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Monica Sedelmeier, Public Information Officer  
Communications & Marketing Department  
254-750-5787  
MonicaS@wacotx.gov  
[www.waco-texas.com](http://www.waco-texas.com)

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## **Unveiling of Lester Gibson Way Honorary Street Sign**

**WACO, TEXAS (February 22, 2023)** – Please join the City of Waco, McLennan County, and family and friends of The Honorable Lester Gibson for an unveiling of the Lester Gibson Way honorary street signs at 1 p.m., on Saturday, February 25 at the McLennan County Records Building, 215 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Waco.

The honorary street name was designated as a way to recognize former Commissioner Gibson, who passed away in June 2022. The honorary title, Lester Gibson Way, will be displayed on special street signs from University Parks Drive to N 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The signs are also placed alongside City Hall and the McLennan County Courthouse, where Gibson served as a City of Waco council member and a McLennan County commissioner during his lifetime.

Councilmember Andrea Barefield made the initial motion to recognize Gibson with the street name, and it was later approved during the October 4, 2022, city council meeting.

Gibson was the first Black commissioner in McLennan County since Reconstruction. He was originally from Teague, TX, before moving to Waco and graduating from A. J. Moore High School in 1967. He was a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War and graduated from Baylor University in 1975. In 1988, Gibson was elected to join Waco City Council, representing District 1. After serving a two-year term, he was elected to the McLennan County Commissioners Court, where he became the longest-serving county commissioner in McLennan County's history until he retired in 2018.

Speakers for the ceremony will include City of Waco Councilmember Andrea Barefield, McLennan County Commissioner Patricia Miller, and recognized family and community members.

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