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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Pedestrian/Bike Bridge Coming to Brays Bayou Greenway *Construction to begin on “University Connections” Bridge*

HOUSTON, TX – January 18, 2017 – Construction will soon begin on a new pedestrian/bike bridge across Brays Bayou as an extension of the Brays Bayou Greenway hike-and-bike trails. The new bridge will connect the University of Houston across Brays Bayou to MacGregor Park.

The pedestrian bridge will run parallel to Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and the METRO Rail Purple Line. Construction of the pedestrian/bike bridge is funded through a Texas Department of Transportation grant matched with City of Houston bond dollars. Construction is expected to be complete fall 2017.

Brays Bayou Greenway is just one of nine bayous being transformed through Bayou Greenways 2020, one of the most ambitious parks projects in the U.S. Bayou Greenways 2020 will transform more than 3,000 acres of underutilized land along Houston’s major waterways and create a 150-mile network of parks and trails.

Houston Parks Board, a nonprofit 501(c)(3), is leading the \$220 million project that will connect people, places and greenspace while enhancing air and water quality, preserving flood-prone areas and stimulating economic development in Houston. Bayou Greenways 2020 is a public-private partnership between the nonprofit Houston Parks Board, the City of Houston and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. The project is being 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.

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A nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to providing access to quality parks and greenspace for all people, **Houston Parks Board** creates, improves, protects and advocates for parkland in the Greater Houston region. 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 create 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 public, accessible greenspace, Bayou Greenways 2020 will create a 150-mile network of connected parks and trails. 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 is raising a matching \$120 million and managing acquisition, design and construction of the Bayou Greenways.