



Press Release

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Light's On at Milby Park - Thanks To \$50,000 U.S. Soccer Foundation Grant

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Soccer Foundation to help fund the lighting of a soccer field at Milby Park. The new lights will help expand the playing time for the field and increase sports opportunities for the community.

"We thank the U.S. Soccer Foundation for this grant," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "The Soccer for Success Program has been a great asset for our youth across the city. The new lights will bring Milby's Soccer for Success Program up to the next level, giving the community their first lighted soccer field at Milby Park."

On a weekday basis, Milby Park's Soccer For Success program hosts more than 400 children and youth participants. Council Member James Rodriguez, District I, has been an avid supporter of youth soccer.

"Youth sports programs are vital to our community. They provide positive options for our future leaders. I have worked tirelessly in collaboration with Director Turner and District I leaders to ensure that we continue to provide the necessary tools to sustain our youth recreational programs. I want to express my sincerest thanks to the U.S. Soccer Foundation for their generous donation of \$50,000 for lighting at Milby Park."

The \$50,000 grant to H.P.A.R.D. is one of 48 grants from the U.S. Soccer Foundation totaling \$4.8 million. The Foundation, the major charitable arm of soccer in the United States, strives to improve the well-being of children by awarding grants to non-profit organizations that provide the opportunity for children to play soccer and live a healthy lifestyle. In total, the organizations receiving the funds in these grants serve youth in 21

states and the District of Columbia. Support for the Foundation's grant program comes from its corporate sponsors, including Eurosport, FieldTurf, Hunter Industries, Musco Sports Lighting, PEVO Sports, and Sport Court.

Musco Lighting's energy-efficient Light Structure Green™ lighting system will be installed on one field in Milby Park. This system features state-of-the-art technology that offers 50% savings in operating costs through reduced energy consumption and an automated control and monitoring system, 50% less spill and glare, protecting the environment; and 100% maintenance costs covered for 25 years (including lamp replacements) through a comprehensive warranty.

About the U.S. Soccer Foundation

The U.S. Soccer Foundation is a recognized leader in sports-based youth development programs for children in underserved, urban communities. Since its founding in 1994, the organization has provided more than \$59 million in funding to create and sustain innovative programs across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Proven to deliver positive health and social outcomes, the Foundation's affordable initiatives offer safe environments in which both boys and girls thrive. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the U.S. Soccer Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Visit www.ussoccerfoundation.org to learn more.

About the Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,832 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.