

## **Philadelphia Parks & Recreation**

### **Statement re: Proposed Tree Top Adventure Course**

The Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Department is deferring further public action and discussion regarding the Tree Top Adventure course in the Wissahickon Valley to conduct an internal re-evaluation of the concept. Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) believes that experiential programming such as a Tree Top Adventure course within the identified location is an innovative and appropriate strategy to promote environmental education as well as to engage future parkland stewards. PPR also believes in a collaborative process when working within a community and that value has influenced the decision to re-examine the Tree Top Adventure proposal.

PPR has taken significant steps to provide factual information during discussions of the Tree Top Adventure concept (<http://treetopadventure.weebly.com/>). However, the volume of misinformation currently in circulation, along with the Department's responsibility to safeguard valued community partners from misguided criticism, necessitates the additional review and analysis of this opportunity.

Philadelphia Parks & Recreation is appreciative of the broad support and public trust that their past actions have merited and is committed to promoting the well-being of the City, its citizens and visitors on a daily basis. Philadelphia Parks & Recreation will maintain a leadership role in providing activities and opportunities that improve the City and region's environmental, social, cultural and physical health.