



Water Resources Infrastructure Strategies: Identifying, Prioritizing, and Financing Needs

Water Resources Review Committee
September 7, 2011

Western Water Resources Infrastructure Strategies:
Identifying, Prioritizing and Financing Needs.



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Western Governors' Association



WGA Background



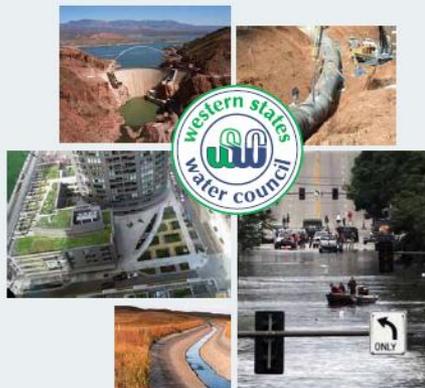
Through the leadership of the Governors, WGA brings together Western states to:

- Develop policy and address important governance issues.
- Advance the role of the states regionally and at the national level.
- Develop and manage innovative programs related to natural resources, the environment, economic development, international relations, and state governance.



Western States Water Council

Western Water Resources Infrastructure Strategies: Identifying, Prioritizing and Financing Needs.



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WSWC

- An affiliate of WGA focusing on water resource management in 18 Western States.
- Includes State water managers like Jennifer Gimbel, Dick Wolfe, and Steve Gunderson.
- Focus on water supply and water quality issues across the West: www.westgov.org/wswc/

In June 2011, WSWC produced this report on *Water Resources Infrastructure Strategies*:

- Over 100 meeting attendees, including the financial sector.
- Accepted by Governors in June 2011.



ASCE Report Card

(You don't want your kids to bring this home.)

- Dams D
- Drinking Water D-
- Levees D-
- Wastewater D-

(ASCE Average is D.)

- Colorado's drinking water infrastructure needs an investment of \$5.32 billion over the next 20 years.
- Colorado has \$2.13 billion in wastewater infrastructure needs.



Take Our Poll

Five categories received D-.
Which is the most urgent?

Drinking Water	60%
Inland Waterways	3%
Levees	7%
Roads	19%
Wastewater	10%

(Total votes: 349)



Federal Situation



- Threats to key federal infrastructure funding programs, including state revolving funds.
 - Recent bills propose \$1B-2B (or 25%-50%) in cuts to SRFs
- Reluctance among states and governors to promote federal spending



State Situation

COLORADO

- CWCB Loan and Grant Programs
- State Clean Water and Revolving Funds

CALIFORNIA:

- 2002: \$3.4B in water bonds approved by popular vote
- 2006: \$5.4B in water bonds approved by popular vote
- 2010: \$11B water bond postponed in 2010 (to 2012);

TEXAS:

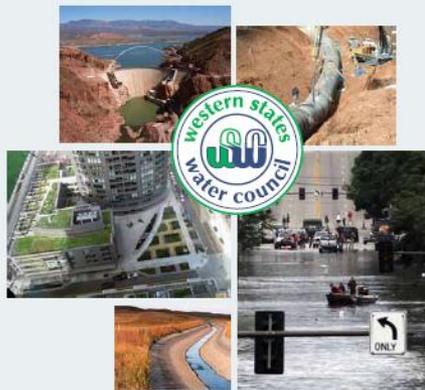
- \$53 billion in state investment needed for water by 2060;
- "If we don't fund the water plan and get it going, 2050 is going to be chaotic," said Rep. Alan Ritter, R-Nederland. "As our population continues to grow, you've got to do the infrastructure. If you want people to leave Texas, then don't have water."

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/7703436.html#ixzz1VUsoeOZk>



WSWC Infrastructure Strategies

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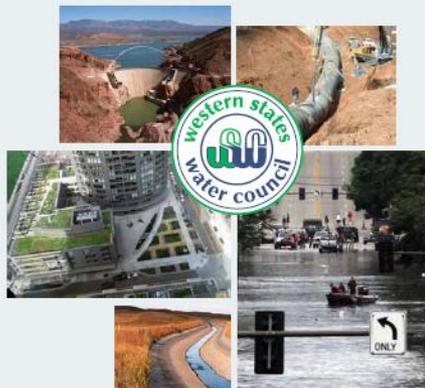
- Conservation and reuse
- Quantifying water infrastructure needs
- Supporting key federal investments
- Multiple-purpose projects
- Public-private partnerships
- Pricing and rates
- Streamlining permitting
- Local solutions w/ regional support
- Water governance

And 37 additional recommendations....



WSWC Infrastructure Themes

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- **“MULTI-”**
 - purpose, benefit, and funding
- **Partnerships**
 - regional and public-private
- **Education and Messaging**



Messaging

- The popular media get it
- But water infrastructure often lags.
 - Stimulus Funding
 - National Infrastructure Bank
- Develop a positive and compelling message and engage new constituencies to share it.
- A ‘Shared Water Vision’?



Follow-up workshop scheduled for fall 2012!

