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**CONNOR BARWIN JOINS THE BOARD OF PHILADELPHIA'S FAIRMOUNT PARK
CONSERVANCY**

NFL Player Pledges Matching Gift for "Giving Tuesday"

PHILADELPHIA – November 27, 2018 -- The Board of Directors of Fairmount Park Conservancy is pleased to announce the election of a new member: Connor Barwin. Barwin is playing his 10th season with the National Football League (NFL), currently with the New York Giants. He previously played with the Philadelphia Eagles and Los Angeles Rams after starting his career with the Houston Texans. Barwin is also the Founder and Board President of Make the World Better Foundation (MTWB), a nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting people and inspiring stewardship through public space revitalization projects.

Barwin has pledged to match up to \$5,000 in donations that Fairmount Park Conservancy receives on "Giving Tuesday" today, November 27.



"Fairmount Park Conservancy is thrilled to have Connor Barwin join our Board because he is committed to supporting public space as an essential element in the life of our communities, especially for our young people," said **John Gattuso, President of the Board of Directors of Fairmount Park Conservancy.**

In 2013, during Barwin's first year with the Eagles, he founded MTWB and through the foundation has led three public park

revitalization projects at Ralph Brooks Park, Smith Playground in South Philadelphia and now Waterloo Playground in West Kensington. Connor works closely with MTWB staff, community groups, city agencies, other nonprofits, and the business community to plan and implement each project. In April 2018, MTWB merged with partner organization, Urban Roots, founded by Jeffrey Tubbs.

Connor's philanthropic efforts began in 2011 when he traveled to Nigeria with Texans teammate Amobi Okoye's foundation on a humanitarian mission to bring medical supplies, textbooks, and American footballs to Nigerian youth. Connor also travelled to Haiti on multiple occasions with NRG Energy to install solar panels on orphanages, schools, and hospitals. In 2018, Connor climbed Mount Kilimanjaro with the Eagles' Chris Long, and former NFL long snapper and Army Green Beret Nate Boyer, alongside veterans to raise awareness about water scarcity.

Connor graduated from the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy in 2005, receiving an athletic scholarship to the University of Cincinnati where he played football and basketball. In 2007 Connor was awarded the Oscar Robertson Award in basketball, which recognizes dedication and commitment as well as on-court accomplishments. In 2008 Connor was named MVP, helping the Bearcat football team to its first Big East Championship and first BCS Orange Bowl.

Connor holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Cincinnati. Outside of football season, Connor and his wife Laura reside in Philadelphia with their infant son West David.

Fairmount Park Conservancy exists to champion Philadelphia's parks. We lead capital projects and historic preservation efforts, foster neighborhood park stewardship, attract and leverage investments, and develop innovative programs throughout the 10,200 acres that include Fairmount Park and more than 100 neighborhood parks around the city. For more information, please visit myphillypark.org, join us at

facebook.com/fairmountparkconservancy, and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @myphillypark.

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