

**THE ION INNOVATION AND COMMUNITY HUB EXPANDS ITS MIX OF OFFERINGS WITH THE LAUNCH OF COMMON BOND ON-THE-GO**

***COMMON BOND ON-THE-GO ION WILL OFFER LOCAL FAVORITES, SUCH AS ITS SIGNATURE COFFEE AND DELECTABLE MACARONS, ALONGSIDE FRESH BAKED GOODS MADE DAILY, GRAB-AND-GO PACKAGED ITEMS, AND MORE***

**HOUSTON, TX (FEBRUARY 2, 2022)** – [The Ion](#) (4201 Main St. Houston, TX 77002) has announced that [Common Bond On-the-Go Ion](#) is now open to the public as of Monday, January 31. The newest on-the-go iteration of the popular Houston-area bakery and bistro marks the concept's 11<sup>th</sup> location overall and its sixth on-the-go outpost.

Destined to serve as a gathering nexus for accidental collisions that could lead to the next brilliant idea among The Ion's tenants, partners, and visitors, Common Bond On-the-Go Ion will be open from 7 am to 2 pm Monday through Friday, with breakfast served until 11 am; sandwiches and bowls will be served from 11 am to close.

On top of irresistible baked goods such as croissants, scones, kouign-amman, and kugelhopfs, Common Bond On-the-Go Ion will debut a new menu item: the OTG Vegetarian Sandwich, a nutrient-dense offering with everything spiced cream cheese, pickled red onions, avocado, cucumber, and arugula on sunflower rye bread. On the beverage side, frose and mimosas are available by-the-glass or via carafe.

"The entire Common Bond team is ecstatic to be able to open our doors to Houstonians and out-of-town visitors alike who utilize and frequent this state-of-the-art collaborative environment on a daily basis," emphasized Common Bond CEO George Joseph. He added, "Our hope is to be able to provide the daily fuel needed for individuals traversing the floors of The Ion to be able to execute, inspire, educate, and ideate, no matter what it is they are focused on achieving."

As visitors enter the dynamic space, which boasts indoor and outdoor seating, they will be greeted by a colorful mural created by Houston-based artist, designer, and muralist [Shelbi Nicole](#). A celebrated creative visionary, Nicole has worked with a number of prominent brands and was selected by the City of Houston to re-envision area electrical boxes as works of art as part of its Mini Murals campaign.

"With Common Bond On-the-Go now open as a daily gathering place within the building, I am eager to arrive to work each morning to see and hear it enlivened with enthusiastic conversations among colleagues, friends, and new acquaintances over a pastry or a cup of coffee," noted Jan Odegard, The Ion's Executive Director.

Common Bond On-the-Go Ion will soon be joined within the building itself and within the broader [Ion District](#) by a host of local favorites: **Late August** – a new concept helmed in the kitchen by *Top Chef* Season 18 finalist Chef Dawn Burrell in partnership with celebrated Chef Chris Williams of Lucille's fame; **The Lyubar** – a neighborhood craft cocktail bar and restaurant with Latin and Mediterranean flavors from distinguished Chef David Cordúa; **Second Draught** – a taproom from the creators of neighborhood brewpub Baileson Brewing Company that will serve up a noteworthy selection of pours from Houston's 70+ craft breweries; and **STUFF'd Wings** – the first brick-and-mortar location of Jarrod Rector's eponymous food truck, which will be located adjacent to The Ion within the broader Ion District. Each of the four concepts is gearing up to launch in the ensuing spring months.

“Common Bond’s launch represents a key milestone which reinforces RMC’s commitment to ensuring that, as The Ion District continues to grow, it functions as a centralized indoor and outdoor destination that celebrates Houston’s collective diversity, its entrepreneurial spirit, and its lively culture,” emphasized Ryan LeVasseur, Managing Director at Rice Management Company.

**About The Ion**

The Ion anchors a 16-acre innovation district, the epicenter for Houston's innovation ecosystem, as an inclusive, dynamic, vibrant, and dense hub focusing on quality collaborations between entrepreneurs, incubators, accelerators, corporations, academics, and the Houston community. The 266,000-square-foot building accommodates multiple uses, including class-A office space, shared workspace, prototyping and maker resources, event space, classrooms, food and beverage offerings as well as indoor/outdoor communal areas with shared amenities. For more information, please visit

<https://ionhouston.com/>.

**About Rice Management Company (RMC)**

Rice Management Company (RMC) is responsible for the stewardship of a \$8.1 billion endowment fund and the University’s \$1.1 billion of debt. We are a group of diverse professionals with strong investment and endowment operations expertise. RMC is closely integrated with University leadership, and actively participates in operations and financial planning, and in shaping long-term strategic direction.

**ABOUT COMMON BOND**

In every city, village, and town the “common bond” that everyone shares is the love of good food. It bridges together all ages, cultures, and beliefs. From this idea, Common Bond Bistro & Bakery was opened in May 2014 in the Montrose area of Houston, TX. We now have 11 locations across the city of Houston where the community gathers to dine and bond over good food, extraordinary pastries, and custom cakes. For more information, please visit <https://www.commonbondcafe.com/>.

**ABOUT COMMON BOND: ON-THE-GO**

The On-The-Go concept serves Common Bond's delicious pastries and sweets as well as a grab-and-go style savory menu, including breakfast bites, sandwiches, and salad bowls. The beverage program includes a full-service coffee bar.

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**MEDIA CONTACT** Jonathan Babin / Carlie Dietert  
Public Content / 713.524.2800  
[jonathan@public-content.com](mailto:jonathan@public-content.com)  
[carlie@public-content.com](mailto:carlie@public-content.com)