



PATRONS *for* BELLAIRE PARKS

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Bellaire Park Patrons Soliciting Donations Now for Strong Finish on Wortham Challenge

Patrons for Bellaire Parks is counting the days and the donation dollars with great hopes and expectations of meeting the Wortham Foundation's \$500,000 Challenge deadline of June 30th. Meeting that Challenge will bring in a \$250,000 donation from the Wortham Foundation to Patrons to help fund the development of Bellaire Town Square.

As of the end of April, Patrons had raised approximately \$375,000 applicable toward the Challenge, reaching 75% of the \$500,000 goal. "We had a great couple months in March and April, bringing in \$125,000 in that two month time span," reported Patrons president Mandy Nathan. "But it's critical to our ability to bring in this \$250,000 grant that Bellaire residents and businesses that have not yet made a pledge or donation do so now."

The terms of the Challenge Grant require that the \$500,000 be raised in the one year period preceding June 30th in order for the Wortham Foundation's own donation to be made. "This is an all or nothing proposition for Bellaire," emphasized Nathan, "we either raise the remaining 25% of the \$500,000 goal now, or we lose out on this \$250,000 donation for Bellaire Town Square forever."

Patrons' goal for May is to obtain another \$50,000 in pledges and donations by mid-May. In combination with the anticipated proceeds of the Bellaire New Home Showcase scheduled for the weekends of May 12/13 and 19/20, of which Patrons is the beneficiary for the second year in a row, Patrons believes these receipts will put it in a position to give an optimistic update to the Wortham Foundation later in the month. "We want to be able to tell the Foundation with confidence this month that we will meet their Challenge," said Nathan.

"No one wants to see this \$250,000 left on the table – it's ours for the taking, but only if Bellaire shows the Wortham Foundation now that we are supporting Bellaire Town Square with our own dollars," Nathan said. "All of Bellaire's residents will benefit from the development of Bellaire Town Square, and we need all of Bellaire's residents to participate in this effort; whether it's a pledge of \$100, \$500 or \$5,000, every dollar gets us closer to the \$250,000 gift from the Wortham Foundation and to the ultimate goal of a completed Bellaire Town Square."

For more information about Patrons and Bellaire Town Square and for donor forms to help meet the Wortham Challenge, call 713-661-PARK (7275) or visit www.bellaireparks.com.