

UPDATE | GEORGE PERRY FLOYD, JR. ATHLETIC COMMUNITY FIELD

- 1) **Why name the field George Perry Floyd Jr. Athletic Community Field?** The tragedy that marked the end of George Perry Floyd Jr.'s life sparked an international social justice movement. For those living in under resourced and marginalized communities like Third Ward, his life represents the tragic results of injustice and indifference in the society. George Floyd experienced feelings of inadequacy and knew the struggles that come with dreams deferred, hopes dashed, and the brokenness of possibilities denied. He was a Jack Yates Lion, an outstanding football player, and resident of the Third Ward community. He was family. His legacy inspired the modern civil rights movement and the complex struggles for justice.
- 2) **Were other names considered for the field?** Yes. Other names were considered. The Houston Independent School District conducted a community survey that showed a strong sentiment for naming the field the George Perry Floyd Jr. Athletic Community Field over other names considered. The HISD School Board unanimously approved the Community Committee's recommendation to name the field at Jack Yates after George Floyd.
- 3) **Will HISD's procurement policies be used to install the field?** HISD has clarified that its procurement policies would not apply to the Community Consortium when selecting vendors to install the field since this is a private donation to HISD. The Consortium, however, would have to seek HISD approval of the in-kind donation of the field's turf and installation.
- 4) **Will the field only be used for HISD events?** HISD confirmed that the field would be available (outside of school hours) for community use, e.g., exercise, walking track, and other community school events. Those seeking to schedule events for large groups of people, such tournaments, festivals, etc. will be required to seek approval from HISD for each event.
- 5) **How much will this project cost?** In addition to the donation of the artificial turf, the installation project is estimated to cost \$880,950.
- 6) **How is this project being funded?** Community and private partnerships are funding this project. With the invaluable assistance of the County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, the Community Consortium facilitated the donation of the field turf valued at \$1,250,000 from the Houston Texans, Harris County Sports & Convention Corporation-NRG Park, and Hellas Construction, Inc. A \$250,000 NFL Grassroots Foundation Grant and a \$200,000 NFL Foundation *Matching* Grant from the Houston Texans was secured. A Fundraising Campaign was launched to raise an additional \$500,000 needed to complete the project.
- 7) **Who is managing the funds related to this project?** The Community Consortium has engaged a fiscal agent with a stellar reputation--Change Happens--a non-profit, community-based organization founded in 1989 that has empowered people to help themselves, particularly those families and youth at-risk within the Third Ward community.
- 8) **When will the field be completed?** Our goal is to complete this project by May 2023.

IMPORTANT DATES RELATED TO PROJECT

October 2020	Community-lead Consortium formed that included 88 C.H.U.M.P., Jack Yates National Alumni Association, and Houston Society for Change.
February 24, 2021	Change Happens asked to serve as fiscal agent for project.
March 30, 2021	Applications for funding submitted.
April 7, 2021	Award notification received.
May 28, 2021	Groundbreaking kick-off event regarding grant award announced.
September 9, 2021	HISD Board of Education unanimously voted to name field George Perry Floyd Jr. Athletic Community Field.
September 2021 - January 2022	Meetings held with HISD regarding its in-kind and procurement processes, field installation and storage, etc.
November 2021	GPF Advisory Committee created by Consortium to serve as ambassadors and assist in fundraising.
November 2021	Field naming event held at field.
June 2, 2022	Fundraising campaign launched.

