

### Cypress Creek Greenway Project Gets Boost of Money, Talent

The Cypress Creek Greenway Project which has excited the imagination of hundreds of folks in northwest Houston is now increasingly drawing attention of elected officials and regional planners/decision makers. The Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce announced at its recent Economic Development Initiative meeting that the Cypress Creek community has been awarded a grant to explore methods of funding and assisting in implementation of this undertaking – a preservation mission goal fostered by the Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition to create a "necklace" of parks and trails across our community.

"The Cypress Creek Greenway is a recreational/transportation trail and open space corridor along Cypress Creek," explains Steve Spillette of CDS | Spillette Alliance, a consultant contracted to manage the study plan. The funds originate with a grant to the Houston Galveston Area Council from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a Sustainability Plan for the Houston region.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Board awarded contracts to local CDS | Spillette Alliance and Marsh Darcy Partners (MDP) to prepare a study for the Houston Parks Board (HPB) to move a major section of the Cypress Creek Greenway project plan to implementation as quickly as possible. The Houston Parks Board, a local non-profit, is the local client for this case study to identify implementation and funding approaches for portions of the Bayou Greenways Initiative<sup>1</sup> that are located outside the city limits. Because Cypress Creek stands out as a corridor without a public entity or funding source, it has been given this opportunity. CDS/Spillette Alliance has been contracted to carry out the work,

Building upon work that has already been done by the Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition, the contractors have begun an extensive outreach and dialogue undertaking to meet and work with stakeholders throughout the community subdivi-

sions in order to foster, identify and formulate their ideas and desires. These Stakeholder group meetings focusing on this important community amenity are now being scheduled and will soon be followed by public meetings to be held during February and March in the Cypress Creek community area. The study will be essentially completed by April 2013.

The Chamber noted in their announcement, "this is tremendous news for furthering the economic growth and development of the Cypress Creek Communities."

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Look Upstream articles are written and/or provided by the Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition (CCFCC) as a public service. Also visit web site, [www.ccfcc.org](http://www.ccfcc.org) or for more information on flood protection, environmental preservation, flood insurance and membership or e-mail [floodalliance@ccfcc.org](mailto:floodalliance@ccfcc.org).

<sup>1</sup>For addition information on the Bayou Greenways Initiative, please visit the Houston Parks Board at [www.HoustonParksBoard.org](http://www.HoustonParksBoard.org). The existing website for the case study can be found at [www.ourregion.org/casestudies.html](http://www.ourregion.org/casestudies.html)

