



Commissioner Jack Morman

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**HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 2 GIVES SYLVAN BEACH PAVILION NEW LIFE
COMMISSIONER JACK MORMAN TO HOST RIBBON CUTTING, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH AT 10 A.M.**

HOUSTON, TX – Harris County Commissioner Jack Morman will officially unveil the restored Sylvan Beach Pavilion along with the Texas Historical Marker at a Grand Reopening and Ribbon Cutting on Friday, October 25th at 10:00 a.m.

The transformation is substantial and the space will no doubt host many soirees in the coming years. In fact, building operator Shafaii PRC and the Friends of Sylvan Beach Park & Pavilion, is hosting a masked ball on the evening of October 25th. The community is invited to dance the night away and celebrate the rebirth of such a historically significant space. Tickets may be purchased at www.sbpgrandreopeningball.eventbrite.com.

As one of the few public access points to Galveston Bay, Sylvan Beach Pavilion has been serving the La Porte Community since its opening in 1893. The original open-air pavilion was ravaged by several hurricanes, paving the way for the current modernist style building that opened in 1956. In its prime, Sylvan Beach Pavilion hosted numerous dances, banquets, proms, and musical acts including the Houston Symphony. Sadly, the pavilion was closed to public use in 2008 after Hurricane Ike caused significant damage to the historic structure.

A local non-profit, Friends of Sylvan Beach Park & Pavilion, stepped in and secured three separate historic designations for the building and Harris County Precinct 2 hired Kirksey, SpawGlass, and SWCA Environmental Consultants to restore the structure to prominence. Great care was taken to ensure that the historic elements of the pavilion were preserved while the building was brought up to meet current coastal windstorm requirements. After extensive studies and coordination with the Texas Historic Commission, the design team reconstructed several classic structural elements of the building such as the floor-to-ceiling window wall, circular bar, and deck, among others.

Please see the following page for a series of before and after images.



2008 Exterior after Hurricane Ike (photo courtesy of SWCA)



2013 After Renovations (photo courtesy of Kirksey)



2008 Interior after Hurricane Ike (photo courtesy of SWCA)



2013 Interior view after renovations (photo courtesy of Kirksey)



2013 Exterior patio view after renovations (photo courtesy of Kirksey)