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PRESS RELEASE Updated on 5/27/2020

Houston Parks Board Begins Bank Restoration Project Along Buffalo Bayou Bank stabilization project to return slope to pre-Harvey location

HOUSTON, TX – April 30, 2020 – Houston Parks Board has begun a bank restoration process along a 620 linear foot area on the northern bank of Buffalo Bayou that was damaged by Hurricane Harvey and subsequent flood events. The repairs will occur directly behind The Left Bank of River Oaks Apartments, located on Memorial Drive just west of Shepherd Drive on land owned by the Houston Parks Board.

The \$2.6 million bank stabilization project is funded by Houston Parks Board for the purpose of restoring this stretch of the bank of Buffalo Bayou to its "pre-Harvey" location. During Hurricane Harvey, a sizable piece of land was washed away, and severe erosion occurred. During construction, Houston Parks Board will stabilize the slope using rip-rap and steel reinforcement. The bank stabilization project will protect the land from future erosion. Construction is expected to last nine to 12 months.

Recreating the slope's pre-Harvey location preserves the potential for a future Bayou Greenways 2020 trail that could extend from Shepherd Drive to Wescott Drive and avoid most of the commercial development along Memorial Drive. However, at this time, Houston Parks Board is not constructing a greenway or hike-and-bike trail. Instead, once complete, the bank will be stable and planted to match the adjacent landscape.

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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.



Buffalo Bayou Greenway

Segment BUO6: Slope Repairs @ Left Bank Apartments

