

**Notes from WISP Open House
November 9, 2009**

- Surprised about Tucson Water wheeling water out to other companies that do not have renewable supplies. Tucson Water recharges in Avra Valley, which is already outside of the Tucson Basin.
- Do you know the allocation amounts for Oro Valley and Metro?
- Surprised that this report stated that growth and water are not related in Tucson. If water is cheap, potential new residents would move here.
- Education, incentives, rebates to encourage grey water use is odd. You can do this with pricing. Manage demand with pricing. Pricing seems to be out of the picture. Make it a financial benefit for people to preserve water.
- Need to have satellite wastewater treatment plants in the outskirts where waste water is in use. This came up in previous discussions. With new packages bundling wastewater and storing in the bottom of the valley its going to be too expensive to pump it back up. Quail Creek Golf Course uses ground water for wastewater credits. At least 50% of the golf courses in Tucson (amended to Pima County) are not using wastewater. This should be the number one priority for sustainability. (Also public parks, school grounds should be using the reclaimed system.)
- Land Use concerns - Continuing to build inside areas that can't afford infill. What are the opportunities for infill, for example on Grant Road and the use of permeable surfaces? We need to adjust landscaping, and surfaces for parking lots.
- Water mains - Do we have any data already collected on the current infrastructure throughout the city so when upgrades are needed for new development we will work with the private developer?
- Regarding population projections: If there were 2 million people in the Tucson region, would they all have water? What is the capacity?
- Water use per person is very elastic and highly price sensitive. The first line of conservation is to raise the price, pay/charge what it costs. Tucson has accommodated 10 years of growth without increasing supply.
- Lack of integrated thinking about the complexity of what is ahead of us. Happy to see climate change in the report. Dismal climate change news. Concerned with our carbon footprint and carbon and CO2 emissions. Experts speculate that a safe target for climate change is 2 degrees Celsius. There is a 50 percent chance that it could be as great a 4 degrees Celsius by 2065. What is our water energy connection? Because we get an allocation of water for CAP how much carbon is contributed to the system and furthermore once processes what is the carbon contribution to deliver?

80% reduction of carbon dioxide by 2050 would give each of us ½ ton carbon dioxide at our disposal.

- Is it appropriate to use the phraseology “growth pays for itself”? Once we reach a certain point, will we have to pay more? Will long-term residents not be able to meet their water needs?
- A persons water bill cost is always their first concern. Difference in attitude of our residents. Most think the water bill is a joke. It’s outrageously reasonable. Don’t forget our residents do care about the environment.