

Houston Philosophical Society Dinner and Lecture

Cohen House, Rice University

21 March 2019

6:00pm cocktails - 9:05pm close

At 7:35 pm President Furlow called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the 699th meeting of the HPS. Two special guests were introduced: Tommie Lee Bradley, singer, and Lisa Clemenceau, lyricist. Lisa and Jeffrey Franzel wrote the song “That’s Houston” to honor Houston for its extraordinary spirit and resilience during Hurricane Harvey. It was licensed to The City of Houston for free to use for Hurricane Harvey projects. It has become the backbone song for a City of Houston music video to salute and honor Houstonians in Harvey’s aftermath. Tommie Lee Bradley performed the song.

First time guests were then introduced.

President Furlow introduced the speaker, Charles A. “Chip” Place, AIA, Managing Director of Capital Programs, Houston Parks Board. Please see the attached Abstract for the Speakers’ biography and program contents.

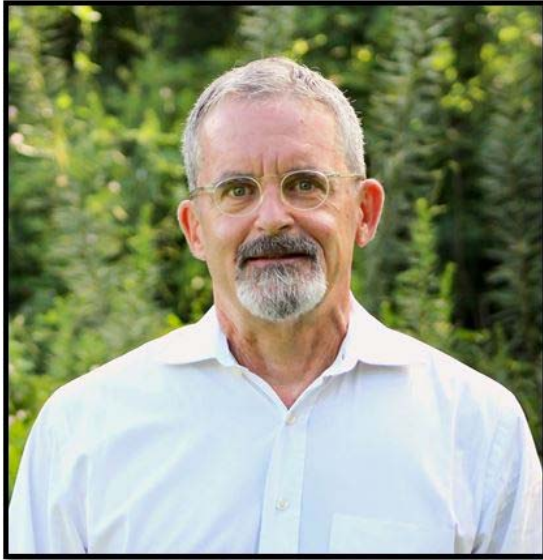
Presents

“Bayou Greenways and Beyond: The Vision for Expanding Houston’s Public Realm”
by

Charles H. “Chip” Place, AIA
Managing Director of Capital Programs
for the Houston Parks Board

699th Meeting of the Houston Philosophical Society

Reclaiming our natural systems for parks, flood resiliency and economic competitiveness represents the future of the Bayou City. HPS’s next speaker, on March 21, 2019, is **Charles H. “Chip” Place, AIA**. Chip is HPS’s Section E Leader (Architecture, Fine Arts, Music, Theater, and Writing) and is the Managing Director of Capital Programs for the Houston Parks Board.



Chip has over 30 years of experience directing large scale land development projects. For the last 15 years his career has focused on urban parks, including directing the planning and design of the Brooklyn Bridge Park and capital projects for the New York City Region of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Since 2014, Chip has served as the Managing Director of Capital Programs for the Houston Parks Board, overseeing Park Projects, Bayou Greenways 2020 and Beyond the Bayous. Chip graduated from the Rice University School of Architecture and the University of Houston Law Center.

Bayous have always been an important part of Houston's history. The "Original Plan of the City of Houston," below, reveals how the city spread southward from Buffalo Bayou.

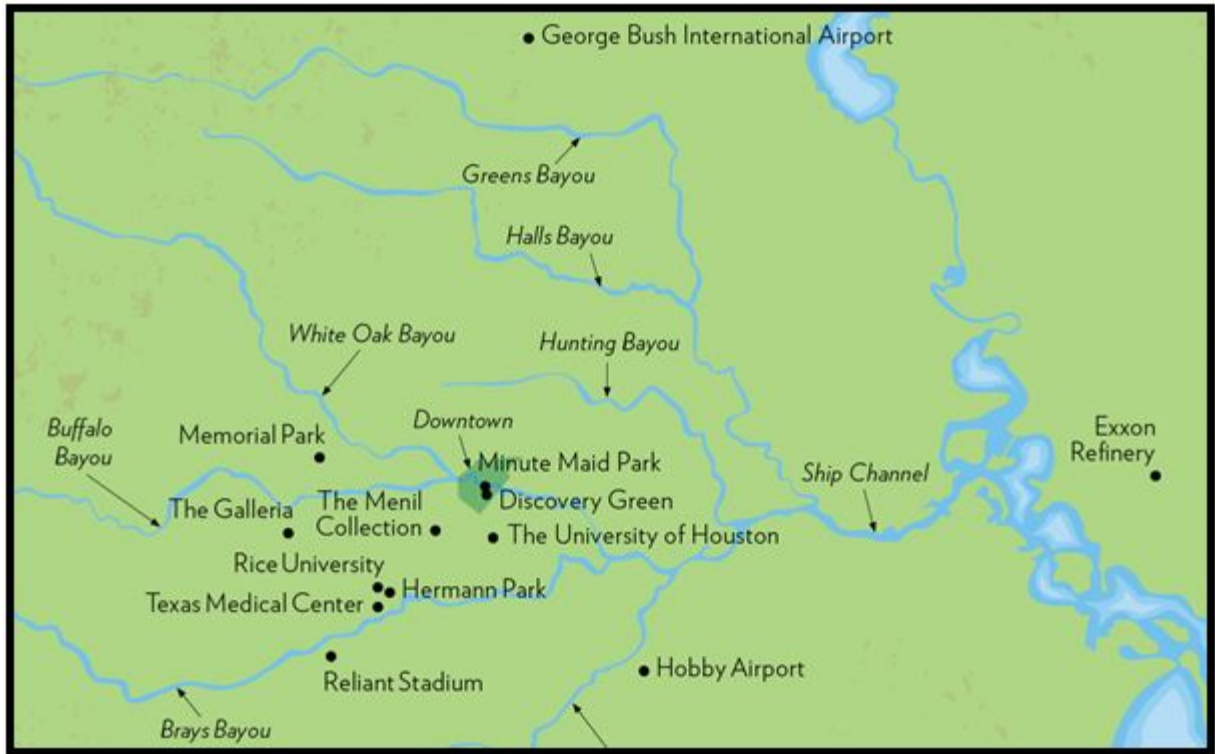


Bayous have provided early and modern residents of the city with transportation, commerce, natural beauty, recreation — and floods that occasionally inundate the Bayou City. Now the City has new plans for developing its unique system of bayous.





Since 2012, the Houston Parks Board has been implementing Bayou Greenways 2020. In total BG2020 provides 150 miles of linear parks along Houston's major waterways. The program provides public access to over 3,000 acres of flood control land while expanding that landscape to preserve open space, increase public access and enhance flood protection.



The Parks Board's BG2020 plan is transforming Houston, not only in its direct programmatic elements but also as a de facto land use organizing principle and as a new way of how the city views itself. It also represents one of the most visionary urban land use initiatives in the country.

Mr. Place answered questions from the members.

President Furlow made the following announcements:

- 1) The April program will address trafficking in Houston.
- 2) He thanked Section F members who attended a luncheon to discuss suggestions for improving HPS. The suggestions have been shared with the Executive Committee and are being discussed.
- 3) Suggestion forms are available at the front desk.

Past Past President Pat Hughes requested that nominees for membership not attend the April meeting at which their membership will be voted upon.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.