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PARKING STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED BY BOARD OF REGENTS

Houston, February 17, 2011 – The Board of Regents approved the 2012-2013 Parking Strategic Plan and Rate Proposal at their February 16 meeting, allowing Parking and Transportation Services to begin moving forward on a number of projects which will provide immediate and long-term solutions to parking demands on campus.

“We are very grateful to the entire UH community - students, faculty, staff and University administration - for their continued input and willingness to invest in the improvements necessary to provide the level of service requisite of a Tier-One University,” explained Bob Browand, Director of Parking and Transportation Services. “We are looking forward to developing and implementing the programs and projects included in our 2012-2013 Strategic Plan.”

Among the projects included in the plan are the Robertson Stadium Garage, with an anticipated groundbreaking this summer; two new small garages near the Law School in lot 18A and the A.D. Bruce Religion Center in 13A; an additional large garage tentatively planned for the north side of campus; expanded Economy parking and additional lot renovations.

In addition, the 2012-2013 Strategic Plan will encourage green commuting by establishing a “Commuter Club” which will offer an array of incentives designed to encourage students, faculty and staff to find alternative transportation options to campus.

While rate increases are included in the plan, rates at the University of Houston will continue to be among the lowest of comparable sized universities. “The proposed rates for 2012 and 2013 are in many cases lower than the 2010/2011 rates at other large universities. In addition, we will remain one of the only universities in the region to offer Economy parking, and the rates for Economy will remain below $100,” added Browand.

Throughout the fall semester, community input was sought at a number of information sessions, town halls and open meetings. The constant theme was the need for increased parking. In addition, with the garages at capacity, interest was high for additional premium parking options, like garages. The 2012-2013 Strategic Plan was designed with these requests in mind, and also aimed to balance these additions with expanded Economy parking. The parking plan may be viewed online at http://www.uh.edu/af/TPAC.htm.
In addition to parking lots, Parking and Transportation Services operates the Cougar Line shuttle service, a free service for the UH campus, the Visitor Information Booths, a customer service counter in the Welcome Center Garage, and acts as a liaison for METRO.

About the University of Houston

The University of Houston is a comprehensive national research institution serving the globally competitive Houston and Gulf Coast Region by providing world-class faculty, experiential learning and strategic industry partnerships. UH serves more than 38,500 students in the nation’s fourth-largest city, located in the most ethnically and culturally diverse region of the country.