



Memorial Park Conservancy
— 2023 Impact Report —

The
NATURE
of
INNOVATION



MEMORIAL
PARK
CONSERVANCY

MEMORIAL PARK CONSERVANCY

MISSION

The mission of Memorial Park Conservancy is to preserve, restore, and enhance Memorial Park for the enjoyment of all Houstonians, today and tomorrow.

CORE VALUES

- » *Visionary stewardship of all resources*
- » *Conservation of natural resources*
- » *Sustainability and resilience*
- » *Exemplary park management*



MEMORIAL PARK CONSERVANCY

by the *Numbers*

June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023



4,000,000

annual visitors



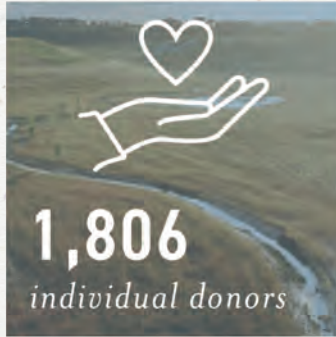
30 MILES
of trails



1,100 ACRES
*of urban wilderness
maintained and cared for*



1,806
individual donors



411
park members



59

corporate supporters



7,624

volunteer hours



2,736
individual volunteers



483 SPECIES
of plants and animals



25,000

*native plants grown
and planted*



3,500 cu.yds.
*of mulch produced
for healthy ecologies*



16 EVENTS
and programs hosted





LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends of Memorial Park,

Seven years ago, when I first joined the Memorial Park Conservancy Board, we were at the beginning phases of the Park's Master Plan. I knew it would be an exciting time to work with the Conservancy, but I could not have imagined how transformative these projects would be for Houston. With the completion of Clay Family Eastern Glades in 2020, and the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie in 2023, our two most ambitious projects are already open and benefitting Park users daily. There's a reason we call this our 2023 Impact Report.

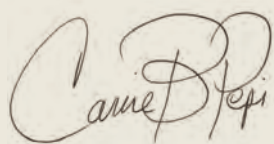
For decades, the Seymour Lieberman Trail (more familiarly known as the SLT) hugged Memorial Drive and forced trail users to pass through a gauntlet of traffic noise and fumes. Last June, with advance funding from Kinder Foundation, three new ravine-spanning bridges were installed that allow the trail to gently bend away from the traffic. Now, the SLT passes through the cooling shade of a wooded grove, and the quality of the experience for trail users is remarkably improved. Little fanfare, big impact.

Of course, the most impactful event of this past year was the opening of the anticipated Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie in February. This amazing project first captured the attention of Houstonians as an engineering marvel, with the tunnels creating altitude with attitude along Memorial Drive. Next, the prairie landscape was layered and sculpted, gradually emerging as a remarkable slice of native coastal grassland in the heart of the city. The beauty of this native landscape is immediately apparent and offers improved habitat for wildlife and increased resilience to droughts and floods.

Memorial Park Conservancy's mission is to preserve, restore, and enhance Memorial Park for all Houstonians. I believe this nationally acclaimed project is the perfect example of our mission in action. We continue to work with our partners at Kinder Foundation, Houston Parks & Recreation Department, and Uptown Houston on the remaining capital projects of our Ten-Year Plan. Our lead landscape architecture firm, Nelson Byrd Woltz, remains by our side as we tend projects already open and plan for the future. As our new projects mature, their care becomes the Conservancy's responsibility, and the costs to keep them at their best will only grow. This is where the impact of our friends and donors is so important.

The 2023 Park Ball in April drew nearly 500 guests for a beautiful evening in the Clay Family Eastern Glades, raising \$1.16 million for park operations. Ever generous and outgoing, Houstonians are embracing and supporting a 21st century vision for Memorial Park. As we prepare to celebrate the centennial of Memorial Park in 2024, I believe Miss Ima Hogg would approve.

In sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Carrie B. Pepi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carrie" being more prominent and the last name "Pepi" following in a similar style.

Carrie B. Pepi
Chair, Board of Directors

MASTER PLAN & TEN-YEAR PLAN UPDATE

The 2011 drought catalyzed what was to become a renewed future for Memorial Park. In close collaboration, Memorial Park Conservancy, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, and Uptown Houston developed a bold, visionary Master Plan for Memorial Park that included capital improvements, long-term conservation, and an operations and maintenance plan for the Park. Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects served as the lead designer for the Master Plan, which was informed by an extensive public engagement process.

Through the Ten-Year Plan, Memorial Park Conservancy has been able to accelerate design and construction of significant components of the Memorial Park Master Plan thanks to a \$70M catalyst gift from Kinder Foundation, which leveraged public funding through Uptown Houston, and with the generosity of other donors. Execution of the Ten-Year Plan is overseen by the Memorial Park Standards Committee, a partnership comprised of Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Memorial Park Conservancy, Kinder Foundation, and Uptown Houston.



Seymour Lieberman Trail Ravine Bridges

In September 2022, the Conservancy opened three Ravine Bridges to serve as connectors for a new section of the Seymour Lieberman Trail. This new section brings Park users through some of the most scenic and shaded areas of the 3-mile loop. These bridges are situated above three ravines that connect with Buffalo Bayou. This area, set amongst the trees, offers views of the Park's native riparian landscape, further knitting together Houston's unique and multifaceted landscape with the activities of Park users so everyone is able to enjoy Houston's urban wilderness.



Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie

February 2023 marked the grand opening of the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie. The Land Bridge includes two connections over Memorial Drive that reunite the north and south sides of the Park and symbolizes the triumph of "green over gray" as they erase a divide cut by Memorial Drive half a century ago. The prairie restoration funded by the Cyvia & Melvyn Wolff Foundation, which adjoins the Land Bridge, reintroduces endangered native Gulf Coast prairie and additional wetlands to areas north and south of Memorial Drive.

A new network of trails provides safe crossing for people and wildlife alike. Prairie Observation Destinations provide opportunities for Park users to take in the sights and sounds of the restored prairie. The Emily Clay Family Scramble brings us large, artfully arranged cement blocks made from upcycled sections of Memorial Drive, providing a fun way to climb the east mound and overlook vast areas of parkland that have been reclaimed and enhanced in recent redevelopment.

This project was built using approximately 500,000 cubic yards of soil from within the Park, saving over 60,000 truckloads from traveling through our freeway system. The area's nutrient deficient soils were enriched using compost generated from green material within Memorial Park. With the help of The Nature Conservancy, 10,000 seeds were grown and planted onsite creating a more resilient landscape in the face of increasing environmental impacts.

This project distinguishes not only Memorial Park, but also Houston on a national level as it demonstrates complex design, planning, and engineering. While revealing Houston's past, Memorial Park's Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie will help position our great city for its bright future.



MASTER PLAN & TEN-YEAR PLAN PREVIEW

The projects of the Memorial Park Master Plan and its accelerated Ten-Year Plan promote connectivity and resiliency, improve cultural and recreational amenities, and are underpinned by extensive ecological restoration.

Running Complex

The Running Complex is a major programmatic hub and access point on the western side of the Park. Nestled into the southwestern arm of the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melynn Wolff Prairie, trails will connect the Running Complex to the rest of the Park. With amenities including a café, a 400-meter timing track, viewing decks, an event plaza, gathering spaces, trails, and more, this will quickly become a central activity area for all types of Park users and serve as a new gateway to enjoy the southside of Memorial Park.

The Roy H. Cullen Timing Track will provide an exciting new experience for seasoned runners and casual walkers alike. Whether you are looking to work on your Personal Record, pick up a few tips from the many veteran runners at the viewing decks, enjoy a book and a bite to eat, or take a seat and marvel at the beautiful views, this area will fast become a parkgoer favorite.

In this space, Park visitors will also get to enjoy a fast-casual café complete with an outdoor patio that is sure to be a destination dining experience. In the Event Plaza, you will find an etching of Buffalo Bayou, which forms Memorial Park's south border. Beautiful salted concrete, border seat walls, and whispering shade trees form this jewel box event venue perfect for weddings, corporate events, or luncheons. Its proximity to the café makes it an inviting space for Movies in the Park, free yoga, or simply a place to work remotely in an unparalleled outdoor space.





Memorial Groves

Memorial Groves highlights the cultural history of Memorial Park by honoring those who served at Camp Logan, the history and events associated with the World War I training camp, and the archaeological and cultural remnants that remain in the Park today. The Park itself was named to commemorate Camp Logan and those who served, and it is a goal of the Master Plan to showcase this cultural touchstone and shared history.

In areas just east of the railroad tracks with the highest number of Camp Logan remnants, Memorial Groves will feature a series of spaces to honor the World War I soldiers who trained on-site as well as others who served at Camp Logan in support of the war efforts. This includes the 370th Infantry Regiment who was among the most decorated in WWI and the 24th Infantry Regiment whose unjust treatment resulted in the August 23, 1917 "Houston Mutiny and Riots" and their aftermath.

Access roads with parallel parking will be placed in roughly the same alignments as Camp Logan-era roads. Picnic spots and shaded areas will allow for small groups to congregate for moments of education and contemplation.





BIGGEST PICNIC IN TEXAS

On February 11, Memorial Park Conservancy, along with project partners the City of Houston, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Kinder Foundation, and Uptown Houston, welcomed more than 15,000 people to the grand opening of Memorial Park's transformational Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie project. The **Biggest Picnic in Texas**, presented by Kinder Foundation and Tellepsen, welcomed the community to experience this new 100-acre space at this family-friendly extravaganza!

The cold temperatures did not stop the crowd from coming in numbers. The first 1,000 guests were treated to picnic baskets donated by our friends at H-E-B and assembled by a team of dedicated volunteers from the Houston Food Bank. For those who didn't get a chance to snag a picnic basket, food trucks lined Picnic Loop serving a variety of dishes from sliders to pupusas.

Attendees had the chance to traverse the two 35-foot Kinder Land Bridge mounds that connect the north and south sides of Memorial Park's 1,500 acres and gives visitors a new vantage point of the Park itself. In this new 100 acre-space, attendees found themselves exploring the expansive project featuring Prairie Observation Destinations, trails and boardwalks, and the Emily Clay Family Scramble, a path made of upcycled parts of Memorial Drive that leads people to the top of the east mound to take in the dramatic views of the Uptown and Downtown skylines.



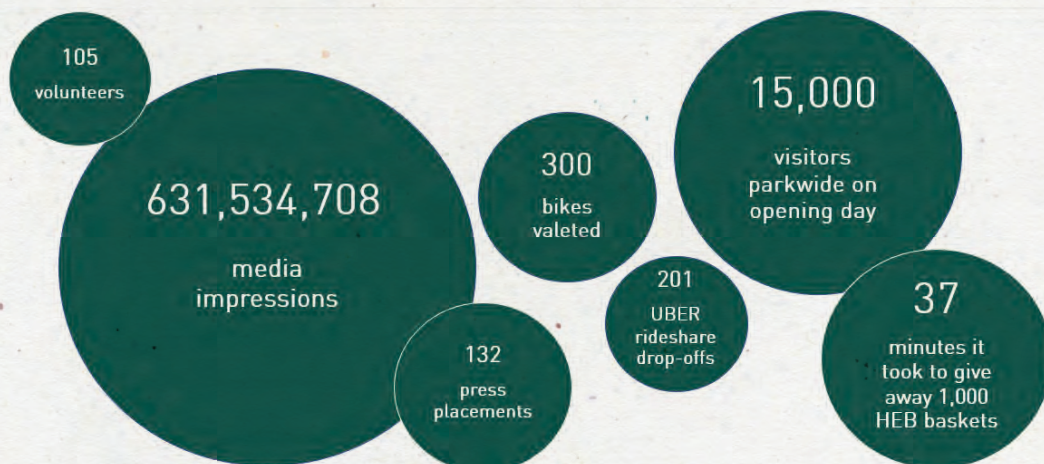
One of the highlights of the day was the Great Prairie Adventure, an interactive activity that gave guests the chance to become prairie explorers by visiting 13 fun and educational stations after which they collected stamps in a passport booklet to earn special prizes. The Conservancy's very own conservation experts along with friends from Wildlife Center of Texas, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, Houston Livestock and Rodeo, and The Nature Conservancy, along with others participated in this family-friendly adventure. Participants were taught about the complex food web that exists in a prairie getting up close and personal with a few of these natural hunters, the prairie landscape once home to native tribes, how to design a land bridge and prairie, and the power of plants. Some lucky participants even got to test their lassoing skills.

The fun did not stop there. Memorial Park was filled with music from Brian Jack and the Zydeco Gamblers, DJ London, The Slags, Mariachi Luna Llena, and Amin Safari, bringing a rich mixture of cultures and genres to the day. SPCA, Moonshot Compost, Houston Public Libraries, and Bike Houston also had a presence in Picnic Loop giving people the opportunity to learn about the many great organizations Houston has to offer.

With so many community partners and friends coming together to guarantee guests had an amazing day, the Biggest Picnic in Texas certainly was a day Houstonians won't soon forget.



BIGGEST PICNIC by the numbers



CONSERVATION

Memorial Park Conservancy prides itself on being a research-led and data-driven steward of Memorial Park. We strive to offer pertinent research results to the greater community and advance the science of urban park management, ecological restoration, and natural resource conservation. We are working towards a robust and resilient Memorial Park, reminiscent of the ecologies of the past—a majestic riparian forest gallery gently dispersing into savanna and prairie—restoring this unique urban wild for present day and future generations.



2023 Highlights Include:

- > Grasslands Division added 45 acres of grassland to their care and management
- > Forestry and Arboriculture Division added 85 acres of forest to their care and management
- > Developed a maintenance and care plan defined by Legacy and Heritage Trees
- > Completed two-year tree risk mitigation in Picnic Loop
- > Conservation Horticulture Division grew and installed 25,000 native plants
- > Greenhouse produced 3,500 Cu. Yds. of mulch and 200 Cu. Yds. of compost on site



PARK OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Memorial Park Conservancy operates and maintains 1,100 of the Park's 1,500 acres and aspires to implement principles of exceptional park management and stewardship. The Conservancy advances its mission through improving Park amenities, supporting forestry management initiatives, planting native tree varieties, maintaining natural and surfaced trails, and caring for landscaped areas within the Park.



2023 Highlights Include:

- Took on the care and maintenance of two new major projects including the SLT Ravine Bridges and the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie
- Focused on operational process improvements including procedure implementation, development of satellite workstations, growing efficiencies in workflow, and organization of space, tools, and equipment
- Facilitated safety program and CPR training for staff
- Continued to enhance and maintain Picnic Loop amenities and facilities



VOLUNTEER OPERATIONS

Over the course of our 2023 Fiscal Year, volunteer operations were primarily centered around various conservation projects spanning all areas of the Park, as well as the momentous opening of the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie.

We successfully hosted 70 corporate events, with 53% of these corporate groups returning as volunteers who generously contributed their time on more than one occasion throughout the fiscal year. Additionally, 22% of these groups demonstrated their dedication by becoming or continuing to be valued donors or corporate partners of Memorial Park Conservancy.

Volunteer operations facilitated 53 group events, including collaborations with schools, alumni associations, and clubs. Additionally, we coordinated and supported 215 individual shifts from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023.

The cumulative efforts of our corporate partners, group events, and individual volunteers resulted in impressive accomplishments within the Park, including the removal of 727 cubic yards of biomass, the spread of 317 cubic yards of mulch, the planting of 32,000 seeds, and the establishment of 10,000 new plants within the Park's ecosystem.

Overall volunteer involvement experienced exponential growth during the fiscal year with an 84% increase in total volunteer hours and a remarkable 95% surge in the overall number of volunteers growing from 1,405 to 2,736. Volunteers to the Conservancy collectively dedicated a total of 7,624 hours across 365 shifts. The value of volunteer labor is further underscored by the fact that their efforts saved an estimated \$190,594 in labor costs.



Sempra Shows Their Support!

As one of our dedicated Corporate Partners, Sempra Infrastructure continues to give back to Memorial Park. Sempra has made it a priority to improve our environment's sustainability in both urban and natural ecosystems. This past Spring, it hosted its annual family volunteer day at Memorial Park. Volunteers spent the morning working in the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie. Thanks to 45 dedicated volunteers, 740 native plants were planted and 240 stakes were removed from trees that no longer needed the extra stability as they continue to grow. We are grateful to the Sempra team for being gracious stewards of the Park and investing time to help support the critical day-to-day operations of Memorial Park Conservancy.



CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT



At Memorial Park Conservancy, we are lucky to count Chevron as a dedicated partner whose commitment to sustainability in Houston and around the world has never been stronger. Chevron strives to protect the environment, empower people, and get results the right way and have become not just a partner for the Conservancy but a key driving force behind championing our mission.

Chevron focuses its investments on community needs, while also meeting the objectives of its business. It partners with numerous local nonprofit organizations to build programs that help underserved Houstonians reach their full potential and contribute to the economic growth of the region. In Houston, Chevron supports innovative community programs focused on education, food and housing security, and the environment. This year alone, Chevron is investing nearly \$10M to support the Houston community and we are thankful to be one of their partners.

As our official **Greenhouse Grow-Out Sponsor**, Chevron's support is helping us clean and plant native seeds, cultivate and purchase hard-to-source plants that make the Park's landscapes and ecosystems more resilient, and make much needed improvements to our greenhouse. The Greenhouse Grow-Out Program provides a significant boost to Memorial Park's habitat restoration potential. This program helps the Conservancy respond to public interest in varied urban landscapes and enhanced natural values within Memorial Park. All of this work depends on a properly functioning and efficient Greenhouse, the epicenter of the Grow-Out Program.



"We are excited to increase our support of the Greenhouse Grow-Out Program which will help MPC provide a cost-effective means to acquire native grass, wildflower, forb, tree and shrub species that can be transplanted to sites throughout Memorial Park."

Laura Dandridge, Corporate Affairs Advisor, Chevron

Not only is Chevron generous in their monetary giving, but its employees have made giving back a priority and can often be found volunteering in the Park throughout the year. With its main Chevron office building only a few miles from the Park, many employees spend time outside of work at Memorial Park exercising, enjoying Houston's largest urban greenspace, exploring the new Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie with their families and friends, and so much more.

We thank Chevron for being an active part of the work Memorial Park Conservancy does and energizing the city of Houston. Your efforts help preserve and protect wildlife habitats, restore ecosystems, and enhance the beautification and sustainability of this local treasure now and for generations to come. Thank you for being part of our "cycle of life."



PROGRAMMING EVENTS

Memorial Park Conservancy's programming events provide a diverse range of cultural celebrations, community engagement, and educational experiences. By fostering inclusivity and promoting environmental consciousness, the Conservancy demonstrated its commitment to enriching the lives of visitors and creating a vibrant and sustainable community space.

Pride, June 2022 - Memorial Park Conservancy showcased its support for the LGBTQ+ community by hosting a Pride event. In collaboration with Blanco Art, Pride murals were created in Clay Family Eastern Glades, adding vibrant and inclusive artwork to the Park.

Plastic Free July, July 2022 - The Conservancy organized a free event to promote environmental consciousness. The event featured environmental-friendly story time sessions and educational activities, aiming to raise awareness about reducing plastic waste.

August 23rd: Park Conversations: Houston "Mutiny and Riots" 105 years on - Memorial Park Conservancy facilitated a panel discussion at the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum (BSNM) to commemorate the events of 1917. The discussion provided insights into the significant milestones and their impact on the community. Thank you to our partners BSNM, Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Mayor Sylvester Turner, Uptown Houston, and Houston Parks and Recreation Department.



Mexican Independence Day, September 2022 - The Conservancy celebrated Mexican Independence Day with a cultural celebration. The event featured Mexican cuisine, a mariachi band, and ballet folklórico dancers, immersing visitors in the rich traditions and vibrant atmosphere of Mexico.

Diwali, November 2022 - Memorial Park Conservancy hosted a cultural celebration for Diwali, the Festival of Lights. Traditional dancers and Govindas vegetarian cuisine created an authentic experience for attendees. Crafts and coloring activities were also available to engage visitors in the festivities.

Deck the Park, December 2022 - December kicked off with Memorial Park Conservancy's annual Deck the Park holiday event presented by Crossbell Ventures. From cookie decorating to writing letters to Santa to a festive scavenger hunt and screening of the movie *Elf*, fun was had by all who attended. The magic of the holiday season truly came to life when attendees got a first look at the Park's Holiday Lights installation.

Lunar New Year, January 2023 - Memorial Park

Conservancy embraced the Lunar New Year festivities with a cultural celebration. The event featured a captivating lion dance performance, lantern making workshops, and food trucks offering delicious Asian cuisine.

Wellness Walks, biweekly, March to April 2023 - The

Conservancy partnered with GirlTrek, the largest public health movement for Black women and girls in the U.S., to organize biweekly Wellness Walks. These walks took place in Bayou Wilds, offering participants an opportunity to engage in physical activity, connect with nature, and promote overall wellness.



Futbolito in the City, weekly through May 2023 - Dynamo and

Dash Charities facilitated a free soccer training program for children in Memorial Park. Known as Futbolito in the City, this weekly program aimed to introduce young participants to the sport of soccer while promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and a love for the game.

Star Parties, February through May 2023 - The

Houston Astronomical Society hosted a series of Star Parties in Memorial Park. These free and open-to-the-public events provided educational programming and offered opportunities for stargazing, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the cosmos.



Earth Day, April 2023 - Memorial Park Conservancy actively

participated in Earth Day initiatives. The Conservancy organized a native tree giveaway and offered environmental educational programming to promote sustainability. Nature-themed storytelling sessions engaged visitors of all ages, creating a greater understanding of the importance of protecting our environment. Attendees were treated to a screening of the nature documentary, *Deep in the Heart*.

Run to Remember, May 2023 - Memorial Park Conservancy

organized the "Run to Remember" event on Memorial Day to honor and remember service members who died in, or as a result of, their military service. The event aimed to foster a sense of remembrance, unity, and gratitude within the community on this important day of reflection.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

At Memorial Park Conservancy, our signature events are a great way to support the Park while having fun! Funds raised at these events enable Memorial Park Conservancy to care for the 1,100 acres under its stewardship and continue to advance our mission. Thank you to all of our event chairs, sponsors, committee members, donors, and attendees for helping us break so many records!

State of the Park

State of the Park 2022: Bridging our Past to Our Potential welcomed guests for a luncheon in Clay Family Eastern Glades to celebrate progress at Memorial Park. Thanks to presenting sponsor Kinder Foundation, the event featured a “prairie-side” chat discussing the Ten-Year Plan and the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie project with Thomas Woltz, principal and owner of Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, and Shellye Arnold, President & CEO of Memorial Park Conservancy. Raising more than \$150,000 for the day-to-day care of Memorial Park, State of the Park examined how the Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie has captured the imaginations of Houstonians and become a nationally recognized landmark that truly connects people and place.





Golf Tournament

Memorial Park Conservancy’s Annual Golf Tournament, presented by Valedor Partners, welcomed golfers for a day of hitting the links like the pros at the Memorial Park Golf Course. Led by event co-chairs Kalinda Campbell and Kenneth Huewitt, guests enjoyed an exciting day of golfing followed by an awards ceremony and celebration dinner. All proceeds from the Golf Tournament directly impact the continued care of Memorial Park’s 1,100 acres of urban wilderness.



The Park Ball

On April 13, nearly 500 guests gathered in Clay Family Eastern Glades to celebrate The Park Ball, the Conservancy’s Annual Gala held to raise funds for the critical day-to-day care of Memorial Park. Under the leadership of event co-chairs Polly & Murry Bowden and Wendy & Jeff Hines, the evening garnered a record-smashing \$1.16 million for Memorial Park Conservancy. Emceed by Linda Lorelle, founder of Lorelle Media, the evening’s program highlighted the transformation of the Park and the newly opened Kinder Land Bridge & Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Prairie, a 100-acre landmark destination that distinguishes Memorial Park and Houston as a national icon of a greener and more resilient future.

Glow in the Glades

Urban Wild’s Glow in the Glades was an après-ski evening to remember. Hosted in Clay Family Eastern Glades, attendees enjoyed a vibrant party with delicious food, drinks, and live entertainment. Reverend Butter carved a stunning ice sculpture of a heron and guests danced the night away under the stars at the dueling Silent Disco, rocking out in their coziest winter wear. Over 300 guests supported this incredible night celebrating Memorial Park and the work of the Conservancy.



FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

Big Give Days

December’s Big Give Days were a fun way for people to get into the spirit of giving with the added bonus of winning a Park inspired prize. Throughout the month, anyone who made a minimum donation of \$50 to the Memorial Park Conservancy Fund on our designated Big Give Days was entered into a raffle to win an amazing prize including an Urban Wild membership, a Memorial Park Conservancy merch pack, a Park tour for two, and an annual parking pass.



Day of Giving

Memorial Park Conservancy Day of Giving was a massive success, and we owe it to you. Thank you for sharing your pride, passion, and love for Memorial Park. Because of your generosity, we raised over \$75,000 in 24 hours, creating a ripple effect that will enhance our beloved Park for years to come. We are grateful to the Ray C. Fish Foundation for their matching gift which brought our grand total to more than \$100,000!

Running Ambassador Campaign

From February 15 through March 8, Memorial Park Conservancy presented our first-ever Running Ambassador Campaign. This peer-to-peer fundraising campaign brought together members of the running community to champion their friends and family to support their efforts in raising money for Memorial Park Conservancy. With over 30 hardworking ambassadors and over 180 donations, the Running Ambassadors surpassed their goal and raised over \$18,000 for the Memorial Park Conservancy Fund - a fund that directly supports the critical day-to-day care of Memorial Park.



WAYS TO SUPPORT MEMORIAL PARK CONSERVANCY

For nearly 100 years, Memorial Park has stood as a shining example of what happens when dedicated, civic-minded advocates work together to protect and preserve an urban greenspace at the heart of their city. Today, the Conservancy's board of directors, staff, volunteers, partners, members, neighbors, and visitors proudly continue the work that began in 1924.

Whether you make a donation, become a member, attend one of our signature events, or volunteer your time, you are a steward of the Park and are directly helping this iconic greenspace thrive. Your support helps the Conservancy secure the future resiliency of our Park and preserve its cultural and historical heritage.

Make a Donation

Your donation to the Memorial Park Conservancy Fund ensures lawns and trees are healthy, native plants and flowers bloom, wildlife habitats thrive, wilderness trails are maintained and every Houstonian has a place for recreation, rest, and renewal. Whether you make a one-time gift or become part of our **Seedling Society** and give monthly, your contribution makes a difference!

Become a Member

Join **Friends of Memorial Park** and help support critical preservation and maintenance of Memorial Park, one of the largest urban parks in Texas. As a Friend of Memorial Park member, you will be invited to participate in members-only activities with opportunities to experience the Park in a deeper way.

Urban Wild is Memorial Park Conservancy's group of emerging professionals, ages 21 and up, actively supporting the work of MPC. Urban Wild members enjoy unique events in Memorial Park and around Houston, as well as a discount to the group's signature event, Glow in the Glades.

To become a member, contact giving@memorialparkconservancy.org.

Attend an Event

At Memorial Park Conservancy, our signature events are a great way to support the Park while having fun! Funds raised at these signature events enable Memorial Park Conservancy to care for the 1,100 acres under its stewardship and continue to advance our mission.

For questions, contact giving@memorialparkconservancy.org.

Volunteer Your Time

Support an organization dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and enhancement of Memorial Park with a hands-on experience unlike any other! Volunteers are an integral part of the Park's restoration and maintenance. Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals, groups, schools, and corporations of all types.

For more information, contact volunteer@memorialparkconservancy.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

Memorial Park Conservancy is deeply grateful for the support of the community as we continue with our mission of caring for the Park. We would like to thank the following donors who supported us during the last fiscal year.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

Making Our Mission Possible

\$100,000+

Chevron
The William Stamps Farish Fund
Carolyn and Frank Pichardo ☀️
The Powell Foundation
Michael Vaughn ☀️

\$50,000+

Marvy Finger Family Foundation
George and Mary Josephine
Hamman Foundation
The John P. McGovern Foundation
Sempra LNG

\$25,000+

ExxonMobil
Ray C. Fish Foundation
River Oaks Garden Club
Williams Companies
The Wortham Foundation, Inc.

\$10,000+

Anonymous
The Mary H. Cain Foundation
Garden Club of Houston
Garver Black Hilyard Family Foundation
Houston Striders, Inc.
The JBD Foundation
Jill and Dunham Jewett
Judy O. and Kenneth Margolis Foundation
John R. McCune Charitable Trust
Don and Colletta McMillian Foundation
The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation
Linda Padon
Anna Peikert
Sharon Prentice
Peggy and John Rathmell
Karen and Rob Saltiel
Barbara and Louis Sklar
The Abbott and Leslie Sprague Family Foundation
Technip
TotalEnergies
The Susan Vaughan Foundation, Inc.
Robert Zimmerman

\$5,000+

Kelly Apple
Lenni and Bill Burke
James W. Butzner
Cockrell Family Fund
Julia and Russell Frankel
Lissa and Farzanah Gangjee
Carol Haney
Karen and Ken Jones
Letitia Knapp
Kris and John Maclay
Jennifer Moore
Louise and Gary Moss
Amy Pierce
Isla and T.R. Reckling
R.E. Smith Foundation
Eileen and Steve Snider
Judy Stover
Kay and Bert Tabor
Deb Tummins and Abby Daniels
John Turner
Union Pacific Railroad

\$2,500+

Robert and Nora Ackerley
Julie and Chris Barnes
Joel Bender
Gerlinde and Joe Carey
Monica and Nick Clem 🌱
Kelty and Rogers Crain
Candice and Philip Croker
David Devido
Toni and Walter Finger
Jacob Franklin
Judy Gee
Suzanne and Rodney Harrill
Rochelle and Alan Jacobson
Peter Kaufman
Kathy and Randy Lake
Erica Levit
Shelli and Steve Lindley
Pat and Kevin Mitchell
Margaret and Michael Pierce
Susan and Eric Rivera
Anila and Dhiren Shethia
Barrett Sides
Danielle and Andrew Slentz
Karan Sra
Charles R. Steadman
Mary and Nathan Waldman

\$1,000+

Dr. David E. Auer, M.D.
Jim F. Avant
David Beck
Steven Bender
Catherine L. Black
Sherry Black
Kelly and Lane Boyer
Theresa Bueno-Gonzalez
Barbara J. Burger
Nell Clingman
Chris Cragg
Connor Davis
Jane Degeorge
Heather Deiss
Nancy Dillow
Debra and Michael Dishberger
Joell and Thomas Doneker
The Dow Chemical Company
Kathryn and Gary Dudley
Jim Finkelstein
Ruth and Dan Flournoy
Harriet Foster
Leanne and Richard French
Dale Fridley
Mary Fusillo
Veronica Galloway
Helen Gerard Fuare
Conrad J. Goerl
Dorothy Goforth
Veronica Chapa Gorczynski 🌱
Gene Graham
Annie and Bob Graham
Albert Haertlein
Stephanie and Doug Hodges
Rebecca Hove
Leslie Jackson
John Jeffers
Kriki and David Jesulaitis
Sis and Hasty Johnson
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Leaving a Legacy in the Park

Anonymous
Mary Catherine Sharman
Paul A. Silverman

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Advancing the Future of the Park

\$70,000,000+

Kinder Foundation

\$10,000,000+

Emily and Robert Clay
Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Family
Foundation

\$5,000,000+

Laura and John Arnold
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\$2,500,000+

Polly and Murry Bowden
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The Cullen Foundation
Houston Endowment Inc.
The Wortham Foundation

\$1,000,000+

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Wendy and Jeff Hines
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\$750,000+

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\$500,000+

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The Powell Foundation
Georganne Scruggs

\$250,000+

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Carrie and Al Pepi
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Cynthia Pitcher
Brittany Sakowitz
River Oaks Garden Club
Kelly and Kurt Talbot

\$25,000+

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Charles D. and Mary A. Bauer
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Claire and John Caudill
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The Garden Club of Houston
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Cara Lambright and Michael Rudelson
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Strake Foundation
Terri and Ray Thomas
Village Family Practice Charitable
Gift Fund

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Gayle and Richard Hightower
The Hildebrand Fund
Radoff Family
The Abbott and Leslie Sprague
Family Foundation
The Louis and Joyce Tucker
Foundation
Cathy and David Wilde
Vallette and Russell Windham

\$5,000+

Gayl and Chuck Carlberg
Ellen and Tom Craddock
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The W.T. and Louise J. Moran
Foundation
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\$2,500+

Kay Kamas
Nelsy and Michael Lipford
Meg and Nelson Murray
New York Life Foundation
Ellen and Terry Phillips
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\$1,000+

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Lady Washington Chapter,
NSDAR
Lynnda and John Paukune
Dena Prasher
Dianne and Michael Render

FRIENDS OF MEMORIAL PARK

Personally Connecting with Your Park

Park Trailblazer \$1,000

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Lori Riberi
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 Emma Roberts and Ryan Cordill
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 Sergey Solonitsyn
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 Melissa Trevino
 Keri and Chris Wagner
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 Joy Warren
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 Sarita Williams and Max Deisch
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Park Restorer \$250

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 Richard Alvarado
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 Jennifer Barringer
 Adam Beasley
 Jason Beauvais
 Rosanna and Myron Blalock
 Shirley Bludau
 Patricia Bodin
 Chris Bourgeois
 John Briscoe
 Cindy Broiles
 Holly Bronson
 Mike Brubaker
 Amy Bryant
 Theresa Bueno-Gonzalez
 August Canik
 David Carrasco
 Veronica Castillo
 Alicia Castro
 Shannon Cavers
 Libby and Mitch Cheney
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 Kim Deutsch
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 Milene and Olivier Germain
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 John Tyler
 Mike Urban
 Travis Visco
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Park Preserver \$100

James Arcidiacono
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 Melanie Starman Bash
 Fredi Bleeker Franks
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 Paula Brown
 Stephanie Burnside
 Ellanor and Roy Camberg
 Connie and William Cole
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 Samia El Afifi
 Ramsay M. Elder
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 Kathy Jordan
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 Philip Tereskiewicz
 Adam Tesanovich
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 Timothy Tyler
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 Mary Earthman Ward
 James Watson
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 Paul Young
 Alan Zieben

Park Steward \$50

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 Viki Anderson
 Edie Archer
 Victoria Arriaga
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 Carole Colley
 Dottie Collins
 Ben Cowan
 Erik Diltz
 Michelle Grady
 Callie Heil
 Shirley Hudler
 Brad Kagan
 Betty and Jim Key
 Janus Lazaris
 Laura and Barry Leavitt
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 Tyler Milliren
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 Chris Noon
 Gary Patterson
 Misha Penton
 Susan Pepper
 Louise Perlitz
 Nick Rezvani
 Katie Romero
 Renae Sinclair
 Lisa Smith
 Susan Toomey
 Jamie B. Wagner
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URBAN WILD

Young Professionals Investing in the Park

Geoffrey Allen
Melissa Richardson Banks
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Nicolas Gomez Bustamante
Ronny Carroll
Bret Chalpin
William Dampier
Mona Elchahal

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Nanette Emmerich
Justin Estes
Angela Fritz
Aarti Garehgrat and Purav Patel
Christina and Mark Godard
Oksana Haby and Kevin Gault
Zenab Haq
Anthony Hedger
Kimberlee and Eric Henao
Marco Hernandez
Georganne and James Hodges
Querine Hoogkamer
Cheryl Huffman
Semant Jain

Patrick Kelley
Sabrina and Jordan Kirwin
Erin Larimore
Maggie and Louie Layrisson
Elmer Lee
Rob Lee
Ramon Lopez
Colleen and David Marks
Taylor Miller
Carla Newman
Teresita Nino
Reese Nixon
John Michael O' Brien
Macey and Harry Reasoner
Lauren Redmond

Patti Lou Richardson
Devon Romano
Bonnie Rosensteel
Laura Rupar
Trisha Samuels
Philip Schneidau
Alina Slavik
David Tang
Amber and Dylan Weaver
Peta Williams and Johan Malan
Jean and Andrew Willrich
Jeffrey Chasdon Yates

Thank you to our Official Corporate Partners



*Donors listed include gifts and pledges of \$1 or more made during the fiscal year June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023.
Commitments are recognized in full at the time of the pledge. Should you wish to report a concern regarding information
listed in this report, please email giving@memorialparkconservancy.org.*

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2022-2023

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2022-2023

Executive Team

Shellye Arnold

President & CEO

Randy Odinet

Executive Vice President

Administrative

Jose Leal

*Sr. Director of Finance
and Administration*

Rocio Feusier

Controllor

Yuliana Martinez

Staff Accountant

Richard Meza

Bookkeeper

Elizabeth Taylor

Director of Human Resources

Rus Trebilcox

Executive Assistant

Engagement

Holli Clements

Vice President of Engagement

Communications

Chelsea Thomas

Communications Specialist

Alicia Daniel

Social Media Coordinator

Development & Donor

Engagement

Monica Clem

Director of Development

Desiree Alejandro

*Stewardship and Relationship
Management Specialist*

Caitlin Fredette

*Development Communications
Coordinator*

Makenzie Hrabik

*Marketing and Development
Events Coordinator*

Erin Kelly

Foundation and Corporate Relations Manager

Chelsea Kuzniar

Annual Giving Manager

Karishma Patel

Individual Giving Manager

Idahlia Rodriguez

Development Associate

Hospitality, Programming & Events

Veronica Amaya

Parks and Events Attendant

Christopher Knight

*Sr. Manager Park Programming
and Events*

Jenny Barringer

Parks and Events Attendant

Mark Brooks

Visitor Services Park Presence

Kat Chavez

Parks and Events Attendant

Liz Jordan

Programming and Events Coordinator

Xavier Leon

Parks and Events Attendant

Lee Mauricette

Visitor Services Park Presence

Jean Rideaux

Permitting Coordinator

Erika Valdez

Parks and Events Attendant

Rosie Villegas

Parks and Events Attendant

Charles Edwin

Parks and Events Attendant

Norma Serrato

Parks and Events Attendant

Shaun Smith

Events Contractor

Park Operations

Corri Pfeifferberger

Senior Director of Park Operations

Molly Glotfelty

Senior Coordinator of Park Operations

Conservation Operations

Courtney Hall

Conservation Operations Manager

Brandon Hubbard

Conservation Horticulture Supervisor

Katie LeBoeuf

Conservation Horticulture Supervisor

Lino Barbosa

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Asia Gillespie

Conservation Horticulture Coordinator

Philippa Johnstone

Conservation Horticulture Coordinator

Rye Kline

Conservation Horticulture Coordinator

Carter Hale

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Faythe Stewart

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Russell Stoker

Conservation Production Supervisor

Kensy Guevara

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Jasmine Armstrong

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Saul Luna

Conservation Grasslands Technician

Carrie Mansfield

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Simon Zavala

Conservation Horticulture Technician

Eric Hollenbeck

Forestry and Arboriculture Conservation Supervisor

Jordan Huertas

*Forestry and Arboriculture Conservation
Coordinator*

Jacob Turner

*Forestry and Arboriculture Conservation
Coordinator*

Joe Ponce

Forestry and Arboriculture Technician

Cedric Zavattiero

Forestry and Arboriculture Technician

Nicholas Stiltner

Forestry and Arboriculture Technician

Jacob Smith

Grasslands Supervisor

Lukas Ashby

Arboriculture Technician

Park Operations

Jose Arroyo

Park Operations Coordinator

Napoleon Bonilla

Park Operations Technician

Suzanne Formanek, CPRP & CPSI

Sr. Manager of Park Operations

Hannah Hickox

Park Operations Technician

Andrew Martin

Park Operations Supervisor

Jimmie Cummings

Park Operations Technician

Clayton Emery

Maintenance & Mechanic Supervisor

Jordan Matallana

Maintenance & Mechanic Technician

Jeremy Barboza

Park Operations Technician

Xotchel Echavarria

Park Operations Technician

Paige McNamara

Park Operations Technician

Kristina Morales

Park Operations Technician

Adrian Suarez

Park Operations Coordinator

Antoine Thebault

Park Operations Supervisor

Brandon Thompson

Maintenance Operations Technician

Corey Randall

Turf & Grounds Operations Supervisor

Julian Alfaro

Turf and Grounds Operations Technician

Alex Guerra

Grounds Irrigation Operations Coordinator

Jessie Maldonado

Turf and Grounds Operations Coordinator

Glenn Mull

Turf and Grounds Operations Technician

Jason Rivera

Maintenance & Mechanic Operations Coordinator

Timothy Scruggs

Turf and Grounds Operations Coordinator

Edgar Sorto

Turf and Grounds Operations Technician

Paul Taylor

Maintenance Foreman

Alexis Varela

Park Operations Technician

Jesus Velazquez

Turf and Grounds Operations Technician

Theo White

Turf and Grounds Operations Technician

Volunteer Operations

Latasha Alsbrooks

Manager of Volunteer Operations

Nakita Campbell

Volunteer Operations Coordinator

2023 AUDITED FINANCIALS

Consolidated Statement of Activities for the year ended May 31, 2023 and 2022

| | 2023 | | 2022 | |
|---|------|------------|------|------------|
| ASSETS | | | | |
| Cash | \$ | 5,365,164 | \$ | 8,055,144 |
| Operating contributions receivable | | 230,119 | | 150,650 |
| Contributions receivable restricted for capital projects, net | | 14,357,500 | | 16,757,282 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | | 5,647 | | 828 |
| Investments held for endowment | | 2,633,222 | | 2,161,410 |
| Investments | | 19,271,368 | | 30,116,560 |
| Property and equipment, net | | 377,639 | | 308,325 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ | 42,240,659 | \$ | 57,550,199 |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | | | | |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ | 2,365,422 | \$ | 2,532,073 |
| Accrued payroll expenses | | 358,019 | | 195,954 |
| Total liabilities | | 2,723,441 | | 2,728,027 |
| Net assets | | | | |
| Without donor restrictions | | 10,488,656 | | 9,628,014 |
| With donor restrictions | | 29,028,562 | | 45,194,158 |
| Total net assets | | 39,517,218 | | 54,822,172 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | \$ | 42,240,659 | \$ | 57,550,199 |

Consolidated Statement of Activities for the year ended May 31, 2023

| | Without Donor Restrictions | With Donor Restrictions | Total |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| REVENUE | | | |
| Contributions: | | | |
| Cash and other financial assets | \$ 1,313,282 | \$ 6,474,615 | \$ 7,787,897 |
| Nonfinancial assets | | 171,185 | 171,185 |
| Special events: | | | |
| Cash and other financial assets | 1,464,952 | | 1,464,952 |
| Donor benefit costs | (297,752) | | (297,752) |
| Investment return | 91,829 | 171,733 | 263,562 |
| PGA Tournament revenue | 500,000 | | 500,000 |
| Parking revenue | 348,856 | | 348,856 |
| Permitting revenue | 181,977 | | 181,977 |
| Other service fees | 43,825 | | 43,825 |
| Total revenue | 3,646,969 | 6,817,533 | 10,464,502 |
| Net assets released for purpose restrictions | 22,983,129 | (22,983,129) | |
| TOTAL | 26,630,098 | (16,165,596) | 10,464,502 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Park enhancement and programming | 23,535,934 | | 23,535,934 |
| Management and general | 944,472 | | 944,472 |
| Fundraising | 1,289,050 | | 1,289,050 |
| Total expenses | 25,769,456 | | 25,769,456 |
| CHANGES IN NET ASSETS | \$ (860,642) | \$ (16,165,596) | \$ (15,304,954) |
| Net assets, beginning of year | 9,628,014 | 45,194,158 | 54,822,172 |
| Net assets, end of year | 10,488,656 | 29,028,562 | 39,517,218 |



MEMORIAL
PARK
CONSERVANCY

7575 North Picnic Lane
Houston, Texas 77007

memorialparkconservancy.org
713.863.8403
