



## IN THE NEWS

## **GESSNER ICE HOUSE?**

## 3 Inner Loop bars and restaurants on tap for massive Memorial City expansion

BY ERIC SANDLER MAR 28, 2019, 12:05 PM

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Three of the inner Loop's most popular bars and restaurants are headed to Memorial City. Kirby Ice House, Mia's Table, and Torchy's Tacos will all open in a new mixed-use development on the north side of I-10 from Memorial City Mall, real estate developer MetroNational announced.

All three new arrivals are expected to open between spring and fall of 2020. The new development expands on the existing property that already includes a six-story office building that's home to a number of offices, including the corporate home of CEMEX USA, and popular eatery Leibman's. Long-term plans include the addition of a hotel.

"This master plan exemplifies the health of the West Houston corridor," Jason Johnson, president of MetroNational, said in a statement. "Our company began assembling this 18-acre tract in 2005 as part of our strategic master plan. This major expansion illustrates our continued commitment to developing and redeveloping the 265 acres that comprises Memorial City."

Started in 2012 by Johnny Carrabba, Mia's Table serves burgers, comfort food, and other family-friendly fare. The restaurant has been on a growth spurt recently, adding locations in The Woodlands and Webster. In addition to the Memorial City location, Carrabba will also open a new Mia's in Katy later this year.





## culture map

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"Our customers have been requesting a Mia's Table in their Memorial neighborhood for quite some time," Carrabba added. "We decided on Memorial City because it is such a dynamic location and a natural fit for this family-friendly concept."

METRONATIONAL 945 BUNKER HILL SUITE 400 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024 Kirby Ice House needs even less of an introduction. Since it opened in 2016, the spacious patio bar has been among Houston's highest-grossing establishments. As for Torchy's, the Austin-based restaurant now has over a dozen outposts that sling trailer park, Republican, and Mr. Pink tacos.

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