North Texas Alternative Futures

Waterworks

A key indicator for comparing alternative future scenarios

This powerpoint presents:
- What is this key indicator?
- How do the alternative future scenarios compare?
Waterworks

• Waterworks is the provision of potable drinking water & wastewater services and the related infrastructure.
• In North Central Texas, the vast majority of the population is served by regional water and wastewater systems. In the less urbanized area there are a variety of community systems and Municipal Utility Districts.
• Regional planning for potable water is conducted by regional water planning groups enabled by the State of Texas. The Region C WPG covers most of the urbanized portion of our region.
• NCTCOG is the designated areawide water quality management planning agency, including wastewater, and has a Water Resources Council policy body comprised of representatives from the regional systems and their customer cities.
Waterworks

The service areas for water/wastewater would continue to expand outward under Business As Usual

Scenarios Compared to Business As Usual

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

Vision North Texas Understanding Our Options For Growth
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 Waterworks compared to Business As Usual

- Many of the mixed use centers would be in current areas with regional water & wastewater services, thus requiring fewer new major trunk lines.

- Where the new centers are outside of current regional water/wastewater service areas, community facilities could provide the required service, thus leaving the lands in-between less desirable for urban expansion since they would lack water/wastewater services.
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 Greatly Waterworks compared to Business As Usual

- This scenario maximizes the use of current infrastructure, including water & wastewater facilities.
- Using existing water/wastewater infrastructure with more customers would provide more revenue for maintenance and rehab of aging pipelines and facilities.
- The financial stability of current providers would be enhanced, and “speculative” debt at the fringes discouraged.
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 Waterworks compared to Business As Usual

- Existing water & wastewater infrastructure would serve communities within the current urban area.

- Expanded/new community systems would serve free-standing communities, with land “in-between” without such services, thus discouraging land speculation.
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.

+ Improves Waterworks compared to Business As Usual

- Existing water & wastewater infrastructure would serve communities within the current urban area.
- New and innovative technologies would be explored to serve growing areas, in line with the pursuit of “green jobs.”