

**23-016**

## City Council Action and Executive Summary

**Type of Action:**☒ **Resolution**☐ **Ordinance**☐ **TIDD Resolution****District:** ☒ 1 ☒ 2 ☒ 3 ☒ 4 ☒ 5 ☒ 6 ☐ N/A**1st Reading:****Adopted:**

August 1, 2022

**Drafter:**

Adrienne Widmer

**Department:**

Utilities

**Program:**

Griggs Walnut

**Line of Business:**

Office of the Director

**Title:**

**A RESOLUTION NAMING THE GRIGGS WALNUT GROUNDWATER PLUME SUPERFUND SITE TREATMENT FACILITY AT 163 N. COTTONWOOD STREET THE 'PASCUAL RODRIGUEZ, JR. GRIGGS WALNUT GROUNDWATER PLUME SUPERFUND SITE TREATMENT FACILITY'.**

**TYPE OF ACTION:** ☒ **Administrative** ☐ **Legislative** ☐ **Quasi-Judicial**

### **PURPOSE(S) OF ACTION:**

To name the Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site Treatment Facility the 'Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site Treatment Facility'.

### **BACKGROUND / KEY ISSUES / CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:**

Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. (Pascual) dedicated his career to Las Cruces Utilities, beginning in 1993 as a cooperative student Operator Trainee and graduated with an Associates Degree in Water Utility Operation in 1994. In 1996, Pascual earned his Water and Wastewater Level 4 certifications for the State of New Mexico. Pascual was promoted to Water Production Operator in 2003 and was active in the innovative design and construction of the Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site (Griggs Walnut) project.

Pascual was promoted to Water Production Projects Coordinator in 2012, and was directly responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Griggs Walnut treatment facility at the time of its 2012 substantial completion. In 2016, Pascual was promoted to Water Production Supervisor and continued to oversee the operation and maintenance of the treatment facility.

Through Pascual Rodriguez, Jr.'s diligence in the operation and maintenance of the Griggs Walnut treatment facility, it has removed over 34%, or 102 pounds of tetrachloroethylene (PCE) from the aquifer and put the clean water to beneficial use, meeting the Environmental Protection Agency's Consent Decree requirements.

Over the course of his 28-year distinguished career, Pascual has instructed, mentored, inspired, and supported Las Cruces Utilities associates, Co-Ops, and Interns while supporting other City of Las Cruces lines of business, New Mexico Utility Operators, the Dona Ana Branch Community College Water Technology Program, and the Joint Superfund Project for the City of Las Cruces and Dona Ana County.

Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. farms pecan trees with his father in his spare time, as well as restoring classic hot rods, enjoying the outdoors, mentoring, and competing in sports. Pascual is married to Domonique Rodriguez and they are raising their family in Las Cruces and is most commonly recognized in his safety safari hat.

The Dona Ana County Commission approved the naming of the facility to 'Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site Treatment Facility at their July 28, 2022 meeting, contingent upon City Council approving this resolution.

**SUPPORT INFORMATION:**

[Attachment "A" DACC Approval 072622](#)

**PLAN(S):**

None

**COMMITTEE/BOARD REVIEW:**

None

**ANNUAL BUDGET APPROVAL:**

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

**Does this action amend the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

**Does this action align with Elevate Las Cruces?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ N/A

**OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Vote "Yes", this will approve the Resolution and name the Griggs Walnut treatment facility after Pascual Rodriguez, Jr.
2. Vote "No", this will not approve the Resolution nor name the Griggs Walnut treatment facility after Pascual Rodriguez, Jr.
3. Vote to "Amend", this would allow the City Council to modify the Resolution and provide direction to staff.
4. Vote to "Table", this would postpone consideration of the Resolution and staff would require further direction from City Council.

## RESOLUTION 23-016

### **A RESOLUTION NAMING THE GRIGGS WALNUT GROUNDWATER PLUME SUPERFUND SITE TREATMENT FACILITY AT 163 N. COTTONWOOD STREET THE 'PASCUAL RODRIGUEZ, JR. GRIGGS WALNUT GROUNDWATER PLUME SUPERFUND SITE TREATMENT FACILITY'.**

The City Council is informed that:

**WHEREAS**, Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. (Pascual) dedicated his career to Las Cruces Utilities, beginning in 1993 as a cooperative student Operator Trainee and graduated with an Associates Degree in Water Utility Operation in 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1996, Pascual earned his Water and Wastewater Level 4 certifications for the State of New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, Pascual was promoted to Water Production Operator in 2003 and was active in the innovative design and construction of the Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site (Griggs Walnut) project; and

**WHEREAS**, Pascual was promoted to Water Production Projects Coordinator in 2012, and was directly responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Griggs Walnut treatment facility at the time of its 2012 substantial completion; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, Pascual was promoted to Water Production Supervisor and continued to oversee the operation and maintenance of the treatment facility; and

**WHEREAS**, through Pascual Rodriguez, Jr.'s diligence in the operation and maintenance of the Griggs Walnut treatment facility, it has removed over 34%, or 102 pounds of tetrachloroethylene (PCE) from the aquifer and put the clean water to beneficial use, meeting the Environmental Protection Agency's Consent Decree requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, over the course of his 28-year distinguished career, Pascual has instructed, mentored, inspired, and supported Las Cruces Utilities associates, Co-Ops, and Interns while supporting other City of Las Cruces lines of business, New Mexico Utility Operators, the Dona Ana Branch Community College Water Technology Program, and the Joint Superfund Project for the City of Las Cruces and Dona Ana County; and

**WHEREAS**, Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. farms pecan trees with his father in his spare time, as well as restoring classic hot rods, enjoying the outdoors, mentoring, and competing in sports. Pascual is married to Domonique Rodriguez and they are raising their family in Las Cruces and is most commonly recognized in his safety safari hat; and

**WHEREAS**, The Dona Ana County Commission approved the naming of the facility to 'Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site Treatment Facility' at their July 28, 2022 meeting, contingent upon City Council approving this resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Be it Resolved by the Governing Body of the City of Las Cruces:

(I)

**THAT** for the reasons stated herein above, the Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site treatment facility at 163 N. Cottonwood Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico is hereby named the "Pascual Rodriguez, Jr. Griggs Walnut Groundwater Plume Superfund Site Treatment Facility" in honor of Pascual's dedicated service to the City, County, and the community as the City's former Water Production Supervisor.

(II)

**THAT** City staff is hereby authorized to do all deeds as necessary in the accomplishment of the herein above.

**DONE AND APPROVED** this 01 day of August 2022

APPROVED

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

**Moved by: Johana Bencomo**

**Seconded by: Tessa Abeyta**

**AYES** Kasandra Gandara, Ken Miyagishima, Yvonne Flores, Johana Bencomo, Becki Graham,  
Becky Corran, Tessa Abeyta

**NAYS**



# Doña Ana County

Doña Ana County Government Center • 845 N. Motel Blvd. • Las Cruces, NM 88007 • (575) 647-7200

July 26, 2022

Delilah Walsh  
Utilities Director  
680 N. Motel Blvd  
Las Cruces, NM 88007

Dear Ms. Walsh:

On July 26, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners of Doña Ana County unanimously gave its approval to name the superfund treatment facility after Pasqual Rodriguez, Jr. in recognition of his lengthy service to the citizens of the City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County; subject to approval by the Las Cruces City Council.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fernando R. Macias". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Fernando R. Macias  
County Manager

/njg