

CONCLUSION

Just as Arizona's greatest past successes have been directly linked to water, Arizona's future success is tethered to how well we continue to manage our water resources and develop new water supplies and infrastructure. Previous achievements in water management and water supply development such as the Salt River Project, the Central Arizona Project, the Groundwater Management Act, and the Arizona Water Banking Authority have contributed to Arizona's phenomenal growth, its robust economy, an attractive way of life, and protection of much of its natural resources. Arizona has been more proactive in water management than its neighbors; thus, creating of culture of investment in water supplies and giving Arizona residents and businesses a secure foundation.

Yet, our present success cannot sustain Arizona's economic development forever and we must continue to plan and invest in our water resources. The recent work of the State's WRDC and the Basin Study both concluded that between 2030 and 2060, Arizona will begin to have a growing statewide imbalance between its water supplies and demand. While there are local areas that require more immediate action, the State as a whole has the good fortune of not facing an immediate water crisis. Now is the time to begin addressing this challenge by developing a strategic vision for Arizona's water future. **The lack of an immediate problem increases the potential for inaction, running the risk of procrastinating and not motivating ourselves to plan and invest in our future.**

Arizona needs a Strategic Vision for Water Supply Sustainability to guide its economic stability through the next century. The water professionals of this State recognize that if planning and investing in our next water resources does not start now, Arizona's foundation and advantageous position in the West will erode. Unlike the most notable successes in our past, the SRP and CAP, the Strategic Vision for our future will not have a single solution or region to unite around. Rather this Strategic Vision will encompass the entire State and identify potential water resource development and infrastructure needs for various regions and water users in Arizona. This is critical since all areas of the State are becoming more and more linked and our future success will be based more and more on the sum of the whole. This Strategic Vision provides a foundation for how Arizona can continue to plan and invest in its water resources and is just as important to Arizona as the Central Arizona Project was in the 1940s.