



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Houston Parks and Recreation Department Awarded \$5,000 "Tennis in the Parks" Grant

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department's Memorial Park Tennis Center received a face-lift thanks to a \$5,000 "Tennis in the Parks" grant from the National Recreation and Parks Association and the United States Tennis Association – Texas Section. The grant was used to complete a collaborative project between the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, the Houston Tennis Association, and CL Sports.

"We couldn't be happier to have our courts at Memorial resurfaced. This project was extremely important and we appreciate the support we've received from the National Recreation and Parks Association and the United States Tennis Association, the Houston Tennis Association and CL Sports," said Joe Turner, Director of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "Organizations like these allow us to bring better service to our citizens."

In 2005, Memorial Park Tennis Center hosted over 40,000 players through leagues, tournaments, and recreational play. Over the years, it has shaped the lives of many of our community's tennis leaders. Today, it continues this trend by providing a venue for tomorrow's top tennis players as well.

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“New players of all ages are picking up tennis racquets for the first time and playing at public tennis centers,” notes Emily Schaefer, Tennis Program Manager at the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. “The Memorial Park Tennis Center is a focal point for so much of this activity, so this resurfacing comes at a great time for us.”

The Tennis in the Parks initiative is a partnership between the National Recreation and Parks Association and the United States Tennis Association designed to enhance tennis programming and facilities through parks and recreation. The Houston Tennis Association is a non-profit (501(c)(3)) organization that conducts area tennis leagues, tournaments and recreational programs. CL Sports was responsible for completing the actual court resurfacing.

For additional information on the **Memorial Park Tennis Center, the Tennis in the Parks Grant** or on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, please call 713-845-1135 or visit our website at www.houstonparks.org.