



Dear Residents and Businesses,

We are excited to be breaking ground on the redesign of Market Square Park this Tuesday, December 15, 2009!

The Downtown District is managing the park project—the redesign team consists of Lauren Griffith Associates and Ray+Hollington Partners (design partners) and Tribble & Stephens (construction partner). Because of the nature of the project and that it is confined to a fairly small space, the entire park will be fenced off during construction. We estimate that fencing can go up as early as **Friday, December 18** or the week following. The plan timeline may vary due to weather and other issues, but we hope that the park will be completed by **late July or early August of 2010**.

The park will be inaccessible during construction so all dog walking will need to be relocated to other green spaces such as Sesquicentennial Park (Preston & Smith) or Allen's Landing (Commerce & Main). Please remember to always clean up after your dog!

Also, some on-street parking bordering the park may be taken as needed during construction. We will work with Tribble & Stephens in minimizing this inconvenience but it may be necessary in order to do sidewalk/tree work and for safety reasons.

Information on the park redesign, site plans and press materials will be posted online at **www.downtowndistrict.org**. Park highlights include a crescent-shaped dog run on the Milam Street side that will give pet lovers an attractive and active place to unleash their dogs. Behind the dog run, a beautifully lit crescent shaped fence will arc through the park from north to south and serve as a history walkway. A small outdoor-dining restaurant, trellis providing shade, and a dual plaza / performance area will stand on the Travis Street side of the park—we are in negotiations with Niko Niko's to be the food operator for Market Square Park. A double row of oak trees will line Preston on the block's south end, extending to Sesquicentennial Park and framing the Malou Flato benches. And lastly, the new Market Square Park will include *Lauren's Garden*, a memorial effort from the college scholarship foundation set up to honor Houstonian Lauren Catuzzi Grandcolas – a passenger on United Flight 93.

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that construction will cause residents and businesses in the area, but we feel that the end result—a functional and pretty neighborhood park that truly benefits the community—will be well worth it!

If you have any questions or concerns during this process, please contact us at 713.650.3022 or email angie@downtowndistrict.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Eury".

Bob Eury
Executive Director
Houston Downtown Management District