



QUADRANTS

NORTH HOUSTON DISTRICT NEWS



Opening soon, home of the 2020 Union Cyclist International BMX World Championships

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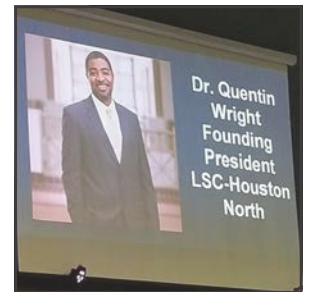
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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's been a busy summer for us at the North Houston District. In addition to our day-to-day work of helping keep the area appealing, safe and accessible, we have been representing the area in a series of important regional planning efforts.

Last fall, Houston joined the **100 Resilient Cities** network, a global effort which helps cities around the world become more resilient to social, economic, and physical challenges. Since then, we've been asked to join others from the region on working groups to help create a comprehensive strategy to better prepare Houston for a variety of possible incidents, including hurricanes and flooding.

Additionally, we've been working with representatives from **Rice, UH, Texas A&M, the National Academy of Science** and others who are using our area as a case-study for different studies relating to flooding and resilience.

And the **City's Planning and Development Department** invited us to participate in a public engagement facilitation group regarding **TxDOT's** planned expansion of I-45 North from downtown to Beltway 8, where we have been advising on the District's interests regarding the project.

We will continue to represent the District on these and other groups so that interests of the area are considered and reflected.

In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy this edition of *Quadrants*, and learning about the exciting things that are happening here!



Greg Simpson
North Houston District President



ON THE COVER


Development of the much anticipated North Houston Bike Park continues as park authorities prepare to host the USA BMX sanctioned national competitions for the first time in Houston this October and in Spring 2020, as well as the world championships.



Photo courtesy of Jones & Carter.

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For suggestions or comments, email avalencia@northhouston.org.

North Houston District Kicks Off "Exciting Things Are Happening Here" Campaign

New development, redevelopment, and a record drop in crime are all reasons to announce that exciting things are happening in the North Houston District.

On May 21, community partners and media were invited to the promotional campaign kick-off and were taken on a tour to view the progress throughout the District.

Approximately \$500 million is being invested into the area - office building and hotel renovations, company relocations and a one-of-a-kind recreational bike park attraction for families and youth.



Houston Police Department and Harris County Sheriff's Office officers with HCSO Sheriff Ed Gonzalez stand in support at the news conference held at the HPD North Belt Division.



Greg Simpson, President, North Houston District, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, HCSO, Michelle Wogan, Executive Vice President, Transwestern and North Houston District Board of Directors Chair.



Tracy Harrison, Public Safety Director, North Houston District, announces the District's public safety improvements. In 2018, there was a 10 percent decrease in crime north of the beltway.



Florian Martin (right), Houston Public Media, interviews Lincoln Property Company - CityNorth General Manager, Michael Kasmirsky.



Sally Bradford, Executive Director, North Houston Development Corp., describes the unique features and upcoming events scheduled at the North Houston Bike Park, slated to open this year.



NHD District staff, community partners and media tour the Coca-Cola Southwest Beverages Northpoint Facility, the first new plant in the U.S. in more than a decade for the company.



The Coca-Cola Southwest Beverages Northpoint campus will house one million square ft. in production, distribution, warehouse and sales and approximately 2,000 employees.

New Bike Park Launches North Houston as Leader in BMX Racing

Site will host Olympic hopefuls at 2020 World Championships

It began with a grassroots group of BMX bike enthusiasts who felt overlooked. On Friday, August 16, it will culminate with the opening of the North Houston Bike Park, a world-class BMX park set to bring the 2020 world championships, a few Olympic hopefuls, and thousands of fans, to the North Houston District.

When North Houston Development Corp. (NHDC) opened the North Houston Skate Park in 2014, a group of local BMX bikers voiced their frustration.

“We got a lot of pushback because they wanted to be able to ride their bikes in the bowls at the skate park,” explained Sally Bradford, executive director at NHDC.

The development group owned the adjacent property and seized on the opportunity to create a one-of-a-kind recreational facility. The addition

of a bike park would enhance the broad appeal of the family-friendly green space, joining not just the skate park, but also Dylan Park, which accommodates children in wheelchairs.

“BMX helped change my life as a teenager and kept me out of trouble.”
Hector Garcia

“We asked the bikers who protested to be on a committee for us,” Bradford recalled. “They worked with the designers and engineers to come up with what they wanted to see in a bike park.”

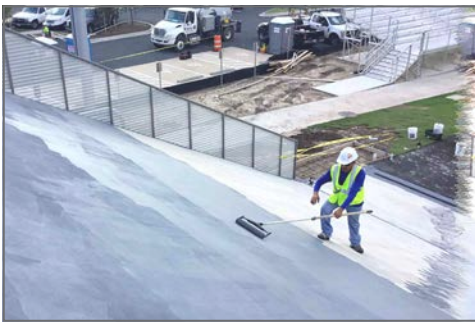
NHDC relied on industry leaders to make sure the finished product exceeded expectations. Global design firm Stantec was charged with creating the USA BMX sanctioned racetrack, while Site Design Group, Inc. oversaw the planning of the park’s other amenities. In addition, OJB Landscape Architecture focused on creating an inviting, natural atmosphere with an emphasis on sustainability.

In addition to a competition-level BMX track, the 22-acre park features multiple bowls, training tracks for riders of all skill levels, a street skills area and wooded off-road trails. Also included is an outdoor event center seating up to 3,500 visitors.

Hector Garcia, one of the influential bikers involved in the project, expects the park to be a shot of adrenaline for an already high-energy sport.

“I want to see more young people introduced to the sport, and I know for a fact that this park will be the birthing ground for many new riders,” said Garcia. “BMX helped change my life as a teenager and kept me out of trouble. I know that this will happen for many other youths who, because of this park, will see BMX in all of its glory for the first time.”

Harris County Sports Authority, which Bradford credits as an invaluable partner throughout the project, is leading an effort to expand the park’s influence and introduce children to the sport regardless of socioeconomic status. “They’re actually going into the



Aside from trails and tracks, and 25,000 sq. ft. of concrete bike bowls, promenades will run from the north to the south. Another unique element is the pedestrian bridge offering views of the riders below.



Aerial photograph of the entire 22-acre park featuring multiple levels, a street skills area and wooded off-road trails. 3,500 visitors.

Photos courtesy of Jones & Carter.



The view from the starting ramp to the dirt jump tracks at the North Houston Bike Park at I-45 North near Kuykendahl Rd. Photo courtesy of Harris County - Houston Sports Authority.

“It’s really part of an effort to bring in people from all over the country and all over the world.”

Sally Bradford,

North Houston Development Corp. Executive Director

schools to show kids how to build bikes, and teach them bike safety, and the park will have loaner bikes and helmets for kids who otherwise couldn’t afford to get into BMX,” she said.

Following its fall opening, the park will host the 2020 Universal Cyclist International (UCI) BMX World Championships in May. The event also serves as the final qualifier for the 2020 Summer Olympics.

“We’d like to become the go-to park every time the UCI decides to come to the United States, which is typically every three or four years,” Bradford proclaimed.

Approximately 18,000 hotel rooms have been blocked for the event, and Bradford noted that teams are expected to be in town training for several weeks leading up to the competition. The site will regularly host statewide and national BMX events as well.

“It’s really part of an effort to bring in people from all over the country and all over the world,” she said.

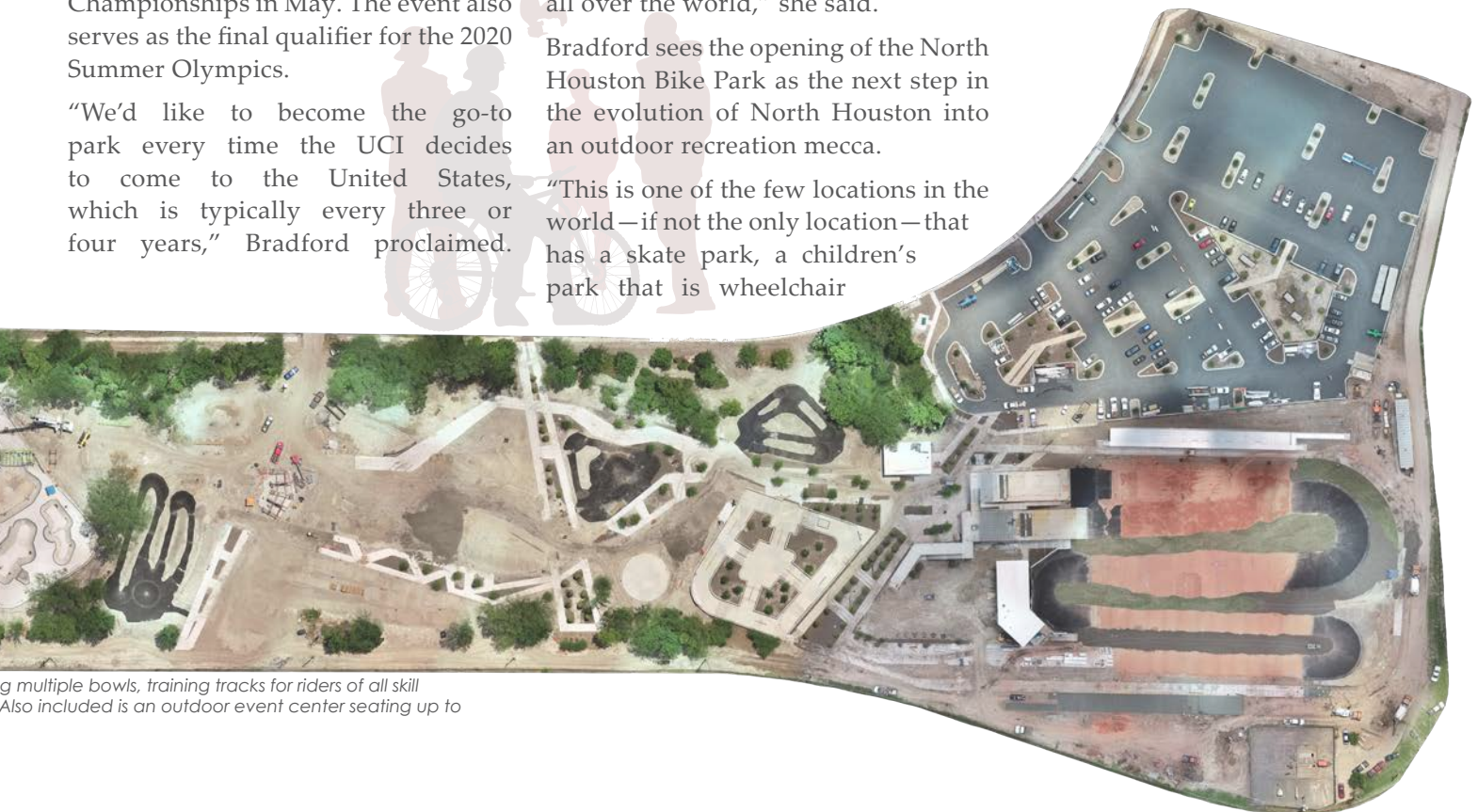
Bradford sees the opening of the North Houston Bike Park as the next step in the evolution of North Houston into an outdoor recreation mecca.

“This is one of the few locations in the world—if not the only location—that has a skate park, a children’s park that is wheelchair

accessible, and a bike park that features all of the desired elements,” she said. “Regardless of age or interest, we have something for everyone.”



North Houston Bike Park is located in the northwest quadrant of the NHD.



g multiple bowls, training tracks for riders of all skill Also included is an outdoor event center seating up to

EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING HERE



GREENS CROSSING
GREENSPPOINT
PINTO BUSINESS PARK
AIRLINE CORRIDOR

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COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Lone Star College-Houston North Celebrates New Leadership



On June 27, Dr. Quentin Wright was officially named the founding president of Lone Star College-Houston North at a special ceremony held at White Oak Conference Center.

“I am very excited about what this new college means for the community and Dr. Wright is the perfect person to lead this,” said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., Lone Star College (LSC) chancellor.

“Our primary focus is on student access, equity and ultimately student success and I know he shares our beliefs about students, employees and the community.”

Lone Star College-Houston North includes LSC-Houston North Fairbanks, LSC-Houston North Greenspoint, LSC-Houston North Victory, and LSC-Houston North Fallbrook, opening in 2020.

Dr. Wright, who was selected after a national search, began his career as an Adjunct Speech Communication faculty member at Mountain View (Dallas CCCD) and Tarrant County College District. He also served as Executive Dean of Communication and Social Science and interim Vice President of Academic Affairs at Mountain View before being hired as Vice President of Instruction for LSC-Tomball in June 2015. Since May 2017, he has served as Special Assistant to the Chancellor at LSC, where he has held critical roles.

Visit lonestar.edu/houstonnorth for more information.

Welcome Our Lady of the Lake University

Last summer, the Our Lady of the Lake University Houston campus moved from the Woodlands to the North Houston District, and celebrated its grand opening this spring.

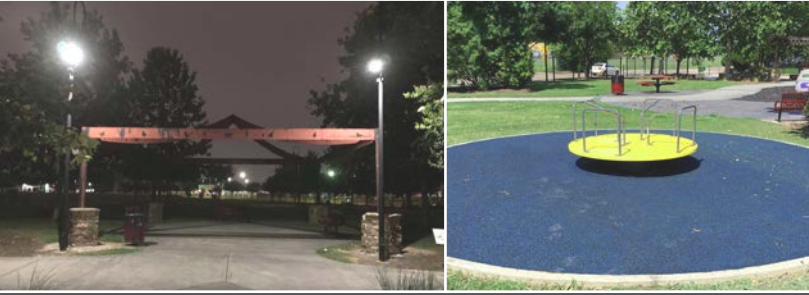
Its new address is 600 North Sam Houston Parkway next to Texas Children’s Center for Children & Women near I-45 North Freeway.

Led by director Melinda Kutley, the university is a convenient and affordable option for busy adults, and offers several bachelor's, master's and a doctoral degree option in leadership studies.

More details are available at ollusa.edu/Houston or stop by and say hello!



Bringing More Smiles, Energy Efficient Lighting to Park



Thanks to Atlantic Methanol Production Company (AMPCO), we were able to make some upgrades to one of our seven parks. A new merry-go-round and solar and motion detected lighting were installed at Buckboard Park located in the southeast quadrant of the District near Airline and Aldine Bender. These improvements will benefit families and children that regularly visit and play in the park.



Buckboard Park is located in the southeast quadrant of the NHD.

New Partnership



The North Houston District strives to make the area as safe as possible, so to continue making improvements, it has joined forces with **Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan** and been added to his Community Protection program.

The North Houston District will join five other management districts in the program that provides additional resources from the County Attorney's Office to focus on properties within the districts where habitual criminal activity occurs.

Under the program, the District and the County Attorney's Office work with owners of property where crime is routinely occurring to help them voluntarily take steps to reduce crime. When the owners fail to take reasonable steps, the County Attorney can file civil lawsuits to require the owners to take measures to reduce crime or to close their business.

"We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with the North Houston District in innovative ways to help protect neighborhoods and improve the quality of life for all Harris County residents," County Attorney Ryan said.

New NHD Vehicles Hit the Streets

Without our code enforcement and patrol vehicles, our field services and public safety teams wouldn't be able to maintain the District appealing, accessible and safe. So after years of

use in our previous service vehicles and repairs, it was time for upgrades. This year, 2 new vehicles were purchased for more efficient operations and to continue caring for our communities.

The new NHD branded truck will allow field services to access various parks, trails, roads and other areas for beautification and maintenance.

The police vehicle will be used for patrolling throughout the District, specifically parking lots of businesses and retail locations.



Field services manager Dru Gutierrez at Ida Gaye Gardens located at Hardy St. near Greens Rd.



Officer Littler, who recently joined the North Houston District patrol, is one of the first to test the new patrol vehicle.

Community garden at Ida Gaye Gardens at 16135 W. Hardy Rd.



North Houston District

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NORTH HOUSTON DISTRICT NEWS



SUMMER 2019

The North Houston District is a management district that advocates for projects and services that attract the best in commercial and residential life to the area.

It's a special purpose district created by the Texas Legislature and provides enhanced services in public safety, planning and development, beautification and maintenance of public rights of way, and development of parks and trails.

The District's service area includes four quadrants that span across the intersection of Interstate 45 North and the North Sam Houston Parkway.

