



## HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120  
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h-gac.com | @HouGalvAreaCog

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 2, 2022

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### H-GAC TO HONOR REGION'S MOST OUTSTANDING, INNOVATIVE PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS PROJECTS AT ONLINE CEREMONY ON FRIDAY, FEB. 11

**HOUSTON, TX** – The Houston-Galveston Area Council will honor the region's most outstanding and innovative parks and natural areas projects at the annual Parks and Natural Areas Awards ceremony happening online at 10 a.m., Friday, Feb. 11.

The awards ceremony is free and open to the public. Register at the following Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUoc-msqTosEtLJkjj17TnqQ33iqpiruLUP>

“For 16 years, H-GAC has recognized creative and innovated parks and natural areas projects that implement best management practices in planning, policy, and development,” said Jeff Taebel, director of community and environmental planning at H-GAC. “This year, we also added a new category, Programming, to open recognition opportunities for more parks and natural areas projects across our region.”

A total of 18 entrants applied to be evaluated by a panel of expert judges and industry professionals for recognition. Honorees include:

#### Planning Process / Policy Tools

- **Winner: *Mont Belvieu City Park Phase II & III Master Plan*, City of Mont Belvieu**
- Honorable Mention:
  - *Joe Matthews Park*, City of Mont Belvieu
  - *John Paul Landing North Basin Cell*, Harris County Precinct 3
- Special Recognition:
  - *Baytown Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan*, City of Baytown Parks and Recreation Department
  - *Super Dave's All Abilities Park*, Fort Bend County
  - *Waller County Parks, Trails, & Open Space Master Plan*, Waller County

#### Houston-Galveston Area Council

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials from the 13-county Gulf Coast planning region, which includes an area of 12,500 square miles and more than 7 million people. H-GAC works to promote efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars; serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local governments; and helps analyze trends and conditions affecting the region. For more information, visit [h-gac.com](http://h-gac.com).



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### Projects Over \$500,000

- **Winner: *Brock Adventure Park*, City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department**
- Honorable Mention: *Prairieland Village*, The Howard Hughes Corporation

### Parks and Natural Areas Projects Under \$500,000

- **Winner: *HPARD's Riparian Restoration Initiative Pilot Project*, City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department**
- Honorable Mention:
  - *Third Ward Chess Park*, Ed Pettitt
  - *Keep Friendswood Beautiful Pollinator Garden*, Keep Friendswood Beautiful/City of Friendswood
- Special Recognition:
  - *Amistad Community Park Splashpad*, City of Bay City
  - *East End Lagoon*, Galveston Island Board of Trustees
  - *Sneed Dog Park*, Westchase District

### Programming (new category)

- **Winner: *Outdoor Education Initiative*, City of League City Parks and Recreation Department**
- Honorable Mention: *Woodchase Park Programming*, Westchase District
- Special Recognition:
  - *Adventures with Edu-Katie: An Environmental Education Video Series*, City of Pearland Parks & Recreation – Natural Resources Division
  - *Friendswood Fairy Trail*, Keep Friendswood Beautiful

For more information about the Parks and Natural Areas Awards and the 2021 recipients, visit [www.h-gac.com/parks-and-natural-areas/awards](http://www.h-gac.com/parks-and-natural-areas/awards).

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