



midtown
HOUSTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: JERI BROOKS

jeri@oneworldstrong.com

mobile 713 807 0781



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Midtown Mourns the Death of Community Forefather

(Midtown, Houston) - Prominent leader and forefather of Midtown Houston, F. Charles LeBlanc has died unexpectedly, leaving a great loss for the community. He served as Executive Administrator of the Midtown District for 16 years and after retirement joined the Midtown Management District Board of Directors.

“Charles LeBlanc was a great mentor and visionary,” said Matt Thibodeaux, President & CEO of Midtown Houston. “He put his heart and soul in making Midtown what it is today. He will be truly missed.”

LeBlanc’s commitment to the community started with walking every block of the community, memorizing the entire layout of the district and learning by networking with known property owners the needs of the community. Throughout his career, LeBlanc was responsible for providing a vision for the district that now sets Midtown as a premier neighborhood to live, work and play.

“In 1992, Charles initiated community efforts to revitalize Midtown,” said Bob Sellingsloh, Chairman Midtown Redevelopment Authority. “During the early years, Charles personally loaned the district money to keep the revitalization efforts moving forward. Decades later he took great satisfaction in seeing Midtown become a thriving district known for the arts, restaurants and an influx of new residential development.”

In the backroom of Trinity Episcopal with only a borrowed desk, LeBlanc created the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone to support the revitalization of the Midtown neighborhood. Through his work Midtown has made visible street and lighting repairs, developed community parks and added signature district signage.

“Charles was a shining example of what can happen in a neighborhood when stakeholders share in the responsibility of revitalization,” State Representative Garnet Coleman who was responsible for passing legislation to continue economic opportunities in Midtown. “I would like to express my heartfelt sympathy for the family of Charles LeBlanc.”

As the chief executive for Midtown, LeBlanc was responsible for the daily supervision and management including oversight of development reimbursements, coordinating consultants, managing the financial obligations of Midtown while promoting and growing interest in Midtown.

“Charles lived a life with purpose and will be remembered as a true hero. As we mourn his death, we also celebrate a life well lived,” Bill Franks, Chairman, Midtown Management District.

“It is with great sadness that we have lost one of our own. Mr. LeBlanc was a tireless advocate for Midtown,” said Senator Rodney Ellis. “Charles was the catalyst to much of the development that represents and benefits residents and businesses within Midtown and surrounding communities.”

Services for Mr. F. Charles LeBlanc

Viewing of F. Charles LeBlanc

Friday, April 22, 2016
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Klein Funeral Home
1400 West Main
Tomball, Texas 77375

Funeral of F. Charles LeBlanc

Saturday, April 23, 2016
2:00 pm
Klein Funeral Home
1400 West Main
Tomball, Texas 77375

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About Midtown Houston – Midtown Houston is comprised of two organizations committed to making Midtown a model of urban living in the center of Houston, Texas. The two organizations are the Midtown Redevelopment Authority/Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 2 and the Midtown Management District. These organizations undertake projects with widespread benefit to the area that is beyond the ability of individual property owners or businesses within the district to provide. Both organizations share the common vision of shaping Midtown into a thriving, pedestrian-friendly urban community with distinct responsibilities. Midtown was the first management district in Texas to receive the Cultural Arts & Entertainment District accreditation from the Texas Commission on the Arts.