Water Conservation Program Update

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About Austin Water

• Large metropolitan utility
  – 548 square miles
  – 225,000+ connections
  – 1,000,000 customers
  – 3,807 miles of mains
    (both transmission and distribution)

• 100% surface water from lower Colorado River
  – Firm water rights backed by stored water contract up to
    325,000 acre-feet/year
  – Peak withdrawal ~ 175,000 AFY; average 140,000 AFY
Mature conservation program

- Active/evolving conservation programs since 1983
- Early emphasis on efficient fixtures; later emphasis on efficient practices & regulations
- Peak day and total GPCD goals
- Peaking factor and delay water supply contract payment
~28% reduction in Total GPCD over five year rolling average
Incentive program trends

- Traditional “low hanging fruit” implemented
- Many programs phased out due to federal manufacturing standards, market saturation, and state/local requirements
- Shifting focus to high use areas, auxiliary water, higher standards for new development, and innovative technology and methods
Rebates & Services

• Incentive Programs
  – Rainwater Harvesting
  – Irrigation System Upgrades
  – Landscape conversions
  – Pressure Reduction
  – Commercial Process Rebates
  – Irrigation Evaluations

• Free Equipment
  – Showerheads & Aerators, Soil Moisture Meters

• Discontinued
  – Toilets, clothes washers, hot water on demand, rain gauges, ICI/MF irrigation repairs
Dropcountr

- “Native” mobile app and web based
- Custom home water use reports
- Analytics package

Dropcountr HOME App

Mailed Home Water Report

- Push alerts
- Intuitive
- Flexibility
- Cost

Dropcountr CLEAR Analytics Platform
Provide actionable information

• Contextual water usage
• Rate tiers and costs
• Suggested measures, and fixtures
• Goal setting/surveys
• Leak notifications
• Push alerts (e.g., service outages, boil water notices, smoke testing, line breaks/repairs)
# Water Forward Demand Strategies

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<th>Measure Name</th>
<th>Yield Potential 2115</th>
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<td>Benchmarking</td>
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<td>Water Loss Control – Utility</td>
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<td>Landscape Transformation Incentives</td>
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<td>CII Ordinance for Cooling Towers</td>
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**Relative Magnitude of Yield (Acre-Feet):**
- > 40,000
- 20,000 - 40,000
- 10,000 - 20,000
- 1,000 - 10,000
- < 1,000
IWRP Project Timeline

2018

June    August    September    October    December    February    April

Development

Supply Options Screening

Public Outreach

Summer Series    Fall Outreach

Evaluation

Plan Recommendations

Scoring

Seek Approval From Council

Future Implementation Phase

June

www.austintexas.gov/water
What’s Next

• Provide Spanish language version

• AMI pilot study
  – Cost and technical feasibility study
  – Up to 160 smart meter pilot participants with near real time water use data and leak alerts

• Explore possibility of ICI/MF portals
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