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Michael Vick, Fairmount Park Conservancy and Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Dedicate Team Vick Field in Hunting Park

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., August 19, 2013 – Touchdown! Today, the Fairmount Park Conservancy in partnership with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, Team Vick Foundation, the Philadelphia Eagles and many other supporters dedicated Team Vick Field in North Philadelphia's Hunting Park. The restoration of the football field to a state-of-the-art multi-sport field is the capstone project of Phase One of the Hunting Park Revitalization Project and will become home to the North Philadelphia Aztecs youth football program and Little Flower High School Athletics.

The \$1.4 million capstone project was made possible through the generosity of several funders. Leading the effort with a \$200,000 donation was the Team Vick Foundation, the philanthropic organization founded by Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick. The remainder of the project was funded by the City of Philadelphia; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; JAWS Youth Playbook; LISC Philadelphia; NRG Energy; The Philadelphia Eagles; The Philly Area Chevy Dealers' EcoAd through CBS EcoMedia and individual donors.

Renovations to the football field and surrounding track include:

- Extensive under-field drainage system
- Artificial turf lined for both football and soccer
- Football and soccer goal posts
- Electronic scoreboard
- Upgrades to the existing track, including resurfacing and the addition of striping
- Fencing and pedestrian gates around the site
- Renovations to the three existing sets of stairs providing pedestrian access to the track and field
- The creation of a maintenance/service road to the field
- Specialized maintenance equipment for the artificial turf

Despite originally being designed as a natural turf field, Team Vick Field is a state-of-the-art synthetic turf field, thanks to community input and an outpouring of generous donations. With the inclusion of

artificial turf, the field can be used as a multi-sport field and all the teams will be able to play longer seasons with more games.

Team Vick Field will now be home to the North Philadelphia Aztecs youth football program. The Aztecs are the first inner city youth football team to win a Pop Warner Championship. With more than 400 athletes in its football and cheerleading programs, the Aztecs are one of the largest youth athletic programs in Philadelphia. Yet, due to its deteriorating condition, the Aztecs have not played a game on their home field in nearly 20 years. The Little Flower High School girls' soccer team will also call Team Vick Field their home. With the field's ability to accommodate soccer, Little Flower High School has brought all of its athletic programs back into the park thanks to the revitalization project's transformation of the park's facilities and programming.

The Team Vick Foundation's mission is to dig deep to help those in need of a second chance. Michael Vick saw the opportunity to directly impact the lives of the 400+ boys and girls in the North Philadelphia Aztecs athletic program through the much-needed renovation of their home field.

"It is very important for these kids to have a football field they can be proud of," said Michael Vick. "The kids need to know that people care about them. They learn a lot more than football. The children learn from coaches who are strong mentors and it lifts the entire community."

"The completion of Team Vick Field is the capstone of Phase One of the Hunting Park Revitalization Project, a long-term plan led by the Conservancy to transform the park into a safe and well-maintained space," said Kathryn Ott Lovell, Executive Director of the Fairmount Park Conservancy. "The restoration of the park provides a place for healthy recreation for children and families, brings neighborhoods together and serves as a catalyst for larger neighborhood renewal."

"The rebirth of Hunting Park is an example of the kinds of transformative projects government can accomplish when working with private sector partners, who are committed to working with government to make Philadelphia a great place to live," said Michael DiBerardinis, Deputy Mayor for Environmental and Community Resources. "This great work could not be done with this level of quality and precision without the hard working men and women of Parks & Recreation, the vision and drive of the Conservancy's Kathryn Ott Lovell, and the guidance of the Hunting Park Community"

Today's groundbreaking ceremony featured a performance by the North Philadelphia Aztecs cheerleaders and Philadelphia Eagles cheerleaders and remarks by Congressman Chaka Fattah, Deputy Mayor for Environmental and Community Resources Michael DiBerardinis; Fairmount Park Conservancy President John Gattuso; former Philadelphia Eagles' quarterback and ESPN NFL Analyst Ron Jaworski; Michael Vick; Philadelphia Eagles President Don Smolenski; Council President Darrell Clarke, Councilwoman Maria Quinones-Sanchez; NRG Energy Northeast Regional Retail Chief Financial Officer Steve Barnes; Frank Quagliariello, VP Sales and Business Development and coaches and players from the Aztecs. Following the speaking program, there was a ceremonial ribbon cutting on the new Team Vick Field.

Today's event also highlighted the completed projects in Phase One of the Hunting Park Revitalization Project. The Fairmount Park Conservancy has raised \$4 million for Phase One which includes a state-of-the-art baseball field spearheaded by the Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard, six new tennis courts supported by tennis legend and owner of the Philadelphia Freedoms tennis team Billie Jean King, lighting improvements throughout the park, a community garden and orchard, two new playgrounds and the establishment of a Farmers' Market.

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About The Fairmount Park Conservancy

The Fairmount Park Conservancy exists to champion the Fairmount Park system. Its mission is to work as a collaborative partner to lead and support efforts which preserve and improve Fairmount Park to enhance the quality of life and stimulate the economic development of the Greater Philadelphia Region. The Fairmount Park Conservancy fulfills its mission by leading signature capital projects and innovative programs throughout Fairmount Park; by developing and leveraging resources for the park; and by promoting the parks' unique assets and contributions. The Fairmount Park system covers more than 10,200 acres and is considered one of the largest urban park systems in the world. It includes a network of more than 100 neighborhood parks and contains some of the region's most famous treasures and attractions. For more information, please visit www.myphillypark.org. "Like" the Fairmount Park Conservancy on Facebook at facebook.com/FairmountParkConservancy and "Follow" via Twitter @myphillypark.

About Philadelphia Parks & Recreation

Philadelphia Parks & Recreation is the City department that is most engaged in the lives of residents and visitors alike on a daily basis. Through its programs, policies and physical amenities, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation promotes the well being of the City, its citizens and visitors, by offering beautiful natural landscapes and parks, historically significant resources, high quality recreation centers and athletic programs, along with enriching cultural and environmental programs.

About Team Vick Foundation

The recently launched Team Vick Foundation was called into existence to respond to the 'real' and immediate needs of underserved young people, aging adults and families. Team Vick Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization aimed at reaching young people by offering unique experiences and enrichment opportunities academically, athletically and socially. Team Vick Foundation focuses on serving through philanthropic efforts, which includes community development and outreach, volunteerism, and support of educational, wellness & social programming and initiatives.

About JAWS Youth Playbook

Jaws Youth Playbook (JYP) was founded by former Philadelphia Eagle and ESPN NFL Analyst Ron Jaworski. JYP's (JawsYouthPlaybook.org) works to improve the overall health and wellness of at-risk youth in the Greater Philadelphia Region.

About The Philly Area Chevy Dealers

Their involvement with the Hunting Park renewal is just another example of this Chevrolet dealer groups commitment to youth sports and their communities. They also sponsor the Chevrolet Youth Baseball and Youth Soccer programs, where each dealership is partnered with a youth sports team in their local community. The Philly Area Chevy Group assist youth sports in the communities where their stores are located, Philly, South New Jersey and Delaware.

About CBS EcoMedia Inc.

At EcoMedia, we're propelled by the desire to create positive social change; that's been our mission since we founded the company in 2002. In 2008, after successfully partnering with CBS on a wide range of environmental projects, EcoMedia became the newest addition to the CBS Corporation portfolio, exponentially scaling our reach across television, radio, interactive, publishing and outdoor media.

Through our patent-pending EcoAd, WellnessAd and EducationAd programs, an innovative twist on traditional advertising, advertisers are able to support much-needed local projects which in turn creates jobs, saves taxpayer money and improves the quality of life in communities nationwide. In the process, we're fundamentally altering the advertising landscape, elevating the ordinary, traditional commercial – and media, in general – into a catalyst for tangible, quantifiable social change. Please visit ecomedia.cbs.com to learn more.

About NRG Energy

NRG is at the forefront of changing how people think about and use energy. We deliver cleaner and smarter energy choices for our customers, backed by the nation's largest independent power generation portfolio of fossil fuel, nuclear, solar and wind facilities. A Fortune 500 company, NRG is challenging the U.S. energy industry by becoming one of the largest developers of solar power, building the first comprehensive electric vehicle ecosystem, and providing customers with the most advanced smart energy solutions to better manage their energy use. In addition to 47,000 megawatts of generation capacity, enough to supply nearly 40 million homes, our retail electricity providers serve more than two million customers. More information is available at www.nrgenergy.com. Connect with NRG Energy on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @nrgenergy.