

Stakeholder workshop summary: Building a shared vision for a sustainable Arlington Basin

Arlington Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
August 2020

Recap: *Workshop goals*

- Share what the project team has learned about the Basin

- Describe the role of the Water Budget

- Document **stakeholder's vision** of what a “sustainable Arlington Basin” means.



Who attended the workshop



COMMUNITY
GROUPS



URBAN / AGRICULTURE
WATER USERS



ENVIRONMENTAL /
CONSERVATION GROUPS



INTEGRATED WATER
MANAGEMENT



GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY



PRIVATE WATER
USERS



GENERAL PUBLIC /
OTHER



Attendees to the July 30, 2020 workshop participated in an interactive **Visioning Exercise** where they helped populate a virtual white board to answer the question “What is our shared vision of what a ‘sustainable Arlington Basin’ means?” Stakeholders shared their ideas, values, perceptions, and desired outcomes across the following categories:

1. **AVAILABLE SUPPLY:** What needs/uses does our groundwater supply always need to be able to serve?
2. **AVAILABLE STORAGE:** What needs/uses does our stored groundwater need to serve and/or prepare us for?
3. **GROUNDWATER QUALITY:** What is the quality of groundwater we aim to sustain?
4. **COST TO USERS TO MAINTAIN SUSTAINABILITY:** How do we ensure that the cost of securing a ‘sustainable Arlington Basin’ is equitable (fair).

Following is a report out of this workshop exercise.



Stakeholder Visioning Exercise

What does a "Sustainable Arlington Basin" mean to you?

Activity participation and input from stakeholders



Visioning exercise stakeholder input detail

CATEGORY	STAKEHOLDER COMMENT
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Total water supply/pumping should be equal or less than safe yield. Also, historical water users should have seniority over new groundwater use
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Fire suppression
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Residential / agriculture
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Cost for alternative new supply effective
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Ensure Western can meet its current contract obligations at the Arlington Desalter
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Irrigation (for sensitive turf)
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Desalters are currently pumping 85% of production in the Basin — a SAWPA initiated Water Quality Control Board project
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Currently the desalter goes to Norco or the City of Corona vs. recharge into the Basin
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY	Basin customers are getting their water from outside of the Basin
AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER STORAGE	Factors to consider: lowest historical storage value; the future impacts of the most severe drought/climate change conditions; maximum depth to water elevations



Visioning exercise stakeholder input detail, continued

CATEGORY	STAKEHOLDER COMMENT
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Continue to clean up the basin with the Arlington Desalter
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Maintain quality for nonpotable use (keep current situation or make it better)
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Concern if high salt content built up in the soil
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Contribution of water to Santa Ana River WS is very low
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Determine range of salinity needed to support irrigation and landscaping needs in Basin, and to manage salinity in soil
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Groundwater quality target should consider current MLC values. Also, they should be in agreement with current State Water Regional Control Board's Water Quality Order (WQO) regulations. Besides Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Nitrates, are there other water quality parameters of concern?
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Continue to implement projects to recharge high quality water into Arlington Basin (Victoria recharge basin to capture high quality stormwater); other projects like this may be needed
GROUNDWATER QUALITY	Currently the desalter goes to Norco or the City of Corona vs. recharge into the Basin
COST TO USERS	Incorporating Renewable Energy - Solar / energy storage
COST TO USERS	Costs would be defined based on the degree of sustainability that the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will consider. It is important to consider different scenarios to make sure you identify a series of economically feasible projects
COST TO USERS	A fair share cost basis needs to be established based on past and future usage



We incorporated the input provided by stakeholders into the draft **4 Guiding Principles Informing the Arlington Basin GSP**, described on the pages that follow.

A synthesis of all ideas and suggestions shared by the workshop attendees are listed beneath one or more of these principles.

These **4 Guiding Principles** will be used in partnership with the Groundwater Sustainability Agency to develop an overarching **Sustainability Goal** for the Basin. The draft Sustainability Goal will be shared at Stakeholder Workshop No. 2: Sustainable Goal Setting.



(DRAFT)

4 Guiding Principles informing the Arlington Basin GSP

1

Available groundwater supply **reliably supports diverse needs** in and outside of the Basin.

2

Stored groundwater cost-effectively supports **water supply resilience**.

3

Groundwater quality is maintained at a **safe and compliant standard** to meet diverse Basin needs.

4

Cost of maintaining sustainable groundwater levels is **feasible and fiscally-responsible**.



1. Available groundwater supply **reliably supports diverse needs** in and outside of the Basin.

SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS:

- Total water supply/pumping should be equal or less than safe yield. Also, historical water users should have seniority over new groundwater use
- Fire suppression
- Residential / agriculture
- Cost for alternative new supply effective
- Ensure Western can meet its current contract obligations at the Arlington Desalter
- Irrigation (for sensitive turf)
- Desalters are currently pumping 85% of production in the Basin — a SAWPA initiated Water Quality Control Board project
- Currently the desalter goes to Norco or the City of Corona vs. recharge into the Basin
- Basin customers are getting their water from outside of the Basin





2. Stored groundwater cost-effectively supports **water supply resilience**.

SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS:

- Factors to consider: lowest historical storage value; the future impacts of the most severe drought/climate change conditions; maximum depth to water elevations



3. Groundwater quality is maintained at a **safe and compliant standard** to meet diverse Basin needs.

SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS:

- Continue to clean up the basin with the Arlington Desalter
- Maintain quality for nonpotable use (keep current situation or make it better)
- Concern if high salt content built up in the soil
- Contribution of water to Santa Ana River WS is very low
- Determine range of salinity needed to support irrigation and landscaping needs in Basin, and to manage salinity in soil
- Groundwater quality target should consider current MLC values.
- Also, they should be in agreement with current State Water Regional Control Board's Water Quality Order (WQO) regulations. Besides Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Nitrates, are there other water quality parameters of concern?
- Continue to implement projects to recharge high quality water into Arlington Basin (Victoria recharge basin to capture high quality stormwater); other projects like this may be needed
- Currently the desalter goes to Norco or the City of Corona vs. recharge into the Basin



4. Cost of maintaining sustainable groundwater levels is **feasible and fiscally-responsible.**

SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS:

- Incorporating Renewable Energy - Solar / energy storage
- Costs would be defined based on the degree of sustainability that the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will consider. It is important to consider different scenarios to make sure you identify a series of economically feasible projects
- A fair share cost basis needs to be established based on past and future usage

