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NEWS RELEASE

***Houston Parks Board elects four new board members:
Margaret Warren Brown, Jacqueline S. Martin, Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz, and Nina O’Leary Zilkha***

HOUSTON, TX – January 7, 2019 – Houston Parks Board today announced four new members to its board of directors: **Margaret Warren Brown, Jacqueline S. Martin, Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz, and Nina O’Leary Zilkha**, who returns to the board after a previous 12-year tenure. The newly-elected board members will support the non-profit organization with its strategic planning, annual operations, and its most transformative parks project to date, Bayou Greenways 2020.

“It is my pleasure to welcome Maggie, Jackie, Juan, and Nina to our board,” said Beth White, President and CEO of Houston Parks Board. “Each has such a proven commitment to our city and a passion for improving the quality of life for all Houstonians. We are certain to benefit from their expertise, new ideas, and fresh perspectives.”

Margaret (Maggie) Brown spent 23 years at Baker Botts LLP practicing estate planning and probate law before becoming Senior Legal Counsel for Northern Trust. Brown recently completed nine years of service as a board member for the Memorial Park Conservancy where she was an active member of the Project and Governance Committees.

Jacqueline (Jackie) Martin is principal of J S Martin Associates, LP. Martin has devoted over 40 years to serving the community professionally and personally, particularly in the human services fields, including as president of United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast and in other top-level leadership roles at the San Jacinto Girl Scout Council, Neighborhood Centers Inc. (NCI), and the Houston-Galveston Area Council. She currently serves on the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) #27 Board of Directors and the Discovery Green Corporate Board.

Dr. Juan Sánchez Muñoz currently serves as the President of the University of Houston Downtown (UHD). Prior to UHD, Dr. Muñoz served as Senior Vice President and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education & Student Affairs at Texas Tech University. In addition, Dr. Muñoz serves on the board of directors for several organizations focused on enhancing Houston’s economic and cultural landscapes.

Nina O’Leary Zilkha is a civic leader in Houston and long-time supporter of Houston Parks Board. She currently serves as chair of the Cullen Trust for Performing Arts; as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and as a board member of the Houston Parks Board LGC. This will be Zilkha’s second term on the manager board of the Houston Parks Board, where she also serves as co-chair of the Bayou Greenways 2020 Capital Campaign.

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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.