

QUICK FACTS ABOUT AUSTIN'S WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND

- Austin's drinking water comes from the Colorado River by way of the Highland Lakes
- During the recent drought, water runoff that helps refill the Highland Lakes, was the lowest it has been since the lakes were built
- According to climatology studies, Central Texas is likely to see more frequent extreme weather events, including severe prolonged droughts
- Conservation has helped Austin reduce water use to late 1990s levels despite adding about 300,000 more customers

STAY INVOLVED

Visit the website at www.austintexas.gov/waterforward and leave a question or comment and sign up for our monthly **eNewsletter**

Visit a monthly Task Force meeting or watch online www.austintexas.gov/aiwrpctf

Find us at local events!

Follow Austin Water:   



Understanding WATER FORWARD

Reasons to Plan Ahead

Austin and regional population growth and development

Climate change impact on supply reliability

Recent extreme drought



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WATER FORWARD
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE PLAN

WATER FORWARD:



WATER FORWARD IS A 100-YEAR PLAN
THAT RECOMMENDS STRATEGIES TO HELP MANAGE AUSTIN'S WATER
AND MEET OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE WATER NEEDS.

Austin's Integrated Water Plan

Austin is one of the fastest growing cities in the country. Currently all of Austin's drinking water comes from the Colorado River, an important supply for our water future. With a rapidly growing city and a changing climate, Austin Water is collaborating with other City departments, a Citizen Task Force and the community to develop a water plan for the next century. This 100-year plan will recommend strategies to best manage our water supply and meet our community's future water needs.

Elements of the Water Forward Plan

Water Forward is a process to develop Austin's Integrated Water Resource Plan. The plan will provide a road map for ensuring a reliable and sustainable water supply for our community over the next 100 years. As Austin Water develops this plan, we will consider:

- Public input
- Strategies to reduce water demand
- Strategies to increase water supply
- Technical and engineering feasibility
- Climate science
- Cost and affordability
- Environmental impacts
- Social equity

Task Force and Public Input

The Council-appointed Water Forward Task Force provides ongoing support for the plan's development. The monthly Task Force meetings are an opportunity for the public to learn more about the process.

As part of the planning process, we will engage the public to identify community values and potential solutions to the challenges we face. Public workshops, surveys, community meetings and focus groups are just a few ways the public can be engaged. There is also an online comment portal available throughout the process.

Water Forward Planning Timeline

