houston, and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. The initiative is implemented in close collaboration with the Harris County Flood Control District, which manages the county's bayous and creeks for drainage and flood risk reduction. Bayou Greenways 2020 will transform 3,000 acres of underutilized land along nine major waterways and create a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails along Houston's major waterways.

In 2012, thanks in part to the "Parks By You!" campaign, Houston voters overwhelmingly approved a bond proposal that set aside \$100 million for Bayou Greenways 2020. Houston Parks Board was responsible for raising an additional \$120 million and is managing acquisition, design, and construction of the Bayou Greenways.

For photos of Bayou Greenways 2020, please click [here](#). Photo credit: **Anthony Rathbun, Courtesy of Houston Parks Board**

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A nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to providing access to quality parks and greenspace in the Greater Houston region, **Houston Parks Board** creates, improves, protects, and advocates for parks for everyone. Since 1976, the organization has utilized public-private partnerships and its extensive philanthropic, government and community relationships to improve parks large and small. Houston Parks Board is currently leading the transformational \$220 million Bayou Greenways 2020 project to complete a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails along Houston's major waterways. For more information, visit www.houstonparksboard.org.

Bayou Greenways 2020 is one of the most ambitious parks projects in the U.S. By transforming more than 3,000 acres of underutilized land along Houston's major waterways into linear parks, Bayou Greenways 2020 will complete a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails. The \$220 million project will connect people, places, and greenspace while enhancing air and water quality, preserving flood-prone areas and stimulating economic development in Houston. Public investment was matched by significant private contributions including an extraordinary lead gift of \$50 million in 2013 from the Kinder Foundation.

The **Houston Parks and Recreation Department** (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,851 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.