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IPL Mayor's Lunch for Parks Thursday raised \$208,000 for Indianapolis Parks Foundation, a 54% increase over 2009 event

(Indianapolis—March 5, 2010)—Thursday's eighth annual IPL Mayor's Lunch for Parks raised a record \$208,000 for the Indianapolis Parks Foundation, thanks to the generosity of the 77 sponsors and the more than 500 corporate and community leaders in attendance.

The donations surpassed totals from previous years' lunches and represent a 54% increase over the 2009 event.

Mayor Ballard hosted the event, taking the opportunity to stress to the audience of business leaders the importance of private funding in keeping the city's park system well maintained and its programs for children, adults and families plentiful. He also spoke to the value of parks for recreation, public safety and community pride.

Cindy Porteous, executive director of the foundation, spoke to successes of 2009 and the plans for the funds in 2010. Indy Parks staff, led by Director Stuart Lowry, shared firsthand how Indy Parks will put the dollars to use.

The IPL Mayor's Lunch for Parks serves as the foundation's primary corporate fund raising event. Funds raised at the 2010 luncheon will support the foundation's work to help Indy Parks & Recreation build a world-class parks system by providing funding for land acquisition, park programs, capital improvements and maintenance.

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The Indianapolis Parks Foundation enhances the recreational, educational and cultural life of the Indianapolis community by encouraging and soliciting support for our City's Parks system. The Foundation provides funding for land acquisition, park programs, capital improvements and maintenance and has raised over \$19 million since its inception in 1991. Visit indyparksfoundation.org for more information