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## MEDIA ALERT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 29, 2009

**CONTACT: Estella Espinosa**

Work: (713) 865-4537

Cell: (832) 465-4782

### **10 Million Dollar Memorial Park Capital Campaign Begins Phase I Construction**

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with the Memorial Park Conservancy, breaks ground on Phase I of a \$10,000,000 Capital Campaign for improvements to Memorial Park. The first phase will include the construction of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge designed to give park visitors access to the north and south sides of Memorial Drive without the need to cross at street level. A groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the bridge will be held on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Mayor Bill White will be joined by Mindy Hildebrand, Chair for the Memorial Park Capital Campaign and Joe Turner, Director Houston Parks and Recreation Department for the ceremony.

**WHO:** Mayor Bill White  
Mindy Hildebrand, Chair Memorial Park Capital Campaign  
Joe Turner, Houston Parks and Recreation Department

**WHAT:** Groundbreaking Ceremony

**WHEN:** Friday, January 30, 2009  
11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Memorial Park  
Memorial Drive & South Picnic Lane  
Houston, Texas 77007

**WHY:** The new pedestrian/bicycle bridge will improve safety and enjoyment for visitors to Memorial Park by connecting amenities on both sides of Memorial Drive, allowing joggers, walkers, and riders to cross the street without having to encounter automobile traffic.

For more information on the Memorial Park Conservancy or to contribute to the Memorial Park Capital Campaign, contact the Memorial Park Conservancy at (713) 863-8403 or visit [www.memorialparkconservancy.org](http://www.memorialparkconservancy.org).

For information on Memorial Park or the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (713) 865-4537 or visit our web site at [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).