MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council
City of Austin Environmental Commission
City of Austin Water and Wastewater Commission
Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager
Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water
Doug Matthews, Chief Communications Director

FROM: Richard Mendoza, Director, Public Works Department

CC: Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager
James Snow, Assistant Director, Public Works
Shannon Halley, Environmental Program Coordinator. Austin Water
Sherri Kuhl, Division Manager Environmental Conservation, Austin Water

DATE: September 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Request to Rename the Water Treatment Plant 4

PURPOSE: Notification of the request to rename Water Treatment Plant 4 to the Berl L. Handcox Sr. Water Treatment Plant.

OVERVIEW: The Public Works Department received a request to rename Water Treatment Plant 4 to the Berl L. Handcox Sr. Water Treatment Plant. Former Council Member Handcox dedicated his life to improving living and working conditions for Austin's African American community by increasing job opportunities, improving East Austin infrastructure, and bridging East Austin to the rest of Austin. Throughout his time on Council, Council Member Handcox spent considerable time passionately advocating for water and wastewater facilities to be both cleaner and more equitably distributed throughout the City. Water Treatment Plant 4, Austin's newest water treatment plan, unprecedented environmental commissioning process confirmed his passion to provide Austin with environmentally sound water and wastewater treatment infrastructure.

On August 3, 2017, Council approved resolution # 20170803-056 directing the City Manager to initiate the proceedings as outlined in the Code of the City of Austin, Chapter 14-1-34 to rename Water Treatment Plant 4 to the Berl L. Handcox, Sr. Water Treatment Plant.

As required by Chapter 14-1-34, the Public Works Director is required to notify you of the request and that the process has started. This memorandum serves as the notification and begins the 90 Day public notice period.

NEXT STEPS: Currently Public Works, Austin Water and the City of Austin Public Information Office are working together on this process. The standard steps are outlined below:

1. Public Information Office shall take reasonable steps to inform persons who are likely to have an interest in the renaming of the facility. The public information officer shall consider the nature and location of the facility and whether a particular community is likely to be especially interested in the process, and disseminate the information in a way designed to reach those communities.
2. The deadline for the director to receive and accept suggestions and endorsements for a renaming (per 14-1-33 (E)) is 90 days after the Public Works Director's notification is submitted.
3. As soon as practical after the 90 day public notice period has closed for receiving suggestions and endorsements, the Public Works Director shall submit completed suggestions and endorsements to the chair of the City advisory board that the director finds to have appropriate jurisdiction.
4. The Environmental Commission and Water and Wastewater Commission will need to hold public hearings on this request.
5. Within 45 days of receiving the endorsements from the Public Works Director, the advisory board shall make a written recommendation to the council after the date the chair receives the suggestions and endorsements, and shall provide a copy of the recommendation to the City Manager.
6. The City Manager shall provide to each council member a copy of the advisory board's recommendation and the suggestions and endorsements received by the director. The City Manager shall place an item regarding the renaming of the facility on the council's agenda as soon as practicable after the advisory board makes its recommendation.

Based on these steps the consideration for renaming is expected to reach Council in either late January or early February.