

## Imagine Austin Priority Program No. 2

# Sustainably Manage Our Water Resources



Environmental Board Meeting  
May 21, 2014



# Organizational Accomplishments

- Team leads and structure identified
- Share Point site established
- Work Plan and 2013 milestones developed
- Regular meetings since November 2012
- Development of content for Annual Report
- Development of Matrix Template for tracking implementation
- Establishment of Interdepartmental Coordination Team



# Team Members

## Leads:

AW: David Juarez & Daryl Slusher, WPD: Joe Pantalione

## Project Managers:

AW: Teresa Lutes, WPD: Jean Drew

## PDR Liaison:

Ming-ru Chu

## Team:

AW: Drema Gross, Tina Bui, David Greene, Joe Smith, Jeff Fox,  
Danielle Martin, Heather Dalrymple  
WPD: Matt Hollon, Erin Wood, Chris Herrington



# Goals

- Ensure resilient, reliable & affordable water supply for future generations
- Protect public health & safety
- Protect rivers, lakes, creeks & aquifers
- Incorporate conservation, innovation & best management practices
- Lead collaboration at the state, regional & local levels





# Challenges

## Water is central to Austin's identity & wellbeing

- Rapidly growing population (demand, impacts)
- Fragile Central Texas environment
- Climate change & drought
- State and regional regulatory complexity



# Implementing Imagine Austin Accomplishments

## Short Term Goal 1:

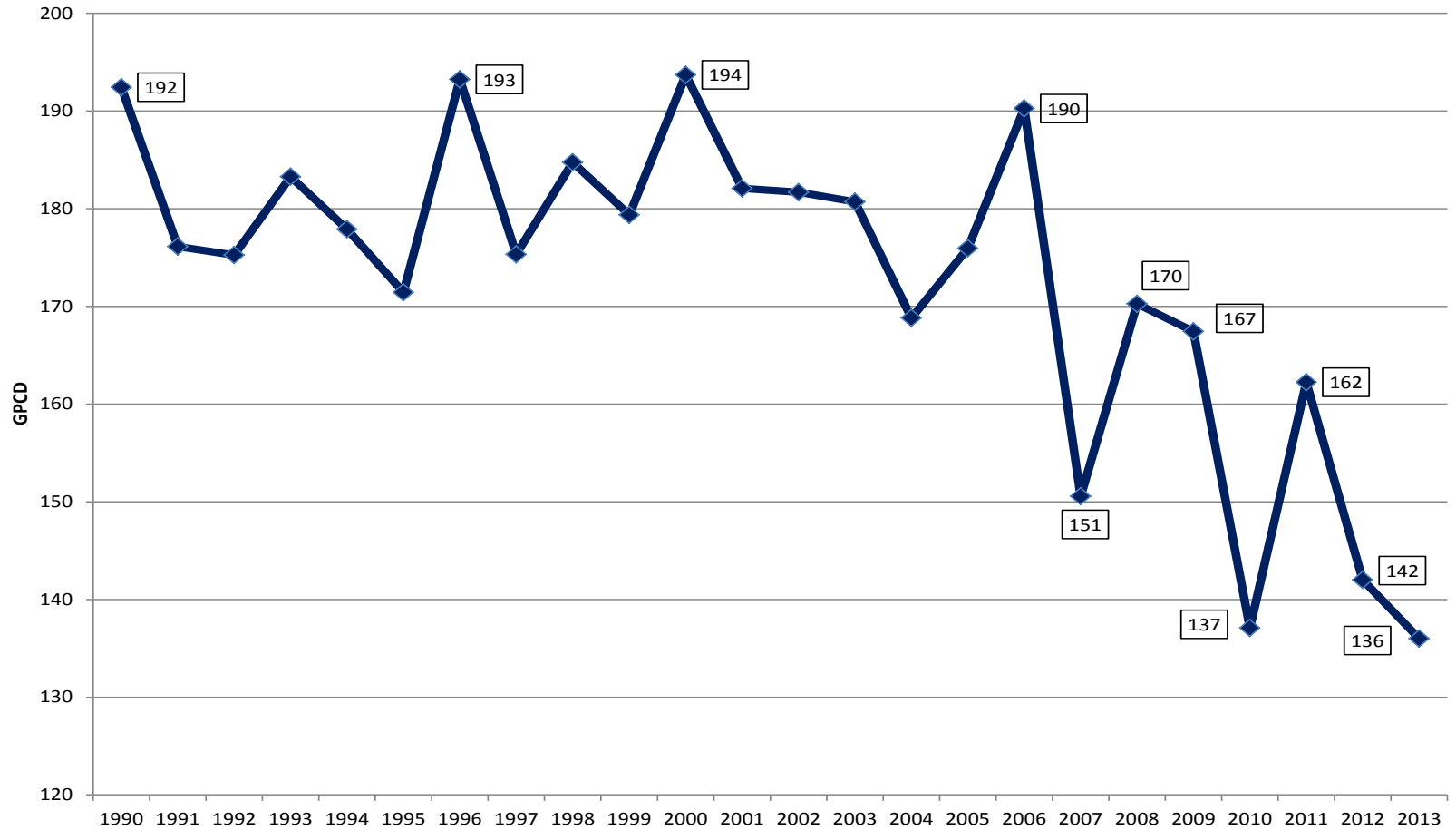
### Austin Water Revised Water Use Management Strategy

- August 2012 Council adopted revisions
- Revamped year-round mandatory watering schedule
- Includes four drought response stages



# Water Use Management

Austin Conservation History - GPCD Progress by Fiscal Year



# Implementing Imagine Austin Accomplishments

## Ongoing & Long Term Goal 5: Implementation of new Council approved Austin Water rate structure

- Implementation of Council-approved Joint Committee recommendations
- New structure encourages conservation, provides price breaks for low income customers
- Maintains affordability and preserves financial stability





# Implementing Imagine Austin Accomplishments

## Short Term Goal 2:

### Watershed Protection Ordinance Revisions

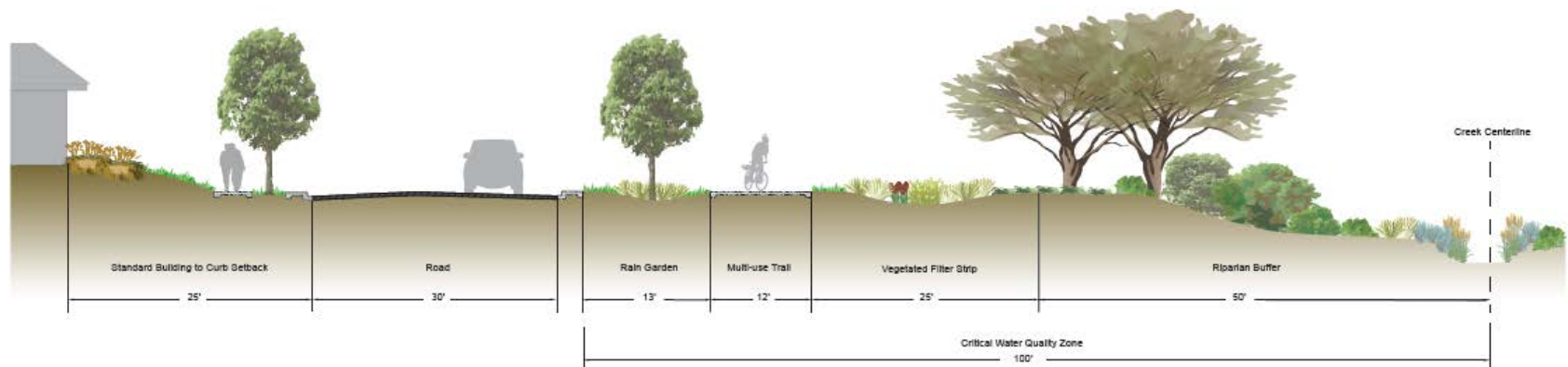
- Recommended by Environmental Board July 2013
- Approved by Planning Commission August 27, 2013
- Approved by Council October 17, 2013
- Effective Date October 28, 2013



# Watershed Protection Ordinance

## Benefits of Enhanced Buffers

- Reduce channel erosion and property loss
- Provides community benefits
- Maintain good water quality
- Reduces Operation and Maintenance costs
- Helps control flood impacts



# Implementing Imagine Austin Accomplishments

## Ongoing & Long Term Goal 8: Watershed Protection Master Plan

- CIP Implementation ongoing
- Updated Watershed problem scores to ensure solution prioritization reflect current needs
- Implemented Program and Regulatory Enhancements
- Continue to keep Master Plan Document Updated



# Implementing Imagine Austin In the Works

- Goal 4 - Auxiliary Water Study
- Revise the Land Development Code to promote a compact and connected City (Related Priority Program)





# Implementing Imagine Austin Ongoing

**Goal 1** - Ongoing update to Austin Water's integrated water management plan

- Drought response planning
- Water conservation, climate mitigation and adaptation strategies

**Goal 3** - Coordinate with Austin Energy on risks and mitigation related to water demands for power generation

- AW provides reclaimed water to Sandhill generation facility
- Drought response including LCRA pro-rata curtailment

**Goal 9** - Regional & State Water Plan Updates

- State and Regional Water Resources Planning

**Goal 10** - Ongoing implementation of Austin Water's energy efficiency and demand reduction efforts

- Greenhouse gas emission reduction
- Climate Protection Goals

# Implementing Imagine Austin Ongoing

## **Goal 6 & 7** - Ongoing Coordination with Regional Partners

- COA-LCRA Water Partnership
- Non Degradation Policy for BSZ

## **Goal 8** - Ongoing updates to Watershed Master Plan

- Continually maintaining current scores and developing solutions

## **Goal 11** - Interdepartmental Coordination Team developed to facilitate :

- Increased coordination between WPD, AW, OS, PDRD and other departments

# Implementing Imagine Austin CIP Opportunities

- Approach Infrastructure Upgrades and Maintenance to facilitate a “Compact and Connected” future for Austin
- Projects evaluated using the Capital Planning Office criteria
- WPD FY 14 CIP Plan addresses critical needs and infrastructure upgrades
- Examples of two major AW CIP programs directly supporting IA and this Priority Program:
  - AW’s Renewing Austin water main replacement program
  - AW’s Reclaimed Water Program



# Questions??

