



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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GREENWOOD CEMETERY PROJECT TO BE DISCUSSED AT PUBLIC MEETING THIS THURSDAY

WACO, TEXAS (May 23, 2018) – The City of Waco will host a public meeting from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 24 to discuss the Greenwood Cemetery Project. The meeting will be held at the Waco Multi-Purpose Center (1020 Elm Avenue, Waco, TX).

The City has undertaken on behalf of the public, efforts to better care for Waco’s second oldest cemetery; Greenwood Cemetery which dates back to at least 1875. This cemetery is especially rich in Waco history, containing not only loved ones representing many local families, but also numerous notable figures of prominence and fame.

Consolidated care is not without its challenges, due to a complex patchwork of land ownership, a marked history of segregation, and no known archival burial records.

Therefore, the City of Waco (per Resolution 2018-435) is advancing the process of establishing the entirety of Greenwood Cemetery under consolidated possession and care on behalf of the public. This process, as defined by the Texas Health and Safety Code (section 713.009), supports the ongoing maintenance and care of the entire cemetery area, as well as the creation of a unified fenced perimeter to better protect the burial area and markers of this historic cemetery.

The meeting will include discussion of following topics associated with the project:

- a. Review of property ownership composition, and possible interests
- b. Review of prior archaeological & Texas Historical Commission consultation
- c. Discussion of care recommendations for public safety and proper maintenance
- d. Discussion of perimeter fence and entrance design recommendations
- e. Discussion of anticipated effects on existing streets, traffic, and visitation

All persons interested in Greenwood Cemetery are invited to attend, with special invitation to the local residents, neighborhood, families, any members of affiliated cemetery associations, and historical groups.

For information, contact the Parks and Recreation office at 254-750-8471.

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