

## 10.0 Plan Review and Implementation Schedules

### **10.1 Proposed Plan Review and Approval Schedule**

#### 10.1.1 Public Review and Comment

A variety of techniques were used to inform the public about the availability of this plan and to encourage further public comment and feedback to SAWS. This feedback was reviewed and addressed in plan revisions and community members who provided comments were informed as to how their comments were incorporated into the final SAWS Water Resources Plan.

SAWS also provided the following opportunities for the public to learn more about the draft Plan:

- **Speakers Bureau** – A mass mailing to San Antonio civic, community, neighborhood and business organizations was conducted, notifying them that members of the Speakers Bureau were available to make presentations on the draft Water Resources Plan. SAWS Community Relations staff scheduled over 75 meetings with these organizations during the review period.
- **Copies of Draft Plan at SAWS Facilities, City Hall and Local Libraries** – SAWS made copies of the draft plan available at its facilities. Additional copies were distributed to City Hall and local libraries so they were readily available for public review and comment. SAWS made additional copies of the plan available upon request.
- **Local Press Coverage** – SAWS distributed press releases to the local media soliciting news coverage regarding the draft plan and the public’s ability to provide comments and feedback. An “electronic” town meeting with television stations was held on September 30.

- **Public Meetings** – Four public meetings, one in each quadrant of the city, were scheduled in July and August.
- **Briefings to Water Agency and Elected Officials** – SAWS conducted one-on-one briefings with local and regional water agency officials on the draft Plan. These officials were encouraged to provide feedback to SAWS and to promote the availability of the plan for review by their own constituencies.
- **Advertising in the Local Media** – SAWS advertised in the local media regarding the town hall meetings and availability of the draft Water Resources Plan.
- **Other Notification** – SAWS notified the community as to the availability of the plan through notices in the monthly water bills, articles in Water Action (monthly newsletter), mailings to interested parties on community lists, and materials on the home page (<http://www.saws.org>). A telephone hotline was also established so that citizens could receive information about the plan.

### 10.1.2 Technical Review

SAWS forwarded the Water Resources Plan to local, state, and federal agencies for their review and comment. Suggested changes were incorporated into the Plan and the comments reflected in an Appendix.

### 10.1.3 Approval Process

**SAWS Board Approval** – The Water Resources Plan will be finalized at the close of the public comment period and after the review of the benchmarking assessment by the Citizens Advisory Panel.

The plan will be reviewed by the Water Resources Committee of the Board, briefed to other Board committees, and then taken to the Board for their consideration and approval.

**City Council Support** – Upon approval by the Board, the Water Resources Plan will be presented to the City Council of San Antonio for a resolution of support and endorsement. Other Boards, Councils and Commissions may also be encouraged to consider resolutions supporting the plan.

#### 10.1.4 Update Process

The issues and projects included in the 50 year Water Resources Plan are complex, as is the regulatory and physical environment within which they must fit. As conditions change over time, SAWS must have the ability to revise the plan as necessary. The plan and its implementation will be reviewed each year in an annual assessment as recommended by the Citizens Working Group, and it will be formally updated at least every three years.

### **10.2 Fifty Year Implementation Timeline**

The *Framework for Progress* report identified specific actions that SAWS should take immediately. These actions were further developed in the *Water Resource Action Plan* approved in April 1997. Implementation has begun. These actions, along with others recommended in this plan, will be continued or initiated over the next several years.

Activities identified in future years are increasingly less precise than those identified on the more immediate horizon.

## 10.2.1 Years 1-5

- Expand public information/involvement programs.
- Accelerate conservation programs.
- Continue drought/critical period management.
- Complete the Water Recycling Water Program, Phase I.
- Complete the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Pilot Project, and begin project if results are favorable.
- Enhance Water Quality Protection.
- Expand the Saline Water Study (“Bad Water Line Study”).
- Purchase Options on Surface Water Rights.
- Participate in Weather Modification (Cloud Seeding) Pilot Project.
- Continue Aquifer Optimization Studies.
- Study Recharge Enhancement in the Guadalupe Basin.
- Participate in Recharge Enhancement Pilot Project in the Nueces Basin.
- Participate in the SB 1 Regional Planning process and submit regional plan to TWDB (September 2000).
- Protect EAA permitted withdrawals.
- Acquire additional Edwards supply according to adopted Board policy.
- Construct Canyon/Bulverde Project.
- Complete agreement with GBRA and SARA for additional supplies from the Guadalupe River Basin.
- Study other groundwater sources and pursue acquisition if results are favorable.

- Pursue state, federal, and private funding for water supply projects and land acquisitions on the recharge zone.
- Pursue additional surface water rights through contract options and other mechanisms.
- Begin the planning and permitting process for new storage pursuant to SB 1 regional plan.
- Conduct annual assessments of the Water Resources Plan.
- Conduct formal update in year three (2001) subsequent to completion of regional plan.

### 10.2.2 Years 6-15

- Continue on going programs identified in years 1-5 such as conservation, water quality protection, drought management, public information and involvement.
- Make decisions regarding utilization of surface water options and begin project design.
- Complete projects to import into the county groundwater or existing surface water supplies.

### 10.2.3 Years 16-50

- Begin the construction of new surface water storage if water demand is sufficient and if optimization studies do not provide increased yields from the Edwards aquifer, if the public supports such action, if permits are granted and if funding is secured.