



DEPARTMENT *of*  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**2025**

# **WATER CONSERVATION PLAN**

September 2025



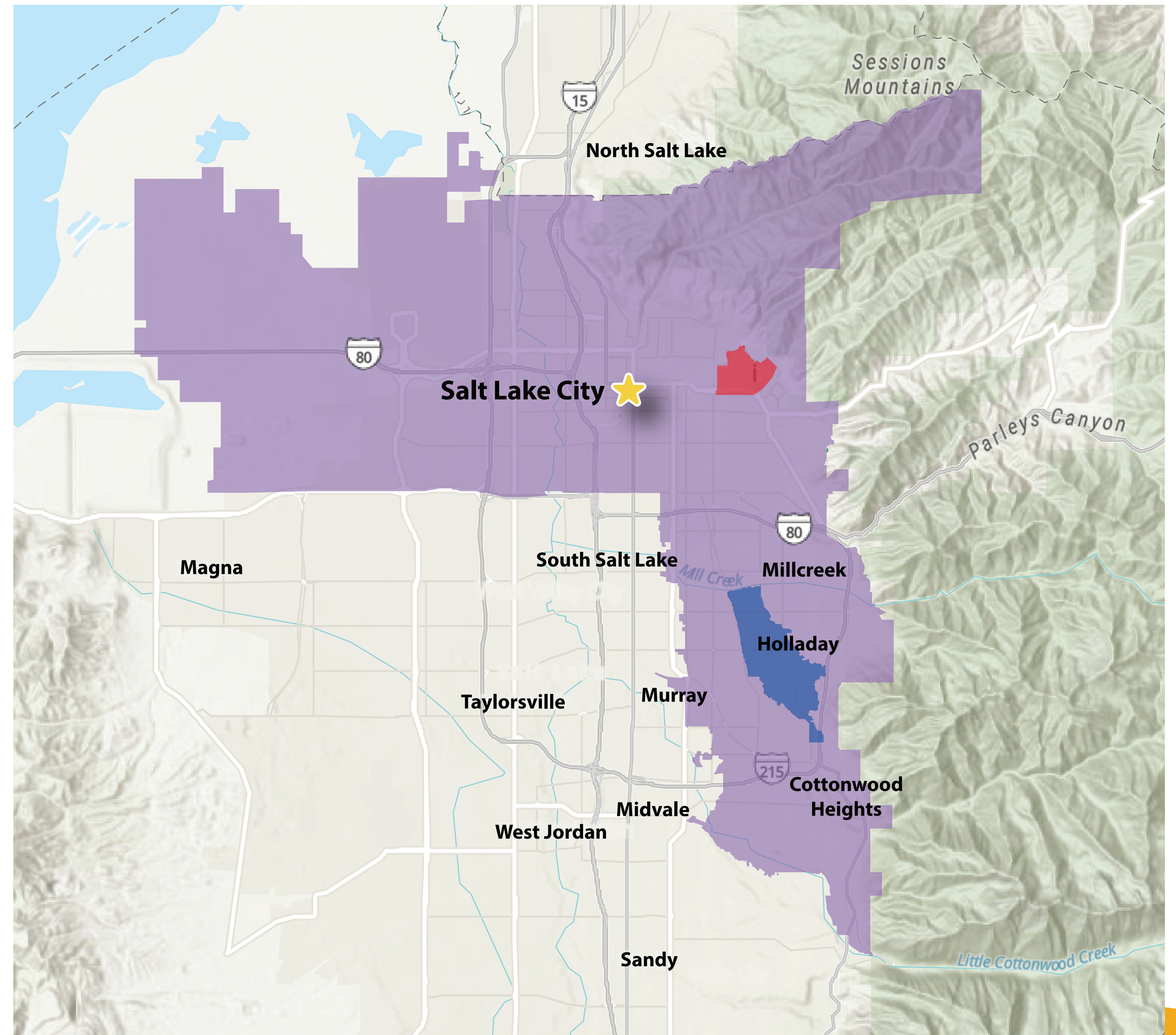


DEPARTMENT *of*  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES**

The purple area represents our service area. This includes Salt Lake City, Millcreek, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights, and portions of Murray, Midvale, and South Salt Lake.

The red and blue areas receive water from Salt Lake City Dept of Public Utilities but also have some of their own water sources.

# OUR SERVICE AREA





# WHY WE PLAN



**Quantify water supply, assess historical demand, and establish appropriate goals**



**Ensure that water conservation programs are adequate to achieve established goals**



**Communicate complex issues that affect short- and long-term conservation efforts**



**Convey the need to conserve, and identify tools and resources**



**Support Great Salt Lake**





# WHAT'S IN THE PLAN

Conservation Plan Component:	Component Purpose:
<b>Supply and Demand:</b> Estimates of projected future water supply and water demand	Keep us on track to not exceed long-term water supply and understand demand, climate, and growth impacts.
<b>Historical Use:</b> Analysis of past water use within various customer classifications	Analyze water use patterns through a variety of lenses to better understand opportunities and obstacles in achieving conservation goals
<b>Conservation Goals:</b> 5-, 10-, and 40-year goals for water conservation	Identify conservation goals across customers classifications that are consistent with our supply projections and other goals established by the State, Central Utah Project, and others
<b>Conservation Programs:</b> Water conservation program practices to help achieve short- and long-term water conservation goals	Identify, design, implement, and measure strategies that help achieve the goals outlined in the plan
<b>Communications and Outreach:</b> Communication plan to guide the public process before and after plan adoption	Enhance communication and outreach within the community on water conservation topics

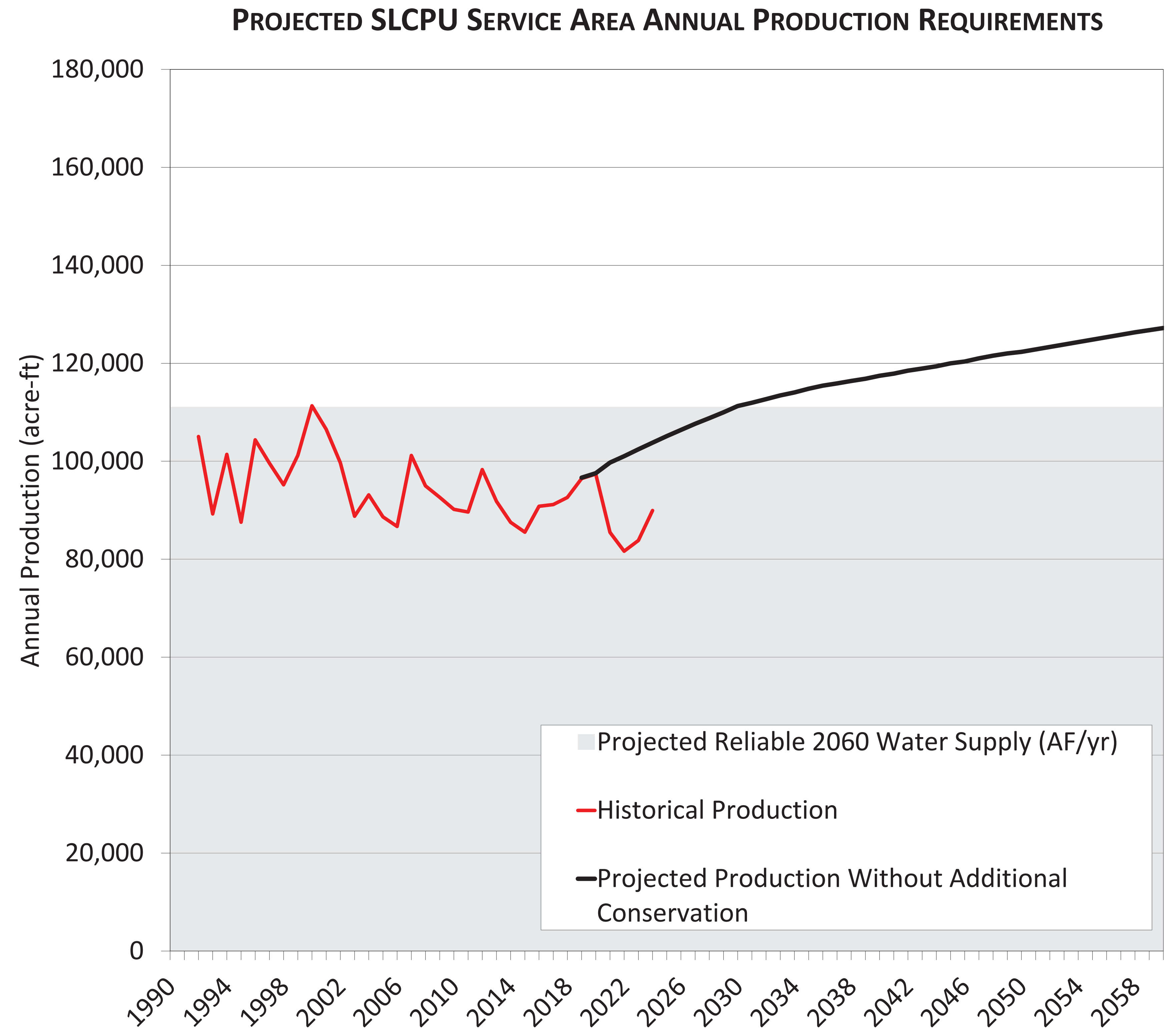


# SUPPLY AND DEMAND

**Without additional conservation, we could exceed our water supply in the next 40 years.**

Over the past 20 years, we have grown our water conservation ethic and helped conserve this precious and limited resource, saving approximately 508,000 AF of water since 2000.

But we have new goals and more work to do to ensure this resource is sustained and protected for current and future generations.







# SUPPLY AND DEMAND



## DEMAND

### Demand without additional conservation

2025 Demand = 87,000 Acre-Feet  
2060 Demand = 131,900 Acre-Feet



## SUPPLY

### Supplies for dry year conditions

Existing = 97,620 Acre-Feet  
Future = 126,120 Acre-Feet



## RISK

### Potential water supply vulnerabilities

Equipment failure	Climate Change
Earthquake	Wildfire



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Future Supply 126,120 AF	— Recommended redundant supply to mitigate risk 15,000 AF	= Reliable Future Supply 111,120 AF
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Demand at current level of conservation 131,900 AF	— Reliable Future Supply 111,120 AF	→ Additional Required Annual Conservation 20,780 AF
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The city must continue to pursue a robust conservation program to meet future demands.

AF = Acre-Feet



# WATER USE CLASSIFICATION

These are the classifications and subclassifications we use to collect and analyze water use for water conservation planning purposes. By organizing water users by shared characteristics, we can better understand how groups need and use water and how to help them achieve the necessary water use reductions established in the plan.



## Residential

Single Residence  
Duplex  
Triplex  
Fourplex



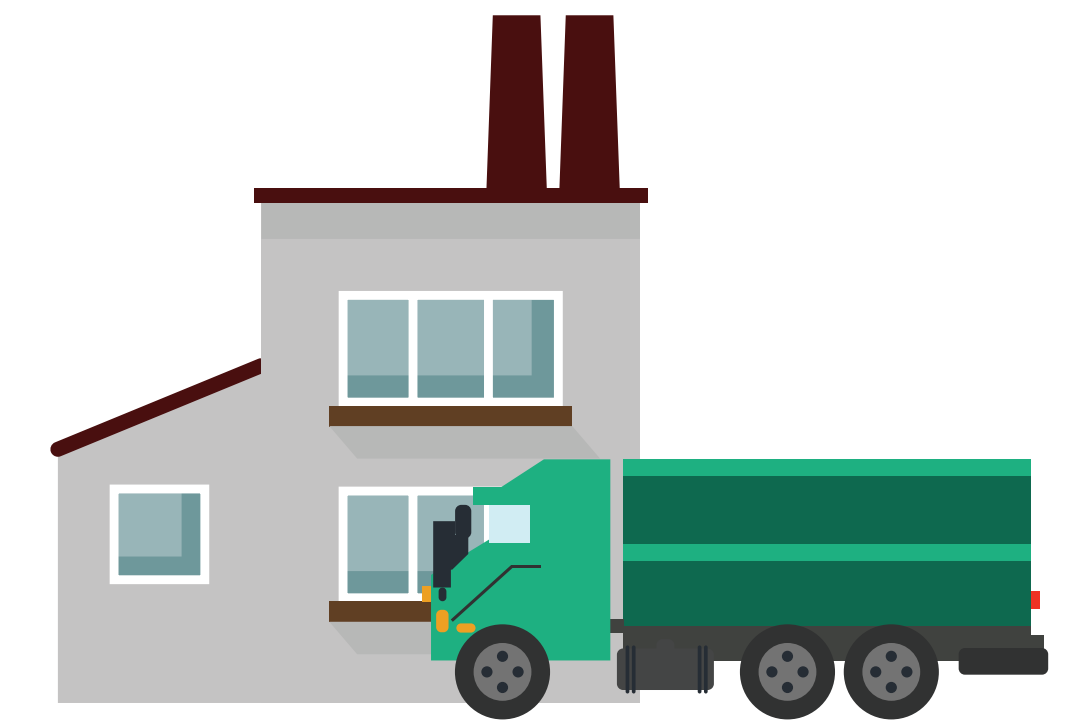
## Commercial

Business  
Hospital  
Hotel or Motel  
Restaurant  
Apartment  
Miscellaneous



## Institutional

School  
Church  
Parks  
Government



## Industrial

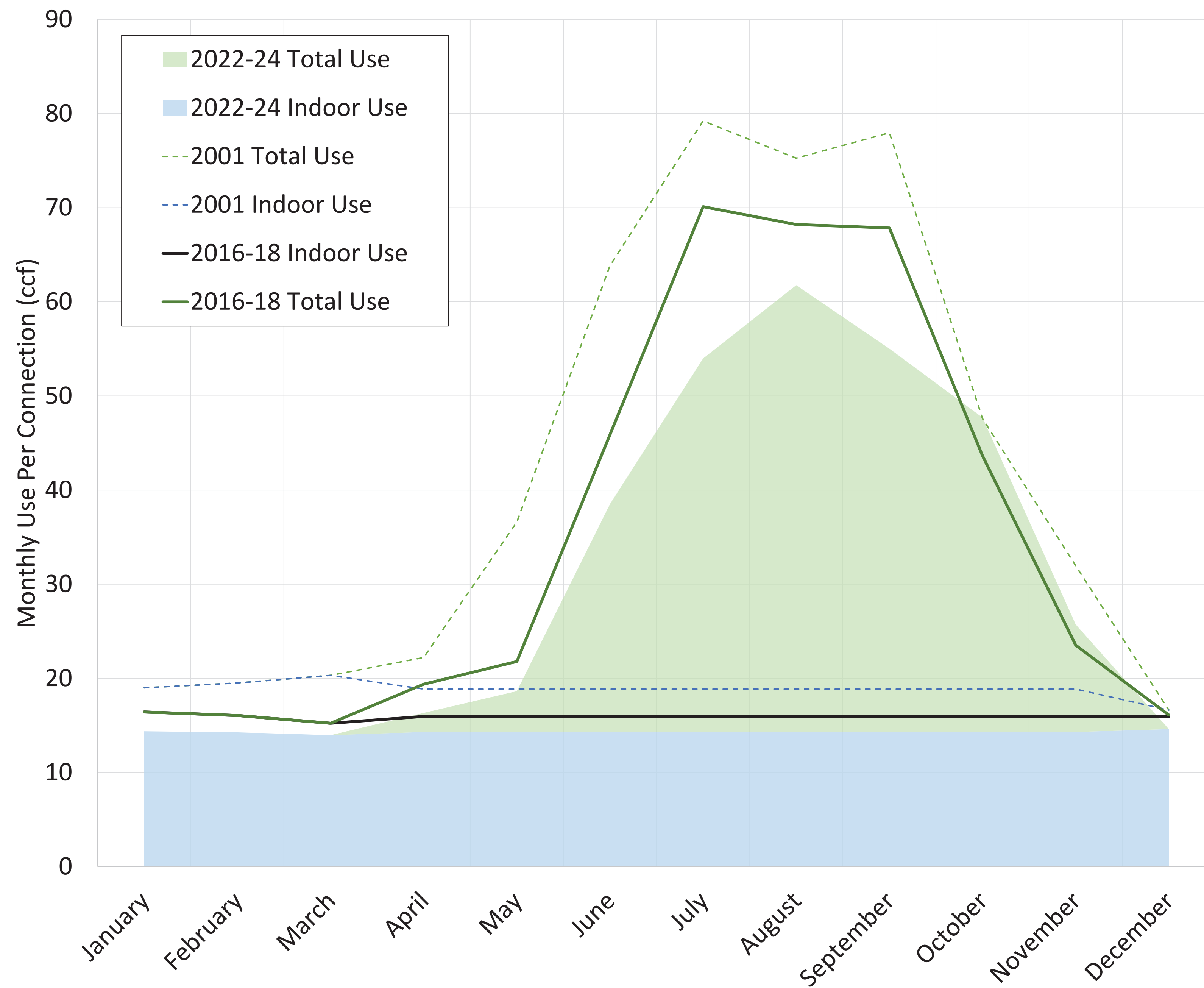
Industrial  
customers of all  
types



# WATER USE TRENDS

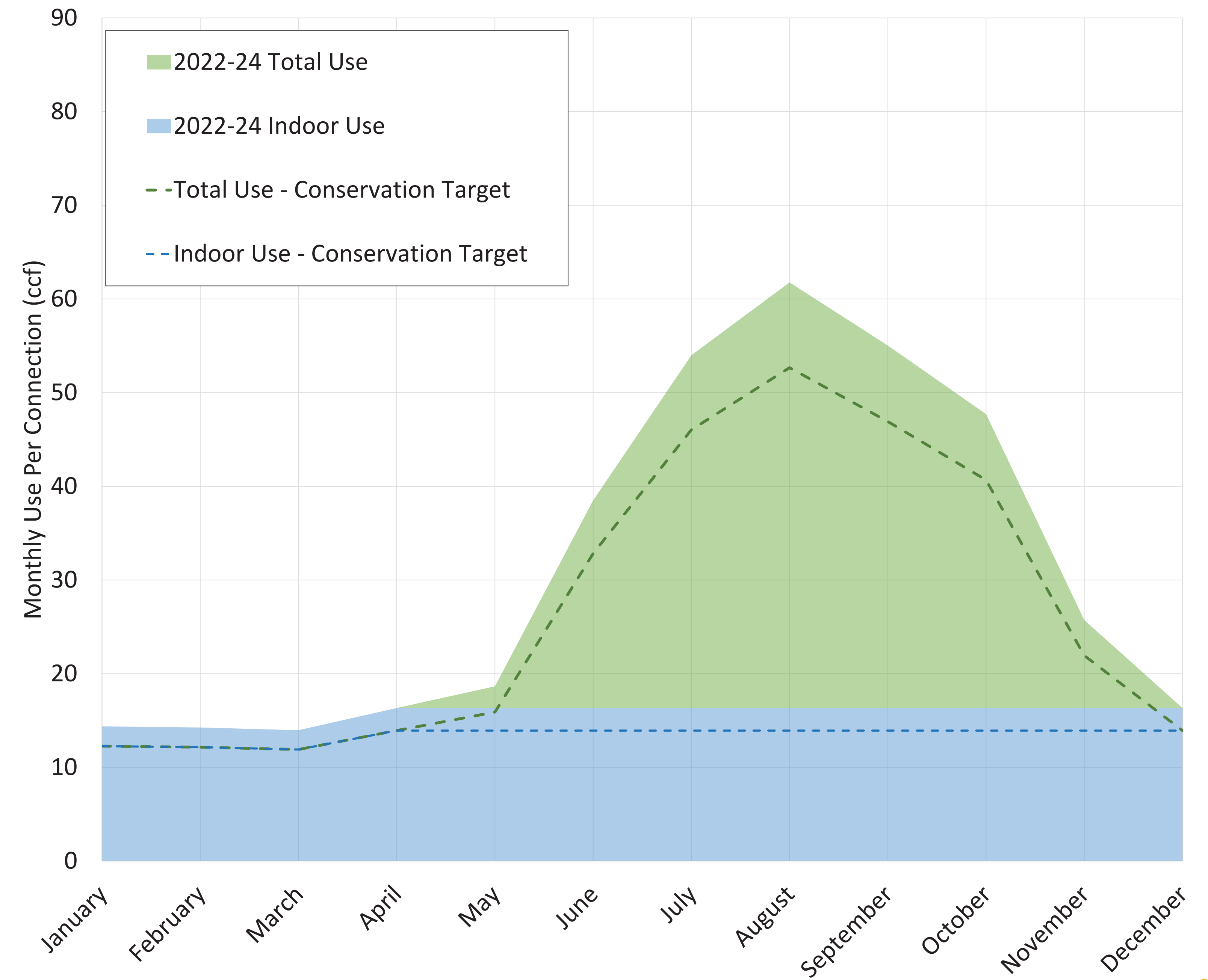
## WHERE WE'VE BEEN

MONTHLY CONSERVATION, AVERAGE OF ALL CONNECTIONS



## WHERE WE NEED TO BE

ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION BY MONTH AVERAGED ACROSS ALL CONNECTIONS







# HISTORICAL USE



## HISTORICAL USE (YEAR: 2000)

285 GPD per capita total use  
174 GPD per person residential use  
693 GPD per capita peak day use  
(216.3 MGD systemwide)



## CONSERVATION IMPACTS SINCE 2000

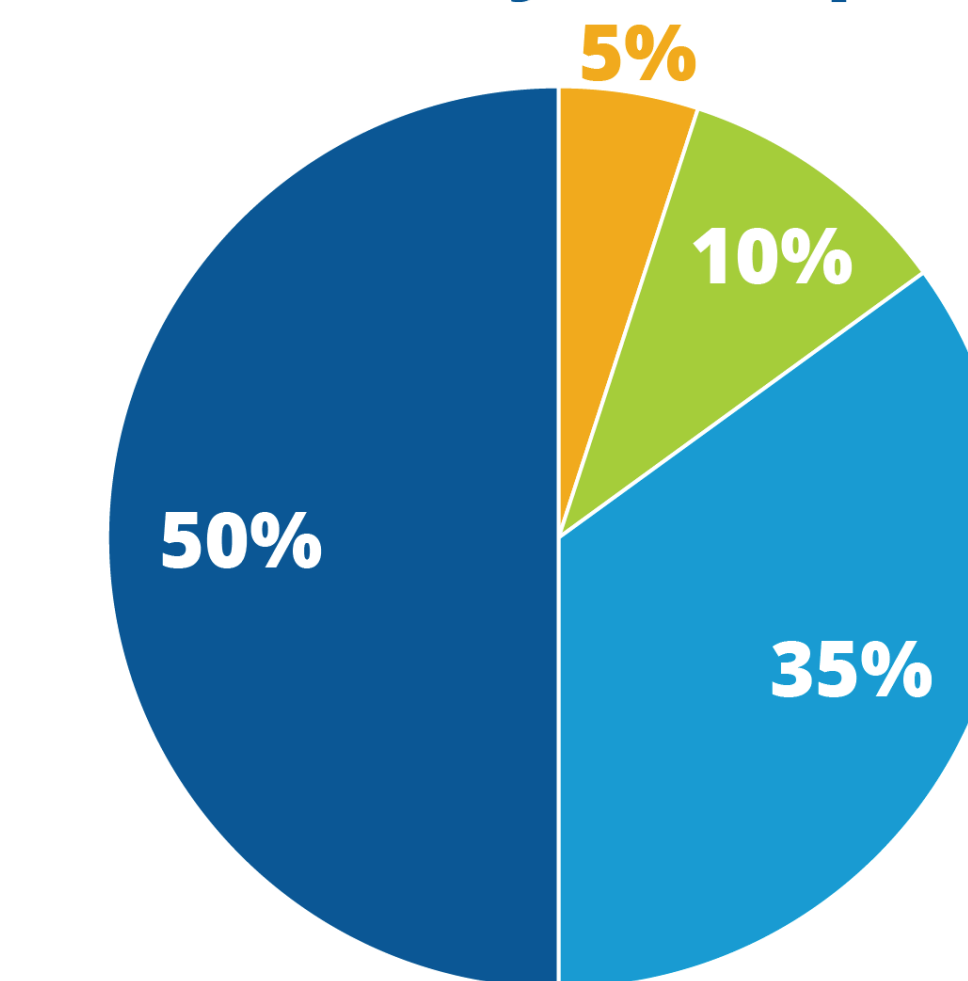
**23.5%** Reduction in total water demand  
**26%** Reduction in peak day demand  
**21,164AF** Average saved each year



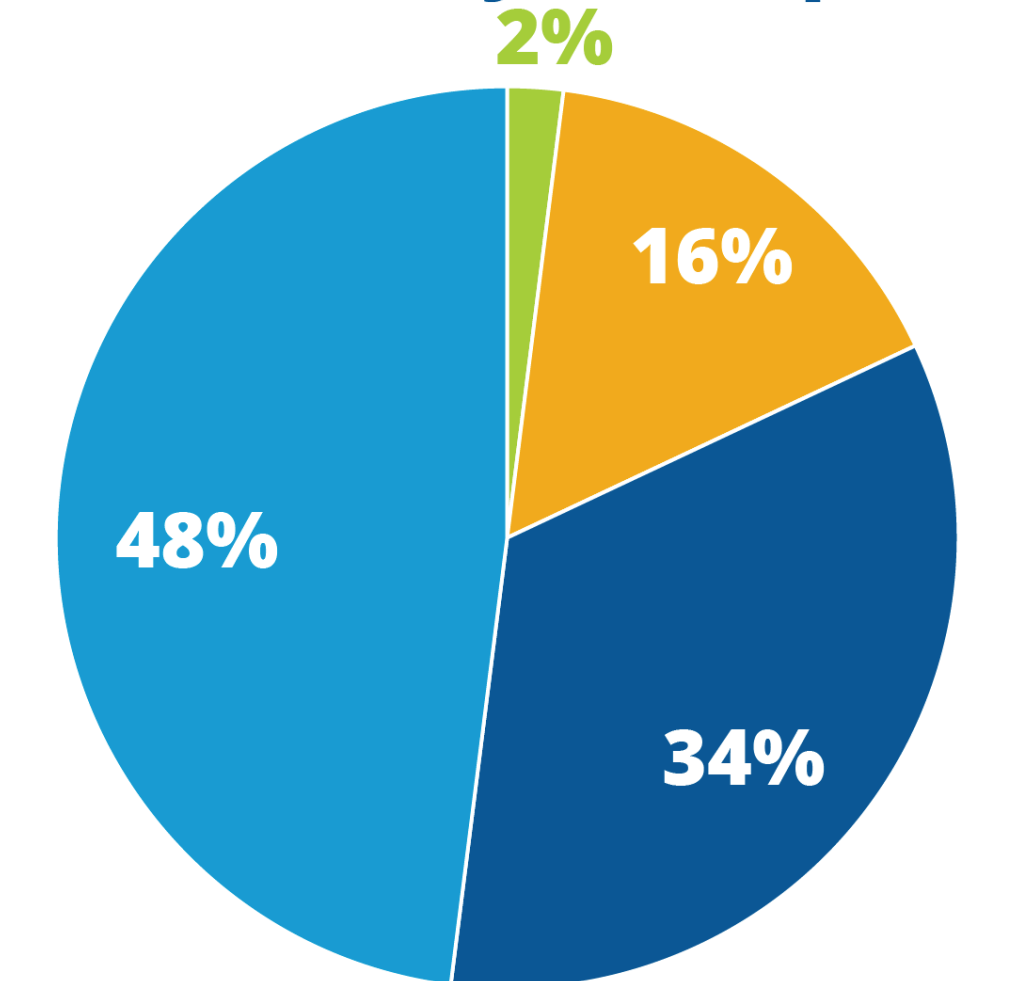
## CURRENT USE (2022- 2024)

179 GPD per capita total use  
151 GPD per person residential use  
404 GPD per capita peak day use  
(153 MGD systemwide)

% Total Indoor  
Use by Group



% Total Outdoor  
Use by Group



■ Residential ■ Commercial ■ Industrial ■ Institutional

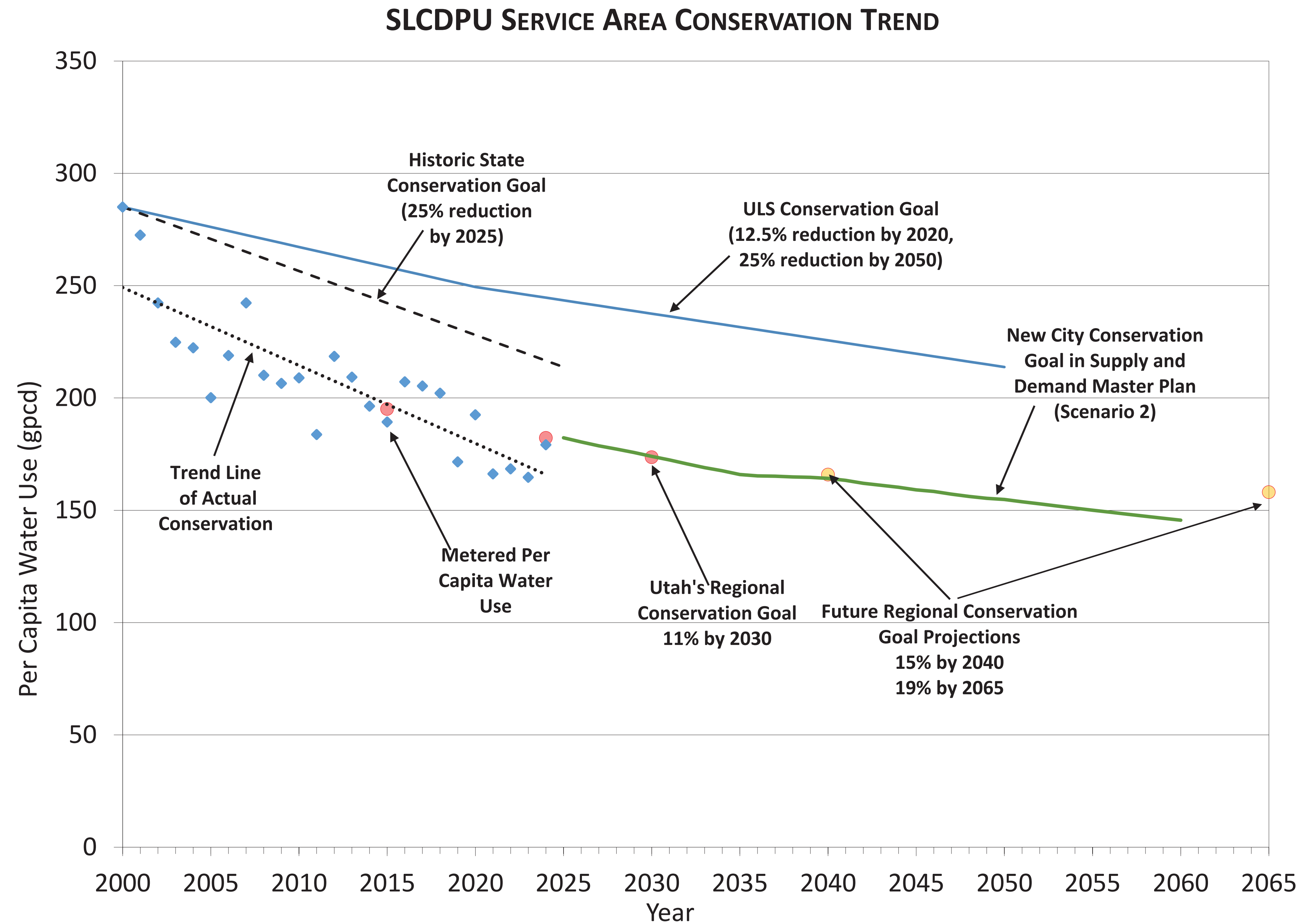
*GPD = Gallons Per Day  
AF = Acre-Feet*



**We have accomplished a great deal with our past and current water conservation efforts.**

Our 2025 plan continues to aggressively encourage conservation efforts – SLCDPU’s new goals exceed the Regional Goals recently adopted by the State of Utah.

*gpcd does not mean that an individual uses that much water in one day, but rather that collectively, it takes that much water per person to live, work, and recreate each day.*







# CONSERVATION GOALS

LONG-TERM CONSERVATION GOALS BY SUB-CLASSIFICATION

	Location of Use	Hospital	Hotel or Motel	Industry	Restaurant	School or Church or Charity	Triplex	Parks & Government	Miscellaneous	Fourplex	Apartment	Duplex	Business	Single Residence	Total
Current Annual Use (AF) <sup>1</sup>	Total	757	1,449	4,378	510	3,977	250	4,175	4,074	721	7,850	1,920	16,729	29,286	76,076
	Indoor	441	1,134	3,611	372	1,548	168	154	987	492	5,419	1,049	8,928	10,373	34,675
	Outdoor	316	316	767	138	2,429	82	4,020	3,087	229	2,431	870	7,802	18,913	41,401
Daily Use Per Connection (gpd)	Total	16,093	9,656	14,369	1,566	6,432	433	5,049	5,218	603	4,166	382	2,300	389	66,656
	Indoor	9,370	7,554	11,851	1,141	2,503	292	186	1,264	412	2,876	209	1,227	138	39,022
	Outdoor	6,722	2,102	2,518	425	3,929	141	4,863	3,954	191	1,290	173	1,073	251	27,634
Goal for Future Annual Use (AF)	Total	700	1,342	4,056	472	3,675	230	3,850	3,762	665	7,237	1,770	15,471	27,000	70,229
	Indoor	409	1,051	3,348	345	1,435	155	143	915	454	4,995	967	8,278	9,562	32,057
	Outdoor	292	291	707	128	2,240	75	3,707	2,847	211	2,241	802	7,193	17,438	38,172
Required Reduction in Annual Use (AF)	Total	57	107	323	38	302	20	325	313	56	613	150	1,258	2,286	5,848
	Indoor	32	83	263	27	113	13	11	72	38	424	82	650	811	2,618
	Outdoor	25	25	60	11	189	6	314	241	18	190	68	609	1,475	3,229
% Savings	Total	7.5%	7.4%	7.4%	7.4%	7.6%	7.8%	7.8%	7.7%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.5%	7.8%	7.7%
	Indoor	7.3%	7.3%	7.3%	7.3%	7.3%	6.7%	7.3%	7.3%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.3%	7.8%	7.6%
	Outdoor	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%
Savings Per Connection (gpd)	Total	1,207	714	1,059	116	489	34	393	400	47	325	30	173	30	5,124
	Indoor	682	550	863	83	182	19	14	92	32	225	16	89	11	2,947
	Outdoor	524	164	196	33	306	11	379	308	15	101	14	84	20	2,155

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this table, all volumes are shown for existing customers only. As future users join the system, it is assumed that they will use water at the same reduced level as identified in the conservation goals.





# CONSERVATION GOALS



## GOAL

	Current	2030	2040	Long Term
Gallons Per Capita	179	174	164	146
% Reduction		2.9%	8.4%	18.7%



## OVERALL TARGETS



**Residential Indoor Use**

49 GPD/person



**Outdoor Use, All Classifications**

22.8" average irrigation



## WATER USE REDUCTION

Annual water use reduction since 2000:

**23,400 AF/yr**

Needed additional long-term water use reduction:

**20,780 AF/yr**

Additional Water Use Reduction by Classification (AF/yr)					
	Residen- tial	Commer- cial	Institu- tional	Indus- trial	Total
Indoors	3,356	4,574	440	934	9,305
Outdoors	5,569	3,906	1,788	213	11,475
Total	8,926	8,479	2,228	1,147	20,780

*GPD = Gallons Per Day*

*AF = Acre-Feet*



## INVESTMENTS IN PROGRAMMING

- Help to reduce water use or water waste
- Enhance water stewardship ethos
- Have community and political support
- Are equitable and fair
- Provide a cost-benefit to the City and water customers



### Outreach Program

Focuses on educating and engaging the community to promote water-saving habits and technologies. These efforts are easy to adopt and help meet conservation goals.



### Economic Program

Uses water pricing and billing information to highlight the value of water. It includes incentives like rebates and cost savings to encourage reduced water use.



### Utility Program

Integrates water conservation into daily utility tasks—like landscaping, stormwater projects, and system planning—to support broader departmental goals.



### Law & Policy Program

Reviews and updates city codes and policies to support water conservation. This includes improving landscape regulations and clarifying rules against water waste.



### Research & Metrics Program

Provides the scientific foundation for conservation programs. Research and data analysis ensure that strategies are effective.





# CONSERVATION PROGRAMS, PRACTICES & MEASURES

Outreach Program	Economic Program	Utility Program	Law & Policy Program	Research & Metrics Program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brochures</li><li>• Water Stewardship Calendar</li><li>• Demonstration Gardens</li><li>• SLCTV 17 GardenWise</li><li>• SLC Gardenwise: Virtual Water Conservation Garden Tours</li><li>• Water Check</li><li>• CII Conservation Plans</li><li>• Commercial and Industrial Certification</li><li>• Classroom Programs</li><li>• Landscape Assessment and Check-ups</li><li>• SLC Landscape BMPs: Design, Planting and Maintenance Guide</li><li>• Private Garden Project</li><li>• Residential Leak Detection and Repair</li><li>• Learning Labs</li><li>• CitySourced App</li><li>• WaterMAPS™</li><li>• Cloud-based Public Portals</li><li>• Water Week and other Events</li><li>• Strategic Communications Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Irrigation Meters and Budgets</li><li>• Rate Structuring</li><li>• Volumetric and loading Sewer Charge</li><li>• Rebate: Irrigation Rain Sensors</li><li>• Rain barrels</li><li>• Rebate: HE Irrigation Spray Heads</li><li>• Turf Trades</li><li>• Rebate: Pressure Regulators</li><li>• Residential Leak Detection and Repair</li><li>• CII Audits and direct installs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Customer Use Change Notification</li><li>• Landscape Upgrades</li><li>• Leak Detection and Repair</li><li>• Monthly meter reading and billing</li><li>• Public Utility Advisory Committee</li><li>• SLC Dept/Div Conservation and Drought Plans</li><li>• Universal metering and meter replacement</li><li>• Water Re-use Study</li><li>• Advanced Meter Technologies</li><li>• Landscape Specifications</li><li>• Landscape Maintenance</li><li>• EPA WaterSense Partnership</li><li>• AWWA/AWE Program Certification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graywater</li><li>• Irrigation Audit Policy</li><li>• Irrigation Efficiency Standards</li><li>• Landscape Ordinance</li><li>• Parkstrip Code</li><li>• Rainwater Harvesting</li><li>• Rain Sensor Ordinance and Policy</li><li>• Squandered Water Ordinance</li><li>• Sub-surface or Low-impact</li><li>• Irrigation for Small Areas</li><li>• Water Shortage Contingency Plan</li><li>• Irrigation-only Meters</li><li>• Sub-metering on New Multi-Family Dwelling Units</li><li>• Alternative Water Sources Use Recommendations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water Check</li><li>• EPA Residential Study</li><li>• Irrigation Controller Study</li><li>• Irrigation Intervention Study</li><li>• WaterMAPS™</li><li>• Landscape Inventory</li><li>• Residential</li><li>• Plumbing Fixtures Inventory</li><li>• Water Softener Study</li><li>• Supply and Demand Master Plan</li><li>• CII Water Depletion</li><li>• Climate Change, &amp; Resiliency</li><li>• Secondary Water Irrigation Master Plan</li><li>• Commercial and Industrial Water Demand Study</li><li>• Behavior and Policy Study</li><li>• Incentives</li><li>• Turf &amp; Artificial Turf Study</li><li>• Program Effectiveness</li><li>• Projected Demand Reduction</li><li>• Water Loss Control Study</li><li>• GSL</li></ul>









# PUBLIC OUTREACH & COMMUNICATION



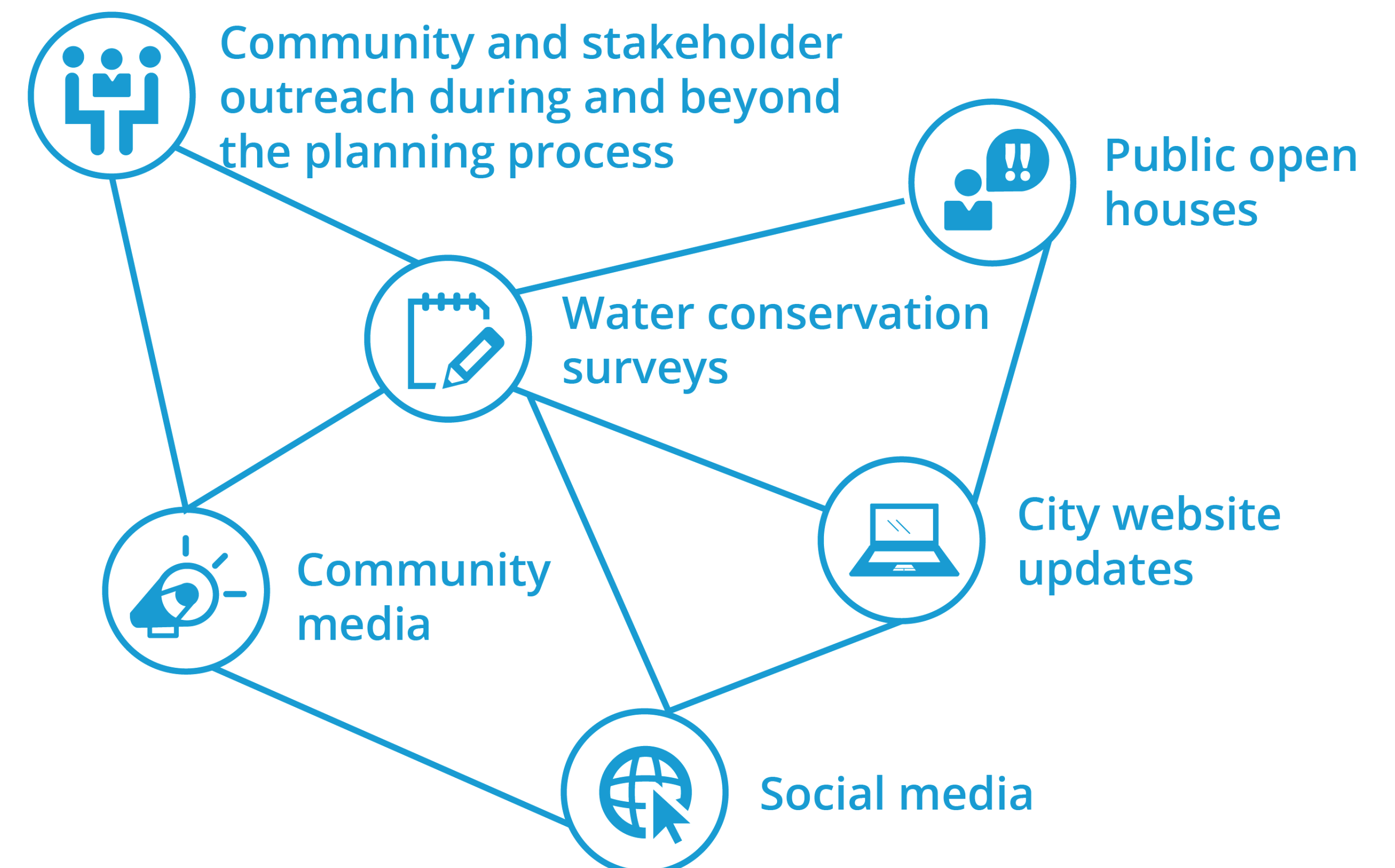
## PURPOSE

-  Engage stakeholders (internal and external), subject experts, and community.
-  Utilize a variety of communications venues to increase and enhance engagement opportunities.
-  Build community support for the adoption of the conservation plan update.
-  Achieve the conservation goals through a shared understanding of the need to conserve.



## ONGOING ENGAGEMENT

Ongoing utility community engagement related to water conservation includes:





DEPARTMENT *of*  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES**

# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

## Feedback appreciated by October 1, 2025

**Feedback can be provided by:**

Taking the Survey

Emailing: [Water.conservations@slc.gov](mailto:Water.conservations@slc.gov)



**TAKE THE SURVEY!**

**Questions:**

Visit the website

[www.slc.gov/utilities/water-conservation-plan-2025/](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/water-conservation-plan-2025/)

Call us: 385-800-1696

**WHAT ARE YOU  
SAVING WATER FOR?**

