

### ***DISCUSSION ON WATER PLAN CONTENT***

Suggestions were made regarding regional issues and concerns that might benefit from additional attention in Update 2009. Key themes that emerged included:

- a. water transfers, water rights, and water quality (lower quality source water to a higher quality water area): a concern was noted several times about State Water Project water being exchanged for lower quality Colorado River water and impacts to groundwater quality; water quality from retired agricultural surface water rights is another concern
- b. reliability of the State Water Project: annual allocations and long-term average supplies; conveyance infrastructure; and Delta issues (including pump shutdowns)
- c. effects of Quantification Settlement Act (QSA) projects on local water supply (e.g. lining of the Coachella aqueduct)
- d. funding and incentives: for water recycling, conservation, disadvantaged communities

Other topics that were identified by group reports include:

- e. education and outreach on water issues (similar to “Flex Your Power”)
- f. risk (including emergency response and adaptability)
- g. Salton Sea issues
- h. invasive species

### ***DISCUSSION ON REGIONAL REPORT CONTENT***

Suggestions for additional topics that might be included in the Regional Reports:

- a. regional data:
  - need universal and standardized datasets
  - a hydrologic study of the Coachella Valley is needed, including disadvantage communities, movement of water (replenishment)
  - describe regulatory setting and how agencies make decisions (understand how the Water Plan factors into agency decisions)
- b. water supply/demand/quality data:
  - bucket for bucket exchange transfers fail to address water quality aspects
  - examine how contractors serve water to their customers
  - synchronize water quality and water supply; expand discussion on water quality
  - monitoring networks need to address long-term impacts on issues and contaminants of concern (e.g. septics and Colorado River recharge)
  - describe, coordinate, and expand existing data and monitoring efforts
  - describe existing conservation efforts – give examples and models; work with building industry on conservation
  - report on efforts to improve local infrastructure (pipeline replacement, purple pipes)

## What We Heard in Round 1 Workshops – Colorado River Region

- c. challenges:
  - tertiary treatment is needed for Colorado River recharge to match quality of existing groundwater supplies
- d. resource management strategies:
  - look at whether tiered billing rates work
- e. regional planning:
  - show regional water management plan boundaries
  - need integration of priorities
  - include information on regional relationships and coordination with other agencies (Bureau of Reclamation, Water Boards, Department of Public Health)
  - need to fairly balance multiple, sometimes conflicting, perspectives – power and influences rests with wholesalers (v. multiple retailers); smaller districts need to be engaged and empowered to sit at the table with larger districts
  - the needs of disadvantaged communities must be represented and addressed, including provisions for matching funds
  - policies and regulations must be coordinated and enforced
- f. reference materials:
  - provide examples of building codes and landscape guidelines that promote water conservation