

#### Water Reliability for Tucson's Future



#### Water Resources Research Center March 9, 2015





Water Reliability means Tucson Water's customers can count on...

- Long-term planning and appropriate infrastructure and program investment
- Maximizing the use of <u>all</u> renewable water resources
- Clear and timely communication about our water and how to use and re-use it efficiently





#### Transition to Renewable Supplies



# Potable Water Use - Projection to 2050 with Shortage



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#### Recycled Water Program Focus

- Continue to invest in the Reclaimed Water System to maintain efficient service to existing and potential future customers
- Pursue full utilization of the City's recycled water entitlement through indirect potable reuse (IPR) to diversify renewable supplies







#### **Recycled Water Makes Sense**

- Long Term Planning: Development of water supplies for the future
- Drought: Cutbacks in deliveries of CAP Water
- Community Investments:
  - \$250 Million Storage and Recovery of CAP Water
  - \$600 Million Wastewater Improvements
  - \$25 Million Purchase of CAP Allocation (FY15)
- Supports Economic Development





### What Exactly Is Recycled Water?

 Reusing treated wastewater for beneficial purposes such as irrigation, industrial processing, replenishing groundwater basins, and purifying it for drinking water



Tucson Water has been
delivering recycled water,
known as reclaimed water, for 30
years







# Projections of Unutilized Recycled Water Resources







# Recycled Water: A New Vocabulary

- Recycling water for 30 Years as "Reclaimed Water"
  - Reclaimed Water- Treated wastewater with additional filtration. Not suitable for drinking
  - Potable reuse: Purification of treated wastewater for drinking water
    - Direct Potable Reuse (DPR): Purified water goes directly into drinking water system
    - Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR): Purified water goes through environmental buffer before introduction to drinking water system.





# Is Recycled Water Safe to Drink?

Yes! Multiple barriers, or stages of treatment, would ensure that purified recycled water is safe for our customers.

- Conventional Wastewater Treatment removes solid matters and other impurities.
- Soil Aquifer Treatment a process where water is treated as it moves through the soil. A natural filtering and treatment process that removes pathogens, organic carbon, nutrients, and additional emerging contaminants.





# Is Recycled Water Safe to Drink?

 Reverse Osmosis and Nanofiltration - mineral content is reduced and emerging contaminants are removed.

Advanced Treatment – Ultraviolet/Hydrogen Peroxide
Advanced Oxidation Process is used to disinfect and
destroy remaining emerging contaminants and pathogens,
leaving purified water.





# Advanced Water Treatment Considerations

- Multiple barriers
- Pre-recharge and postrecovery treatment
- Soil aquifer treatment
- MF/UF, RO/NF
- GAC, UV-AOP
- Brine management
- National Water Research Institute oversight









#### **Recommended Recycled Water Program Concepts**







#### **Implementation Timeline**







#### Summary

- Long-term Planning with Sound Infrastructure Investment is Key to Tucson's Water Future
- CAP M&I allocation unlikely to be shorted in the near-term
- The Long-Range Plan accounts for uncertainty regarding M&I shortage probability
- Recycled Water Program is integral to Tucson Water's continuous planning for resource reliability





#### Water reuse is happening worldwide.



#### **Questions?**









#### Potable Water Use - Projection to 2050 with Shortage





### Independent Advisory Panel Letter of Support

#### NWRI National Water Research Institute December 19, 2013 Utilities Agency Mr. Jeff B. Biggs Administrator, Strategic Initiatives Division Irvine Ranch Tucson Water P.O. Box 27210 Tucson, AZ 85726-2710 Tucson Water Recycled Water Master Plan Dear Mr. Biggs: The National Water Research Institute (NWRI) is pleased to transmit this letter on the findings of an NWRI Independent Advisory Panel (Panel) to provide expert peer review of the Tucson Water Recycled Water Master Plan. The Panel determined that a thorough technical review of the viable recycled water strategies has been conducted by Tucson Water. The proposed recycled water programs will enhance Tucson Water's overall water supply reliability Background on the Recycled Water Master Plan Jeffrey J. Mosher The Recycled Water Master Plan process was initiated in 2010 by the City of Tucson and the Tucson Water Department for the purpose of providing an integrated recycled water program that maximizes the City's recycled water resources and creates a reliable, sustainable water future for the community it serves. Tucson Water has historically employed the Reclaimed Water System to produce reclaimed water for irrigation and other non-potable uses. However, projections made as part of the Recycled Water Master

susminute which tunie et al. the Community is series. Tursted which has insortically employed the Redualmed Water System to produce reclaimed water for impairton and other non-potable uses. However, projections made as part of the Recycled Water Mater Plan process have shown that imitiate additional demands are anticipated for the Reclaimed Water System. Therefore, a component of the Recycled Water Master Plan involves evaluating new recycled water programs to reducing an expedient of the groundwater hostins and, after advanced treatment and hending, to supplement dinking water supplies. The new recycled water programs winclude indirect potable ruses (JPR), which involves the use of highly treated recycled water to replensish groundwater aquifers.

#### Panel Purpose and Activities

18700 Ward Street P.O. Box 8096 Fountain Valley, California 92728-8096 (714) 378-3278 Fax: (714) 378-3375 A 501c3 nonprofit, NWRI specializes in facilitating expert panels on behalf of water and wastewater agencies, as well as local, courty, and state government agencies, to provide third-party scientific and technical review by leading experts. In 2011, NWR was asked to form and coordinate an Independent Advisory Panel to provide expert per review of the Tusson Water Recycled Water Matter Plan. The Panel was comprised of seven members representing local and national expertise in environmental engineering, water reuse regulations, toxicology, hydrogeology, microbiology, environmental planning, public relations, and other relevant fields. Panel members included: "It is the unanimous conclusion of the Panel that the efforts described in the *Recycled Water Master Plan* will be a **landmark development** in the acceptance and implementation of IPR and will contribute to the **City of Tucson's renewable water resources portfolio**. The proposed new recycled water programs identified in the *Recycled Water Master Plan* will supplement existing sources and provide a greater degree of independence, thus improving the **reliability and sustainability** of existing water supplies."





#### Slide with GPCD vs Pop.







### Recycled Water Customer Survey Completed in December 2013

% of Tucson Water Customers Surveyed	Description
85%	Believe Tucson will need additional water supplies in the future
91%	Believe it is "very important" Tucson Water increase water recycling to meet long term needs
65%	Believe current technology can be used to further purify reclaimed water to make it pure and safe for drinking
33%	Are highly comfortable with Tucson Water purifying wastewater for future use as drinking water





# Recycled Water Customer Survey Results (cont'd) water

The 67% that were not comfortable were asked: What measures would improve their comfort level?

Likelihood to Increase Comfort Level for Potable Reuse*	Action to Increase Comfort Level for Potable Reuse
67%	Knowing that nationally recognized health and medical experts endorse the safety of the water
61%	Knowing that Tucson Water is the utility that will be producing and purifying the water
57%	Hearing about other communities that are already drinking purified water
66%	A tour of a facility to see how advanced technology is used to produce purified water
54%	Tasting the purified water





#### **Comparison with other New Water Supply Projects**





