



Press Release

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Take METRO to Hermann Park During July 4th Holiday *HPARD advises visitors to ride METRO and avoid traffic problems*

Park officials expect Hermann Park to be a popular spot during the July 4th weekend, July 2 - 4. Traffic around the park is expected to be heavy from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. every day of the long weekend and especially on the evening of July 4. This year, expect additional challenges with lane closures on Cambridge Street and the scheduling of one of Miller Outdoor Theatre's most heavily attended shows on July 4th. Visitors are advised to plan for heavy traffic and be prepared to experience delays. They should also be aware that when parking lots become full, H.P.D. may close vehicular entry to the park.

Houston Zoo will be providing offsite parking with shuttle service during the weekend, 9:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m., so visitors should watch for direction signs outside the park. Information on offsite parking locations, fees, and shuttle hours can be found on the Houston Zoo website, <http://www.houstonzoo.org/plan-your-visit/hours-and-directions/>.

To avoid traffic problems, the Department advises visitors to ride METRO or METRORail to Hermann Park. Visitors can catch METRORail at the Fannin South Park and Ride lot located at 1604 West Bellfort or they can park downtown and catch METRORail at any of the downtown rail stations. Disembarking sites include: Hermann Park/Rice University Station, at Fannin and Sunset; Memorial Hermann Hospital/Houston Zoo, at Cambridge and Fannin; or the Museum District Station, between Ewing and Binz to access all of Hermann Park's amenities.

Park patrons are also advised:

- **Be aware that traffic will be heavy, delays are expected and vehicular traffic inside the park will be closed by H.P.D. when parking lots inside the park are full**
- **Be aware on this long weekend, H.P.D. officers will be enforcing special traffic patterns during peak periods that may vary through the day**
- **Be aware that it is no longer possible to turn left into Hermann Park off Fannin. Pay attention to the "No Left Turn" signs posted along the light rail track**
- **Check traffic conditions before visiting the park. Traffic information is available at www.houstontranstar.org.**

For more information on the METRORail system, including a map, schedule and fares, call METROLine at (713) 635-4000 or visit www.ridemetro.org.

About The Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,859 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.