

## HOUSTON DYNAMO HOST RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AT NEW STADIUM

Written by Yolande Lezine  
Monday, 14 May 2012 19:49

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The Houston Dynamo and BBVA Compass Stadium hosted the building's ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring various dignitaries, representing all portions of the City of Houston.

The event, which was held on the Heineken Terrace at BBVA Compass Stadium, located at 2200 Texas Street, was one of the most anticipated events in the history of the Dynamo franchise.

Honorees in attendance at the event included the following people: City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker, Harris County Commissioner, Precinct One, El Franco Lee, U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, City of Houston Councilmember, District I, James Rodriguez, Harris County-Houston Sports Authority (HCHSA) Chairman, J. Kent "Kenny" Friedman, Texas Southern University President, Dr. John Rudley, Houston Dynamo President Chris Caneti, and BBVA Compass Stadium General Manager, Doug Hall.

The Houston Dynamo soccer team will play its first home game in their new stadium on Saturday, May 12th, in front of a sellout crowd. Previously, the Dynamo have won two MLS Cup Championships and three Conference championships, in its first six seasons. They have also qualified to represent the United States in international competition five times, including in the 2012-13 CONCACAF Champions League. The team is currently training in the Methodist Champions Field at Houston Amateur Sports Park (HASP), the premier training facility in Southeast Texas.

Fans can't wait for the start of the home season this Saturday against DC United at 3:00 p.m.,

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and that was displayed this past weekend when fans were invited out to an open practice to see the new stadium and watch their favorite team in orange.

“We have waited for this day for a long time,” said Houston Dynamo President Chris Canetti. “The fans and the city of Houston have supported us from day one and we can’t wait to start the quest to bring another championship back home to Houston!”

BBVA Compass Stadium, an AEG Facility, is a state-of-the-art, open-air stadium designed to host Houston Dynamo matches and Texas Southern University football games as well as additional professional, collegiate and community sporting events, concerts, exhibitions, conventions and special events.

The 340,000-square foot, 22,000 seat stadium will be the first soccer-specific stadium in Major League Soccer located in a city’s downtown district. With its downtown location, the new stadium will be a part of a true “Stadium District,” which includes Minute Maid Park and the Toyota Center, as well as the George R. Brown Convention Center, Discovery Green Park, Warehouse Live and House of Blues.

BBVA Compass Stadium is part of the AEG Facilities global network of elite sports and including STAPLES Center in Los Angeles, California, The Home Depot Center in Carson, California, Sprint Center in Kansas City, Missouri, The O2 Arena in London, England, O2 World Berlin in Germany, the Globe Arenas in Stockholm, Mercedes-Benz Arena in Shanghai, Mastercard Center in Beijing and Pernambuco Stadium in Brazil, to name a few.

Other guests in attendance included: Dr. Charles McClelland-Athletic Director at Texas Southern University, Sheriff Adrian Garcia-Harris County Sheriff Department, Carol Alvarado, Susan Christian-Director of Mayor’s Special Events for the City of Houston, Congressman Al Green, Houston Dynamo Cheerleaders, and various members of the Texas Southern University Alumni.