



2013 THRIVE PHASE II ROUNDTABLES

SUMMARY OF WATER COMMENTS HEARD

KEY MESSAGES

- ❖ ***Water quality and water supply are increasingly important regional issues.***
- ❖ ***The region needs to work together to develop a flexible, multi-faceted approach at all levels.***
(Including individuals, private sector, communities, region, state and other entities)

Ideas & Themes

- *Growing recognition of the problems – and the need to communicate their magnitude*
- *Support for more data, analysis, outreach/awareness and education*
- *Not a one-size fits all discussion; a mosaic of solutions is needed, flexible to local conditions*
- *Concern over what the Council's role in regulation and policy will be – and what this means for existing infrastructure*
- *Coordinate approach across jurisdictions; don't just add a layer of bureaucracy*
- *Who pays for it? What is the value of water?*

Quotes & Observations

- *"Someone else must be using too much."*
- *"Can't we have prosperity without unending growth? There are limits to livability and sustainability."*
- *"Water supply is a collaborative issue; there is more than one path to the same destination."*
- *"It's education – getting people to think outside of the normal box."*

Unique /Innovative Approaches Suggested

- *Enforce existing rules*
- *There should be a unified effort to oversee water supply in the region*
- *Emphasize getting collaborative input from communities and a variety of stakeholders*
- *Don't just focus on citizens reducing per capita use, also look at governments' water use; "governments water their parks."*
- *Changes to current practices, such as water use and water pricing suggestions, using beet juice instead of salt in winter, and sweeping streets every week near lakefronts*