



**DENVER**<sup>®</sup>  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

**City and County of Denver**  
Parks and Recreation

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

# **Groundbreaking at Valverde Park for new fields through unique partnership with the Police Activities League**

**DENVER, CO — June 11, 2009**

**WHAT:** Denver Parks and Recreation and the Police Activities League (PAL) will have the ceremonial groundbreaking for several new synthetic turf football/baseball fields, as well as a newly renovated basketball court, at Valverde Park

**WHO:** Denver Parks and Recreation senior management  
Police Activities League management

**Special Guests:** Former Division Chief Jerry Kennedy; Kelly Young, wife of slain Denver Police Officer Donnie Young; Linda Childears, president and CEO of the Daniels Fund, Councilman Chris Nevitt, Parks and Recreation Manager Kevin Patterson, Deputy Manager of Parks and Planning Scott Robson and Director of \ Planning and Construction Gordon Robertson.

**WHEN:** **Friday, June 12, 2009**  
**1 p.m.**

**WHERE:** **Valverde Park**  
South Platte River Drive and West Bayaud in Denver (just north of Alameda Ave. on South Platte River Drive)

**WHY:** In 2008, the Police Activities League received a grant from the Daniels Fund to help build a new headquarters and support its mission of providing for disadvantaged boys and girls a safe haven to play sports coached by community volunteers including Denver Police Officers, Firemen and Sheriffs.

At the same time, Denver Parks and Recreation was looking to improve and add amenities to one of its Southwest parks, but with limited funding available. By creating this unique partnership, PAL will have a place to call home and support its mission, and Denver Parks and Recreation will be able to offer an amazing recreation facility to kids in Southwest Denver as well as throughout the City that otherwise would not have been possible.

PAL will invest over \$2 million in the new Valverde Sports Complex.

**Fact Sheet:**

**Jerry Kennedy Denver PAL Headquarters**

- Approximately 9000 Square Ft. building will open late spring of 2010.
- It will have a boxing gym, workout gym, offices, a classroom, and storage.
- PAL will significantly expand their athletic and academic offerings to neighboring and other Denver youth.

**Valverde Park Renovation**

- New, state-of-the-art Field turf for four baseball fields that can be over-layed with two small football/multi-purpose fields.
- Low-impact, high-efficiency Musco lights.
- New fencing, concrete, landscaping.
- Basketball court renovation.
- Main Baseball field named for Det. Donnie Young, killed in the line of duty.
- Basketball court named for Chauncey Billups.

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