



SEPTEMBER 2021

THE CTP SPOTLIGHT

The City of Austin
Capital Contracting Office
Construction Training Program

City of Austin Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant General Contractor Spotlight

By Michelle Pierre, CTP Administrator

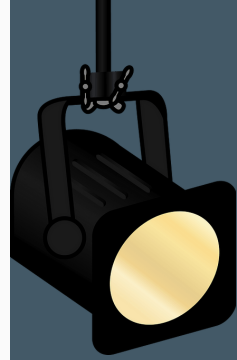
The construction projects at the City of Austin’s Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) are well underway, and two particular projects awarded to PLW Waterworks are the focus of this month’s CTP Spotlight. I recently had the opportunity to meet with PLW Waterworks’ Project Managers, Pavel Trujillo and Joao Lopes, who were eager to show me around the site. Pavel oversees the Plant Pumping System Improvement project, while Joao oversees the Sludge Thickener Rehab project at the site. Both have worked for PLW Waterworks for several years and have approximately 20 years of combined experience in the construction industry. The significance of the improvements being made at the WWTP, include infrastructure enhancements to increase the performance of operations and promote sustainable growth for the City of Austin.



Joao Lopes (Left); Pavel Trujillo (Right)

During our discussion, Pavel and Joao agreed there is a high demand for skilled labor in the Austin area, and tremendous room for growth. When asked what traits contribute to the success of a tradesperson, Joao stated: “an individual with a thirst for knowledge, has the ability to remain focused, and places timeliness as a priority will be successful in the construction industry”. In addition to these traits, Pavel emphasized the importance of establishing a support network and stated: “it’s important to be ambitious, but remain humble”.

In the CTP
General Contractor
Spotlight



In the CTP
Trainee
Spotlight

TRISTAN CABELDUE
Electrician - Apprenticeship Graduate
Sludge Thickener Rehab Project



&



PEDRO MANZANO
Carpenter - Construction Ready Trainee
Plant Pumping System Improvements



CTP Trainee Spotlight

By Michelle Pierre, CTP Administrator

While onsite at the City of Austin’s Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, I had the opportunity to meet with two standout employees enrolled in the Construction Training Program: **Tristan Cabeldue** and **Pedro Manzano**.

TRISTAN CABELDUE



Tristan is a recent graduate of the DOL-Approved Electrician Apprenticeship Program with IBEW Local Union 520 and has been working on the **Sludge Thickener Rehab** project at Walnut Creek for four and a half years. He is a multi-generational tradesperson who worked as a grounds keeper and common laborer prior to pursuing his goals of becoming an electrician. When asked what he likes best about his job, **Tristan** stated: “my foreman, the group of guys I work with, and seeing something I helped build come to life”. Since he started on the project, **Tristan** has completed several safety courses including OSHA-10, and he is currently working on his OSHA-30 course for certification.

Tristan believes the construction industry has changed his life by providing consistent employment and would tell someone who’s interested in pursuing a construction career that “it’s hard work, but beneficial”. In the future, **Tristan** hopes to gain a broader view of the industry and become a superintendent, or own his own company.

PEDRO MANZANO

Pedro is a carpenter who is enrolled in the **Construction Training Program** as a **Construction Ready Trainee**. He has been working on the **Plant Pumping System Improvement** project for the past four years and has been in the construction industry since 1999. Before working in the construction industry, **Pedro** worked in restaurants and as a member of a cleaning crew. **Pedro** learned about this particular job opportunity from a friend and he enjoys working with this company because he gets treated well. He has received a multitude of training opportunities since working at this site which has prepared him to serve as a valued member of the team. His favorite part of working on the **Plant Pumping System Improvement** project is that he learns something new everyday. He believes working in the construction industry has changed his life by offering him the ability to work in a valued profession that offers stability. When asked what he would tell someone interested in a job as a tradesperson, he stated: “I would tell them it’s an amazing opportunity and the pay and benefits are great”. **Pedro** looks forward to further progressing in his career with **PLW Waterworks** and hopes to one day become a supervisor of a job site.

“Being proactive by thinking one step ahead is the key to success.”

TRISTAN CABELDUE

“The key to success is always try to learn by seeking knowledge.”



PEDRO MANZANO

Scan the QR Code to learn more about PLW Waterworks

