

Mayor & Council

Austin Water
Drought, Water Supply
& Business Model

February 9, 2015

Austin Water Supply

Lake Travis (~1,100,000 AC-FT when full)

Lake Buchanan

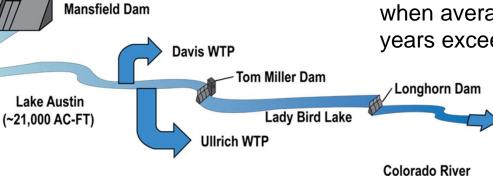


Colorado River:

- Combination of State-granted water rights & long-term contract with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA)
- Up to 325,000 acre-feet per year (afy). 1 acre-foot = 325,851 gallons

LCRA reservation & use fees pre-paid in 1999

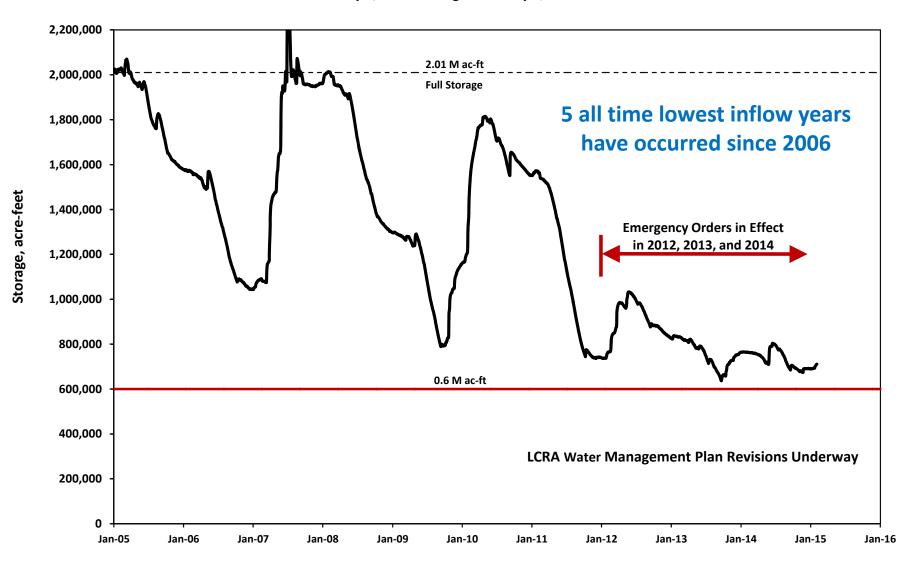
 Additional use payments trigger when average for 2 consecutive years exceeds 201,000 afy



WTP 4

Combined Storage of Lakes Buchanan and Travis

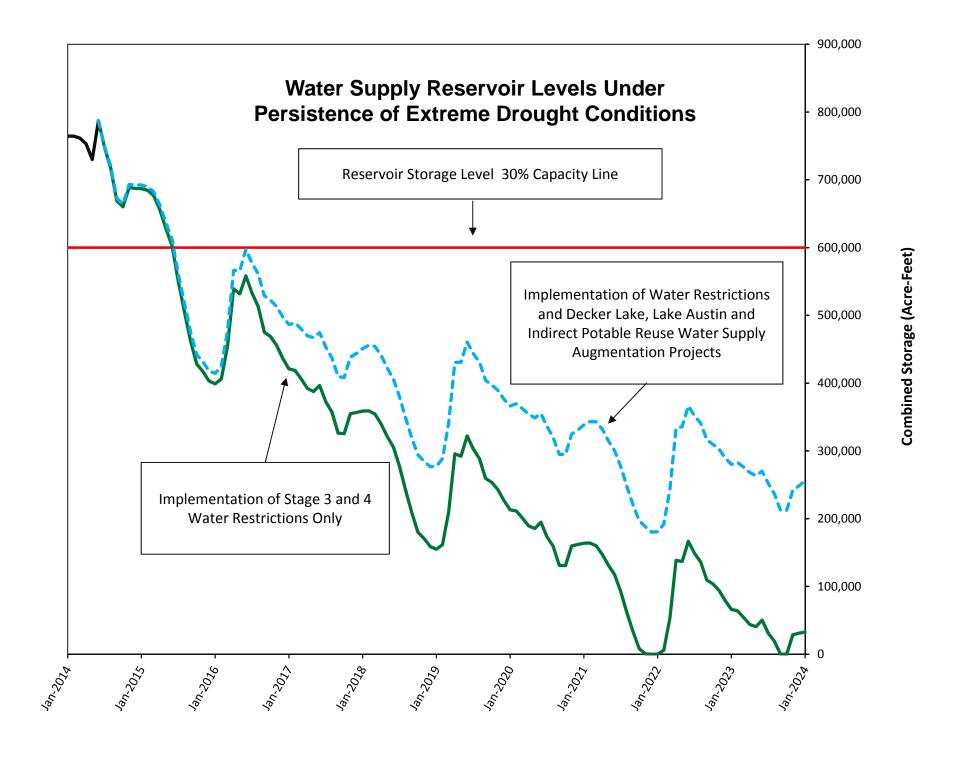
January 1, 2005 through February 1, 2015



Multi-Faceted Response Strategies

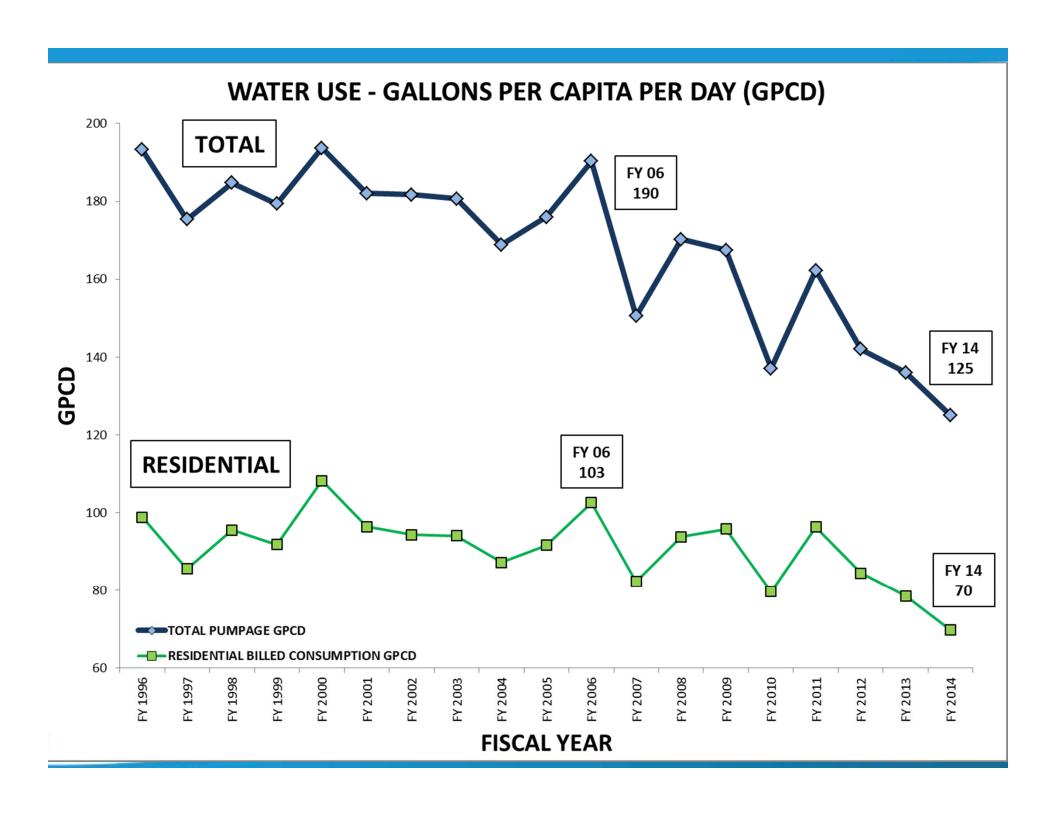


- Engage in LCRA Water Management Plan revisions and Emergency Orders
- Staged drought restrictions and water conservation
- ➤ Implement Austin Water Resource Planning Task Force strategy options:
 - Demand-side management and water conservation strategies
 - River and reservoir system operational enhancements
 - System augmentation projects (Decker Lake, Lake Austin, Indirect Potable Reuse)
- Develop Integrated Water Resources Plan (IWRP)
 - To include longer-range scenario-based planning for demand management and supply-side options
 - Supply diversification



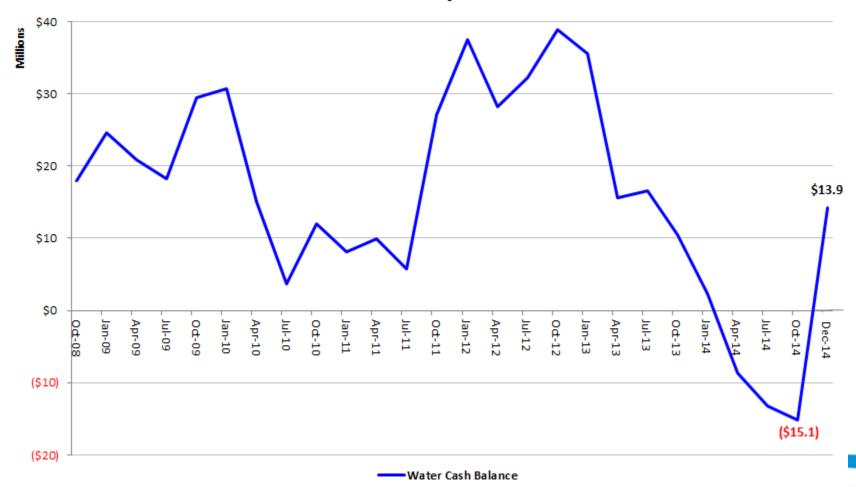


Austin Water Financial Considerations





Water Cash Balance History: Oct 2008 - Dec 2014





Bond Rating Agency Issues

Current Bond Rating: AA

Bond Issuance June 2014: Rating Agency Report

- Revised Outlook to Negative from Stable
- Weak financial metrics for debt service coverage and liquidity (cash balances)

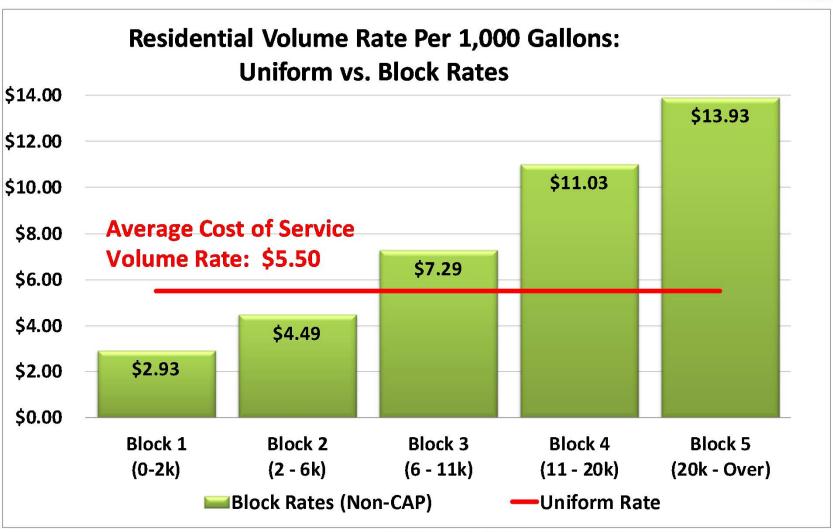
Austin Clearly Reliable

Rate Structure & Financial Policies

- Creation of Joint Financial Subcommittee
- Rate Design Changes
 - Fixed fee restructuring (tiered fees, % mix fixed/volumetric)
 - Residential rate redesign (intervals, spread, cost of service)
- Creation of Revenue Reserve Fund, & Use Policies
- Creation of Surcharges Linked to Drought Stages
- Policies for Growth to Pay for Itself
 - Impact Fee revisions to remove discounts/incentives
 - Service Extension Request (SER) Ordinance revisions
- Cost Containment
 - \$25M reduction FY2014 to FY2015

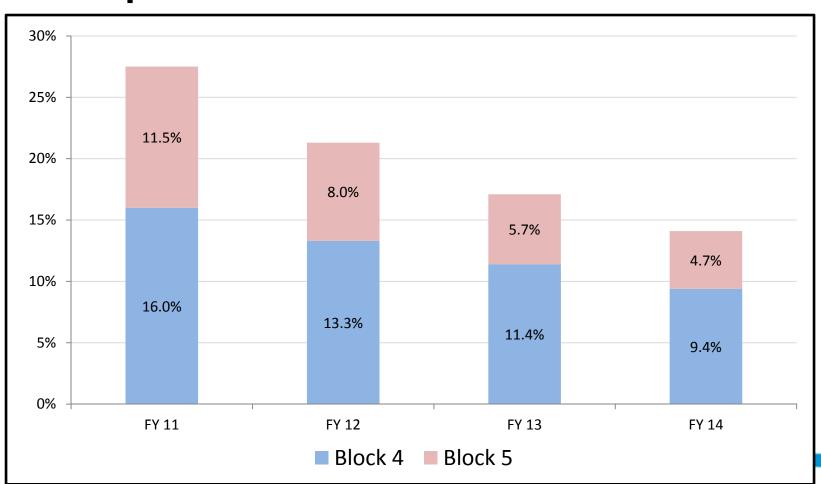


FY 2015 Water Rates: Residential



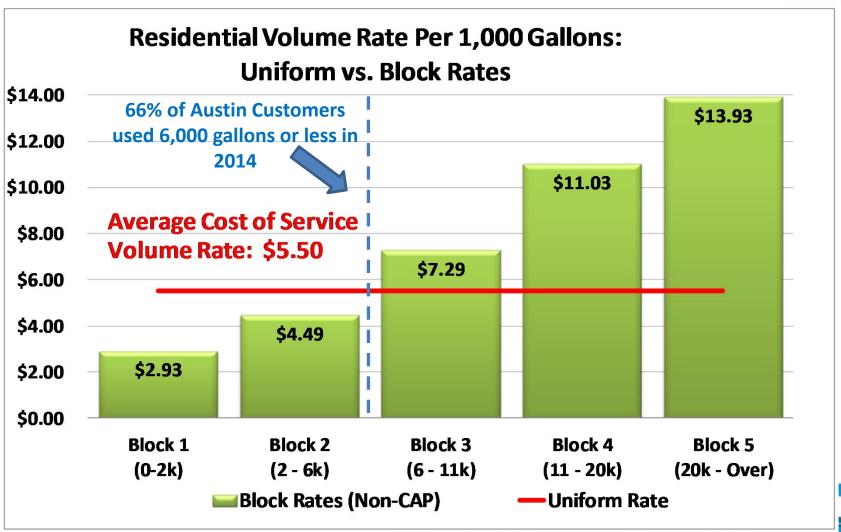


Residential Percentage of Total Consumption: Blocks 4 & 5





FY 2015 Water Rates: Residential



Upcoming Items



- Next 60 Days
 - Tuesday: Discuss naming of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) Task Force Members
 - Walter E. Long (Decker Lake) Golf Course
 - Wholesale Rate Case Matters
- By End of Fiscal Year
 - Approval of a firm to assist in IWRP development
 - Water supply augmentation project transactions
 (Decker Lake, Lake Austin, Indirect Potable Reuse)
 - FY2016 Austin Water Forecast, Budget, Rates
 - Possible need to implement Stage 3 & 4 water restrictions & rate surcharges



End