

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Audubon Commission Seeks Public Feedback to Complete Audubon Park's Master Plan

(New Orleans, La,) – In celebration of the 300th anniversary of the City of New Orleans, the Audubon Commission is taking steps to complete a Master Plan to shape Audubon Park's direction for the future. The Commission, which oversees Audubon facilities, will look to the diverse community that uses the Park for feedback to help frame a vision going forward based on surveys, comments, research and public meetings.

The Commission completed a 90% Audubon Park Master Plan prior to Hurricane Katrina in 2005. This plan will be the starting point as the Commission works with Audubon Nature Institute and award-winning architecture firm Eskew+Dumez+Ripple to complete the plan following a series of public meetings and feedback.

"Everyone in New Orleans should have the opportunity to participate in this important planning process," said Commission President J. Kelly Duncan. "We are providing many different opportunities to voice priorities for the Park and look forward to hearing ideas from the community."

Audubon Park has been a prime gathering place in New Orleans for more than 150 years, providing visitors with a lush landscape boasting majestic oaks and expansive greenspace perfect for recreation and relaxation.

Originally designed by Charles Olmsted, the park is ringed by a bustling 1.8-mile paved path where visitors enjoy scenic strolls, walking their dogs, running or bicycling. The lagoon, picnic shelters and playgrounds offer splendid venues for families with children.

Since 1898, the Audubon Golf Course has hosted both amateurs and professionals. The park is also home to tennis courts, horse riding stables and the Whitney M. Young Memorial Pool.

The Riverview, affectionally called the "The Fly" by locals, stretches along the Mississippi River and is an unrivaled spot for a picnic, tossing a football or watching a sunset. The Fly also offers athletic fields, including the Whitney Bank Miracle League Field, which is designed for children with special needs to play baseball.

The community feedback process will include multiple public meetings, online and in-person surveys, and a <u>public engagement website with regular updates</u>.

Audubon Park Master Plan Website:

Click here for latest updates on Master Plan process and to give feedback.opens in new window

Public Meeting Schedule:

Public Meeting #1

02/06/2018 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Audubon Tea Room, 6500 Magazine Street

Learn More >>

Public Meeting #2

03/06/2018 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Audubon Tea Room, 6500 Magazine Street

Learn More >>

Public Meeting #3

04/05/2018 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Audubon Tea Room, 6500 Magazine Street

Media Contact:

Katie Smith

Senior Director of Public Relations and Social Media

Office: (504) 378-2693 / Cell: (504) 278-0542

ksmith@auduboninstitute.org

Audubon Nature Institute

Audubon Nature Institute operates a family of museums, parks and research facilities dedicated to celebrating the wonders of nature. Through innovative live animal exhibits, education programs, and scientific discovery, Audubon makes a meaningful contribution to preserving wildlife for the future. Audubon Nature Institute flagships include Audubon Park, Audubon Zoo, Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, Entergy Giant Screen Theater, Audubon Butterfly Garden and Insectarium, Audubon Louisiana Nature Center, Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center, Woldenberg Riverfront Park and Audubon Wilderness Park. Ron Forman is President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute.