

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****January 24, 2023**

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SUBJECT: UPDATE ON PANTHER ISLAND BRIDGE NAMING

The three Panther Island bridges -- located on Henderson Street (SH 199), North Main Street (Bus. 287), and White Settlement Road -- were substantially completed in 2021. The bridges will span the future Trinity River bypass channel as part of the Trinity River Vision/Central City Flood Control Project being designed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Given the significance of the Trinity River Vision project and bridges, Mayor Mattie Parker requested in early 2022 that staff initiate a naming process with stakeholder and public involvement.

The City asked the public to submit names in the spring of 2022. A naming committee -- consisting of representatives from the City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Tarrant Regional Water District, Streams & Valleys, and Visit Fort Worth -- reviewed naming submittals. The naming criteria include the following:

- Promote community pride and connectivity to the Trinity River
- Celebrate the culture and history of Fort Worth related to:
 - Geographic location or neighborhood of the bridge
 - Outstanding feature of the bridge or area
 - Commonly recognized event, group or deceased individual
- Not be offensive or controversial

The committee decided not to consider personal names or organization names and considered potential themes including nicknames for Fort Worth, values, and historic groups, animals, flowers and trees found in Fort Worth. The naming process was put on hold to allow the City Council and staff to address higher priorities. The naming committee reconvened this month and recommended not proceeding with naming the bridges, since the plan for Panther Island is being revisited and most Fort Worth bridges are not formally named. Staff concurs with the recommendation.

For questions on this report, please contact Dana Burghdoff, Assistant City Manager, at 817-392-8018.

David Cooke
City Manager