



**BUFFALO BAYOU
PARTNERSHIP**

BUFFALO BAYOU EAST MASTER PLAN

MASTER PLAN OVERVIEW:

Continuing a legacy of transformative and award-winning green spaces, Buffalo Bayou Partnership (BBP) has created a Master Plan for the waterway's East Sector (from US 59 to the Port of Houston Turning Basin). Development of the plan comes after nearly two years of community engagement with residents throughout the area. In addition to extending the western network of parks, trails and open space, the plan connects the historic Fifth Ward and Greater East End neighborhoods to the bayou and to each other.

MASTER PLAN CORE PRINCIPLES:

Four core principles guided the master planning process and will serve as a roadmap for the Plan's implementation.

- **Authenticity:** Create unique park spaces and destinations that reflect the cultural and industrial legacies of Buffalo Bayou's East Sector.
- **Inclusivity:** Ensure that parks and open space serve as a catalyst for community revitalization and economic development for long-time residents and businesses.
- **Connectivity:** Rethink how parks and neighborhoods interact, activating and connecting the waterfront to surrounding neighborhoods.
- **Resiliency:** Reinforce the East Sector's ability to withstand future challenges by integrating resilient design and supporting programs that allow communities to thrive in the face of uncertain social, economic, health and environmental challenges.

MAJOR MASTER PLAN COMPONENTS:

- 40 miles of new and improved waterfront trails and on-street bikeways
- 200 acres of new and improved parks and open space
- 7 new boat landings
- 7 new bridges
- Development of a Downtown Gateway linking northeastern downtown to the East Sector by utilizing green space and detention ponds made possible by the proposed North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP)
- Expansion of the City's Tony Marron Park (from 19 to nearly 40 acres) to act as an open space anchor
- Restored urban creek to connect the bayou to the Fifth Ward
- Rehabilitation of BBP-owned industrial sites – Turkey Bend: A former barge terminal and warehouse transformed into a boating and events center/Lockwood Waste Water Facility transformed into water gardens designed to cleanse bayou water
- Creation of an eastern trailhead, linking the County's Yolanda Black Navarro Buffalo Bend Nature Park to the City's Hidalgo Park
- Development of a mixed-income housing project at Lockwood Drive and the bayou

MASTER PLAN CONSULTANT TEAM:

Lead Consultants:

Michael Van Valkenburg Associates (MVVA)
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An internationally recognized landscape architecture firm, MVVA has a proven record of success in creating acclaimed and economically viable parks and waterfronts such as Brooklyn Bridge Park and Hudson River Park in New York City, and Maggie Daly Park and the 606 in Chicago. In Houston, MVVA implemented a landscape plan for The Menil, and is currently working on design of Hermann Park's Family Commons after recently completing a master plan.

HR&A Advisors
New York
Cary Hirschstein
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HR&A is an industry-leading real estate, economic development and public policy firm. For more than 35 years, HR&A has been working with parks throughout the US and abroad to develop open space real estate strategies, financing plans, programming activation, and sustainable operations and maintenance models. The High Line and Brooklyn Bridge Park in New York City, Tulsa Riverfront and Dallas' Trinity River are among more than 100 parks that have benefited from HR&A's talent. The firm has recently provided real estate advisory and economic development services to the following projects in Houston: The Ion & Innovation District in Midtown, Plan Downtown, The Heritage Society strategic plan and The Menil neighborhood revitalization plan.

Other Consultants:

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Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Established in 1986, Buffalo Bayou Partnership (BBP) is the non-profit transforming and revitalizing Buffalo Bayou, Houston's most significant natural resource. The organization's geographic focus is the 10-square mile stretch of the bayou that flows from Shepherd Drive, through the heart of downtown into the East End, and onto the Port of Houston Turning Basin. Thanks to the generous support of foundations, corporations, individuals and government agencies, BBP has implemented more than \$200 million in improvements for the redevelopment and stewardship of the waterfront – spearheading award-winning projects such as Buffalo Bayou Park, protecting land for future parks and green space, constructing hike and bike trails, and operating comprehensive clean-up and maintenance programs. Buffalo Bayou Partnership also activates the waterway through pedestrian, boating and biking amenities; volunteer activities; permanent and temporary art installations; and wide-ranging tours and programs that engage tens of thousands of visitors each year.

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