

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 9, 2025

TO Honorable Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee: Omar Narvaez (Chair), Zarin Gracey (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Cara Mendelsohn, Jaime Resendez, Jaynie Schultz, Kathy Stewart

SUBJECT **Proposed Naming of the West Dallas Lakes – The 3 Sisters Lakes**

As you are aware, the City of Dallas and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have been working toward and recently completed the construction of the Dallas Floodway Levee Raise and Flattening. As part of this work, the planned West Dallas Lakes area includes a series of three lakes that provide opportunities to build on the implementation of the Balanced Vision Plan near Westmoreland Road. Attached is an aerial image of these lakes.

Dallas is uniquely positioned to honor and recognize its Native American history through the naming of these lakes. In collaboration with local Native American leaders in the region, the following naming proposal is submitted for your consideration:

The 3 Sisters Lakes: NûmûNahmi Lake (Comanche Nahmi Lake), Wichita ita:i?h Lake, and Lipan Apache Mbátí Lake. These names reflect the Native American word for “sister” from each respective tribe and honor their historical connection to the Dallas area. The naming also recognizes Native American tribes historically associated with the region, including Caddo, Comanche, Kiowa, Tawakoni, Wichita, Tonkawa, Waco, Lipan Apache, and Keechi.

Please add Waco and Keechi to the list of Native American tribes. Include the word “sister” in each lake name, and incorporate the Native language names for each, as each tribe has a distinct word for “sister.” For Comanche, the word for sister is Nahmi, and the proposed lake name is NûmûNahmi Lake (Comanche Nahmi Lake). For Wichita, the word for sister is ita:i?h (pronounced "ee-dotzh-ee"), and the lake would be named Wichita ita:i?h Lake. For Lipan Apache, the word for sister is Mbátí, and the lake name would be Lipan Apache Mbátí Lake.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Councilmember Omar Narvaez, District 6  
Chair, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager  
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety  
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager

Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager  
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager  
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager  
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer  
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)  
Directors and Assistant Directors

**WHEREAS**, City Council adopted the Balanced Vision Plan on December 8, 2003, by Resolution No. 03-3391, and further adopted refinements on April 14, 2004, by Resolution No. 04-1 252; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed the Modified Dallas Floodway Record of Decision, confirming the Balanced Vision Plan and including the West Dallas Lakes, was signed in April 2015: and

**WHEREAS**, the Supplemental Bi-Partisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) funded the flood risk management of the Dallas Floodway; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dallas and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have been working toward and recently completed the construction of the Dallas Floodway Levee Raise and Flattening. As part of this work, the planned West Dallas Lakes area includes a series of three lakes that provide opportunities to build on the implementation of the Balanced Vision Plan near Westmoreland Road; and

**WHEREAS**, Dallas is uniquely positioned to recognize our Native American history by naming these West Dallas Lakes; and

**WHEREAS**, in working with local Native American leaders in the region, it is proposed to name The 3 Sisters Lakes: NəmɤNahmi Lake (Comanche Nahmi Lake), Wichita ita:iʔh Lake, and Lipan Apache Mbátí Lake. This naming honors Native American tribes historically associated with the Dallas area and surrounding region including Caddo, Comanche, Kiowa, Tawakoni, Wichita and Tonwaka.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS**

**Section 1.** That The 3 Sisters Lakes be named: NəmɤNahmi Lake (Comanche Nahmi Lake), Wichita ita:iʔh Lake, and Lipan Apache Mbátí Lake.

**Section 2.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.



# The 3 Sister Lakes



01/28/2024 - 02/15/2024