

# Feb 2022 Boil Water Notice

Austin City Council | February 15, 2022



# Opening Comments

**Greg Meszaros**

Austin Water Director





# Operations Overview

**Rick Coronado, PE**

Assistant Director, Operations



# WHAT HAPPENED

- Crews were filling a basin with water to begin treatment
  - A mixture of water and processed solids was added to “seed” the basin
  - This is a high turbidity mixture that is typically stopped after a few hours
- “Seeding” was not stopped and continued for most of the night
- Alarms and sample tests indicating high turbidity were recorded





# WHAT HAPPENED

- High turbidity water moved into water filters
- Filters removed particles and produced water that met regulatory standards until they clogged
- Multiple filters exceeded turbidity standards and entered the clearwells (underground storage tanks)





# WHAT HAPPENED

- ◆ Supervisory staff were notified to assess situation
- ◆ Plant was shut down
- ◆ Production was ramped up at **Davis** and **Handcox** to keep water flowing to customers
- ◆ Water pressure and disinfection parameters remained consistent and within regulatory standards during this time





# INITIAL ACTIONS UNDERWAY

- ◆ Meetings have been held with plant staff at each water treatment plant (Ullrich, Davis, Handcox)
- ◆ Examining process control protocols
- ◆ Examining training protocols
- ◆ Reviewing alarm, testing & notification procedures for improvements





# Questions

