North Texas Alternative Futures

Water Use

A key indicator for comparing alternative future scenarios

This powerpoint presents:

• What is this key indicator?
• How do the alternative future scenarios compare?
Projected Growth & Water Supply

- By 2050, DFW region will require 2.2 billion gallons per day.
- Currently available resources can provide 1.6 billion gallons per day, representing a 32% shortfall.
- Satisfying demand will require:
  - Development of a major lake in East Texas and/or purchase of developed water from Oklahoma or other Texas sources.
  - Increased reuse of treated wastewater.
  - More aggressive local conservation programs.
Region C Water Planning Group

- Region C WPG is a planning group that advises the state, but itself has no implementation or regulatory authority.
- There are other WPG’s for the more rural portions of the NCTCOG region.
- The WPG recommendations were incorporated into the 2007 State Water Plan, including strategies regarding water use and conservation.
Water use overall, and especially outdoor water use, would continue to increase under Business As Usual.

Scenarios Compared to Business As Usual

- **Connected Centers**: + Improves
- **Return on Investment**: + Improves
- **Diverse Distinct Communities**: + Improves
- **Green Region**: ++ Improves Greatly
Connected Centers

This scenario envisions many human-scale, moderate intensity mixed use centers located throughout the region, similar to projects near DART light rail stations.

+ Improves Water Use compared to Business As Usual

- Higher intensity development would require less outdoor water use per capita.
- All new development would meet building code standards regarding indoor water use fixtures.
Return on Investment

This scenario envisions that existing neighborhoods and business areas are maintained, and underutilized properties are revitalized, within the current urban service area through reinvestment in existing infrastructure.

+ Improves Water Use compared to Business As Usual

- Higher intensity development would require less outdoor water use per capita.
- More redevelopment would mean existing buildings would be replaced/upgraded and be required to install more efficient indoor water fixtures.
- Better maintenance and repair of old water lines would reduce losses from the system.
Diverse Distinct Communities

This scenario supports revitalization and investment in the downtowns of large and small communities around the region. It creates places with a mix of housing and jobs, with infrastructure efficiently clustered rather than extending to large areas of low intensity development.

+ Improves Water Use compared to Business As Usual

- All new development would meet building code standards for indoor water fixtures.
- Clustered development would use less outdoor water per person.
Green Region

This scenario begins with the preservation of important open spaces and environmental assets. It emphasizes the inclusion of natural areas in the development pattern of all parts of the region, supports green jobs, and reduces the region’s carbon footprint.

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++Improves Greatly Water Use compared to Business As Usual

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- Reducing per capita water use would be a high priority in the Green Region scenario.
- A wide range of innovative approaches would be employed, from pricing incentives to creative urban BMP’s to more efficient agricultural practices.
- Reuse would become even more prominent.