



Media Release

AIRLINES AND AVIATION DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TEAM UP TO HELP YOUTH ATHLETIC PROGRAM IN BAISLEY PARK

Aviation Development Council (ADC), a bridge organization between the regional aviation industry and the communities it serves, is proud to announce its partnership with City Councilmember Leroy Comrie in support of City Parks Foundation's 2008 *CityParks Tennis presented by Chase & CityParks Golf* programs for Baisley Pond Park. ADC's support of this important youth athletics program for Baisley Pond Park came as a result of some dialogue with Council Member Comrie's office, the community affairs office of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and the airline board members of ADC.

"Aviation Development Council has formulated a community outreach program which is focused on youth wellness, youth leadership development, and youth education. We were looking for a worthwhile initiative in the Baisley Park neighborhood and began discussions with the Port Authority, City Councilmember Comrie's office, and City Parks Foundation (CPF). CPF's *CityParks Tennis presented by Chase & CityParks Golf* program at Baisley Pond Park became a natural choice for our local outreach efforts," states Bill Huisman, Executive Director of the Aviation Development Council. "We appreciate Councilmember Comrie's concern for the youth of his community and the support we received from the Port Authority and our airline board members. We are pleased to be helping City Parks Foundation with this exciting program for young people in the Baisley Park area," continued Mr. Huisman.

This free youth golf & tennis instruction program began during the week of July 5th, and provides a fun way for children throughout New York City to learn golf & tennis basics. The *CityParks Golf & CityParks Tennis presented by Chase* programs provide free coaching and equipment to boys and girls, ages 5-16. The *CityParks Golf* program at Baisley Park runs from June 30th to August 21st (Tue & Thurs, 9:30 am – 12 pm). The *City Parks Tennis* program runs from June 30th to August 12th (Tue & Thurs, 1 – 4pm).

"Our youth golf & tennis programs have proven to be very successful over the years and we are very excited about providing both in Baisley Pond Park this year," said David Rivel, Executive Director for City Parks Foundation. "Our goal is to spark an interest in tennis, golf and other organized sports among city kids at an early age, not only to promote fitness and well-being, but to help inspire a sense of accomplishment and self-confidence."

City Parks Foundation's innovative program consists of two golf or tennis lessons per week, introducing young players to the game through specialized instruction and equipment. The summer program includes warm-up stretches, life skills activities and helpful golf & tennis drills. Fun games and contests at the end of each session allow participants to apply the skills they have just learned. All CPF sports programs teach children important life skills – such as sportsmanship, self-confidence, patience, respect, and team work.

City Parks Foundation (CPF) is the only independent, non-profit organization to offer park programs throughout the five boroughs of New York City. CPF works in over 700 parks citywide, presenting a broad range of free arts, sports and education programs and helping citizens support their parks on a local level. Its programs and community-building initiatives reach more than 600,000 New Yorkers each year, contributing to the revitalization of neighborhoods throughout New York City.

The Aviation Development Council (ADC) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to be a positive agent for the advancement of aviation in the New York metropolitan area by promoting a business-minded, community-friendly agenda for both the region's aviation industry and the communities it serves. ADC is funded by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the airlines that operate at four Port-Authority managed airports (LGA, JFK, EWR, TEB). ADC's Board of Directors is comprised of representatives from American Airlines, Air Canada, Continental Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and the Port Authority of NY & NJ.

ADC will be celebrating its support of CPF's *CityParks Youth Tennis & Golf Program* at Baisley Pond Park with a check presentation and media event on Thursday, July 17th, at 10:30 in the morning at Baisley Pond Park. Those expected to be present for this occasion are: Ralph Tragale, Manager of Government and Community Affairs for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey; Jessica Lerman, Development Director - City Parks Foundation (CPF); Mike Silverman, Director of *CityParks Sports*; [Mollie Michel, Director of Corporate Partnerships, City Parks Foundation](#); Bill Huisman, Executive Director, ADC; and other esteemed guests.

CPF's CityParks Youth Golf & Tennis Program at Baisley Pond Park is made possible through generous support from the Aviation Development Council, and with the support of the City Parks Foundation.

Aviation Development Council & City Parks Foundation Check Presentation, Media Event Overview

What: Check presentation & media event to celebrate support of ***CityParks Golf & CityParks Tennis presented by Chase*** programs by the Aviation Development Council (in cooperation with City Parks Foundation & the office of City Councilman Leroy Comrie).

When: Thursday, July 17th at 10:30 in the morning.

Where: Baisley Pond Park at 155th Street & Foch Blvd. (located near the park's tennis courts and adjacent to the park house).

More info: For further information, contact the Aviation Development Council at (718) 746-0212 or City Parks Foundation at (212) 360-8281 (Christina Spatz).