



# MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 16, 2011

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council  
Members

FROM: Richard Miranda  
City Manager

SUBJECT: **City/County Water and Wastewater Study Action Plan – Mid Year Progress Report**

Last November, following the completion of the City/County Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Supply and Planning Study, the Mayor and Council adopted a 5-year Action Plan for Water Sustainability. I am pleased to report that significant progress is being made on the Action Plan. Attached is a mid-year report describing the accomplishments to date as well as ongoing efforts. Below are some of the highlights of success:

- City and County adoption of the Conservation Effluent Pool (CEP) IGA establishing the process and procedures for allocating water for the environment.
- Formalization of the Water Service Area Policy in August 2010 establishing a water service boundary for Tucson Water, a critical element in creating a sustainable water future by defining where water resources and infrastructure will be directed based on social, economic, and environmental goals. The City is in the process of conducting its first annual review of the service area policy to determine if refinements are necessary.
- City and County agreement on jointly constructing a Southeast Houghton Area Recharge Project (SHARP) to physically store effluent in the southeast for replenishment of the aquifer and for potential future use.
- Tucson Water has entered into wheeling agreements with Oro Valley and with the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe thereby assisting these entities in delivering their CAP allocations to their customers rather than relying solely on groundwater, and providing water service alternatives for property owners outside of the Tucson Water service area. Similar agreements are being negotiated and/or explored with Metro Water and Vail Water Company.
- The Conserve to Enhance checkbox feature was approved by the Mayor and Council and added to the Tucson Water bill enabling customers to donate money saved from water conservation efforts to a fund environmental restoration projects.
- Tucson Water's adopted financial plan includes funding for the phased-in purchase of the City's full CAP allocation over the next two fiscal years, thus further securing the allocation of this important water resource for Tucson into the future.
- The City and County worked with the Bureau of Reclamation on a demonstration project in the Santa Cruz River to better capture and recharge the effluent being discharged there.

Please contact Nicole Ewing Gavin if you have any questions on the Action Plan or the mid-year report.

RM/NEG

Attachments:

Mid Year Progress Report - Summary

Mid-Year Progress Report – Detailed Action Items