

# COMMUNITY WATER COALITION

May 3, 2013

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

The Community Water Coalition appreciates your continued efforts to maintain the integrity of Tucson's sensible and sound Water Service Area Policy. We urge you to remain firm in this position during your discussions in the Study Session on May 7, 2013.

Please review the attached letter, originally sent for your consideration on January 24, 2012, detailing the Community Water Coalition's position on the proposed amendments to the Service Area Policy. The Community Water Coalition remains committed to the recommendations expressed in this earlier letter.

In summary, of the nine amendments proposed by the Citizens' Water Advisory Committee, the Community Water Coalition:

- **Supports** numbers 1, 2, 6, and 9 (with the provisions outlined in our January 24 letter to ensure that interpretation of these amendments does not undermine the intent of the Service Area Policy).
- **Recommends clarification** of language in numbers 4 and 5, as well as the addition of language to make it clear that providing service to development on a parcel qualified under the infill or grandfather clauses cannot then create eligibility for an adjacent parcel previously ineligible for infill (ie. creating a domino effect). As currently worded, the proposed amendments substantially weaken the language in the ordinance by changing the exemption for a "clear and substantial benefit" to "economic development" and overhauling the definition of grandfathering, and as such *we do not support the passage of these amendments as written.*
- **Opposes** numbers 3, 7, and 8, as we believe they will result in a substantial weakening of the policy and ability to protect our region's finite water supply.

We appreciate your consideration of our input in this discussion, and we look forward to building on our relationship in future water policy discussions. Please contact Karilyn Roach, Community Water Coalition Coordinator, at [kroach@watershedmg.org](mailto:kroach@watershedmg.org) or 520-396-3266 if you have any questions regarding our position on the Tucson Water Service Area Policy.

Sincerely,



Ed Verburg, Chair  
Community Water Coalition

Center for Biological Diversity, Cienega Watershed Partnership, Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, Coalitions of Mutual Endeavor, Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, Desert Watch, Native Seeds/SEARCH, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Primavera Foundation, Save the Scenic Santa Ritas, Sierra Club - Rincon Group, Sustainable Tucson, Tucson Mountains Association, Watershed Management Group