



WATER FORWARD
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE PLAN

LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission Update

October 15, 2018



Water Forward

Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP)

- Austin Water is leading interdepartmental effort in developing a 100 year water plan that reflects our community's values
- Council-appointed Task Force meets monthly
- Community outreach throughout the plan development process
- Plan to be completed in 2018 with updates on a five year cycle
- Goal: Ensure a diversified, sustainable, and resilient water future, with strong emphasis on water conservation

Drivers for Austin's IWRP

2007 - 2016
Extreme
Drought

Population
Growth
&
Development

Climate
Change
Impacts on
Supply
Reliability

Alignment
with
Community
Values

Austin's Water Supply

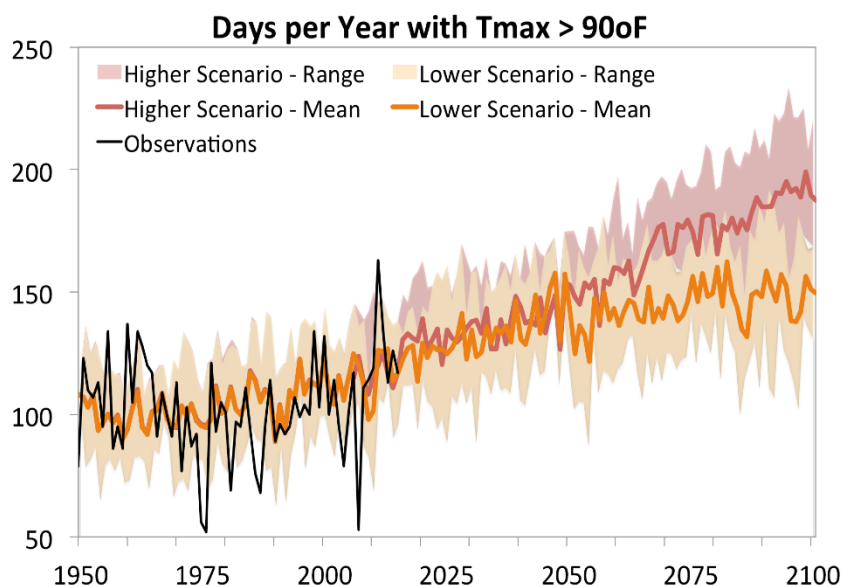
- Colorado River and Highland Lakes
- Combination of state-granted water rights & long-term firm contract with Lower Colorado River Authority (325,000 acre-feet per year)
- Austin's municipal river diversions for 2017 were ~149k AF



A Changing Climate in Austin

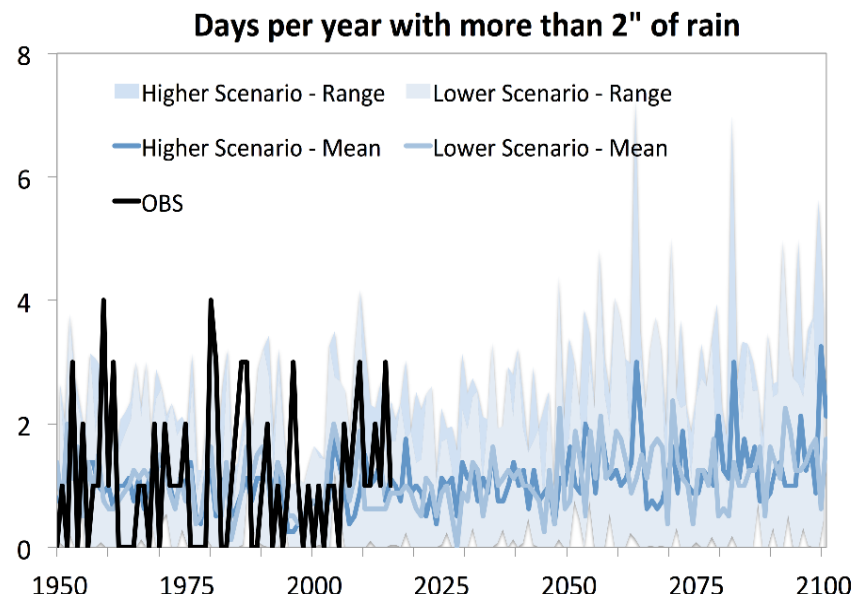
Higher temperatures

- Projected temperature increases
- Higher evaporation and increased drought intensity

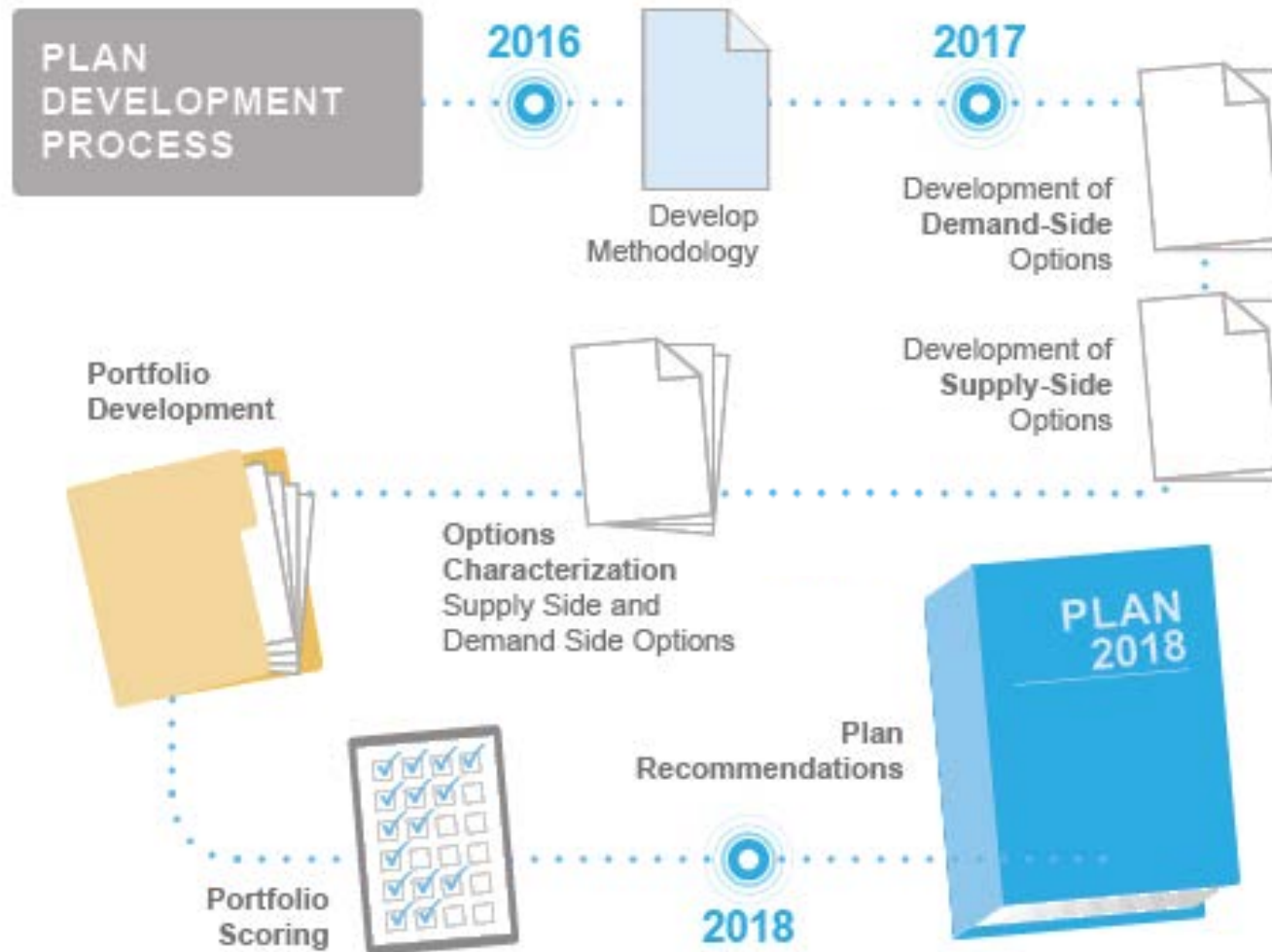


Increases in heavy precipitation

- Projected increases in magnitude and number of heavy rain events



IWRP Development Process



Public Input: What We've Heard

- Staff has presented at and attended over 80 community group meetings and events
- Austin Water has hosted five public workshops, two of which were paired with online webinars, across the City



Draft Plan Recommendations

Strategies from Hybrid 1

Demand Management

Implement Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

Enhance distribution system water loss control

Provide customer water use benchmarking information and implement water budgets

Transform to regionally appropriate landscapes

Expand irrigation efficiency incentives

Water Supply

Store water for drought via Aquifer Storage and Recovery and a new Off Channel Reservoir

Bring on additional supplies via Brackish Groundwater Desalination

Expand the Centralized Reclaimed Water System

Use Indirect Potable Reuse as a deep drought strategy

Capture local inflows to Lady Bird Lake

Use on-site and neighborhood scale alternative water sources for non-potable end uses
Rainwater, Stormwater, Wastewater, Graywater, and AC Condensate

Decentralized

Draft Plan Recommendations Continued

- Water Forward recommendations are in addition to City's current core water resources:
 - Colorado River firm water supply
 - Centralized Reclaimed Water System
 - Water conservation program
 - Drought contingency plan
- Plan recommendations include
 - Development of a dual plumbing ordinance
 - Expansion of current centralized reclaimed water connection requirements
 - Continue to engage in regional partnerships
 - Implementation of best management practices
 - Continue to require or incentivize water efficient fixtures
 - Lake Austin Operations during drought
 - Implementation components
 - Water rates and fees to promote water use efficiency while maintaining affordability
 - Customer education enhancement and conservation promotion



Upcoming and Next Steps

- Continue outreach
- Seek City Council adoption of plan
- Post plan adoption, AW will begin implementation, monitoring, and potential adaptation of strategies
- Near term activities will include:
 - Development of codes and ordinances
 - Dual Plumbing
 - Alternative Water Use
 - Development of incentive programs
 - Landscape Transformation
 - Irrigation Efficiency
 - Aquifer Storage and Recovery Pilot
 - Indirect Potable Reuse planning



Next Steps



New City of Austin Planning and Development Center
to include onsite blackwater reuse pilot facility

Thank You

austintexas.gov/waterforward

WATER FORWARD



Austin is one of the fastest growing cities in the country. With a rapidly growing city and a changing climate, Austin Water is working with other city departments, a Council-appointed citizen Task Force, and the community to develop a water plan for the next century.

The goal of the Water Forward plan is to ensure a diversified, sustainable, and resilient water future, with strong emphasis on water conservation. This plan will consider a range of strategies such as water conservation, water reuse, aquifer storage and recovery (ASR), and others.

TOP CONTENT

- [Water Restrictions](#)
- [Water Conservation](#)
- [Reclaimed Water Program](#)
- [Residential Customer Service](#)
- [Contact Information](#)

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