



Recommendation for Water & Wastewater Commission

Commission Meeting Date:	May 9, 2018
Council Meeting Date:	May 24, 2018
Department:	Austin Water
Client:	Denise Avery and Greg Meszaros
SUBJECT	
Conduct a Public Hearing as required under City Code Section 14-1-34 (Procedure for renaming a Facility) to receive public comment regarding the proposed renaming of the Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP4) and make a recommendation to Council regarding the proposed renaming. (District 6)	
AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING	
Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget of Austin Water.	
Purchasing Language:	N/A
Prior Council Action:	August 3, 2017 – City Council approved a resolution directing the City Manager to initiate the process of renaming “Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP4)” to the Berl L. Handcox, Sr. Water Treatment Plant.
Boards and Commission Action:	May 9, 2018 – To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission. May 16, 2018 – To be reviewed by the Environmental Commission.
MBE/WBE:	N/A

On August 3, 2017, the City Council approved Resolution No. 20170803-056 initiating proceedings under Section 14-1-34 of the City Code to rename Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP4) to the Berl L. Handcox, Sr. Water Treatment Plant.

Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP4) is Austin Water's newest water treatment plant. The plant is located at 6800 N. Ranch Road to Market 620, Austin Texas (District 6). As per the provisions of the code, 90 days were allowed for the community to make additional suggestion or endorsements, and that process concluded on April 5, 2018. The Public Works Department received six recommendations for renaming the plant.

RESOLUTION NO. 20170803-056

WHEREAS, Council Member Berl L. Handcox Sr., was the first African American Council Member elected under the Manager-Council form of government, serving from 1971 through 1975; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Handcox was well known for initiating the Community Improvement Program to enhance deteriorating areas of East Austin and eventually all of Austin, as well as the "Handcox Paving Policy" which curbed, guttered and paved roads throughout the entire city; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, Council Member Handcox and the Council directed the City Manager to authorize grant funds to support the construction of the City's wastewater treatment and collection facilities, focusing on the Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds purchased and installed a centrifuge, which propelled East Austin infrastructure enhancements, modernizing the wastewater treatment plant and greatly improving air quality in East Austin; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, Austin's newest water treatment plant, currently called *Water Treatment Plant 4*, which was completed in 2014, is evidence of Council Member Handcox's legacy as it boasts an unprecedented environmental commissioning process that protected the environment both during construction and into the future, confirming Handcox's passion to provide Austin with environmentally sound water and wastewater treatment infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Handcox resides in City of Austin's District 6, and has lived in his home for over 40 years; the same district that *Water Treatment Plant 4* is located; and

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and deserving that Council Member Handcox be honored through the naming of a major piece of water infrastructure due to his incredible efforts and accomplishments during his time on the City Council; **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to initiate proceedings in accordance with § 14-1-39(A) of the City Code for the re-naming of *Water Treatment Plant 4* with the suggestion that it be named the *Berl L. Handcox, Sr. Water Treatment Plant*.

ADOPTED: August 3, 2017

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk



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.

Suggestions/Endorsements for renaming Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP4):

- **Johnny Ringo WTP**
- **Four Points Water Treatment Plant**
- **Water Treatment Plant 4**
- **The Willie Nelson Water Purification Project**
- **Lake Travis Water Facility**
- **Birdy Lebron Birdsong Water Treatment Plant**

Avery, Denise

From: Chagoya, Areli
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:31 AM
To: Mendez, Selinda
Cc: Garnett, Susan
Subject: FW: WTP 4

From: Chagoya, Areli **On Behalf Of** Public Works
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:11 AM
To: Mendez, Selinda <Selinda.Mendez@austintexas.gov>
Subject: FW: WTP 4

From: bradhatton42 [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 14, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Public Works <Public.Works@austintexas.gov>
Subject: WTP 4

Please name it the Johnny Ringo WTP.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Avery, Denise

From: Chagoya, Areli
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:32 AM
To: Mendez, Selinda
Cc: Garnett, Susan
Subject: FW: Renaming Water Treatment Plant 4

From: Chagoya, Areli **On Behalf Of** Public Works
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Mendez, Selinda <Selinda.Mendez@austintexas.gov>
Subject: FW: Renaming Water Treatment Plant 4

From: Joe Binns [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 14, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Public Works <Public.Works@austintexas.gov>
Subject: Renaming Water Treatment Plant 4

Attn: Sandra Soler

Assuming WTP4 will be renamed I recommend it be named the "Four Points Water Treatment Plant". WTP 4 is located in an area widely known as Four Points and would geographically identify its general location.

The cost of replacement of signs and plaques would be the same as any other renaming.

Joe Binns
[REDACTED]

Avery, Denise

From: Chagoya, Areli
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:32 AM
To: Mendez, Selinda
Cc: Garnett, Susan
Subject: FW: Name for Water Treatment Plant 4

From: Chagoya, Areli **On Behalf Of** Public Works
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Mendez, Selinda <Selinda.Mendez@austintexas.gov>
Subject: FW: Name for Water Treatment Plant 4

From: Peter Pirich [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 14, 2018 6:33 PM
To: Public Works <Public.Works@austintexas.gov>
Subject: Name for Water Treatment Plant 4

I like the current name for the facility – Water Treatment Plant 4. It describes the function of the plant.

In view of recent controversies around schools and buildings named for people no longer considered politically correct, let's save the hassle should some person's name be deemed inappropriate in the future, and keep the non-personal name.

The cost for not changing the name is \$0, an good use of taxpayer's funds.

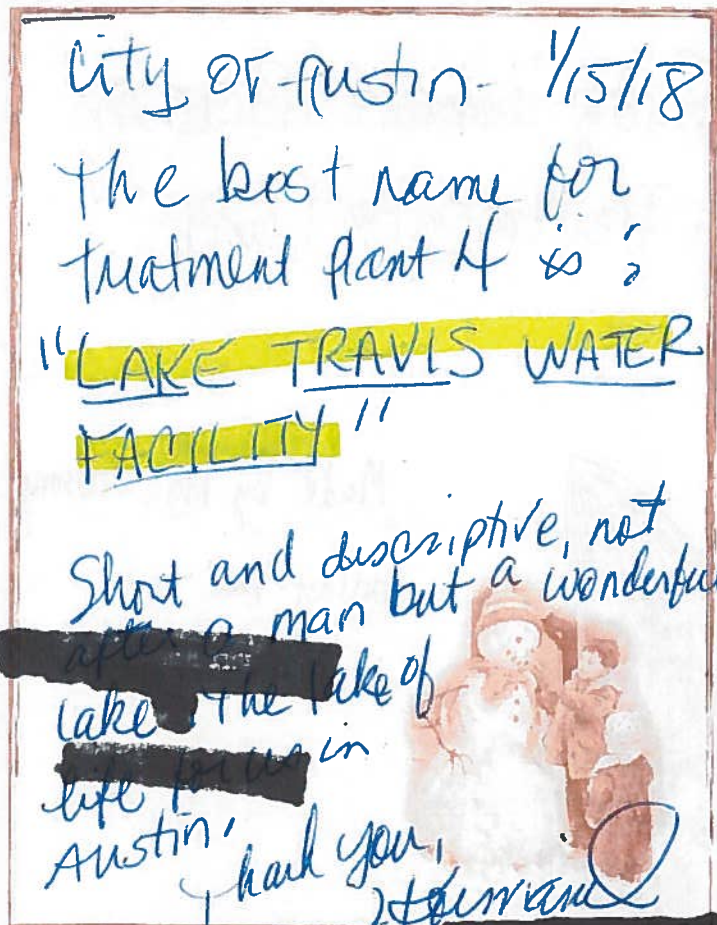
Peter Pirich
[REDACTED]

Avery, Denise

From: Chagoya, Areli
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 2:39 PM
To: Mendez, Selinda
Subject: FW: Nomination...

From: Scott Price [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 2:33 PM
To: Public Works <Public.Works@austintexas.gov>
Subject: Nomination...

The Willie Nelson Water Purification Project!



The Finishing Touch © Jim Daly All rights reserved License

City of Austin | Austin Water
P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767
AustinWater.org

the Travis
water Facility.

LAKE TRAVIS WATER
FACILITY

as an interested party in the renaming of
th Road to Market 620, Austin, Texas 78726.

Resolution No. 20170803-56 directing the City
Treatment Plant 4 to the Berl L. Handcox, Sr.

city owned facilities and property to be named
other than an individual, such as a place or
property must include:

- If an individual - A biographical sketch; a description of the individual's involvement in the community; and the individual's connection, if any, to the property.
- If other than an individual, include justification for the suggested name.
- An estimate of the cost to the City for replacement of signs and plaques.

Deadline for submissions is Thursday, April 5th, 2018. After the deadline, the Environmental Commission and Water and Wastewater Commission will hold a public hearing on the suggested name(s) and a make recommendation to City Council for final approval.

Nominations may be submitted via email to Public.Works@austintexas.gov or via mail to:

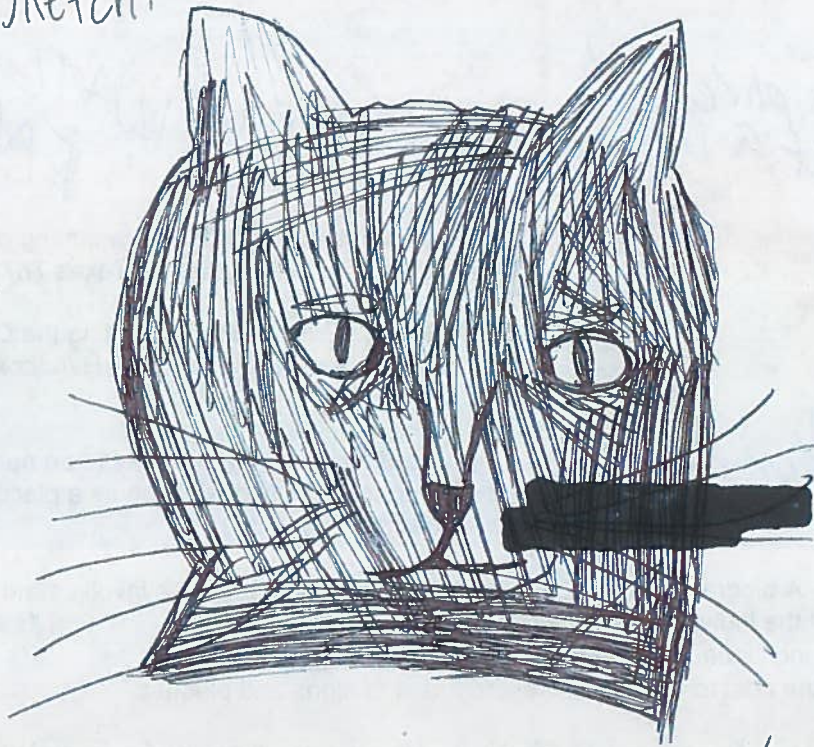
Public Works Department
Attn: Sandra Soler
505 Barton Springs Rd.
Austin, Texas 78704



The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request.

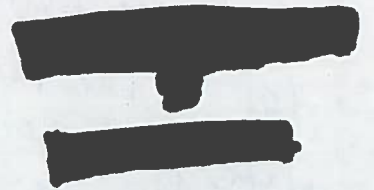
Name Suggestion: Birdy "Lebron" Birdsong
Water Treatment Plant

Sketch:



Made by Max Birdsong

Contact me at



Description of Involvement
in Community:

- Plays and talks with other neighborhood animals
- Protects houses from burglaries
- Bring joy to all people who see him

Connection to the
Property: One day
we took Birdy for
a car ride and
we drove by
the plant.

ESTIMATED COST
FOR SIGNS + PLAQUES:
\$3,000