

Pima County Resolution 2010-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CITY/COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER STUDY PHASE 2 REPORT

Whereas, a healthy, sustainable, and vibrant future for Pima County and Tucson depends on effective and coordinated management of our limited water supplies in ways that sustain and enhance human health and welfare, economic vitality, and natural, ecological functions;

Whereas, the City of Tucson and Pima County initiated a joint Water and Wastewater Planning Study (Exhibit A) in April 2008 with goals to improve coordination between the City and County, compile a common set of facts, information and goals for planning for a sustainable water future, and involve the public in a transparent and inclusive process;

Whereas, the City of Tucson Mayor and Council and the Pima County Board of Supervisors respectively appointed 12 members of the public to serve on an Oversight Committee to direct the Study effort;

Whereas, 36 open public meetings were convened with the Oversight Committee on evenings and weekends over the past 21 months; four open houses were held to provide additional opportunity for the public to comment; and, an interactive public website, with online comment forms and mailing lists, was maintained so that interested members of the public could review and comment on all studies and reports generated by the study effort;

Whereas, Phase 1 resulted in a series of educational presentations and reports which established a common set of facts and information about the condition and capacity of the City/County water and wastewater systems, water resource supplies for the City/County Service Area and critical planning factors associated with planning for a sustainable water future;

Whereas, Committee members embarked on Phase II of the study effort in April 2009, with the goal of establishing a common set of water resource development and conservation goals;

Whereas, the Oversight Committee members dedicated an extraordinary level of time and energy to understanding and deliberating on the facts and information presented to them and issued a Phase I Report in March 2009, and a Phase II Final Report in December 2009 which sets forth the values and perspectives of the Oversight Committee, including a set of overarching principles and criteria for planning for a sustainable water future, and incorporates the City/County staff's 19 shared goals and the 56 joint recommendations;

Whereas, portions of the Draft Phase II report were modified to incorporate comments received from the public during the three-week public review period;

Whereas, the City/County Water and Wastewater Study involved an unprecedented level of coordination, communication and collaboration among City and County staff from multiple departments and disciplines; and

Whereas, the City/County Water and Wastewater Study produced a common set of facts, information, goals and recommendations which can now serve as a resource and building block for ongoing City/County collaboration and action and for a future regional dialogue on planning for a sustainable water future;


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY:

- 1) Supports the City/County staff and Oversight Committee's recommendations as set forth in the City/County Water and Wastewater Study Phase II Final Report (Exhibit B) dated December 30, 2009 which will:
 - Ensure land use planning and water resources and infrastructure planning are integrated and operating in tandem toward common sustainability goals.
 - Guide new development so that it is designed and located in an economically, environmentally, socially, and fiscally sustainable, as well as water efficient manner.
 - Dedicate an appropriate balance of water for protection and restoration of the environment and ensure it is put to use in an efficient, effective, and multi-beneficial manner.
 - Establish a reliable, diversified water resource portfolio to sustain our current and future residents, grow and strengthen our economy, and maintain our quality of life.
 - Increase the amount of turf being irrigated with reclaimed and recycled water to replace potable water and ground water pumping.
 - Put to better use our locally renewable supplies - effluent and rainwater – in order to conserve imported water and groundwater, and save on energy required to move water.
 - Elevate public awareness regionally about water efficiency and drought to continue to strengthen our community's water conservation ethic and practice.
 - Ensure we are prepared for a variety of scenarios that could unfold due to climate change - both locally and within the Colorado Rivershed.
- 2) Directs County staff to continue to work with the City of Tucson to implement the recommendations set forth in the Phase II report as summarized in the implementation matrix (Exhibit C).
- 3) Proposes that the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) convene an expanded, regional Water and Wastewater Study process that would include all PAG member jurisdictions, all regional water and wastewater providers, technical and non-technical stakeholders, and the general public. The regional items shown in Exhibit B, and the items included in Phases III-V of the original Water Study Scope of Work (Exhibit A) are issues that could be addressed in the regional process, among others;

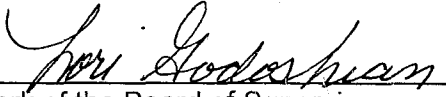
- 4) Proposes that the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee, the Citizen's Water Advisory Committee, Pima County Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Planning Commission continue to provide oversight and a venue for public participation in the implementation of the Phase II report recommendations assigned to the City and County.
- 5) Directs the County Administrator to appoint staff to coordinate the implementation of the Phase II recommendations including:
- Within 6 months, creating a more detailed action plan to implement the recommendations that includes a timeline, deliverables, costs, roles and responsibilities;
 - Tracking, monitoring and reporting on progress toward implementing the Study's Phase II recommendations;
 - Providing support for a regional dialogue and a continued focus on a coordinated, transparent and inclusive planning process to achieve a sustainable water future.

Passed and adopted this 12 day of January, 2010.

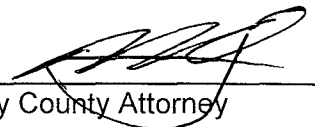
Pima County


Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: JAN 12 2010


Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Deputy County Attorney