



## BELO GARDEN

### **AN URBAN OASIS TAKES ROOT IN DOWNTOWN DALLAS: BELO GARDEN OPENS TODAY**

*Mayor Mike Rawlings, Dallas Park Board President Joan Walne and Philanthropist Robert Decherd Gather with Dallas Leaders to Open the Second Park in the Downtown Parks Master Plan.*

**(Dallas, Texas – May 10, 2012)** Belo Garden Development LLC today opened the second park in the Downtown Parks Master Plan, the result of a partnership and joint funding effort by Belo Corp., The Belo Foundation, Maureen and Robert Decherd, and the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department. Belo Garden is dedicated to the employees of A. H. Belo Corporation and Belo Corp., past, present and future.

“Belo Garden is a significant accomplishment for our city,” said Robert W. Decherd, who was CEO of Belo Corp. when the agreement to build the park was forged. “It is also a great example of cooperation and joint fundraising between the public and private sectors. Belo Garden exemplifies the collaboration that resulted in the Downtown Parks Master Plan in 2004 – the first plan of its kind in the City’s history. Our sincere hope is that the opening of Belo Garden today will inspire other successful public-private partnerships to fund Downtown parks.”

Award-winning landscape architects Hargreaves Associates and construction experts Austin Industries worked closely with Belo Garden Development LLC to design and build the park.

Belo Garden is an urban oasis for Downtown Dallas residents, employees, visitors and students, and will stimulate economic development in surrounding areas. Different from its sister park Main Street Garden, Belo Garden is filled with 109 trees and more than 10,000 individual perennial grasses, flowers and shrubs. More than 75 percent of the species in the Garden are native to Texas, as are over 13,000 square feet of granite. Features also include an interactive fountain, a nine-foot hill and permanent seating for approximately 150 guests to relax in the sun or shade.

Belo Garden is a serene sanctuary for Downtown residents, employees, visitors and students. The park is open 5:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. daily and is free to the public.

For more information, visit [www.belogarden.com](http://www.belogarden.com).