Let’s Get Closer to Houston’s Future.

You are critical to the change we are helping create for all Houstonians. Thank you for your commitment—your heart and your drive—as we work together to create transformative, systemic change for our communities.

Get active, meet people, and share your #ParksByYou story at houstonparksboard.org/stories.

We saved you a seat.
LET'S GET CLOSER
A Rich History and an Ambitious Future

Fostering collaboration has been the fabric of Houston Parks Board’s work for 43 years. Together with our primary partners, the City of Houston through its Houston Parks and Recreation Department, and Harris County through the Harris County Flood Control District, we work hand in hand with our fellow park leaders, elected leaders, philanthropists, and neighbors throughout the city to build, strengthen, and uplift our green infrastructure.

This year Houston Parks Board welcomed Mayor Sylvester Turner’s challenge to work in collaboration with Greater Houston Partnership and Houston Parks and Recreation Department on 50/50 Park Partners, an initiative that will revitalize our neighborhood parks through the sustainable support of private corporations. Based on three founding principles; Equity, Engagement, and Sustainable Impact, 50/50 Park Partners provides an opportunity to reinvigorate under-resourced neighborhood parks on a citywide scale.

Your investment in Houston Parks Board is a pillar of the broader vision for Houston: a diverse, connected, welcoming, economically thriving, and healthy city.

Recently we launched our #ParksByYou stories, a new storytelling initiative about why parks matter to all of us. By building momentum around the experiences of our diverse communities, we aim to inspire Houstonians to take critical action towards making parks their own. Together, we are bringing the Houston region and its richly diverse communities together in public spaces like never before.

At the end of next year, Bayou Greenways 2020 will connect 150 miles of trails and 3,000 acres of green space. Featured in publications such as Forbes and National Geographic, among others, this is one of the most ambitious park development and infrastructure re-use projects anywhere. From Houston’s first ever citywide Art Bike Parade in the spring to our inaugural gala in the fall, we hope you will join us in celebrating and participating in this remarkable accomplishment throughout the year for our great city.

Forging ahead, our Beyond the Bayous framework continues our collaboration with our partners to improve green space equity and connectivity between parks, homes and jobs; increase public access to parks; and enhance the environmental health of communities. By fostering collaboration, reinvesting in existing parks, and identifying opportunities to expand our regional park network, Beyond the Bayous provides a pathway toward a park-centered future for Greater Houston.

Only with your continued support can we complete Bayou Greenways 2020 and advance the broad-reaching impact of Beyond the Bayous and 50/50 Park Partners, for the people of our city and region. Thank you for helping us realize the vision of thriving parks and communities for everyone.

Sincerely,

Beth White
President and CEO

Baron F. Wallace
Chairman of the Board
A Campaign Inspiring Houstonians to Connect Through Parks

Let’s Get Closer To Our Parks, Our Trails, and What Matters Most.

In 2012, #ParksByYou started something big. It was a moment of commitment to the powerful idea that our bayous are a part of our story. As we get closer to reaching this goal, we are launching a new marketing campaign that will mobilize citywide excitement for Bayou Greenways 2020 and beyond. “Let’s Get Closer” will further the foundational work of #ParksByYou by inspiring not just personal responsibility for our parks, but also a sense of togetherness. We aim to reach more people in person and online to inspire action and encourage all Houstonians to make parks and trails their own.

We’re honoring the cultural diversity of our communities through this bright, playful campaign that highlights the experiences of individuals who have created change all over Houston.

Our Goals

- Increase awareness of parks and public space.
- Increase connections between Houstonians and nature.
- Activate a network of engaged park users who take ownership of the spaces they use.
- Provide a framework for sharing personal experiences.
- Unite city leaders around a shared vision.

LET’S GET CLOSER

To each other. To friends, family, neighbors, and community.

To what’s right in our backyard.

To our goal of being the #1 city in parks and green space with equitable access for all.

TO WHAT MATTERS.
Charles wanted to be sure that Bayou Greenways 2020 would benefit his community instead of pushing them back. He knew that it would take an engaged and driven team of individuals to see this through, and we knew we had to deliver.

“When I first heard about Houston Parks Board’s plan to create miles of continuous bayou pathways, my first thought was, ‘How will that impact my community, and will my community get their share of those dollars and trails?’

“Our community has gotten the sense that this is a project that is inclusive of everyone.”

They said what they were gonna do, they did it, they delivered it, and it was as good as they said it was going to be. There were places where trails were put years ago that were in disrepair, and they put maintenance on it to make sure that six months later there wouldn’t be overgrown weeds and a trail no one will use again. We’ve seen a big difference since the trails were put in. My grandkids are 7 and 9. These trails are clean, safe, and wide—there’s so much space for them to ride around in.”

Sue began walking with the Sassy Silver Steppers to promote an active and healthy style, but along the way created a sisterhood on the trails of her neighborhood park.

“We’re like the Golden Girls sometimes. Walking in the park has really opened up a whole world for all us.

“We’ve made so many friends along the way that if we have to skip a day, people say, ‘Where have y’all been? We miss you!’”

One day when we were walking, we discovered a community garden maintained by the City of Houston and Furr High School. They needed volunteers, so we adopted 3 plant beds. We’ve gotten to know the instructors and the students. It’s been a joy to grow vegetables and share a fresh harvest with the community.”

Love from the Community

We’re grateful for partners and supporters who champion our message digitally.

Anthony Rathbun Photography: Photography AND cycling! Two things I get to enjoy while on the White Oak bayou trail... #parksbyyou

yk_lifeinpixels: Enjoying the Outdoors #parksbyyou

@CONsoREngineers: We are working with the @housparksboard and numerous other stakeholders to connect two of west Houston’s most-utilized parks. If you want to show your support for this important pedestrian and bicycle connection, please complete the survey. #ParksByYou

“In the next 18 months, we’ll have trails here. I couldn’t be more excited. Somehow we went from nothing to all of this.”

Read more from Barbara’s #ParksByYou story at houstonparksboard.org/stories.
Brays Bayou Greenway

Welcoming a New Houston

Celebrating Individuals and Communities with Bayou Greenways 2020

We are at the forefront of a significant change for all Houstonians. With the completion of Bayou Greenways 2020, Houston Parks Board will deliver a year-long celebration of Houston’s newly connected parks, trails, and green spaces.

We recognize the work and heart of our supporters, notably the Kinder Foundation, who have built public-private investment around this ambitious project for over a decade. We are starting to see all of our commitments come together to create a connected park and trail system that unites communities. As a diverse city with an entrepreneurial soul, we have a unique opportunity to ensure all people have access to a high quality of life—and we’re making it happen on a grand scale with Bayou Greenways 2020.

We are working to bring communities together. We’ve mobilized individuals and organizations all along Houston’s greenways, creating inclusive access points for people to engage with our parks and trails. In this new era, anyone can propose an activity and get involved—from recycling to planting, from getting active to creating spaces for people to gather. We’re launching a milestone year of large-scale celebrations and localized pop-ups all over the city. Infrastructure is just the start. In 2020, Houston will be alive with activity—kite-flying, bike-riding, community picnics, walking, running, commuting by trail, and more.
Houston's Inaugural Art Bike Parade

We are proud to announce Houston's first-ever Art Bike Parade, held in partnership with the Orange Show Center for Visionary Art (OSCVA) on May 9, 2020.

This day-long arts and culture festival will bring together community members and youth programs from across the city as we discover everything our Bayou Greenways have to offer. We are connecting people with the Bayou Greenways, building awareness around what's new and what's on the way. We're uniting neighborhoods around an active and healthy quality of life for all.

Everyone will have a chance to participate as we celebrate diversity through artistic interpretations of how the outdoors connect us—embracing our health, our environment, our families, our friends, our neighborhoods, and our civic pride.

Bookmark HoustonParksBoard.org/events to be notified of event registration and information.

Transforming the City We Love Through New Volunteer Opportunities

Houston Parks Board is cultivating a citywide volunteer program that is empowering individuals to care for our greenways and parks. We're creating 'living places' across our diverse city—because safe, beautiful, and accessible parks are at the heart of every community.

#ParksByYou volunteers can share their vision for how they would like to get involved and for how long—choosing from ambassador-led activations, park stewardship projects, traditional roles at events or in the office, or any other informal opportunity. When we take small actions together, we make a bigger impact than we ever thought possible.

50/50 Park Partners: Improving Houston's Neighborhoods

Thanks to the support of public-private partnerships, Houston's national reputation as a leader in cultivating green spaces for diverse neighborhoods has grown.

We look forward to continuing to transform our city's scope of outreach by taking a principal role in Mayor Sylvester Turner's challenge, 50/50 Park Partners—an initiative that will revitalize our neighborhood parks through the support of corporations. "Green space is vitally important. You cannot have a complete city without having the green space and the parks that go right along with it," says Mayor Sylvester Turner.

We look forward to collaborating with Houston Parks and Recreation Department and Greater Houston Partnership to move this initiative forward. Now 50 companies can partner with 50 parks and their communities to ensure that our parks and trails are spaces where all people in Houston can access a high quality of life.

Founding Principles of 50/50 Park Partners:

- Park Equity
  Neighborhood parks are equitably selected and improved based on need and citywide distribution.

- Community Engagement
  Improvements, projects, and volunteer support are responsive to the community and focus on existing parks.

- Long-term Sustainable Impact
  The 50/50 Park Partners initiative provides a multi-year investment, starting a long-term partnership between businesses, neighborhood parks, and the community.

To join the citywide 50/50 Park Partners, sign up at HoustonParksBoard.org.
Creating Equitable Access for Future Generations

After 2020—Planning a Better Tomorrow

We’ve accomplished so much already, but our work creating equitable access to parks and trails for millions of people in Houston is just beginning. Beyond the Bayous and 50/50 Park Partners will energize our efforts, bringing green spaces to historically underserved communities throughout the city, and bringing jobs, opportunities, and a healthy lifestyle to all.

Beyond the Bayous

Beyond the Bayous is the shared vision of Houston Parks Board and its cross-sector partners to expand Greater Houston’s public realm—improving green space equity and connectivity between parks, homes, and jobs; increasing public access to parks; and enhancing the environmental health of communities. By fostering collaboration, reinvesting in existing parks, and identifying opportunities which allow for the expansion of the regional park network, parks and greenways will weave throughout Houston’s urban fabric, creating a tapestry of vibrant, connected communities. The initiative is the result of a 2017 study generously funded by Houston Endowment.
New Parks and Trails for Our City
Celebrating Greenways and Hike-and-Bike Trails

JULY 24, 2018
Hunting Bayou Greenway Ribbon Cutting Event
We celebrated the culmination of a greenway from Falls Street to Mickey Leland Memorial Park, which features pocket parks along the greenway, purchased by Houston Parks Board.

AUG. 11, 2018
Smitty’s Day at the Park
A partnership with the Wade Smith Foundation to provide an interactive music, arts, literacy, and sports camp.

SEPT. 22, 2018
Mason Park Bridge 5K
A celebration of the completion of the iconic Mason Park pedestrian bridge.

NOV. 2, 2018
Woodland Park’s Firefly Field
Sculpture Unveiling
A sculpture that transforms the park into a glowing spectacle inspired by artist Dylan Conner’s own experiences in the park as a child.

NOV. 10, 2018
Mason Park Pedestrian Bridge Ribbon Cutting Event
A celebration of the official opening of the Mason Park pedestrian bridge, over 500 feet long and eight stories tall.

JAN. 2019
Sims Bayou Greenway Construction Kicks Off
Construction began by US Army Corps of Engineers to create a connection into Robert C. Stuart Park from the east side of Reveille Street. Houston Parks Board acquired the park from the Stuart Family and transferred it to Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD).

MAR. 28, 2019
Greens Bayou Greenway Ribbon Cutting Event
The official opening of Greens Bayou Greenway segment from Greens Parkway to east of I-45. It includes two new hike-and-bike bridges and extensive landscaping plans featuring solar-light beacons.

APR. 6, 2019
Bayou Greenway Day
Read more on page 18.

MAY 16, 2019
Sims Bayou Greenway Mural Unveiling Event
We celebrated the first mural along the Bayou Greenways.

MAY 2019
Lower Greens Bayou Construction Completed
A new segment of Greens Bayou Greenway now connects Maxey Park to Strickland Park, featuring a kayak launch at Strickland Park.

MAY 16, 2019
Sims Bayou Greenway Ribbon Cutting Event
Our first Beyond the Bayous connection, a new greenway connects Heatherbrook to Buffalo Speedway and includes a new trail along a CenterPoint Energy easement from Sims Bayou to W. Airport Blvd.

MAY 16, 2019
Sims Bayou Greenway Construction Completed
The latest segment of Hunting Bayou Greenway connects Falls Street to Mickey Leland Memorial Park.

MAY 2019
Sims Bayou Greenway Construction Completed
Running from Old Galveston Road to Milby Park, the greenway continues to extend from Old Galveston Road, with an allée of Live Oaks due to a generous donation from Connie and Roger Plank to Houston Parks Board, to just east of I-45 near the Houston Botanic Garden.
Our 2019 Impact

Connecting Neighborhoods Through Outreach
Houston Parks Board reached over 9,900 individuals in our communities in FY2019.

- 567 through 50 outreach meetings with community members, key stakeholders, elected officials, and other interest groups
- 7,180 through Houston Parks Board events
- 2,153 through partner events, community events, conferences, and panels

Key Initiatives
1. Mayor Turner’s Complete Communities Initiative
2. 50/50 Park Partners
3. Commissioner Ellis’ Precinct One Park Smart Plan
4. Harris County Flood Control District’s Bond Program

Celebrating the Moments That Matter

- 48,714 website users
- 14,625 followers on social media
- 313 Twitter mentions
- 146 #BayouGreenways mentions on Instagram

“We saw a grander vision—and it takes a community to create that change.”
Read more from Ezenachi and Tianca’s #ParksByYou story at houstonparksboard.org/stories.

Working Together to Connect People and Communities

Thank You to Our Long-time Supporters
Our important work couldn’t happen without the generosity and vision of those that have dedicated their lives to transforming Houston. We acknowledge their powerful contribution and honor their impact.

The Elkins Family
In 1979, Margaret Weiss Elkins, a founding board member of Houston Parks Board, deeded nearly 500 acres to the City of Houston to create Keith-Wiess Park, memorializing her parents, Harry Carothers Wiess and Olga Keith Wiess. Margaret is known for her generous support of Houston institutions such as Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine and the Museum of Fine Arts, among others. The family tradition continued through the late Jim Elkins, our Chairman for four years and member of the Board of Directors for fourteen years, and Leslie Elkins Sasser, current board member. Now, we thank the Elkins family again, and can’t thank them enough, for their transformative gift to Bayou Greenways 2020.

Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
$800,000 grant
Houston Parks Board was selected as 1 of 10 Houston organizations to receive this momentous, five-year grant from the Hogg Foundation through the Communities of Care initiative. The project is to partner with Nature & Eclectic Outdoors to improve park access and equity in the Complete Communities of Third Ward and Acres Homes, as well as MacGregor Park, with the goal of improving youth well-being—reducing stress and mental health risks for youth and their families through their experiences with parks. Working together with community partners such as Houston and Harris County Public Libraries, Houston Police Department’s Differential Response Team (DRT), schools, after-school programs, Mental Health America, Harris Health, and more, Houston Parks Board aims to expand opportunities for outdoor experiences in parks and beyond, addressing health and park access inequities and creating awareness around the health benefits for neighborhoods in need of critical support.

Memorial Hermann Match Challenge
$15,000 match
In June, Memorial Hermann invited us to a challenge—raise $15,000 that month and they would match it. We have raised $110,055 over the last three years from this generous opportunity. Thanks to you and this extraordinary support from our partner in health, we’re able to move forward with our mission.

“I’m more aware of how powerful it is to be in contact with nature. I’m more aware of who I really am in this world.”
Read more from Maria’s #ParksByYou story at houstonparksboard.org/stories.
Bayou Greenway Day

A Success Because of the Community

Our fifth annual Bayou Greenway Day was met with record attendance, with 6,000 Houstonians of all ages attending this free festival at Mason Park along Bayou Greenways with more partners than ever joining in, we reached communities and a dozen others.

Bayou Greenway Day 2018 was a project of Houston Parks Board in collaboration with the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. This event was presented by Noble Energy, media sponsors included KPFT Channel 2, Telemundo, and La Subasta Newspaper.

Thank You, 2019 Donors

Your contribution helped us create, improve, protect, and advocate for parks for everyone.

Houston Parks Board Major Initiatives

Bayou Greenways 2020 Campaign

Kinder Foundation
$10,000,000 – $19,999,999

Norfolk Southern Foundation
$5,000,000 – $9,999,999

Browne Foundation
$1,000,000 – $4,999,999

Starr Foundation
$1,000,000 – $3,999,999

AT&T Family Foundation

AT&T Family Investments Ltd

Partnership and others

Bayou Sustainability

Garden Club of Houston

Kari and Steve Gillson

George and Mary, Joniessie

Hamam Foundation

Jared and Dana Hamman Family

Foundation

The Kaiz Foundation, Inc.

Hill and Seth Darrah

Jewett

Illinois State Lottery

Jill and David Harney

Lancro and Reid Morris

Refco Foundation

Sterling-Turner Foundation

Phoebe and Bobby Tudor

Vince & Doria

VFD Foundation

$50,000 – $99,999

Ellie and Ray Camberg

Cullen Foundation

Haller Gosselin

Herman H. Huebner, Jr. and Patricia W.

Huebner Foundation

Houston Chronicle

Houston Healthcare Foundation

Houston Endowment

Houston Parks Board Community Foundation

Julie and Andrew Price

RHM Special Contributions

Fund of the Process Area

Community Foundation

Leslie and Sharon Stacker, in

honor of Laura and Tim Bacon

P.E. Smith Foundation

Funds

$1,000,000 – $4,999,999

Rosalie Antoniak

Antes Enterprises Inc.

Sheryl A. Blalock

Gary and Chuck Grattan

Clark-Gordon Associates Inc.

Cassidy & Company

Joanne Crull

Amy Duke

Diane Ex dolor

Tanner Line

Susan Gilmore

Dexter D. St. James, Jr.

Noel St. John

Robert St. John

Shawna St. John

Stuart St. John

Sue St. John

Jared Vasquez

The William Stamps Farish Fund

The Duncan Fund

Susie and Joe Dilg

The Duncan Fund

Fruit Mart, L.L.C. and JMD Real

Fruit Importers

The William Steeves Farm Fund

Cindy and David Fish

Mark Cavenagh

Erica de la Garza

Takita Dobbs

Claudia Fehlendt and Clyde Donald

Mason, Jr.

Pamela Ferguson

John Fisher

Nancy L. Gigford

Elizabeth Goedner

Theodore Harris

Michael Hanlich

Wendy and Jeff Hager, in honor of

Andy and Elaine Han

Laura H hearingsworth

Beck Howell

Brett Kao

Liza Kostrelitz

Megan Kalwell

Rebecca M. Knack

Emily Lakty

Jonathan M. Latella

Pamela Leron

Alex Martinez

Jenner Mansour

James E. McDonnell

John McLaughlin

Dr. Christopher MM

Jewel Gabo Mompoo

Stephen C. Neterberry

Tara Nguyen

Bruce Nichols

Phillip and John Olin

Mano Pinto, in honor of Clayton

Pritt

Susan Rosenbaum

Thomas S. Roper

Anita Silverthorne; in honor of Kira

Shubbaner

Thomas Smith, in honor of Morgan

Snow

Brid Sneed

John Smith, Jr.

Wanda Tuan

Tiffiny and Alana Till

Tri Delta Houston Alumnae Chapter

Brian Streit

Baron and Lisa Wallace, in

memory of Henry David

Judy Wallace, in honor of Anne

Wallace, in honor of Anne

Marcus Walz

David A. Wissmer

Vince Yancey, LLC

Beyond the Bayous

$1,000,000 – $4,999,999

Houston Endowment Inc.

$10,000 – $24,999

Marie and David Babich

Activation Programs

$25,000 – $49,999

HFF Hag Foundation for Mental Health

$10,000 – $24,999

Hag Foundation

$500,000 – $999,999

Noble Energy

$50,000 – $99,999

McNair Foundation

$10,000 – $24,999

Kinder Foundation

$500 – $999

Browne Foundation

$25,000 – $49,999

Kinder Foundation

$1,000 – $2,499

Kinder Foundation

$500 – $999

Browne Foundation

$5,000 – $9,999

Brown Foundation

$25,000 – $49,999

Kinder Foundation
## Statement of Financial Position

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<th>Net Assets</th>
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<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
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### Statement of Activities

#### OPERATING REVENUE

**Contributions, grants & special events** $17,668,405

**Bayou Greenways conservation & maintenance** $9,726,490

**Investment income** $1,394,617

**Project management income** $847,520

**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE** $29,137,032

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

**Program services: Bayou Greenways 2020** $11,374,555

**Bayou Greenways conservation & maintenance** $6,524,935

**Park improvements & city programs** $1,681,010

**Administration & fundraising** $995,492

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** $20,575,892

**Endowment, net return** $286,482

**CHANGES IN NET ASSETS** $8,847,642

*For Fiscal Year 2019. The period covered by this report.
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.*

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- **Barron F. Wallace**, Chairman
- **Thomas G. Bacon**, Immediate Past Chair
- **Jill Jewett**, Vice Chair
- **Roxanne T. Almaraz**
- **Dina Alswayet**
- **Don Stephen Aron**
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- **David D. Fitch**
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- **Karen Garcia**
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- **Dan Woo**
- **Nina O'Leary Zilkha**
- **Jane B. Block**
- **Brady F. Carruth**
- **John T. Cater**
- **the late Ernest Deal**
- **Mrs. Bob Lanier**
- **Mrs. Meredith J. Long**
- **Jerald D. Mize**
- **Dan T. Neale**
- **Edith Personette**
- **Nancy T. Reynolds**
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- **Kelly Northcraft**
- **Deborah Rule**
- **Candace Skinner**
- **D.K. Washington**
- **Evelyn White-Spears**
- **Linda Zhou**
- **Emeritus Board**

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**M. S. “Miki” Stude**

**H. Michael Tyson**

**V. H. “Pete” Van Horn**

**W. M. “Bill” Whelos, III**

**David S. Wolff**

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  - Bayou Greenways Project Manager

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