WTP4 CONSTRUCTION ACHIEVES SAFETY MILESTONE

Austin Water recently celebrated reaching one million work hours without a lost-time accident at the Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP4) construction site. WTP4 is one of the city’s largest and most complex capital improvement projects in history. An average of 350 workers construct facilities daily at sites stretching over eight miles, from Lake Travis to Jollyville, with some of the work continuing around the clock. The project reached this goal through consistent safety strategies and adhering to industry best practices. The City of Austin’s Insurance carrier, Liberty Mutual, presented the team with its prestigious “Gold Award” to commemorate the accomplishment.

“One of the most important priorities for the City, on a project of this magnitude, is safety,” said Austin Water Director Greg Meszaros. “This milestone is a testament to the quality of the workforce, and exceptional safety standards we have on our state-of-the-art water treatment plant construction project.”

Some of the WTP4 construction crew pose with a banner celebrating the safety milestone.
Work Underway on Bullick Hollow Road Electrical Duct Bank

Underground duct banks are being constructed along Bullick Hollow Road to bring electricity and communications to the Raw Water Pump Station from the WTP4 plant site. Crews are working at night in order to minimize traffic disruption.

As a reminder, Bullick Hollow Road is closed nightly between RR620 (Four Points intersection) and Oasis Bluff Boulevard, Sunday through Thursday. Crews are working from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. No work is scheduled for Friday and Saturday nights.

We appreciate your patience with these road closures, and remind motorists to drive safely through this construction zone. The work is scheduled to be finished in May 2013. If you have questions about the road closure, contact the WTP4 Hotline at 512-498-9874.

WTP4 Construction Boosts Businesses

The City’s Construction Manager, MWH Constructors, is making great strides in using local, minority and women-owned businesses in the construction of WTP4. Currently, more than 200 subcontractors are working on WTP4, many of those local or regional companies. An average of one million dollars per month in services are provided by certified minority businesses, and an additional half million dollars per month by local women-owned businesses.

Neighbors Tour Spicewood Springs Shaft Worksite

Above: Local Spicewood Springs neighbors toured the Spicewood Springs shaft work site in January. Email updates keep the neighbors informed on work being performed at the site.

Left: Completed tie-in into Lake Travis raw water intake.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

Aerial view of Jollyville Tunnel worksite.

Jollyville Tunnel Update

The excavation of the Jollyville Tunnel is more than 75% complete, and is scheduled to be placed into service by summer of 2014. Excavation of all four shaft sites, which provides access to the Jollyville tunnel for equipment and workers, is complete. Three tunnel boring machines are now being used to excavate through rock hundreds of feet below the surface. Once the excavation is complete, a seven-foot-diameter pipeline will be installed in the tunnel to move treated water from WTP4 to the Jollyville Reservoir at McNeil Road and Highway 183.