

# Hornsby Bend Public Stakeholders Meeting October 11, 2022





# Hornby Bend Stakeholders Meeting October 11, 2022

- 1. Overview of the Hornsby Bend Plant and the CER
- 2. Background on the Tree Management Project
- 3. Progress of the Tree Management Project from 2016 Present
- 4. Current Construction Projects at the Ponds Review and Progress
- 5. Upcoming Construction Projects at Hornsby Bend







# Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant



and



# The Center for Environmental Research

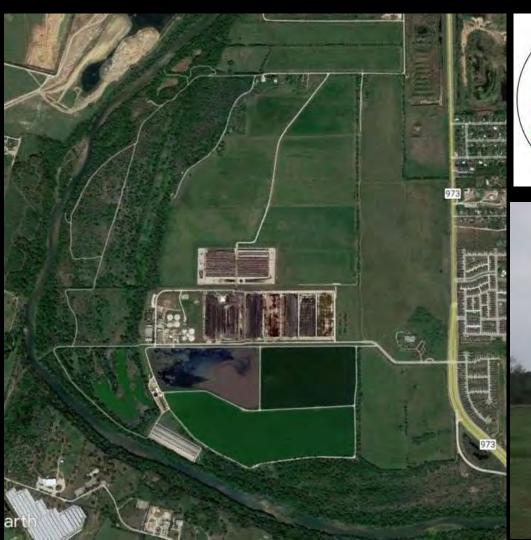


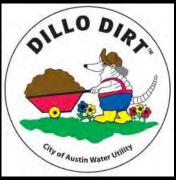


# Austin Water Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant



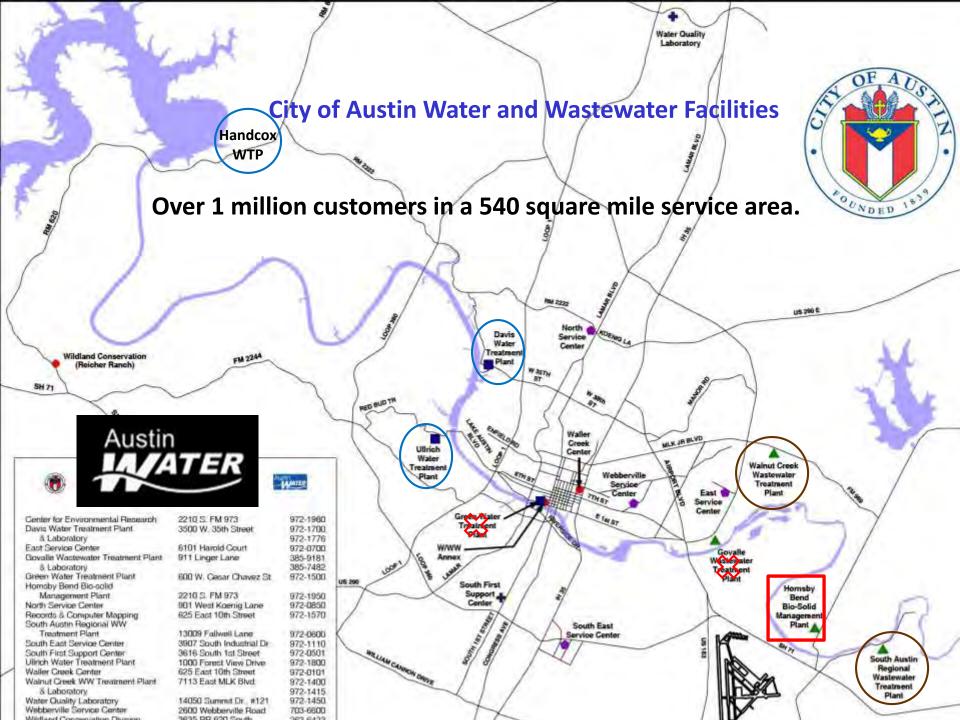
Microbe "Farming" for Recycling - Working with Ecosystem Cycles







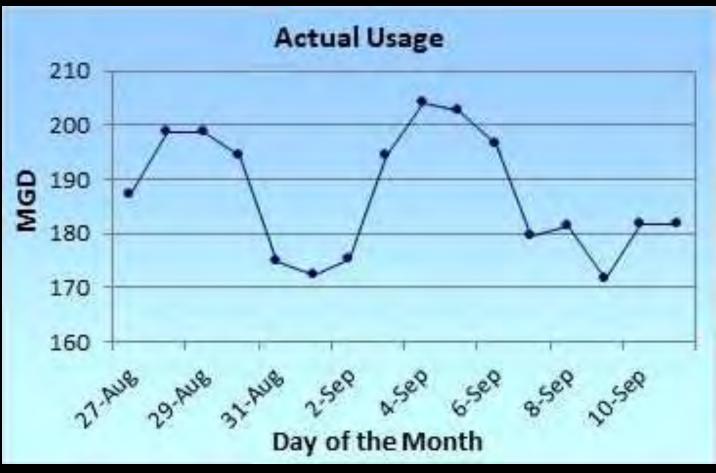






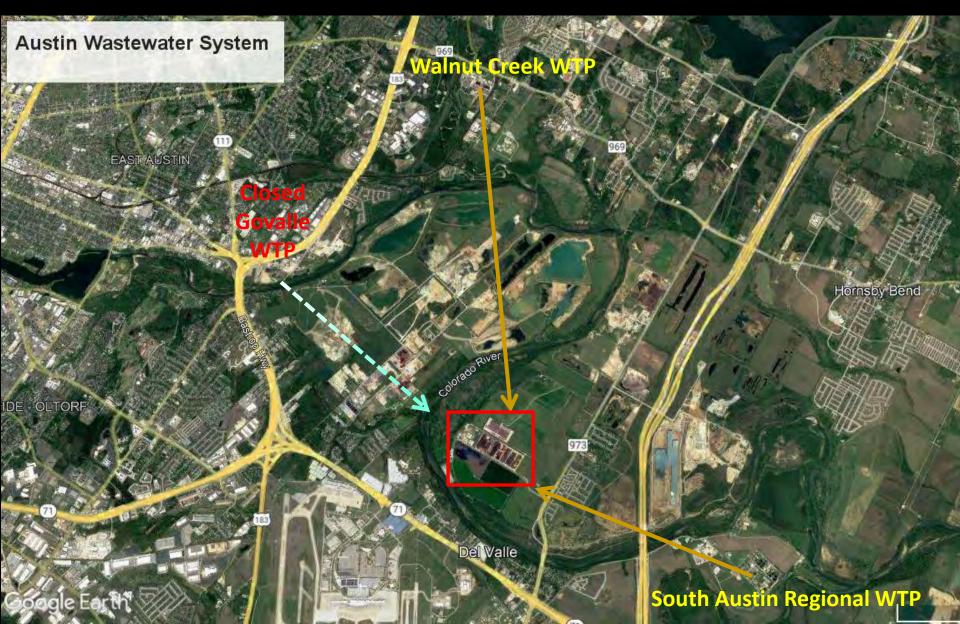
# Austin's Water Production 170 - 210 MGD















#### Austin's Sewage Solids/Sludge – 1.5 MGD

# Austin's Wastewater Production + 100 MGD

99.5% water

Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant





Hornsby Bend Biosolids
Management Plant





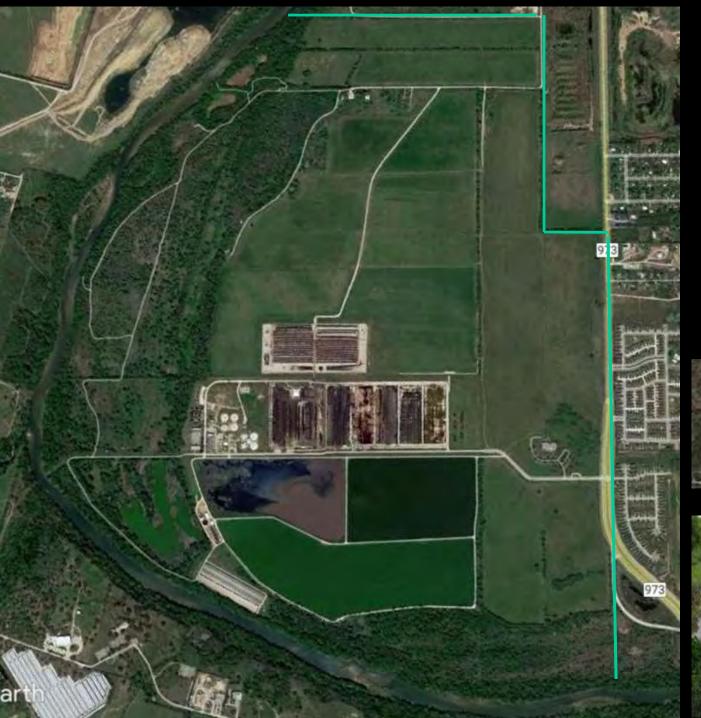
South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant



1950 1964



1970 1985



**Austin Water** 

Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant

**1200** acres

3.5 miles of River

1.5 MGD







# Water - Treatment Ponds 185 acres

Water moves by gravity



- Pond Ecosystem treats water
- All water recycled <u>no discharge to the river</u>
- Water used to irrigate hay fields onsite





## Solids – Anaerobic Digesters





- Habitat for anaerobic bacteria
- Heated to body temperature
- 95% pathogen reduction = Class B
- Approximately 25 days
- Treated sludge = biosolids
- By-product Biogases = Brown Energy
- CHP system Combined Heat and Power 875 KW













Austin's Daily Biosolids Production

50+ Dry Tons/Day





**Belt Press** 

Final Thickening Before Recycling

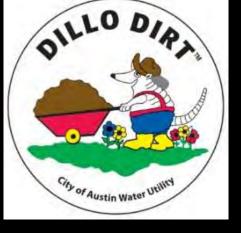








**Biosolids and Yard Trimmings Recycling - Composting** 



# Composting

Biosolids

**Yard Trimmings** 

~12% of Solid Waste

1987





# **Public Brush Dropoff**

Monday - Saturday











#### Built in 1988



# Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend

#### Mission – A Partnership for

#### **Urban Ecology and Sustainability**

- Community
- Education
- Research



#### **Partners**

- Austin Water
- The University of Texas
- Texas A&M University

#### Programs and Research Areas

- The Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory Program
- The Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership
- The Lunchtime Lecture Series
- Urban Ecology
- Avian Ecology
- Hydrogeology
- Riparian Ecology











### Research – Urban Ecology



Center for Environmental

Research at Hornsby Bend

Urban Waste Recycling Sustainable Agriculture

**Avian Ecology** 

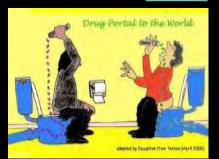
Hydrogeology

Riparian Ecology Bottomland Biodiversity Restoration and Management









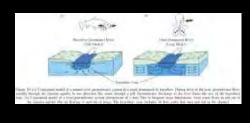




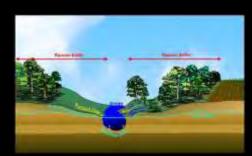
















## Research - Avian Ecology



**Center for Environmental** Research at Hornsby Bend



Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory Program













# Citizen Science and Education



- Monthly Bird Survey
- Monthly Birding Fieldtrip
- Nesting Bird Monitoring
- Workshops and Classes



HBBO Website – www.hornsbybend.org



#### 50 YEARS OF BIRDING

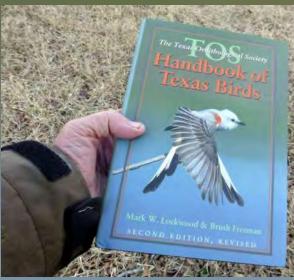
Hornsby Bend

# Community









Greg Lasley, Photographer











Center for Environmental
Research at Hornsby Bend



# Center for **Environmental** Research at Hornsby Bend





CER Monthly Activities at Hornsby Bend

Join us – free events – all are invited!



1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Every Month – ABRC Partnership River Monitoring Trip All day – only experienced paddlers [meet at CER 8am] MUST Provide your own boat

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of Every Month – **HBBO Bird Survey** 7am-11am and 4pm-dark [meet at CER parking lot] For experienced birders

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Every Month – Travis Audubon Society/HBBO **Birding Field Trip** 7:30am-11am [meet at CER parking lot] Great for beginning birders and FREE!

Last Saturday of Every Month – **Ecological Literacy Day** 9am-1pm [meet at CER] Dress for outdoor work and bring food to share for lunch

3 times Every Month – Lunchtime Lecture Series Free monthly public lecture NOON to 1pm at 3 different locations Hornsby Bend is open
7 Days a week
Dawn to Dark









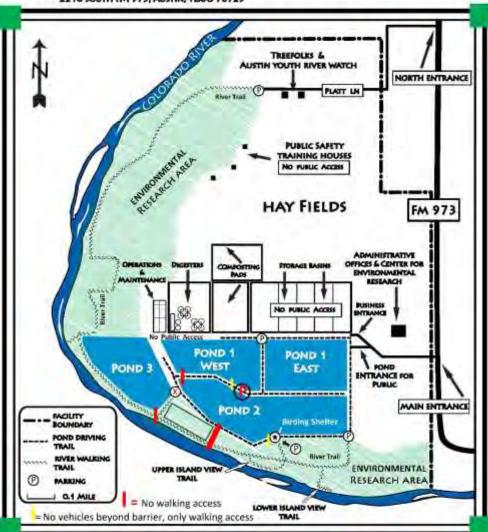


#### HORNSBY BEND BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT PLANT





FACILITY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DAWN TO DARK EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK 2210 SOUTH FM 973, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78725



For more information contact the Austin Water-CER 512-972-1960

PUBLIC RESTROOMS IN THE CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

Dillo Dirt and Hornsby Bend Plant - www.austintexsa.gov/water Center for Environmental Research (CER) - www.austintexas.gov/cer CER Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory program www.hornsbybend.org CER on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/austinwatercer CER on Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/austriwatercer/ Horisby Bend on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/horisbybend Austin

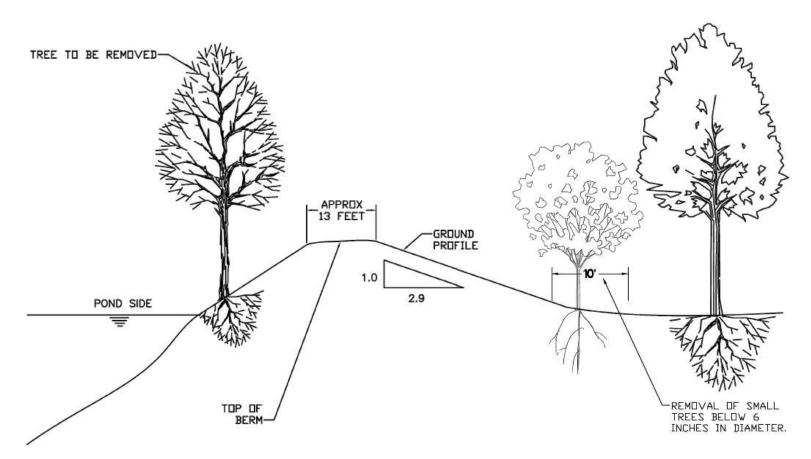
# Background on the Tree Management Project







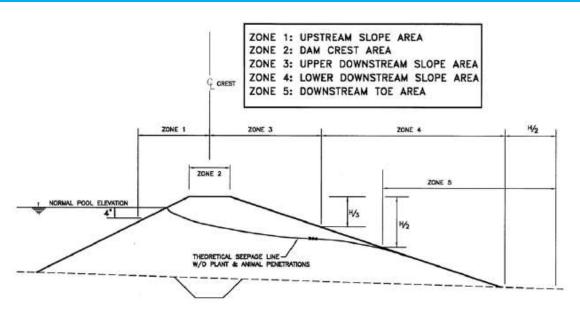
# Reasons for Tree Removal



Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant
Or less Typical Berm Cross Section

- 1. Thin trees 6-inch trunk diameter or less
- 2. Remove damaged or diseased trees and rebuild embankment
- 3. Mow embankments and over time remove all trees
- 4. All work between September 15 to March 15 Bird Nesting Season





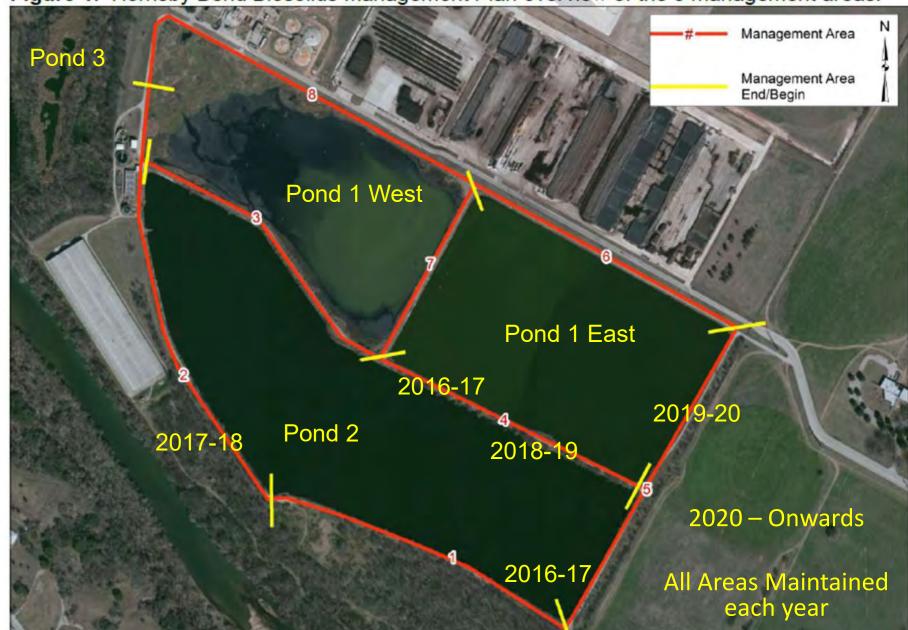
REMEDIAL DAM REPAIR ZONES



TOP OF BERM



Figure 1. Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plan overview of the 8 management areas.



# Progress of the Tree Management Project from 2016 – Present











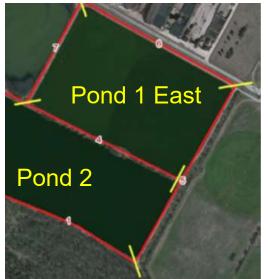
2016-17 Area 4 Before and During Work



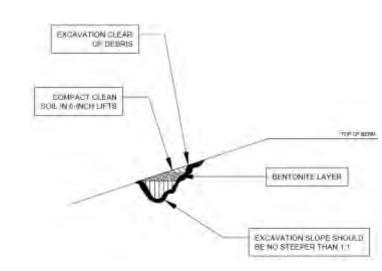








Area 4 Stump Removal









2016 Pond 2 Area 1 Before Work









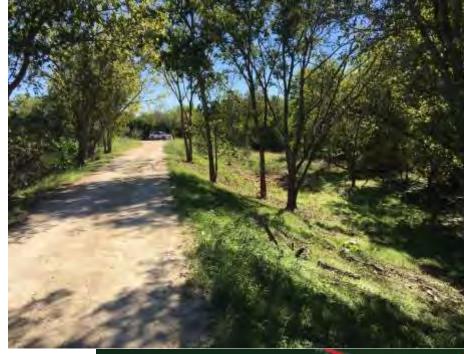


2016-17 Area 1 During Work









2016-17 Area 1 After Clearing







2016-17 Area 5 - Pond 1 East Riprap and repaving Bank Stabilization for eastern bank







2016-17 Area 5 Pond 1 East - Bank Stabilization with riprap















2017-18
Storm Damage
Presidents Day February 2017
and Hurricane Harvey August 2017







2017-18 Work Areas

Clear Storm Damage Area 1 and Elsewhere Thin Small Trees in Area 2





Area 2 August 2017 Before Clearing



Area 2 February 2018 During Clearing



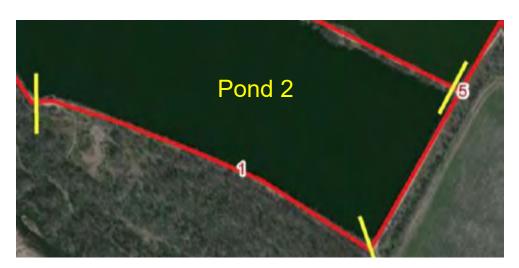












Area 1 and 2 2018-19 Fall and Winter Work Removed damaged trees



## 2019-20 Area 5

Mowing and Small Tree Cutting









South Area 5 - Pond 2





# 2020-21

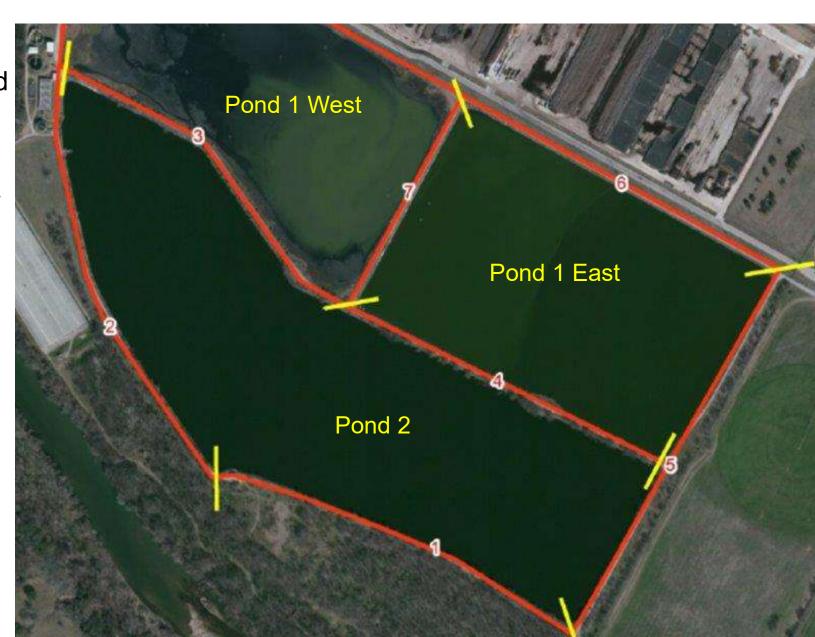


2021-22

Mowing and Small Tree Cutting

Removal of Damaged And Dying Trees

Areas 1-5







#### Current Construction Projects at the Ponds - Review and Progress











Public Access Restrictions and Construction Projects



## **Construction Projects at Ponds**

Sidestream Plant Rebuild

New Transfer/Irrigation Pump Station

SAR Transfer Water Pipeline



## Side Stream Plant Project – Finished









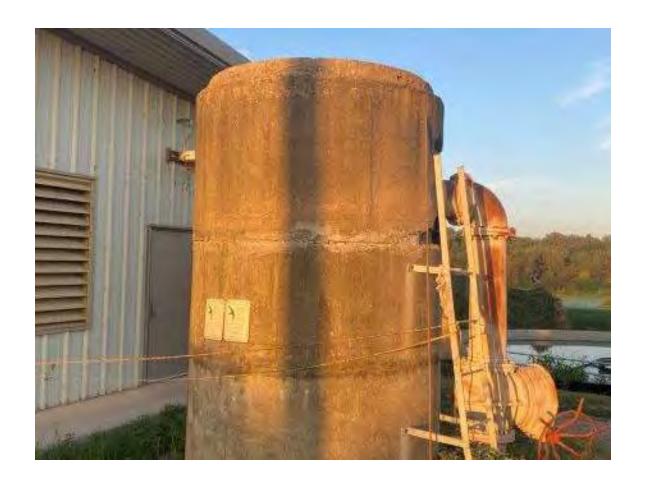
Side Stream Plant Rebuild Began March 11 2019





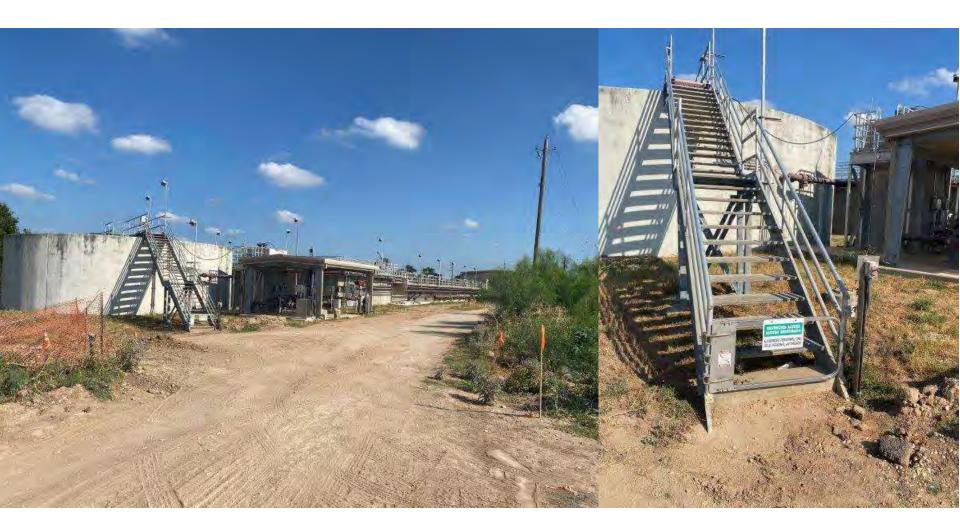
Side Stream Plant
Chimney Swift Roost Structure will be preserved





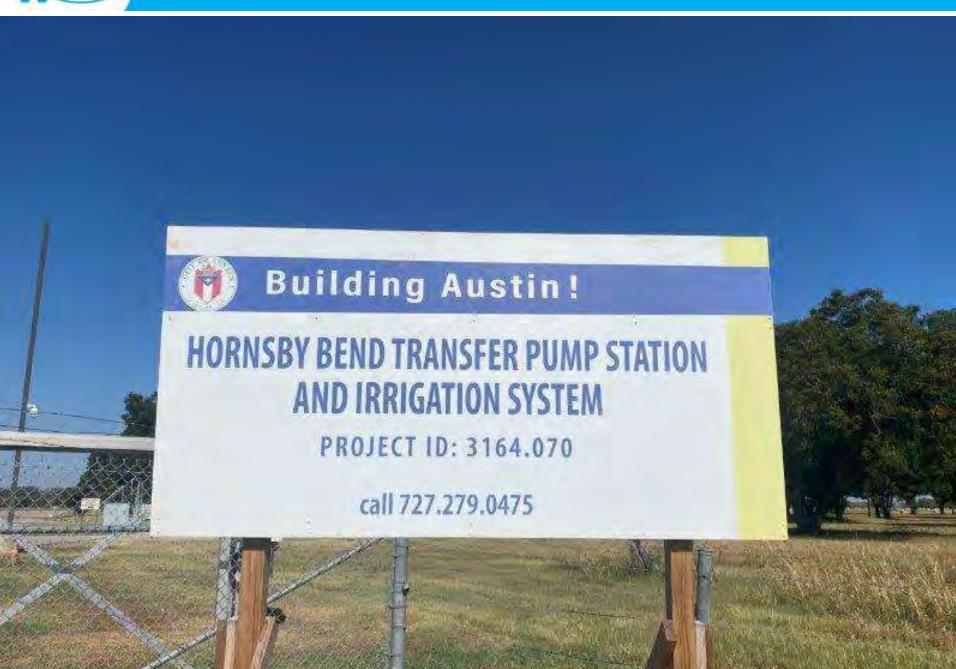
New Side Stream Plant October 2022 Chimney Swift Roost Structure preserved





Side Stream Plant Rebuild 2019-2022



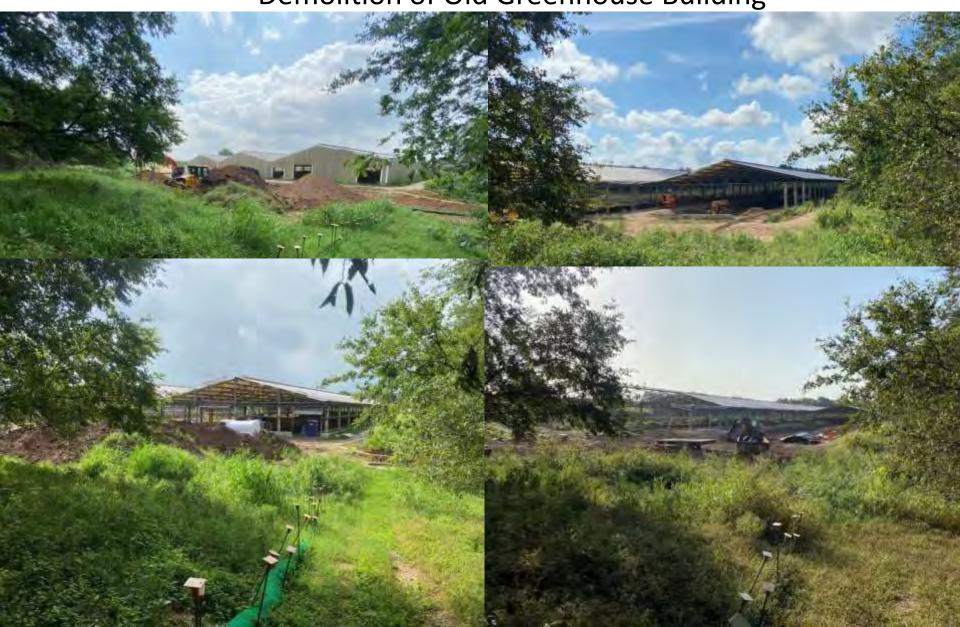




# Replace Old Irrigation Pump Station with New Transfer Pump Station Demolition of Old Greenhouse Building

















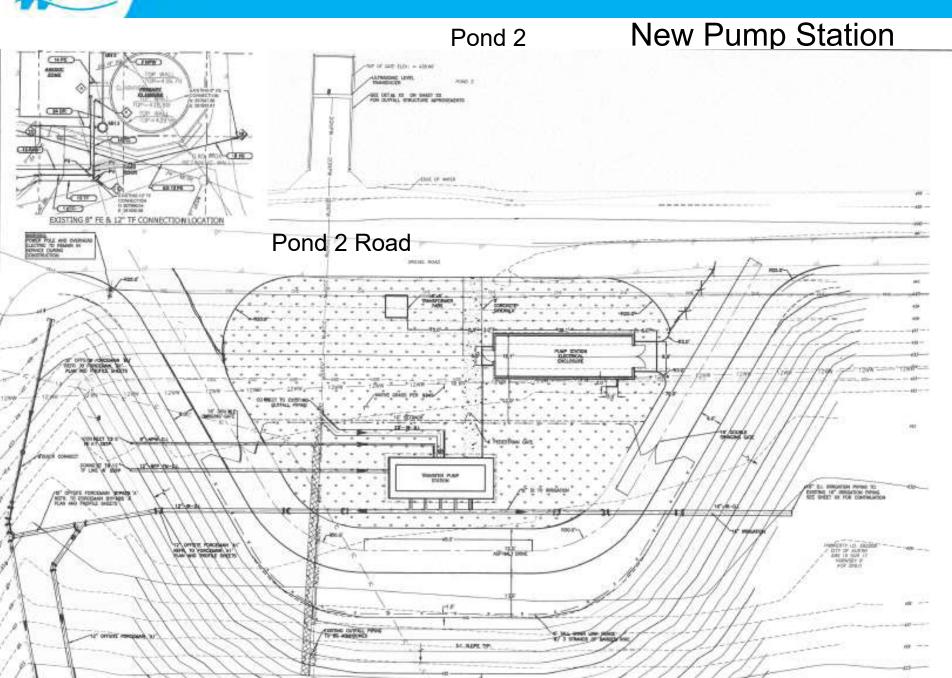




## **New Transfer Pump Station Location**





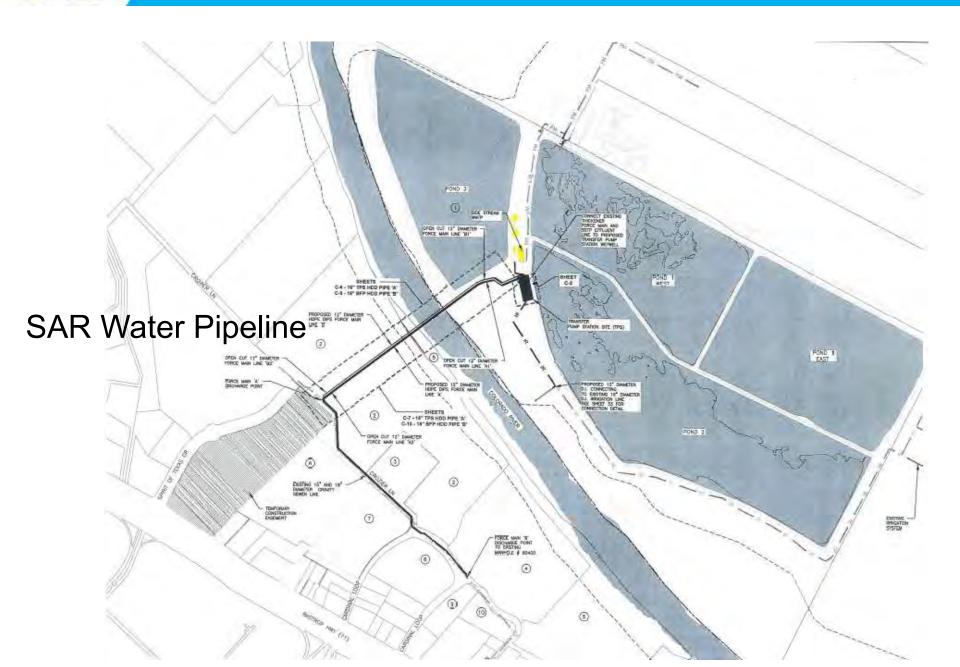














New Center Pivot Irrigators for Hay Fields







## Upcoming Construction Projects at Hornsby Bend







