

Central Florida Regional Water Strategy Congress of Regional Leaders Progress Report

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Lake County
Commission

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December 4, 2009

Congress of Regional Leaders: 2 simple goals

1. Create a regional water strategy
2. Avoid the use of any public money to litigate over water- Spending money on litigation does not produce one drop of new water

Discussion Items

- Where are we in the process?
- Key Themes of Stakeholder meetings- Top line report & discussion
- What are the next steps?

WATER SUPPLY/DEMAND/CONSERVATION

- **July-December, 2009 – Regional Water Problem/Issues Identification**
 - **Steering Committee Assembled**
 - **Water Problem Statement Identified**
 - **5 out of 7 County Stakeholder meetings held**
 - **Data collection and research on-going**
- **January-February, 2010 – Supply/Demand/Conservation “Briefing Book” Preparation**
- **March, 2010 – Supply/Demand/Conservation Technical Assistance Panel Forum**
- **April-May, 2010 – Supply/Demand/Conservation White Paper Preparation**
- **May, 2010 – Congress of Regional Leaders Presentation**

WATER GOVERNANCE

- **June-August, 2010 – Water Governance “Briefing Book” Preparation**
- **September, 2010 – Water Governance Technical Assistance Panel Forum**
- **October-November, 2010 – Water Governance White Paper Preparation**
- **December, 2010 – Congress of Regional Leaders Presentation**

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY - November, 2010

Brevard County: September 28, 2009

Volusia County: October 22, 2009

Lake County: November 4, 2009

Osceola County: November 5, 2009

Orange County: November 10, 2009

Polk County: December 8, 2009

10 a.m. to noon

Polk Nature Discovery Center

Circle B Bar Reserve

4399 Winter Lake Road/SR 540

Lakeland, FL 33803

Seminole County: pending

Although adequate sources of water in the form of groundwater, surface water (including seawater), and wastewater reuse are available to meet our anticipated future needs, each of these sources of water has its own limitations on the ability to provide an environmentally sound and economically sustainable water supply.

The problem we face is how we should plan together as a region to conserve, reuse, and equitably apportion our water resources sufficient to protect the environment and meet future population, industry, and agricultural demands.

Updated November 10, 2009

Consider this:

It's the year 2050 and Central Florida is recognized as international leaders managing its regional water supply in an environmentally and economically sustainable way.

1. What did the region do to provide for an environmentally and economically sustainable supply of groundwater?
2. What did the region do to provide for an environmentally and sustainable supply of surface water?
3. What did the region do to provide for an environmentally and economically sustainable supply of reuse water to reduce overall demand?
4. What did the region do to reduce demand for water in an environmentally and economically sustainable manner?

The Steering Committee reviewed Stakeholder issues and identified these common “Key Themes”:

- Need **consensus on science**: understanding availability of water and a definition of “reasonable water use”
- **Reclaimed water** needs to be a key component of a future strategy
- Need for **equitable cost structure** and **source protection** (for assets that are regional or national in significance) across the Region
- Need to understand the **role of industry, residential development, and agriculture** in use and conservation of water
- **Reduction in demand (conservation)** should be a primary tool. Need to understand and address what happens to the reduction (who gets to use that water).

- Need for **regional approach**, especially related to infrastructure for distribution and transmission of water
- Role of **enforcement** agencies must be defined and understood
- **Education** of young people (Elementary School) on water conservation is important
- Link availability of water to the health of the **economy**
- Identify potential **costs of alternative water sources**
- Discussion needed on how to handle **individual wells**

Discussion, Questions and Comments

WATER SUPPLY/DEMAND/CONSERVATION

- *July-December, 2009* – Regional Water Problem/Issues Identification
- *January-February, 2010* – Supply/Demand/Conservation “Briefing Book” Preparation
 - **Organization of data into major themes by TAP Committee into Briefing Book**
 - **Additional drill-down as necessary**
 - **Identification of Water Experts and White Paper Writer for TAP Forum**
 - **Continued input from Steering Committee**
- *March, 2010* – Supply/Demand/Conservation Technical Assistance Panel Forum
- *April-May, 2010* – Supply/Demand/Conservation White Paper Preparation
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REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY - November, 2010

WATER SUPPLY/DEMAND/CONSERVATION

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- *March, 2010* – **Supply/Demand/Conservation Technical Assistance Panel Forum**
 - **A TAP Forum is a 1-2 day intensive work session involving experts and committee**
 - **Intended to build consensus and draft recommendations to Steering Committee**
- *April-May, 2010* – Supply/Demand/Conservation White Paper Preparation
- *May, 2010* – Congress of Regional Leaders Presentation

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REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY - *November, 2010*